



The Conservative Underground



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“Printing what they don’t want you to see,”

30 December 2008

Teaching what they don’t want you to know”

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Conservatism’s Direction as we Move into the New Year

By Tim Dunkin

We find ourselves as the end of a year that, by all appearances, was a nadir for conservatism in the United States. Our nation elected to the Presidency an untested socialist with a history of terrorist associations and a background as a race-agitating "community organizer". In the Congress, the party of Government became further entrenched, and barely missed obtaining a filibuster-proof majority in the Senate by the skin of its teeth. All across the country, conservative Republicans in state-level races went down in flames, even in supposedly airtight Red states. Yes, this year certainly gave the leftists and their enablers in the mainstream media a lot to crow about at our expense. But as we begin the new year, I do not think that conservatives should despair, as we may be tempted to do. Instead, we should evaluate where we are and rationally plan for our future in the upcoming year. In this spirit, I would like to make a few suggestions for us to consider.

First of all, we must remember as we look at the particulars of the election that *conservatism* did not really lose. I hate to say it, but *conservatism* didn't even really show up to the starting gate this year. What was put to the test and failed was RINOism (Republican in Name Only). For the past eight years, Republicans have been represented in the eyes of the public by a President who delivered some of the most expensive social spending programs yet, who vigorously supported amnesty for illegal aliens,

and who fit himself into the country-clubbish old boys network quite nicely by supporting and campaigning for centrist and liberal Republican candidates (like Arlen Specter) over and against their conservative primary opponents. The Republican-controlled Congress from 2000-2006 did little more than rubber-stamp the social spending and get themselves embroiled in scandal after scandal.

Granted, President Bush and the GOP Congress did do some conservative things. The minuscule tax cuts were underwhelming but marginally effective, even if they did have a soon-to-be-expired "escape hatch" built into them for some reason. The two solid Supreme Court justices (Alito and Roberts) were quite nice, even if the base did have to more or less force the President to rescind his first choice of the under-qualified and little known Harriet Miers. The Republicans did let the "assault weapons" ban lapse, a bright spot in an otherwise dismal record. But overall, no, the Republican record has not been one of "conservatism" for quite a while, and when people rejected Bushism, they were not rejecting authentic small-government, pro-liberty conservatism.

Further, the Republican nominee this year really was more of the same RINOism that has dominated the party for years - pro-amnesty, unsure about tax cuts, suspicious of the socially conservative base, and viewed "bipartisanship" to be a greater virtue than standing on principle. Granted, his choice of a running mate was solid, but again, we elect Presidents first and foremost, not Vice-Presidents. (cont. on page 8)



<http://hostileopposition.blogspot.com>

The Lighter Side!

How to be Politically Correct

By Jamie Freeze

In order that you may be completely politically correct in this New Year, I have taken it upon myself to present you with your *PC kit* (also known as your Politically Correct kit).

This presidential election had everyone in an uproar. Show your political correctness by displaying this photo and frame proudly on your work desk or fireplace mantle. Or, you could be fashionable and wear this picture on a t-shirt, tote bag, pair of pants, or my personal favorite—a hat. Ignore any taunts or jeers you may receive. You are supporting a minority for the presidency. You couldn't be more PC.



Due to global warming, I thought about forgoing a gift this year in order to reduce my carbon footprint, but my PC agenda is more important than my standards and convictions. From this day forward, you can proudly proclaim your status as one who is environmentally aware. Wear this button proudly for Al Gore and all of the Hollywood starlets. For added affect, wear this button when clothed in Birkenstocks and while driving your hybrid vehicle. In the event you happen upon a real scientist who disagrees with your theory about humans and global warming,

simply run away crying to the nearest pay phone to call Barbara Walters. She'll listen to you cry for a whole hour. If she can't be reached, try Oprah.



In addition to a lovely photo and button, I wanted to give you a sign to hang on the door of your office to let people know how diverse and tolerant of alternative lifestyles you are. It is important on one's PC quest to be ultra-sensitive to the needs of the LGBT community. After all, they are born gay. Above all, you must never offend one of its members by quoting the Bible or pointing to valid social science or biological statistics. If you offend one of these people, you will be a total outcast of the PC community.

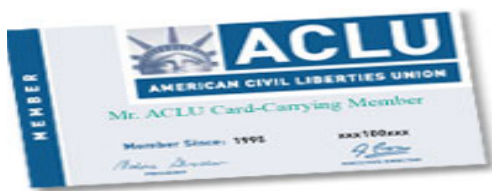


Because you have received such a valuable gift this year, thieves (excuse me,

honesty-challenged-people) may decide to take your gift. Display this warning sign on your front door. If the honesty-challenged-people see that you have no gun on the premise, they may decide to leave you alone. Remember, guns kill people. In the event that the honesty-challenged-people ignore your sign, simply cower in the corner, sing Kum-Bah-Ya, tell the honesty-challenged-people how mean they are being, then hope for the best. After all, you are PC and good things happen to PC people.



Finally, in the event anyone ever calls you mean things or does something rude like display a nativity scene, display the Ten Commandments, or preach against "alternative lifestyles", make certain you are carrying this card in your back pocket. This handy-dandy card makes you an official card-carrying member of the ACLU. Welcome to the club. Dues are paid with lies, whining, and hatred of all that is good.



The Materialist Faith of Communism, Socialism, and Liberalism

By Linda Kimball

For over eighty-five years, America has been incrementally conquered by the same madness-inducing demon of hatred and violence that earlier took over Russia, China, Germany, and Italy. Rabbi Aryeh Spiro concurs,

"There is a madness in today's liberal thinking. It insists on policies that tie our hands to defend ourselves while given free reign to the jihadists intent on killing us. It is dangerous because it is becoming the law, and thinking of the land in the western world. (*Liberal Madness is Deadly*, 1/24/08)

This demon is embodied in "enlightened" Liberals and the West's transnational "elite," both of whom are deeply infected by materialistic Communism (Cultural Marxism) and the delusion that the true enemy of America is always on the Right. Having rejected God and the religious heritage of our civilization, they embrace instead a new order of beliefs of which Communism and Socialism are logical expressions. A new world order is what they seek, but in order that it can emerge, the existing culture must be completely destroyed.

And what is Communism? Using the former Soviet Union as an example, Frank Meyers describes it as, "*The state form taken by a materialist faith determined to rule the world.*" Communism, or scientific materialism, is "*the final synthesis of all heretical tendencies that have pervaded Western civilization for many centuries.*" It is materialist scientism, of which,

"Communism is the culminating hubris of the Promethean man who reaches out for the world and means to remake creation. It is scientism gone political." (*The Conservative Intellectual Movement*, pp. 251-252)

We are All Materialists Now

"*An age of science is necessarily an age of materialism,*" declared Hugh Elliot early last century, "*Ours is a scientific age, and it may be said with truth that we are all materialists now.*" (*Darwin Day in America*, John G. West, p. xiv)

Materialist faith, or scientific materialism, has virtually displaced America's founding Judeo-Christian worldview with the result that materialism is now the operative assumption for much of our government, culture, politics, and law. Materialist operatives now control every public institution in the United States. According to the inner logic of materialist faith, "we the people" are nothing but socially-constructed atomized robots who can presumably be deconstructed and melted

into an amalgamated mass. Toward both this goal and to raise up an army of street thugs who will destroy our culture, materialist change-agents use our education system to subvert and convert the minds of our youth. Should they succeed in thoroughly corrupting them and in turning their hearts to hate, this generation of children may become the next Khmer Rouge, who at Pol Pot's order murdered nearly two-million people, including their own families.

What is Materialism?

As Robert Jastrow (b. 1925), recipient of NASA's Medal for Exceptional Studies explains, there are only two possible explanations for the origin of life: evolution and creation.

"...science has no...answer to the question of the origin of life on earth. Perhaps (life) is a miracle. Scientists are reluctant to accept that view, but their choices are limited: either life was created... by the will of a being outside... scientific understanding, or it evolved... spontaneously through chemical reactions... in nonliving matter... The first theory... is a statement of faith in the power of a Supreme Being not subject to the laws of science. The second theory is also an act of faith (which assumes) that the scientific view... is correct, without having concrete evidence to support that belief." (*Until the Sun Dies*, pp. 62-63)

America is founded on the Judeo-Christian creation model. Materialist faith rises or falls on the assumptions of metaphysical materialism and evolution.

Materialism belongs to the family of Naturalism, which refers to the view that nature (or matter) is the Ultimate Substance of which the universe and all life are made, thus "all is one." C. S. Lewis describes naturalism as a box with its top tightly closed in order to keep out God and the supernatural realm. The ancient Ionians, Babylonians, Egyptians, and Aztecs were, for example, naturalists. In this view there is but one realm (the material or natural, which included their gods) as opposed to Judeo-Christianity's creation model with its two interacting realms: the natural realm of the universe and the supernatural realm of God, separate from the universe.



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There are two basic kinds of Naturalism: materialism (i.e., Communism) and pantheism (i.e., Nazism and New Age Spiritual Communism). The two kinds differ chiefly about whether the First Cause or Absolute Substance is nonliving, non-intelligence bearing matter or an unknowing, unknowable, amoral mind. However, both kinds are united by their rejection of the transcendent, personal God and the supernatural realm and by their acceptance of some form of evolution, which serves as an impersonal, mechanical process of development.

Birth of Scientific Materialism: A Brief Historical Overview

As will be shown by the following overview, scientific materialism is not founded on empirical science, as has been its deceptive claim, but rather on metaphysics.

In the main, modern materialism originated in the metaphysics of the ancient Ionians and Stoics during the sixth century BC. However, it was the Atomists (Leucippus/Democritus, 5th-4th centuries BC; Epicurus, 341-270 BC; and Lucretius, 99-55 BC) who methodically developed materialism.

Forged in a furnace of narcissism, envy, and contempt, Atomism was from its inception an anti-human abomination which in later years would attract those who enjoy the control and domination of others. Atomism set all things in ceaseless, purposeless motion by reducing everything---including man, his soul, and even his thoughts---to mindless atoms perpetually colliding with each other in a void. Man was reduced to a soulless, mindless machine that could only 'see' a tree because the tree emitted atoms which entered machine-man's eyes and implanted themselves onto his brain. This view has changed very little:

"We are descended from robots, and composed of robots..." (*Kinds of Minds*, Daniel C. Dennett)

Plato and Aristotle were the most forceful and compelling critics of Atomism. In Book X of *Laws*, Plato indicts the Atomists for reversing the natural order, which they did by placing dead matter before *Nous* (mind/soul), and for the reductionism that sets everything in motion and reduces man to a machine. Plato foresees only misery, social disintegration and ultimately, "*the ruin of both states and families*" should Atomism become the accepted view.

Though Christianity reared a mighty barrier against Atomism, it would be resurrected - along with the hylozoism of the Ionians and Stoics - during the Renaissance by, among others, the pantheist Giordano Bruno and the heretic Paracelsus, an alchemist described by C.S. Lewis as a magician in his book, *The Abolition of Man*.

Hylozoism (*Greek hyle=nature; zoe=life*) is the doctrine according to which all of nature's bodies (i.e., sun, earth, moon, trees, man) possess life, mind, soul, and even divinity. By infusing Atomism with Ionian hylozoism, what might be called materialzoism was invented by Bruno, Paracelsus, and others. In short, dead matter was not just brought to life but deified.

The Franco-Germanic Enlightenment

With "*God dead*" and the source of man's humanity (mind/soul) expropriated by materialists and conferred upon "dead matter," a rush to discover the key that unlocks the mystery to life and mind was ignited which in later years unleashed unspeakable evil. For in believing that without a doubt, they now possessed the gnosis (secret knowledge) to not only design a utopia but create a New Man with a reprogrammed mind and conscience, Nazi and Soviet scientists performed sadistic experiments on living human beings. It was of these later scientific materialists that C.S. Lewis wrote his book, *The Abolition of Man*. "*Even now,*" wrote Lewis, "*the process to abolish Man goes on apace among Communists and Democrats (and) Fascists.*" The methods, said Lewis, may at first differ in brutality. But "enlightened" materialists from scientists to philosophers to academics and to political leaders mean, in the long run, "*Just the same as the Nazis...*" The West and America are to be destroyed and "*mankind to be cut out in some*

fresh shape at the will" of scientific materialists who Lewis calls the Conditioners and Innovators. These people, noted Lewis, are no longer men, for they have stepped out into the void.

Among the horde of Prometheans who set out to discover the animating power of machine-man was Giovanni Aldini, who performed macabre experiments on decapitated oxen, horses, lambs, and - once he had overcome his repugnance - on humans. For his experiments, he procured the freshest specimens possible by placing himself "*under the scaffold, near the axe of justice...*" Believing that some type of electricity was the source of machine-man's animation, Aldini applied electricity to various parts of decapitated human heads. This produced "*the most horrid grimaces (but the) action of the eyelids was exceedingly striking.*" Aldini rationalized his repugnant experiments by saying that only the "*unenlightened part of mankind (will be) apt to entertain a prejudice...*" (*Darwin Day in America*, p. 15)

Yet more power-crazed Prometheans emerged. Julien de la Mettrie (1709-51) and Paul Henri Thiery, the baron D'Holbach (1723-89) all agreed that the mind is the property of dead matter and man nothing but a machine. La Mettrie speculated that machine-man's rational life is entirely determined by physical causes that run the gamut from raw meat, to climate, blood circulation, and gender. Genetic inheritance, posits la Mettrie, causes machine-man to commit crime. This view casts parents into the role of "first cause" and would later manifest itself in the belief that State "experts," or Hillary's "village" experts should have control of children. (ibid, pp. 16-18)

Pierre Simon Laplace (1749-1827) viewed scientific materialism as not only the pursuit of God-like omniscience but of the Holy Grail itself - power to create a New Man. If an intelligence could grasp "*at a given instant...all the forces by which nature is animated*" proclaimed Laplace, it could devise a mathematical formula that would predict everything that would ever happen, and "*nothing would be uncertain, and the future, like the past,*



would be open to its eyes." Scientists should reduce everything in the universe to mechanical laws that could be expressed in terms of mathematics, advised Laplace, for the promise of such knowledge was incredible power....even over life and mind itself. (ibid, p. 20)

Herbert Spencer, Fechner, Lotze, Wundt, and pantheist Ernst Haeckel, inventor of the dictum of scientism - *ontogeny recapitulates phylogeny* - all agreed that life and mind are properties of dead matter. Haeckel moreover imagined ether to be the primitive life-making substance which, as was the case with the primitive fire of the Stoics, changed one part of itself into inert mass while the other part became the active principle, spirit. Today, many scientists routinely resort to Haeckel's postulate without ever inquiring into its pantheist implications.

Haeckel would later write, "*Pantheism teaches that God and the world are one...pantheism is...an advanced conception of nature (and) a polite form of atheism.*" The truth of pantheism, confessed Haeckel, "*lies in its destruction of the dualist antithesis of God...*" The godless world system being constructed, said Haeckel, "*substantially agrees with the monism or pantheism of the modern scientist.*" (*Monism, Ernst Haeckel, www.pantheist.net/*)

During the century to follow, Charles Darwin (1809-82) would help spread materialism to the masses. As Stephen Jay Gould argues, "*Darwin applied a consistent philosophy of materialism to his interpretation of nature, "and "the ground of all existence; mind, spirit, and God (are reduced to) neural complexity.*" (*Darwin Day in America, p. 41*)

According to Darwin, natural selection and the laws of heredity acting on matter produced mind, morality, and civilization. By describing how deified natural mechanisms caused the complexity of life to emerge from deified matter, Darwin helped transform materialism from a fantastically bizarre tale told by power-mad Prometheans on the fringe of society to a hallowed principle of scientism enshrined and worshiped by the modern philosophy of scientism and 'enlightened' Westerners.

It was during this time that Social Darwinism, Progressivism, Socialism, Communism (Cultural Marxism, New Left), Nazism, and Secular Humanism were developed

out of metaphysical materialism. Classical Liberalism on the other hand, was subverted and corrupted by the materialist faith into what is now known as modern Liberalism. Of these, Communism (Marx and Engel's dialectical materialism), is considered to be the most highly developed philosophy of materialism. It rests on three fundamental metaphysical presuppositions:

- 1. Deified Matter: The Ultimate Substance which, though non-living, non-intelligent, and non-conscious, nevertheless somehow possesses the emergent properties of life, mind, consciousness, and soul.
- 2. Evolution: Since Marxist dialectic requires a theory with clashes (thesis and antithesis) and leaps (synthesis), Marxists have all but abandoned Darwinism and instead have embraced punctuated equilibrium. "*Many people confound dialectic with the theory of evolution,*" noted G. Plekhanov. "*Dialectic is, in fact, a theory of evolution. But it differs profoundly from the vulgar (Darwinian) theory of evolution.*" (*Fundamental Problems of Marxism, p. 145*)
- 3. Spontaneous Generation: An offshoot of specifically Darwinian thought accepted unreservedly by Marxists as their dialectic requires a strictly materialist explanation for the origin of life from dead matter. In the words of M.A. Leonov: "*Marxist philosophical materialism remains beyond all doubt that at some time or other in the remote past, life must have arisen from non-living matter.*" (*Outline of Dialectical Materialism, p. 494*)

In a modified version of the Stoic conception of the earth as a living organism possessed of its own soul, neo-pantheist dialectical materialism declares that earth is "*one entire organism...its organs the various races and nations of men.*" Not only is the earth alive and evolving upward on evolution's magical escalator, but so too are history and society, for they also are living entities in a continuous state of motion. And man? In a modified conception of Atomism's extremely dehumanizing view of man, dialectical materialism states that man is nothing but "*a colonial aggregation of cells,*" and to "*consider him an individual would be an error.*" Man - the

aggregate of cells - is nothing but an extension of society, history, and earth. (*Russian Textbook on Psychopolitics, Chapter II: The Constitution of Man as a Political Organism*)

Death of America?

Modern materialistic states began by rejecting God and denying objective standards of right and wrong. They threw out the sanctity of life and demonically reduced man to matter in motion. The end result, in every instance, was to place absolute power over "atomized masses" into the hands of psychopaths and autocratic states to be wielded without restraint or mercy.

Of all religions, the materialist faith has been by far the bloodiest. In his book, *Death by Government*, R.J. Rummel comprehensively details the roughly 170 million people murdered by materialist governments during the 20th century. From 1917 to its collapse in 1991, the Soviet Union liquidated about 62 million. During Mao Tse-tung's reign, 35,236,000 were murdered. Hitler's Nazi's killed 21 million. Even at its mildest, as is thus far the case here in America, there is a steady increase in confiscation, corruption, fraud, and the stifling of free speech and other freedoms. For the first time ever, Americans are afraid of saying certain words. Parents fear disciplining their own children. More ominously, materialists in control of America (i.e., the ACLU, activist judges) have rejected God and thrown out both sanctity of life and objective standards. "We the people" have been reduced to atomized beings. Totalitarianism and genocide loom just over our horizon.

As early as 1926, President Calvin Coolidge was aware of and deeply concerned by the insidious spread of scientific materialism in America. As he knew, Americans are free only because of the Judeo-Christian foundation laid by the country's founders. In a speech he delivered in Philadelphia, July 5, 1926 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, Coolidge tried to call Americans back to their Judeo-Christian heritage. He told Americans that the Declaration's principles of liberty arise from man's God-given inalienable rights. And these are found, said Coolidge, "*in the texts, the sermons, and the writings of the early colonial clergy...*" The clergy preached equality "*because they believed in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.*" Sanctity of life, the right to self-defense, and all the rest of our

individual liberties were justified "*by the text that we are all created in the divine image, all partakers of the divine spirit.*" God's children therefore, have no "*superiors;*" there are no modern-day "divine rights kings" who possess "*any right to rule...over them.*" Americans are free to choose their own leaders.

The Declaration, continued Coolidge, is "*a great spiritual document.*" Its principles are not material but spiritual. "*Equality, liberty, popular sovereignty, the rights of man---these are not elements we can see and touch. They are ideals (whose) source and roots (are) in religious convictions. They belong to the unseen world.*"

President Coolidge cautioned Americans that, "**unless the faith of the Americans in these religious convictions is to endure, the principles of our Declaration will perish. We can not continue to enjoy the result if we abandon the cause.**"

Coolidge ended his speech with a stark warning, "**We must not sink into a pagan materialism...**" (*Back Fired*, William Federer, pp. 269-271)

Yet, believing they are "enlightened" and "scientific," maddened Liberals and Transnational "elites" are leading America over the Gadarene Cliff.

Linda Kimball is a member of the MoveOff organization and a New Media Alliance member.

"It is important to remember that government interference always means either violent action or the threat of such action...taxes are paid because the taxpayers are afraid of offering resistance to the tax gatherers. They know that any disobedience or resistance is hopeless. As long as this is the state of affairs, the government is able to collect the money that it wants to spend. Government is in the last resort the employer of armed men, of policemen, gendarmes, soldiers, prison guards, and hangmen. The essential feature of government is the enforcement of decrees by beating, killing, and imprisoning. Those who are for more government interference are asking ultimately for more compulsion and less freedom."—Ludwig von Mises

(cont. from page 1) It is little surprise that post-election analyses suggest that a substantial contribution to Obama's victory over McCain was the non-participation of millions of typically Republican voters, and that millions more "Reagan Democrats" returned home to the Democrat Party. The Republicans, by drifting from authentic conservatism, soured their own base and gave non-Republican conservatives little reason to vote for them, other than the fear of Obama - and that wasn't enough.

Second, and following upon the first, conservatives need to exert their power of numbers within the Republican Party and use their strength to weed out RINOs from decision-making positions within the Party. We need to make it abundantly clear that we want a return to the structure of the Party that existed for several years post-1994, when conservative ideologues took the helm and positions of power within the Party were dealt not on the basis of an old boys network, but on the basis of commitment to the principles of liberty and small government. If the decision-makers within the apparatus of the Republican Party are not firmly committed to our principles, then they will not represent our principles when the time comes to make decisions about which candidates to support in primaries (or even in the general election!) or what planks to insist upon in future platforms. An example of this was seen in the latest election, where the re-election of Michelle Bachman (R-MN6), a solidly conservative member of Minnesota's congressional delegation, was jeopardized because the National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC) withdrew a large chunk of funding for her campaign - all because she rocked the boat by "questioning the patriotism" of Obama and other Democrat leaders.

Coupled with the above must be a demand for a return to *strong leadership*, both within the Party structure and in Congress. Much of the failure of the Republican leaders in Congress since 2000 has not necessarily been a lack of conservatism in the personal philosophies of men like Dennis Hastert (R-IL), Trent Lott (R-MS), Mitch McConnell (R-KY), and Jim Boehner (R-OH), but has been their willingness to play what I call the "go along to get along game". The GOP leaders all-too-often chose to work with their colleagues across the aisle, rather than acting on principle to push for conservative legislation and to oppose wrongheaded laws. They bought into

the mantra than bipartisanship is always a good thing. Instead of standing up to the Democrats when the GOP had the majority, they let the Democrats bully them, blame them, and defame them. Now the GOP is in the minority, and has its own fecklessness to blame.

Coupled with this, of course, is the necessity for conservatives at all levels - from the letter writer in the local newspaper all the way up to the leadership in the Senate - to be strong enough to ignore the accusations that will always be made against us when we stand on principle. We need to develop a literal "who cares?" attitude when the left calls us "racist", etc.. What's more, we need to get aggressive about throwing it right back into their faces. Don't give the Democrats a pass, don't grovel and apologize, instead get right into their faces and demand that they either explain themselves and debate us openly, or else withdraw the accusation and admit to being liars.

Third, conservatives within the GOP need to *strenuously* resist the calls by liberals within the Party and the punditry to dump the social conservatives. Since the election, voices within the supposedly conservative pundit corp, such as Kathleen Parker and David Frum, and RINOs like Colin Powell, have been trying to blame social conservatives for the losses on 4 November. Their argument is that voters were somehow turned off by the "overt religiosity" and social conservatism of the GOP - which is odd when you consider how little social issues were actually talked about in the presidential race.

Dumping the social conservatives would be a monumentally bad idea. Pretty much the only success that Republicans and conservatives had in

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the last election were on questions surrounding social issues. Ballot initiatives banning gay marriages passed in all three states where they were tested - including two states won by Obama, one of which (California) glows a bright, neon Blue. Arkansas passed a measure which banned adoption by unmarried couples, an initiative which was understood by all to be aimed at homosexuals. Nebraskans voted to remove affirmative action hiring preferences for state government positions. The only major initiatives which failed were abortion-related measures in South Dakota and Colorado. Even then, the South Dakota initiative failed because a sizable number of pro-lifers were not satisfied with it and voted against it. The Colorado initiative would have opened up women receiving abortions to liability for criminal prosecution - something which even many pro-lifers find unpalatable. If these initiatives had been crafted better, it is entirely likely that they would have passed too, and social conservatism would have ran the table that night.

Further, social conservatism is one of the precious few commonalities that Republicans have with the minority voters that we supposedly need to court to stay competitive. Reaching out to black and Hispanic voters can only be done through conservative stances on social issues such as abortion and gay marriage. So no, social conservatism was not the cause of our defeats in 2008. One is tempted to think that, had the talking points in the campaign revolved around social issues instead of the economy, that Republicans could very well have pulled out an upset victory, despite all the poor branding and bad name the Party has accrued to itself over the last eight years.

In addition to these ideological considerations, there are a number of strategic improvements that conservatives and the GOP ought to consider.

The Republican Party badly needs to reform its primary system. Our nominee was selected for us by independents and Democrats - people who have no business deciding the Republican nominee. McCain got to where he was because he was sustained by enough non-Republican votes to give him the early momentum that usually determines the nominee after South Carolina. Florida was the first actual closed primary in the GOP primary schedule, and by then, it didn't matter - McCain had pretty much clinched it. Guess what, folks? In 2012, it'll just be worse, if we don't do something now. In the next election,

the incumbent Democrat Obama will have no credible opposition in the Democrat nominating process, and thus tens of millions of Democrats and left-leaning independents will have free rein to monkey with the GOP nomination. Conservatives need to retake control of the party and reform this system post-haste. We need to close every single primary election, and failing that, we need to de-certify the results from any state with an open primary. Only Republicans should decide who the Republican nominee is.

Conservatives need to develop alternatives to the mainstream media (MSM). One of the greatest obstacles we face is the monolithically Democrat-leaning news media in this country. It's no wonder we lose when we try to run uphill in the concrete shoes that ABCNNBCBS and the equally leftist print media put upon us. Sure, there are some alternatives. Talk radio has been our best voice - but it has also been stigmatized to the point where it only appeals to those already appealed to. Fox News is said to be conservative, but one wonders if this is really the case. No, conservatives need to forcibly intrude ourselves back into the game by emulating the forms presented by the convention media outlets, while simultaneously exploiting the abundance of new technology which exists, especially through the internet, for reaching the people directly. This way, we can attempt to reach both the generation which still reveres Walter Cronkite while also appealing to the iPod generation. We have played the MSM's game for too long. We need to make an end run around the MSM, and provide another alternative that gives voice to what WE believe, instead of allowing the MSM to give its listeners a caricatured, slanted, heavily-spun mockery of our philosophies and purposes. This all *will* take money - but if Rupert Murdoch could start Fox News from the ground up, surely conservatives acting together could do the same with our own, explicitly conservative, outlets.

Hand-in-hand with developing a credible alternative to the MSM, conservatives need to get more aggressive about using what scant resources we are allowed at present to get our message out AND to tar the Democrats with their scandals and poor policy decisions. When the economy inevitably worsens under Obama's administration because of the ridiculous policies implement by himself and the Democrats in Congress, Republicans need to stand up and loudly proclaim the fault for these to the people. The Democrats

will certainly try to blame Obama's failings on Bush - we cannot let them dominate the conversation and get away with it. The GOP let the Democrats do this to them during the campaign when the Fannie and Freddie debacle first broke. McCain and the Republicans had the perfect bully pulpit of daily news coverage through which to hammer home to the people that the fault for this was mortgage regulation policy instituted by Democrats, through the Democrat-engineered Community Reinvestment Act, and that Democrats had been systematically blocking all reform of the system at the same time that many prominent Democrats (including Candidate Obama) were personally benefiting from their involvement with F&F. Yet - barely a peep from anyone on the Right, no ads for McCain detailing these facts, no piercing questions for Obama from McCain during the debates, - nothing. Half of our problem with getting our message out is, well, that WE don't seem willing to do it. This needs to change.

Internally, conservatives need to learn to work together, just like we did in the Golden Age of the Reagan Revolution. We need to not let petty differences at a policy implementation level prevent us from working together toward the common goals of advancing liberty. It's one thing for us to neutralize the RINOs who want to make the GOP pro-abortion or who want to pursue a "we too" policy regarding massive social spending by the federal government. We need to do that. It's quite another, however, for conservatives to rip each other apart because some of us support a flat tax while others support the Fair Tax, or some prefer an incrementalist approach to dealing with abortion while others support a more sweeping method. The friendly fire does nobody any good, and only helps our enemies. And speaking of the Democrats, consider this: If the Democrats, with their gazillions of tribalistic special-interest groups, can get it together to win power despite the inherent fracture-lines spread out all across their coalition, why can't conservatives keep it together to even maintain control of our own Party, especially as we all hold to a general political philosophy which ameliorates our differences much better?

Lastly, I suggest this final point. Conservatives need to adopt a willingness to participate again. Too often, we let our "rugged individualism" stand in the way of pitching in together and making the contributions of time and money needed to win. Conservatives seem like we expect that the burden of participation ought to be

borne just by a relatively small number of Party activists. There seems to be this unspoken suspicion that working together is some sort of attack on our individualism. Well, it's not. Remember, America was not settled by rugged individualists, but by *communities of rugged individuals* - there is a difference. We've lost the willingness to give up even a little of our time, our money, or our abilities to working together in our participatory republican system. This was *not* the way of the Founders.

Friends, the Democrats and leftists are *organized*. We are not so much so, by a long shot. This is why we've been losing. We could only coast on the strength and rightness of our philosophy of freedom for so long, before the Left would find a strategy to get around it. Well, they have, and we need to adapt to that. As an example of what I'm saying, just think about the funding for the presidential campaign in 2012. We know Obama will have a huge cash reservoir, and has great fund raising capabilities. He showed this in the past cycle, and put together a war chest of several hundred million dollars, and was able to outspend McCain by four or five to one. What if, in 2012, 10 million conservative families donated just \$100 to the campaign of Mark Sanford or Sarah Palin? That would be a billion dollars - with a B - in the warchest, all for the individual price of having to postpone buying your kids those new basketball shoes for a month. What could solidly conservative candidates for House and Senate seats do with that kind of money? We need to get serious about actually putting the grassroots back into grassroots campaigning again.

As I close, I encourage each of us to think about these suggestions. Some may be difficult, but they are all doable, if conservatives and Republicans would only get serious about putting liberty to the forefront again. It's not enough for us to grouse about Obama and hope he messes things up enough that we can squeak back into power in four years. We have to reform our system internally and reaffirm our principles positively. The people of this country, I truly believe, want conservatism. But the GOP hasn't given it to them. Let's change that.

"I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them."— Thomas Jefferson

A Call for Sanity in the Illegal Immigration Debate

By Tim Dunkin

Although receiving no attention from the candidates in this last election cycle, the illegal immigration debate is still one of the most important and divisive subjects in American politics. Thus, it is terribly important that this issue not disappear from the radar screens of the millions of Americans who oppose illegal immigration, those who form consistent majorities whenever polls are taken on this topic. Because it is a highly charged and emotional subject for many, I fear that this issue is in danger of moving beyond the point where it can be rationally discussed with those on the Left. Nevertheless, with an issue as important as this one, it is incumbent upon us that we be able to present our reasons and arguments, even in the face of baseless accusations coming from radical illegal-immigration activists and their enablers on the Left. To deal with this, I'd like to take this opportunity to put forth a call for sanity in the immigration discussion and reinforce the bases for why conservatives ought to oppose illegal immigration.

To begin with - and this is foundational here and will be considered axiomatic - opposition to illegal immigration, in and of itself, is **not** racist. There are many good reasons to oppose illegal immigration which have nothing to do with the fact that Latinos happen to be the ones most often identified with illegal immigration to the United States (though Latinos only make up roughly half of our illegal alien population). These reasons apply just as readily to Canadians or Australians who would be entering this country illegally, especially if they were coming here by the millions. Conservatives have allowed supporters of illegal immigrants to get away with shouting "racism" for far too long, and have allowed the activists and enablers (including some so-called conservative tribalists like columnist Linda Chavez) to control the direction of the debate. We need to make it very clear that opposition to illegal immigration is not racism, it is simply good policy. Instead of allowing the children to dominate the discussion with name-calling, we need to weather the words and make the adult case against undocumented migration.

First and foremost for our arguments, we must make clear that opposition to illegal immigration is necessary because it is, well, *illegal*. The United States is a sovereign nation. We have a right to determine who gets to be here, for how long, why they can be here, and in what way they obtain this privilege. Our borders exist for a reason. We must stand up for the constitutional principle that nobody has a right to be here except those who are natural-born citizens. Everyone else is subject to the regulation of entry which the Constitution grants to the Congress. Nor should our immigration policy be driven by the simple fact that foreign nationals want to be here. Their wishes in the matter ought to be considered only inasmuch as we accede to allow them to come to our nation. The matter at issue here is the rule of law. Without law, you don't have civil society, and without that, you lose civil cohesion and the commonwealthian structures which guarantee our very liberties.

Illegal immigration acts as a depressor on the American wage scale and quality of the workplace. We often hear about "jobs that Americans won't do", but that's somewhat inaccurate. Packing meat or emptying trash cans are jobs many Americans *would* do - just not for \$2.50 an hour with no benefits, in shoddy working conditions. Illegal immigration acts to drag down earnings and sidestep the protections of the law because, if given a choice and lacking meaningful punitive threats, most employers would rather hire workers to do the same job for \$2.50 an hour instead of for \$7.50 an hour plus the added expenses of providing insurance, etc. This is simple economics, but demonstrates the point where economic advantage runs afoul of the rule of law and simple humanity. Many times, illegal workers end up being misused - safety measures are ignored, wages kept low, even basic benefits like health or dental perks denied - because what is the worker going to do about it? Go complain to the authorities only to end up being deported? Ultimately, the credit for the seeking of humane treatment for people rests with those who oppose illegal immigration and whose efforts would help to end the rampant abuses by employers of illegal immigrants. The answer is not to ignore the problem, but to work to end illegal immigration and force those here illegally to return to their country of origin and come back the legal way, which would also mean that they could be legally employed and be under the full protection of our labor laws. If this means increasing the quota of those we allow in from certain countries, that is

fine - because that is *our* choice to make, as a sovereign nation.

And this brings up a question often raised by illegal immigration supporters - how can we reasonably even think of deporting 11 million (or 15 million, or 20 million) people back across the border? It simply can't be done, they say. Well, the answer is simply that it may not even *need* to be done. The better way to approach the matter is to, again, encourage respect for the law. Strong and *rigorously applied* punitive responses to businesses and business owners who hire illegal immigrants will work to shut off the supply of jobs available to those here illegally, and would act to encourage the large majority of these individuals to self-deport, and return with a legally-obtained work permit. This effect was positively seen in Arizona, where strict rules about employing illegal aliens went into force earlier this year. Many illegal immigrants left the state specifically because they couldn't find employment anymore. Of course, since the policy was not nationally applied, most of the migrants simply went to other states, instead of returning to their countries of origin to try again legally. However, this example still shows that nationally applied punitive penalties against employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens would most likely serve to encourage self-deportation.

So what we see is that this issue can be dealt with fairly and in full accord with a respect for the rule of law. The measures taken may need to be strong, at least initially, since the problem is so deeply entrenched. But like other deeply-entrenched social evils that "society depends upon", such as slavery or segregation, this issue can be dealt with in a way that enforces the law and, if the law needs to be changed, does so through the legally-established procedure.

I am certainly not against immigration. I am only against *illegal* immigration. This is an important point that needs to be made, because activists working in support of illegal aliens deceptively confound the two by trying to cast opposition to illegal immigration as opposition to ALL immigration. This is not true, and we must not allow the confusion to stand unchallenged. Further, I must reiterate that my opposition to illegal immigration is not anti-Latino. Quite the opposite. I am fine with Latinos coming to this country legally - the same way that all the other immigrant groups came here before - and becoming contributing members of our society.

This brings me, however, to one last issue that needs to be dealt with in a mature fashion - that of the assimilation of Latinos who come to this country. We hear that calls for assimilation, again, are "racist". This is bilious rubbish. Every other group that immigrated to our nation - the Irish, the Italians, the Greeks, the Poles, the Russians, the Jews, the Ukrainians, the Germans, the Scandinavians, the Indians, the Vietnamese, the Chinese, the Koreans, the Nigerians, the Kenyans, and so on - have assimilated to our customs, learned our language, and sought to integrate themselves fully into the texture of America. This is because, when they came here and set out to become citizens, and after they obtained this wonderful privilege, they did so fully intending to become *Americans*, not hyphenated Americans or people of another country who just happen to live in America.

America is somewhat unique in all the world in that our nationalism is not dependent upon race or religion or ethnicity. It is dependent upon an adherence to a certain set of ideological ideals and principles that define American capitalism, American republicanism, and American liberty - our economics, our government, and our underlying civic ethos. The beautiful thing about Americanism is that it can be adopted by anyone. Though this ideal has sometimes been applied less evenly than it should have been, it nevertheless is the lofty goal that we have continued to advance towards. If the reader will forgive me for quoting him, the exemplar of this creed was stated by Franklin D. Roosevelt on 3 February, 1943,

"No loyal citizen of the United States should be denied the democratic right to exercise the responsibilities of his citizenship, regardless of his ancestry. The principle on which this country was founded and by which it has always been governed is that Americanism is a matter of the heart and mind. Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry."

I agree. But for this to happen, assimilation to our creed and to our civil society is a paramount necessity. It is not "becoming an American" to only come to this country to make a lot of money to be sent back to Mexico. That is not "enjoying the American dream", for the American dream is, or at least used to be, a lot more than just getting materially wealthy. Becoming an American means adopting our shared culture, learning our shared language, acceding to our moral and ethical and

philosophical ideals. Any group of people who voluntarily segregate themselves away from the mainstream of American civilization and into a linguistic and cultural Balkan-state are not becoming Americans, no matter what their current geographical location might be.

Americans must insist upon our nationalism. "Nationalism" is not a bad word, despite the association with racial chauvinism and militarism that it has in some peoples' minds. No, nationalism is simply the belief that those who share a common culture and language (which is the basis for "nation" in the sense of the Greek word *ethnos*, from which we get our term "ethnic") should be able to bind themselves into a mutually beneficial society and state based upon these shared commonalities. Ultimately, nationalism is the rational basis for any sense of commonwealth among men. We as Americans must share not only a common societal ethos *but also* a common language – for as sociology and common sense both show us, language is the single most important uniter in a society, more so even than religion or skin color. Even the *perception* of shared language unites, while difference in language is often perceived among groups that hate each other – even if the linguistic differences are small or non-existent. As an example of the first, take the Chinese. Chinese has dozens of dialects, many mutually unintelligible, yet Chinese governments of all types have historically sought to destroy the perception of differentness in these dialects so as to facilitate the political unity of China. Conversely, though the Serbs and the Croats speak languages which are practically identical (to the point where many linguists unite them as "Serbo-Croatian"), these two groups hate each other, and abjectly refuse to admit that their languages are anything at all alike. Language, to a certain extent, governs even how a person thinks and perceives. Sharing the same language means people are more likely to think and perceive in similar fashions, which eases their ability to understand and work with one another. As such, it will be much easier for immigrants to assimilate to our civic ethos if they speak our language.

This does not mean that I am calling for Latinos (or anyone else) to divorce themselves from every aspect of their previous culture. If they wish to use Spanish in the home *while also learning English*, this is fine. In fact, their bilingual kids will have a leg up on the monolinguals when they go out into the "real world" of the workforce. If Latinos wish to enjoy their culture, their traditional foods, their

traditional ways, that is fine. Personally, I think I'd be lost without good Mexican restaurants. But, the fact remains that this hanging onto the old must be coupled with an acceptance of the larger American cultural and ethos of the nation that has taken them in. This demand is not racist. It is common-sense, and is the only way that America will continue to be the greatest nation on earth, instead of a Balkanized and ethnically-divided multinational failure of a state like we see in so many places in Europe and Africa.

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