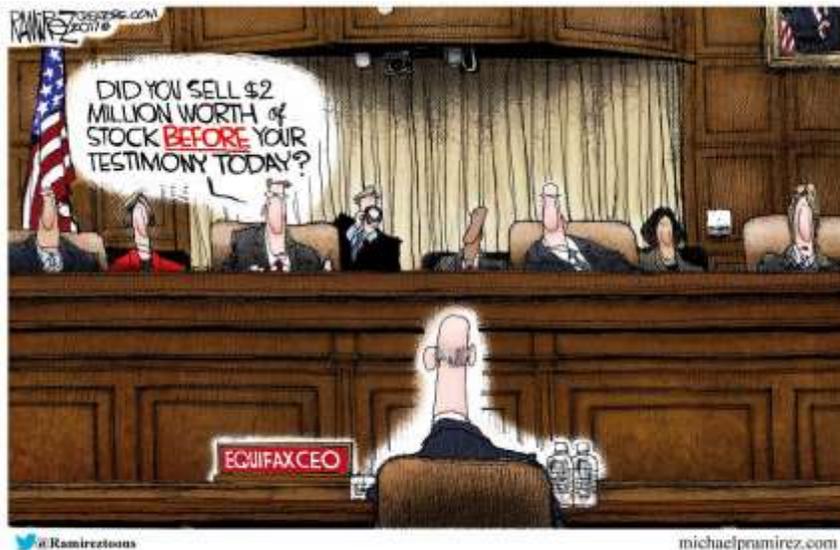


The Patriots' Truth

Flint Hills TEA Party News

For the time being we will NOT be holding the Saturday meetings. We may have Special Meetings when we have Special Guests, which will be publically announced in the paper, email, word of mouth. Check for updates at flinthillsteaparty.com We are now posting news items, events & the newsletters both recent & archived issues at our website. Weekly meetings are held at McAlister's, 5:30/6-10pm, Wed. evenings. They are come & go, at your convenience. Bring your concerns for discussion. Your concerns are important – they are why we exist. In this publication what is in green is me (Sylda), other colors are just for getting attention. Changes in font are for letting you know it is a new subject or person speaking. Help me include YOU!! YOU are IMPORTANT! Please overlooking the spelling arranging errors in the last Newsletter -- I'm trying to learn new ways to arrange this beast; PLEASE bear with me!!! GOD is with us – have faith – GOD Bless!!



• <http://michaelpramirez.com/equifax-stock-deal.html> ←□

Usually, **RAMIREZ'** pen finds a slice of humor in all the serious events around us... but not today.

There's a thoroughly terrific Guest Report by **Jocelyn Baird** for NextAdvisor.com (at Ramirez' link) detailing results & revelations from multiple Congressional hearings into the appalling Equifax data breach that occurred prior to 29 July (but was not announced to the public until 7 September!!)...

Personal Identifying Information [**P.I.I.**] for more than 145 million Americans was stored UN-ENCRYPTED(!!!) -- then, through a combination of malfeasance, incompetence, negligence, and reckless disregard for fiduciary duty (not to mention an utter lack of basic human decency) all the above collided in a perfect digital storm to expose over half of all American adults to the nightmares of identity theft... □

Even worse, Equifax and other banking & credit-reporting agencies stand to PROFIT DIRECTLY from the disaster, through all the fees they stand to collect for consumers' resulting actions, e.g., placing security freezes and other measures to defend themselves from the ravenous black market in stolen financial identities. □

In terms of widespread financial damages, this might be characterized as a "Katrina Level" event -- many will be inundated and forced to rebuild their lives, others will escape direct damage -- but the consequences will probably linger far longer for those affected...

And from **NextAdvisor.com**, the report itself:

What We Learned from the Congressional Equifax Hearings This Week

by Jocelyn Baird October 6, 2017

Nearly a month has passed since the massive breach of credit reporting bureau Equifax's systems [was revealed](#). According to a final report from the investigation released [earlier this week](#), the breach comprised 145.5 million consumers' details, including social security numbers. Immediately, the company was inundated with phone calls, website visitors, and outrage. Three top-ranking officials, including Richard Smith, the company's CEO, retired from their positions [immediately](#) in the aftermath, and calls for federal action were soon to follow. Congress requested that Smith come testify before a series of committees to discuss what went wrong, why the breach happened and what should be done about it. Join us as we break down the most important information learned in the Equifax hearings this past week and what it means for U.S. consumers going forward.

How many Equifax hearings were there?

In total, over the course of [three days](#) — Oct. 3 to 5 — former Equifax CEO Richard Smith appeared before four different congressional committees to answer questions and give testimony. These committees were the House Committee on [Energy and Commerce](#), the House [Financial Services Committee](#), the [Senate Banking Committee](#) and the [Senate Judiciary Committee](#). Representatives on both sides of the aisle were present at all four hearings, and they did not spare Smith their wrath, readily voicing disgust and anger that such a disastrous breach was able to happen — as well as lambasting Equifax's [poor attempts](#) at responding and resolving the matter. Choice comments included calling the company's response "sloppy" and quips [such as](#), "I don't think we can pass a law that fixes stupid." Although many questions remain unanswered, there were definitely some important insights gleaned from these hearings.

What did we learn from the former CEO's testimony?

Here are the biggest takeaways from Richard Smith's three days of testimony in Washington D.C.

1. The breach is being blamed on a single employee and failed technology. According to Smith, the breach was [the result](#) of a single employee on Equifax's 225-person I.T. team who failed to communicate the need to perform a patch to one of Equifax's "portals" after receiving an alert about the vulnerability and its available patch. If you remember from our [previous post](#) on this subject, the Apache struts vulnerability was discovered and patched within a day in early March 2017. In addition to this unnamed employee's failure to do their job, Smith said that there was also a technological error when Equifax's scanning software did not flag the [unpatched system](#). Equifax is still investigating why the scanning system failed to pick up on the critical vulnerability, as it wasn't until a "suspicious movement of data" occurred within the dispute portal that the breach was first discovered on July 29. While it's easy to lay the blame on a single employee, it does lead one to wonder why it took four months for anyone to notice that such a dangerous vulnerability had never been patched. Only after the intrusion was discovered on July 29, according to Smith's testimony, did the hole in the system get plugged.

2. Poor data security has been a long-term problem at Equifax. It's clear from Smith's testimony that the problems at Equifax extend far beyond one person dropping the ball and malfunctioning technology. Members of Congress criticized the internal reporting structure at Equifax, citing the fact that the chief security officer reported the data breach to the [chief legal officer](#) instead of the CEO as unusual. Smith did not learn of it until July 31 — and the company did not contact the FBI until Aug. 2. It wasn't until Aug. 15 that Smith became aware that consumer information was likely stolen. He defended himself and Equifax, stating that the company had spent [\\$250 million](#) in the past three years on data security, and noting that there was almost zero focus on cybersecurity when he took the helm in 2005.

However, this defense seems suspect when contrasted with the fact that ***the data stolen in the breach was not encrypted*** [emphasis added] — instead, it was stored in [plain text](#), meaning anyone who stumbled on it would have no issue reading and understanding it. Furthermore, Smith admitted that not all of Equifax's core systems were encrypted either. Some security experts have [questioned](#) why the information of nearly 60% of the U.S. adult population was stored in a dispute portal in the first place. Despite his attempts at minimizing Equifax's data security problems, there is plenty of evidence that Equifax has been asleep at the wheel for a long time — just [a year ago](#), ***index provider MSCI Inc. wrote in a report that the credit bureau was ill-prepared to deal with a security***

problem and rated it a zero on privacy and security. [emphasis added]

3. Waiting to publicly disclose the breach was an internal strategy. Equifax has been roundly criticized for waiting over a month to disclose the data breach to the public, and this was brought up at [each of the hearings](#). Although the breach was discovered at the end of July, it wasn't until Aug. 17 that Smith was informed of its severity, and the company's board members were filled in between Aug. 22 and 25. **A public disclosure announcement was not released until Sept. 7.** [emphasis added] When pressed on why it took so long to disclose, Smith said that it was a strategy suggested by Mandiant, the cybersecurity firm hired to investigate the breach, as they wanted to be sure that Equifax's systems were protected — announcing a breach typically results in a significant increase in cyberattacks on a company. Despite this, some congress members were concerned that an 8-K form was not filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) once the severity of the breach was realized, which would have notified investors that an announcement was impending which could impact the stock they were buying and selling. Note that the SEC, among other regulatory bodies, is currently [investigating](#) three Equifax employees who sold \$1.8 million shares of Equifax stock during the time period between the data breach discovery and its public announcement.

4. Equifax may stand to profit from this disaster. In the midst of these hearings, it was announced that Equifax was awarded a \$7 million government contract to help the IRS [prevent fraud](#) during tax season. This incensed a number of policy-makers, who [questioned](#) why a company that just lost the data of [145.5 million consumers](#) deserved to be in charge of any kind of fraud prevention. The cold, hard truth about the credit bureaus is that their customers are not consumers — which Smith himself pointed out — but banks and other companies, such as [LifeLock](#), which do business with Equifax and its ilk. Senator Elizabeth Warren [grilled Smith](#) over the fact that, just this past August, **after the breach was already known to him, Smith delivered several speeches which claimed that fraud is an opportunity for Equifax.** [emphasis added] Since it does business with so many different financial companies, and because traditionally fees are charged whenever consumers place or lift a [security freeze](#) on their credit reports, identity theft and fraud can be money-makers for the credit bureaus.

5. The entire credit reporting industry needs to change. A common thread throughout each of the four hearings was the need for change across the credit reporting industry as a whole. Members of the Senate Banking Committee [attacked](#) the industry's business model, asking why consumers don't have power over the data that's collected on them, and stating that consumers need to have more control over the collection, use and protection of personal identifying information (**PII**) by both government and private-sector entities. As most of us are aware, the information that credit reporting agencies collect is used to determine much of consumers' financial lives, from their ability to [take out a loan](#) or open a [credit card](#) to the success of their [relationships](#) and [job prospects](#). While questions as to whether it would be wise for consumers to be able to request that their data be deleted were shot down by Smith — a deleted [credit history](#) could cause more headaches for consumers than they might realize — it's clear that changes do need to be made. Suggestions for change included requiring controls over **PII** similar to what currently exists for [medical data](#), a restructuring of the system to make it opt-in instead of opt-out, and more accountability for the companies involved overall. Prior to these hearings, there was already legislation [being proposed](#) which would bar credit bureaus from charging fees to place or remove a credit freeze.

It is unlikely these hearings are the end of this debacle, as investigations are ongoing within the FBI, Department of Justice and other entities. The whole truth will probably never be known, but hopefully the information gleaned from Smith's testimony will spur lawmakers into action to press for new regulations and protections on consumer financial data. To continue following this story, bookmark our [Equifax blog](#). Learn more about protecting your credit and identity by following our [identity theft protection blog](#).

This article was sent to me by another FHTP member, Chuck Henderson. I thank him for his attention to what is happening and helping keep us informed. Your alertness is appreciated, Chuck.

KOBACH: WHY TAKING A KNEE DURING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM IS NOT ONLY UNPATRIOTIC, IT'S IGNORANT!! By **Kris Kobach**

The act of NFL players taking a knee during the National Anthem has gone from being a stunt to a plague that is infecting the whole league. When NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell responded to President Trump's criticism by **defending** the players, he showed that he not only has no clue why NFL viewership is in the tank, he also has no clue what the National Anthem is all about.

The absurdity reached a new high on Sunday, when players for the Jacksonville Jaguars and Baltimore Ravens at an exhibition game in London refused to stand for the National Anthem, **but stood for the British anthem**, "God Save the Queen." It's ironic because the National Anthem was written to commemorate the bravery that the outnumbered and outgunned American soldiers showed when they nevertheless defeated the *British* at the Battle of Fort McHenry in 1814. During the night of September 12-13, British ships fired **between 1,500 and 1,800 rounds** at the fort, most of the time remaining outside of the reach of the Americans' weaker cannons. Fort McHenry should have been reduced to rubble. But miraculously, the American fort survived the bombardment, and at dawn, the American flag was still flying.

What would those American soldiers who lost their lives to British cannons think about the American players today who stand in respect for the British national anthem, but refuse to stand for the American song that commemorates their valor? Of course, I doubt that this irony even occurred to any of the football players, as they virtue-signaled for the cameras. One wonders if any of them even know the history of the Battle of Fort McHenry.

Aside from that, there's an additional problem with the football players' protest: it doesn't make sense. The players are protesting the police shootings that involved African-American victims. But the National Anthem stands for three things: (1) the bravery of the American soldiers at Fort McHenry; (2) giving thanks to God for the miraculous victory (the fourth verse makes that clear); and (3) America itself. Presumably, they are using the National Anthem as a symbol representing the third – our country itself.

But how can these NFL players disrespect the very country that gives them the opportunity to earn seven- or eight-figure salaries just for playing a game that they enjoy? There's no other place on earth that they can become rich role models just by playing *American* football. And there's no other place on earth that so thoroughly investigates and holds accountable its police officers in those cases where an officer actually does something wrong – which is a problem that we all want solved.

They should be celebrating the American Constitution and the American system, not disrespecting it. If they want to protest incidents of police shootings, they should wear symbolic armbands naming the victims or put stickers on their warm-up gear on the sidelines. That would be more specific and it wouldn't disrespect our country.

Over the course of history, **more than 650,000** brave Americans have given their lives in defense of our country, our Constitution, and the freedom, liberty, and justice that it represents. It is entirely possible for those who wish to voice their opinions on issues to do so in a way that doesn't disparage the ultimate sacrifice our veterans gave in defense of our nation.

It speaks volumes that when the Pittsburgh Steelers stayed in the locker room rather than come onto the field for the National Anthem, only one player resisted the pack mentality to show respect for his country. Offensive lineman Alejandro Villanueva, who had been a captain in the Army and an ex-Ranger who did three tours in Afghanistan, **came out and stood hand over heart**, as the Star Spangled Banner played. He knows exactly what the National Anthem stands for. His lonely tribute epitomized "the home of the brave."

We have the freedom as Americans to speak out on matters that deeply concern each of us. But in an ever-polarized society, there is simply no excuse for disrespecting our country, our National Anthem, or the sacrifice made by so many brave veterans. That's why so many fans are **booing** the protesting players and **declining to watch the NFL** on TV. There are better ways to protest than by taking a knee during a time universally reserved for solemn respect.

But of course, the players won't take my advice. Maybe they really do despise America and all that it stands for. If that's the case, then I encourage them to do something truly courageous. Give up your cushy salary and try making such a comfortable living in another country.

Kris W. Kobach is the elected Secretary of State of Kansas. An expert in immigration law and policy, he coauthored the Arizona SB-1070 immigration law and represented in federal court the 10 ICE agents who sued to stop Obama's 2012 executive amnesty. In 2017 President Trump named him Vice Chairman of the Presidential Commission on Election Integrity. He is currently a candidate for governor of Kansas. His website is kriskobach.com.

[Read the original article on Breitbart.com](#)

Our TEA Party has met with Sec. Kobach several times and supported him completely when he was running for office. At this time we intend to support him again in his run for Governor – he has assured us he will NOT support having a ConCon Convention. If you want to know where Kris stands on an issue – just ask him. He is NOT shy about explaining his stance and why. I may not always agree with him, but he will discuss it with you. He will also listen to your point of view. Let's listen.

I found this on a Pinterest site – it is so great I have to send it to all I know!!

Dad comes home drunk and mad, he pulls out a gun and shoots his wife and turns the gun on himself and pulls the trigger. The little girl sits behind a couch crying. The police came and took the little girl to a new family, and she went to her first Sunday school at church. She walks past the building and sees a picture of Jesus on the cross. The little girl then asks the teacher, “How did that man get off the cross?” The Teacher replied “He never did.” Then the little girl argued, “Yes he did. Because the night that my mummy and daddy died he sat next to me behind the couch, telling me everything was going to be alright”. 66% of you won't forward this, But remember what the bible says, “Deny me in front of your friends and I shall Deny you in front of my father...”

Breaking: NFL Just Got Catastrophic News About Ticket Sales

It just keeps getting worse for the Goodell and the gang. By [George Upper](#) ^{SEP} on September 28, 2017 at 3:38pm

At an Alabama rally Friday night, President Donald J. Trump argued that NFL owners should release any team member who “disrespects our flag.”

Apparently, America agrees.

Since the president called on team owners to take action — and those same owners, along with NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, essentially thumbed their collective nose at him — ticket sales have plummeted.

Online ticket re-seller TickPick told Paul Bedard at the [Washington Examiner](#) that NFL sales for Week Four games dropped nearly 18 percent since prior to Trump's statement.

According to the Examiner, TickPick cited two numbers damning to the NFL's response to Trump and the recent national anthem controversy:

- *17.9 percent decrease in NFL orders this week compared to the previous week.*
- *Last year the drop was 10.8 percent in orders on Monday & Tuesday following Week Three games.*

Bedard referred to the sharp decline as the “Trump Effect.”

Trump said at the Alabama rally that he would “love to see” players fired who participated in protests, such as kneeling, during the pre-game playing of the national anthem, according to [NPR](#).

“Get that son of a bitch off the field right now, out, he's fired,” Trump said he'd like to hear NFL owners say. “He's fired.”

After those statements, many, many more NFL players — some joined by coaches and other staff members — publicly took a knee during the national anthem, bringing even more attention to the controversy and apparently angering many fans.

Nonetheless, Goodell didn't appear ready to back down.

“The way we reacted today, and this weekend, made me proud,” Goodell said Sunday of the NFL's response to Trump's statement, which he called “divisive,” according to [Sport Illustrated](#). “I'm proud of our league.”

“We have seen a massive decrease in NFL ticket purchases this past week in comparison to years past,” TickPick's Jack Slingland told the Examiner. “Week 3 seems to usually have less ticket orders than week 2, but this year ticket purchases are down more than 7 percent from this time last year.”

“While we can't specify if this decrease is due to the president's comments, player and owner protests, play on the field, or simply the continued division of consumer's media attention, the conversation around the NFL this week has focused on the president's comments as well as the players' and owners' reaction,” Slingland said.

“As viewers continue to abandon their NFL Sunday habits, both the number of ticket sales and the purchase price of tickets will drop,” he predicted. Others agree.



I am so tired of the stupidity of this nonsense. What are they protesting?? Do they really know?? Why are they doing it in this manner – Why would any American even consider disrespecting the flag or the National Anthem of the United States of America for any reason?? Now I have learned that it states in the NFL Game Operations Manual “that players must be on the field and respectfully standing at attention for the playing of “The Star-Spangled Banner.” Why doesn’t the NFL enforce the rules they have set for themselves?? NFL are SO strict on the playing field – WHY DON’T THEY ENFORCE THEIR OWN STATED RULES ON THE SIDELINES?? IF THEY WON’T ENFORCE THEIR OWN RULES WHY DO THEY EXPECT YOU AND ME TO BE IMPRESSED BY ANYTHING THEY DO?? It seems to me they think they can get USA citizens to do, think, support whatever they want us to just to be able to WATCH THEM PLAY FOOTBALL!!! To me that is as stupid as Hillary thinking she would have been a good President. Hopefully the stance the Green Bay Packers made Thursday evening will be the beginning of the end to all of this stupidity!! May GOD be with these young men as they play a very dangerous game and stand for their Country!!!

AMERICAN SLAVERY UNDER DEMOCRAT STASI OPPRESSION

By Jerry Ukena

The Democrat-Stasi state is the new Nazi Gestapo communist political police state. Gestapo everywhere – Democrat-Stasi perpetrating terrorism, oppression and extortion, with rampant physical and psychological destruction of all its enemies. Demo-Stasi are at every level of government and society, and they are virulently anti-Christian and anti-Jew.

The Demo-Stasi are doing to Patriotic Americans, Jews and Christians, what Hitler Nazis did to Jews. Two sets of laws, one for Democrat slavemasters, another law for American slaves.

The Democrat party has governed us like subhuman slaves. They have stolen hundreds of trillions of dollars from America through many generations of American taxpayer slavery, and U.S. destruction.

Obama, the Clintons, and the Democrat political party are working to overthrow the Constitutional government of the United States. The Demo-Stasi have infiltrated every area of our Constitutional government, in pursuit of tyrannical Democrat dictatorship.

These Demo-Stasi sedition terrorists are trying to overthrow the constitutionally elected President of the U.S. The Demo-Stasi state is enslaving the Constitutional voters.

This is treason, the death of freedom and Judeo-Christianity in the world. Jesus and the Bible tell us the wicked world will hate Jews and Christians. If the Democrats ever come back to power in America, they will complete Obama's destruction. Bankrupting Christians, Jews, and all of America. Persecution and jailing of Christians by the Democrats will become slavery and concentration camps for followers of Jesus Christ.

High U.N. officials and globalist/controllers around the world have said Christians and nationalists (American and European citizens) must be exterminated from the earth. And Jews, of course.

World Democrat leaders, ISIS, and tyrants are setting up the terrorist armies of the Apocalypse, for wars, tribulations, and Armageddon. (Spoiler Alert: JESUS WINS.)

American Christians must stand united against the Democrat Stasi state, if they want to save Christianity in America and help save Christianity around the world.

Patriotic Americans, both Christians and Jews, must ask Republicans -- those elected and those seeking office -- if they are Democrat/Stasi agents. If they support the Demo-Stasi, trying to destroy patriotic Americans, Christians, and Jews. They are working to destroy Christianity, the U.S. Constitutional government, and it's elected President.

We must elect people who will protect all America from all Democrat terrorist groups, who will protect America from financial confiscation, destruction, and Democrat Stasi Gestapo.

Elect someone who will fight the fake press, the fake news propaganda that brainwashes and deceives the American Public.

Washington D.C. is Babylon, the Demon capital. The modern-day tower of Babel takes honorable people and turns them into wicked thieves of the Democrat Party Mafia. Money and power are their GOD. The people are their slaves.

Democrats tell us they hate America. Democrats rate "666" on the anti-Christian scale.

We must ask Republicans how they rate.

We must find strong Patriotic Americans with strong Constitutional Beliefs, to protect Americans and Christians from destruction. GOD and Country.

It is much better to unite all Christians, and save Christianity at the ballot box, than to fight after the Democrats have made Christianity a crime, and all Christians Criminals.

GO NAVY !

GOODBYE PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS JANAYE ERVIN!

Article 92 of the U.C.M.J.

NAVY SAILOR REFUSES TO STAND FOR NATIONAL ANTHEM –

IMMEDIATELY REGRETS IT!!!

WRITTEN BY DAVID MILLER

A **former** Navy intelligence specialist recently took a page out of Colin Kaepernick's playbook and refused to stand for the national anthem during morning colors. However, she quickly learned she'd made a huge mistake

[Conservative Tribune](#) reported that Petty Officer 2nd Class Janaye Ervin was stripped of her security clearance and assigned to menial labor for a few days before she was forced to leave the Navy for disrespecting our country so blatantly.

It all started on September 19, when Ervin refused to stand for the anthem when she was on reserve duty at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Hawaii. The [International BusinessTimes](#) reported that Ervin claimed she was trying to make a statement about blacks being persecuted in the United States by doing this. "I just didn't want to stand at that moment," Ervin said "I can't stand for this song knowing that the song isn't for me, being black. The song doesn't represent me at all. To be honest, I never really thought about the flag my entire life, I had no reason to. It's just a flag."

The next day, Ervin's superiors read her her rights and gave her a warning about potentially compromising her security clearance, which she needed for both her military and civilian job. One day after that, she was stripped of her security clearance and escorted out of the secure area where she was working.

Ervin is now claiming that she was never told which order she was violating, but this is clearly a lie since she violated the 10th [General Order for Sentries](#), "...To salute all officers and colors and standards not cased....." which is taught in Navy boot camp.

All members of the Navy are required to memorize all 11 general orders in boot camp, and they are aware that violating any one of them is subject to Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice and is subject to whatever punishment is decided by court-martial

On September 21, Ervin took to Facebook to publicly whine about how "unfair" this has been for her. "The Navy has decided to punish me for defending the Constitution and has taken away my equipment I need to do my Naval job," she wrote, according to PopularMilitary.com.

Hey, Janaye, the Navy did not take ANYTHING from you - you forfeited your own job when you knowingly violated a general order.

I would have been very disappointed if this had ended any other way. But it could not have ended otherwise – I almost forgot we NOW have a MAN at the head of our Country AND our Navy.

A LADY WITH A STORY TO TELL

As 'too many' Americans continue to whine' about what bathroom to use, or what are the proper shoes to wear for an event, or to 'kneel or not to kneel', or protest what statues are to 'stand', etc., we forget 'what' gave us that freedom to do these things...

A little reminder.....that these people who fought this war and who took the constitution 'literally'.....

No doubt, 'we owe them'.....a lesson to be learned and remembered'.....

Each year I am hired to go to Washington, DC, with the eighth grade class from Clinton, WI where I grew up, to videotape their trip. I greatly enjoy visiting our nation's capital, and each year I take some special memories back with me. This fall's trip was especially memorable.

On the last night of our trip, we stopped at the Iwo Jima memorial. This memorial is the largest bronze statue in the world and depicts one of the most famous photographs in history – that of the six brave soldiers raising the American Flag at the top of a rocky hill on the island of Iwo Jima, Japan, during WWII.

Over one hundred students and chaperones piled off the buses and headed towards the memorial. I noticed a solitary figure at the base of the statue, and as I got closer he asked, "Where are you guys from?"

I told him that we were from Wisconsin. "Hey, I'm a cheese head too! Come gather around, Cheese heads, and I tell you a story."

(It was James Bradley who just happened to be in Washington, DC, to speak at the memorial the following day. He was there that night to say good night to his dad, who had passed away. He was just about to leave when he saw the buses pull up. I videotaped him as he spoke to us, and received his permission to share what he said from my videotape. It is one thing to tour the incredible monument filled with history in Washington, DC, but it is quite another to get the kind of insight we received that night.)

When all had gathered around, he reverently began to speak. (Here are his words that night.)

"My name is James Bradley and I'm from Antigo, Wisconsin. My dad is on that statue, and I wrote a book called "Flags of Our Father'. It is the story of the six boys you see behind me.

"Six boys raised the flag. The first guy putting the pole in the ground is Harlon Block. Harlon was an all-state football player. He enlisted in the Marine Corps with all the senior members of his football team. They were off to play another type of game. A game called 'War.' But it didn't turn out to be a game. Harlon, at the age of 21, died with his intestines in his hands. I don't say that to gross you out, I say that because there are people who stand in front of this statue and talk about the glory of war. You guys need to know that most of the boys in Iwo Jima were 17, 18 and 19 years old – it was so hard that the ones who did make it home never even would talk to their families about it.

(He pointed to the statue) 'You see this next guy? That's Rene Gagnon from New Hampshire. If you took Rene's helmet off at the moment this photo was taken and looked in the webbing of that helmet, you would find a photograph...a photograph of his girlfriend Rene put that in there for protection because he was scared. He was 18 years old. It was just boys who won the battle of Iwo Jima. Boys. Not old men.

The next guy here, the third guy in this tableau, was Sergeant Mike Strank. Mike is my hero. He

was the hero of all these guys. They called him the 'old man' because he was so old. He was already 24. When Mike would motivate his boys in training camp, he didn't say, 'Let's go kill some Japanese' or 'Let's die for our country' He knew he was talking to little boys.. Instead he would say, 'You do what I say, and I'll get you home to your mothers.'

The last guy on this side of the statue is Ira Hayes, a Pima Indian from Arizona. Ira Hayes was one of them who lived to walk off Iwo Jima. He went into the White House with my dad. President Truman told him, "You're a hero". He told reporters, 'How can I feel like a hero when 250 of my buddies hit the island with me and only 27 of us walked off alive?'

So you take your class at school, 250 of you spending a year together having fun, doing everything together. Then all 250 of you hit the beach, but only 27 of your classmates walk off alive. That was Ira Hayes. He had images of horror in his mind. Ira Hayes carried the pain home with him and eventually died dead drunk, face down, drowned in a very shallow puddle, at the age of 32 (ten years after this picture was taken).

The next guy, going around the statue, is Franklin Sousley from Hilltop, Kentucky. A fun-lovin' hillbilly boy. His best friend, who is now 70, told me, 'Yeah, you know, we took two cows up on the porch Of the Hilltop General Store. Then we strung wire across the stairs so the cows couldn't get down. Then we fed them Epsom salts. Those cows crapped all night.' Yes, he was a fun-loving' hillbilly boy. Franklin died on Iwo Jima at the age of 19. When the telegram came to tell his mother that he was dead, it went to the Hilltop General Store. A barefoot boy ran that telegram up to his mother's farm. The neighbors could hear her scream all night and into the morning. Those neighbors lived a quarter of a mile away.

'The next guy, as we continue to go around the statue, is my dad, John Bradley, from Antigo, Wisconsin, where I was raised. My dad lived until 1994, but he would never give interviews.

When Walter Cronkite's producers or the New York Times would call, we were trained as little kids to say, "No, I'm sorry, sir, my dad's not here. He is in Canada fishing. No, there is no phone there, sir. No, we don't know when he is coming back.' My dad never fished or even went to Canada. Usually, he was sitting there right at the table eating his Campbell's soup. But we had to tell the press that he was out fishing. He didn't want to talk to the press.

"You see, like Ira Hayes, my dad didn't see himself as a hero. Everyone thinks these guys are heroes, 'cause they are in a photo and on a monument. My dad knew better. He as a Navy medic. John Bradley from Wisconsin was combat caregiver. On Iwo Jima he probably held over 200 boys as they died. And when boys died on Iwo Jima, they writhed and screamed, without any medication or help with the pain.

'When I was a little boy, my third grade teacher told me that my dad was a hero. When I went home and told my dad that, he looked at me and said, 'I want you always to remember that the heroes of Iwo Jima are the guys who did not come back. Did NOT come back.'

'So that's the story about six nice young boys.. Three died on Iwo Jima, and three came back as national heroes. Overall, 7,000 boys died on Iwo Jima in the worst battle in the history of the Marine Corps. My voice is giving out, so I will end here. Thank you for your time.'

Suddenly, the monument wasn't just a big old piece of metal with a flag sticking out of the top. It came to life before our eyes with the heartfelt words of a son who did indeed have a father who was a hero. Maybe not a hero for the reasons most people would believe, but a hero nonetheless.

One thing I learned while on tour with my 8th grade students in DC that is not mentioned here is....that if you look at the statue very closely and count the number of 'hands' raiding the flag, there are 13. When the man who made the statue was asked why there were 13, he simply said the 13th hand was the hand of GOD.

I've read this before and will read it again. I cry each time I read it – my heart aches for these young men and their families. I do NOT and never will understand how the Democrats can put down and ridicule Americans of those days and of the present. How can they want those soldiers and their families to be forgotten and torn from the pages of USA history?? Everyone – each and every one of YOU must wake up – take part in our Country – be a part of our elections – stand UP and BE COUNTED. Because IF you DO NOT

the USA is gone – to be no more. Think about it!!! Those of you who are just living the “GOOD LIFE” and not taking part in supporting that “GOOD LIFE” are destroying the USA as surely as those physically tearing our Country down. IF you are NOT working to stop the destruction, you are contributing to the destruction. Think about it. What in life have you enjoyed that you haven’t contributed to??? If you are not supporting an effort you ARE contributing to its destruction!!

I must apologize for not investigating an article as extensively as I should have before putting it in “Patriot’s Truth”. An alert reader informed me of my error and I THANK HIM!! The article on “Muslim Invasion” within the English government was partially false. My informer got his info from the “truthorfiction.com” column. The following is that article.

Muslim Invasion: Email Claims UK Overrun by Muslim Minority-Mostly Fiction!

Summary of eRumor:

Forwarded emails with the subject line, “How the British Have Passively Succumbed to the Muslim Invasion” or “A Farewell to England,” claim that the number of Muslim mayors, Sharia Councils, and “No-go areas” in the country prove that “hijrah,” the conquering of a country through immigration, has occurred there.

Truth:

A few of the claims made in forwarded emails with the subject line “How the British have passively succumbed to the Muslim invasion” and “Farewell to England” are true — but the vast majority of the email’s claims prove false.

Perhaps more importantly, we found the central theme of the emails — that the U.K. has been overrun by a Muslim minority population — to be false, even though a handful of individual claims are true.

It’s not clear where, exactly, the Muslim Invasion email started. It was widely circulated via forwarded emails and in discussion forums after a series of terrorist attacks plagued the U.K. in the lead-up to the country’s general election in June 2017. Some of the claims in the email were new, and others were recycled claims that we’ve previously investigated. We looked at each individual claim, and a summary of our findings appears below.

Muslim Invasion: Muslim Mayors in England-Truth! & Fiction!

Some of the Muslim invasion email’s claims about Muslim mayors in the United Kingdom are correct — but the majority of them don’t check out.

London Mayor Sadiq Khan, a Pakistani Muslim, was elected to office in May 2016 and has become one of the most prominent Muslim politicians in Europe. Mohammad Ayub, a native of Pakistan who has served on the Luton Council since 2007, was appointed mayor of Luton for 2017-2018, as the Muslim Invasion email claims.

Shadab Qumer, meanwhile, a member of the Oldham Council was selected to serve as mayor of Oldham for 2017-2018. But Qumer doesn’t fit the “Muslim invasion” narrative. His family emigrated to Glodwick, U.K., from the Indian subcontinent of Kashmir in 1959. His father, and the Qumer himself, were longtime fixtures of the local business community before his appointment to mayor in 2017, the *Oldham Chronicle* reports.

Other claims made in the email are simply incorrect. For 2017-2018, Anne Underwood, a conservative, was elected Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Jane Dowson was elected mayor of Leeds, Colin Rigby was elected mayor of Blackburn, Anne Murphy was elected mayor of Sheffield, and Jeane Fooks was elected Lord Mayor of Oxford. All of these politicians were long-serving council members with local ties, and none of them fit the Muslim Invasion narrative from the email.

Other Signs of “Muslim Invasion” of the U.K. Cited in the Email-Mostly Fiction!

The idea that there are Muslim “no-go zones” in Britain dates back to 2015, and it still persists today despite clear proof that it’s false. We previously investigated that claim and traced it back to a political pundit who was immediately debunked by U.K. leaders, including then-Prime Minister David Cameron who

said the pundit was “clearly an idiot.”

Our 2015 investigation of Muslim no-go zones in the U.K. also explored the notion that there were Muslim Sharia Courts and Muslim Sharia Councils regulating those areas (or anywhere else in Europe), and we found those claims to be “fiction.” Click here to read our entire investigation.

And it’s not clear where the Muslim Invasion email’s claims that 78% of Muslim women don’t work, and that 63% of Muslim men don’t work and receive government benefits like housing assistance. Research shows that those claims are incorrect — but U.K. Muslims are generally worse-off economically than other groups. Forty-six percent of Muslims live in the bottom 10% of local authority districts that are considered “most deprived.” Additionally, employment rates are higher among Muslims than other religious groups, but not as high as the Muslim Invasion email claims, a 2015 study found:

One of the areas of concern the report highlights is how well these qualifications turn into employment, particularly for females. 29% of Muslim women between the ages of 16 and 24 are in employment, compared to approximately half the general population. For the ages group 25 – 49 the numbers show 57% of Muslim women in employment compared with 80% of women overall.

This raises a number of questions that were posed at the report’s launch as areas that need extra exploration – why are educated Muslim woman not carrying on into employment? Possible reasons cited being cultural influences encouraging them to have a family and stay at home, racism and prejudice in the workplace and/or their qualifications not being from institutions of a high enough standard to appeal to employers. The report notes that Muslim students are less likely to attend Russell Group universities.

Finally, the Muslim Invasion email’s claims that there are 4 million Muslims in the U.K. is also false. As of 2016, there were about 3 million Muslims, which accounted for about 5% of the country’s population. There were 1,750 mosques at that time.

In the end, claims made in the Muslim Invasion email blend truth and fiction. But the overall point of the email — that the U.K. has been taken over by a minority Muslim population — isn’t supported by available data and reporting. That’s why we’re calling this one “mostly fiction.”

Now you know the truth and/or fiction of the article. I want to Thank the gentleman that notified me of my error and encourage any of you seeing errors here to contact me. I am intending to INFORM and never to misinform!! I often check Snopes but was not aware of “truthorfiction.com”. Now I will check both. Thank you.

I received this from **Grassfire**.

Sylda,

We are living through a difficult time in our nation's history. America's heart is broken and our faith shaken after a crazed gunman killed nearly 60 and wounded hundreds in Las Vegas on Sunday. That tragedy has shocked us to the core, as we're still trying to overcome the loss and devastation that has followed three Category 4 hurricanes striking the U.S. in one month.

During these troubling times, Grassfire wants to invite you to share a powerful message of hope and comfort. It's really a prayer for our nation made up of three simple words: "God bless America." The Bible promises us in Psalm 33:12, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD." Americans need to stand on and trust that promise, even during our darkest days.

The LORD has always been the Lord GOD for the United States of America. We have always been a nation of Christian faith and regardless of what anyone, including the Liberals/Democrats say the USA is STILL a Christian nation. Our view is not necessarily the same as our Lords, but HE is still our LORD and will take care of us and our Country in His time.

TRUMP'S STRATEGY IS CLEARLY WORKING
AS 20 OTHER NATIONS TAKE ACTION AGAINST NORTH KOREA

BY ELLYSA CHENERY

ON OCTOBER 9, 2017 AT 10:10AM

President Donald Trump’s controversial handling of North Korea has reportedly led to international [Wall Street Journal](#) report revealed that due to pressure exerted by the United States, these nations are

working diplomatically to stop North Korea and its nuclear progress.

Under Secretary of State Rex Tillerson's guidance, State Department officials crafted a list of North Korean interests, with the intention of diplomatically targeting military, political and economic sectors of the regime.

The list included relationships with other nations, vessels, diplomatic missions and even policies which allow North Koreans to work temporarily in other nations. In September, [Reuters](#) reported that North Korea had been using Fiji's national flag on multiple shipping vessels in an attempt to avoid U.N. sanctions.

According to [Business Standard](#), Germany closed a Berlin-based hostel earlier this year after it was discovered that the location was sending money to the Kim regime.

Trump has also applied unique pressure to North Korean leader Kim Jong Un through Twitter.

"Presidents and their administrations have been talking to North Korea for 25 years, agreements made and massive amounts of money paid," Trump wrote, adding that it "hasn't worked, agreements violated before the ink was dry, makings fools of U.S. negotiators. Sorry, but only one thing will work!"

action, as 20 other nations have decided they need to curb the regime's dangerous operations.

What topics are you interested in??? I think I'll try to do some research on Education and where Kansas and the USA stands on it. If you have some info I would appreciate you passing it on to me.

If you would like to forward this Newsletter as is on to others – be my guest.
 If you would like to send/submit comments/editorials to the editor – be my guest.
 Send to Sylde's email: sylde@gemsandwood.com

Flint Hills TEA Party contact information: www.flinthillsteaparty.com; fhttp@flinthillsteaparty.com
 or facebook – Flint Hills TEA Party; Manhattan contact – Chris or Larry Tawney or Sylde
 Nichols, editor, email: sylde@gemsandwood.com. Sylde sends the snail mail. Newsletter; Flint Hills
 TEA Party Snail Mail: Flint Hills TEA Party of KS, 1310-A Westloop Place, PMB #326, Manhattan, KS
 66502. All donations for the Educational Fund (payable to "Educational Fund") will also be
 accepted at this address and is tax deductible or to Flint Hills TEA Party which is not tax deductible.

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