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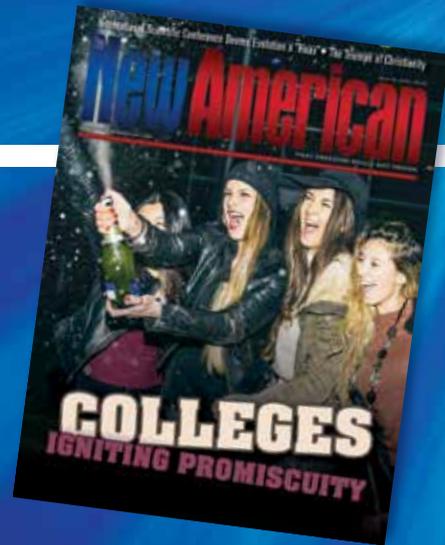
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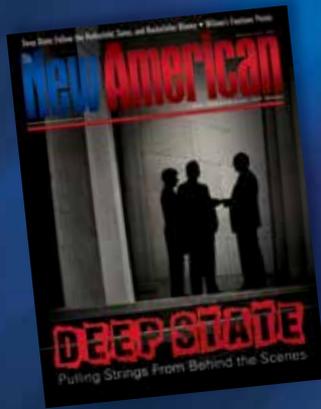
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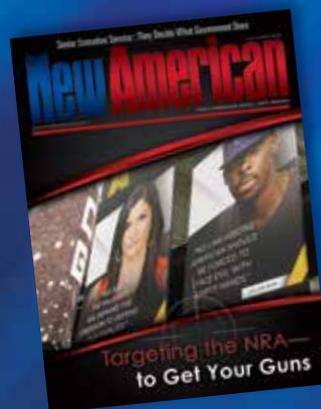
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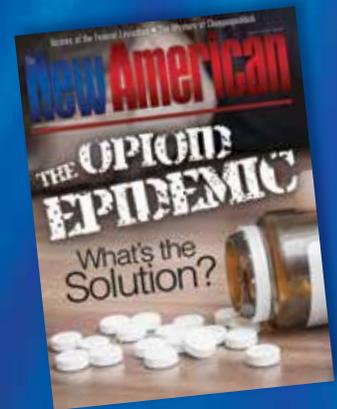
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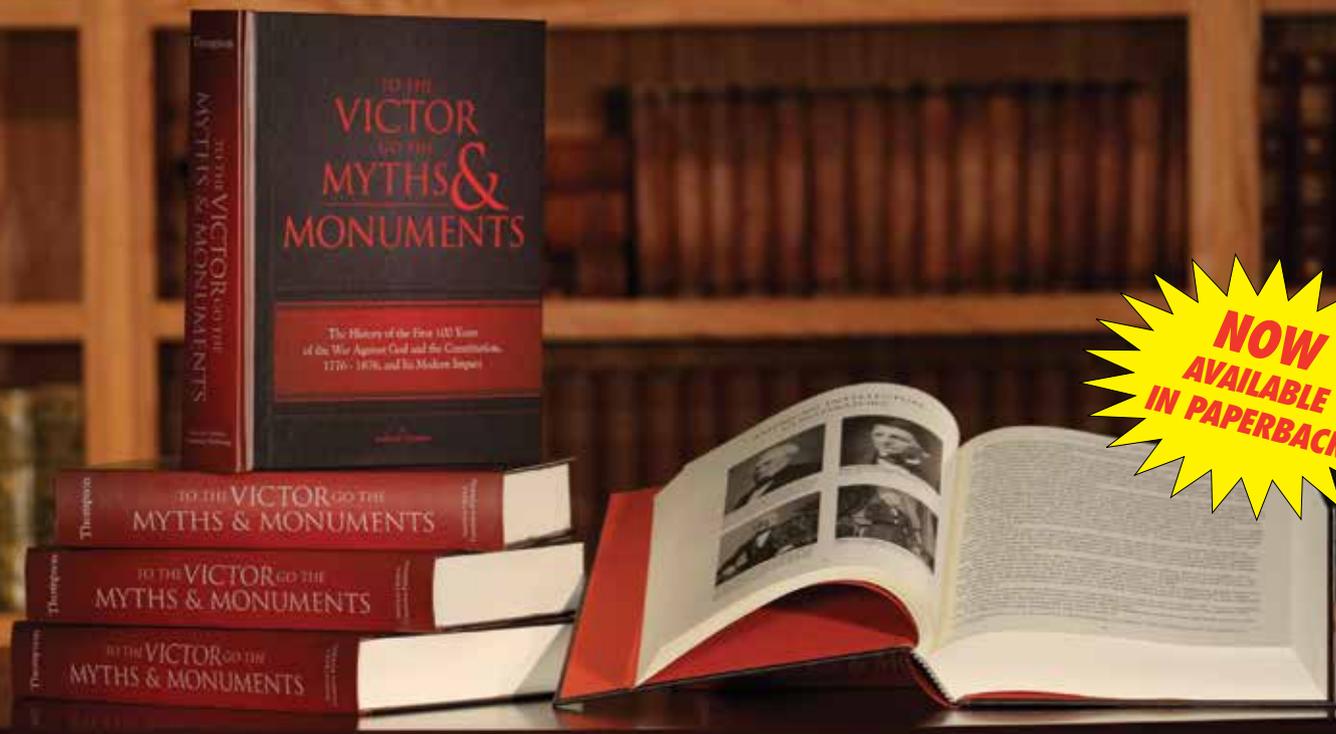
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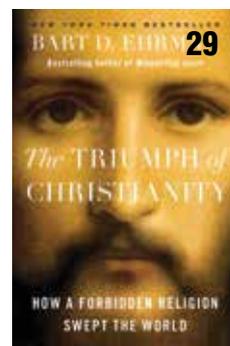
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The New American

Printed in the U.S.A. • ISSN 0885-6540
P.O. Box 8040 • Appleton, WI 54912
920-749-3784 • 920-749-3785 (fax)
www.thenewamerican.com
editorial@thenewamerican.com

Rates are \$49 per year (Canada, add \$9; foreign, add \$27) Copyright ©2018 by American Opinion Publishing, Inc. Periodicals postage paid at Appleton, WI and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send any address changes to THE NEW AMERICAN, P.O. Box 8040, Appleton, WI 54912.

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European Demise

Non-European mass immigration into Europe has caused crime, instability, terror, rising levels of corruption, and declining levels of trust. It robs native Europeans of their cultural heritage and displaces them from their historical homelands. Immigration also costs a lot of money. Europeans are currently being forced to fund their own colonization and national destruction. They are also supposed to celebrate their own demise. This policy is evil.

Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, and Iceland have for many years been ranked at or very near the top among countries in the world with the highest quality of living. After decades of mass immigration, Sweden is now starting to slip on these rankings. Crime rates and corruption go up while social trust declines.

The Scandinavian countries have traditionally had some of the world's highest levels of social trust and lowest levels of corruption. This culture of trust served us well, as long as we were surrounded by other people who were mainly like ourselves and shared the same mentality.

Unfortunately, Scandinavians now find themselves living next to people from violent and clannish cultures with a far more cynical outlook. They view trust as a weakness and an invitation to exploitation and abuse. Aspects of our culture that used to be an asset have suddenly become a liability in a more hostile environment.

Scandinavians and other people in Western Europe no longer have any reason to trust their political leaders. Our leaders routinely lie about immigration, Islam, and many other subjects.

GUNNAR UNNELAND
Sent via e-mail

Disrupting Sex

In his review of the book *When Harry Became Sally* (TNA, April 23), Laurence M. Vance says that "Chapter one looks at 'recent developments in popular culture that have changed American opinion on gender identity.'" One wishes that we would

look at "developments" in the womb that are causing all this societal mayhem.

In reviews of studies on the matter, such as the book *BrainSex* by Anne Moir, Ph.D and David Jessel, it has been pointed out that the fetal brain can be affected, at a particular, early stage of fetal development, by the maternal hormonal bath in which it is doing that developing, so that male-patterned brains can be "wired" into genetically female bodies and vice versa and every stage along that abnormal spectrum in between, such as trannies.

There are a number of potential causes of abnormal levels of the hormones in that bath: an abnormality in the adrenal glands of the developing fetus or the mother or both; endocrine disruptors/estrogen mimics in the environment, from the likes of plastics, pesticides, and "The Pill"; and stress of all types: physical, mental, or emotional (e.g., there is evidence of a higher incidence of homosexually oriented babies born in the wake of wars than the normal background "noise" could account for). But perhaps most alarmingly is the effect of drugs such as barbiturates, prescribed to pregnant women without sufficient regard for their potential effect on the developing fetus.

No, "Sex is not 'assigned' at birth." But gender identity is created in the womb. And these children flooding into our society are canaries in the coal mine that we should have been paying closer attention to. We have taken our eye off the ball, by concentrating on the societal effects of something, rather than the treatable cause, long overdue for acknowledgment and correction.

"STAN" STANFIELD
Sent via e-mail

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More Taxpayers Fleeing Illinois Than Any Other State

Thanks to the mass exodus of citizens from the Land of Lincoln, Illinois has dropped from the fifth most-populous state in the union to sixth, Breitbart reported May 22. This is largely because the state is taxing them out of their homes.

Over the last two years, more than 70,000 people have left Illinois for more tax-friendly climes such as Texas, Florida, and even South Dakota and Wyoming. In fact, Chicago is the only city in the United States that has consistently lost citizens over the last five years. The so-called “U-Haul index” rates Illinois as number one for outbound moving vans.

They are no doubt getting out while the getting is good. Many of the state’s 656 public pension plans are so far under water that the state passed a law allowing something called an “intercept,” which allows pension boards to raid a delinquent municipality’s state income tax funds. The municipalities of Harvey and North Chicago have already suffered the indignity, and the pain, of having funds siphoned off to make those delinquent pension-plan contributions.

But taxpayers are not just fleeing Illinois. With the passage of tax reform, high-income earners will no longer be able to take state and local tax deductions, making their cost of living in high-cost states such as California and New York even higher. Over the last 10 years, California has lost a million residents thanks to high taxes and high housing prices. The average California house now costs twice what the average U.S. house costs. The price of

gas there is 30 percent higher than the national average and the local tax burden is 10 percent greater.

The exodus is eroding the tax base of Illinois and other states, while the generous welfare schemes in these states are inviting the poor to move there. This is a recipe for increasing the incentive to move for those who can. Those fleeing high-tax — usually deep blue — states such as Illinois are being drawn to low-tax states such as Wyoming, South Dakota, Texas, and Florida, which are typically bright red.



RiverNorthPhotography/ Getty Images Plus

Southern Baptists Cut Ties With D.C. Baptists Over Homosexuality

The Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), the nation’s largest evangelical denomination, has severed ties with the District of Columbia Baptist Convention (DCBC) after the Washington, D.C., church group refused to discipline a church under its jurisdiction that had hired a pair of lesbian co-pastors.

In February, the SBC’s Executive Committee issued the DCBC a 90-day ultimatum to remove all congregations in its fellowship that “practice affirming, approving, or endorsing homosexual behavior,” *Baptist Press News* noted on May 22. The action came after one of the DCBC’s member congregations, Calvary Baptist Church in Washington, D.C., voted in January 2017 to install a lesbian couple as co-pastors.

Calvary, a 155-year-old congregation founded by abolitionists, had disassociated from the SBC in 2012, but was still part of the DCBC. But when the church called lesbian partners Maria Swearingen and Sally Sarratt co-pastors in 2017, the SBC’s Executive Committee charged that by failing to discipline the congregation, the DCBC had tacitly approved of the unbiblical actions of Calvary.



After the DCBC failed to comply with the SBC’s warning as of May 21, the SBC severed its relationship with the group. “The formal relationship between the SBC and the DCBC has come to an end,” said D. August Boto, the SBC’s Executive Committee president, in a prepared statement.

Boto said that the SBC’s Executive Committee had “expressed deep regret over the need to take this action, but felt compelled to affirm biblical truth over organizational relationships.” He added that the committee embraced a “willingness to consider resuming its relationship with the DCBC in the future,” should the

group act to remove Calvary Baptist from its fellowship.

However, while DCBC Executive Director Robert Cochran had earlier emphasized that the DCBC “has not affirmed, approved, or endorsed homosexual behavior in any way at any time,” and that it “respects the official statements” on homosexuality by the SBC, he made it clear that his group had “no plans to disassociate” with Calvary Baptist Church, and had not discussed “the issue of homosexuality” with Calvary Baptist leadership.

Colleges: “Snowflake” Disability Now Gets You More Time on Tests

Is being a snowflake a disability? This is apparently the case at (pseudo)elite U.S. colleges, where up to one in four students are classified as “disabled” — often simply because they experience “stress and anxiety” — and are thus given special accommodations.

Disabled classifications have skyrocketed in recent years, with only a doctor’s note necessary to be given the status (and then federal law dictates the person must be accommodated). At Pomona College in California, for instance, five percent of students fell into the category in 2014 — now 22 percent are classified as disabled.

This merely reflects other private colleges. As the *Wall Street Journal* reported May 24, “At Hampshire, Amherst and Smith colleges in Massachusetts and Yeshiva University in New York, one in five students are classified as disabled. At Oberlin College in Ohio, it is one in four. At Marlboro College in Vermont, it is one in three.”

Students’ coping mechanisms are now provided by colleges. The *Journal* again: “The rise in disability notes for mental-health issues has led to a surge in the number of students who take their



simonkr/E+/Getty Images Plus

exams in low-distraction testing centers, are allowed to get up and walk around during class or bring a comfort animal to school, among other measures.” The latter can include being given twice as long to take exams.

In fact, schools go to ridiculous lengths to accommodate students. The University of Minnesota,

for instance, administered 9,681 tests to students requiring extra time or those “low-distraction environments” — double the number in 2013. Not only has this made it necessary for staff to relinquish their offices for the “disabled” test takers, but during the past year the school actually had to rent 10,000 square feet of space at a local hotel for them.

This disability-over-meritocracy craze not only threatens to diminish the quality of future goods and services, but also our international competitiveness. After all, the Chinese already produce 10 times as many scientists as we do, and you can bet they’re not coddling students with “safe spaces,” low-distraction-environment rooms, and comfort animals.

Boy Scouts Leadership Mandates Condoms for 2019 Jamboree

The Boy Scouts’ 24th annual World Scout Jamboree is scheduled for July 21 through August 1, 2019, and global Boy Scouts leadership is mandating that condoms be “readily and easily accessible” for the event.

The theme of the 2019 jamboree is “Unlock a New World,” and the event is being hosted by three international Scouting groups — Scouts Canada, the Asociación de Scouts de México, and the Scouts BSA. “These three distinct cultures will join together to host the world Scouting community in a celebration of cultural exchange, mutual understanding, peace, and friendship,” the official jamboree announcement explains.

According to the mandate, issued by the World Scout Committee in the latest handbook of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, the group hosting the World Scout Jamboree (in this case Scouts BSA) must “ensure that condoms are readily and easily accessible for all participants and IST [staff] at a number of locations on the site.”

As reported by *Charisma News* on May 21, “It appears the Jamboree guidelines were drafted after the 2015 World Jamboree in Japan in preparation for the 2019 event and were just recently released in an email.”

More than 160 Boy Scouts organizations from around the world are expected to participate in next year’s 12-day jamboree event in West Virginia, and with all the gender and sexuality changes in the wind, participants could include openly homosex-



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ual boys and adult Scout leaders, transgender and cross-dressing boys (and perhaps adults), and even an assortment of girls who have decided to join the once-respected organization.

In reality, this is not the first time that condoms have been made available at World Scout Jamborees. As reported by CNSNews.com in 2008, “Bangkok’s public health ministry announced this week that condoms would be handed out to participants in the 20th World Scout Jamboree [in Thailand] on request.... A ministry spokesman was quoted as saying the aim was to prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) such as AIDS, not to promote sexual activity.” ■

Trump Critics Readily Distort the President's Statement

“When all of our great-great-grandparents came to America, they weren't ‘animals’ and these people aren't either.”

President Trump labeled only members of the murderous MS-13 gang as “animals.” He did not apply the term to all illegal immigrants. New York's Democratic Senator **Chuck Schumer** claimed the president had used the term to describe all illegal immigrants. Schumer was not alone in issuing this type of “fake news.” Congressman Eric Swalwell (D-Calif.) similarly distorted what the president had stated.



Chuck
Schumer

AP Images

TSA Compiling Lists of People Who Don't Behave While in Airport Lines

“If I'm running late, having a bad day, and I'm rude to the screeners, do I get put on the list?”

Forcing airline passengers to be totally submissive at airport screening locations is the goal of members of the Transportation Security Administration. **Fred Burton**, the chief security official for a Texas-based global intelligence company, doesn't like the new watch list, which is also known as a “95 list.”



Donald
Trump

AP Images

President Tells Annapolis Graduates to Be Prepared

“The best way to prevent war is to be fully prepared for war. If a fight must come, there is no other alternative but victory.”

In his May 26 commencement speech at the U.S. Naval Academy, President **Donald Trump** relied on the well-known truism that being ready for war customarily keeps war from occurring.

China's Campaign to Absorb Taiwan Quietly Escalates

“The Chinese government always says it wants to win the hearts and minds of the Taiwanese people. But their military threats against Taiwan and the diplomatic assault against Taiwan are not doing that.”

Taiwan's foreign minister **Joseph Wu** knows that the ultimate goal of the Beijing government is to erase any sign of independence for the 23 million Taiwanese and their nation, the 22nd largest

economy among the world's nations. Recently, Gap clothing company reacted to pressure from China by apologizing and removing from stores a T-shirt that showed a map of China that did not depict Taiwan as part of China.

Ireland's Choice of Abortion Generates Renewed Fight for the Unborn

“Today is a sad day for Ireland and for people who believe in genuine human rights. The struggle to defend the most vulnerable has not ended, it has just changed.”

As a leader of one of Ireland's largest anti-abortion groups, **Cora Sherlock** acknowledged her chagrin about the May 25 pro-abortion choice of Ireland's voters. But she pledged to continue campaigning for the right to life of the unborn.

Harvard University Welcomes 2016's Loser for Commencement Address

“There are forces and leaders in our country who blatantly incite people with hateful rhetoric, who stoke fear of change, [and who] see the world in zero-sum terms so if others are gaining, then everyone else must be losing. That is a recipe for polarization and conflict.”

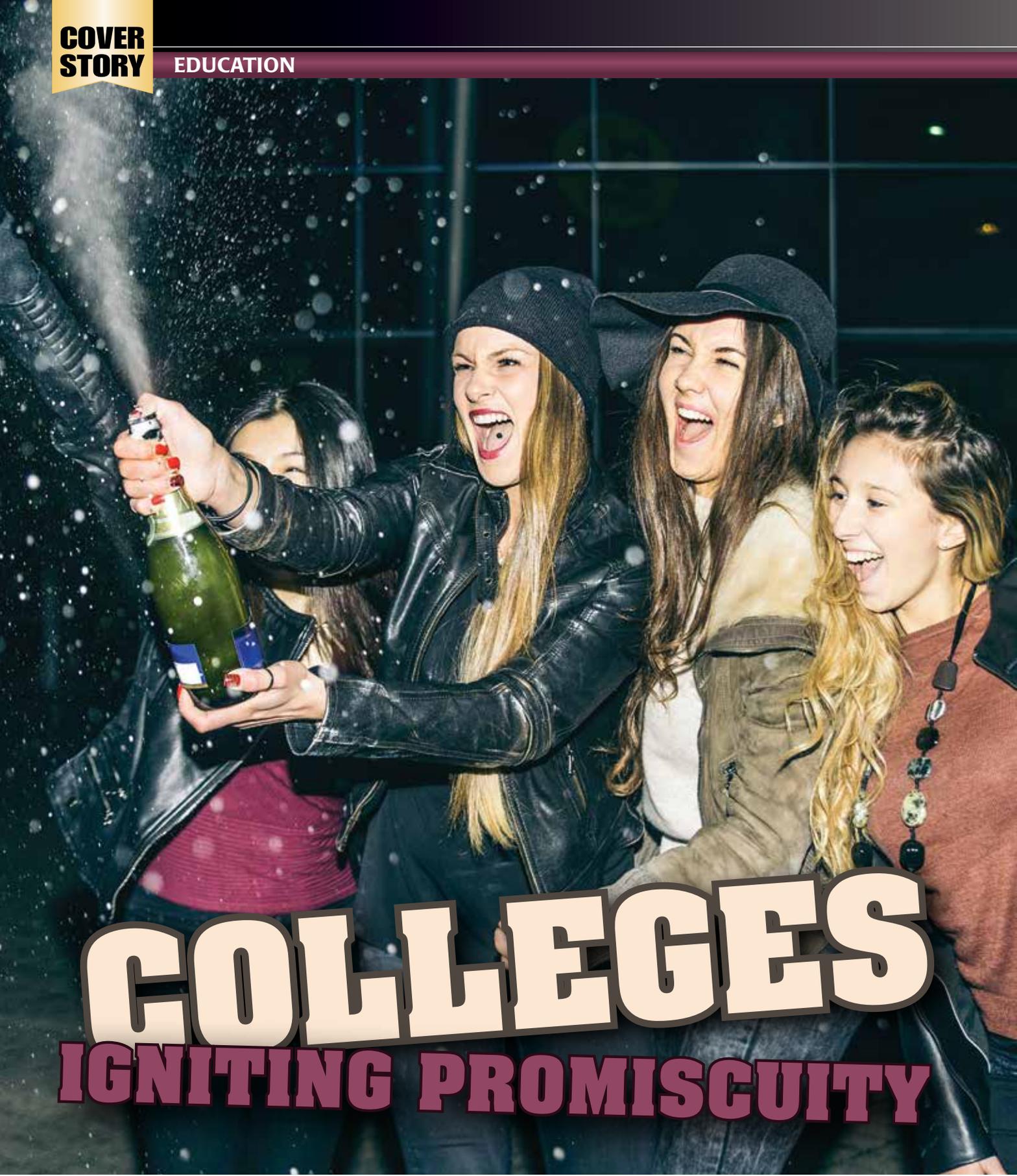
Without naming President Trump, **Hillary Clinton** aimed her remarks at the sitting U.S. president during her May 25 address to graduates of the Radcliffe Institute at Harvard University. Her remarks did not include labeling her opponents as “deplorables” or claiming that the rich are getting richer at the expense of the poor, as she did during her campaign. ■



Hillary
Clinton

AP Images

— COMPILED BY JOHN F. MCMANUS



COLLEGES IGNITING PROMISCUITY

Today's colleges are actually hosting orgiastic events and pushing perversity on students, all the while helping numb the young into ignorance, iniquity, and atheism.

“Is it all about sex?!” The answer to this common leftist refrain, exclaimed when a traditionalist complains about some sexual-devolutionary agenda, is “Yes — *you* have made it so.” The “regressives” known as progressives have infused everything with sex, from media to entertainment to big business to, what is the topic here, education, with higher miseducation being the highest in lascivious content. Thus is it no wonder that Johnny not only can’t read but can’t tell right from wrong: Orgiastic environments don’t lend themselves to intellectual or moral development. Moreover, marry someone to vice on an emotional level, and he’ll be likely to later accept vice-imbued ideologies on an intellectual level.

British philosopher G.K. Chesterton predicted in 1926 that the “next great heresy is going to be simply an attack on morality; and especially on sexual morality.... The madness of tomorrow is not in Moscow but much more in Manhattan.” Philosopher C.S. Lewis, the foundation for whose conversion to Christianity (from atheism) was born of reading Chesterton’s books, once observed, “Sex is not messed up because it was put in the closet; it was put in the closet because it was messed up.” And just recently, at an early April conference at the Franciscan University of Steubenville, University of Virginia (UVA) religious studies Professor Vigen Guroian complained of higher education’s hypocrisy. Pointing out that colleges do in fact act *in loco parentis*, heavily policing alcohol and drug use, he asks why they also don’t police promiscuity. The short answer: When a heresy holds sway it becomes orthodoxy, at least for a time — and you don’t question orthodoxy.

Yet forget about policing promiscuity. Today’s colleges actually encourage it to a point of almost making Sodom and Gomorrah look saintly. Consider that the Ivy League’s Yale University hosted rapper Elizabeth Eden Harris, who goes by the moniker “cupcakKe,” at its April Spring Fling celebration. One student commentator called her emanations “sins, not songs” and “musical porn, plain and simple,” as she “sings about violent sex, oral sex, and having genitalia ‘like I’m eight,’” reports

an April 11 *College Fix* headline. The details are even worse, but I’ll spare you.

Two days earlier, the *College Fix* reported that the “University of Tennessee at Knoxville is hosting ‘Sex Week’ [April 6 through 12] at which students will learn about a wide variety of sexual practices and topics,” including a class “titled ‘Butt Stuff 2.0: The Pegging,’” which we’ll not describe here. The *Fix* also informs, “Other events during the week include an art exhibit titled ‘Send Nudes ;),’ a cabaret show, and a workshop about ‘Black Liberation through Sexual Pleasure.’... Workshops such as ‘Masturbation Nation,’ ‘Trans Convo Starter Pack,’ ‘Tinder and Tea,’ and the ‘Science of Abortion’ are also on the schedule.”

Far from the above being an outlier, university Sex Week events are common today. For example, *Campus Reform* reported four years ago that the “University of Chicago is kicking off Sex Week 2014

with a ‘Lascivious Ball’ in which students will not be required to wear clothing.” In 2015, the *College Fix* informed that “Harvard University will soon mark its annual ‘Sex Week’ observance, which this year features a workshop on how to navigate sex involving bondage and sadomasochism in the dorms — complete with whips and floggers.” And in March, the publication told us that the “annual ‘Sex Week’ at Northwestern University will feature a Chicago-based dominatrix named ‘Lady Sophia’ who will teach the students various BDSM practices.”

Yet what transpires every other week in higher education can be just as sex-infused and confused. In 2011, Northwestern University psychology Professor J. Michael Bailey hosted a guest lecturer whose presentation was entitled “Networking for Kinky People” and which featured a *live sex act on an auditorium stage*. Also from the *Fix* (quotations are the publication’s):

The *College Fix* reported that the “University of Tennessee at Knoxville is hosting ‘Sex Week’ [April 6 through 12] at which students will learn about a wide variety of sexual practices and topics.”



Sodom in school: Now common on college campuses is “Sex week,” where perversion — including bondage and sadomasochism — is celebrated, taught, and portrayed as normal.

Guroian penned a 2015 essay entitled “Sex and Danger at UVA” with William Wilson, professor emeritus of religious studies at the University of Virginia, in which the academics document that 18-year-old undergraduates really do enter “Dorm Brothels.”

• Dartmouth University offers physical education credit for undergoing “Sex-pert” training.

• An area of study at the elite all-women’s Smith College “has the stated goal of ‘recognizing and disrupting notions of normative sexuality and gender.’”

• “A workshop offered at the University of Texas at Austin teaches students [that] bisexuality, pansexuality and ‘fluid sexuality’ should be embraced and supported.”

• “A discussion scheduled for later this month [April 2017] at California State University San Marcos appears slated to delve into the wild world of animal-based sex fetishes.”

One could fill volumes with such examples, but the point has been made.

Not surprisingly, this perversion extends beyond the classroom. Guroian penned a 2015 essay entitled “Sex and Danger at UVA” with William Wilson, professor emeritus of religious studies at the University of Virginia, in which the academics document that 18-year-old undergraduates really do enter “Dorm Brothels” (the title of a shocking 2005 article Guroian wrote). They presented the words a female UVA student wrote in a class assignment, relating, “Sex pervades almost every aspect of dorm life that I have experienced. I have seen ‘dorm incest’ (the entire floor hooks up with everyone else on the floor), [been] ‘sexiled,’ by my roommate having sex on my dorm bed, and witnessed date rape.”

Note that the term “hook up” (in the sense of sexual activity) was only attested “by 2003,” according to the Online Etymology Dictionary; this is no surprise. It’s a euphemism for “one-night stand” or “casual sex,” which itself is a euphemism for fornication. As sexual mores have degraded and the concept of “sin” has been shelved, the language has been correspondingly altered to put lipstick on the

pig of promiscuity. So now sex, reduced to a mechanical act, can be described with a term for linking two pieces of machinery.

Another student provided even more detail, as Guroian and Wilson relate:

I arrived at UVA first semester just like many other female University students — wanting to make friends, excited for romance (genuine romance), and getting to know bright and intellectually motivated young men and women. Much to my surprise things were not so.... I had been thrown with others carelessly into a long-term hotel.

Most of the people in your dorm were in the “friend zone.” Everyone was a “guy.” But even with sweatpants on we recognized we had dif-

ferent body parts and late at night with a couple of beers things got more intimate. We were not so much male and female as we were xx who logically should give xy what they want and what we have. We were all one mutually using and abusing non-family.

Sexual license was actively encouraged and funded by the university. From “Spring-break fun packs” full of condoms and forms of contraception handed out at the student center with a cute note from a pudgy sunshine face wearing shades saying “Have a Fun Spring Break!” to “Sexual Arts and Crafts” flyers plastered on the dorm halls — the message is clear: college is a parent-funded motel party of casual and impersonal, but, yes, “safe sex.”

Related to this, an April *College Fix* article reported on Guroian’s recent Franciscan U. appearance and wrote that he “also lamented the end of single-sex colleges as a ‘great tragedy,’ claiming that many problems seen today would not exist if even just dormitories were single-sex. When he was a student in the 1970s, ‘no one thought unisex dorms was [sic] possible.’” Yet it has gone beyond this now:



Sean Murphy/Photodisc/GettyImagesPlus

“A” stands for alcohol: The film *Animal House* made famous the line “Drunk and stupid is no way to go through life, son.” But it now is a way to go through college, with an alcohol-fueled “hook up” campus culture being the norm.

Some campuses — such as Wesleyan University, Hampshire College, Ithaca College, and even Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to name just a handful — have clothing-optional halls, dorms, and, sometimes, *whole campuses* (virtually all students still regularly wear clothing, but reports of seeing an undergraduate au naturale are not uncommon).

Given this, it's not surprising that Guroian and Wilson lament how higher education has abdicated its responsibility to provide the young proper moral guide-rails, how its apparent goal now vis-à-vis sex is merely to “manage” the promiscuity. Ensure that everything is “consensual” and that it's “safe sex,” and the job is done. But as the two academics point out:

Perusing the new college “sex manuals” is like studying instructions for the operation of machinery. In this hyper-bureaucratic vision, mind and will are described to exist in a macabre, disembodied state: a Cartesian dualism gone positively mad. The University of Virginia document on sexual violence reads as follows: “A person who has given Effective Consent to engage in Sexual Contact or Sexual Intercourse may withdraw Effective Consent at any time. It is the responsibility of the person withdrawing Effective Consent to communicate, through clear words or actions, that he or she no longer wishes to engage in the sexual activity.” Sexual contact is “any intentional sexual touching, however slight, with any object, performed by a person upon another person.” Now who believes that sex happens this way, where persons rule over their bodies like technicians operating a robot?

Who? Those believing people are just organic robots whose parts will sometimes “hook up.”

Yet there is much more to unpack here than can be addressed in one essay. First consider the notion of “consent,” a term appearing three times in the first two sentences of UVA's above guidelines. Guroian and Wilson tackle this:

Administrative and juridical rules



Passing the buck: Who's blamed for the casualties of colleges' orgiastic environments? After creating campus occasions of sin, university administrators shift the onus onto male students — sometimes even innocent ones, such as in the 2006 Duke University rape frame-up case (shown).

supported by sanctions cannot make a humane culture. Only moral convictions about right and wrong enshrined in manners and customary restraints can ensure a healthy culture of relations between the sexes. Consent does not suffice for a sexual morality, not even in deciding right from wrong. Bad and harmful sex can happen even when there is consent. Human beings often consent to being acted upon in ways that will do them harm. Does consent alone make it right for me to do something with or to someone to which she has agreed but that I know will harm her?

No doubt. Note that in 2003, 42-year-old German computer expert Armin Meiwes was convicted of killing and cannibalizing 43-year-old Berlin engineer Bernd Brandes, as *The Guardian* reported at the time. The relevance? Meiwes had advertised for a victim on the Internet, and Brandes responded and *willingly participated in his own destruction*. The moral is that no amount of consent can make right what is objectively wrong.

The implicit notion to the contrary, so modernly American and fashionable (though, of course, applied inconsistently, like all lies), reflects something: the deification of the individual, the idea that everybody can decide for himself what's

right and wrong. Thus, human “consent” supplants God's consent.

And after creating this “liberated” environment — what now-unfashionable people once called an “occasion of sin” — and after Hell follows with it, modern higher education engages in blame-shifting. As Guroian and Wilson write, “Faced with sexual violence [real and imaginary], the allegedly ‘innocent’ university pleads that it is not responsible, morally or legally, for the anarchic and destructive sex that happens. ‘It is all the fraternities’ fault. It is the fault of the benighted heritage of a Southern male institution. It is the fault of flawed policies that state and federal governments have mandated.’” Or, I'll add, it's “toxic masculinity”; “male privilege”; or the “patriarchy,” that fearsome entity whose existence in the West occupies a category with the tyrannosaurus rex.

In fact, one could wonder if this blame-shifting desire is partially why universities so zealously and prejudicially persecute young men accused of sexual misconduct, often treating them as guilty until proven innocent beyond doubt's very shadow (e.g., the Duke University lacrosse rape frame-up case). Aside from being motivated by now ingrained anti-male prejudice and other biases, are some academics assuaging and expiating their own guilt by sacrificing (sometimes) innocent blood on their altar of political



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A key: Philosopher C.S. Lewis noted that sex “is not messed up because it was put in the closet; it was put in the closet because it was messed up.” Feminists themselves set the stage for sexual abuse by branding libertinism “women’s liberation” and throwing open the closet of carnality.

correctness? Do some have the hope, deep down, that if they turn the accused into a lust-breathing dragon and make a show of slaying him, that their own culpability will go unnoticed?

Whatever the case, “Even as the evidence has mounted to undeniable proportions that something has gone horribly wrong with relations between the sexes on our campuses, colleges will not admit culpability for the ugly scene,” Guroian and Wilson also state. “Most important, they will not admit that the great experiment of institutionalizing the sexual revolution has failed at the cost of many, many ruined lives.” This brings us to the notion of “safe sex.” When the two academics cite cases of wounded young women they’ve encountered, it’s never that the student came crying for help because she contracted syphilis or chlamydia; most types of VD are curable. Rather, what ails her isn’t remedied with a round of antibiotics.

Many of us have witnessed the plight of used and jilted girls (I’ve seen more than one). Here is the general pattern: A woman will tend to bond very strongly with the first man with whom she has sexual relations. If that fellow — perhaps viewing the encounter differently, as mere carnal pleasure — then jilts her, she can be cut deeply. Not wanting to experience this pain again,

she may instinctively erect a wall around her heart and never let another man enter it so completely. Consequently, with that deep dream of truly bonding romantically and becoming one flesh (after marriage) dashed, it isn’t just that she’s more likely to pin her hopes elsewhere (e.g., career). She also may respond to having been emotionally hurt by a man by developing hostility toward all men, which can lead to the visceral reaction of embracing feminism. In fact, scratch the surface of a militant feminist, and you generally find in her past a bad relationship with a man, such as a boyfriend or father.

Moreover, the casual-sex phenomenon inculcates the divorce mentality. Generally speaking, every succeeding romantic bond will be weaker than the preceding one, and the bond-breakup, bond-breakup, bond-breakup pattern can become habitual — which means it will carry over into marriage.

There is a reason, of course, why today’s universities make Sodom standard. Part of it is that being a thoroughly left-wing bunch, professors and administrators are wholly invested in the great sexual heresy. They believe in it, supposing that to suppress sexual “expression” is a great and intolerable tyranny, even as they enforce politically correct speech codes and

strip freedom in every area but the one where you strip clothes. Moreover, being libertine themselves and having much to justify personally, they’ll never erect a moral standard by which they also would be condemned. Besides, to paraphrase the ancient Chinese sage Confucius, “I never knew anyone who loved virtue as much as sex.” College is now big business, and if sex is a strong selling point with the Bohemian boy and Gomorrah girl customers, it will be delivered.

Nonetheless, virtue still has its fans, as there remains on college campuses a strong, if quiet, resistance to the libertine excesses of modern university life. For example, Dr. Duke Pesta, a tenured professor of English at a state university and the academic director of FreedomProject Academy, notes that when he teaches classic books that argue for chastity, temperance, and modesty, many students approve the message. “It’s remarkable,” Pesta explained, “but when my students read Dante, Shakespeare, Milton, Dostoevsky, or C. S. Lewis, many react positively to traditional sexual morality and deplore the trivialization of love and commitment that promiscuity leaves in its wake.” Pesta also points out that a number of his most vocal and self-described feminist students “are greatly at odds with their teachers and their culture” when it comes to sex outside the framework of commitment: “In the same way we find surprising reservoirs of young college students who oppose abortion much more deeply than previous university-educated generations, we are also finding a more serious desire to reinstate personal and societal boundaries when it comes to personal and societal sexual choices. The two are clearly related.”

In addition, there are whole oases of traditionalism, institutions such as the aforementioned Franciscan University, Michigan’s Hillsdale College, Florida’s Ave Maria University, California’s Thomas Aquinas College, and Virginia’s Liberty University, to name a handful. NEW AMERICAN writer Steve Byas, a professor of history and government, works at another such institution, Randall University in Moore, Oklahoma. Weighing in on academia’s current status quo and contrasting Randall with it, he said that it’s “beyond doubt that debauchery is widespread on the American college campus,” but he is

“We were not so much male and female as we were xx who logically should give xy what they want and what we have. We were all one mutually using and abusing non-family.” — Female UVA student

grateful to “teach at a Christian liberal arts college, associated with the Free Will Baptist denomination.” Byas continued, “Instead of ‘sex week,’ our students often give up their spring breaks to go on mission trips. This is in addition to mission activities in the summer months.” He further elaborated:

There are no classes at Randall University on fornication, but we do have classes like the Bible and Science. In fact, the Christian worldview permeates the curriculum. We don’t restrict the teaching of the Christian worldview to courses on theology. On the contrary, my classes on American History, European History, and American Federal Government are taught in such a way that biblical Christianity is assumed. We teach Western Civilization and the role that the Christian faith has had in shaping it.

Sure, we have students on campus who are not Christians. And we have students from a Christian background

who don’t always act like it. Some students come to Randall without Christ, and then later graduate with not only a degree in their hands, but also Christ in their hearts and lives.

We have one dorm for the young men and another dorm for the young women. Twice a week we have chapel services — a time for inspiration, drawn from the Christian faith.

Most academics would consider the above model antiquated. Yet “eternal” is the proper word, and one everlasting principle eluding these libertines is this: The “enlightened” modern model for sexuality is much like Marxism and typical of leftism in that it denies the realities of man’s nature. Some may say, indulging a caricature of individualism, that “college students are responsible for their own sexual behavior.” Yet this is like putting young men and women together aboard a navy vessel and wondering why it becomes a “love boat.” (Note that 3,840 — or 16 percent — of our female sailors became pregnant in 2016, and that women are 50

percent more likely than the men to have to be transferred from their ships to land duty.) Or it’s like giving kids the keys to the candy store carte blanche and then wondering why they gorge themselves to the point of nausea. A simple truth is ignored: Institutionalize occasions of sin — and rampant sin will result.

Yet the most serious consequence of sexual corruption is seldom understood. Is it mere coincidence that groups defined by what was once universally called sin — whether homosexuals, people of easy virtue, recreational drug users, etc. — tend to embrace what we call “leftist” politics? I think not. Nor do I believe that their support is explainable solely by the fact that leftists rubber-stamp their inclinations.

To paraphrase Belgian poet and writer Émile Cammaerts, “When people cease believing in God, it’s not that they start to believe in nothing. It’s that they’ll believe in anything.” Upon hearing this, instinctively theists’ heads will nod and atheists’ eyes roll, and it’s usually left there. Yet if the phenomenon is real, it can be explained — and it must be.



Miller High Life over intellectual life: With the occasion of sin of co-ed dorms, a party atmosphere, and sexual depravity, higher education’s corruption of minds and hearts makes them all the more receptive to corrupt ideology.

As Guroian and Wilson write, “Faced with sexual violence [real and imaginary], the allegedly ‘innocent’ university pleads that it is not responsible, morally or legally, for the anarchic and destructive sex that happens. ‘It is all the fraternities’ fault.’”

Before you can get people to believe in anything, you must eliminate their knowledge of what limits them to *something* (good): proper rules. For example, drawing people away from healthful diets would be easy if, somehow, you could convince them that the rules of human nutrition didn't exist. There then wouldn't be “bad” and “good” foods, as there'd be no yardstick for drawing such distinctions, only pleasing and unpleasant ones. So then taste becomes the only guide, and the credo is reduced to “If it tastes good, eat it.” And led by taste, people would very likely gravitate toward junk food, those sinfully delicious formulations, or might even try those pretty berries on the bush that are, truly, for the birds. Moreover, if you can somehow shape people's tastes via manipulation, you can control what they feed their bodies.

Tragically, the above also works with that for which it's a metaphor: what people feed their minds and hearts. I often write about moral relativism/nihilism, and for good reason — it's the characteristic philosophical/spiritual mistake of our time. This is evidenced by a 2002 Barna Group study showing that only six percent of teens (now well into adulthood) believed in Moral Truth (absolute by definition). Quite telling, and predictable, is something else the research found. Robbed of the yardstick of rules for human behavior, it's as in the diet example: Americans are most likely to use as a guide for making decisions the only yardstick they have left, *feelings* (tastes). This is why “If it feels good, do it” long ago became a common modern credo.

Of course, convince people there are no

actual rules (objective ones, that is; consensus preferences masquerading as rules don't count) governing human behavior — that “morality” is a fool's illusion, as oh-so-smart sociopaths suppose — and they can believe in “anything.” Moreover, what if you then can shape their yardstick for behavior, their emotions, as is done very effectively via media, academia, and entertainment? You then can control what they believe.

How does this relate to faithlessness, to return to Cammaerts' observation? The answer is that atheism correlates with moral relativism/nihilism. After all, if there's no God, what we call “morality” can only be man's creation; it also can only be his illusion because then morality, properly understood, cannot exist. To present my standard explanation: If 90 percent of humanity said it preferred chocolate to vanilla, it wouldn't render chocolate “right” or “good” and vanilla “wrong” or “evil”; it would simply mean that people happened to *like* chocolate better. Yet would it be any more logical to say that murder was “wrong” if our only basis for the claim was that most all of humanity preferred that people not kill others in a way we call unjust? If that were all it is, then the idea that murder was wrong would occupy the same category as flavors: the realm of preference.

So here is the formula: Atheism=moral relativism/nihilism=no rules=no limits on belief. Ergo, one can believe in anything.

Thus, if I wanted to fill young people's heads with ideological junk food, I might first want to detach them from Truth. What is the best way to do this? An incentive must be provided — and this is where sin is invaluable.

Someone has three basic choices when doing wrong:

- Repent and resolve to change. This, the best choice, is difficult because admitting error requires humility and the relinquishment of emotionally cherished behaviors. So this route is relatively unpopular.

- Say, “I've done evil because I like evil and have no intention of stopping.” This is even rarer because people don't like believing they're wicked — unless they happen to be Aleister Crowley or Anton LaVey.

- Rationalize away the actions, claim-



Oases in an arid moral desert: Rare institutions such as Liberty University are still what college used to, and is supposed to, be: places in which students learn a traditional Western curriculum and where Truth is valued over titillation.

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ing they're not really wrong because _____. This is the road most traveled, as it enables someone to indulge in both favored sins and the illusion of relative saintliness.

This brings us to the appeal of moral relativism/nihilism. Probably the major reason it's rampant today is that it's the ultimate rationalization, the one obviating all other rationalizations. After all, my sins can't be sins if morality is mere social construct. As serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer, the "Milwaukee Cannibal," revealed later in life about his fateful teenage conclusion: "If there's no God, why can't I just make up my own rules?"

So if I were a university ideologue bent on winning young converts to a godless cause, I'd employ a one-two punch: Use occasions of sin to seduce the students into vice, which they'll want to justify, often by becoming more relativistic. Then, while they're being further unmoored from eternal laws, opportunistically fill their heads with corruptive ideology. Interestingly, this is precisely what happens at today's universities.

Also note that sin is psychological poison, though it's not recognized as such by a moral relativist any more than physical poison would be recognized by a true dietary relativist. It thus causes unhappiness and often anger, and, since people would generally rather blame their misery on others than themselves, it may be easy to direct that anger at external targets. Just make the women believe they can't be happy without ending the "patriarchy," the minorities believe they can't be happy without "deconstructing whiteness," the envious believe they can't be happy without destroying capitalism, the environmentally inclined believe they can't be happy without bringing industry to heel, and so on. They'll be so focused on trying to fix the world, they won't notice that it's the inner man who's broken.

Having said this, our problems don't start at the university. As the Barna Group data on teens reveal, dislocation from Truth is already widespread by the time high school concludes, no surprise given that lower levels of schooling, the media, and entertainment all try to snatch bod-

ies (and minds) with the same university pods. It also should be mentioned that while atheism correlates with moral relativism/nihilism, claimed belief in God does not nearly as strongly correlate with embrace of Truth. For Barna reports that, strikingly, only nine percent of "born again" teens believe in it. It's as if they fancy God some kind of flower-child "creative force" whose only priority is to "not harsh their mellow." It's a tribute to the effect of sin and the appeal of moral relativism/nihilism.

Yet the Truth has not only its own appeal but also another quality: endurance. In contrast, lies, such as that of "sexual liberation," have short legs. Secular academia may indulge "the pleasures of sin for a season," as the Bible puts it, but they will fade away with that season. If they're recorded at all, they'll be remembered in history like Caligula, as a great and perverted mistake and cautionary tale.

Modern academics may think they're the men of the future, but they're the mistakes of the past — and always have been. For only the good remains in the end. ■

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International Scientific Conference Deems EVOLUTION A HOAX

An international conference in Turkey sought to show that the theory of evolution was a sham and that the best evidence makes clear that everything was created by a Creator.



Photo: <http://theoriginoflife.net>

DNA's design: Biochemist Dr. Fazale "Fuz" Rana, vice president of the scientific creationist group Reasons to Believe, argued that DNA is God's programming language.

by Alex Newman

ISTANBUL, Turkey — Did you come from slime and monkeys? Not according to scientists here. A collection of prestigious academics and experts from around the world, representing various disciplines, came together in late April to challenge what many described as a "lie" or a "hoax." This ruse, they said, has underpinned all manner of evils since it first gained widespread acceptance. From communism and national socialism to terrorism, atheism, and eugenics, this theory has been crucial to propagating countless curses and scourges that have afflicted humanity for centuries, they argued.

The Enemy: The theory of evolution.

Each speaker at the 3rd International Conference on the Origin of Life in Istanbul had his or her own specialty. They had varied religions, too, ranging from evangelical Christians, Catholics, and Mormons to Muslims and more generic deist-monotheists. But they all agreed on one point: A growing battery of scientific evidence debunks the evolution hypothesis, which some in attendance even compared to a powerful false religion.

The scientific conference, put on by the Turkish Technics and Science Research Foundation along with the Foundation for the Preservation of National Values and the National Values Foundation, has played a major role in undermining trust in the evolutionary worldview

within Turkey. In fact, Turkey is now one of the most anti-evolution nations in the world, with the government announcing last year that the controversial theory would no longer be pushed on students in primary and secondary schools.

Already, the efforts to use science against the evolution theory are bearing fruit across the Islamic world and beyond. Now, conference organizers and speakers are hoping that their efforts will have an effect across the West, too. "We share a language that declares Almighty God created the universe from nothing," said Adnan Oktar, the honorary president of the conference and one of the world's leading Muslim creationists. "We thank the speakers who traveled thousands of kilometers from their homes to come here and expose the dictatorship of Darwin."

This article will provide a very brief sketch of what the experts at the conference had to say. The purpose is to present the other side — the side those who get all of their information from the media or the government's schools may not even know exists, at least within the scientific community. On the other hand, this piece is by no means definitive or comprehensive. Readers, particularly those who may never have been exposed to scientific anti-evolution arguments, are invited to consider what the experts have to say, and, if the article piques an interest, to explore further.

Biochemist Touts God's Design of Human Genome

Biochemist Dr. Fazale "Fuz" Rana, vice president of research and apologetics at Reasons to Believe, a Christian organization that uses science to promote its views on creation, gave a fascinating talk

Contrary to earlier beliefs among scientists that much of the DNA sequence was useless “junk” — an argument used by evolutionists for years — the latest discoveries show it has a purpose.

on “The Human Genome: Encoded by Design.” From the start, he argued that scientific evidence points to the existence of God, and “undermines the evolutionary paradigm.” His speech emphasized God’s programming language used in DNA, and he made a powerful case. One point in particular he focused on was the incredible complexity of the chemistry and the biological systems of a cell, and how everything must work perfectly together for it to function.

“As a Christian and a scientist, I am convinced that nature provides evidence for God’s handiwork,” he explained, citing the book of Job and the growing scientific evidence supporting Creation. “And yet, when presented with compelling evidence for design that comes from biology, so many skeptics reject the evidence — and with this rejection, they reject belief in God.”

Rana, who in addition to authoring numerous scientific papers wrote the book

The Cell’s Design: How Chemistry Reveals the Creator’s Artistry, focused in particular on the design of the human genome. The sequence of it, he argued, is the language God used to create mankind. Even then-President Bill Clinton, hardly a paragon of religious ideals, described the human genome sequence as “the language in which God created life” in 2000 as more was being learned.

Contrary to earlier beliefs among scientists that much of the DNA sequence was useless “junk” — an argument used by evolutionists for years — the latest discoveries show it has a purpose. The ENCODE project, short for the Encyclopedia of DNA Elements, which helped decipher the purpose of the genes, was crucial to exposing the “junk DNA” fallacy. “The set of genes found in the human genome are like words used in the dictionary,” added Rana, who converted to Christianity from Islam. “It’s not a wasteland of junk, but an elegant biochemical

system that is far more complex than we initially imagined.”

Citing the growing understanding of the genome, the biochemist closed with Psalm 139, in which David writes: “I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.”

Physicist on Design Principles in Biology

Another scientist who focused on the scientific evidence of creation was Dr. David Snoke, a professor of physics at the University of Pittsburgh and the head of the Christian Scientific Society. In his speech, “How biologists are already widely using intelligent design principles ... and why their explanations for this are problematic,” Snoke argued that scientists all over the world rely on the assumption that biological systems are designed — even if they refuse to accept the logical implications, namely, that a brilliant Creator did the designing. “The whole universe looks like it is designed and has purpose,” he said.

To begin with, he used the analogy of a microchip given to an engineer, who was tasked with reverse engineering it. The engineer would only have two options to explain its origins: Either it was designed by a master engineer, or it was randomly created by chance after many attempts. “It is assumed that living systems are optimally designed,” he explained, noting that engineering principles today are common in biology. The scientific literature today is filled with references to purpose and design, he added.

Information intrinsically implies teleology, or a purpose, he continued. To illustrate his point, he showed a video representation of DNA’s duplication mechanism at work, something so complicated it could scarcely be imagined by a mere mortal. “Imagine in your mind the dance that God has put into the cell,” said Dr. Snoke. “This mechanism has to work before natural selection can do anything, because you have to copy the DNA. All of this is necessary for life to even exist.”

In a follow-up interview with THE NEW AMERICAN, Snoke said many scientists still reject God and Creation because of “social reasons,” not scientific evidence. Addressing one of the non-sci-



Why is there resistance against the idea of a Creator?

Doing it without admitting it: University of Pittsburgh physics professor Dr. David Snoke, chief of the Christian Scientific Society, told attendees how biologists already use intelligent design principles.

Alex Newman



Photo: <http://theoriginoflife.net>

Old-Earth friendly: Theology Professor Dr. Ken Keathley from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary gave his views on the Bible's Book of Genesis and how it should be interpreted.

entific reasons for the rejection of God — the notion that talk of God would result in superstition, mysticism, and other perceived problems — he argued in his speech and the interview that it would do no such thing. Indeed, in the wake of the Reformation, the majority of scientists were Christians, he explained.

Among the high-profile Christian scientists were the founders of modern science. “Newton believed strongly in God,” said Snoke. “He wrote two books on science and *four* on theology.” Other examples included William Harvey, father of modern medicine; Blaise Pascal, founder of fluid mechanics; G.W. Leibniz, father of calculus; William Thompson (Lord Kelvin), father of thermodynamics; Wernher von Braun, father of space travel; and more.

“All of these scientists are saying that God can be seen in what He has made,” Snoke concluded, echoing scripture. Belief in God and that God designed the universe for a purpose “led people to do very good science.”

Astrophysicist Highlights Uniqueness of Earth

Another prestigious scientist, Dr. Bijan Nemati, an Iranian-born convert to Christianity who serves as principal research scientist at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, spoke to the audience about “The Pale Blue Dot Revisited: Appreci-

ating Our Uncommon Place in the Universe.” While the ruling paradigm in science today rejects a Creator, this view is inadequate to explain the evidence and countless questions. “For example, what is the nature of consciousness?” asked Nemati, who spent more than 15 years working at NASA. “What is the origin of morality? Does it even exist? What about love, or mercy?”

Nemati told a story that was used by Carl Sagan to promote his materialist view, about what happened as NASA’s *Voyager 1* spacecraft photographed the solar system it was leaving. In short, the scientists had trouble finding Earth. But then, when they did find it, it looked like a pale blue dot, with Sagan suggesting it was a “delusion” to believe that the Earth, and therefore humanity, had some privileged position in the universe. But as Nemati explained throughout the rest of his speech, Earth really is unique, as far as can be determined.

The astrophysicist went through the dizzying array of criteria needed to conceivably host life on a planet. It must be terrestrial, it must have water, it must be in the circumstellar habitable zone (where water can be liquid someplace), it must have a magnetosphere to protect from cosmic rays, and it must be in a planetary system within the galactic habitable zone — among other criteria.

Still, in 1960, Francis Drake estimated that there ought to be a million planetary systems in the galaxy capable of sending a signal to Earth. “But half a century later, we know there are many more factors required than he considered,” said Nemati. “And since the probability that they all are present for a planet is proportional to the product of their individual probabilities, a simple calculation shows that we should not expect to see a single Earth in a thousand Milky Way-sized galaxies. The Earth is very rare. This goes directly against the so-called Copernican principle.” Far from being a common, insignificant speck, then, the Earth is “a very special planet in a very special place,” Nemati added, citing Psalm 19 and its assertion that “the Heavens declare the glory of God.”

“There is abundant, solid evidence that the work is designed, and we can infer as well that God wants us to study this world and see its design and realize the glory of its Creator,” he concluded. “So, far from being a mere blue dot, our planet was not only made for supporting life, but it was also made to support knowing about the universe, and extending from that observation, to know, and be amazed by, its Creator.”

Muslim Brain Surgeon Ridicules Darwinism

Perhaps the most energetic speech came from Dr. Oktar Babuna, a U.S.-educated neurosurgeon and prominent Islamic creationist who has spoken on the topic all over the world. While he is a Muslim who believes the Koran, he called for an alliance between Muslims and Christians to battle against Marxism and evolutionism. Separately, he said, Christians and Muslims could be defeated by Darwin’s adherents. “But together we can defeat this, and religious morality will prevail,” he said.

Much of his speech was scientific in nature. For example, he showed how proteins are synthesized and that DNA is needed to synthesize proteins. “There have to be proteins for proteins to come into existence,” said Dr. Babuna, a native of Turkey. “A living cell must exist first, then it can synthesize proteins. This is a fatal blow to Darwinism.”

The fossil record is the second “fatal



Two of the speakers, philosopher Dr. Hans Köchler (left) and sociologist Fabrizio Fratus (right), sit on either side of prominent journalist Luca Steinmann (center), who reported on the conference.

blow” to Darwinism, Babuna argued. “If we evolved, we must have transitional fossils,” he said, referring to fossils showing creatures between two different kinds of creatures. “We have 700 million fossils, and yet there are no transitional fossils — not one. The foundation [that organized the conference] will pay \$3 million to anyone who can show one.” He showed fossils that he said were many millions of years old or even older, and showed how the creatures all look exactly the same as the creatures that exist today.

“Science is anti-Marxist, anti-Darwinist, and anti-materialist,” Babuna said. “Darwinism will definitely be defeated.” In fact, he predicted the end of Darwinism within five years as more and more scientists lose their fear of speaking out and the evidence continues to pile up. “Science confirms the facts of creation,” he added. “Chance or coincidence had no role in the creation of the universe.”

Babuna’s speech also focused on theological arguments, which included many passages from the Islamic Koran about Creation that bear some similarities to biblical texts. Both say clearly that God created everything by speaking, for instance. While he repeatedly referred to

“Prophet” Jesus, he said Islamic scriptures acknowledge that Jesus had no earthly father and was born of a virgin. He also gave some examples that Christians would recognize, such as God’s transformation of Moses’ staff into a living snake. “God creates from nothing with no need for natural causes,” he said, adding that God was not constrained by the laws of nature that He created.

On the other hand, he said, evolution is simply based on lies, and they are not new. “Evolution is a pagan superstition dating back to the ancient Egyptians and Sumerians,” Babuna said. “We will see scientifically that evolution is impossible.” Today, Darwinism is “the official state ideology in almost every country, even in Muslim countries,” Babuna said, adding that this official ideology has unleashed tremendous evil and suffering on humanity.

Theology: Theologian Interprets Genesis

Creationists differ on whether the Earth is billions of years old, or less than 10,000 years old.

One of the prominent speakers at the summit, Southeastern Baptist Theologi-

cal Seminary professor Dr. Ken Keathley, gave his view in his speech, “The Seven Days of Genesis One: An Old-Earth Interpretation.” He believes God created the world and that Darwin was wrong. The respected theologian, diverging from many American evangelicals, argued that the Bible’s Book of Genesis should not be understood literally. Instead, he said that God more likely created the universe billions of years ago.

In America, about half of people surveyed say they believe God created humans in their present form sometime within the last 10,000 years. That is a common view among creation scientists and theologians in the United States, too. Many even argue that to be a creationist and a Bible-believing Christian, one *must* accept that the Earth is less than 10,000 years old. “I would like to respond to this,” Keathley said, adding that young-Earth creationists are still his “brothers” despite the disagreements.

“Typically we should interpret the Bible literally, unless the text provides good reasons not to,” he said, noting that the Bible is “inerrant and has no errors in it at all.” But in this case, as in others he cited, the director of the L. Russ Bush Center for Faith and Culture argued that it is theologically “essential” that Genesis be interpreted in non-literal terms, offering a number of arguments. Basically, he said the “days” in Genesis ought to be understood as “ages.” In a follow-up interview with *THE NEW AMERICAN*, he pointed to the time it takes light to travel from stars to the Earth as a scientific reason for his argument.

Other Christians, though, disagree with that idea. Creation Ministries International (CMI, Australia) managing director Dr. Don Batten, a Ph.D. in plant science, told *THE NEW AMERICAN* that science and theology both *require* a young earth. “Jesus believed Genesis was history and in the biblical (‘young earth’) timeframe (e.g., Mark 10:6); so do I,” he said in an e-mail. “Jesus put the origin of mankind at the beginning of creation. Old-Earth creationists put it at the end of time. But this is just one little thing.”

Batten gave a number of additional arguments, and suggested that the old-Earth view undermines fundamental biblical doctrines that are core to the Christian

Photo: <http://theoriginoflife.net>

faith. For example, if the old-Earth view is correct, that means “God created a world of death, disease and suffering,” because that means there are hundreds of millions of years of rock and fossil records predating Adam and Eve. God would not have described this as “very good,” Batten suggested, along with a number of other theological arguments. He said a proper understanding of this is crucial to understanding why Christ had to come.

The creation scientist also said the scientific evidence demands a young-Earth understanding. To back up his view, he pointed to 101 scientific evidences collected by CMI that support the view that Earth is around 6,000 years old. Among others, he said DNA has been extracted from fossils that are claimed to be almost half a billion years old, though DNA would be destroyed if it were more than a few thousand years old. “I have many more evidences that I have collected, but ‘101’ has a nice ring to it,” Dr. Batten said.

Most of the speakers at the conference believed in an old Earth.

Mormon Psychologist on Human Emotions and Genetics

Anna Manja Larcher, who holds a master’s degree in theoretical psychology from Brigham Young University, highlighted the propensity of psychologists to try to explain human behaviors using evolutionary theory. But in her talk, “Beware the Procrustean Bed: Evolutionary Explanations of Love and Compassion,” she made a compelling case that the view is wrong — and totally unscientific. The talk was built around the legendary Greek robber Procrustes, who infamously either stretched his guests or cut part of their legs off to make them fit in his bed.

“Genetic explanations of behavior derived from evolutionary theory have become a Procrustean bed,” argued Larcher, who wrote a paper on the subject with BYU Wheatley Institution Director Richard Williams. “Proponents of these genetic explanations have become quite expert at stretching and cutting as need be to make the facts fit the theory.... But the price of preserving genetic explanations of our behavior is too high.”

The effort also relies on logical fallacies — “affirming the consequent,” in particular — and unscientific specula-

tion. One example she used is the claim that evolution explains the observed fact that children are more likely to be abused by step-parents than birth parents. The evolutionary thinking is that, because birth parents want to perpetuate their genes, then they are more likely to carefully protect and love their natural child. Of course, correlation doesn’t equal causation. Increased rates of abuse in stepfamilies could be caused as well by the stresses of a second marriage and the same problems that led to the break up of the birth family carrying on into the stepfamily. As she says, “There is no scientific test that could possibly separate evolutionary causes from the host of social and personal causes of this sort of child abuse.”

The moral implications of the evolution view are troubling, too. “When such genetic explanations are applied

to human and family relationships, the consequence is the loss of our very humanity, and, even more importantly, beyond that, it means the loss of our divine, God given, eternal identity,” said Larcher, a Mormon from Germany who received her advanced degrees at U.S. universities. “Without agency and responsibility, there is no humanity and no divine identity in our lives. We become mere marionettes.” Even love, compassion, and other human emotions become meaningless, she said, arguing that this, in and of itself, is enough reason to reject evolutionism.

But evolution will not die easily. “Unfortunately, a story that has become as popular as evolution has become often takes on a life of its own,” the psychologist and business owner concluded. “Before long, its very popularity convinces many that there is no alternative explanation



Photo: <http://theoriginoflife.net>

Not alone: The conference, organized by Turkish foundations that oppose Darwin’s evolution theory, brought together hundreds of students, businessmen, officials, and more.

The hundreds of attendees in the mostly young, hip crowd included university students, ambassadors, business leaders, political figures, and more.

of our behavior.” Even still, though, “we should not agree to spend even one night in Procrustes’ bed,” she added.

Sociologist Slams Lies in School Books

Sociologist Fabrizio Fratus, among Italy’s leading creationists, spent his time attempting to show that lies and frauds are used to support the evolution theory. “The theory of evolution unbelievably claims to explain the genesis of the forms through a series of processes that all lead to degradation,” he said, speaking in Italian. “All the verifiable expectations of the theory of evolution have been dashed, and in Italy, as in many other countries of the world, Darwin’s theory is presented through scientific falsification.”

Dr. Fratus, a Catholic whose doctoral thesis focused on scientific creationism, explained that school books in his homeland were filled with lies marketing evolution. Among the examples he used is the “Archaeopteryx,” a fossil that many evolution theorists claimed represents a “missing link” or a “transitional fossil” — such fossils should be everywhere if evolution is true — between birds and reptiles. In reality, he said, it is just a normal bird, as even some leading evolutionists have conceded.

He gave as another example of a fraud, being used to promote the theory of evolution to children, the supposed “drawings” of “embryos” by pseudo-scientist Ernst Haeckel, in which all embryos initially look identical, but then grow into

different species because of changes in genetic coding caused by evolution — drawings that are now almost universally condemned as fraudulent, even by die-hard evolutionists. Similarly, Italian textbooks cite “Lucy,” a skeleton that evolutionists long touted as a “missing link” between apes and humans but which was actually just a regular ape. Fratus also slammed “lies” about DNA, saying that to go from an ape to a human would require some 240 million mutations. “So, the transition from ape to human is to be considered impossible,” he said.

The prominent Italian creationist also pointed out that observation and observable facts would show that evolution cannot happen as imagined. “Genetic mutations never add new information, but, on the contrary, the result is always a loss of information, as shown by the work of the geneticist John Sanford from Cornell University,” he said. “Mutations are the errors in reproduction, and the accumulation of errors certainly cannot create something complex. Natural selection produces less biodiversity and reduces genetic diversity.... It is folly to think that a collection of errors could improve a living organism.”

Philosopher Explores Monotheism and Coexistence

The conference was not all about evolution. With the world shrinking at a rapid pace, and with civilizations now in constant contact, the topic of coexistence among different peoples and faiths was explored by Dr. Hans Köchler, the retired chairman of the department of philosophy at Austria’s University of Innsbruck who now leads the International Progress Organization. In his speech on “Monotheism and the Meaning of Coexistence: A Philosophical Perspective,” Dr. Köchler began by stating the obvious fact that humanity is now in an unprecedented era.

“Anywhere on the globe, the human being is faced with the simultaneity of different metaphysical conceptions and belief systems,” he said. “This diversity exists under conditions that are increasingly determined by technology.” Before, communities could retreat, and seek to isolate themselves. Today, that is no longer possible. The question now is how to deal with it. In short, Dr. Köchler advocat-



Speakers row: Dr. Bijan Nemati (closest) of the University of Alabama, who worked for NASA for 15 years, sits next to some of the speakers and their wives at the conference.

Photo: <http://theoriginoflife.net>

ed dialogue and understanding, and even cooperation, among the world's three most significant monotheistic faiths.

"If there exists only one God, then this God must be one and the same for all," he said. "There cannot be three different 'gods' for Jews, Christians and Muslims — only three different perceptions of God or manifestations of truth in the context of the respective revelation. Awareness of this logically obvious, but nonetheless often neglected, truth can foster a deeper sense of community among believers and may contribute to religious and societal peace beyond historical and socio-cultural differences." Of course, plenty of believers in each of those faiths would disagree, but his speech was well received nevertheless.

The search for truth can unite people, he continued. "Endowed with the capacity of self-reflection which cannot merely be reduced to the physical realm, the human being has always striven for the ultimate truth and meaning of life," he said. "The search for the transcendent has united thinkers of all civilizations throughout the ages.... In the spirit of 'unity in diversity,'

coexistence between the monotheistic religions can indeed become the cornerstone of a lasting order of peace and justice in the 21st century."

The Attendees

The hundreds of attendees in the mostly young, hip crowd included university students, ambassadors, business leaders, political figures, and more. The event featured beautiful dancing and performance arts. The audience was thoroughly impressed. But impressing the audience was not the point. Instead, the goal, as proclaimed by one of Turkey's most celebrated TV hosts who served as master of ceremonies, was to bring down the "dictatorship of Darwin" and all the evil associated with it — not just in Turkey, but worldwide.

The theory of evolution has become increasingly discredited in Turkey, with public schools no longer teaching it to young Turks. Adaptation and mutation, which are observable and well established, are still taught. But while secularists and evolutionists around the world expressed outrage over the move to drop evolution

in primary and secondary education, authorities and attendees at the conference defended the decision.

Even in America, despite evolution being taught in schools for generations, polls show less than one-third of Americans identify as (theistic or atheistic) evolutionists. Meanwhile, about half identify as young-Earth creationists. The number of creationists is growing, too. All across the country, activists, ministries, churches, scientists, and conferences are working hard to promote creationism and debunk evolution. And with the rise of the Internet and increasing public skepticism about what is taught in public schools and what is promoted by the establishment press, evolution theory is likely to come under growing pressure in the years ahead.

With more and more scientists now debating whether God created the universe thousands or billions of years ago, rather than whether He created it at all, this may be the start of a major paradigm shift. And either way, as G.K. Chesterton explained, a miracle is still just as miraculous whether it occurred quickly or slowly. ■



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WHO'S BEHIND

the Michael Avenatti-Stormy Daniels Fake News Parade?

Stormy Daniels' lawyer, Michael Avenatti, has not brought forth any damning evidence against Donald Trump, yet he gets TV interviews by the dozens – what gives?

by William F. Jasper

Michael Avenatti is giving ambulance-chasing lawyers a bad name. The publicity-hound attorney for porn star Stormy Daniels has so discredited himself that the barrister tribe is woefully remiss for failing to protect news consumers. The least they could do is disavow his membership in the legal fraternity or file a lawsuit against him for impersonating a legal expert.

Despite the fact that Avenatti's "evidence" thus far has been a giant nothing-

burger, the "mainstream" media can't get enough of him. Like Robert Mueller's "Trump-Russia collusion" witch hunt, Avenatti provides grist for the nonstop 24/7 "Get Trump" media mill. They've already milked gossip-meister Michael Wolff's fact-free *Fire and Fury* book tour for all they can. Even though Wolff admitted in the book's prologue that many of his accounts of alleged activities and conversations in the Trump White House are "badly untrue," and even though many liberal critics lambasted Wolff's factual inaccuracies and his known record for in-

Deep State diversion: Porn actress Stormy Daniels and her lawyer Michael Avenatti have been made into household celebrities with nonstop media coverage, in an obvious effort to aid the Mueller "witch hunt" and hamstring President Trump.

venting stories, he still received the royal media treatment. Nevertheless, Wolff didn't provide the Trump takedown that anti-Trumpers had hoped for. Likewise for James Comey's media saturation book tour. Even though the former FBI boss has been transformed into a Big Media celebrity, Comey's charges have failed to catch fire. Thus, it looks like the Fake News gangs have settled on Avenatti (known increasingly as "the creepy porn lawyer") as the latest Trump takedown ticket.

According to a recent tabulation by Bill D'Agostino and Rich Noyes for the Media Research Center (MRC), Avenatti was "interviewed a staggering 147 times on broadcast and cable news shows" during the 10-week period from March 7 (when the publicity first began) through May 15. "More than half of those interviews (74) were on CNN, which almost certainly makes Avenatti the most ubiquitous guest in the network's history," the MRC report states.

"No guest — not Donald Trump or Bernie Sanders in 2016, nor Adam Schiff in

2017 — received anything close to the outpouring of free media coverage that CNN has bequeathed to Avenatti,” it notes. “The media’s massive donation of publicity is obviously the main reason why Daniels and Avenatti have been able to use a crowd funding site to raise a whopping \$500,000 to fund their anti-Trump lawsuits, with many of the thousands of anonymous donors citing the interviews as they make their gifts,” the MRC reports.

“While CNN has been the friendliest network, hosting the Trump-bashing lawyer an astonishing 74 times, MSNBC has been close behind, donating 57 segments featuring Avenatti,” D’Agostino and Noyes note. “On a single day (May 3), MSNBC featured Avenatti a stunning seven times — from 7am ET (*Morning Joe*) through 10pm ET (*The Last Word*). Rounding out the tally were interviews on ABC (six), CBS (five), NBC (four) and the Fox News Channel (just once, on FNC’s *Fox News at Night* back on March 20).”

Anti-Trump Derangement Addiction

Not surprisingly, the MRC study found that CNN’s *Anderson Cooper 360* and MSNBC’s *The Last Word With Lawrence O’Donnell* “were the most smitten with Avenatti, interviewing him the most of any program (20 times in the case of Cooper, 16 in the case of O’Donnell).”

CNN newsie Brian Stelter, in a recent interview with *New York Times* columnist Nicholas Kristof, admitted that “I’m a Trump addict.” For his part, Kristof conceded that both he and his wife also suffer from “Trump addiction.” To be more accurate, both Kristof and Stelter should have said that they suffer from Anti-Trump Derangement Addiction (ATDA). In fact, it’s obvious that there is an institutional epidemic of the condition at both the *Times* and CNN. Clearly, these people need help. Kristof and Stelter have taken the first step to recovery by admitting their addiction, but they still have a long way to go. And they are marinating in a toxic employment environment surrounded by fellow addicts suffering from the same ATDA psychosis.

Recovery prospects are not good. Their Stage 4 ATDA has obviously clouded their judgment to such a degree that now they don’t even bother with the pretense of being objective and unbiased,

and are getting increasingly sloppy about covering their tracks. Case in point: revelations that CNN’s Don Lemon is palsy-walsy with Michael Avenatti. This came out in a tweet by lobbyist Juanita Scarlett, who boasted she was “thrilled” to have met Michael Avenatti “at the Sag Harbor soiree” of CNN host Don Lemon. The tweet included a photo of Avenatti and at least three CNN regulars at Lemon’s home in the Hamptons: Lemon, political commentator Errol Louis, and LGBT “Republican” activist-commentator Margaret Hoover. The tweet-photo was deleted, but not before conservative writer Stephen Miller saved it.

Then there’s CNN

Avenatti Viewer Fatigue

Not everyone in medialand is totally enamored of the bald, limelight-chasing lawyer. In a May 17 article entitled “Gaffes, threats should mean it’s time to take Avenatti off air,” Joe Concha, media reporter for *The Hill*, outlined a number of the problems with Avenatti, including his slimy “off the record” tweet threatening to sue reporters from The Daily Caller for reporting unfavorably on him. Concha also reminded us of a photo from an Avenatti tweet of March 22 showing a DVD lying on a desk. Avenatti’s titillating text accompanying the tweet asked: “If ‘a picture is worth a thousand words,’ how many words is this worth?????” In an interview with CNN’s Wolf Blitzer,



Swooning over Avenatti: CNN’s April Ryan, perpetually afflicted with Anti-Trump Derangement Addiction, is all twitterpated over Michael Avenatti — like everyone else at CNN.

analyst April Ryan, who posted a picture on Instagram of herself and Avenatti — all smiles and arms around each other — with the gloating caption: “Was I singing ‘Stormy Weather’ to Stormy Daniels’ attorney Michael Avenatti? You had to have been there to know why we’re both smiling so hard.” In the interests of transparency and full disclosure, do any of the “journalists” interviewing or commenting on Avenatti ever mention their chummy relationships with him? Not that we are aware of.

Avenatti said the pictured disk contained evidence proving Stormy Daniels’ claims of an affair with Donald Trump in 2006. The impression Avenatti has tried to give in his media appearances is that the DVD contains video or photo evidence of Trump-Daniels sexcapades.

This Avenatti buildup has all the makings of being many times worse than Rachel Maddow’s epic fail during her much-much-much-hyped “reveal” of Donald Trump’s tax returns, on March 14, 2017. She and MSNBC led viewers to believe

they had obtained the “holy grail” — President Trump’s much sought-after tax returns. Turns out, after a pre-show Twitter buildup and more than 20 minutes of the program opening with teasing and suspense-building blather, Maddow had only two pages of an old 1040 return from 2005. To top it off, Trump came off pretty well; the old tax return showed he had paid millions of dollars in taxes, and it provided no evidence of any wrongdoing. Even many of Maddow’s Trump-hating comrades in the media and in Camp Clinton were chagrined, or even outraged, at having been misled. Maddow and MSNBC were roundly (and rightfully) mocked and scorned for the deceptive oversell.

But, apparently, the lessons that should have been learned from the Maddow tax disaster have been lost on the ATDA-afflicted Trump haters in the establishment media bubble. Anti-Trump Derangement Addiction, clearly, reigns in the mainstream media (MSM) “news” rooms. CBS’s *60 Minutes* allowed Avenatti and Daniels to push their evidence-free salacious charges to 22 million viewers on March 25. And they have continued to push the same story unchallenged in many dozens of friendly interviews since.

Follow the Money

“Who is paying Michael Avenatti?” That question forms the title of an article by

Mark Penn in *The Hill*. It is a question that the high-dollar journalists in Big Media should be asking (and should have been asking all along). But, of course, they are too busy fawning over Avenatti and posing for selfies with him to trouble with such basic, Journalism 101 questions.

Penn notes that Avenatti “wants to make the discussion all about where Michael Cohen, President Trump’s personal attorney, got his money but, to have clean hands, Avenatti needs to come forward with exactly who is financing his operation, who his sources were for detailed banking information, and whether he really is an attorney solely representing Stormy Daniels or just using her as cover to wage a political operation.”

“From the beginning,” says Penn, “this has been fishy. Daniels’s previous lawyer advised her to stick to her agreements. In contrast, Avenatti okayed her violating with impunity her non-disclosure agreement on ‘60 Minutes’ despite a binding arbitration judgment against her. She acknowledged on Twitter that she is not paying for her lawyer. So who is? And did he indemnify her against all multimillion-dollar penalties?” Basic questions. Why is no one at the *Times*, CBS, CNN, MSNBC, etc., asking them? Our question is rhetorical, naturally. We know why the relentless anti-Trumpers in the discredited “prestige” press don’t ask

the obvious questions; because doing so would risk exposing their conspiracy to bring down Trump.

Avenatti is not merely a media-hound lawyer (although he is that); he is, primarily, a political hack, a Democrat attack dog trained by political street fighter Rahm Emanuel, currently the mayor of Chicago. Emanuel, a longtime asset of Goldman Sachs, served as senior advisor to President Bill Clinton before moving on to a three-term stint in the House of Representatives, and then a plum role as White House chief of staff for President Barack Obama.

“Avenatti learned some of his hard-charging ways in the toughest of all arenas, the political world,” according to an article by Suzie Frisch in the July 2009 issue of *SuperLawyers*. “After his time at Wharton as a University of Pennsylvania undergrad, he spent five years at a political consulting firm run by Rahm Emanuel, the current [2009] White House chief of staff,” wrote Frisch, noting that Avenatti worked on nearly 150 campaigns in 42 states. And now he’s working on the biggest one of his career, to bring down the president of the United States.

But who is he working for? As noted above, he has reportedly raised \$500,000 through crowd-funding online. But we don’t know from whom that has come, and that is not likely to be sufficient to cover potential legal costs. The recently released report of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) has revealed that Democrat operative Daniel Jones, a former top aide to Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), is leading an ongoing \$50 million opposition research operation against President Trump involving British agent Christopher Steele and Fusion GPS. These are the same folks who fabricated the “salacious and unverified” hit piece known as the “Steele dossier.” And they are being funded, noted the HPSCI report, to the tune of \$50 million by “7 to 10 wealthy donors located primarily in New York and California.” Is some of this money being sluiced into Avenatti’s legal-media attacks on President Trump? Or is he being funded by other Democratic mega-donors?

These are legitimate, relevant questions, yes? Just don’t hold your breath waiting for Anderson Cooper, Chuck Todd, Joe Scarborough, Jake Tapper, or any of the other talking heads of the Fake News commentariat to ask them. ■



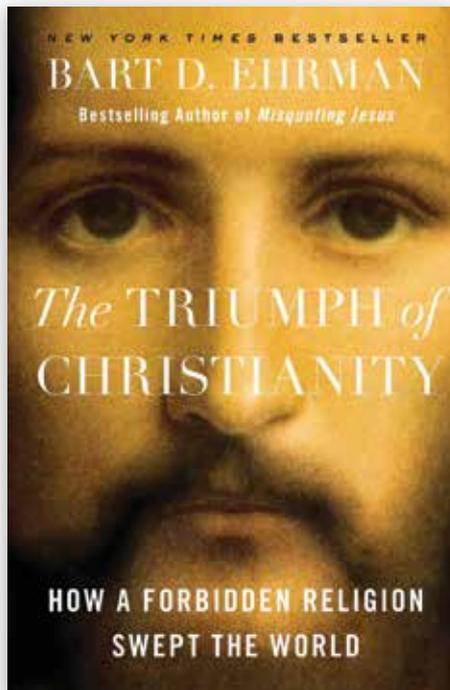
Rachel Maddow

AP Images

Another epic fail: MSNBC follows close behind CNN in the total number of Avenatti appearances (57 to 74) from March 7 to May 15, calling to mind Rachel Maddow’s much-hyped (and justly scorned) fake reveal of President Trump’s tax returns on MSNBC.

THE TRIUMPH OF CHRISTIANITY

A historian specializing in Christianity explains how and why Christianity spread in the face of persecution, paganism, and impoverishment.



by Laurence M. Vance

The Triumph of Christianity: How a Forbidden Religion Swept the World, by Bart D. Ehrman, New York: Simon & Schuster, 2018, xiv + 335 pages, hardcover.

Although the majority of Americans may not attend church weekly, and the share of adults who describe themselves as Christians is in decline, most Americans still identify with some form of Christianity. Certainly most conservatives and Republicans consider themselves to be Christians. According to a new analysis by the Pew Research Center, 91 percent of the members of Congress describe themselves as Christians, including all but two Republicans. At 80 percent, even Democrats in Congress also are overwhelmingly Christian.

This is remarkable considering that Jesus Christ began His ministry with a group of 12 disciples almost 2,000 years ago in the midst of the polytheism and paganism of the Roman Empire. “The an-

cient triumph of Christianity proved to be the single greatest cultural transformation our world has ever seen,” says Bart D. Ehrman in his new book *The Triumph of Christianity: How a Forbidden Religion Swept the World*. “Without it the entire history of Late Antiquity would not have happened as it did.”

Ehrman is the James A. Gray Distinguished Professor of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He is a leading authority on the New Testament and the history of early Christianity, who has written or edited more than 30 books (including *New York Times* best-sellers), appeared on numerous television programs (including the History channel), and been featured in major newspapers and magazines.

Although Ehrman once claimed to be an evangelical Christian, and is a graduate of the evangelical Wheaton College in Illinois, he now says that he is “not a Christian” and has “no interest in promoting a Christian cause or a Christian agenda.” He now considers himself to be “an agnostic with atheist leanings” whose “life and views of the world would be approximately the same whether or not Jesus existed” (above quotations from Ehrman’s book *Did Jesus Exist? The Historical Argument for Jesus of Nazareth*, 2012). He does not view the “Christianization” of the Roman Empire as either “a victory for the human race and a sign of cultural progress on the one hand, or a major sociopolitical setback and cultural disaster on the other.” As an orthodox conservative Christian, I disagree with much of what Ehrman has written in his other books on Jesus, the New Testament, and Early Christianity. However, Ehrman’s agnosticism and ambivalence are actually a plus when it comes to *The Triumph of Christianity*, just as in the case of his aforementioned book on the existence of Jesus. He approaches his subject as an unbiased, objective historian who cannot be charged with writing from a pro-Christian agenda.

The idea for the book struck Ehrman 20 years ago during his first trip to Athens. As he explored the archaeological wonders of the city, he stopped at the Areopagus, or Mars Hill. There he visited the spot where the Apostle Paul, on his second missionary journey, came “to preach about Jesus and his resurrection.” While standing on the site, he thought about “Paul, his sermon, and his surroundings.” Then the realization struck him that “in the end, Paul won.” What Paul preached on the Areopagus “eventually triumphed over everything” in the Agora and on the Acropolis, including “both the Temple of Hephaestus and the Parthenon.” “Christianity eventually took over Western Civilization.”

The Triumph of Christianity contains nine chapters, preceded by an introduction and followed by an afterword. The book is enhanced by a timeline of relevant historical events from the reign of Caesar Augustus, the first Roman emperor, to the writing of *The City of God* by Augustine; an appendix on the rate of Christian growth; endnotes; and an index.

Ehrman begins (chapter 1) and ends (chapters 8 & 9) with Constantine, the Roman emperor who “converted” to Christianity in 312. Constantine did not make Christianity the Roman empire’s official religion, although within 80 years “Rome would become predominantly and officially Christian.” What happened instead was that “the imperial apparatus that before then had been officially opposed to Christianity and worked hard, in some regions of the empire, to extirpate it completely suddenly came to support it, promoting Christianity instead of persecuting it.” Constantine presided over Christianity going from “a persecuted faith to being the religion of most-favored status.” He provided the clergy with “funds out of the imperial treasury for use in their congregations” and “arranged for the building of major churches throughout his empire.” His agreement with his co-emperor Licinius led to the so-called Edict of Milan,

Jesus Christ began His ministry with a group of 12 disciples almost 2,000 years ago in the midst of the polytheism and paganism of the Roman Empire.

which “gave complete freedom of religious expression to all inhabitants of the empire.” With but one exception, “every remaining Roman emperor was Christian,” although “some of Constantine’s successors did not share his commitment to tolerance.” After the death of Constantine, pagan sacrifices were outlawed and temples were ordered closed, but as Ehrman points out, “These laws were directed to specific locales, not empire-wide, and there existed no state apparatus to ensure they were carried out” — not until Emperor Theodosius I, who reigned from 379 to 395, made Christianity the official state religion. Under Theodosius, “violence against pagan sacred places and objects became increasingly pronounced” as “Christian leaders appeared with political power at their disposal and the will to use it in order to impose their religious preferences on others.” After Theodosius, about half the empire claimed to be Christian, and Christianity became “the greatest and most powerful institution Western Civilization has ever seen.”

In between the chapters on Constantine, Ehrman chronicles the spread of Christianity during its first four centuries. He believes that “the ultimate triumph of Christianity did not require the conversion of the emperor Constantine” because “if Christianity had simply continued to grow at the rate it was growing at the [time] of the emperor’s conversion — or even less — it still would have eventually taken over.”

In chapter 2, “Back to the Beginning: The Conversion and Mission of Paul,” Ehrman recounts the biblical story of who he considers to be “the most significant Christian convert of all time”: the Apostle Paul.

In chapter 3, “The Religious World of Conversion: Roman Paganism,” Ehrman discusses religion in the Roman empire. Religion was “virtually omnipresent,” and “the religious and sociopolitical realms

were not kept distinct.” Roman religions were all polytheistic, with “gods for every municipality and every family,” although some pagans were henotheists who acknowledged “one ultimate divinity” above the mass of divine beings. Instead of established doctrines, ethical requirements, and detailed rules to follow, “there was instead an enormously varied set of ritual practices, each one formed by many years of custom and tradition.” The ubiquitous temples were not for worship, but to house the cult statue representing the temple god. The Roman state was tolerant of almost any religion as long as its practices were not “deemed socially dangerous.” This eventually led to the persecution of Christians, who were “often accused of being atheists” because they refused to acknowledge any god beyond the one they worshipped and rejected the traditional modes of honoring the gods that were thought to bring health and prosperity to the community. This is probably the most fascinating and informative chapter in the book.

In chapter 4, “Reasons for the Christian

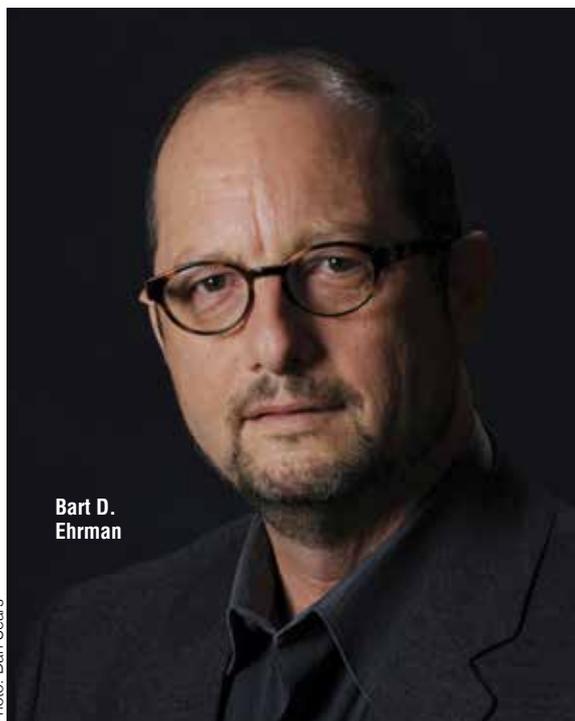
Success,” Ehrman explores the reasons for the triumph of Christianity over paganism. Many pagans were drawn to “the idea of one ultimate divinity” who was to be worshipped to “the complete exclusion of all other gods.” Christianity, unlike Judaism and paganism, was a missionary religion that sought converts, “not by public preaching or door-to-door canvassing of strangers” but by “their everyday social networks.” The “combination of evangelism and exclusion proved to be decisive for the triumph of Christianity.” Ehrman also adds that “one other feature of Christianity that made it different from all the pagan religions throughout the empire is that it encompassed numerous aspects of life that had always been kept distinct.” Christianity also had an “ethical code” that was lacking in paganism.

In chapter 5, “Miraculous Incentives for Conversion,” Ehrman explains what factors persuaded pagans to become Christians: stories of Jesus, his apostles, and their successors that verified the Christian message; the teaching of an afterlife in a “utopian existence” or an “everlasting hell,” neither of which most pagans subscribed to; and Christian endurance in the face of martyrdom.

In chapter 6, “The Growth of the Church,” Ehrman looks at the sources and nature of the data on the growth of the church. Here, and in the related appendix, he interacts with Rodney Stark’s popular book *The Rise of Christianity* (1996).

In chapter 7, “Christians Under Assault: Persecution, Martyrdom, and Self-Defense,” Ehrman relates the extent of local and empire-wide Christian persecution, especially under the emperors Valerian and Diocletian. He emphasizes that “not revering the city or state gods meant not being faithful to the city or state.”

The Triumph of Christianity is an important work that is masterfully written. Although I highly recommend the book to the Christian and non-Christian, to the religious and the non-religious, and to the atheist and the theist, I think it especially essential reading for Christians, most of whom are ignorant of the early history of their faith. ■



Bart D.
Ehrman

Photo: Dan Sears



Police Escort

When Dakota Pitts returned to school one week after losing his father, Terre Haute, Indiana, Police Officer Rob Pitts, in the line of duty, he was stunned by what awaited him at his school.

Seventy Terre Haute police officers and Vigo County sheriff's deputies were waiting for Pitt at Sullivan Elementary School on May 14.

Dakota's aunt, Kelly Jones, was at the school with Dakota that morning and was moved to tears by the outpouring of support from the local officers and sheriffs. "He will definitely know his dad was a hero. Blood doesn't always make family. And I think the blue family went above and beyond," Jones told WTHI.

Video footage captured by the *Tribune Star* shows Dakota walking past a line of police officers before one of them presents him with a SWAT shirt, which Dakota proudly donned along with his father's badge as he entered the school that morning.

"Welcome back to school, bud," one of the officers says.

Detective Les Hamm told WNDU that there is a brotherhood amongst police officers that compels them to step up in times of need. "Guys are close, you form bonds that you wouldn't form in a different profession. When somebody's in need, we go, especially for a fallen officer and his kid," Hamm explained.

CNN reported that Sullivan Elementary Principal Samantha Phegley helped to facilitate Dakota's surprise in order to make his return as easy as possible. "A student's return to school after the death of a loved one, especially a parent, is difficult," she told CNN. "Having the support of Rob's police family helped Dakota take those first few steps."

"Our hope is that Dakota's first day back to school after his father's passing is one that he will remember forever and that he will always know how much his father's sacrifice meant to all of us," she added.

Police Officer Pitts was fatally shot by a 21-year-old suspect while responding to a call. He was a 16-year police veteran.

Mother's Day Surprises

Mother's Day is a day on which mothers throughout the country are honored for their selflessness and for the valuable roles they play in the upbringing of our nation's youth. And while Mother's Day often provides an opportunity for children to celebrate their parents, these stories prove that even strangers can honor each other on Mother's Day.

Brenda Pearson had a wonderful Mother's Day on May 13, thanks to a do-gooder named David Platt.

Pearson was working at the 4 Star Diner in Roland, Mississippi, when Platt came in to order a cheeseburger. His food took a bit longer than expected because the cook originally got Platt's order wrong, but the delay gave Platt a chance to converse with Pearson and learn a bit about her. "It was late and there wasn't really anybody around and so I got talking to her a little bit," Platt told KFSM. "We talked about the Lord and about her life and her children. I got the impression that she was having a hard time of it, so I thought I'd just help her out a little bit."

And by help her out "a little bit," Platt means he tipped her \$1,000 for his cheeseburger order. And as if that was not generous enough, Platt returned an hour later to order a piece of pie. He then left her another \$1,000 tip.

Pearson told KFSM that she was so overwhelmed by Platt's generosity that she "could hardly breathe."

She told the news outlet, "I have two children at home. I've been a stay-at-home mom for a couple of years. It will help us get caught up on the move and it was just God-sent."

But Platt acted as if leaving a waitress \$2,000 tips is just a normal, everyday occurrence. "Money is just paper or numbers on a screen," said Platt. "Self-gratification only goes so far. So, when you're helping another person, you're adding something to the world. It's an investment, and people, people are what's important."

And while Platt was making Mother's Day a little more special for a mother in Mississippi, waitresses in Surfside Beach, South Carolina, took it upon themselves to turn a lonely mother's special day around.

Barbara Foy was eating alone at Ruby Tuesday's and struck up a conversation with her waitress. Foy admitted that she was a bit depressed because she did not hear from her son and was alone on Mother's Day.

When the other waitresses caught wind of this, they decided they wanted to bring Foy a bit of cheer. General Manager Lauren Nave told WMBF that three waitresses — Christianna Smith, Kabria Hasty, and Mariah Brown — went to a nearby store and purchased a few items, including a backscratcher, to place in a gift basket, which they gave to Foy. They also combined resources with Nave and another store manager, Don Donnelly, to treat her to lunch.

"We were not OK with a mother feeling unloved on Mother's Day," Brown told *TODAY Food*. "Growing up, I was told to treat others the way you wanna be treated. Me personally, if that was anybody's mom I would have done the same thing."

A random customer also got involved, and gave Foy a rose.

The waitresses' kindness certainly turned the day around for Foy. "I really felt like I was queen for a day ... mother for a day!" said Foy. "I've never been made to feel so special."

She told *Today* that she wants to repay their good deed by taking them out on a lunch date, but she states that she could never fully repay them for what they did. "This is a life-changing experience for me. Those girls are so special, the managers, all of them.... They told me I was part of their family," Foy said.

More good news! When Ruby Tuesday's corporate office learned of what the waitresses did for Foy, they decided to reward their employees by giving them each a \$1,000 bonus.

Foy joked that when her son learned of what happened, he felt guilty for forgetting to call his mother on Mother's Day, though it was the catalyst that led to such a beautiful day. "He does love me," said Foy as she chuckled. "I bet he won't forget Mother's Day again or forget to call his poor little mama." ■

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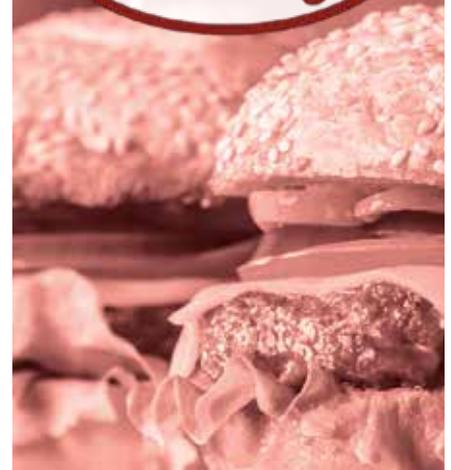


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U.S. Globalists Put Castro in Power and Kept Him There

The U.S. government planned to help Cubans overthrow Fidel Castro in 1961; however, the American globalists responsible for putting Castro in power sabotaged the attack.



Harvepino / iStock / Getty Images Plus

by Frank de Varona and Alex Newman

MIAMI, Florida — When the young men of Assault Brigade 2506 landed at Cuba’s Bay of Pigs, many realized that something was not right. Their bravery was astounding. But in their wildest dreams, they could not have imagined the depths of the betrayal that had been engineered in Washington, D.C., by well-placed globalist power brokers. The betrayal had global repercussions that are still being felt today.

First, the establishment — Deep State operatives from the globalist-minded Council on Foreign Relations in key roles at the U.S. State Department and the *New York Times* — installed a mass-murdering communist dictatorship in their country. Then that same establishment stabbed in the back the brave freedom fighters sent to liberate Cuba. It was an incredible victory for tyranny and a brutal blow to liberty. And it remains a shameful episode

Frank de Varona invaded Cuba with the Brigade at age 17 and spent almost two years in a Cuban prison. He now lives in Miami and recently became director of press and information for the Bay of Pigs Veterans Association.

in American history that has been largely overlooked — until now.

The plan to invade Cuba, as originally formulated, was brilliant. And it had a very real chance of successfully overthrowing the barbaric regime installed in Cuba by globalist American officials and communist butchers in Moscow. But enough pressure was brought to bear by CFR members and their allies in strategic positions that it was possible to sabotage the entire mission, handing communism an unprecedented morale boost while demoralizing anti-communist forces everywhere.

Preparing the Invasion

In March of 1960, after doing everything possible to bring Castro to power, as this article will show, President Dwight Eisenhower ordered the Central Intelligence Agency to begin planning for regime change in Cuba. The CIA began recruiting anti-communist Cubans in America for the purpose. These men were trained in several places, but mostly in the hills of Guatemala.

One of the writers of this article, Frank de Varona, who fled Cuba after communists stole his family’s cattle ranch, joined

what would be later called Assault Brigade 2506 on April 1, 1961. He and about 100 other CIA recruits joined the Brigade just weeks before the assault. The goal: Liberate his homeland. Upon arrival in Guatemala, he met his older brother, Jorge de Varona, and many of his cousins and classmates from Cuba.

The bulk of the soldiers, sailors, and pilots of Assault Brigade 2506 were trained for more than nine months in Panama, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Puerto Rico, and even the United States. The trainers were mostly members of the U.S. Armed Forces and CIA personnel. The American military instructors were astounded at the passion and fervor displayed by the “brigadistas,” as they came to be called, and by how quickly they learned military tactics.

The men who joined the effort to liberate Cuba represented a true cross-section of Cuban society: all races and classes, all sorts of professional backgrounds, and all different regions of the nation were among the courageous patriots. Their average age was 23. One boy was just 15; he had to lie about his age to join. Some had been wealthy before communist slavery descended on their homeland; others had been humble working-class people.

The plan to invade Cuba, as originally formulated, was brilliant. And it had a very real chance of successfully overthrowing the barbaric regime installed in Cuba by globalist American officials and communist butchers in Moscow.

Most were members of Cuba's sizable middle class. But all were united for the cause of freedom.

Invading at the Bay of Pigs

The invasion of Cuba began 57 years ago, on April 17, 1961. It took place on the southern coast of the island at the Bay of Pigs near the Zapata swamps. The brave young men who participated in the effort were under the impression that the goal was to destroy the Castro regime that had enslaved their island. But in Washington, D.C., and New York City, globalists and subversives in high places had other plans.

Before the actual invasion started, the Brigade Air Force, made up of B-26s, C-46s, and C-54s, dropped supplies to support the anti-communist guerrillas that were already fighting the regime from Cuba's Escambray Mountains. The Brigade Navy conducted numerous infiltration operations, sending clandestine teams to deliver weapons and supplies to the underground forces battling Castro's Soviet- and U.S.-armed military.

Several weeks prior to the invasion, a number of Brigade 2506 infiltration teams were sent to different cities of Cuba to work with the underground anti-communist rebels. Some of these brave soldiers were killed and wounded in the operations. Most of the rest ended up captured and sentenced to lengthy prison terms. A few were able to escape, entering Latin American embassies to obtain political asylum.

The actual invasion of the Bay of Pigs began early in the morning on Monday, April 17, 1961. Assault Brigade 2506's infantry, numbering some 1,474 soldiers, including paratroopers, made it to shore, and many pilots participated. They engaged the tens of thousands of enemy soldiers in combat during three days of furious battle at Playa Larga, Playa Girón, San Blas, and other combat zones.

Enemy T-33 jets, B-26s, and Sea Fury planes sank two of Brigade 2506's World

War II-era Liberty-class transport ships, which had been designed to haul cargo to Europe in WWII. De Varona, one of the writers of this article, was aboard the *Houston* as it sank. He swam to shore, but more than two dozen of his brothers-in-arms were killed by enemy planes, drowning, or sharks that fateful morning. Both the *Houston* and the *Rio Escondido*, which were carrying military supplies, food, gas and oil for the airplanes, ammunition, and communication equipment, went down that day. The other ships were driven away under heavy fire.

On the fourth day, the outgunned, outmanned, desperately tired survivors of the Fifth Battalion's sunken *Houston* fought off communist militia soldiers who arrived in two boats. A couple of CIA officials and some pilots from the Alabama National Guard participated in the battle, too. Grayston Lynch, a CIA officer who was the first to land at the Bay of Pigs, wrote in his book *Decision for Disaster: Betrayal at the Bay of Pigs*, published in 2000, how the Brigade soldiers "fought like tigers."

Several C-46s dropped 177 paratroopers from the First Battalion in different places of the Bay of Pigs area. With the exception of the survivors of the sinking of the *Houston*, the rest of the battalions landed at Playa Larga and Playa Girón. For three days, the abandoned Brigade soldiers at the beaches fought bravely against the overwhelming number of enemy soldiers, estimated in the tens of thousands, and aided by Soviet tanks and planes.

The freedom fighters were outnumbered about 20 to 1, yet they dealt devastating losses to Castro's forces. Estimates suggest the Brigade inflicted approximately 6,000 casualties on the enemy, despite the handicaps. But after the third day of heavy fighting, the Brigade ran out of ammunition, and no more would be forthcoming. The soldiers retreated into the swamps, where some "brigadistas" continued to fight for several more days until they were all killed or captured.

By the time the Brigade ran out of ammunition, they had lost 104 soldiers and pilots. More than 100 were wounded. And the remaining 1,200 soldiers, out of ammo and practically delirious from the lack of sleep, were captured by Castro's forces.

Trials, Jail, Terror in Havana

After a year of imprisonment in the Castillo del Príncipe in Havana under the most inhumane conditions imaginable, Brigade



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A Times "story": *New York Times* propagandist and Council on Foreign Relations member Herbert Matthews interviewed Fidel Castro and painted him as Cuba's "George Washington," though Castro had already been arrested for taking part in a communist uprising.



AP Images

Hiding the obvious: Raúl Castro (left) and Ernesto “Che” Guevara were obviously communist revolutionaries, and had been for years. They slaughtered captured opponents to prove it.

soldiers were sentenced in April 1962 to 30 years of hard labor. The other alternative offered by the communist regime: Ransom money, ranging from \$25,000 to \$500,000 for each prisoner. Their shameful “trial” was in violation of the Geneva Convention, since prisoners of war cannot be subjected to a trial.

While in prison, the brigadistas were relentlessly beaten and tortured. To survive, they drank water with dead rats in it. They suffered from hepatitis, dysentery, and all types of skin diseases, owing to the lack of even the most basic hygiene. One untreated brigadista died of hepatitis. Others lost their minds and never recovered. The prisoners of war were denied medical and dental treatment, in violation of the Geneva Convention.

After the illegal “trial,” 211 Brigade prisoners of war, each of whom had a ransom value of \$100,000, and the three leaders of the Brigade, worth \$500,000 each, were placed in isolation for seven months in the worst prison in Cuba, located on the infamous Isle of Pines. De Varona, as well as his brother Jorge, suffered immensely alongside the men who were sent to the infamous prison of the Presidio Modelo on the Isle of Pines. Their health never fully recovered.

The more than 200 high-value prisoners were packed into a small room, which had a capacity for 40 people. They were denied soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, and medicine for seven full months. They shared

one toilet and two showers. The minuscule, disgusting “food” rations available to the prisoners were often poisoned to make the victims even more sick. It was as close as possible to hell on Earth.

The prisoners were housed like sardines in a can, sleeping on the bare floor. They were often beaten by communist prison guards. The intolerable conditions and abuses perpetrated against the 214 members of the Brigade, as well as the other 5,000 political prisoners on the Isle of Pines, led to a hunger strike that lasted three days. The strike was finally called off when the prison guards cut off the water, and several prisoners, near death, fainted.

After 20 months of inhumane conditions in prison, the United States, under the direction of President John F. Kennedy, ransomed the prisoners by paying \$53 million in medicines, food, and cash to the regime. President Kennedy and First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy welcomed them on December 29, 1962 at the Orange Bowl in Miami. The president promised to return the flag of Brigade 2506 presented to him to a free Havana. But that never happened. And it turns out that Kennedy’s own minions at the highest levels of government were responsible for betraying the brigadistas in the first place.

What Went Wrong

The official narrative pushed by the establishment surrounding the catastrophe at

the Bay of Pigs generally offers a number of excuses for the failure. For instance, a common refrain holds that the plan was flawed from the start. Media outlets often claim that the invasion failed because of the dictatorship’s alleged public support — a ludicrous idea. And finally, there is the demonstrable lie that Brigade fighters, who mostly lacked formal military experience beyond their training, surrendered quickly to communist forces.

The reality is that the Brigade was betrayed by globalist insiders in the Kennedy administration who appear to have *wanted* them to fail. There were two key elements of the plan that were sabotaged before the invasion that made all the difference. Like a household stool, which needs all of its legs to stand, the original plan developed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the CIA required all of its legs to stand. When two of the legs were cut off a few days before the invasion, obviously, the rest of the stool collapsed as well.

The first problem was a last-minute decision to change the landing site. The original spot selected by the military and CIA planners was in the southern Cuban city of Trinidad — a site with many advantages. For one, it was next to the Escambray Mountains, where anti-communist rebels were already on the ground fighting the Castro regime. The original site also had docks, which were crucial to allow the obsolete Brigade ships to unload gasoline, oil, communications gear, and other critical supplies. Another key benefit of Trinidad was the presence of an airfield for Brigade planes. It had a defensible beachhead and a couple of roads that led to the city of Havana. The local population, numbering about 26,000, was dissatisfied with the regime and was expected to join and help the Brigade. There were also grocery stores with food and hospitals staffed by doctors for the wounded.

Instead, globalist officials in Washington, D.C., decided to change the landing site to the swampy, sparsely inhabited villages of Playa Girón and Playa Larga at the Bay of Pigs — landing spots with no real infrastructure, no docks, no local anti-communist forces to assist, and numerous other disadvantages. Making matters worse were the treacherous reefs at the Bay of Pigs that made the landing even *more* difficult. And finally,

The freedom fighters were outnumbered about 20 to 1, yet they dealt devastating losses to Castro's forces. Estimates suggest the Brigade inflicted approximately 6,000 casualties on the enemy, despite the handicaps.

there were no good options for retreat, and no good ways to advance forward. In short, it was perhaps the worst imaginable spot to land. Indeed, changing the landing from Trinidad to the Bay of Pigs is widely viewed as one of the primary reasons for the Brigade's defeat. President Kennedy told Allen Dulles that he did not approve landing at Trinidad because he didn't want to interfere with civilian life there.

Possibly even more important to ensuring the invasion's defeat was the inexcusable order canceling the overwhelming majority of the air sorties by Brigade pilots, intended to neutralize Castro's air forces, his tanks, and more. When Brigade Air Force Chief Reid Doster heard about the decision from D.C., he was quoted as saying: "What?! Are they nuts?! There goes the whole f***ing war!" The sentiment was widespread among the men. Reports about radio traffic say that U.S. Navy radios were bombarded with calls from the embattled brigadistas imploring

them to allow the planes to come. Globalists in D.C. refused.

The original plan was supposed to include five bombing raids using the entire fleet of the Brigade Air Force. The fleet was made up of 16 B-26 bombers, which were supposed to be used to destroy Castro's Air Force, his heavy Stalin tanks, his trucks, heavy artillery, oil refineries, and other military targets that were crucial to the regime's ability to defend the island. For the operation to succeed, the original plan needed to be followed completely — especially considering that the communist regime had more than 200,000 soldiers and militiamen armed by the Soviet Union, as well as a significant Air Force. Instead, most of the Brigade's air sorties were ordered grounded, and the number of planes was cut by 50 percent, ensuring that Castro could muster plenty of planes, tanks, and more to defeat the freedom fighters.

A number of invasion participants have highlighted the significance of the

betrayal, and the disaster represented by quashing the air strikes. CIA officer Gray Lynch, one of two American CIA operatives who went ashore with the Brigade, highlighted the significance of it. Among other key points, Lynch argues that the operation could have succeeded in toppling the Castro regime and liberating Cuba — if not for the decision to cancel more than three-fourths of the planned pre-invasion air sorties intended to take Castro's air forces out of the game.

Even Donald Trump, who became the first presidential candidate ever to be endorsed by the Bay of Pigs Veterans, had long appeared to recognize the betrayal. "I really admire toughness and courage, and I will tell you that the people of this brigade really have that," Trump told the Brigade veterans at the Bay of Pigs Museum in Miami in 1999. "You were let down by our country." And indeed, they were.

Marine Colonel Jack Hawkins, a decorated veteran of World War II and Korea who helped train the Brigade, also viewed the tragedy as a betrayal. "They fought magnificently and were not defeated," he said. "They were abandoned on the beach without the supplies and support promised by their sponsor, the government of the United States."

Globalist Players Behind the Betrayal

A number of top officials in the Kennedy administration were to blame for the disaster. And virtually all of them had one thing in common: membership in, or strong ties to, the Council on Foreign Relations, which this magazine has exposed on numerous occasions. The organization, which openly pursues global governance and has historically dominated the Cabinets of presidents from both parties, also had members in the media who played an important role in sabotaging the Bay of Pigs invasion.

Among the key CFR members within the administration were U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk, White House Director of National Security McGeorge "Mac" Bundy, and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Adlai Stevenson. Along with other senior officials, all of these CFR members urged President Kennedy to cancel the Brigade's airstrikes following the initial sorties. While the second-in-command of the CIA and the



AP Images

U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk, a member of the globalist Council on Foreign Relations, played a key role in persuading President Kennedy to betray and sabotage the Bay of Pigs invasion.

Joint Chiefs of Staff pleaded to allow the airstrikes to go forward, Kennedy took the advice of the CFR crowd and ordered them canceled. Kennedy's decision to cancel the remaining air strikes, lobbied for by Rusk, was made after the Brigade was already en route. The decision was later justified by claiming that allowing the strikes to proceed would have been perceived as too much U.S. "involvement" and might have been bad for world opinion.

At that point, CIA Director Allen Dulles, another CFR operative who served as a leader there and played a key role in sabotaging the invasion, should have called off the whole plan, knowing it could never succeed without air power. Instead, he allowed it to proceed, ensuring its failure — and a powerful victory for communism. On the day of the invasion, Dulles had left for Puerto Rico. Brigade members widely view the decision to proceed without the airstrikes and doom the Brigade to death or capture as an act of criminal negligence, at best.

The globalist pedigree of the Brigade saboteurs is well established. Consider, for example, Secretary of State Rusk, one of the key players. His background, like so many of those responsible for the orchestrated failure of the Bay of Pigs invasion and even Castro's rise to power, is dominated by links to the globalist establishment. Among other examples, Rusk served as a trustee of the Rockefeller Foundation starting in 1950, eventually going on to become president of the globalist operation that the Congressional Reece Committee investigation of tax-exempt foundations had exposed as subversive less than a decade earlier. He was also deeply involved with the CFR.

Outside of government, CFR members and fellow travelers in the establishment media were doing their part to ensure a Castro victory. Prior to the invasion, for example, the *New York Times*, widely viewed as the megaphone for the CFR and a publication that helped market Castro and his revolution to Americans, wrote articles describing how anti-Castro forces were being trained in Guatemala by U.S. military personnel and CIA operatives, thus alerting Castro that the invasion was imminent. "Castro doesn't need spies in the United States; all he needs to do is



AP Images

Admiral Arleigh Burke, chief of U.S. Naval Operations, tried desperately to convince President Kennedy not to betray Brigade 2506, as recommended by CFR members in the administration.

read the *New York Times*," a frustrated President Kennedy reportedly told White House Press Secretary Pierre Salinger.

Bringing Castro to Power

Many of the same people and organizations responsible for betraying the Bay of Pigs Brigade were also involved in bringing Castro to power. And once again, CFR members were the star players. It began during the administration of President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Back then, in 1957, before becoming a mass-murdering dictator, Castro was in Cuba's Sierra Maestra mountain range fighting a guerrilla war against the Cuban government.

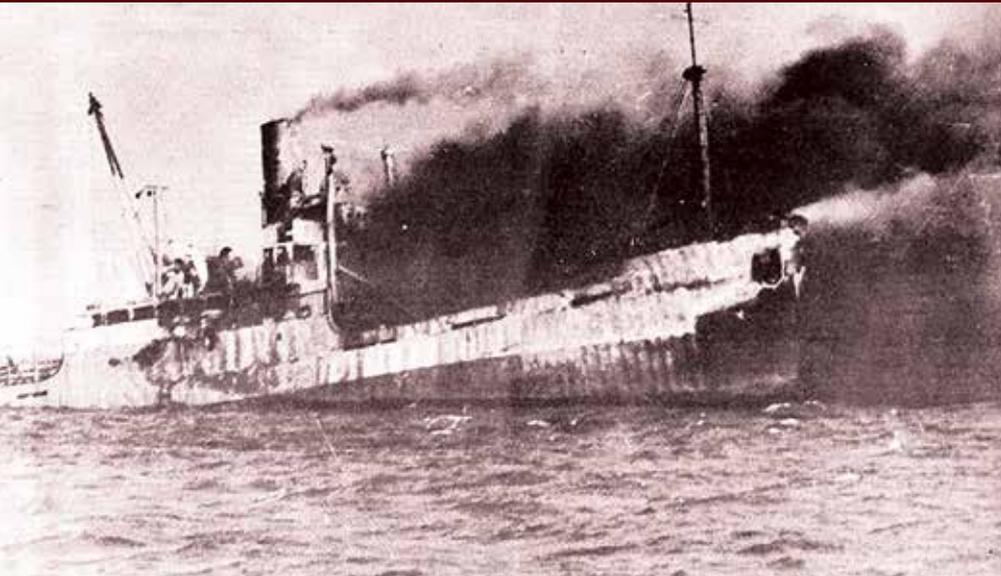
Here, the *New York Times* played a key role, with *Times* reporter and CFR member Herbert Matthews interviewing the guerrilla leader and portraying him as a heroic freedom fighter struggling against an oppressive regime. The paper even celebrated Castro as the "George Washington" of Cuba while relentlessly demonizing Cuban President Fulgencio Batista. Aside from Matthews, *Times* Board Chairman Arthur Sulzberger and publisher Orvil Dryfoos were also members of the CFR.

Of course, plenty of people knew better than to dub Castro a freedom fighter. The U.S. ambassador to Cuba at the time, Arthur Gardner, reported to higher-ups in

Washington, D.C., that "Fidel Castro talked and acted like a communist, and should not be supported by the United States." In response, Ambassador Gardner was pressured to resign his position on June 16, 1957. He was prevented from briefing his successor, with CFR member and *Times* propagandist Matthews being brought in for that purpose. But Gardner's replacement, U.S. Ambassador Earl Smith, noticed the same thing, and dutifully warned Washington as well.

But despite those warnings, the U.S. government acted to ensure the removal of Batista — and thereby, the success of Castro. On June 13, 1958, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, who actually helped found the CFR decades earlier, directed Ambassador Smith to give a message to Batista: "Request his government to disengage from combat activities men who were trained by the U.S. Military Assistance Program (MAP) and not to use weapons, ships, and aircraft supplied by MAP."

Some 75 percent of Cuban aviators and virtually all of the mechanics, along with the elite of the Cuban army and navy, had been trained by MAP. The outrageous order by Dulles was opposed even by top U.S. military officials such as Admiral Arleigh Burke, who warned that the Cuban govern-



Bad start: One of the writers of this article, Frank de Varona, was on board the *Houston* as it sank just off the coast of Cuba during the Bay of Pigs invasion attempt.

ment was fighting “elements allied with communism” and that the State Department should not tell a sovereign nation what to do. In the end, the protests fell on deaf ears. It was a devastating blow to a key U.S. ally and a bulwark against communist expansion in the Western Hemisphere.

All the while, Castro was allowed to get all the arms from America and the Soviet Union that he needed to overthrow the increasingly embattled government. In fact, just those actions alone so demoralized and weakened the Cuban military that they have been widely blamed for ensuring that Castro and his “freedom fighters” could seize power in Havana.

It got even worse from there, however. According to the book *Foreign Relations of the United States, 1958-1960, Volume VI* (1991), on December 17, 1958, U.S. Ambassador Smith was given another order by the State Department. This time, he was instructed to tell Batista that the U.S. government thought he should step down and flee to Spain. “It is my unpleasant duty to inform the President of the Republic that the United States will no longer support the present government of Cuba,” Smith was quoted as saying.

Understanding the implications of the betrayal, President Batista realized there was nothing more he could do. So on December 31, 1958, he fled from Cuba. Instead of allowing Castro to take the reins of power, the hyper-interventionist U.S. government could have simply asked that Batista allow the democratic opposition,

headed by Carlos Marquez Sterling of the Ortodoxo Party, to take power in an election, thereby ensuring a peaceful transition. But the U.S. government, seemingly determined to see Castro in power, refused to do that. Without this betrayal of an anti-communist U.S. ally, the Bay of Pigs invasion would never have even been contemplated.

Lest there be any doubt that the U.S. government — really the CFR operatives within its upper ranks — brought Castro to power, Ambassador Smith wrote a full book about what he observed entitled *The Fourth Floor: An Account of the Castro Communist Revolution*. He also testified in the U.S. Senate, saying that Castro was in power because of the actions of U.S. authorities. And he wrote a letter to the *New York Times* several years after publishing his book, stating clearly that the top levels of the State Department were the cause of Castro’s rise.

“Castro could not have seized power in Cuba without the aid of the United States. American government agencies and the United States press played a major role in bringing Castro to power,” Smith wrote, citing his own Senate testimony. “As the United States ambassador to Cuba during the Castro communist revolution of 1957-1959, I had first-hand knowledge of the facts which brought about the rise of Fidel Castro.... The State Department constantly intervened — positively, negatively, and by innuendo — to bring about the downfall of President Fulgencio Batista,

thereby making it possible for Fidel Castro to take over the government of Cuba.”

The whole operation that resulted in the enslavement of millions of people was very similar to what happened in China years earlier. There, CFR member and Secretary of State George Marshall and the CFR-controlled media painted mass-murdering butcher Mao Tse-tung as an “agrarian reformer” and nationalist U.S. ally Chiang Kai-shek as a tyrant. The exact same process was used, too. First, propaganda to paint the anti-communist government as evil and the communists as oppressed freedom fighters: then, a U.S. government-enforced arms embargo against the anti-communist U.S. ally, combined with endless weapons and behind-the-scenes machinations aimed at helping communist terrorists rise to power. The parallels between Cuba and China are numerous and extraordinary.

The Great Lie

Supposedly, all of this was some monumental mistake — a miscalculation of epic proportions. The establishment’s narrative would have Americans believe that the U.S. government officials and journalists responsible for bringing Castro to power — almost all of them CFR members or toadies — were simply naive. But that cannot possibly be true. In fact, there should have been no question that Castro was a communist. His own actions proved it. And this was hardly a secret.

For one, at least three U.S. ambassadors, including Smith and before him Gardner, had sent clear warnings to their superiors in Washington. Being in Havana, they would be expected to know. But they were hardly alone. In mid-1958, former Assistant Secretary of State Spruille Braden warned about Castro, too. “Rebel chief Fidel Castro is a pawn in the Kremlin’s international intrigue,” he warned. U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Robert Hill sent similar warnings to Washington, to no avail.

Instead of proclaiming the truth and ceasing all aid to Castro and ending all efforts to remove Batista, Secretary of State Dulles and other CFR members in the Eisenhower administration persisted in supporting Castro. Despite warnings, they also refused to remove pro-communist operatives in the U.S. government

such as top State Department official William Wieland and his supervisor, Assistant Secretary of State Rubottom, a key supporter of the arms embargo and communist coup against Batista's anti-communist government.

They could not claim ignorance. Consider what happened at the 1948 Organization of American States (OAS) meeting in Bogotá, Colombia. On April 9 of that year, communists burst onto the scene to disrupt the meeting in bloody fashion. A 21-year-old Fidel Castro took part in the horror show, seizing a radio station and shouting, "This is a Communist revolution." Castro and other communists murdered hundreds of innocent people while setting fires and wreaking havoc. He was arrested and charged with murder. But instead of repenting, he boasted, "I did a good work today; I killed a priest." Colombian authorities deported him.

Beyond the myriad ambassadors sounding the alarm, outside of government, astute analysts were warning about Castro, too. Robert Welch, for instance, who went on to found The John Birch Society, warned about Castro in his magazine *American Opinion* months before the tyrant-in-waiting succeeded in enslaving Cuba. "Now the evidence from Castro's whole past that he is a Communist agent carrying out Communist orders and plans is overwhelming," wrote Welch in September of 1958. In his 1963 book *The Politician* about Eisenhower, Welch pointed to the March 14, 1958, decision to block weapons shipments to Batista as the beginning of the end for a free Cuba.

Author James Perloff, who has been a leader in exposing the CFR, highlighted this betrayal in his 2002 book *The Shadows of Power: The Council on Foreign Relations and the American Decline*. "Perhaps the greatest shame of the Eisenhower administration was allowing Fidel Castro to transform Cuba into the Soviets' first outpost in the Western Hemisphere," he wrote. "Despite reasonable evidence, some of the president's apologists long contended that Castro had not been a communist when he originally took power."

However, after coming to power, the Cuban dictator gave a speech on December 2, 1961 refuting this claim. "I have always been a Marxist Leninist since the

A number of top officials in the Kennedy administration were to blame for the disaster. And virtually all of them had one thing in common: membership in, or strong ties to, the Council on Foreign Relations.

days I was a student at the University of Havana," he said. Indeed, the evidence of that was clear and overwhelming to anybody willing to look at it.

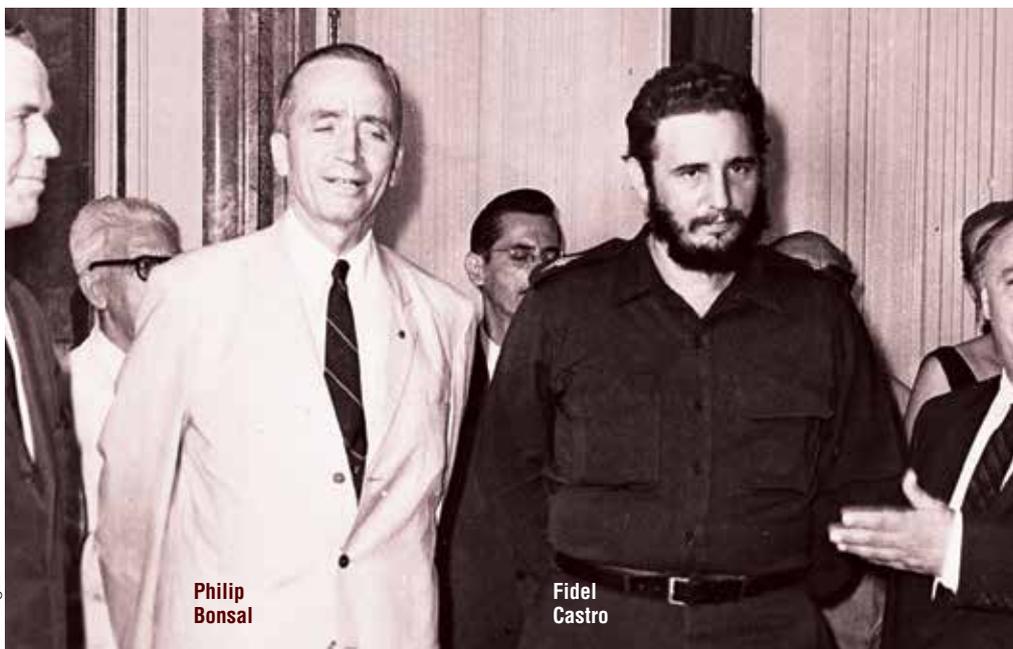
As if to confirm people's worst suspicions, after the administration removed both Gardner and Smith from their ambassadorships to Cuba, Eisenhower appointed the pro-Castro Philip Bonsal to that role, a move that was praised by the *New York Times*. His actions, which speak louder than words, exposed his real agenda. U.S. citizen William Morgan had fought with Castro in the revolution. But when he realized Castro was a communist, he turned against the tyrant and began plotting his removal. Ambassador Bonsal immediately told the Cuban regime, resulting in Morgan being shot dead by firing squad on March 11, 1961.

Aftermath of the Bay of Pigs

The betrayal at the Bay of Pigs by the CFR-dominated Kennedy administration

emboldened the international communist conspiracy — and not just in Cuba. In particular, it gave free rein to Soviet dictator Nikita Khrushchev, who promptly built the Berlin Wall in August 1961 and then put intercontinental ballistic missiles in Cuba in October 1962 aimed at America. During the October Missile Crisis, Kennedy made a pact with Khrushchev to never invade Cuba and dismantled the U.S. ICBMs in Turkey and Italy, as the price for the Soviets to withdraw the missiles from Cuba. Subsequent U.S. presidents have abided by the Kennedy-Khrushchev pact despite the communists rarely obeying agreements.

The betrayal of Cuban freedom fighters to save the tyrannical and oppressive Castro dictatorship also emboldened Castro and his reign of terror. A direct result of that was the mass exodus of Cuban immigrants to the United States, and especially to South Florida. More than 800,000 Cuban-Americans now live in



The pro-Castro Philip Bonsal was appointed as U.S. Ambassador to Cuba after two previous ambassadors were removed for warning D.C. about Castro's obvious communist leanings.



Photo: Frank de Varona

Brigadistas: Frank de Varona (shown), Humberto Diaz Arguelles, and Vicente Blanco, Bay of Pigs vets, present a Brigade insignia to Donald Trump on behalf of the veterans.

Greater Miami. While they have helped turn Greater Miami into a prosperous international city, the countless tragedies — families separated, horrifying deaths at sea, being driven out of one’s homeland by terror — are a ghastly reminder of the evil unleashed by globalist insiders on their fellow human beings. Castro’s regime would later go on to fund terrorism and revolution across the hemisphere and beyond, even aiding and abetting domestic communist terror groups in the United States such as Bill Ayers’ Weather Underground.

After the Brigade prisoners returned, more than 200 joined the U.S. Armed Forces. Many of them went on to obtain high ranks, including a major general of the National Guard, six colonels, 19 lieutenant colonels, 29 captains, and 64 lieutenants. More than a few fought bravely in the 1965 invasion of the Dominican Republic and during the Vietnam War, where some died and more were wounded in combat. Other Brigade members joined the CIA and worked throughout Latin America. Two Brigade members working for the CIA even assisted the Bolivian army in capturing and executing the Castro regime’s executioner, Ernesto “Che” Guevara.

Other Brigade members became

successful entrepreneurs, elected and appointed leaders, professionals in a variety of fields, and highly skilled workers. Several were elected to the House of Representatives and Senate of the Florida Legislature. One is still serving as a Metro-Dade Commissioner. One served as a member of the Miami-Dade County School Board. Another one became a writer, associate superintendent, and interim deputy superintendent of schools in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

The Globalist Game Goes On

To this day, the globalist CFR and its members continue to play a key role in propping up the murderous regime in Cuba and aiding its allies worldwide. In 2013, *THE NEW AMERICAN* online highlighted the fact that Castro apologist Julia Sweig, who actually thanks convicted terrorists in her book and was close to the late tyrant Castro in Havana for decades, was running the CFR’s Latin American Studies program and serving as the Nelson and David Rockefeller senior fellow for Latin America Studies. Some prominent analysts, including a former U.S. military intelligence official whose career was spent tracking Cuban spies, said Sweig was

an “agent of influence” for Castro. The implications are enormous.

As this magazine has documented for decades, the CFR is essentially the American headquarters of an international globalist movement seeking to erode national sovereignty and individual liberty worldwide. Basically, they support what many describe in public as a “New World Order,” which top globalists such as former President George H.W. Bush have described as a world in which the vision of the UN’s founders can be implemented by the UN’s military power. Billionaire George Soros said the murderous communist regime enslaving China should “own” this New World Order. If the CFR and its allies at the Trilateral Commission, the Bilderberg group, and other organizations in the “Deep State Behind the Deep State” eventually succeed, the fate of Cuba and China will be the fate of all humanity.

It is clear that the U.S. government under President Eisenhower was responsible for facilitating the rise to power of the communist regime of Fidel Castro in Cuba. It is clear that the U.S. government under President Kennedy was later responsible for undermining and betraying Brigade 2506. This ensured that they would fail, while consolidating the Castro regime’s power over Cuba for generations. This sad chapter in the history of America and Cuba needs to be explained to Americans and Cubans alike. Not only is it right and just that people should have the truth, it would also help expose the real agenda of the subversive globalists seeking to impose the New World Order on humanity.

Candidate Donald Trump was endorsed by the Bay of Pigs Veterans Association. And Trump warmly thanked Brigade members, promising to reverse Obama’s shameful unilateral concessions to the Cuban regime. So far, he has taken some positive steps to end U.S. support for and recognition of the gang of terrorists and murderers still enslaving Cuba to this day. But more needs to be done to undo the enormous damage unleashed by America’s previous presidents — and Obama in particular. Exposing the true history of Cuba’s enslavement, the betrayal of the Brigade, and the role of the CFR would go a long way toward waking up the American people. ■

Gun Owners Stand Up to Anti-gun Banks

THE NEW AMERICAN recently reported on how major banks are working behind the scenes to implement gun control through banking rules, rules that the anti-gun lobby hasn't been able to get passed through the legislature. While that story certainly was disheartening to supporters of the Second Amendment, the good news is that gun owners are not taking this lying down. *U.S. News & World Report* reported on May 18 about how both Citigroup Inc. and Bank of America publicly declared their intentions to stop offering financial services to gunmakers if the gunmakers don't comply with certain anti-gun demands, such as to stop selling guns such as the AR-15.

These moves by banks to force changes on the gun industry, which have stalled through political means, were actually cheered on by anti-gun politicians who normally talk about how much they cherish democracy and the legislative process. “We applaud this model of corporate responsibility and we hope that this is the path forward for similar financial entities,” wrote Senator Dianne Feinstein and 12 other anti-gun politicians in an open letter to the financial industry. The short-sightedness of the banks was soon revealed as it quickly became apparent that the Republican support they were counting on for some desired regulatory changes in the financial industry might be in jeopardy.

Reuters reported on May 18 that both Gun Owners of America (GOA) and the National Rifle Association (NRA) were both pushing back against the big banks. Banking lobbyists have long been pushing to get modifications of the 2010 Dodd Frank act that could prove to be quite lucrative for big banks such as Citigroup and Bank of America. But not so fast! GOA recently began lobbying legislators to modify the proposed deregulation with a statutory provision that would prohibit banks from discriminating against firearms makers. “Citigroup and Bank of America are threatening our Second-Amendment rights. They do not realize how much more there is to lose than to

gain,” GOA's executive director, Erich Pratt, was quoted as saying by Reuters.

In the end, the bill did pass on May 24 without the wording proposed by GOA, but the potential for a long-term battle between the gun lobbies and the big banks seems to be on the horizon. Charles Adcox, a GOA member who owns a gun shop in Missouri, now refuses to accept Citi and Bank of America credit cards. Adcox said that the change was not an issue for his customers and added that the feedback he's received seems to indicate that his customers plan to stop using those banks in their own lives, as well. “My more loyal customers don't mind paying in cash. Some even wish to drop their credit-card companies for gun-friendly alternatives,” Adcox told Reuters.

The NRA is also getting in on the fight and has begun running ads online that are critical of Citigroup and Bank of America. “The NRA will continue to promote awareness of those companies who seek to infringe upon the Second Amendment rights of American citizens,” William Brewer, an NRA attorney, wrote in a publicly released statement.

Black Guns Matter

A sad fact of American politics is that black voters overwhelmingly support restrictive gun control, and black politicians make up some of the most anti-gun legislators out there. That's why it might come as a surprise to read that a black hip-hop artist by the name of Maj Toure is hoping to reverse this trend. The *Chicago Tribune* reported on May 17 about Toure, a Philadelphia-based rapper and gun owner, and his groundbreaking efforts to get blacks to embrace the Second Amendment.

Toure was shocked when he toured the country as a musician and discovered how many black people were facing criminal charges for illegal possession of firearms. Toure soon found out that many of these people would have been able to legally obtain and carry the guns, but they simply did not even bother to try and comply with the law. So Toure created a grassroots organization entitled “Black Guns Matter” to teach African-

Americans about gun rights and firearms education. Toure is currently spending a month in Chicago, which is a hotbed of gun violence and gang activity, and his group has raised thousands of dollars and hosts training seminars all over the nation. Black Guns Matter has received help from NRA members.

The *Chicago Tribune* covered the Black Guns Matter training session in Chicago, which went into detail about how felons, especially those with nonviolent offenses, may get their gun rights restored. Black Guns Matter held their training at a public library in order to attract as many people as possible. Toure felt that a neutral location where guns are not permitted to be carried under state law might make people more at ease when discussing such a controversial subject as looking to get gun rights restored for convicted felons. “They don't have to be nervous.... It's a safe, comfortable and open space,” Toure told the *Chicago Tribune*. The Black Guns Matter session also got into standard gun safety, as well as a discussion of First Aid options for treating gunshot wounds. This event was only a small preview of a much larger one that Toure has planned in the near future. Toure has found a sympathetic friend in the group Chicago Guns Matter, which is a local group that also advocates for gun rights and the Second Amendment.

It would appear that this innovative outreach is gaining traction, as Toure saw a good turnout at his event and expects attendance at future seminars to grow. There are similar efforts being spearheaded by other black political activists all over the country to change the hostility of the black community toward the Second Amendment to a perspective of respect and appreciation.

While it is certainly an uphill battle to make inroads in a demographic where polling reveals near unanimous opposition to gun rights and broad support for expansive gun-control measures, one can't help but applaud the impressive efforts of people such as Toure and groups such as Black Guns Matter to fight for our Second Amendment-protected rights. ■

— PATRICK KREY



Trump Accused of Burying Collusion Charges

ITEM: On May 21, an online article by the New York Times Editorial Board appeared under the headline “Trump v. the Department of Justice.” The article claimed — once again — that President Trump is using inflammatory hyperbole to dodge “the Russia investigation” as it “burrows closer to the Oval Office.” In particular, the opinion piece — slanted so far to the left as to not be able to see the right — claims that President Trump’s tweet the previous Sunday demanding that the Department of Justice (DOJ) “look into whether or not the FBI/DOJ infiltrated or surveilled the Trump Campaign for Political Purposes — and if any such demands or requests were made by people within the Obama Administration” is evidence that “President Trump sank to a new low” in trying to quash the investigation.

The article goes on to challenge the reader to “consider the seriousness of the threat posed by a president ordering federal law enforcement officials to investigate the people who are investigating him.” In fact, the article opens with: “As the old saying goes, if the facts are against you, argue the law. If the law is against you, argue the facts. If both the facts and the law are against you, pound the table and yell.”

The article maintains that tone throughout, flogging the stillborn horse of Trump/Russia collusion with no fewer than 10 references to allegations that the Trump campaign — and perhaps even Donald Trump himself — colluded with Moscow in the 2016 presidential election. By contrast, the article makes one three-word overt reference (“Look, a mole!”) and a mere three shaded references to the recent revelation that the FBI had at least one spy in the Trump campaign.

ITEM: In an online article dated May 19, the Associated Press (AP) claims to ferret out the answer to the question, “Where did Trump’s claim of an FBI mole come from?” Referring to the established fact that 73-year-old Cambridge Professor Stefan Halper infiltrated the Trump campaign for the purpose of spying for the FBI



AP Images

Only he can be dubbed dirty: According to many in the media, President Trump is trying to evade prosecution for Russian collusion by having the FBI and DOJ investigated for improperly trying to alter an election, though there is much proof of that accusation and none about Trump colluding.

as an “explosive theory” and an “unverified claim,” the article states that “Trump has used similar claims in the past to try to discredit the Russia investigation.” As proof that this is a tired, old Trump tactic, AP provides exactly one example: President Trump’s claim that the Obama administration “ordered wiretaps on his phones during the election.”

CORRECTION: This is far from the first time the *New York Times* has ignored the most basic of journalistic principles to twist facts beyond recognition, but it may be one of the most glaring. The “newspaper of record” really went out of its way this time. In an effort to spin the major story that the FBI had (likely illegally) inserted a spy into the Trump campaign into an anti-Trump hit-piece, the “Gray Lady” showed that she is no lady at all; ladies, after all, are expected to be honest. First, there is no evidence whatsoever that the “Russia investigation burrows closer to the Oval Office.” In fact, as this magazine has reported in multiple previous articles — both online and in print — after more than a year of burrowing (a good choice of words to describe the various investigations), not one piece of evidence has been uncovered that Donald Trump or anyone in his campaign colluded with Russia in the 2016 election. Period.

In fact, the House Intelligence Committee’s report of its year-long investigation — in which the committee “interviewed 73 witnesses, conducted 9 hearings and briefings, reviewed approximately 307,900 documents, and issued 20 subpoenas” — “found no evidence of collusion, coordination, or conspiracy between the Trump campaign and the Russians.” And while the liberal media chose either to ignore the committee’s findings or claim that the report was evidence of GOP spin, the salient fact is that Democrats have had to admit the same thing: No evidence of collusion. Even Representative Adam Schiff (D-Calif.), the most vocal Democrat accuser, has admitted as much. And he has done so at least twice. In April 2017, Schiff told CNN’s *State of the Union* that there is no solid proof that there was ever any link between Russia and the Trump campaign. “I don’t think we can say anything definitively at this point,” he said. Almost a year later, Schiff appeared on the *View* and attempted to dodge the question of whether there was evidence that would be “enough for [Special Counsel Robert] Mueller to bring charges.” When pressed, the most he would say is that it “looks a lot like collusion.” However, saying that it “looks a lot like collusion” is not the same as

saying that there is evidence of collusion. So, since there is no evidence, there is nothing for the president to dodge or quash. The *Times*' Editorial Board may — like Schiff — *want* there to be evidence, but wanting doesn't make it so. If it did, Hillary Clinton would be president. As for the *Times*' claim of "the seriousness of the threat posed by a president ordering federal law enforcement officials to investigate the people who are investigating him," consider the alternative: A president is stripped of his executive power to order the DOJ — which is directly under his authority — to investigate crimes committed by someone simply because they are investigating him. This is a clear attempt by the *Times* to dodge the real question: Did the Obama-era FBI break the law by planting a spy in the Trump campaign for political purposes?

The real answer to that question is obvious in light of the facts. Text messages between FBI agent Peter Strzok and his mistress, DOJ lawyer Lisa Page (who were both assigned to the Clinton e-mail investigation and the Trump/Russia investigation), mention a "secret society" within the FBI and DOJ that worked to protect Clinton while attacking Trump. The messages also mention a meeting in the of-

fice of then-FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe addressing an "insurance policy" the "secret society" had in place in case Trump won the election.

It appears that both the facts and the law are on the side of Trump and against the Editorial Board of the *Times*. Perhaps that explains the *Times*' proclivity to "pound the table and yell" about Trump/Russia collusion even as the narrative collapses under its own bloated weight.

The AP article is another prime example of the regurgitation of liberal pablum in place of — and in a naked attempt to distract from — the facts.

First, the only real answer to the question, "Where did Trump's claim of an FBI mole come from?" is that despite the best efforts of Deep State operatives in the FBI and DOJ, House Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes (R-Calif.) and his investigators managed to discover the fact that Halper had infiltrated the Trump campaign as an FBI spy. Following up on that, Nunes — finally fed up with being "stalled" and "stonewalled" even after issuing a subpoena for information about Halper — threatened to hold Attorney General Jeff Sessions in contempt of Congress if the information was not forthcoming.

In a clear case of attempted misdirection, the AP article ignored the fact that Trump's "wiretap" claim was based in solid fact and was true. While Obama himself may not have signed off on the electronic surveillance, his administration did indeed order and conduct it. Furthermore, in at least one instance — the electronic surveillance of Trump campaign associate Carter Page — the Obama FBI and DOJ bent rules past the breaking point, misleading the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court to obtain a warrant for that surveillance.

Similarly, by referring to President Trump's "claim of an FBI mole" as an "explosive theory" and an "unverified claim," the article ignores established facts. For instance, on May 23, former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper appeared on the *View*, where he told the anti-Trump women's panel, "Unfortunately, the identity of this informant is now out in the media."

If the man who was, at the time of the mole being planted in the Trump campaign, the director of national intelligence (whose office oversees the FBI and other intelligence agencies) says there was an "informant" planted in the campaign, then it is a fact, not a theory, and a verified, rather than unverified, claim. And while it would be tempting to forgive AP's mischaracterization (since it was made *before* Clapper made his verifying remark) the wire service has not only not corrected the error, but has doubled down on it. In an article headlined "Seething over Russia probe, Trump tears into 'spygate'" and dated May 24 — a day *after* Clapper's remarks on the *View* — AP stated, "It remains unclear what, if any, spying was done. The White House has given no evidence to support Trump's claim that the Obama administration was trying to spy on his 2016 campaign for political reasons."

Given the way both the *Times* and AP have ignored the known facts to spin the very real revelation that the FBI planted a spy in the Trump campaign, one would reasonably be led to believe that they are little more than two outlets of the media arm of the Deep State. ■

— C. MITCHELL SHAW



AP Images

Smoking gun? House Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes (R-Calif.) has indicated that a year-long investigation of Trump collusion found no evidence of it (though the GOP is generally anti-Trump).

Spygate Bigger **Than Watergate**

The liberal mainstream media appear determined to either ignore the recent revelation of “Spygate” — the scandal of the FBI having planted a spy in the Trump campaign in 2016 — or spin it as an anti-Trump story. However, the reality is that this is (as President Trump tweeted) the “all time biggest political scandal.” And, yes, that includes Watergate.

While “Watergate” refers generally to the overall scandal, it specifically refers to the break-in at the Democratic National Committee (DNC) headquarters located in the Watergate office complex in Washington, D.C., in June 1972 to bug the offices of the DNC.

While Nixon attempted to dodge being implicated, the “smoking gun” tape handed over to Congress was proof that he was at the head of efforts to obstruct the FBI’s investigation. The tape, ironically recorded by Nixon himself just days after the Watergate break-in, is of a conversation he had with his chief of staff, H.R. Haldeman, wherein they discussed “the Democratic break-in thing,” specifically mentioning “the problem area because the FBI is not under control” and the fact that the FBI investigation was “leading into some productive areas” that Haldeman aptly described as “some directions we don’t want it to go.”

Congress investigated and began what certainly would have been a successful impeachment ending in Nixon’s removal from office. To avoid that, Nixon followed in the steps of his first vice president, Spiro Agnew, and resigned. He was later pardoned for his many crimes by Agnew’s (and Nixon’s) replacement, President Gerald Ford.

By the time the dust had settled, America had a new (unelected) president and vice president, 69 people involved in Watergate had been indicted, 48 (including some top Nixon officials) were convicted, and some 20 of them went to prison. Watergate so damaged the credibility of the Republican Party that it was perhaps the decisive factor in putting Jimmy Carter in the White House.

Largely due to the fact that the media had been involved in breaking the case through solid investigative journalism, the term “Watergate” has become synonymous with political scandal, with subsequent scandals being referred to by simply adding the suffix “gate” to the end of their names. Now, you can add “Spygate” to that list. Spygate is a *bigger* scandal than Watergate, but the liberal mainstream media — acting as the propaganda arm of the Deep State — are trying to cover it up.

Consider the implications of the FBI planting a spy in the cam-



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paigned one candidate while violating both the law and the fundamentals of investigation to protect the other candidate from facing the consequences of her crimes. And remember that the Strzok/Page text messages mention both a “secret society” within the FBI and DOJ (including then-FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe) and an “insurance policy” in the event Trump won.

Furthermore, when the House Intelligence Committee’s investigators managed to uncover the spy — University of Cambridge Professor Stefan Halper — the DOJ

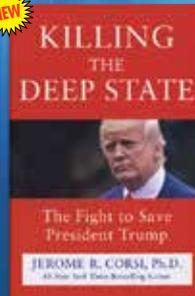
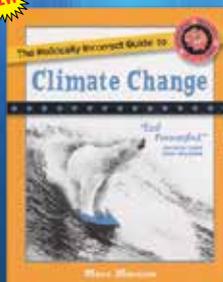
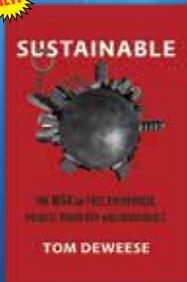
initially refused to comply with a congressional subpoena for more information. In fact, Chairman Devin Nunes (R-Calif.) had to threaten Attorney General Jeff Sessions with charges of contempt of Congress before the DOJ caved and briefed the committee on Halper.

Going back a little further, the FBI and DOJ — while protecting Clinton from being charged for her illegal use of a private e-mail server to send and receive thousands of classified documents — abused the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act to illegally obtain a surveillance warrant on Trump campaign associate Carter Page. That warrant’s application was based on the now-discredited Trump “dossier” written by ex-MI6 agent Christopher Steele and illegally financed by the DNC and Clinton campaign (and based on information provided by Russian government sources). No wonder President Trump tweeted a quote by Fox Business Network anchor David Asman on May 18, saying, “Apparently the DOJ put a Spy in the Trump Campaign. This has never been done before and by any means necessary, they are out to frame Donald Trump for crimes he didn’t commit.” And on May 23 — as more information came to light — he tweeted, “Look how things have turned around on the Criminal Deep State. They go after Phony Collusion with Russia, a made up Scam, and end up getting caught in a major SPY scandal the likes of which this country may never have seen before! What goes around, comes around!”

Whatever one’s opinion of President Trump, he is right about this. Watergate was about a president and key officials in his administration breaking the law both to spy on their political opponents and to cover up for their crimes. Spygate is about Deep State operatives in the FBI and DOJ conspiring *first* against a presidential candidate and *then* against the president to manipulate the entire direction of the United States. Once more is known, it would not be surprising to see a litany of criminal indictments and convictions resulting from Spygate. ■



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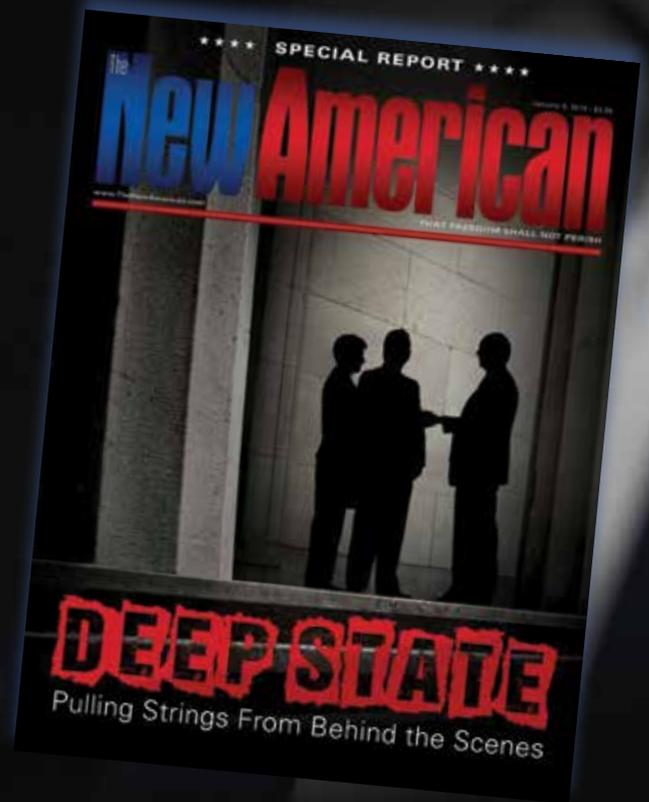
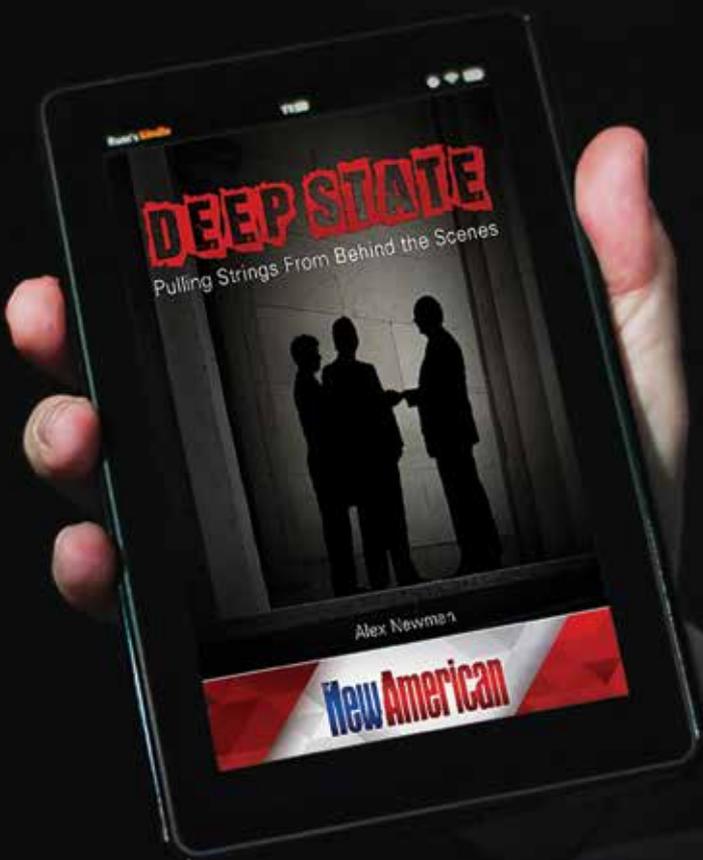
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