

The Patriots' Truth

Flint Hills TEA Party News

See us at McALISTER'S DELI, EVERY WED after 5:30pm ---- *Everyone is welcome, we ARE the Working Group. Come check us out!! WELCOME! For monthly meetings, contact Chuck – 785-236-1286. Now that the KSU home football games are over, we will get back to the 2nd Saturday meetings at the Manhattan Public Library, 9:30am. Always interesting and informative, join us!!*

Though it is a few years old, we offer it as "food for thought."

ALL EUROPEAN LIFE DIED IN AUSCHWITZ By Sebastian Vilar Rodriguez

REMEMBER AS YOU READ — IT WAS IN A SPANISH PAPER Dated: Tue. 15 January 2008 14:30

The following is a copy of an article written by Spanish writer Sebastian Vilar Rodriguez and published in a Spanish newspaper on Jan. 15, 2008. It doesn't take much imagination to extrapolate the message to the rest of Europe - and possibly to the rest of the world:

I walked down the street in Barcelona , and suddenly discovered a terrible truth - Europe died in Auschwitz... We killed six million Jews and replaced them with 20 million Muslims. In Auschwitz we burned a culture, thought, creativity, talent. We destroyed the chosen people, truly chosen, because they produced great and wonderful people who changed the world.

The contribution of this people is felt in all areas of life: science, art, international trade, and above all, as the conscience of the world. These are the people we burned.

And under the pretense of tolerance, and because we wanted to prove to ourselves that we were cured of the disease of racism, we opened our gates to 20 million Muslims, who brought us stupidity and ignorance, religious extremism and lack of tolerance, crime and poverty, due to an unwillingness to work and support their families with pride.

They have blown up our trains and turned our beautiful Spanish cities into the third world, drowning in filth and crime.

Shut up in the apartments they receive free from the government, they plan the murder and destruction of their naive hosts.

And thus, in our misery, we have exchanged culture for fanatical hatred, creative skill for destructive skill, intelligence for backwardness and superstition.

We have exchanged the pursuit of peace of the Jews of Europe and their talent for a better future for their children, their determined clinging to life because life is holy, for those who pursue death, for people consumed by the desire for death for themselves and others, for our children and theirs.

What a terrible mistake was made by miserable Europe...

The Global Islamic population is approximately 1,200,000,000; that is ONE BILLION, TWO HUNDRED MILLION, or 20% of the world's population. They have received the following Nobel Prizes:

Literature: 1988 – Najih Mahfooz

Peace: 1978 – Mahamed Anwar El-Sadat; **1990** – Elias James Corey; **1994** – Yaser Arafat; **1999** – Ahmed Zewai

Economics: (zero);

Physics: (zero);

Medicine: 1960 – Peter Brian Medawar; **1998** – Ferid Maurad

TOTAL: 7 (SEVEN)

The Global Jewish population is approximately 14,000,000; that is FOURTEEN MILLION, or about 0.02% of the world's population. They received the following Nobel Prizes:

Literature:

1910 - Paul Heyse

1927 - Henri Bergson

1958 - Boris Pasternak

1966 - Shmuel Yosef Agnon
1966 - Nelly Sachs
1976 - Saul Bellow
1978 - Isaac Bashevis Singer
1981 - Elias Canetti
1987 - Joseph Brodsky
1991 - Nadine Gordimer World

Peace:

1911 - Alfred Fried
1911 - Tobias Michael Carel Asser
1968 - Rene Cassin
1973 - Henry Kissinger
1978 - Menachem Begin
1986 - Elie Wiesel
1994 - Shimon Peres
1994 - Yitzhak Rabin

Physics:

1905 - Adolph Von Baeyer
1906 - Henri Moissan
1907 - Albert Abraham Michelson
1908 - Gabriel Lippmann
1910 - Otto Wallach
1915 - Richard Willstaetter
1918 - Fritz Haber
1921 - Albert Einstein
1922 - Niels Bohr
1925 - James Franck
1925 - Gustav Hertz
1943 - Gustav Stern
1943 - George Charles de Hevesy
1944 - Isidor Issac Rabi
1952 - Felix Bloch
1954 - Max Born
1958 - Igor Tamm
1959 - Emilio Segre
1960 - Donald A. Glaser
1961 - Robert Hofstadter
1961 - Melvin Calvin
1962 - Lev Davidovich Landau
1962 - Max Ferdinand Perutz
1965 - Richard Phillips Feynman
1965 - Julian Schwinger
1969 - Murray Gell-Mann
1971 - Dennis Gabor
1972 - William Howard Stein
1973 - Brian David Josephson
1975 - Benjamin Mottleson
1976 - Burton Richter
1977 - Ilya Prigogine
1978 - Arno Allan Penzias
1978 - Peter L Kapitza
1979 - Stephen Weinberg
1979 - Sheldon Glashow
1979 - Herbert Charles Brown
1980 - Paul Berg

1980 - Walter Gilbert
1981 - Roald Hoffmann
1982 - Aaron Klug
1985 - Albert A. Hauptman
1985 - Jerome Karle
1986 - Dudley R. Herschbach
1988 - Robert Huber
1988 - Leon Lederman
1988 - Melvin Schwartz
1988 - Jack Steinberger
1989 - Sidney Altman
1990 - Jerome Friedman
1992 - Rudolph Marcus
1995 - Martin Perl
2000 - Alan J. Heeger

Economics:

1970 - Paul Anthony Samuelson
1971 - Simon Kuznets
1972 - Kenneth Joseph Arrow
1975 - Leonid Kantorovich
1976 - Milton Friedman
1978 - Herbert A. Simon
1980 - Lawrence Robert Klein
1985 - Franco Modigliani
1987 - Robert M. Solow
1990 - Harry Markowitz
1990 - Merton Miller
1992 - Gary Becker
1993 - Robert Fogel

Medicine:

1908 - Elie Metchnikoff
1908 - Paul Erlich
1914 - Robert Barany
1922 - Otto Meyerhof
1930 - Karl Landsteiner
1931 - Otto Warburg
1936 - Otto Loewi
1944 - Joseph Erlanger
1944 - Herbert Spencer Gasser
1945 - Ernst Boris Chain
1946 - Hermann Joseph Muller
1950 - Tadeus Reichstein
1952 - Selman Abraham Waksman
1953 - Hans Krebs
1953 - Fritz Albert Lipmann
1958 - Joshua Lederberg
1959 - Arthur Kornberg
1964 - Konrad Bloch
1965 - Francois Jacob
1965 - Andre Lwoff
1967 - George Wald
1968 - Marshall W. Nirenberg
1969 - Salvador Luria
1970 - Julius Axelrod
1970 - Sir Bernard Katz

1972 - Gerald Maurice Edelman
 1975 - Howard Martin Temin
 1976 - Baruch S. Blumberg
 1977 - Roselyn Sussman Yalow
 1978 - Daniel Nathans
 1980 - Baruj Benacerraf
 1984 - Cesar Milstein
 1985 - Michael Stuart Brown
 1985 - Joseph L. Goldstein
 1986 - Stanley Cohen [& Rita Levi-Montalcini]
 1988 - Gertrude Elion
 1989 - Harold Varmus
 1991 - Erwin Neher
 1991 - Bert Sakmann
 1993 - Richard J. Roberts
 1993 - Phillip Sharp
 1994 - Alfred Gilman
 1995 - Edward B. Lewis
 1996- Lu RoseIacovino

TOTAL: 129

The Jews are NOT promoting brainwashing children in military training camps, teaching them how to blow themselves up and cause maximum deaths of Jews and other non-Muslims. The Jews don't hijack planes, nor kill athletes at the Olympics, or blow themselves up in German restaurants. There is NOT one single Jew who has destroyed a church. There is NOT a single Jew who protests by killing people.

The Jews don't traffic slaves, nor have leaders calling for Jihad and death to all the Infidels.

Perhaps the world's Muslims should consider investing more in standard education and less in blaming the Jews for all their problems.

Muslims must ask 'what can they do for humankind' before they demand that humankind respects them.

Regardless of your feelings about the crisis between Israel and the Palestinians and Arab neighbors, even if you believe there is more culpability on Israel 's part, the following two sentences really say it all:

“If the Arabs put down their weapons today, there would be no more violence. If the Jews put down their weapons today, there would be no more Israel.” ~ Benjamin Netanyahu

General Eisenhower warned us. It is a matter of history that when the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces, General Dwight Eisenhower, found the victims of the death camps he ordered all possible photographs to be taken, and for the German people from surrounding villages to be ushered through the camps and even made to bury the dead. He did this because he said in words to this effect:

“Get it all on record now - get the films - get the witnesses - because somewhere down the road of history some bastard will get up and say this never happened.”

Recently, the UK debated whether to remove The

Holocaust from its school curriculum because it 'offends' the Muslim population which claims it never occurred. It is not removed as yet. However, this is a frightening portent of the fear that is gripping the world and how easily each country is giving into it.

It is now more than 60 years after the Second World War in Europe ended. This e-mail is being sent as a memorial chain, in memory of the, 6 million Jews, 20 million Russians, 10 million Christians, and 1,900 Catholic priests who were 'murdered, raped, burned, starved, beaten, experimented on and humiliated' while the German people looked the other way.

Now, more than ever, with Iran, among others, claiming the Holocaust to be 'a myth,' it is imperative to make sure the world never forgets.

This e-mail is intended to reach 400 million people. Be a link in the memorial chain and help distribute this around the world.

How many years will it be before the attack on the World Trade Center 'NEVER HAPPENED' because it offends some Muslim in the United States?

Hmm... does this give you a reason to keep all events in history in the history books? That is why Gen. Eisenhower insisted as many pictures as possible taken at Auschwitz when the American troops freed the area and why all the pictures were taken in the South Pacific theater when various islands were taken. The pictures were to preserve history forever more. KEEP HISTORY TRUE!!

From Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins' Dec. 9 Newsletter: Jobs Report Shows Middle Class is Still Struggling

On Friday, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported the unemployment rate decreased from 7.9 percent in October to 7.7 percent in November. While it looks like good news at first glance, we must be cautious when considering these numbers. The unfortunate news is another 350,000 people gave up looking for work and dropped out of the labor force. This is why the unemployment rate decreased, not because a significant number of Americans found jobs. Individuals who drop out of the labor force are not counted in the unemployment rate. If they were, the current 7.7 percent unemployment rate would actually be closer to 11 percent.

Middle-class families continue to struggle due to this administration's failed economic policies. Americans are frustrated with our sluggish economy, and millions of qualified individuals are still without work. Now the president is refusing to compromise and insists he will not even consider controlling our runaway spending problems until Republicans agree to raising

tax rates, a policy that every credible study shows will cost hundreds of thousands of jobs and hurt the economy. Comprehensive, pro-growth tax reform is a real, bipartisan solution that will raise revenue, create jobs, and make the code simpler and fairer. I urge the president to meet us halfway on this common-sense solution to tackle both the financial and jobs crisis in this country.

Fiscal Cliff Deal Must Address Spending Problem

We are now a mere few weeks away from the fiscal cliff, and the Obama Administration has yet to put forth a plan to address our nation's unsustainable spending, deficits, and debt problem during the fiscal cliff negotiations. Republicans offered a reasonable, responsible, and balanced plan to address the fiscal cliff. Our plan for revenue will affect the same group of people as the president's plan, the wealthy, but it does so in a way that prevents further harm to the economy. It includes spending cuts and new revenues from tax reform that closes special-interest loopholes rather than raising tax rates. Unfortunately, the White House placed Americans' economic security on the back-burner by wasting another week with no counter offer. The current debt is more than \$16 trillion, which is larger than the whole U.S. economy. This year's interest payment on the debt alone is \$220 billion. That \$220 billion interest payment on the debt is enough money to buy: 18 aircraft carriers, 1,400 F-22 Raptor fighter jets, or fund 40 million Pell Grants. Any plan that does not address the root of the problem—this nation's out-of-control spending habit—is not a real solution.

We are not fighting this battle simply for ourselves, but for our children and our families. Each child's share of today's federal debt burden is \$51,000. Former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mike Mullen has warned that our debt is "the biggest threat we have to our national security." Our parents and grandparents left America better than they found it, and we have an obligation to do the same for our children.

Topeka Open Office Hrs, Mon, Dec 10

On Monday, December 10, I will host "Open Office Hours" in Topeka at 9:00am. Open office hours are 5-10 minute private meetings, where folks have the opportunity to speak with me directly about the issues and concerns that matter most to them. Meetings are open to any second district resident on a first come, first serve, basis. Congressional staff will be on hand before and after to handle any additional

casework requests. To make a reservation, please contact Melissa in my Topeka office at 785-234-5966. "Open Office Hours" are a part of my Congress to Kansas tour. To learn more about the tour, and my work in both in Washington and the 2nd district, visit my website...

These office hours with Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins are for YOU to talk to her about any topic that concerns YOU. She is there to learn what YOUR concerns are. If Rep. Jenkins doesn't know and understand your problems she can't work to solve them!! SHE IS YOUR EMPLOYEE!

A FORD DEALERS REPORT

This is exactly why Mitt Romney said that 40+% of the people are too dependent on the government. They have learned to work the system.

A Ford Dealer's Report - From Tom Selkis' (Latham Ford) Facebook - True story! Yesterday at the dealership...

"I'll try to make this as short and to the point as I can. One of my salesmen here had a woman in his office yesterday wanting to lease a brand new Focus. As he was reviewing her credit application with her he noticed she was on social security disability. He said to her you don't look like you're disabled and unable to work. She said well I'm really not. I could work if I wanted to, but I make more now than I did when I was working and got hurt (non-disabling injury). She said the gov't sends her \$1500.00 a month in 1 check. And she gets \$700.00 a month on an EBT card (food stamps), and \$800.00 a month for rent. Oh, yeah, and 250 minutes free on her phone. That is almost \$3500.00 a month.

When she was working, she was taking home about \$330.00 per week. Do the math and then ask yourself why the hell should she go back to work. If you multiply that by millions of people, you start to realize the scope of the problem we face as a country. Once the socialists have 51% of the population in that same scenario, we are finished. The question is when do we cross that threshold if we haven't already, and there are not enough people working to pay enough taxes to support the non-working people? Riots?? Be prepared to protect your homes. She didn't lease the Focus here because the dealer down the road beat our deal by \$10.00/month. Glad to know she is so frugal with her hard earned money." **WHOSE HARD EARNED MONEY? YOURS AND MINE!!**



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Topeka 912 Tea Party

Tenth Amendment Dinner

Wednesday, January 16, 2013 at 6:00 PM

Florentine Rm., 2nd Floor, Jayhawk Tower Bldg., 700 SW Jackson
Southeast Corner of 7th and Jackson, Topeka KS

Speakers: Topekan Thomas E. Woods, NY Times bestselling author and Michael Bolden from Los Angeles, Founder and Executive Director of the Tenth Amendment Center.

Michael Boldin: While media and activists alike seemingly want to pigeonhole him into a political category, his viewpoints and positions defy the standard categories and political parties. As he often says in his speeches, "I'm no conservative, and I'm no liberal. I'm not a Democrat or a Republican. I'm not a green or a libertarian, or a socialist or an anarchist. I'm not even an independent. All I am is me. And all I want is to live free."

Thomas E. Woods, Jr.: Senior fellow of the Ludwig von Mises Institute, holds a bachelor's degree in History from Harvard and his master's, M.Phil., and Ph.D from Columbia U. He has written 11 books on various topics, including his book "Nullification" and "The Church and the Market" for which he has received a \$50,000 first prize award in the prestigious Templeton Enterprise Awards. His writings have appeared in dozens of popular and scholarly periodicals and his books have been translated into 13 languages.

Reservations will close with the first 150 people. Please RSVP to:

Cindy Sossoman at csossoman@att.net
or call 785-478-3831, (cell) 785-845-7966

Event cost is \$15.00 per person. The reservation includes dinner, tip and taxes.

Please mail checks by January 7th to: (A PayPal option for payment should be available later)

Cindy Sossoman
6024 SW 40th Terrace
Topeka, KS 66610

If you want to attend this event, you MUST CONTACT Chris T., ASAP or sooner!!

Obama to Mint \$1 Trillion Platinum Coins to Avoid Debt Ceiling?

From CONSERVATIVEbyte.com – posted on Dec. 9, 2012

With America set to hit the debt ceiling again thanks to out-of-control government spending, *The Washington Post* has suggested a solution for President Obama: mint two platinum coins valued at \$1 trillion each. What would this do? According to the *Post*:

Thanks to an odd loophole in current law, the U.S. Treasury is technically allowed to mint as many coins made of platinum as it wants and can assign them whatever value it pleases.

Under this scenario, the U.S. Mint would produce (say) a pair of trillion-dollar platinum coins. The president orders the coins to be deposited at the Federal Reserve. The Fed then moves this money into Treasury's accounts. And just like that, Treasury suddenly has an extra \$2 trillion to pay off its obligations for the next two years — without needing to issue new debt. The ceiling is no longer an issue.

By exploiting the law, liberals in government can simply end the Constitutional practice of having spending originate in the House of Representatives. Since the US Mint operates as a wing of the executive [branch], Secretary of the Treasury Tim Geithner, who spends most of his time these days trotting around delivering other insane Obama proposals, could order such an action.

The *Post* floated this idea just days after meeting with President Obama at the White House, along with MSNBC opinion hosts and members of Daily KOS.

SCARED... Posted by Charles K. on December 7, 2012 at 9:30am

That, plus arrogant, ignorant, and just plain stupid. This, in my opinion, is the reason why the Republican establishment has been so misled and is misleading so much in Washington. The liberals have hammered the party and the conservative movement so hard for so long, their faith in the values that built this country, faith in the principles that blessed us with incredible prosperity, and the unsurpassing will of the ones known as patriots to get this country back on track, has severely faltered to where they'd rather move to the center and become moderate as to avoid further damage. And as much as Speaker John Boehner tries to keep that faith, it too has faltered to the point of casting tea party conservatives out of key committees in the House because they do not 'fall in line with leadership'. Reminds me of the story of Job in the Old Testament.

When Job was stripped of all he held dear, and ravaged with disease that would have killed him, his 'friends' told him to just curse God and die. Yet he had no idea that it was a test of faith brought on by a contest challenged by Satan, to see what one of His children would do in a lose/lose situation. Despite being ridden with disease and crows picking his flesh from his body, his faith never wavered, not a bit. To paraphrase, he said 'though they slay me, yet will I trust Him.' In essence, after this ordeal, his health was restored, and all he lost was given back, **TWICE** than what he lost.

Liberals barely have a sense of morality, therefore they will use all, legal and illegal, at their disposal to decimate any opponent, **by any means necessary**. Their objective is clear: to punish those who work hard and have been successful, and reward those who have made a 'mockery' of their lives. When you have control of the way people live, eat, spend and work, you have control of the people. Manipulation is their best friend; emotion, class, race and gender are their trump cards. And the joke is always on us. Our message is clear; yet our main problem is that we don't have the right kind of **messengers**. We're known for our ideas, but speaking is difficult, even when speaking truth. This is our primary obstacle.

Let's not lose faith, in ourselves or each other. If God is for us, we know who's against us.

It's Not The Gun, It's The Person

Posted by Max Tollens Jr on Dec 6, 2012 at 9:43pm

In the spirit of not letting a crisis go to waste, Liberals are renewing their calls for more gun control in the wake of last weekend's murder/suicide by an NFL player. Sports commentator Bob Costas felt the need to chime in with his opinion during the half-time of the Monday night football game. While Saturday's incidents were certainly a tragedy for two families, it's not enough of a reason to punish all law-abiding citizens who responsibly own firearms.

As one of those law-abiding citizens who responsibly exercise Second Amendment rights, I can report to you that none of my firearms have hurt or killed anyone. For that matter, I can also report to you that our flatware and china haven't made anyone obese.

There are incidents in which people choose to use their vehicle as a weapon, running over their victims rather than shooting them. You certainly don't hear calls for outlawing car ownership after one of these incidents. After a man flew a private plane into a building in Texas, you didn't hear calls for banning light aviation. When someone gets pushed in front of a subway train, do you hear calls for banning subway platforms or subway trains?

The sad truth is that when someone intends on causing another person injury or death, they will use whatever implement is at hand—be it a gun, knife, blunt object, or a car. To place the blame for two deaths on an inanimate object is to give a pass to the person who fired the shots. A handgun has to be loaded, wielded, aimed, and fired intentionally by a person.

Banning guns will certainly make some people feel better but it definitely won't make them any safer. If you don't like guns, then don't own one; just don't preach your anti-gun nonsense to me.

Remember: **Guns don't kill people, people kill people.**

There are enough laws on the books with regards to responsible gun ownership; we don't need any more restrictions on our freedoms to lawfully exercise our Second Amendment right to bear arms.

Marine Who Fought Back Taliban Ambush Up for Silver Star Award

One extremely brave and selfless Marine is up for a prestigious award this week: the coveted Silver Star. According to USMilitaryMedals.com it is "Awarded for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States...[who] distinguishes him or herself by extraordinary heroism."

The Marine who will be receiving the award, Corporal D. Gerardi, earned the medal by selflessly thrusting himself in harm's way after his teammates were pinned down by a Taliban ambush. Gerardi killed at least two Taliban fighters in the firefight, but most extraordinarily, he exposed himself to enemy sniper fire, mortars and machine gun fire while the rest of the unit had to take cover.

Here's the full run-down from MilitaryTimes.com:

Silver Star for corporal who fended off ambush

By James K. Sanborn - Staff writer - Monday Dec 10, 2012

On June 6, 2011, then-Cpl. David M. Gerardi, now a sergeant with the Army National Guard's 19 Special Forces Group, was on patrol with 1st Platoon, Bravo Company, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, in the Upper Sangin Valley of Helmand province, Afghanistan. While collecting biometric data on area residents, enemy fighters fired on his position. It would quickly become the "largest, most contested tactical action of the deployment," according to a summary of action.

Gerardi maneuvered to identify enemy positions and saw movement in nearby compounds, indicating a pending attack. His Team 2 provided overwatch for Team 1 to move on the compound. Suddenly, the firefight exploded with a crescendo of medium machine gun and small-arms fire, pinning Team 1 in a canal — outmanned, outgunned and in serious trouble. With the enemy less than 100 meters away, the team could not return fire or recover an injured Afghan soldier.

"All those guys I knew almost my entire Marine Corps career. Some I knew since Infantry Training Battalion and basic recon course. Those guys are brothers to me. You just don't want to give up on anyone," Gerardi told Marine Corps Times.

He "ran forward directly towards Team 1... to relieve pressure on the point element," his summary of action reads.

He took cover behind a mud wall, coming under "extremely accurate fire" from a compound less than 40 meters east that included RPG, medium and heavy machine gun, and 30mm grenade fire from a belt-fed, Russian-made AGS-17.

Gerardi left his position for a 21/2-foot wall, making him more vulnerable but better able to engage the enemy.

"Despite rounds cracking literally within inches of his head, he quickly and calmly acquired the enemy fighter firing through a hole in a compound wall. He calmly and skillfully placed three rounds of precision fire into the hole with his M110 [Semi-automatic Sniper System] killing the enemy machine gunner," the summary reads.

Team 1 used the lull to recover the injured Afghan soldier.

Gerardi continued suppressing enemy fire so a joint terminal attack controller could call for fire. Meanwhile, high explosive rounds peppered Team 1 with debris.

In a final push to free them, Gerardi left cover again and fired an M72 Light Anti-Tank Weapon, destroying two enemy "murder holes" in a compound wall, which allowed Team 1 to maneuver in the canal, return fire and better treat the wounded Afghan soldier.

When another of 3rd Recon's elements came under fire, he identified an enemy in a tree line and killed him with one round from his M110 SASS. Soon after, friendly pilots delivered a 500-pound guided bomb just 40 meters from his position, and two more artillery rockets landed within 90 meters.

The unit finally retreated under cover of darkness.

"In short, Corporal Gerardi was singularly responsible for the actions... which allowed Bravo Company to break the decisive engagement of 1st Platoon."

Gerardi will receive the award at the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum in Pittsburgh.

It is great to see that the Marine Corps brass are recognizing this Marine's extraordinary heroism, but think about the troops who are still going out on patrol every day, facing the same enemies that Cpl. Gerardi had to. It would be great if they all got medals, but wouldn't a care package be much more useful in the day-to-day life of a soldier, marine, sailor or airman?

For just a small donation, you can send our troops in Afghanistan a box filled to the brim with goodies and supplies they can USE to help make their deployment a little easier. [Sponsor a Christmas and Holiday Care Package today!](#)

We're always getting letters back from the troops thanking our donors for the generous packages. Some letters we get back are almost sad in a way, as some troops reveal that the packages they receive through Move America Forward donors are the only mail they receive all year long.

Can you imagine spending 9-12 months deployed in a foreign land and never once receiving anything so much as a letter from home to see how you're doing? Imagine how great, then, it would feel to know that some stranger back home, who has never even met you, took the time and care to think about you and send a care package full of goodies your way!

It's the best thing you can do to support our troops this holiday season!

*Friends, my daughter & I have decided instead of the adults in our family giving gifts to each other we are going to send "Holiday Care Packages" to our soldier overseas. My son-in-law is retired Army, so he knows what it is like to be there. Of course, he doesn't know what it is like to be there with no one sending things. Another **FHTP**-member gave money to buy items – we will use the boxes that you pay for ahead of time, fill them, and they go without additional postage. We haven't purchased items yet and our cash will be limited, but we will send as much as we can. The following is a list I received online of items most appreciated:*

*Boca Java Coffee, Oreo Cookies, Chap Stick, Deodorant, **Sweet Stripes Christmas Candy**, Painted Hills Beef Jerky, Planters Trail Mix, Ocean Spray Craisins Trail Mix, Gatorade, Candy Diplomacy Jelly Belly Jellybeans, For The Troops CDs, Dian Nagy "The Journey of Life" CDs, Hot Chocolate, **Hot Apple Cider**, Bug Repellent, Battery Operated Fans, Wet Wipes, Foot Powder, Sunblock.*

*Our troops will appreciate whatever you send, but these are named desirables. **HOWEVER, THE MOST DESIRED ITEMS LISTED WAS: A PERSONALIZED LETTER FROM YOU!!! We'll be sure to enclose that also. MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU, YOURS, AND ALL OUR TROOPS AROUND THE WORLD!!!***

THINK ABOUT THIS — HOW MANY DEAD PEOPLE VOTED NOV 6, 2012?

KEEP PASSING THIS AROUND UNTIL EVERY ONE HAS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO READ IT... THIS IS SURE SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT!!!! THE ONLY THING WRONG WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S CALCULATION OF AVAILABLE SOCIAL SECURITY IS THEY FORGOT TO FIGURE IN THE PEOPLE WHO DIED BEFORE THEY EVER COLLECTED A SOCIAL SECURITY CHECK!!! WHERE DID THAT MONEY GO?

Remember, not only did you and I contribute to Social Security, but your employer did, too. It totaled 15% of your income before taxes. If you averaged only \$30K over your working life, that's close to \$220,500. Read that again. Did you see where the Government paid in one single penny? We are talking about the money you and your employer put in a Government bank to insure you and I would have a retirement check from the money we put in, not the Government. Now they are calling

the money we put in an entitlement when we reach the age to take it back. If you calculate the future invested value of \$4,500 per year (yours & your employer's contribution) at a simple 5% interest (less than what the gov't pays on the money that it borrows), after 49 years of working you'd have \$892,919.98.

If you took out only 3% per year, you'd receive \$26,787.60 per year and it would last better than 30 years (until you're 95, if you retire at age 65) and that's with no interest paid on that final amount on deposit! If you bought an annuity and it paid 4% per year, you'd have a lifetime income of \$2,976.40 per month.

Another thing with me... I have two deceased husbands who died in their 50's, (one was 51 and the other one was 59 before one-percent of their social security could be drawn. I worked all my life and am drawing 100% on my own social security). Their SS money will never have one cent drawn from what they paid into SS all their lives.

THE FOLKS IN WASHINGTON HAVE PULLED OFF A BIGGER PONZI SCHEME THAN BERNIE MADOFF EVER DID.

ENTITLEMENT my foot, I paid cash for my social security insurance! Just because they borrowed the money for other government spending doesn't make my benefits some kind of charity or handout!!

Remember Congressional benefits? — free healthcare, outrageous retirement packages, 67 paid holidays, three weeks paid vacation, unlimited paid sick days. Now *that's* welfare, and they have the nerve to call my social security retirement payments entitlements? *This may have been true at one time, but is NOT in force at this time!!!*

We're "broke" and we can't help our own Seniors, Veterans, Orphans, or Homeless. Yet in the last few months we have provided aid to Haiti, Chile and Turkey. And now Pakistan... home of bin Laden. Literally, BILLIONS of DOLLARS!!!

Our retired seniors living on a 'fixed S.S. income' receive no additional federal aid nor do they get any financial breaks, while our government and religious organizations pour hundreds of billions of \$\$\$ and tons of food to foreign countries!

They call Social Security and Medicare an entitlement even though most of us have been paying for it all our working lives, and now, when it's time for us to collect, the government is running out of money. Why did the government borrow from it in the first place? It was supposed to be in a locked box, not part of the general fund.

Sad isn't it?

NYT OP-ED COLUMNIST

Profiting From a Child's Illiteracy By NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF, Published: December 7, 2012

THIS is what poverty sometimes looks like in America: parents here in Appalachian hill country pulling their children out of literacy classes. Moms and Dads fear that if kids learn to read, they are less likely to qualify for a monthly check for having an intellectual disability.

Many people in hillside mobile homes here are poor and desperate, and a \$698 monthly check per child from the Supplemental Security Income program goes a long way — and those checks continue until the child turns 18.

“The kids get taken out of the program because the parents are going to lose the check,” said Billie Oaks, who runs a literacy program here in Breathitt County, a poor part of Kentucky. “It’s heartbreaking.”

This is painful for a liberal to admit, but conservatives have a point when they suggest that America’s safety net can sometimes entangle people in a soul-crushing dependency. Our poverty programs do rescue many people, but other times they backfire.

Some young people here don’t join the military (a traditional escape route for poor, rural Americans) because it’s easier to rely on food stamps and disability payments.

Antipoverty programs also discourage marriage: In a means-tested program like S.S.I., a woman raising a child may receive a bigger check if she refrains from marrying that hard-working guy she likes. Yet marriage is one of the best forces to blunt poverty. In married couple households only one child in 10 grows up in

poverty, while almost [half do in single-mother households](#).

Most wrenching of all are the parents who think it's best if a child stays illiterate, because then the family may be able to claim a disability check each month.

"One of the ways you get on this program is having problems in school," notes Richard V. Burkhauser, a Cornell University economist who co-wrote a book last year about these disability programs. "If you do better in school, you threaten the income of the parents. It's a terrible incentive."

About four decades ago, most of the children S.S.I. covered had severe physical handicaps or mental retardation that made it difficult for parents to hold jobs — [about 1 percent of all poor children](#). But now 55 percent of the disabilities it covers are fuzzier intellectual disabilities short of mental retardation, where the diagnosis is less clear-cut. More than [1.2 million children](#) across America — a full 8 percent of all low-income children — are now enrolled in S.S.I. as disabled, at an annual cost of more than \$9 billion.

That is a burden on taxpayers, of course, but it can be even worse for children whose families have a huge stake in their failing in school. Those kids may never recover: [a 2009 study](#) found that nearly two-thirds of these children make the transition at age 18 into S.S.I. for the adult disabled. They may never hold a job in their entire lives and are condemned to a life of poverty on the dole — and that's the outcome of a program intended to fight poverty.

THERE'S no doubt that some families with seriously disabled children receive a lifeline from S.S.I. But the bottom line is that we shouldn't try to fight poverty with a program that sometimes perpetuates it.

A local school district official, Melanie Stevens, puts it this way: "The greatest challenge we face as educators is how to break that dependency on government. In second grade, they have a dream. In seventh grade, they have a plan."

There's a danger in drawing too firm conclusions about an issue — fighting poverty — that is as complex as human beings themselves. I'm no expert on domestic poverty. But for me, a tentative lesson from the field is that while we need safety nets, the focus should be instead on creating opportunity — and, still more difficult, on creating an environment that leads people to seize opportunities.

To see what that might mean, I tagged along with Save the Children, the aid group we tend to think of as active in Sudan or Somalia. It's also in the "opportunity business" right here in the United States, in places like the mobile home of Britny Hurley — and it provides a model of what does work.

Ms. Hurley, 19, is amiable and speaks quickly with a strong hill accent, so that at times I had trouble understanding her. Ms. Hurley says that she was raped by a family member when she was 12, and that another family member then introduced her to narcotics. She became an addict, she says, mostly to prescription painkillers that are widely trafficked here.

Equipped with a crackling intelligence, Ms. Hurley once aspired to be a doctor. But her addictions and a rebellious nature got her kicked out of high school, and at 16 she became engaged to a boyfriend and soon had his baby.

Yet there are ways of breaking this cycle. That's what Save the Children is doing here, working with children while they're still malleable, and it's an approach that should be a centerpiece of America's antipoverty program. Almost anytime the question is poverty, the answer is children.

Save the Children trains community members to make home visits to at-risk moms like Ms. Hurley, and help nurture the skills they need in the world's toughest job: parenting. These visits begin in pregnancy and continue until the child is 3 years old.

I followed Courtney Trent, 22, one of these early childhood coordinators, as she visited a series of houses. She encourages the mothers (and the fathers, if they're around) to read to the children, tell stories, talk to them, hug them. If the parents can't read, then Ms. Trent encourages them to flip the pages on picture books and talk about what they see.

Ms. Trent brings a few books on each visit, and takes back the ones she had left the previous time. Many of the homes she visits don't own a single children's book.

She sat on the floor in Ms. Hurley's living room, pulled a book out of her bag, and encouraged her to read to her 20-month-old son, Landon. Ms. Hurley said that she was never read to as a child, but she was determined to change the pattern.

"I just want him to go to school," she said of Landon. "I want him to go to college and get out of this place." Ms. Hurley said she was clean of drugs, working full time at a Wendy's, and hoping to go back to school to become a nurse. I'd bet on her — and on Landon.

"When kids come to us through this program and come here, we can see a big difference," Ron Combs, the principal at Lyndon B. Johnson Elementary School here, told me. "They're really ready to go. Otherwise,

we have kids so far behind that they struggle to catch up.

“By second or third grade, you have a pretty good feeling about who’s going to drop out,” he added.

A group of teachers were in the room, and they all nodded. Wayne Sizemore, director of special education in Breathitt County, puts it this way: “The earlier we can get them, the better. It’s like building a foundation for a house.”

I don’t want to suggest that America’s antipoverty programs are a total failure. On the contrary, they are making a significant difference. Nearly all homes here in the Appalachian hill country now have electricity and running water, and people aren’t starving.

Our political system has created a particularly robust safety net for the elderly, focused on Social Security and Medicare — because the elderly vote. This safety net has brought down the poverty rate among the elderly from about 35 percent in 1959 to under 9 percent today.

BECAUSE kids don’t have a political voice, they have been neglected — and have replaced the elderly as the most impoverished age group in our country. Today, [22 percent of children](#) live below the poverty line.

Of American families living in poverty today, 8 out of 10 [have air-conditioning](#), and a majority have a washing machine and dryer. Nearly all have microwave ovens. What they don’t have is hope. You see it here in the town of Jackson, in the teenage girls hanging out by the bridge over the north fork of the Kentucky River, seeking to trade their bodies for prescription painkillers or methamphetamines.

A growing body of careful research suggests that the most effective strategy is to work early on children and education, and to try to encourage and sustain marriage. Bravo to Mayor Julián Castro of San Antonio for backing a landmark initiative to add one-eighth of 1 percent to the local sales tax to [finance a prekindergarten](#) program. Early interventions are not a silver bullet, and even programs that succeed as experiments often fall short when scaled up. But we end up paying for poverty one way or another, and early childhood education is far cheaper than adult incarceration. I hope that the budget negotiations in Washington may offer us a chance to take money from S.S.I. and invest in early childhood initiatives instead.

One reason antipoverty initiatives don’t get traction in America is that the issue is simply invisible.

“People don’t want to talk about poverty in America,” Mark Shriver, who runs the domestic programs of Save the Children, noted as we drove through Kentucky. “We talk more about poverty in Africa than we do about poverty in America.”

Indeed, in the [2012 election campaign](#), poverty was barely mentioned. A study by Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting, a liberal watchdog organization, found substantive discussion of poverty in just 0.2 percent of campaign news reports.

Look, there are no magic wands, and helping people is hard. One woman I met, Anastasia McCormick, told me that her \$500 car had just broken down and she had to walk two miles each way to her job at a pizza restaurant. That’s going to get harder because she’s pregnant with twins, due in April.

At some point, Ms. McCormick won’t be able to hold that job anymore, and then she’ll have trouble paying the bills. She has rented a washer and dryer, but she’s behind in payments, and they may soon be hauled back. “I got a ‘discontinue’ notice on the electric,” she added, “but you get a month to pay up.” Life is like that for her, a roller coaster partly of her own making.

I don’t want to write anybody off, but I admit that efforts to help Ms. McCormick may end with a mixed record. But those twin boys she’s carrying? There’s time to transform their lives, and they — and millions like them — should be a national priority. They’re too small to fail

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