Eye on the World Jan. 11, 2020

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 churchofgodbigsandy.com for the weekend of Jan. 11, 2020.

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).

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An article by Anna Ahronheim titled "Israel Unveils Breakthrough Laser to Intercept Missiles, Aerial Threats" was posted at jpost.com on Jan. 9, 2020. Following is the article.

The Defense Ministry has made a technological breakthrough in the development of lasers that can intercept aerial threats, including rockets and antitank guided missiles, it announced Wednesday.

New laser technology "makes the security apparatus more lethal, more powerful and more advanced," Defense Minister Naftali Bennett said Wednesday evening.

Speaking about this new addition to the existing tools of war employed by Israel, he said that "we will add a laser sword when dealing with threats from the North or the South."

The enemies of Israel better not test our resolve or our abilities," Bennett said.

Brig.-Gen. Yaniv Rotem, head of the Defense Ministry's Directorate of Research and Development, said: "We are entering a new age of energy warfare in the air, on land and at sea. The R&D investments made by the DD [Directorate of Defense] R&D in recent years have placed the State of Israel among the leading countries in the field of high-energy laser systems."

The ministry has been working for more than 10 years on powerful laser technology to enable the development of platforms to intercept a variety of threats, he

said. It has carried out a number of successful interceptions of targets, including mortar shells, drones and antitank missiles, at a variety of ranges over the years.

"This is a dramatic solution to rocket fire," said Dubi Oster, head of the DDR&D Optronics Department. "We have been working on this for years. But it is challenging to get a good-quality beam to stay the size you need at the range you need . . . for example, a beam the diameter of a coin from here [in Tel Aviv] to Herzliya."

While most developments over the years—both in Israel and abroad—have been ineffective, significant achievements have been made over the past year and a half as a result of collaboration between the ministry and defense companies, including Rafael and Elbit Systems, as well as academic institutions.

The breakthrough recently made by the ministry is based on the precision of the laser beam, which can be focused on long-range targets and which can overcome atmospheric disturbances such as clouds and dust storms.

According to Oster, the ministry was able to take several laser beams and, with an advanced algorithm, connect them to get one strong beam that is able to intercept and take down a variety of threats.

Based on high-energy electric lasers rather than chemical laser technology, the robust system will complement the other layers of Israel's aerial defenses and will be a strategic change in the defense capabilities of the state, the ministry said.

According to Rotem, some of the advantages of the high-energy lasers include the ability to continually use the system at lower cost, higher effectiveness and with efficient management. They will also allow for a decrease in the number of missile interceptors used and the future potential to intercept a variety of threats, including unmanned aerial vehicles, drones and guided rockets.

"During a war, missile interceptors will at one point run out, but with this system, as long as you have electricity, you have a never-ending supply," he said.

"This is a weapon that you can't see or hear," Rotem said, adding that while it is not free since it runs on electricity, every interception will only cost a few dollars, as opposed to interceptor missiles that can run into the thousands.

The use of two different and complementary technologies—kinetic air-defense-like systems, such as the Iron Dome, and laser platforms—"is a game-changer," Rotem said.

As a result of the breakthrough, the ministry has launched three programs for the development of high-energy laser demonstration systems in cooperation with the two companies.

- A ground-based laser system to complement the capabilities of the Iron Dome.
- The development of a maneuverable platform-mounted laser system to defend troops in the field.
- The development of a laser demo system mounted on an air platform to intercept threats above cloud covers and for the defense of wide areas.

"This is one system with many options—the weapon of the future," Rotem said.

Throughout the year there will be several trials of the demos' capabilities, the ministry said. If effective, they will be deployed to the Gaza border area.

"This technology enables the development of highly effective operational systems that will serve as an additional layer of defense to secure the State of Israel by air, land and sea," the ministry said.

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An article titled "Why China Won't Join Any Iran-Russia Coalition Against Trump" was posted at bloomberg.com on Jan. 6, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.

Beijing's muted response to the U.S.'s killing of top Iranian commander Qassem Soleimani suggests China still isn't ready to join Russia in taking a more direct role in the Middle East's entrenched conflicts.

While Foreign Minister Wang Yi said China was "highly concerned" by the action and called it "unacceptable," he didn't use words like "condemn" or "denounce" like his Iranian and Russian counterparts, Javad Zarif and Sergei Lavrov.

Instead, he told Zarif that China would "play a constructive role" to help safeguard regional security and said on a call with Lavrov that "all parties" must uphold international law.

The comments were consistent with China's past efforts to avoid commitments in a region where it could clash with the U.S. and its allies. Beijing has so far done little to counter President Donald Trump's effort to ratchet up pressure on Tehran, beyond defending the Iran nuclear deal and criticizing the U.S.'s unilateral sanctions.

On Monday, the U.S. accused China of siding with Russia at the United Nations to block a Security Council resolution condemning the attack on the American embassy in Baghdad that precipitated Trump's decision to order the strike at Soleimani. The U.S. mission to the UN said the move "calls the council's credibility into question."

There's little to indicate that Soleimani's death will spur China to stray far from its past balancing act, especially as President Xi Jinping seeks to wrap up preliminary trade negotiations with Trump this month. While China has stepped up military cooperation with Russia and expanded ties with Tehran, it also relies on Iran's rival Saudi Arabia as its top supplier of foreign oil.

"China is caught up in a dilemma where it doesn't want to provoke the Trump administration, has a deepening strategic partnership with Russia while has its own interest at stake in Iran," said Shi Yinhong, an adviser to China's cabinet and also a professor of international relations at Renmin University in Beijing. "I expect the Chinese government to stick to a mild tone, calling on both sides to exercise restraint and refrain from escalating tensions."

China and Russia have enhanced military ties in recent years, conducting joint naval drills annually and coordinating security policies across Asia through the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

Xi and Vladimir Putin have met more than 30 times since 2013, with the Chinese leader calling his Russian counterpart his "closest foreign colleague." Putin has said Russia-China cooperation reached an "unprecedentedly high level."

Still, they are unlikely to team up in a Middle East conflict. Although Chinese officials have repeatedly blasted U.S. actions against its own trade and security interests, they have opted for a lower-key response to Washington's disputes with Beijing's diplomatic partners.

China avoided moves to stop American efforts to oust its long-time diplomatic patron Nicolas Maduro, saying only it was a domestic affair that should be resolved by the Venezuelan people.

Ian Bremmer, the president and founder of the Eurasia Group, told Bloomberg Television on Monday that China has a different objective from Russia in the Middle East.

"The Russians actually want chaos. The Chinese want stability," Bremmer said.

Similarly, China has dramatically scaled back its purchases of Iranian oil since the U.S. ended sanctions waivers last year, importing less than 548,000 tones of crude in November compared with just over 3 million in April. China remains Iran's biggest oil buyer, but it bought five times as much from Saudi Arabia in the first 11 months of last year.

It's unclear what it would take for China, which boasts the world's second-biggest economy and defense budget, to take a more assertive role in the Middle East.

Last month, China hosted Zarif, the Iranian foreign minister, for a visit to Beijing and participated in joint naval drills with Iran and Russia in the Indian Ocean and Gulf of Oman.

Li Guofu, a former Chinese diplomat to the U.S. and director of the China Institute of International Studies' Center for Middle East Studies, said foreign powers had few options to discourage Trump from his "law-of-the-jungle" decision to withdraw from the Iran nuclear deal. "In this case, other countries can do very little to possibly change the status quo," Li said.

Trump has at times suggested that he would like to see Xi come off the sidelines in the Middle East, saying in a June tweet that countries like China should start protecting their own oil shipments through the Persian Gulf. China's foreign ministry sidestepped a question Monday about whether the country would consider a larger security role in the Middle East.

"The worsening of the situation in the gulf is not in the interests of anyone," ministry spokesman Geng Shuang told a regular news briefing in Beijing. "We oppose the abuse of force in international relations. We call on all relevant parties to exercise restraint, avoid the spiral of escalation and make efforts to cool down the situation."

China could use its platform as a permanent member of the UN Security Council to criticize U.S. actions against Iran, a role that Wang Yi mentioned in his statement on the Soleimani killing. Still, Beijing would delay such a move for as long as possible, according to Shi, the Renmin University professor.

"China will not take sides in the UN Security Council until it has to," Shi said.



An article by Sofia Vasilopoulou, Daniel Keith and Liisa Talving titled "What the British Public Thinks About Post-Brexit Trade Deals" was posted at the-conversation.com on Jan. 8, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.

The UK's ability to negotiate its own trade deals post-Brexit was central to Boris Johnson's election-winning manifesto. Johnson's "oven-ready" Brexit deal will keep the country out of the EU single market and any form of customs union, which will allow it to set an independent trade policy. His party promised to "Get Brexit done" in order to "unleash" the UK's potential.

But how does the public feel about this? Do they really think that new trade deals will be beneficial?

Our research addresses this question based on a public opinion survey of more than 2,000 respondents.

We find that there is a high level of support for international trade in general terms, with the public broadly believing it brings economic benefits to the UK.

But the public is more divided when it comes to free trade agreements following Brexit.

So the government faces considerable challenges if it is to win broad public support for post-Brexit trade agreements, a new relationship with the EU based on free trade, and pursue its vision of a "Global Britain."

- Two-thirds (66%) of the UK population expressed very or fairly positive views towards international trade.
- International trade is also seen more positively than globalisation (only 37% being very or fairly positive toward this).
- Immigration (46% being very or fairly positive) and much more so than Brexit (31% being very or fairly positive).
- The public is therefore broadly supportive of a vision of the UK as an outward-facing country in which free trade is central.

What does this mean in practice?

It has been argued that the UK government faces practical challenges to its "Global Britain" strategy because it seeks post-Brexit trade deals at a time

when global trade integration has stalled since the financial crisis and is unlikely to pick up steam any time soon.

Our findings suggest that public opinion is likely to pose an additional constraint to the Johnson government's attempts to strike post-Brexit trade deals. This is because there are significant underlying divisions that are very likely to emerge once trade negotiations start. Free trade agreements are likely to become another platform for political and economic grievances.

As trade-offs become more apparent—issues such as food safety and costs to the NHS—there is a strong reservoir of negative public opinion that can turn against the government and weaken its negotiating position. These divisions can undermine its ability to strike successful trade deals. As shown with TTIP, the stalled trade deal between the EU and US, public opinion has the potential to derail agreements.

Plus, trade policy will benefit different parts of the country and sectors of the economy more than others. Trade negotiations raise a number of issues in terms of who wins and who loses out.

Given that the Conservative Party drew support from a mixed electorate—including high-level managerial, professional groups but also skilled and unskilled manual workers—it will prove difficult to broker deals that satisfy everyone.

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A Reuters article by Michael Holden and Guy Faulconbridge titled "Hurt British Royals Try to Find Exit Route for Harry and Meghan" was posted at reuters.com on Jan. 9, 2020. Following is the article.

Queen Elizabeth and other senior British royals are trying to thrash out a plan for Prince Harry and his American wife Meghan after a shock announcement that they will step back from their royal roles and spend much of their time in North America.

The couple blindsided the queen and the other Windsors on Wednesday when they said they wanted to lead a more independent life, which they hoped to finance themselves—a move that one royal source said had hurt and disappointed the family.

Neither Queen Elizabeth, who has devoted her life to public duty since succeeding her father in 1952, nor Prince Charles—Harry's father and heir to the throne—had been consulted on the announcement, made on Instagram.

"We have chosen to make a transition this year in starting to carve out a progressive new role within this institution," the statement read.

"We intend to step back as 'senior' members of the Royal Family, and work to become financially independent."

The couple—formally the Duke and Duchess of Sussex—said they had been reflecting for months, and would split their time between Britain and North America to allow them and their baby son the space they needed.

Buckingham Palace was taken aback, saying there had been only preliminary discussions about the couple's future.

But another royal source said on Thursday that the queen, Charles, and Harry's elder brother Prince William had told senior officials to work, with governments, to help the couple come up with "workable solutions" for the couple, preferably within days, not weeks.

Half-Royal

It is not immediately clear how Harry, 35 and sixth in line to the throne, and Meghan, 38, will become what royal biographers said was effectively "half-royal"—and who will pay for their transatlantic lifestyles.

No senior royal made any immediate public comment on the decision, but British popular newspapers said Charles and William had been furious.

Harry has long been angry at the treatment he and his wife have received from the "tabloids," and in his announcement said they would reduce media access to their engagements.

"What really annoys me," said Arthur Edwards, veteran photographer for the Sun tabloid, "is that you can't really have your cake and eat it. You can't one minute be in America or Canada, next minute be in London.

"You know, you are either a member of the royal family or you're not."

Daily Mirror royal editor Russell Myers said Harry and Meghan might fall out with the rest of the family: "There will be certain repercussions, I imagine, for everyone involved."

Prince Charles, for his part, has long sought to slim down the number of senior royals in the public spotlight.

But the haste of the decision raises questions for a family that, in Elizabeth's words, has had a "quite bumpy" year—not least because of her son Prince Andrew's decision to step back due to his relationship with the wealthy convicted U.S. sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

Royal commentators drew parallels with the abdication of King Edward VIII, who gave up the throne in 1936 to marry Wallis Simpson—like Meghan, an American divorcee—and lived out his life in France.

Who pays?

Opponents of the monarchy were scathing.

"Taxpayers will rightly ask who will be funding their overseas lifestyle, their extra security and trips back and forth between here and North America," said Graham Smith, head of the campaign group Republic, which wants to abolish the monarchy.

Meghan, who acted in the TV legal drama Suits, could return to acting in the United States, though it is unclear how the Palace would view that.

"Perhaps she'd have to be careful about what roles she'd do because she is a member of the royal family—so she couldn't do too many racy sex scenes, for instance," said royal biographer Penny Junor.

Harry and Meghan married in May 2018 in a lavish but lively ceremony in Windsor Castle that was heralded at the time as a sign of a more modern monarchy.

Yet their relationship with the media turned sour as they struggled to deal with the intense scrutiny it brought.

Harry, who has never hidden his discomfort with his royal role, and his brother bitterly remember how the press hounded their mother, Princess Diana, who died in a car crash in Paris in 1997 while being chased by paparazzi.

Newspapers have criticized Harry and Meghan's use of private jets while promoting environmental causes, and the 2.4 million pound (\$3.1 million) tax-payer-funded renovation of their home.

In October, the couple began legal action against some tabloid newspapers in October over historic phone-hacking and invasion of privacy.

Harry described the treatment of his wife as "bullying," and likened it to that of his mother.



"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 Christopher Dickey and Adam Rawnsley titled "U.S. Braces for Iran's 'Counterpunch' After Slaying of Soleimani" was posted at thedaily-beast.com on Jan. 3, 2020.
- An article titled "Fear Hits Tehran Over What Might Come Next" was posted at bloomberg.com on Jan. 4, 2020.
- An article by Erielle Davidson titled "Iran Fires Retaliatory Rockets at U.S. Bases in Iraq" was posted at thefederalist.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- An article by Iain Rogers, Arne Delfs and Patrick Donahue titled "Germany Withdraws Some Troops From Iraq Over Iran Tensions" was posted at bloomberg. com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- A Reuters article titled "Philippines Prepares to Evacuate Workers in Middle East on Rising Tensions" was posted at reuters.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- An article by Catherine Garcia titled "Iran Threatens to Target Dubai, Israel If U.S. Responds to Attacks" was posted at theweek.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- A Reuters article by Ahmed Aboulenein and Phil Stewart titled "Stampede Kills 56 at Slain General's Funeral As Iran Vows Revenge on U.S." was posted at reuters.com on Jan. 7, 2020.

- An article titled "Iran Supreme Leader Says 'Slap in Face' Delivered to US [Troops in Iraq]" was posted at afp.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Mairead McArdle titled "Iran Supreme Leader Says Missile Attack on Military Bases Housing U.S. Troops Is 'Not Enough' " was posted at nationalreview.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Jihye Lee titled "Global Leaders Urge Restraint After Iran Retaliates Against U.S." was posted at bloomberg.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article titled "Iraq Says Iran Informed It of Imminent Missile Attack on US Forces" was posted at afp.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Karen Leigh, Iain Marlow and Michael S. Arnold titled "Iran's Forewarned Strikes Give Trump a Path to Avert All-Out War" was posted at bloomberg.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Sinead Baker titled "Passengers Flying Between the UK and India Endured a Nightmarish 36-Hour Delay As Their Airline Plotted a New Route Because of US-Iran Tensions" was posted at businessinsider.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- An article by David Koenig and Jon Cambrell titled "Ukrainian Jet Crash Kills 176, Sets Off Mourning in Canada" was posted at apnews.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Jason Duaine Hahn titled "2 Earthquakes Hit Near Iranian Nuclear Power Plant Hours After Missile Strike, Plane Crash" was posted at people.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Lolita C. Baldor and Zeke Miller titled "Iranians Shoot Down [Ukrainian] Airliner, Western Leaders [in U.S., Canada and Britain] Declare" was posted at apnews.com on Jan. 10, 2020.
- An article by Zackary Keck titled "India's Su-30 Jets Are Now Armed With Nuclear BrahMos Cruise Missiles" was posted at thenationalinterest.org on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Sheikh Saaliq titled "Muslims in Fear As Police Crack Down in India's Heartland" was posted at apnews.com on Jan. 6, 2020.
- An article by Aijaz Hussain titled "India Takes Envoys From 15 Countries to Visit Kashmir" was posted at apnews.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- A Reuters article by Nidhi Verma titled "India Approves Funding of \$774 Million for Northeastern Gas Pipeline" was posted at reuters.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- A Reuters article by Chen Aizhu and Muyu Xu titled "China Opens Up Oil and Gas Exploration, Production for Foreign, Domestic Firms" was posted at reuters.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Olga Tanas titled "Russia Readies New Gas Link to Europe in Defiance of U.S." was posted at bloomberg.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- A Reuters article titled "Europe Must Find a Response to Iran's Nuclear Violations: Germany's [Foreign Minister Heike] Mass" was posted at reuters.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- A Reuters article by Robin Emmett titled "European Powers Condemn Turkish Plans to Send Troops to Libya" was posted at reuters.com on Jan. 7, 2020.

- An article titled "53 Dead in Landslides, Flash Floods in Indonesia's Capital [Jakarta]" was posted at apnews.com on Jan. 4, 2020.
- An article titled "Australian Firefighters Brace for Inferno Amid Searing Heat" was posted at bloomberg.com on Jan. 3, 2020.
- A Reuters article by Martin Petty and Colin Packham titled "Australia Calls for Another Mass Evacuation As Monster Bushfires Return" was posted at reuters.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Andrew Freedman titled "A 'Megafire' Measuring 1.5 Million Acres in Australia as Bushfires Merge" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Jan. 10, 2020.
- An article by Natacha Larnaud titled "Thousands of Protesters Across Australia Rally Against Government as Bushfire Crisis Worsens" was posted at cbsnews.com on Jan. 10, 2020.
- An article by Greg Norman titled "US Firefighters Cheered at Australia Airport as Fires Worsen, New Evacuations Ordered" was posted at foxnews.com on Jan. 10, 2020.
- An article by Sarah Kaufman titled "Australian Sheepdog Credited With Saving Hundreds of Animals From Fire" was posted at nbcnews.com on Jan. 10, 2020.
- A Reuters article by David Shepardson titled "Takata Recalls 10 Million U.S. Replacement Air Bag Inflators" was posted at reuters.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Cherryl Anne Cruz titled "Expect Toyota to Build a Huge, High-Tech 'Woven City' Near Mt. Fuji, Japan" was posted at yahoo.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article titled "Ex-Nissan Chief [Jumped \$14 Million Bail in Japan] Made Escape [to Istanbul and Then] to Beirut Aboard Charter Flights" was posted at apnews.com on Jan. 3, 2020.
- A Reuters article by Laila Bassam and Nadine Awadalla titled "Lebanon Bans Ex-Nissan Boss Ghosn From Traveling—Judicial Sources" was posted at reuters.com on Jan. 9, 2020.
- An article by Nathalie Kirby titled "There Are 13 Full Moons in 2020 and One Will Even Be Blue" was posted at yahoo.com on Jan. 7, 2020.



An article by John Stossel titled "Congressional Grandstanding" was posted at townhall.com on Jan. 9, 2020. Following is the article.

Congressional hearings were created to educate lawmakers so they have knowledge before they pass bills or impeach a president.

Not today. Today, hardly any education happens.

During the President Trump impeachment "testimony," legislators tried to score points. At least five times, Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., shut down criticism by shouting, "Gentleman is not recognized!"

I get that politicians are eager for "face time" in front of a larger audience, but I assumed they would at least try to learn things. Nope.

Maybe they don't want to ask real questions because they fear looking as dumb as then-Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, did at a hearing on Facebook. He asked Mark Zuckerberg, "How do you sustain a business model in which users don't pay for your service?"

"We run ads," smirked Zuckerberg. "I see," said Hatch.

What's obvious to most people somehow eludes the oblivious "experts" in Congress.

At another Facebook hearing, Congress grilled Zuckerberg about his plan to launch an electronic currency called Libra. Zuckerberg said, "I actually don't know if Libra is going to work, but I believe it's important to try new things."

He was right. But instead of asking about technological or economic implications of the idea, Rep. Al Green, D-Texas, asked Zuckerberg, of the companies partnering with him, "how many are headed by women?"

"Congressman, I do not know the answer," replied Zuckerberg.

"How many of them are minorities?" asked Green. "Are there any members of the LGBTQ+ community?"

Green doesn't want to learn anything. He wants to sneer and score points.

Politicians' sloppy ignorance is extraordinary. Rep. Steve King, R-Iowa, grilled Google CEO Sundar Pichai about iPhones, citing a story about his grand-daughter using one, leading Pichai to explain, "Congressman, iPhone is made by a different company."

Today's posturing is not what the founders had in mind when they invented hearings in 1789.

George Mason said members of Congress "possess inquisitorial powers" to "inspect the Conduct of public offices."

Yes! Investigate government.

But today, they are more likely to threaten CEOs and bully opponents.

"Are you stupid?" then-Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., said to one witness. They want to showboat, not learn. Often, they ask questions even when they know the answers.

"Ms. DeVos, have you ever taken out a student loan?" asked Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos. "Have any of your children had to borrow money?"

Warren knows that DeVos is a billionaire, but she wanted to score points with her fans.

One of the louder showboaters today is self-proclaimed socialist Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y. She asked Wells Fargo boss Tim Sloan, "Why was the bank involved in the caging of children?"

"We weren't," replied Sloan.

Some of today's hearings are useful in that we get to see how absurd and ignorant our representatives can be.

During a hearing on military personnel being stationed on the island of Guam, Rep. Hank Johnson, D-Georgia, said, "My fear is that the whole island will become so overly populated that it would tip over and capsize." Really. He said that.

Then there was the time Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., chair of the House Financial Services Committee, summoned bank CEOs to Washington and demanded, "What are you guys doing to help us with this student loan debt?!"

"We stopped making student loans in 2007," Bank of America's Brian Moynihan told her.

"We actually ended student lending in 2009," added Citigroup's Michael Corbat.

"When the government took over student lending in 2010 . . . we stopped doing all student lending," explained Jamie Dimon of JPMorgan Chase.

The Chair of the Financial Services Committee didn't even know that her own party kicked bankers out of the student loan business, insisting that government take over?! Apparently not. She is so eager to blame business for government's mistakes that she didn't research her own topic.

The more I watch politicians, the more I hate them.

Let's give them less power.

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An article by Dennis Prager titled "Newsweek Hits a New Low" was posted at dennisprager.com on Jan. 7, 2020. Following is the article.

If decent people working in mainstream American media want to know why many Americans do not trust them and are willing to use the term "fake news" to describe the mainstream media, I offer one of the most glaring examples of a lie in my lifetime.

Last week, *Newsweek* headlined the following: "Conservative Radio Host Ridicules Anne Frank: 'I Don't Get My Wisdom From Teenagers.' "

Now, imagine how that must have struck any reader not familiar with the "conservative radio host" or with what he actually said. "Ridicule Anne Frank"—what kind of terrible human being would do that?

Well, it turns out the "conservative radio host" was me. Yes, me—a religious Jew who has devoted much of his life to the welfare of the Jewish people, served on the board of the U.S. Holocaust Museum, made the most widely viewed pro-Israel video in the world, written a book on anti-Semitism that is in its third printing, and founded a synagogue and a Jewish day school.

To understand how terrible a lie this is, you need to know what happened: Every week I do a video podcast for PragerU called "The Fireside Chat." In it,

I offer thoughts on life and then take questions from around the world (we have received questions from 52 countries).

A few weeks ago, I received the following question from Sam in Meridian, Idaho: "On your most recent Fireside Chat, you said that people are not basically good. We've heard you discuss this topic before. Anne Frank is quoted as saying, 'Despite everything, I believe that people are really good at heart.' How do you respond to her quote?"

Here is my response (this is a word-for-word transcription, except for the words in parentheses added for clarity): "She wrote that in her diary, the most famous Holocaust document. (She was) a teenage girl, a Dutch Jewish girl, who hid with her family until they were betrayed by someone to the Nazis, who then shipped them to death camps. And she died, murdered by the Nazis in the death camps. She was about 16 years old, maybe 15. Her diary is very famous. It gives a face to the horror of the Holocaust.

"I know she wrote that, and my answer is it doesn't matter that she wrote it. I don't get my wisdom from teenagers. That she was a wonderful young woman and wrote an unbelievably powerful document that will last forever is beside the point. I don't expect 16-year-olds, unless they grew up in a religious Jewish or Christian home (where it is taught as basic religious doctrine that people are not born basically good). She was a secular Jew. Most kids believe that (people are basically good). But it is not true. So, it has never been an issue for me—'Well, you disagree with Anne Frank.' So what?

"And, by the way, to be very serious for a moment, I would be very curious—I've thought about this a lot—if I were to be able to visit Anne Frank while in a concentration camp, would she have still believed that? We don't know."

Only someone who deliberately seeks to smear someone would claim that what I said ridicules Anne Frank.

The person who wrote this is Benjamin Fearnow, a deputy editor at *Newsweek*, who previously worked for the left-wing site Mediaite.

When I looked up Fearnow, I came across this December 2018 tweet from talk show host Mark Levin: "Newsweek's Benjamin Fearnow is a very, very sick person."

And Rabbi Joseph Telushkin, one of the most revered Jewish scholars in America—author of such Jewish classics as "Jewish Literacy" and "Biblical Literacy"—called me to say that Fearnow's article saying I ridiculed Anne Frank is "the most despicable lie I recall reading in a mainstream news source."

Yesterday, Newsweek published Fearnow's column headlined, "Top Iranian Presidential Adviser Says Tehran's 'Sole Problem Is Trump,' Not Average American People."

Apparently, Fearnow has chosen to serve as a useful idiot for the Iranian regime, which hates America, not only Trump. (Does Fearnow believe that the Iranian chant "death to Israel" only means "death to Netanyahu"?)

The Iranian regime has gathered millions of Iranians to chant "death to America" since long before it ever heard of Donald Trump. It has been wishing death on us and killing Americans (not to mention Iranians) since it came into power in 1979.

But Fearnow cites the Iranian dictator, Ayatollah Khamenei, as having said last February that "Death to America' means death to Trump, (National Security Adviser) John Bolton, and (Secretary of State Mike) Pompeo," as if it were credible.

Meanwhile, multiple left-wing sites have picked up Fearnow's and Newsweek's lie that I ridiculed Anne Frank.

If Newsweek has any honor, it will remove Fearnow's article and apologize to me.

But neither is likely. As I wrote 30 years ago, "Being on the left means never having to say you're sorry."

Next time someone challenges you for using the term "fake news" to describe mainstream media, just cite *Newsweek* and Fearnow.



An article by Walter Williams titled "The New Racism" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on Jan. 8, 2020. Following is the article.

A voter may dislike a black, homosexual or female candidate, but it's not likely that he would openly admit it. However, diversity-crazed leftist/progressive Democrats have openly condemned the physical characteristics of some of their 2020 presidential candidates.

Joe Biden and Bernie Sanders are be leading the polls despite the fact that they have been condemned as old white men.

While Pete Buttigieg is homosexual, something that pleases diversity crazies, he is also a white man, young and religious.

With Kamala Harris' departure from the race, the Democratic field has lost one of its persons of color.

Another, Senator Cory Booker, stands at 2% in the polls; his days are numbered. That means the only Democratic candidates polling high are those condemned as old white people—two men and one woman, Elizabeth Warren.

LaTosha Brown, the co-founder of Black Voters Matter, said she was initially eager for Joe Biden to enter the race but now has second thoughts. Brown said: "I'm over white men running the country. I don't know if him (sic) getting in changes the field. He has name recognition, but his strength is also his weakness."

Former presidential candidate Howard Dean lamented, "If we have two old white guys at the top of this ticket, we will lose." The newest entry into the presidential sweepstakes, Michael Bloomberg, had to apologize for what some see as his diversity insensitiveness namely that of calling fellow presidential

candidate Cory Booker "well-spoken" in a TV interview. The New Jersey senator said he was "taken aback" by what he saw as Bloomberg's racist "trope."

Michael Moore gave us his racist warning: "Two-thirds of all white guys voted for Trump. That means anytime you see three white guys walking at you, down the street toward you, two of them voted for Trump. You need to move over to the other sidewalk because these are not good people that are walking toward you. You should be afraid of them."

This is the new racism, much of it learned and taught at our nation's colleges.

George Orwell said, "Some ideas are so stupid that only intellectuals believe them." The stupid ideas about inclusion and diversity originate with academics on college campuses. If their ideas didn't infect the rest of society, they might be a source of entertainment. But these cancerous ideas have infected society. Statements such as "I'm over white men running the country," or "If we have two old white guys at the top of this ticket, we will lose" are examples of that cancer.

Last year, Philip Carl Salzman wrote "The War Against White People" in Minding the Campus. He declared: "Anti-white hate is now mainstream American culture. Not just by racial extremists such as Black Lives Matter, for whom statements such as "all lives matter" or "blue lives matter" are racist. Our highest leaders sing the same song."

When Barack Obama was campaigning for the presidency in 2008, he said of working-class white voters, "They get bitter, they cling to guns or religion or antipathy to people who aren't like them or anti-immigrant sentiment or antitrade sentiment as a way to explain their frustrations."

During the 2016 presidential campaign, candidate Hillary Clinton claimed that half of Donald Trump's supporters were "a basket of deplorables" who were "racist, sexist, homophobic, xenophobic, Islamophobic—you name it."

Do you think Clinton was talking about Trump's black, Asian and Hispanic supporters? No, she was talking about millions of Trump's white supporters.

Then there's Sarah Jeong, a member of *The New York Times* editorial board and graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, and Harvard Law School. She expressed publicly many anti-white opinions. Among them are: "The world could get by just fine with zero white people." "Dumbass f—ing white people marking up the internet with their opinions like dogs pissing on fire hydrants."

It's "kind of sick how much joy I get out of being cruel to old white men." I guarantee you that *The New York Times* would have fired any employee making similar statements about black, Hispanic or homosexual people.

The bottom line is that the new racism, born in academia, is just as ugly as the old racism.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "I'd Be An Illegal Alien, Too" was posted at patriotpost.us on Jan. 4, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.

If I had been born in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador or Nicaragua, short of committing murder, I would do anything to get into the United States.

That seems to be the rationale that many of those calling for open borders regard as a compelling argument. It's not. Just because you or I can sympathize with those trying to sneak into this country and even, in my case, picture myself making the attempt, doesn't make it right.

That's the part that Democrats don't understand. And by "Democrats," I'm speaking of ordinary voters, not the politicians who see illegal aliens as potential votes and who don't really care if they're the "decent, hard-working" people they're always yakking about or if they're rapists, pedophiles and members of MS-13. A vote to those scumbags is a vote, no matter how vile the person casting it might be.

We are often told that these interlopers just want a better life for themselves and their children. But so do hundreds of millions of people in Europe, Asia and Africa. Why should people in Mexico and Central America have the advantage just because they don't have to cross an ocean and can walk here?

In the old days, when people actually came here legally, a lot of them were drawn by rumors of streets paved with gold. But once they got here and faced reality, there were jobs even for the least educated among them.

Today, when technical skills are necessary even for many low-level jobs, we already have a glut of unskilled, ill-educated, people competing for manual jobs. Letting in millions more only makes the competition stiffer and the wages lower, while increasing welfare and over-crowding the schools, health clinics and prisons.

Two questions I have often asked myself is, one, whether anyone on the Left has ever had a good idea and, two, how it is that whether we're talking about the Soviet Union, North Korea, Cuba, Venezuela, Los Angeles or San Francisco, they never seem to connect the dots between their political and economic policies and the poverty, the lack of freedom and the human misery that are the inevitable result of those policies.

Consider two of the Left's favorite notions: minimum wage and rent control.

Minimum wage

Time and again we have seen that whenever the government, state or federal, arbitrarily raises people's wages, some people get more money and other people lose their jobs because their employers simply decide they're not worth the extra few dollars an hour.

Rent Control

When it comes to rent control, something similar takes place. A few people receive the benefit of paying less for their apartments than they would if the landlord was able to charge whatever the traffic would bear. But it means that the landlord has no incentive to maintain the premises, let alone improve them.

It also means that people are a lot less likely to construct new apartment houses because the politicians are determining what they can charge. This,

of course, inevitably leads to not only a shortage of dwellings, but to the ruination of entire neighborhoods.

One other thing it leads to is fraud. I used to live in the city of Santa Monica, California, sometimes referred to as Moscow by the Pacific or the People's Republic of Santa Monica.

My wife and I lived in a condo which was next door to a rent control apartment house. Because the landlord was himself in a financial bind, not able to raise rents but still compelled to pay the highest property taxes in the nation, he saw no reason to pay a gardener to maintain the yard which had become a weed-infested eyesore.

However, I became acquainted with a couple who were the beneficiaries of the city policy. They weren't elderly, they weren't handicapped, they were young and apparently had a lot more money than I did. I know this because I would see him outside on the weekend washing his and her \$50,000 cars.

And while I don't know what the tenant laws are where you live, but here in California, you have to hire a lawyer if you wish to evict a tenant, even if it's for non-payment of rent. The process can take months. On my block, here in North Hills, a young couple rented a house for a while. When they finally disappeared in the night, they left the home-owner holding the bag for \$13,000 in unpaid rent.

Assorted doodlebugs

Speaking of clueless Socialists, considering the contenders for the Democratic nomination, is it possible that they will cancel out each other and Trump will run unopposed?

I mean, Democrats are notoriously stupid, but it's difficult to imagine a lot of people rallying to support these assorted doodlebugs.

■ Passing as moderates

Pete Buttigieg favors paying reparations not only to blacks, but to the children of illegal aliens.

Joe Biden admits he'd eliminate hundreds of thousands of blue collar jobs in the oil industry in order to bring about a greener economy. (But obviously not greener in terms of money.)

And those two guys are what passes for moderates in the primary sweepstakes these days.

Somewhere Leon Trotsky is spinning in his grave and wondering if they've lost their minds.

Left-most edge of the party

Elizabeth Warren, who is trying so hard to tiptoe on the left-most edge of the party, she has been driven to state that when she's president, she'd make it a priority to place trannies in the jails of their choice. Yes, you and I can eas-

ily see convicted rapists claiming to be women and insisting on being stashed in a women's prison. But, apparently, that's never occurred to Sen. Warren, perhaps because she's trying so hard to lock up the votes of the three trannies presently living in Iowa.

Bush's war on incandescent bulbs

Even though it's not getting the attention it deserves, President Trump has finally gotten around to ending George W. Bush's war on incandescent bulbs. The federal government is now officially out of the light bulb business. Now if only Trump would get us out of Bush's other war, the one in Afghanistan, he will have earned yet another gold star, undoing much of the unnecessary mischief caused by the self-aggrandizing knuckleheaded son of a knuckleheaded father.

■ Thinking "elitist" is a compliment

It troubles me that when members of the media, academia and the upper echelons of the federal bureaucracy, hear themselves referred to as elitists, they take it as a compliment. Is it possible they really believe the rest of us hold them in high regard? Are they that oblivious?

Don't they understand that we're referring to their snobbishness and their over-inflated opinion of themselves?

Do they really not understand that when normal people refer to someone as an elitist, we have in mind someone who's pretentious and egotistical, someone, say, like Hillary Clinton, Karl Rove, Paul Krugman, George Stephanopoulos, John Brennan, Joe Scarborough, Eric Holder and James Comey?

Have they never noticed that whenever a conservative calls someone an elitist it's said mockingly and that he accompanies it with air quotes or rolled eyes or both?

Posing as regular folks

I always find it amusing when politicians try to present themselves as just regular folks, especially when they often try to prove it by having photo ops showing them noshing on hot dogs or pizza.

When they all congregated last summer at the Iowa State Fair to be photographed consuming such bizarre delicacies as bacon crisp ice cream, caramel-dipped pecan pie on a stick and deep-fried strawberry and chocolate cheesecake, I got my biggest laugh when committed vegan Cory Booker found himself having to gnaw on a deep-fried knockwurst on a stick for the cameras.

Quit expecting privileges

If they want to convince us they're just regular Joes and Janes, I say they should fly commercial, getting to the airport three hours early so they can stand in endless serpentine lines and then take off their shoes and belts for the TSA agents. Or how about if they spend two or three hours a day commuting to and from their jobs driving their own cars and paying for their own gas for a change? Or let us see how they pay the mortgage, put food on the table and get their kids into private or religious schools, all on \$50,000-a-year.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Obama's True Legacy" was posted at patriotpost.us on Jan. 6, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.

Once President Trump got us out of the Paris Climate Accords and the Iran Nuclear Deal and did away with the Individual Mandate, which pretty much gutted the Affordable Care Act, just about the only legacy item that Barack Obama could still take credit for was re-introducing widespread racial animosity to our nation.

He convinced millions of blacks that if white people simply express a natural human revulsion for the likes of Al Sharpton, Jesse Jackson, Jussie Smollett, members of the Black Lives Matter mob, Jim Clyburn, Maxine Waters, Sheila Jackson Lee, Eric Holder, Al Green, Hank Johnson, Loretta Lynch, Alcee Hastings, Ayanna Pressley, Frederica Wilson, Louis Farrakhan or Barack Obama, himself, it's the same as donning a white hood and burning a cross.

However, when it comes to President Trump, it's always open season on him, his family and even his advisors.

View of Giuliani changed

Consider the constant attacks on Rudy Giuliani, who had been fondly regarded as "America's Mayor" until he joined forces with the President. Although he tends to be a plain-spoken man, Giuliani had never been accused of a crime until the Democrats decided that loyalty to Trump constituted a felony. These days, he is typically compared to Joseph Goebbels, Hitler's minister of propaganda, but never, oddly enough, to Valerie Jarrett, who served as Obama's consigliore.

Valerie Jarrett escaped vetting

Nobody ever seemed to question why this black Socialist got to take up residency in the White House and spend eight years living just down the hall from the Obamas.

Mrs. Jarrett is one of the most mysterious people who has ever played an influential role in our national politics. She is the closest thing to Rasputin we've ever seen in the White House. One of the few personal facts I have been able to dredge up about her is that she was married for four years in the 1980s and had one daughter. Her enigmatic explanation of her short-lived marriage was "I married without really appreciating how hard divorce would be."

No mention of soldier or police officer

Something else that the Democrats let pass was that President Obama never referred to a black soldier or a black police officer who was killed while serving his country or his city as the son he never had. Instead, he saved those loving, respectful, words for a black thug named Trayvon Martin.

Democrat losers whine and complain

Democrats don't seem to appreciate that most Americans put a premium on good sportsmanship. Even when two boxers have spent half an hour trying to bash out each other's brains, we expect to see them touch gloves at the end of the bout and congratulate each other on having put up a good fight.

But every time a Democrat loses an election, whether it's Al Gore, Hillary Clinton or Stacey Abrams, all they do is whine and complain that the other guy cheated.

■ Booker and Harris complained about bigotry (of Democrats)

Heck, even when Cory Booker failed to garner enough support to land a spot on the debate stage and Kamala Harris failed to generate enough money to support her campaign, they explained their failure by blaming bigots and unfair rules. What neither seemed able to accept is that if bigotry was the answer, it had to be the bigotry of Democrats since Republicans don't vote in their primaries, and we sure don't make their debating rules.

Can't buy an election?

Next to the claims that the check is in the mail and that nobody is above the law, probably the most common lie told in America is that you can't buy an election.

I don't believe it. George Soros and Charles Koch don't believe it. And clearly, Michael Bloomberg and Tom Steyer don't believe it. The two men have already spent a total of \$200 million on their campaigns, and that's with the Iowa primary still a month away, a primary in which Bloomberg isn't even competing.

Was Khrushchev right?

In the state of Washington, the legislature, which should be renamed the Politburo, is so demented and hates those capitalist pigs, previously known as landlords, so much, they are seriously considering passing a bill that would prevent eviction of tenants when it's cold. That would mean that landlords would be forced to provide shelter, including water, heat and electricity, for five months even if the tenants didn't pay their rent.

It's becoming increasingly obvious that when Nikita Khrushchev told Richard Nixon that America would become a Communist nation without the Soviet ever having to fire a shot, the old bald guy knew what he was talking about.

Australian humor

Dennis Stockton, who lets me know what's making Australians laugh, sent along the following.

A financial adviser went out on his own. He was shrewd and hard-working, and when he saw how quickly his business was expanding, he decided he needed in-house counsel. So, he began interviewing young lawyers.

He explained to the first applicant that in such a business as his, personal integrity was essential, and therefore he needed to be certain he could trust the person he hired. "So, tell me, Mr. Hickman, are you an honest lawyer?"

"Am I honest?! I was so anxious to re-pay my father the \$15,000 he had lent me for my education, I paid back every cent the minute I tried my first case." "I'm impressed, Mr. Hickman. What sort of case was it?"

"My father sued me for the money."



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

Finances

- An article by Tsvetana Paraskova titled "U.S. Drillers Rush to Hedge Production As Oil Prices Soar" was posted at oilprice.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- An article by James Mackintosh titled "Money-Losing Companies Mushroom Even As Stocks Hit New Highs" was posted at wsj.com on Jan. 9, 2020.
- An article by Kelly Tyko titled "Macy's Is Reportedly Closing More Than Two Dozen Stores" was posted at usatoday.com on Jan. 9, 2020.

Trade war

- A Reuters article by Lucia Mutikani titled "U.S. Trade Deficit at Three-Year Low As Imports Tumble" was posted at reuters.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- An article by Scott Lanman and Ana Monteiro titled "U.S. Trade Gap Shrinks to Smallest Since 2016 on Export Gain" was posted at bloomberg.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- An article by Isis Almeida and Tatiana Freitas titled "China Buys Brazilian Soybeans Before Trade Deal With U.S." was posted at bloomberg.com on Jan. 8, 2020.

Green New Deal

■ Looking back to July, an article by Adam Shaw titled "AOC's Top Aide Admits Green New Deal About the Economy, Not Climate" was posted at foxnews.com on July 12, 2019.

Illegal immigration

- A Reuters article by Mica Rosenberg titled "U.S. Implements Plan to Send Mexican Asylum Seekers to Guatemala" was posted at reuters.com on Jan. 6, 2020.
- A Reuters article by Mica Rosenberg and Jonathan Stempel titled "U.S. Court Blocks Trump From Enforcing 'Public Charge' Immigration Rule" was posted at reuters.com on Jan. 8, 2020.

Comments about weapons

■ An article by Julio Rosas titled "Virginia Delegate-Elect [Dan Helmer] Introduces Even More Gun Control Bills: 'It's Time to Get to Work' " was posted at townhall.com on Jan. 7, 2020.

- An article by Tristan Justice titled "Not Even Judge Judy [Who Endorsed Bloomberg] Agrees With Michael Bloomberg on Guns" was posted at thefederalist.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- An article by Mary B. McCord titled "Second Amendment 'Sanctuaries' Will Never Hold Up in Court" was posted at news-journal.com on Jan. 9, 2020.

Comments about Trump support

- A video and an article by Beth Baumann titled "Watch: Benghazi Survivor Gives His Take on Trump's Response to Baghdad Attacks" were posted at townhall.com on Jan. 4, 2020.
- An article titled "Nikki Haley Says the Soleimani Strike Left the Iranian Regime Shaking in Their Boots" was posted at foxnews.com on Jan. 6, 2020.
- An article by Susan Jones titled "Pompeo: Obama Chose to 'Underwrite and Appease': 'We Have Chosen to Confront and Contain' " was posted at cnsnews.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- An article by Ben Shapiro titled "Trump's Iran Policy Isn't the Problem; Barack Obama's Policy Was" was posted at creators.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Beth Baumann titled "Texas Gov. Greg Abbott Says Iran Has Launched Thousands of Cyber Attacks" was posted at townhall.com on Jan. 8, 2020.

Comments about Trump opposition

- An article by Bronson Stocking titled "Kaepernick: 'Nothing New About American Terrorist Attacks Against Black and Brown People'" was posted at townhall.com on Jan. 4, 2020.
- An article by John Dempsey titled "Is a Foreign Embassy United States Soil? Apparently, the Left Doesn't Think So" was posted at townhall.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Leah Barkoukis titled "Pelosi Too Busy to Take Pence's Call—Which Was to Inform Her of Iranian Missile Attack" was posted at townhall. com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Bronson Stocking titled "Flashback: Pelosi Said Obama Did Not Need Authorization to Attack Libya" was posted at townhall.com on Jan. 9, 2020.
- An article by Emily Jacobs titled "Senate Democrats Begin Breaking With Nancy Pelosi on Articles of Impeachment" was posted at nypost.com on Jan. 9, 2020.
- An article by Natasha Korecki titled "Bernie Emerges As Growing Threat to Biden" was posted at politico.com on Jan. 9, 2020.
- An article by Zack Budryk titled "Ocasio-Cortez [Who Supports Bernie Sanders]: 'In Any Other Country Joe Biden and I Would Not Be in the Same Party'" was posted at thehill.com on Jan. 6, 2020.

- An article by Amie Parnes titled "Bernie-Hillary Echoes Seen in Biden-Sanders Primary Fight" was posted at thehill.com on Jan. 9, 2020.
- An article by Hanna Trudo titled "Obamaworld Hates Bernie—and Has No Idea How to Stop Him" was posted at thedailybeast.com on Jan. 6, 2020.
- An article by Julia La Roche titled "Billionaire Jeffrey Gundlach Says the 'Biggest Risk' for Markets in 2020 Is a Bernie Sanders Win" was posted at yahoo.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Reagan McCarthy titled "Senator Sanders Compares Soleimani Strike to Killing of Russian Dissidents" was posted at townhall.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- An article by Emily Shugerman titled "Warren Fans Say They Know Why She's Faltering: Sexism" was posted at thedailybeast.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article titled "Ron Howard Calls Donald Trump a 'Self-Serving, Dishonest, Morally Bankrupt Ego Maniac' " was posted at people.com on Jan. 2, 2020.

News about the media

- An article by Danny Thompson titled "Monty Python's Terry Gilliam [Who Has Residences in London and in Italy]: 'I'm Tired, As a White Male, of Being Blamed for Everything' " was posted at yahoo.com on Jan. 4, 2020.
- An article by Brian Stelter titled "Rush Limbaugh Renews Radio Show Contract in a 'Long-Term' [4-Year] Deal" was posted at cnn.com on Jan. 5, 2020.
- An article by Lauren Artine titled "CNN Settles Lawsuit With [Covington Catholic Student] Nick Sandmann" was posted at fox19.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- An article by Alex Isenstadt titled "Trump to Drop \$10 Million on Super Bowl Ad" was posted at politico.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- An article by Tim Baysinger titled "Mike Bloomberg Buys a 60-Second Super Bowl Ad for \$10 Million" was posted at thewrap.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- An article by Lindsey Ellefson titled "[MSNBC's] Joe Scarborough Calls Trump 'Ignorant of World History,' Worries About International Crisis" was posted at thewrap.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- An article by Julio Rosas titled "MSNBC Pushed False Iranian Propaganda That 30 American Troops Were Killed in Missile Attack" was posted at townhall.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Mediaite Staff titled "Tucker Carlson Scores Highest Ratings Ever at 8 P.M. During Coverage of Iran Crisis" was posted at mediaite.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Julio Rosas titled "The Media Is Sadder Over Solemani's Death Than the Iranians Who Were Forced to Mourn" was posted at townhall.com on Jan. 9, 2020.
- An article by Brent Bozell and Tim Graham titled "Our Unpatriotic Press Coddles Dictators" was posted at townhall.com on Jan. 8, 2020.

- An article by Ann Coulter titled "CNN and Fox News Report on the Rise of Hitler" was posted at anncoulter.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Lindsey Ellefson titled "Mark Levin Accuses Fox News Colleagues of Taking His Ideas 'Without Attribution' " was posted at thewrap. com on Jan. 9, 2020.
- An article by Lucas Shaw titled "Hollywood Made 532 TV Shows in 2019, and It's Going to Make More" was posted at bloomberg.com on Jan. 9, 2020.

General interest

- An article titled "Just One Bad Night's Sleep 'Raises Levels of An Alzheimer's Biomarker by 17%' " was posted at yahoo.com on Jan. 9, 2020.
- An article by Todd Starnes titled "Chick-Fil-A Has a Change of Heart [Regarding the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Salvation Army]" was posted at townhall.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article by Tim Nelson titled "Chick-Fil-A Is Making Big Menu Changes in 2020" was posted at yahoo.com on Jan. 7, 2020.
- An article titled "Amtrak Is Offering Buy-One-Get-One Trips for As Low As \$82, But You'll Have to Act Soon" was posted at yahoo.com on Jan. 8, 2020.
- An article titled "Gas Pump Mix-Up Could Cost Lake Tahoe Drivers Thousands" was posted at kcra.com (Sacramento, Calif.) on Jan. 7, 2020.
- An article titled "Florida Poised to Surpass New York in Congressional Seats" was posted at bloomberg.com on Jan. 2, 2020.
- An article by Danica Coto titled "6.4 Quake Strikes Puerto Rico Amid Heavy Seismic Activity" was posted at apnews.com on Jan. 7, 2020.

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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."