

The Patriots' Truth

Flint Hills T.E.A. 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 (Sylida), 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!! GOD be with you now and always.

As we face the run-up to statewide elections in November, KS voters need to know where all the money for the "Education Industrial Complex" is really being spent – share this article with your local teachers!!



USD 500 Kansas City shortchanges teachers (again) | by Dave Trabert | Aug 16, 2018

<https://kansaspolicy.org/USD-500-kansas-city-shortchanges-teachers-again/>

The Kansas City, KS school district – USD 500 – spent just 1.2 percent more on teacher pay during the 2018 school year according to data provided by the district in an Open Records request. That’s the same percentage increase for the total payroll, but there are some eye-opening outliers.

Superintendent Cynthia Lane took home an eye-popping \$458,200. That’s a **97 percent increase** over the previous year, which the district attributes to cashing in unused sick leave and vacation pay upon her retirement. Another double-digit increase – 13.6 percent – went to Assistant Superintendent Robert Strickland.

USD 500 Kansas City Payroll Increases				
Category	Name	2017	2018	Change
Superintendent	Cynthia Lane	\$ 232,646	\$ 458,200	97.0%
Asst. Supt. - Elementary	Marcella Clay	\$ 162,201	\$ 166,020	2.4%
Asst. Supt. - Secondary	Robert Strickland	\$ 163,259	\$ 185,439	13.6%
Chief Financial Officer	Kelli Mather	\$ 182,185	\$ 186,383	2.3%
Executive Director	Lenora Miller	\$ 137,349	\$ 143,077	4.2%
Executive Director	Stacia Brown	\$ 122,603	\$ 129,501	5.6%
Library Director	Carol Levers	\$ 126,411	\$ 130,203	3.0%
Chief of Police	Henry Horn	\$ 124,568	\$ 131,384	5.5%
Supt. Exec. Secretary	Susan Westfahl	\$ 92,219	\$ 93,913	1.8%
Maintenance	all employees	\$ 2,813,730	\$ 3,003,600	6.7%
Custodians	all employees	\$ 8,507,780	\$ 8,845,164	4.0%

Maintenance includes asbestos inspector, brickmason, carpenters, concrete finisher, electricians, locksmiths, mechanics, general laborers, metal fabricators, grounds foreman, painters, pipefitters, plumbers and roofer.

The adjacent table shows several administrators had pay gains between 3 percent and 5.6 percent. Cynthia Lane’s executive secretary only received a 1.8 percent boost, but the fact that someone in that position is paid almost \$94,000 is itself remarkable.

Payroll increases in two employee categories are also noteworthy, and not just because of the size of the increase. Spending on a small army of

maintenance staff grew by 6.7 percent and custodian costs increased by 4 percent. Both categories were cited in an efficiency audit a few years ago for having individual pay amounts well above market norms for those positions.

The [complete payroll listing on KansasOpenGov](#) shows the district apparently continues to ignore the audit's recommendations. USD 500 lists 91 custodians that are paid more than \$50,000 and the Electrician Foreman is paid almost \$102,000 – to cite just a few examples. USD 500 may also be the only school district that has its own asbestos inspector, concrete finisher, metal fabricator and roofer.

One can only imagine how teachers feel when they see these examples while their total pay went up by a measly 1.2 percent. They should share their complaints with legislators, also, because this is what happens when legislators fail to hold schools accountable for putting resources to the most effective use.

STUDY FINDS KIDS WHO ATTEND GOVERNMENT PRE-SCHOOL LEARN LESS, MISBEHAVE MORE | by [Joy Pullmann](#) | **The Federalist** July 19, 2018

<http://thefederalist.com/2018/07/19/study-finds-kids-attend-government-preschool-learn-less-misbehave/>

Despite a far stronger research record and far lower costs to taxpayers, other activities are not encouraged at anywhere near the level of government pre-school programs.

Latest results from the [first randomized control trial](#) of a state pre-Kindergarten program found participants' early gains quickly transformed into worse academic performance, more discipline problems, and higher special education placements than children who hadn't participated. By second or third grade, the nearly 3,000 children studied who participated in Tennessee's Voluntary Pre-K Program (TNVPK, or VPK) had statistically significant negative results compared to peers who mostly stayed home with their families.

"One possibility is that, contrary to conventional wisdom, some children may be better off academically if — instead of attending public pre-K — they stay at home at age four," says [a study summary](#) from the Arnold Foundation's Straight Talk on Evidence research clearinghouse ([h/t Jay Greene](#)).

Tennessee's pre-K program was touted as a national model long before high-quality studies could be completed to test that assertion. That is typical of pre-school advocacy, which is lush with foundation and government funds but low on reliable, replicable benefits to children and taxpayers. Partly because of this persistent PR push, two-thirds of four-year-olds and two-fifths of three-year-olds [currently attend pre-primary programs](#). Half of that number [are enrolled in government programs](#), a proportion that has grown rapidly in the past few decades despite parallel growth in government debt and deficits.

BENEFIT PROMISES BASED ON HOPE, NOT EXPERIENCE

Tennessee's pre-K program [began in 2005](#). The state legislature immediately expanded it the next year, then funded a doubling of enrollment just two years later, before any reliable research could possibly be conducted. Today, 18,000 "at-risk" four-year-olds are enrolled.

Politicians [like Obama Education Secretary Arne Duncan](#) and other people paid to advocate government taking over child raising [have praised](#) Tennessee pre-K and [said it should be a model](#) for expanding such programs everywhere. The state's pre-K information page says the program is "recognized as a national leader in pre-K quality." The Straight Talk study summary notes "the program's quality appears to be fairly typical of state pre-K programs around the country."

"Critics of our study have argued that the effects reflect the unusually poor quality of the TNVPK program. We demonstrate that measured classroom quality in the TNVPK classrooms was virtually identical to that in programs that have been lauded by pre-K advocates," [the Vanderbilt University authors noted](#) in discussing earlier negative results they found during this nine-year study.

In 2014, *The New York Times* said it's [become standard for both Republican and Democrat politicians](#) to support pre-K spending as an essentially vote-buying tactic. The article also noted advocacy groups have snookered business leaders into believing that pre-school can help address the social fallout from America's increasingly degraded family relationships, particularly the spike in children born to unmarried mothers and harm to children of normalizing divorce. Business leaders also have incentives for taxpayers to subsidize working mothers: doing so [takes pressure off them to negotiate](#) employment conditions more favorable to mothers and increasing the labor pool depresses wages.

MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE STUDY FINDINGS

At the end of one year in Tennessee’s pre-K, participating children scored better on academic measures than non-participants did, such as letter recognition and sounds. But during just one year of kindergarten, non-participating children not only caught up to the pre-schooled children but surpassed them. This effect persisted through third grade, where “VPK participants scored lower on the reading, math, and science tests than the control children with differences that were statistically significant for math and science.”

“In math, the VPK group scored 0.12 standard deviations lower than the control group, which equates to roughly 13 percent less growth in math achievement than would be expected in the third grade year,” the Straight Talk summary explains. “In science, the VPK group scored 0.09 standard deviations lower than the control group, which equates to roughly 23 percent less growth in science achievement than would be expected in the third grade year.”

The study also found that pre-schooled children had more negative feelings about school in first grade, broke school rules more often, had more language problems especially in kindergarten, than peers who didn’t attend the state program. Of the children studied who did not attend the Tennessee program, “63% received home-based care by a parent, relative, or other person; 13% attended Head Start or what parents described as a public pre-K program; 16% were in private center-based childcare; 5% had some combination of Head Start and private childcare; and childcare for 3% was not reported.”

As for special education placements, it was unclear from the study whether slightly higher special-Ed labeling for pre-school attendees was because attending pre-school caught existing problems earlier or children were over-labeled as special needs simply for being younger and less mature. The authors note: “the overwhelming majority of special education designations in VPK were for speech and language issues, a domain in which development is especially varied for 4-year olds. Once a child has received a special education designation, it is difficult to lose it.”

WHY THIS STUDY DESERVES MORE WEIGHT THAN OTHERS

While pre-school-pushers insist that results like this don’t match the “[consensus](#)” of people whose job security and prestige are contingent upon government funding advocacy research and consuming more of family life, the two only large-scale, gold-standard studies of government pre-school unanimously find long-term disadvantages to children.

The authors of the Tennessee study explain the disconnect by noting that most studies on pre-school programs either focus on immediate rather than long-term effects or extrapolate from two boutique, decades-old, and very expensive experiments that produced small, un-replicated benefits to their approximately 100 total participants. The authors’ discussion of the significant weaknesses of studies that supposedly substantiate the current “consensus” is worth reading.

“When dealing with a voluntary program with children’s participation always a matter of self-selection by parents, it is difficult for researchers to ensure that they are comparing outcomes for pre-K participants and nonparticipants who are similar in all ways that matter prior to their differential pre-K experience. The result is an uneven and inconclusive research literature,” they note.

By contrast, the Tennessee study was able to randomize its sample and provide a control group because more people applied than the program could accept. So slots were randomly offered and both participants and applicant nonparticipants were studied, providing a rare opportunity for the most rigorous study possible because the only noticeable difference between the two groups was joining or not joining the program.

ATTEMPTS TO SUPPRESS STUDY FINDINGS ALMOST WORK

Because they offer the highest reliability of results. The only other such high-quality study to be conducted on government pre-school programs, the federal evaluation of Head Start, found similar results. What a surprise: that federal evaluation’s results [were also delayed and suppressed](#).

The Tennessee and federal studies provide “uniquely credible evidence on the topic,” says the Straight Talk summary. “Other studies of public or private pre-school programs have had weaknesses that limit the reliability of their findings, such as lack of random assignment (e.g., Oklahoma universal pre-K, Chicago Child-Parent Centers) or small samples and imperfect randomization (e.g., Perry Pre-school Project, Abecedarian Project).”

THE BEST RESEARCH SUPPORTS PARENTING, NOT CHILDCARE

While people paid to advocate government pre-school responded with one of their standard lines, that the results merely indicate the need to spend more and try harder, the study authors note “we do not yet have a basis for improving state-funded pre-K programs that is grounded in empirical evidence relating program characteristics to child outcomes.” In other words, we have no reliable research that tells us how to improve pre-school programs, so any efforts in that direction are essentially stabs in the dark.

Indeed, the evidence we do have suggests that kids *would be better off* at home, even if their families have less money than others do. In its research review, the study cites research that shows parents of all income levels have stepped up their parenting

game in recent decades, possibly making older study findings, the source of most positive results, obsolete.

Comparing 1998–2010, [other researchers] found that parents increasingly structured their children’s experiences to focus on learning opportunities such as those that involve computer access, more books in the home, and enrichment activities organized specifically for children. It is especially notable that the socioeconomic gap in these practices narrowed over this period with low-income parents showing stronger increases in their investments in their children than more affluent parents.

This conclusion is also bolstered by the academic literature finding that adoption is [the number one most effective way](#) to improve a deprived child’s life outcomes. Since, of course, adopted children don’t share their adoptive parents’ genetics, the major boosts they get from being adopted have to come exclusively from a combination of environment and parenting. So if parenting is likely what’s going on here, perhaps efforts would be better directed that way instead of towards removing children from homes, especially since parents are already getting aboard that train.

Another reality, one of the best-documented in social science, is that children who live with their married, biological parents [are the best protected against virtually all negative life outcomes](#). Reading to small children and turning off screens [also have well-documented positive effects](#). These are things that almost all parents can do for their children, yet despite their far stronger record and far lower costs to taxpayers they are not encouraged at anywhere near the level of government pre-school programs. For the best interests of children and society, that ratio needs to flip, stat.

The study authors also pointed out, as pre-school skeptics have for decades, that the persistent fade-out of any positive effects indicates it’s pointless to add pre-school to government education until the upper grades are more effective: “It is doubtful that anything done in pre-K can have sustained effects if the gains made there are not supported and extended in the schooling that follows.”

Pew Research Center polling finds [59 percent of American adults](#) think the kids are better off when one parent stays home to raise them. It looks like the research supports their common sense.



The following is from John d’Aloia...

WHAT ABOUT THE KANSAS KIDS WHO DON’T GO TO PUBLIC SCHOOL?

July 11, 2018 | <https://sentinelksmo.org/what-about-the-kansas-kids-who-dont-go-to-public-school/>

For all the tears shed, money spent, decisions made, debating points argued, laws passed and ink devoted to the public school establishment in Kansas, an outside observer could be forgiven for not knowing there are any kind of schools but public schools, nor any kind of students but public school students.

For all the State Supreme Court’s talk about adequate funding, the children being educated outside the public school establishment make do in almost every case on a fraction of the money spent on their public school peers.

But it’s tough sledding. In April 2017, the [Sentinel](#) did a piece on Padre Pio Academy in Shawnee, Kansas. At the time, the cost per student of a Padre Pio education was \$3586 against a \$13,025 per student average in the allegedly cash-starved Kansas public schools.

Padre Pio took sixteen students to the 2017 Greater Kansas City Science & Engineering Fair. The students won nine golds, six silvers and one bronze. One of the students also won the Division Championship in Chemistry. Last spring, the school took second place in the St. James Academy Scholar Bowl.

Operating on a per-pupil budget roughly one-fourth that of a public school, Padre Pio finally had to close its doors.

This fall, the school will not open. After 17 years of cutting costs close to the bone, the Padre Pio experience proved unsustainable. It is just a coincidence that the state was pumping an additional \$584 million into the public school system at the time the Padre Pio board realized it could no longer adequately fund the school.

Virtually all of those students will return to home schooling or a parochial school. There are roughly 17,000 Kansas children now being homeschooled. Another 15,000 or so attend private or parochial high schools. As many as 36,000 attend private or parochial elementary schools and 25,000 attend pre-schools.

In sum, the parents of nearly 100,000 Kansas students have opted out of the public school system. They have foresworn the swimming pools, weight rooms, and high tech gimmickry of public schools

for an educational environment that does not defy their values or endanger their children. By keeping their kids out of public schools, these parents save the state as much \$1.3 billion per year.

The last thing these parents want is direct aid from the state given the mandates that would accompany it. They would, however, like a little consideration from the courts and/or the legislature before either demands more of their money to educate other people's kids.



\$3.7 billion tax increase set up by [KS] courts and schools by Dave Trabert for Kansas Policy Institute Aug 1, 2018

<https://kansaspolicy.org/3-7-billion-tax-increase-likely-thanks-to-courts-and-schools>

Remember this fairy tale about ObamaCare? “If you like your health care plan, you can keep it.” The Kansas version of that hollow promise is ‘we can massively increase school funding without a tax increase.’

The harsh reality is that Kansas taxpayers are being set up for a \$3.7 billion tax increase over the next four years unless the majority of elected officials muster the backbone to reduce costs and [stop taking orders from a runaway judiciary](#). That’s what it would take to have a structurally balanced budget, with each year’s spending not exceeding that year’s tax collections. (Remember? That was the war cry / ‘vote-for-me’ promise of so many people who opposed tax cuts... and then forgot about having a structurally-balanced budget when they approved massive school spending increases.)

The calculation is produced by Kansas Legislative Research Department (KLRD) and presents an honest long-term picture of the tax revenue needed to pay for the increased school funding. It’s based on having a legally-required ending balance [1] without transfers from the highway fund and making all scheduled KPERS pension payments through FY 2023. The only spending increases included are those related to approved school funding, the Department of Education’s (KSDE) calculation of complying with the latest Supreme Court ruling and KLRD’s case load estimate for existing Medicaid coverage.

State General Fund Profile							
Description	Actual FY 2017	APVD FY 2018	APVD FY 2019	Est. FY 2020	Est. FY 2021	Est. FY 2022	Est. FY 2023
Beginning Balance	\$ 37.1	\$ 108.5	\$ 762.4	\$ 664.7	\$ 570.4	\$ 593.9	\$ 617.9
Consensus Rev. Estimate	\$6,348.0	\$7,298.1	\$7,003.3	\$7,221.8	\$7,351.4	\$7,522.9	\$7,692.9
Less Highway Transfers				\$ (293.1)	\$ (293.1)	\$ (293.1)	\$ (293.1)
Federal Tax Adjustment				\$ 145.8	\$ 157.7	\$ 159.0	\$ 161.0
Released encumbrances		\$ 0.6	\$ -				
Tax incr. for 7.5% end. bal.			\$ -	\$ 436.0	\$ 725.6	\$ 874.2	\$1,022.0
Total available revenue	\$6,385.1	\$7,407.2	\$7,765.7	\$8,175.2	\$8,512.0	\$8,856.8	\$9,200.7
Approved expenditures	\$6,276.5	\$6,644.8	\$7,071.0	\$7,101.0	\$7,604.8	\$7,918.1	\$8,238.9
Est. KPERS school inc.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 26.2	\$ 23.9	\$ 25.0	\$ 25.0
Human Services caseload		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 70.0	\$ 75.0	\$ 80.0	\$ 85.0
School finance SB 423		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80.0	\$ 79.0	\$ 87.5	\$ 81.6
KPERS w/statutory inc.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 266.4	\$ 44.2	\$ 37.0	\$ 37.0
Est. Sup Court ruling KSDE		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 91.2	\$ 91.2	\$ 91.3	\$ 91.3
Reappropriations		\$ -	\$ 30.0	\$ (30.0)			
Total adj expenditures	\$6,276.5	\$6,644.8	\$7,101.0	\$7,604.8	\$7,918.1	\$8,238.9	\$8,558.8
Ending Balance	\$ 108.6	\$ 762.4	\$ 664.7	\$ 570.4	\$ 593.9	\$ 617.9	\$ 641.9
as % of expenditures	1.7%	11.5%	9.4%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%

*Source: Kansas Legislative Research Department, prepared at the request and direction of Rep. Susan Humphries.
Amounts in bold are KLRD estimates and do not include any consensus estimates. Transfers are included in FY 2020
- FY 2023 at the FY 2019 approved level, adjusted to remove the one-time KPERS transfer of \$82 million.*

About \$624 million of the tax increase is already in place, noted as ‘Federal Tax Adjustment’ in the above table. Federal tax reform eliminates personal exemptions, caps itemized deductions for some people and imposes higher taxes on many businesses. The Kansas Senate voted to prevent this backdoor state income tax hike but too many House members wanted more money to spend.

Paying for approved school funding without gimmicks (transfers, KPERs delays, ignoring the ending balance law, etc.) will cost another \$2.1 billion and if elected officials decide to meet KSDE’s [\\$365 million estimate](#) of the latest court demand, another \$940 million tax hike will be needed.

The tax impact of paying for the new school funding is much greater than the simple total of the funding approved because of the cumulative impact of adding more money each year. The estimate of meeting the court’s latest demand is a good example.

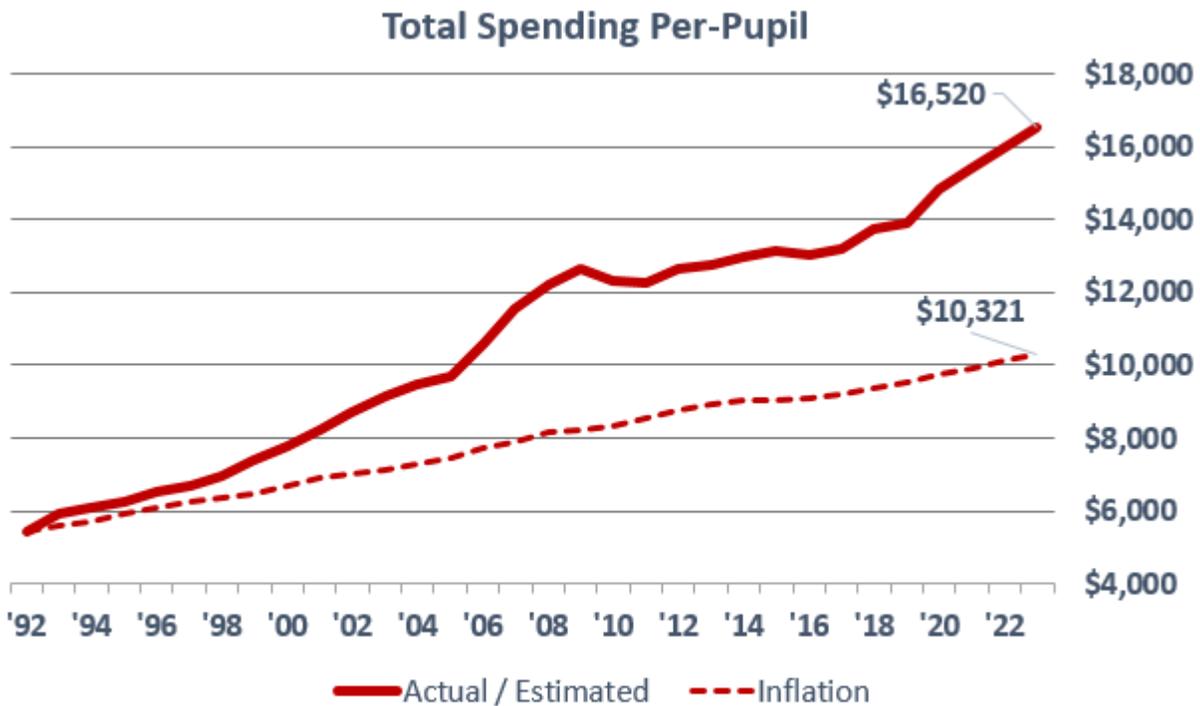
KSDE says funding would have to increase a little over \$91 million each year and would, therefore, be \$365 million higher in the fourth year; but that amounts to \$912.3 million more being spent over the four-year period.

To top it off, another \$27.4 million is needed to meet the higher ending balance requirement (7.5 percent of the new money added each year), bringing the total tax revenue needed over four years to \$939.7 million.

KSDE calculates the total amount approved thus far for FY 2018 through FY 2023 at [just over \\$1 billion dollars](#). Total aid as calculated by KSDE would slightly exceed \$8 billion in FY 2023 even if federal aid remains flat and local revenue is only nominally increased. If legislators provide the additional aid KSDE says is needed to satisfy the court with enrollment increases as KSDE anticipates, per-pupil funding would be \$16,520 in FY 2023.

Tax Impact of Meeting Gannon Court Order			
Year	Court Order	Ending Balance	Total
FY 2020	\$ 91.2	\$ 6.8	\$ 98.0
FY 2021	\$ 182.4	\$ 6.8	\$ 189.2
FY 2022	\$ 273.7	\$ 6.8	\$ 280.5
FY 2023	\$ 365.0	\$ 6.8	\$ 371.8
4-Year Total	\$ 912.3	\$ 27.4	\$ 939.7

Source: KSDE estimate of meeting Supreme Court order



Source: KSDE, BLS

Those claiming school funding can be massively increased without raising taxes either don’t want you to know the implications for highways, social services and higher education, or they’re afraid to tell the truth about tax increases. Because, you know, getting elected is what really matters.

[i] State law requires an ending balance equal to 7.5 percent of expenditures. Legislators and governors have often ignored that legal requirement over the last couple of decades by periodically changing the law to effectively say, ‘except this year.’

THE CASE FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ON SCHOOL FUNDING

July 16, 2018 | <https://kansaspolicy.org/constitutional-amendment/>

The Kansas Supreme Court's latest ruling that a six-year, \$854-million funding increase is inadequate has renewed talk of amending the constitution, and that has evoked emotional responses from opponents. Some proponents have even been accused of being anti-education and ignoring the rule of law.

Blanket charges of that nature are neither fair nor accurate; everyone is entitled to their opinion and no one should be attacked for their view on this issue.

Those opposed to amending the constitution generally cite two reasons for their objection: respect for a system of checks and balances and schools won't be adequately funded unless the court intervenes.

Separation of powers is fundamental to our constitutional republic, and the Kansas Supreme Court has made two critical findings that explain why courts cannot set funding levels.

Its 1994 ruling in *USD 229 v. State of Kansas* declared that "suitable provision for finance" in the Kansas constitution does not refer to a level of funding, but to a system of finance which, as stipulated in the [KS] Constitution, may not include tuition. "Adequate" isn't part of the constitutional language on education; that adjective was created by courts.

And in 2015, the court found the Legislature's attempt to allow local judges to elect their own chief judge unconstitutional. The court said the Legislature violated the court's constitutional authority and quite emphatically said it is the duty of the judicial, legislative and executive branches "... to abstain from, and to oppose, encroachments..." on their authority.

Since the Kansas Constitution vests authority to spend money solely with the Legislature and the 1994 court said the constitutional meaning of "suitable" doesn't reference a level of funding, those proposing a constitutional amendment believe they are honoring the system of checks and balances and upholding the rule of law and constitutional intent.

By the way, the Kansas Department of Education estimates school funding set yet another record last year, likely exceeding \$13,600 per student.

Ignoring the 1994 precedent isn't the only directional change of the current court. It's not unlike playing board games with young children, with the rules constantly changing so the rule-maker can win.

The court's first ruling on the current case established a new test of adequacy (reasonably calculated for students to achieve certain outcomes) rather than the old Base State Aid primary test; it also said all funding sources should be considered and declared cost studies to be "more akin to estimates than... certainties..." Now we're back to using artificially inflated cost studies and primarily focusing on Base State Aid.

Student achievement is only marginally considered. Every instance cited purporting to correlate higher spending with better outcomes is easily refuted with multiple examples showing exactly the opposite.

Finally, even if the Legislature adds more money and satisfies the court on adequacy, it's just a matter of when the next lawsuit is filed. The Legislature's cost study with its \$2 billion recommendation is a ticking time bomb, and school attorneys won't hesitate to exploit it.

For these reasons, many people believe a constitutional amendment is the only way to end the litigation cycle. A Constitutional Amendment would also prevent courts from effectively imposing even larger tax hikes, which dramatically impact our children's future. It's time to stop repeating the same failing practices and get back to enabling our teachers to educate our students.

Is it time to do away with public funded schools that we now have??? They don't seem to be teaching their students as well as the private schools. Wasn't their talk of private vouchers parents could get and take to private schools for their children to attend private schools? Would that work better or would they just become contaminated like our public schools have? Government control needs to be removed from schools – County, State, Federal government have no place in schools. Students need to be taught the basics of all levels of Government and in the many other subjects that will prepare them for further education in the subjects of their interests.



The following article is further direct info for Kansas voters and teachers to consider for the November elections:

Kansas is Top Ten in the wrong education categories

By Dave Trabert | Kansas Policy Institute

<https://kansaspolicy.org/kansas-is-top-ten-in-the-wrong-education-categories/>

The Kansas Association of School Boards **falsely claims** Kansas is in the top ten for student achievement, but Kansas does have some top ten rankings – and they're in all the wrong categories. Newly released data from the **U.S. Census Bureau** for the 2016 school year shows:

- **Kansas has the 2nd highest growth rate in cash and securities since 2001 (284 percent)**
- **Kansas has the 6th highest share of total aid coming from the State (65 percent)**
- **Kansas has the 7th highest per-pupil spending on Capital Outlay (\$1,946)**
- **Kansas has the 8th highest debt per-pupil (\$11,238)**

The current debt ranking could be even higher, since Kansas schools set a new record of **\$6.1 billion in bonded indebtedness** last year. The cash and security totals in the Census data includes an unknown amount of construction funds for each state. The Kansas Department of Education doesn't require school districts to report construction funds on hand but it could be nearly \$800 million; Census data shows Kansas schools had \$2.7 billion in cash and securities but the **state-reported total for 2016 was \$1.9 billion**. Construction funds would be proceeds from the sale of bonds that haven't been spent on construction projects.

Long before legislators added about \$1 billion to school funding, school districts already received 65 percent of their funding from the State, while the national average was just 47 percent. The difference is made up in Local funding, where the national average is 45 percent, but local property taxes only cover 27 percent of the tab in Kansas.

Education officials prefer the higher State allocation because local property tax increases would prompt citizens to scrutinize school spending practices. (Legislators tend to look the other way because that's the expedient way to get re-elected.)

Calculations from Kansas Legislative Research Department show a **\$3.7 billion revenue shortfall** over the next four years. That's what it would take to pay for approved and proposed school funding without taking money from the highway fund, making timely payments to the pension system and complying with state law on ending balances.

2016 School Funding by Source			
Geography	State	Local	Federal
Kansas	65%	27%	7%
Missouri	42%	49%	9%
Oklahoma	48%	41%	11%
Nebraska	33%	59%	8%
Colorado	43%	50%	7%
US average	47%	45%	8%

Source: US Census Bureau

Whoever wins in November will have some critical decisions to make.

Do they pay for the massive school funding increase with another big state tax hike or raise local property taxes? Do they cut a lot of waste and (finally) tell the court to mind its own business and reject school funding increases? What about highway transfers and pension payment delays?

Legislators created a serious math problem trying to appease courts and the education lobby. Now they should be honest and tell citizens how they intend to resolve it.



KASB's data manipulation avoids truth about spending, inflation and student outcomes

by David Dorsey | Kansas Policy Institute Aug 19, 2018

<https://kansaspolicy.org/kasbs-data-manipulation-avoids-truth-about-spending-inflation-and-student-outcomes/>

If you read enough Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB) school funding reports, you'd think education funding in Kansas didn't exist prior to 2008. That always seems to be the start date whenever KASB writes about how much they think Kansas education is underfunded. The most recent Tallman Education Report is no exception. It's another example of surgically selecting certain financial data while ignoring other pertinent information. This time the data manipulation is to show

that Kansas has trailed the rest of the nation, and in particular the other Plains states in per-pupil funding since – you guessed it – the Great Recession.

Why does Tallman continue to pick 2008? What's wrong with 2005 when court-ordered money pursuant to the *Montoy* case started to kick in? Or how about 1992 when the transformative school finance formula, School District Finance and Quality Performance Act (SDFQPA), was adopted? Not only is the starting date curious, but the ending year of 2016 (the latest year of

available comparative U.S. Census data) is quite convenient. It fails to include the funding increase approved by the Legislature in 2017.

The graph reveals the real school funding picture since the passing of SDFQPA. The separation of the two lines shows just how much spending has outpaced inflation from 1992 to the estimates through 2023. With the addition of over \$500 million to K-12 education by the Legislature in the 2018 session, by 2023 per-pupil spending will increase to more than \$6,000 above inflation. Of particular note is the funding spike that started in 2005 – one that was ordered by the Supreme Court based on an extremely flawed education cost study – and continued until, coincidentally, the recession impacted state revenues a few years later.

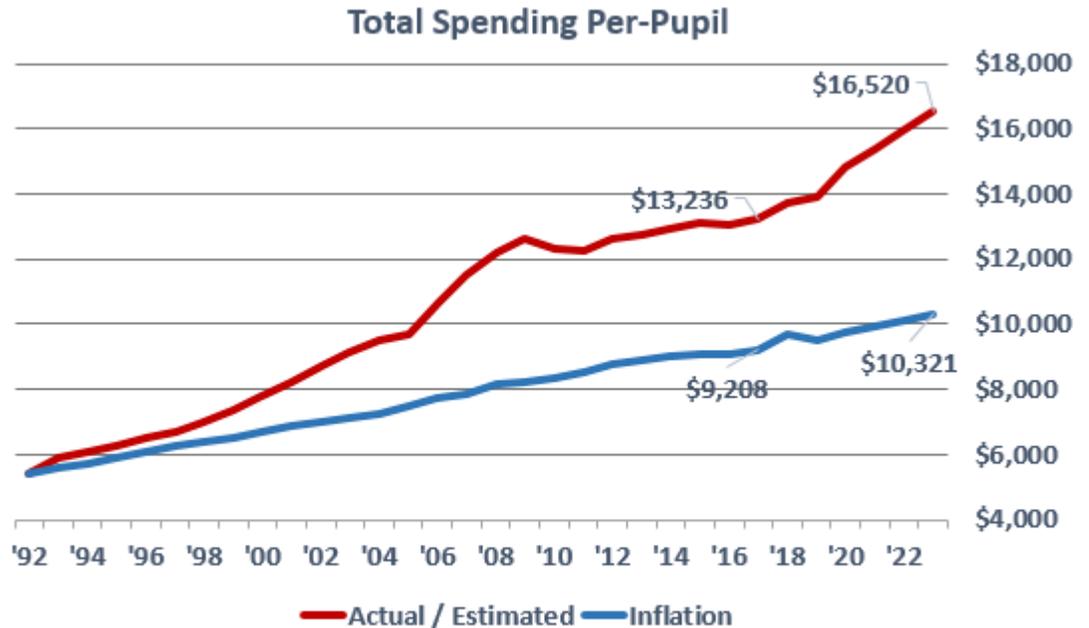
What's left is a narrow time window that fits KASB's narrative that education needs more funding. The [article](#) even includes a 50-state ranking of adjusted school funding change over that narrow time frame. Kansas ranks 40th.

This report is simply another version of KASB's inputs-based approach to education. Once again there is not a single mention of student outcomes or achievement, just a bunch of data-jibberish presented to make the reader believe quality education is all about money. If that were true, how do they explain [that Florida](#) – the state that ranks dead last on KASB's revenue ranking – has better performance than Kansas?

Regardless of the facts Tallman chose to use, there are two truths conspicuously missing.

1. Education spending in Kansas has consistently outpaced inflation over the last quarter century. Actual spending for 2017 was about \$4,000 per-pupil above inflation and it could be \$6,500 per-pupil above inflation by 2023. KSDE estimates that funding already approved plus the cost of meeting the court's latest demand will push funding to \$16,520 per-pupil – and that's without any increase in federal aid and not much change in local aid.
2. There is no correlation, let alone a causal relationship, between spending and student outcomes. Example after example verifies that, but in this case Tallman's own data supports that truth. He reports that New York was fourth in spending change with an increase of 18.3%. Kansas dropped 4.9% and Florida dropped a whopping 20.3%. Despite those spending changes, [KPI showed in this analysis](#) that Florida outperforms both Kansas and New York in NAEP scores for low-income students. That also holds true overall for all students.

*Is it time to **finally** hold the KASB accountable for their self-serving greed? Remember these things and **share with your local teachers** before we all head to the polls on Nov 6!!*



Source: KSDE (spending prior to 2005 increased to account for KPERS) and BLS (Midwest City CPI on fiscal year basis)

COMMENTARY: Donald Trump is the Picasso of tweets | from Las Vegas Review-Journal

<https://www.reviewjournal.com/opinion/opinion-columns/wayne-allyn-root/commentary-donald-trump-is-the-picasso-of-tweets/>

A little birdie in government tells me Hillary Clinton and the entire Clinton Foundation will soon be under Federal indictment. I have breaking news for you... Donald Trump's tweets are not a mistake. This isn't insanity. He's not nuts. He's not stupid. Actually, he's a genius.

Trump is the Picasso of tweets. Monet meets Beethoven. The Saul Alinsky of conservatives and capitalists. Trump is the first politician from the right to figure out how to stop the radical left. By driving them crazy.

Trump has destroyed the left with tweets. Just look at them in disarray. From Kathy Griffin, to Jeff Tucker of CNN, to Bernie Sanders, to Megyn Kelly – liberals lay in smoldering ruins.

Branch Rickey once said, "Luck is the residue of design." Maybe it's time for liberals to admit that Trump's crazy

tweets aren't so crazy after all. They are purposeful. He's driving liberals nuts with rage, while distracting them so they don't even see what's happening.

Sure Trump's tweets turn off lots of Democrats. Who cares?

Sure he turns off the media. Who cares?

Sure he turns off plenty of young people who never vote. Who cares?

Sure he turns off the people walking along Venice Beach or Melrose Avenue in Los Angeles. Who cares?

None of these people was ever voting for him in the first place. Many of them don't vote at all.

Liberals claim Trump is mentally ill. But he's just much smarter than they are. He's playing at a different level.

Trump is doing "The Art of the Deal." For Trump, it's about winning. How he wins is immaterial. He doesn't mind shocking, outraging, offending, or even embarrassing himself. He is using guerrilla warfare to beat the left. Trump is deflecting and distracting his critics and enemies while he passes his entire agenda.

While Trump is busy tweeting, offending, enraging and infuriating, he is quietly — behind scenes — fundamentally changing America. Or haven't you noticed?

Trump is erasing Obama like he never existed. Trump is demolishing the socialist dreams of Obama and Sanders and Hillary and Valerie Jarrett... and their radical Marxist mentor Saul Alinsky.

Trump is destroying the Democrat Party — pushing it so far to the left it will have no chance in 2020. Trump is destroying the media. Trump will keep his job far longer than CNN President Jeff Zucker. Wanna bet?

Trump has destroyed Kathy Griffin's career. The only head she cut off was her own. Trump has destroyed Megyn Kelly's career. Advertisements for personal injury lawyers have higher ratings than Kelly's new show.

Bernie Sanders's wife is under investigation for fraud. The careers of former FBI director James Comey and acting FBI Director Andrew McCabe are in tatters. McCabe is under three separate criminal investigations.

There's no more funding of liberal causes by Department of Justice lawsuits. The National Labor Relations Board is becoming pro business. There's no more political persecutions of conservatives by the IRS, DOJ or FBI. Border crossings are down by 50 percent to 70 percent (depending on which stat you believe).

Trump's going after welfare for illegals. Trump's going after voter fraud by illegals. The travel ban is in effect. The number of Muslim refugees let into America is being cut dramatically.

Soon, one way or another, there will be no more ObamaCare. Soon, there will be no more high Obama taxes.

Soon, construction of a wall will begin.

Soon, Trump will get to name a second, and then a third, and maybe even a fourth U.S. Supreme Court justice. Trump's Supreme Court will turn America red for the next 40 years.

Liberals are toast. Obama is erased. Hillary will be tied up in court for years to come. Israel is our best friend again. The police and military are beloved and respected again.

All is well in my world. How about yours?

Trump has outwitted the left.

Trump is an artist. Trump really is the Picasso of tweets.

You can agree with her or not agree with her... It's your choice!!!!

THE SALTY SAILOR AND THE FIREMAN

The views this mother has about Donald Trump are much like many others. Her characterization of Trump as the "Salty Sailor" or as The Fireman paint an excellent picture!! She has written many great books about her son and family. This is a Comment from KAREN VAUGHN, Mother of the late Aaron Vaughn, Navy Seal.

Sometimes God uses the no-nonsense, salty sailor to get the job done. Appreciating what the man is doing doesn't mean we worship the salty sailor or even desire to be like the salty sailor. It doesn't even mean God admires the salty sailor. Maybe He just knows he's necessary for such a time as this.

I believe with all my heart that God placed that salty sailor in the White House and gave this nation one more chance in November 2016. Donald Trump is what he is. He is still the man he was before the election. And without guilt, I very much admire what that salty sailor is accomplishing.

He's not like me. That's okay with me. I don't want to be like him. I will never behave like him. I know we've NEVER had a man like him lead our nation. It's crazy and a little mind blowing at times. But I can't

help admire the ability he has to act with his heart rather than a calculated, PC, think tank-screened, carefully edited script. I still believe that is WHY he became our President and WHY he's been able to handle a landslide of adversity and STILL pass unprecedented amounts of good legislation for our country AND do great works for MANY other nations, including Israel.

I'm THRILLED with what he's doing for my nation, for the cause of Christ (whether intentional or unintentional, doesn't matter to me), and for the concept of rebuilding America and putting her FIRST. I will not be ashamed of my position because others don't see him through the same lens.

Should it matter to me if a fireman drops an f-bomb while he's pulling me from a burning building? Would I really care about what came out of his mouth in those moments? Heck no! I'd CARE about what he was DOING. He wasn't sent there to save my soul and I'm not looking to him for spiritual guidance. All I'm thinking in those moments is, "Thank you, Jesus, for sending the fireman."

I'll post this article below again for those who still might not understand me. This man is crass. Okay. He's not careful with what he says. Okay. You feel offended that he's not a typical statesman. Okay. But he is rebuilding the nation my son died for... the nation I feared was on a fast track to becoming a hopeless cause. Forgive me if I'm smiling."~ KAREN VAUGHN



RIGHT FROM THE START | by Larry Huss

<https://oregoncatalyst.com/41576-trump.html>

What IF Trump is RIGHT?

Before you read this column try to set aside your personal animus towards President Donald Trump. In fact, try to set aside the notion of any of this having to do with a man named Donald Trump and try to focus on what should be a clarion call to refute the generally accepted norms for our federal government. I say “generally accepted” because they have been verbalized by Democrats and Republicans alike for at least the last three decades – so much accepted” because they have been verbalized by Democrats and Republicans alike for at least the last three decades – so much so that they have become the “new truth”.

1. What if the federal government is actually corrupt? That it is actually run by a cadre of bureaucrats that swarm to protect their status their power, and their privilege? What if there is actually a “swamp” and the creatures of the swamp attack without coordination by a single party but rather attack because their very existence is at risk? What is former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton is corrupt? What is former Attorneys General Eric Holder and Loretta Lynch are actually corrupt? What is the Internal Revenue Service is actually corrupt?” What is the leadership of the Federal Bureau of Investigation is corrupt?

Recent history is littered with the misadventures of a one-woman (Hillary Clinton) wave of corruption dating back to her days as first lady of Arkansas and continuing unabated through her second failed quest for the presidency. Not only is Ms. Clinton corrupt but she has corrupted virtually everyone she touches – Vince Foster, Huma Abedin, Susan Rice, Donna Brazile, Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, Loretta Lynch, James Comey, Andrew McCabe, Lisa Page, Peter Strzock, and on and on and on. And “the swamp”, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation has protected her, Congressional hearings have exposed the Internal Revenue Service’s intentional discrimination against conservative advocacy groups. Eric Holder refused to enforce contempt of Congress citations against himself and others. And these are just the most visible.

Members of Congress who, when elected, demonstrated meager net worth statements are now multi-millionaires all while living in one of the most expensive cities in the world and often maintaining two homes (Washington DC and their home district) while earning a mere \$170,000 per year as a member of Congress. Included in these numbers are Oregon’s Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley and Congressman Earl Blumenauer.

Mr. Trump has challenged the status quo and has begun exposing this corruption and its double standards of conduct – one for us and another for the elites.

2. What is international diplomacy is in fact just international appeasement? What if every tinpot dictator, religious zealot and genocidal sociopath knows that they can act with relative impunity because those that can call

them to account will not – to timid, too fearful of criticism, or too willing to accept the blame for the abhorrent actions of these miscreants? What if the real remedy for international terrorism, genocide and religious intolerance really is the exercise of fast, certain and decisive power?

For the last three decades the State Department has been dominated by the graduates of Yale (white, male and Yale). They have followed the orthodoxy of Yale's predominantly progressive/liberal leftist academic cadre (including the Jackson Institute for Global Affairs). To varying degrees they preach that the majority of global problems are caused by American – too big, too rich, too strong – and that the influence of America should be tempered. The apology tour by former President Barack Obama was adjudged the epitome of the State Department's policy – blame America first, apologize for being successful and pledge to forego any influence but maintain funding the corruption, misogyny, homophobia, and genocide practiced by third world nations. That policy demanded that the global butchers (Russian dictators and oligarchs, North Korea's family of lunatics, Iran's religious zealots, Syria's Bashar al Assad, and a host of African dictators, warlord, and common criminals) be treated with restraint and be rewarded for pausing briefly in their brutality. It also required American to accept blame for the conditions that caused their rise to power.

Mr. Trump has suggested that three decades of appeasement hasn't worked and that international conflict has increased dramatically, particularly over the last decade. By a combination of military threats (including those that he has actualized), economic sanctions and tough talk, Mr. Trump has changed the posture of North Korea, China's support of North Korea, and the world's view of North Korea as an active the impending peril. In doing so he has opened the door to negotiations to denuclearize the Korean peninsula. He has drawn a red line over the use of chemical weapons by the Assad regime and acted to enforce it at least twice and in doing so brought together European and Arab interests to hold Syria, Iran and Russia accountable. By demonstrating a willingness to confront Iran over its military adventures in Iraq, Syria, Palestine and Jordan. He has encouraged a pan-Arab alliance that has begun to thaw relations between Israel and its Arab neighbors and which can lead to a resolution of the Palestinian conflict insured by Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Egypt.

3. What if the people who have negotiated international trade deals for America are diplomats and politicians who are immune from the decisions they make on international trade? What if those negotiators have focused on the State Departments diplomatic goals instead of the legitimate needs of business and workers? What if the trade agreements they have negotiated actually are detrimental to America's economic interests?

Mr. Trump has threatened to withdraw from the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), has withdrawn from the Trans-Pacific Trade Partnership Agreement (TTP) and the environmental Paris Climate Accords and seeks to impose heavy trade sanctions on steel, aluminum and China. In each instance, the status quo has resulted in a threat to American manufacturing, an increase in the trade deficit and an onward flow of foreign aid and investment capital. In each instance, those agreements have followed the appeasement policies of the State Department to the detriment of American business and labor.

The result of such actions have been a sharp turn in American investment, job creation and recognition that the party is over for those nations who demand much and provide little.

4. What if the reduction of taxes actually does grow the economy? What is putting more money in the hands of consumers and businesses results in higher demand, increased investment, job creation and increased salaries? What if it is only the politicians who are worried that people who pay the most in taxes get the most real dollar benefit from decreases and that real people, working men and women actually recognize this logical result and are still grateful for the benefits they receive?

Unemployment at 4.1 percent as measured by the Bureau of Labor Statistics is at the lowest level in seventeen years. The employment rate as measured by Labor Force Participation Rate has begun to increase after a nearly thirty-year decline. The stock market has hit all time highs. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) had increased to nearly three percent after nearly a decade of languishing below two percent. Wage levels are increasing, business investment is increasing, and labor productivity is increasing. And despite tax cuts, federal tax revenue is increasing. The new norm of low labor force participation, anemic wage growth, and anemic growth in the GDP has proven to be an aberration caused by the heavy hand of government regulation and burdensome taxes.

5. What if the continuing decline in academic performance is not due to the current level of education funding but, rather is due to teacher unions resisting any accountability for performance, for student discipline and for efficiency?

What if parents are equally guilty for assuming that schools are primarily responsible for raiding their children? What if Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos actually knows more about education than Eskelsen Garcia (head of the National Education Association) and Randi Weingarten (head of the American Federation of Teachers) combined?

We do not know the long-term effects of the Trump education policies as pressed by Ms. DeVos but we do know that for over three decades academic performance has declined actually and in comparison to other developed nations. We do know that Americans spend the highest amount per student capita of any developed nation without any visible improvement. We do know that Americans spend that highest amount per student capita of any developed nation without any visible improvement. We do know that all of this has occurred during a time in which the teachers unions have increased their power and have increased their financial resources through mandatory financial participation. We do know that the teachers unions are the primary obstacles to education accountability, including the procession of sexual deviants, poor performers and incompetents. We do know that during this period of time classroom discipline has all but disappeared, that teachers spend as much time on sociological conditions (personal hygiene, sexual issues, and interpersonal skills) as they do on academic progress and that they have failed on all such accounts.

6. What if the growth in the welfare state has actually increased poverty? What if the promotion of working for a living is the best avenue for reducing poverty? What if the promotion of working for a living is the best avenue for reducing poverty, reducing government dependency and encouraging ambition?

The *Heritage Foundation* in a September 14, 2014 report (fifty years after President Lyndon Johnson declared the War on Poverty) stated:

In his January 1964 State of the Union address, President Lyndon Johnson proclaimed, "This administration today, here and now, declares unconditional war on poverty in America." In the 50 years since that time, U.S. taxpayers have spent over \$22 trillion on anti-poverty programs. Adjusted for inflation, this spending (which does not include Social Security or Medicare) is three times the cost of all U.S. military wars since the American Revolution. Yet progress against poverty, as measured by the U.S. Census Bureau, has been minimal, and in terms of President Johnson's main goal of reducing the "causes" rather than the mere "consequences" of poverty, the War on Poverty has failed completely. In fact, a significant portion of the population is now less capable of self-sufficiency than it was when the War on Poverty began.

Today the poverty rate remains virtually unchanged while the number of people on welfare continues to accelerate. Job creation coupled with welfare disincentives for the able bodied will do more to change that equation than the multiple poverty programs that lack any enforced limitations on eligibility. New and stronger controls on lethal and illegal immigration will reduce the number of people receiving welfare benefits – fifty-one percent of immigrant households receive welfare benefits, nearly double the number of native household.

The purpose of this column is not to suggest that Mr. Trump is prescient, or even original in thought. Most every thing mentioned above has been recognized and commented on for a decade or more. And yet the prevailing orthodoxy on all such issues has prevailed to the detriment of all. What Mr. Trump has brought to the table is the willingness to challenge prevailing orthodoxy along with an ability to think strategically about the alternatives.

Love or hate Mr. Trump your focus should not be on him as a person but rather on the direction that he is taking the country. For many of us who are tired of watching the decline of America, tired of accepting the government orthodoxy and tired of paying while being told to shut up because the political elites know what's best, Mr. Trump has been a breath of fresh air. I don't particularly care for Mr. Trump's style but I am prepared to accept that it may be necessary to confront the swamp and its self-serving denizens.

SOUTH AFRICA TO LEGALLY STEAL WHITE FARMERS' LAND

By MICHAEL SAVAGE | 8/1/18

<https://michaelsavage.com/south-africa-to-change-constitution-to-legalize-taking-away-white-farmers-land/>

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa has said the ruling African National Congress must initiate a parliamentary process to enshrine in the constitution a proposed amendment, paving the way for land grabs without compensation.

Ramaphosa, who vowed to return the lands owned by the white farmers since the 1600s to the country's black population after he assumed office in February this year, said on Tuesday that the ANC would introduce a constitutional amendment in parliament.

“The ANC will through the parliamentary process finalize the proposed amendment to the constitution that outlines more clearly the conditions under which expropriation of land without compensation can be effected,” Ramaphosa, a prominent trade union leader and a close associate of Nelson Mandela, said in a televised address on Tuesday.

The millionaire ex-businessman argued that “it has become pertinently clear that our people want the constitution to be more explicit” about the proposal, which is viewed by the South African white minority as forceful expulsion that can incite violence against farmers.

There have been growing fears that the planned expropriation will deal a blow to commercial farming in the country and might put it on the verge of a food production crisis, like the one that struck Zimbabwe when it unleashed a similar crackdown on white farmers in 1999-2000.

Promoting his plan to boost land redistribution in March, Ramaphosa sought to assure white citizens, who constitute roughly nine percent of the total population, that the government would handle the controversial matter through “dialog, discussion, engagement, until we find good solutions that take our country forward.”

“There is no reason for anyone of us to panic and start beating war drums,” he said at the time, noting that nothing should prevent farming activities from continuing as normal.

READ THIS CAREFULLY!! This is what will happen in the USA IF the Liberals/Democrats ever take over. They will take everything away from the Republicans and Agenda 21 will become reality!!

“So... The State Fair Isn’t Good Enough For KU!”

Staff Editorial | The Kansas Sentinel August 28, 2018

<https://sentinelksmo.org/so-the-state-fair-isnt-good-enough-for-ku/>

“So . . . the State Fair isn’t good enough for KU,” wrote Brent Lehner in response to a Lawrence Journal-World article, “KU won’t have booth at the Kansas State Fair for first time in decades.”

Lehner was not unique in his displeasure. “If there were a dislike button, (as there should be),” wrote David Hummell, “the dislikes would greatly outnumber both likes.”

The State Fair, which runs from September 7 though September 16 in Hutchinson, is expected to attract 350,000 people. In years past, KU rented a 20-foot by 10-foot space to promote the university during the event. Cost for the 10-day rental: \$2,500. But not this year.



If KU’s diversity people really cared about distinct cultures, they would not blow off the State Fair.

In what reads like a parody of academic doublespeak, Erinn Barcomb-Peterson, director for news and media relations at KU, explained why, “After consulting with various stakeholder groups, we have decided to pursue more targeted ways to meaningfully engage with Kansans in a way that aligns with our strategic objectives.”

Huh?

One commenter on the KU site backed the university’s decision. “This dramatically underplays the cost that goes into having a booth at the fair,” wrote Jack Martin, formerly a director of strategic communications at the University of Kansas.

Martin continued, “Transportation, meals, lodging, giveaways, etc. – not to mention the time of the staff to work the booth and all the time that goes into organizing it all, including lining up volunteers. If the cost is even fully quantifiable, it’s far more than just the \$2,500 that is spent renting the booth.”

Although the Sentinel favors economic constraint in the university system, in this case we have to agree with the commenter cited at the top of the article. It would seem that the university does think itself “too good” for the State Fair.

By “good” here we mean morally good—at least morally superior. The university’s Diversity and Equity Office spends millions each year allegedly “to create a more representative, equitable, and inclusive KU.”

Using the “metrics” of that office, the kids off Kansas farms, kids whose culture is as diverse as any in America, do not count as “students of diversity.” If they did, you can be sure the university would not be quibbling about the cost per night at the Hutchinson Super 8.



GUYMON: OBAMA’S TATTERED LEGACY

GARRY GUYMON | UTAH DAILY HERALD JULY 19, 2018

https://www.heraldextra.com/news/opinion/mailbag/guymon-obama-s-tattered-legacy/article_b76ebf56-6b5b-5172-bfa1-3b4a06e09dfe.html

I recently came on to this, the author only known as

AN OLDER LADY WHO LOVES BARACK HUSSEIN OBAMA

This is certainly a different way to look at what has been happening.

One 82-year-old lady loves Barack Hussein Obama and she may have a very good point. She says that Obama was amazing, and was rebuilding the American dream! She gives us an entirely new slant on the "amazing" job Obama did and she says that she thanks God for the former President. Keep reading for her additional comments and an explanation. When discussing Obama, she says:

1. Obama destroyed the Clinton Political Machine, driving a stake through the heart of Hillary's presidential aspirations, something no Republican was ever able to do.
2. Obama killed off the Kennedy Dynasty, no more Kennedys trolling Washington looking for booze and women wanting rides home.
3. Obama exposed and destroyed the Democratic Party before our eyes! Dennis Moore had never lost a race. Evan Bayh had never lost a race. Byron Dorgan had never lost a race. Harry Reid is GONE! These are just a handful of the Democrats whose political careers Obama had destroyed. By the end of 2016, dozens more were gone. Just think, in December of 2008 the Democrats were on the rise. In two election cycles, they had picked up 14 Senate seats and 52 House seats. The press was touting the death of the Conservative Movement and the Republican Party. However, in just one term, Obama put a stop to all of this and gave the House and the Senate back to the Republicans.
4. Obama has completely exposed liberals and progressives for what they are. Sadly, every generation seems to need to re-learn the lesson on why they should never actually put liberals in charge. Obama is bringing home the lesson very well: Liberals tax, borrow and spend. Liberals won't bring themselves to protect America. Liberals want to take over the economy. Liberals think they know what is best for everyone. Liberals are not happy until they are running YOUR life.
5. Obama has brought more Americans back to conservatism than anyone since Reagan. In one term, he had rejuvenated the Conservative Movement and brought out to the streets millions of freedom loving Americans. Name one other time when you saw your friends and neighbors this interested in taking back America!
6. Obama, with his "amazing leadership," had sparked the greatest period of sales of firearms and ammunition this country has seen. Law abiding citizens have rallied and have provided a "stimulus" to the sporting goods field while other industries have failed, faded, or moved offshore.
7. In all honesty, four years ago America was more afraid than in our lifetime. Not afraid of the economy, but afraid of the direction our country was going. Many thought, Americans had forgotten what this country is all about. Neighbors and friends, even strangers, have proved to that our lack of confidence in the greatness and wisdom of the American people had been flat wrong.
8. When the American people wake up, no smooth talking teleprompter reader can fool them! Barack Hussein Obama has served to wake up these great Americans! Again, we want to say: "Thank you, Barack Hussein Obama!" After all, this is exactly the kind of hope and change we desperately needed!

9. He has saved Jimmy Carter's legacy and made Jimmy Carter happy, since Jimmy is no longer the worst president we've ever had. Credit goes to where credit is due. KEEP AMERICA GREAT!!!

THANK YOU BARACK HUSSEIN OBAMA!! — Garry Guymon Lindon, Utah

I had never looked at Barack Obama's time in office in this light, but I am glad someone brought it to my attention. He was useful after all. Isn't it amazing how things can turn out!!! It seems the Democrats are slow learners – they still want to do things the negative way – the OBAMA way. To my way of thinking the negative way, the Democratic way, is the path to "THE END" for the USA. The Democrats seem to think that is where the USA should go. They are so ignorant that they do not realize that the next greatest power in the world would then take over. Who is that? THE RUSSIANS! The ignorance of the Democrats is so great that they don't realize the probability of USA coming back from that would in all possibility impossible, at least, in the near future. In my opinion the world would soon become either Communists or Islamic. If we do not want this to happen we MUST not only continue to fight, but fight much harder!!

NFL HISTORY...

A HISTORY RARELY REPORTED OR "LEAKED" TO THE TICKET HOLDERS

I hope this helps you; it opened my eyes to understanding just when the public's respect for the NFL organization started to crumble...

- * In 2012, the NFL had an issue with Tim Tebow kneeling for each game to pray. They also had an issue with Tebow wearing John 3:16 as part of his eye-black to avoid glare, and made him remove it.
- * In 2013, the NFL fined Brandon Marshall for wearing green cleats to raise awareness for people with mental health disorders.
- * In 2014, Robert Griffin III (RG3) entered a post-game press conference wearing a shirt that said "Know Jesus/Know Peace", but was forced to turn it inside out by an NFL uniform inspector before speaking at the podium.
- * In 2015, DeAngelo Williams was fined for wearing "Find the Cure" eye black for breast cancer awareness.
- * In 2015, William Gay was fined for wearing purple cleats to raise awareness for domestic violence. (Not that the NFL has a domestic violence problem).
- * In 2016, the NFL prevented the Dallas Cowboys from wearing a decal on their helmet in honor of 5 Dallas Police officers killed in the line of duty.
- * In 2016, the NFL threatened to fine players who wanted to wear cleats to commemorate the 15th anniversary of 9/11.

So please tell me again how the NFL supports free speech and expression. All of a sudden it seems quite clear, based on the above facts, that the NFL has taken a position against any action by NFL players demonstrating RESPECT for any issue: For God, social causes such as mental health, cancer, domestic violence, for cops killed arbitrarily for being cops, for the Memory of 9/11...

BUT, they will allow demonstrations of DISRESPECT for our National Flag, our National Anthem, for America, and for the American People... if it will help mollify a particular group and its supporters. That is who and what the NFL now has shown itself to be.

Please pass this post along to all your friends and family.

Honor our military... too many of whom have come home with the American Flag draped over their coffins.

Boycott the NFL!!!



Breaking News from [Newsmax.com](https://www.newsmax.com)

David Horowitz: Charlottesville Is Biggest 'Fake News' of Summer

To the alt-Left, establishment RINOs and whomever else it may concern —

Far too many of you now demonstrate an utter lack of the grace to accept the electoral fact that Democrats lost in Nov 2016 and continue to suffer erosion of support despite all your noxiously noisy efforts to force your thoughts and (shallow) beliefs on others. You go on to aggravate yourselves and escalate tensions by overtly proclaiming your hatred for those who voted for and continue to support Donald Trump, the 45th President of these United States.

You adopt the false pieties of victimhood and claim to be "triggered", to justify whining to the world how "sick" you feel about this turn of events. Let us put aside just how childish it is to react on such puerile motives, and offer some observations "from the other side."

How is it that your precious bubble-world has gone awry?

YOU create "us" when you attack our freedom of speech with ever-shifting rules of politically correct speech. (PC speech codes are a naked attempt to silence your opposition. History is replete with examples as to how & why that will NOT work.)

YOU create "us" when you attack our right to keep and bear arms.
(Exactly what part of "shall not be infringed" do you not comprehend?)

YOU create "us" when you attack our Judeo-Christian beliefs.

("IN GOD WE TRUST" is the Official Motto of the United States of America... we LIKE that fact.)

YOU create "us" when you attack and demean our way of life.

(If you see our resistance as a threat to your agenda, you are correct. If you don't like that, *CHECK YOUR PREMISES.*)

YOU create "us" when you denigrate and dishonor Old Glory.

(Since 1775, hundreds of thousands of loyal patriots have given blood, treasure, and their very lives to defend what that flag represents... **THEY deserve your everlasting respect for their sacrifices.**)

YOU create "us" when you deny the miraculous exceptionalism of the American Founding.

(The Founders were mortal men, and their enumerated shortcomings are known to history — many by their own admissions on the record. Thus the collective insightful genius that produced the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights can only be ascribed to DIVINE INSPIRATION. Those who oppose the God behind those principles do so at their own eternal peril.)

YOU create "us" when you slander us as racists.

(Endless repetition of lies does not render them true.)

YOU create "us" when you libel us as xenophobic.

(Again, endless repetition of falsehoods will only inure the foolish to their perfidy.)

YOU create "us" when you demand we accept your fascistic fantasies, to sit down and shut up.

(Whatever happened to "drawing more flies with honey"??)

YOU create "us" when you compel us to buy health insurance that we cannot afford, doesn't work anyway, and tax us for refusing to submit.

("You can fool some of the people all the time, and all of the people some of the time. But you cannot fool all the people all the time." ~ A. Lincoln)

YOU create "us" when you cheer the lie that we can keep our insurance plans and our doctors.

(Again, you cannot fool everyone forever, and after 7 years of ObamaCare, the lie is now exposed in all its malicious, malevolent intent.)

YOU create "us" when you root for policies that give American jobs to illegal immigrants, or tax jobs & businesses into exile.

(We are equally unhappy with cohorts of Wall St finance and the US Chamber of Commerce for their incessant lobbying to these ends...)

YOU create "us" when you force God out of our schools with arrogant sanctimony.

(Our anger is even greater when this is accompanied by the colossal hypocrisy of imposing the "Pillars of Islam" in place of the Judeo-Christian ethics & principles that made America the preeminent guardian of God-given Liberty.)

YOU create "us" when you conflate women's rights with fascistic feminism.

(Women have the very same God-given human rights as men, and are to be held equal under the law in all cases. Government mandates to make their place superior to others is anathema.)

YOU create "us" when you emasculate men and all things masculine.

(Equal treatment under the law is to be seen as a balance, not used for a teeter-totter.)

YOU create "us" when you labor to make America's children soft-headed subjects of the state who are ignorant of the priceless lessons of history.

(*"We hold this truth to be self-evident..."*)

YOU create "us" when you vote for fascistic progressive-utopian fantasies.

(It is our fondest desire to treat others just as we would have them treat us. Utopia is an alluringly seductive fantasy that our Judeo-Christian convictions assure us cannot be achieved this side of Heaven — we urge everyone to behave accordingly, *as if your eternal souls depend on it.*)

YOU create "us" when you work to put government ever further out of our control.

(See above, vis-à-vis "fascistic progressive utopian fantasies".)

YOU create "us" when you murder innocent law enforcement officers.

(Cops who fail to uphold the law in all things should ALWAYS be treated as anyone else, equal under the Rule of Law.)

YOU create "us" when you denigrate American armed services and those whose courage leads them to volunteer to serve us.

(Our military have volunteered to DIE to defend America, even including YOUR right to freely speak of your adoration for fascistic fantasies and utopian fictions. By their service they not only deserve your respect, they have EARNED IT — case closed.)

YOU create "us" when you shill for Islam, or cheer for American-born politicians wearing hijabs — a disgrace to women's freedom & human rights around the world.

(We have read & learned enough of Islam's Quran to KNOW that it is utterly incompatible with EVERY OTHER SYSTEM ON EARTH, bent on subjugation of ALL who disbelieve the fevered scribblings of a 7th century megalomaniac misogynist pedophile.)

YOU create "us" when you take a knee, stay seated, or don't remove your hat for the National Anthem.

(Your casual disrespect will NEVER impress us to your intelligence or good sense.)

"You" create "us," the formerly, now not-so-silent majority. We are fed up. We will speak up. We will push back. God willing, we will do it with ballots, not bullets.

- *Ballots*, not inciting riots.
- *Ballots*, not lawless looting.

- *Ballots*, not blocking public highways.
- *Ballots*, not fires, save the one you kindle in "us".

"YOU" have created "US". But how long do you think you can sustain the hatred, the vile rhetoric, & the UN-civil disobedience, before *serious* reprisals result?

If you don't like America or Americans, fine... GET A PASSPORT AND LEAVE!

These things and much more are why millions of former Democrats of all races, genders, & demographics voted for Trump and other Republicans at every level of American government.

Make America Great Again!!



~ **PROUDLY DEPLORABLE**

This may have been in here before, however, I think it bears repeating!! Think about what it says as you read – if you need to read it more than once – Think about it as you read!!



OH, SIR, ONE MORE THING... IF DEMOCRATS REALLY CARED ABOUT ELECTION INTERFERENCE, WHY THEN ARE THEY SO AGAINST VOTER ID LAWS?

IT SHOWS THE DEGREE OF INTELLIGENCE AND OF THOUGHT THEY PUT INTO WHAT THEY SAY BEFORE SAYING IT!! THEN ONCE IT IS SAID THEY DON'T WANT TO LOSE FACE BY TAKING IT BACK!! THEY CAN'T ADMIT THEY COULD POSSIBLY BE WRONG.



TODAY, ANOTHER BIG PROMISE KEPT

Announced this morning, President Donald J. Trump is delivering on his promise to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) so all American workers can benefit. After years of promises by politicians, this is the first time that a modern American trade agreement has been renegotiated.

The 24-year-old NAFTA was outdated and unbalanced, hurting American jobs and businesses as factories closed and jobs were exported. The old deal contributed to our ballooning annual goods trade deficit, which grew from \$115 billion in 1993—the year before NAFTA's implementation—to a staggering \$800 billion in 2017.

The new U.S.–Mexico Trade Agreement protects American workers, American manufacturing, and American agriculture. New "rules of origin" requirements will encourage billions a year in vehicle and automobile parts production in the United States, supporting high-wage jobs across the country. The deal will also include the strongest, fully enforceable labor standards of any trade agreement.

"Many people thought that this was something that just couldn't happen because of all of the different factions, all of the different sides, and the complexity," President Trump said this morning. "And we made it much simpler, much better. Much better for both countries."

Get the facts: President Trump keeps his promise to renegotiate NAFTA.



Be sure what you read is real, true not made up crap meant to sell papers!!

A DUCK

If it walks like a duck and quacks like a duck; has feathers like a duck; eats like a duck and lays eggs like a duck; flies like a duck; there is a very high probability that it's a duck!

Mike Gallagher, the 8th most recognized talk radio personality in the U.S.A. is heard by over 2.25 million listeners weekly. He compiled and wrote the following essay entitled, "Obama: It was You."

It was you who spoke these words at an Islamic dinner -"I am one of you."

It was you who on ABC News referenced -"My Muslim faith."

It was you who gave \$100 million in U.S. taxpayer funds to re-build foreign mosques.

It was you who wrote that in the event of a conflict - "I will stand with the Muslims." It was you who assured the Egyptian Foreign Minister of your Muslim bias!

It was you who bowed in submission before the Saudi King.

It was you who sat for 20 years in a Liberation Theology Church condemning Christianity and professing Marxism.

It was you who exempted Muslims from penalties under ObamaCare that the rest of us have to pay.

It was you who purposefully omitted - "endowed by our Creator " - from your recitation of The Declaration Of Independence.

It was you who mocked the Bible and Jesus Christ's Sermon on the Mount while repeatedly referring to the 'HOLY' Qur'an.

It was you who traveled the Islamic world denigrating the United States Of America.

It was you who instantly threw the support of your administration behind the building of the Ground Zero Victory mosque overlooking the hallowed crater of the World Trade Center.

It was you who refused to attend the National Prayer Breakfast, but hastened to host an Islamic prayer breakfast at the White House.

It was you who ordered Georgetown University and Notre Dame to shroud all vestiges of Jesus Christ BEFORE you would agree to go there to speak, but in contrast, you have NEVER requested the mosques you have visited to adjust their decor.

It was you who appointed anti-Christian fanatics to your Czar Corps.

It was you who appointed rabid Islamists to Homeland Security.

It was you who said that NASA's "foremost mission" was an outreach to Muslim communities.

It was you who as an Illinois Senator was the ONLY individual who would speak in favor of infanticide.

It was you who was the first President not to give a Christmas Greeting from the White House, and went so far as to hang photos of Chairman Mao on the White House tree.

It was you who curtailed the military tribunals of all Islamic terrorists.

It was you who refused to condemn the Ft. Hood killer as an Islamic terrorist.

It is you who has refused to speak-out concerning the horrific executions of women throughout the Muslim culture, but yet, have submitted Arizona to the UN for investigation of hypothetical human-rights abuses.

It was you who when queried in India refused to acknowledge the true extent of radical global Jihadists, and instead

profusely praised Islam in a country that is 82% Hindu and the victim of numerous Islamic terrorists assaults. It was you who funneled \$900 Million in U.S. taxpayer dollars to Hamas. It was you who ordered the United States Postal Service to honor the MUSLIM holiday with a new commemorative stamp. It was you who directed our UK Embassy to conduct outreach to help "empower" the British Muslim community. It was you who funded mandatory Arabic language and culture studies in Grammar schools across our country. It is you who follows the Muslim custom of not wearing any form of jewelry during Ramadan. It is you who departs for Hawaii over the Christmas season so as to avoid past criticism for NOT participating in seasonal White House religious events. was you who was uncharacteristically quick to join the chorus of the Muslim Brotherhood to depose Egypt's Hosni Mubarak, formerly America's strongest ally in North Africa, but remain muted in your non-response to the Brotherhood led slaughter of Egyptian Christians. It was you who appointed your chief adviser, Valerie Jarrett, an Iranian, who is a member of the Muslim Sisterhood, an off-shoot of the Muslim Brotherhood. It was you who said this country is not a Christian nation. PLEASE! Distribute this far and wide... Yep, he's a Duck alright.

Call it a DUCK if you want to – I call it a TRADER. Obama wanted to make the USA what our Founding Fathers never intended it to be – a controlled people/nation. Those who fought and died forming the USA to be a Country of people who make their own laws/rules and to be free to change them when needed to continue to be a FREE NATION. To me a Muslim nation is NOT FREE. They are told what to do, what to believe and who to praise. The “book” the Muslims follow was written hundreds of years ago and can NOT be changed. The Constitution of the United States was written 200 years ago and CAN be Amended. Let’s do it legally. Keep up the battle – do NOT let those opposing us take over. Vote for the TRUE Americans who will govern by the Constitution!! Sometimes it is hard to know who is who – do your research and be careful and sure of your decisions. If you are unsure who are the “right” ones to vote for check with [Kris Kobach](#)’s office. That phone number is: 785-296-4564. We had the privilege of hearing several besides Kris Kobach speak last Saturday in Manhattan. It was delightful and hopeful to hear true Americans speak of the future of Kansas in positive terms. (Just a word about [Kris Kobach](#) – he wants to enforce the laws that are on the books for Kansas and the USA – if the majority do NOT want the laws enforced the laws need to be changed. Kris had 3 of his 5 girls with him as well as their dog. Beautify behaved girls traveling with their Daddy on his campaign stops. It is always a pleasure to be around Kris and his family.) Guess it is plain to see I am a strong Kris Kobach supporter. If all politicians were as true and honest as Kris it would be a much better world.

The Left's Long War on Conservative Free Speech

by Michelle Malkin | 8/30/2018 12:01 AM

<https://townhall.com/columnists/michellemalkin/2018/08/29/the-lefts-long-war-on-conservative-free-speech-n2513901>

In the competition of ideas, you can't win the game if you're not on the playing field.

That's why Silicon Valley bigwigs' stubborn refusal to put business above their own personal partisan biases doesn't just rankle. It reeks. Equal access to social media is not just about sharing food pics, pet videos, makeup tutorials and travelogues. It's about ensuring the ability to disseminate and distribute political speech on the world's biggest platforms.

Although I started in the metro newspaper industry in 1992, my years as an independent conservative blogger and internet entrepreneur have been the most journalistically enriching. I launched my first website in 1999, my namesake blog in 2004, my first group blog and video content platform HotAir.com and my YouTube channel in 2006 (where I broadcast reports from Iraq), my Twitter account in 2008, my second group website Twitchy.com in 2012, and my documentary-style web series, "Michelle Malkin Investigates," for CRTV.com in 2016.

I don't just preach the First Amendment. I practice it for a living.

Early adopter status was important for us non-leftists who saw the disruptive influence and narrative-setting opportunities that new media and social media offered. I was ridiculed by mainstream media colleagues for wasting time on the internet, derided as "just a blogger" (which I proudly turned into a hashtag), and mocked for starting a Twitter aggregation business long before corporate media outlets copied the idea.

Over the years, I've joined other independent conservative social media users in exposing coordinated "flag-spamming" campaigns against right-wing personalities and causes. Pro-life, pro-border security and anti-jihadist journalists and activists have all been selectively gagged on Google/YouTube, Facebook and Twitter. I've worked with a few good-faith employees at these companies who tried to treat conservatives fairly. But in the unhinged era of the anti-Trump resistance, intermittent purges, "accidental" suspensions and suspicious deletions of conservative content have spiked to a level of systemic censorship.

Twelve years after its founding, Twitter has abandoned its corporate motto of "Defend and respect the user's voice." Twitter co-founder Jack Dorsey, set to testify before Congress in two weeks, admitted his company's left-wing bias and dismissed revelations from his own engineers, who confided to undercover Project Veritas journalists that they were creating algorithms to "ban a way of talking," "down rank" users based on politics and employ "machine learning" to create special triggers and keywords -- "the majority of (which) are for Republicans."

In April, the brilliant anti-leftist street artist Sabo disappeared from Twitter without warning or explanation.

My friend and CRTV.com colleague Gavin McInnes was silenced on Twitter recently for absolutely no good reason and remains suspended.

Prager University, with whom I collaborated on a new video about immigration and border security, has been suppressed on Facebook and it's clear it was no accidental glitch. One of the videos yanked was conservative millennial vlogger and CRTV.com host Allie Stuckey's piece called "Make Men Masculine Again."

Author and philosopher Stefan Molyneux, whose video podcasts have 250 million views, was also silenced by speech suppressors on YouTube, which arbitrarily issued community guideline violation strikes against him for videos including an interview with British journalist Katie Hopkins and a discussion on the Death of White Males.

My friend and conservative social media guru Nick Short, of the Security Studies Group, was one of thousands of conservative activists who discovered they've been throttled by Twitter's use of a "complex and opaque Quality Filter algorithm that has the effect of disproportionately restricting the voices of conservatives under the guise of limiting harmful or abusive users."

Same as it ever was. For three decades, the far-left has waged continuous war on conservative free speech in every available space.

They have organized militant boycott campaigns against the right's most effective advocates on talk radio -- including Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, Michael Savage and Laura Ingraham. They pressured advertisers to withdraw from Dr. Laura Schlessinger's national TV show when she was at the height of her popularity and mainstream commercial success.

Democrats have exploited national tragedies from the Oklahoma City bombing to the Tucson massacre to try to regulate lawful, peaceful conservative free speech and enact an Orwellian Fairness Doctrine under the guise of decency, diversity and equality.

The "new" war on conservatives on the internet is the same old attempt by desperate liberals to shut down their competitors in the marketplace of ideas. If you can't beat 'em, deplatform 'em. That's the progressive way.

The right-wing solution is not to lie down, but to win over more converts, find new ways to disseminate our news and views, and turn up the heat. I've been doing it for 25-plus years and have no intention on cooling off, giving in or shutting up. Speak for those who have no voice. Support those speaking for you.

And one last action item: ***Remember this in November. The ballot box is one of the mightiest platforms we have. Use it or lose it.***



THE BACK NINE

I first started reading this email and was reading fast until I reached the third sentence. I stopped and started over reading slower and thinking about every word. This email is very thought provoking.

Makes you stop and think. -- READ SLOWLY!!

You know... Time has a way of moving quickly and catching you unaware of the passing years. It seems just yesterday that I was young, just married and embarking on my new life with my mate. Yet in a way, it seems like eons ago, and I wonder where all the years went. I know that I lived them all. I have glimpses of how it was back then and of all my hopes and dreams.

But, here it is. **The back nine of my life** and it catches me by surprise. How did I get here so fast? Where did the years go and where did my youth go?

I remember well seeing older people through the years and thinking that those older people were years away from me and that I was only on the first hole and the back nine was so far off that I could not fathom it or imagine fully what it would be like.

But, here it is... my friends are retired and getting grey...they move slower and I see an older person now. Some are in better and some worse shape than me... but, I see the great change... Not like the ones that I remember who were young and vibrant. But, like me, their age is beginning to show and we are now those older folks that we used to see and never thought we'd become.

Each day now, I find that just getting a shower is a real target for the day! And taking a nap is not a treat anymore... it's mandatory! Cause if I don't on my own free will. I just fall asleep where I sit!

And so... now I enter into this new season of my life unprepared for all the aches and pains and the loss of strength and ability to go and do things that I wish I had done but never did!! But, at least I know, that though I'm on the back nine, and I'm not sure how long it will last...this I know, that when it's over on this earth... it's over for here. A new and better adventure will begin!

Yes, I have regrets. There are things I wish I hadn't done...things I should have done, but indeed, there are many things I'm happy to have done.

It's all in a lifetime.

So, if you're not on the back nine yet...let me remind you, that it will be here faster than you think. So, whatever you would like to accomplish in your life please do it quickly! Don't put things off too long!! Life goes by quickly. So, do what you can today, as you can never be sure whether you're on the back nine or not!

"Life" is a gift to you. The way you live your life is your gift to those who come after. Make it a fantastic one. **LIVE IT WELL! ENJOY TODAY! DO SOMETHING FUN! BE HAPPY!! HAVE A GREAT DAY!! REMEMBER "IT IS HEALTH THAT IS REAL WEALTH AND NOT PIECES OF GOLD AND SILVER.**

LASTLY, CONSIDER THIS:

Your kids are becoming you... but your grandchildren are perfect!

Going out is good. Coming home is better!

You forget names.... But it's OK because some people forgot they even knew you!!!

You realize you're never going to be really good at anything like golf.

The things you used to care to do, you aren't as interested in anymore, but you really don't care that you aren't as interested

You sleep better on a lounge chair with the TV 'ON' than in bed. It's called "pre-sleep".

You miss the days when everything worked with just an "ON" and "OFF" switch.

You tend to use more 4-letter words... "what?"..."when?"...???

You notice everything they sell in stores is "sleeveless"!!!!

What used to be freckles are now liver spots.

Everybody whispers.

You have 3 sizes of clothes in your closet.... 2 of which you will never wear.

But Old is good in some things: Old Songs, Old movies, and best of all, **OLD FRIENDS!!!**

STAY WELL, "OLD FRIEND!" SEND THIS ON TO OTHER "OLD FRIENDS" AND LET THEM LAUGH IN AGREEMENT!!! IT'S NOT WHAT YOU GATHER, BUT WHAT YOU SCATTER THAT TELLS WHAT KIND OF LIFE YOU HAVE LIVED.

**TODAY IS THE OLDEST YOU'VE EVER BEEN;
YET THE YOUNGEST YOU'LL EVER BE.
SO ENJOY THIS DAY WHILE IT LASTS!!!**

GOD BLESS ALL WHO READ THIS!!!



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.

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