

The Patriots' Truth

Flint Hills TEA Party News

See us at McALISTER'S DELI, EVERY WED after 5:30pm ---- *Welcome, everyone, we ARE the Working Group. Monthly meetings, 2nd Saturday of each month. Always interesting & informative!! Next meeting: June 8 – 9:30AM, Manhattan City Library Auditorium. We'll be showing a movie. We often have interesting speakers/candidates talk/visit/with us. Come listen & express your concerns & views, help US help each other. We MUST continue to support our Schools & Communities!! Regardless of what happens in DC we MUST keep God in our Schools/Communities & most of all in our Hearts!! Pray the State Legislature has God in their hearts as they wind up this session. Much is still to be accomplished at the Capital & in the Governor's hands -- may God guide them all!!*

THE FINAL INSPECTION

The Soldier stood and faced God,
Which must always come to pass.
He hoped his shoes were shining,
Just as brightly as his brass.
'Step forward now, Soldier,
How shall I deal with you?

Have you always turned the other cheek?
To My Church have you been true?'
The soldier squared his shoulders and said,
'No, Lord, I guess I have not.
Because those of us who carry guns,
Can't always be a saint
I've had to work most Sundays,
And at times my talk was tough.
And sometimes I've been violent,
Because the world is awfully rough.
But, I never took a penny,
That wasn't mine to keep...
Though I worked a lot of overtime,
When the bills got just too steep.
And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear..
And sometimes, God, forgive me,
I've wept unmanly tears.
I know I don't deserve a place,
Among the people here.
They never wanted me around,

Except to calm their fears
If you've a place for me here, Lord,
It needn't be so grand.
I never expected or had too much,
But if you don't, I'll understand.

There was a silence all around the throne,
Where the saints had often trod.
As the Soldier waited quietly,
For the judgment of his God.

'Step forward now, you Soldier,
You've borne your burdens well.
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,
You've done your time in Hell.'
Author Unknown~

It's the Soldier, not the reporter
Who has given us the Freedom of the Press.
It's the Soldier, not the poet,
Who has given us the Freedom of Speech.
It's the Soldier, not the politicians
That ensures our right to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit
of Happiness.
It's the Soldier who salutes the flag,
Who serves beneath the flag,
And whose coffin is draped by the flag.

IRS Targeted Conservative Groups (Taken from Congressman Kevin Yoder's Newsletter)

This week, we learned that officials in the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) targeted conservative political groups during the 2012 elections, and flagged conservative political organizations with titles that included the words "tea party" and "patriot" for heightened surveillance to investigate whether the groups were violating their tax-exempt status.

During a Congressional hearing last year, I specifically asked then-IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman about

the possibility the IRS was targeting political groups. He assured me that safeguards were in place to ensure this practice does not happen and would not be tolerated.

I am outraged the agency has now admitted to singling out certain political groups and donors for heightened surveillance. Because of this pattern, I am pleased that a Congressional hearing has been called for next week to determine how this blatant trampling on the constitutional rights of American citizens continues to occur.

You can read more about the IRS targeting political organizations by [clicking here](#).

Wider Problems Found at IRS Taken from the Wall Street Journal on Sunday, 5/12/13

Probe Says Tax Agency Used Sweeping Criteria to Scrutinize Conservative Groups By **JOHN D. MCKINNON** and **SIOBHAN HUGHES**

The Internal Revenue Service's scrutiny of conservative groups went beyond those with "tea party" or "patriot" in their names—as the agency admitted Friday—to also include ones worried about government spending, debt or taxes, and even ones that lobbied to "make America a better place to live," according to new details of a government probe.

The investigation also revealed that a high-ranking IRS official knew as early as mid-2011 that conservative groups were being inappropriately targeted—nearly a year before then-IRS Commissioner Douglas Shulman told a congressional committee the agency wasn't targeting conservative groups.

The new disclosures are likely to inflame a widening controversy over IRS handling of dozens of applications by tea-party, patriot and other conservative groups for tax-exempt status.

The details emerged from disclosures to congressional investigators by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration. The findings, which were reviewed by The Wall Street Journal, don't make clear who came up with the idea to give extra scrutiny to the conservative groups.

The inspector general's office has been conducting an audit of the IRS's handling of the applications process and is expected to release a report this week. The audit follows complaints last year by numerous tea-party and other conservative groups that they had been singled out and subjected to excessive and inappropriate questioning. Many groups say they were asked for lists of their donors and other sensitive information.

On Sunday, a government official said the report will note that IRS officials told investigators that no one outside the IRS was involved in developing the criteria the agency now acknowledges were flawed.

On Friday, Lois Lerner, head of the IRS tax-exempt-organizations division, said the agency was "apologetic" for what she termed "absolutely inappropriate" actions by lower-level workers. She said those workers had selected some conservative groups for extra scrutiny to determine whether their applications should be approved. She said they had picked groups for extra scrutiny according to whether they had "tea party" or "patriot" in their names, among other criteria.

Ms. Lerner came to the IRS in 2001 from the Federal Election Commission, and assumed her current position in 2006. IRS officials said Sunday that Ms. Lerner wasn't available for comment, and she didn't respond to an emailed request.

GOP lawmakers stepped up their criticism on Sunday. "The bottom line is [IRS officials] used key words to go after conservatives," Rep. Darrell Issa (R., Calif.), said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press." "There has to be accountability for the people who did it. And, quite frankly...there's got to be accountability for people who were telling lies about it being done."

Some Democrats also voiced criticism. "I'm concerned about that," said Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D., Calif.), also on NBC. "Somebody made the decision that they would give extra scrutiny to this particular group. And I think we have to understand why."

The IRS said over the weekend it is in the process of independently confirming the dates mentioned on the timeline of events contained in the inspector general report, "but we believe the [inspector general's] timeline is correct." The IRS said the report supports its view that its missteps weren't politically motivated and were limited to lower-level workers.

The IRS also said the report reflects that "IRS senior leadership was not aware of this level of specific details" at the time of a March 2012 hearing where Mr. Shulman denied any targeting of conservative groups. Mr. Shulman, who no longer works for the IRS, declined to comment.

The new details suggest that agency workers were examining statements in applications for tax-exempt status to determine whether groups had political leanings.

Tax-exempt social-welfare groups organized under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code are allowed to engage in some political activity, but the primary focus of their efforts must remain promoting social

welfare. That social-welfare activity can include lobbying and advocating for issues and legislation, but not outright political-campaign activity. But some of the rules leave room for IRS officials to make judgment calls and probe individual groups for further information.

Organizing as such a group is desirable, not just because such entities typically don't have to pay taxes, but also because they generally don't have to identify their donors.

IRS officials said last week that the focused review of conservative groups was initiated by lower-level civil servants in the IRS Cincinnati office, not by political appointees in Washington, and that it wasn't politically motivated. They say it stemmed from a misguided effort to centralize review of a growing number of applications for tax-exempt 501(c)(4) status.

But questions continued to swirl about the failure of IRS officials to disclose the problems until the inspector general's report was about to become public.

The timeline contained in the draft report indicates that IRS scrutiny of tea-party and other conservative groups began as early as 2010 and came to the attention of Ms. Lerner, the head of the tax-exempt-organizations division, at least by the following year.

The report's timeline indicates that the criteria were changed to be more neutral in July 2011 after Ms. Lerner "raised concerns." The criteria for heightened scrutiny continued to evolve over the next year or so, even as complaints from tea-party groups—and questions from GOP lawmakers—mounted over IRS inquiries to various groups about their activities.

Letters from Ms. Lerner in April and May 2012 responding to questions by Republican lawmakers made no mention of the problems that had surfaced in the IRS unit.

According to the draft report, on April 24 and 25 of last year, officials in Ms. Lerner's office were reviewing "troubling questions" that had been asked of organizations, including "the names of donors."

Ms. Lerner's April 26 letter to Mr. Issa, the chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, said that "there are instances where donor information may be needed...such as when the application presents possible issues of...private benefit."

The report indicates that in 2010 and 2011, some IRS workers weren't just singling out groups because their names contained certain words, as IRS officials suggested on Friday, but appeared to be probing for indications of political interests or leanings.

According to the report, by June 2011 some IRS specialists were probing applications using the following criteria: "issues include government spending, government debt or taxes; education of the public by advocacy/lobbying to 'make America a better place to live'; statements in the case file criticize how the country is being run."

Write to John D. McKinnon at john.mckinnon@wsj.com and Siobhan Hughes at siobhan.hughes@dowjones.com

Armed DHS Guards Protect IRS From Tea Party Protesters

Paul Joseph Watson Infowars.com May 22, 2013

Agency(DHS) created to protect against terror attacks now policing free speech.

The DHS appears to have finally found a use for all those bullets it's been buying. At a Tea Party protest outside an IRS building in St. Louis yesterday there were no regular police – only armed Homeland Security guards.

Video footage from the demonstration at which protesters, including Infowars.com readers, chanted "no more harassment," shows numerous DHS Federal Protective Service vehicles along with several armed DHS guards. There is not a regular police officer in sight.

The St. Louis demonstration was just one of numerous similar protests against the IRS's punitive targeting of conservative groups that took place across the country yesterday. [Homeland Security agents also kept a watchful eye](#) on a Tea Party rally in Florida.

The DHS was [supposedly founded](#) to protect against and respond to terrorist attacks, man-made accidents, and natural disasters. It was not created to protect the IRS from peaceful protesters, but in the decade since its inception, Big Sis has morphed into an entity that polices and monitors political free speech as one of its primary functions.

Homeland Security has routinely been caught spying on protesters from both ends of the political spectrum via its nationwide network of "threat fusion centers".

[Government documents unearthed in April](#) revealed that the DHS, "conducts daily monitoring of peaceful, lawful protests as a matter of policy" and functions as a "secret political police force against people participating in lawful, peaceful free speech activity," such as 'Occupy' demonstrations.

In 2011, the [DHS asserted](#) that it had every right to spy on peaceful protest groups and had been using

Federal Protective Service (FPS) agents to do so since at least 2006.

In March, [Arkansas State Fusion Center Director Richard Davis admitted](#) that the federal agency spies on Americans deemed to be “anti-government,” noting that the DHS concentrates on, “domestic terrorism and certain groups that are anti-government. We want to kind of take a look at that and receive that information,” so-called threats which included people, “putting political stickers in public bathrooms or participating in movements against the death penalty.”

A [2012 Senate subcommittee investigation](#) of DHS data fusion centers found that millions of dollars had been spent not on gathering important anti-terrorism information but on collating “a bunch of crap,” which was “unrelated to terrorism” and in fact targeted Americans peacefully exercising their First Amendment rights.

In its promotional material for the ‘See Something, Say Something’ snitch program, the [DHS has routinely portrayed](#) white, middle class Americans as the most likely terrorists. Mock news reports and security drills run by the DHS have also depicted [gun owners](#) and [homeschoolers](#) as violent terrorists.

It’s no surprise that the DHS is now deploying its agents to defend the IRS against the ire of the American people given that both federal agencies have gone to extreme lengths to target law-abiding, conservative, or God forbid “anti-government” Americans as domestic extremists and even terrorists.

Paul Joseph Watson is the editor and writer for [Infowars.com](#) and [Prison Planet.com](#). He is the author of Order Out Of Chaos. Watson is also a host for Infowars Nightly News. This article was posted: Wednesday, May 22, 2013 at 5:49 am
Tags: [government corruption](#), [police state](#)

When told the reason for daylight saving time the Old Indian said, “Only the Government would believe that you could cut a foot off the top of a blanket, sew it to the bottom and have a longer blanket.”

Star witness to stay mum for House hearing on IRS

May 22, 4:00 AM (ET) By ALAN FRAM and STEPHEN OHLEMACHER

WASHINGTON (AP) - A House committee taking Congress' latest look at the Internal Revenue Service's mistreatment of tea party groups will apparently have to do so without input from the star witness.

IRS official Lois Lerner will invoke her constitutional right to not answer questions on Wednesday at a House Oversight and Government Reform Committee hearing, her lawyer told the panel in a letter.

Lerner triggered the recent IRS uproar at a legal conference nearly two weeks ago, when she revealed that the agency had subjected tea party and other conservative groups seeking tax-exempt status to extra scrutiny during parts of the 2010 and 2012 election seasons. She also apologized for the actions.

Lerner, 62, an attorney who joined the IRS in 2001, heads the unit that decides whether groups qualify for the status. She has come under fire from members of both parties, including Maryland Rep. Elijah Cummings, top Democrat on the Oversight Committee, who said in an interview Tuesday that she should lose her job.

In Lerner's absence, Wednesday's spotlight will be on another witness: Neal Wolin, the Treasury Department's deputy secretary.

J. Russell George, a Treasury inspector general, has said he told Wolin in mid-2012 that he was investigating the IRS' targeting of conservative groups, a report that was released last week. That means Wolin was the highest-ranking Treasury official to have known about the probe during last year's elections, making him a focus of interest for lawmakers.

"What did you know and when? Who did you tell?" Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-Utah, a senior member of the Oversight Committee, said Tuesday of what he hopes to learn from Wolin.

Lerner's attorney, William W. Taylor III, has requested that she be excused from Wednesday's hearing, writing in the letter that forcing her to appear "would have no purpose other than to embarrass or burden her." But the committee has subpoenaed her and panel members say they expect her to attend.

"She better be there. We're planning on it," Chaffetz said.

In writing that Lerner would use her Fifth Amendment right to not incriminate herself, Taylor

noted that the Justice Department has started an investigation into the IRS controversy. He also referred to a letter she received last week from Oversight Chairman Darrell Issa, R-Calif., saying she "provided false or misleading information on four separate occasions last year" to committee queries.

Staff of the Oversight Committee questioned Lerner and other IRS officials last year after receiving complaints from Ohio tea party groups that they were being mistreated by the IRS, said Meghan Snyder, spokesman for Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, a member of the committee.

In responses to the committee, Lerner didn't mention that tea party groups had ever been targeted, according to documents. Her responses included 45-page letters in May 2012 to Issa and Jordan.

Lerner also met twice in early 2012 with staff from the House Ways and Means oversight subcommittee to discuss the issue, according to a timeline constructed by committee staff. The timeline said she didn't mention at either meeting that conservative groups had been targeted.

Lerner's revelation and apology at the May 10 legal conference came in response to a question that IRS officials later acknowledged they had planted with an audience member. Lerner's disclosure came days before George, the inspector general, released his report detailing the IRS' actions.

George's report found that in June 2011, Lerner discovered that her unit was searching for organizations with words like "tea party" or "patriots" in their applications and subjecting them to tougher questions. She ordered the initial tea party criteria to be scrapped, but it later evolved to include groups that promoted the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, the report said. Lawmakers are curious about why the practice didn't stop entirely.

A career civil servant who has run the division since late 2005, Lerner has not been disciplined for her role, IRS officials said. But with President Barack Obama demanding that IRS officials be held accountable for the problem, Acting Commissioner Steven Miller and another top agency official have announced their departures in recent days and many lawmakers believe more heads should roll.

"If Miller had to lose his job, I don't think he should just be the lone person to go," Cummings said.

George and Douglas Shulman, the former IRS commissioner who headed the agency while it was targeting conservative groups, are also scheduled to testify Wednesday.

On Tuesday, Shulman told the Senate Finance Committee that he learned in the spring of 2012 about his agency's targeting of conservatives and George's probe. He said he didn't tell lawmakers or officials at Treasury - of which the IRS is part - because he only had sketchy information about the situation, was told it was being handled and believed it proper to let George's office conduct its investigation.

"Sitting there then and sitting here today, I think I made the right decision, which is to let the inspector general get to the bottom of it, chase down all the facts and then make his findings public," Shulman said.

WND COMMENTARY on Tuesday, April 16, 2013

PULLING NO PUNCHES

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM & 'GAY MARRIAGE' CANNOT COEXIST

Exclusive: Matt Barber hails elderly 'accidental hero' prosecuted for exercising her faith. [Join with Billy Graham, Declare: "I still have hope for America because of Jesus Christ"](http://JoinWithBillyGraham.org/SignTheDeclaration) billygraham.org/SignTheDeclaration

Therefore pride is their necklace; they clothe themselves with violence. – Psalm 73:6

"Gay pride" necessitates anti-Christian hate. It must. "Gay marriage" and other "sexual orientation"-based laws do violence to freedom and truth. They are the hammer with which the postmodern left intends to bludgeon bloody religious liberty and the Judeo-Christian sexual ethic

According to the unequivocal moral precepts of the Judeo-Christian tradition – explicit throughout both the Old and New Testaments – homosexual behavior is sin. Sin is evil. Homosexual behavior is the central, defining characteristic of so-called "gay marriage." Therefore, "gay marriage" is evil. Christians are obligated to avoid sin – to "do no evil."

I know; it's not popular to speak such simple truths in today's politically correct world. But I'm not out to win a popularity contest.

Neither is Ms. Barronelle Stutzman. Ms. Stutzman is the Christian owner-operator of [Arlene's Flowers](#) in Richland, Wash. She is, by all accounts, a lovely, sweet, elderly woman who both employs and regularly serves open practitioners of the homosexual lifestyle. Sadly, she has become the latest victim in a fast-growing string of secularist attacks against Christians and other morally minded people. If "same-sex marriage" becomes the law of the land, I can assure you that we will soon see a virtual explosion in the same kind of anti-Christian persecution Ms. Stutzman now suffers.

Recently, one of Ms. Stutzman's frequent homosexual customers requested that she provide flower arrangements for his same-sex "wedding." She politely declined, saying that her Christian conscience and "relationship with Jesus Christ" prevented her from any involvement with counter-Christian "same-sex marriage." She was, quite simply, a Christian being Christian. The two hugged and parted ways.

Unfortunately, in our ever-"progressive" culture, being Christian has fast become a most dangerous proposition. As each homo-fascist demand is checked from liberals' sin-centric wish list, it only gets worse.

As a result of her constitutionally guaranteed religious free exercise, Washington state's newly elected Attorney General Bob Ferguson filed charges against Ms. Stutzman, seeking both a monetary judgment and an injunction to physically force her to violate her Christian conscience. He would compel her to either lend her artistic expression in support of counterfeit "gay marriage" – something Christianity steadfastly recognizes as mortal sin – or face further charges.

Speaking of steadfast, to her credit, Ms. Stutzman has stood firm. She has refused to cave under Ferguson's tyrannical torment. Ferguson, on the other hand, has revealed himself a creep and a coward – a "progressive" bully who apparently gets off on abusing elderly women. He's a disgrace to Washington state and should be thrown out of office and disbarred.

Still, this type of government persecution must be expected. Ferguson is a liberal. The liberal viewpoint is that any viewpoint, save the liberal viewpoint, must be criminalized and prosecuted.

Like many of us, Joseph Backholm, with the Family Policy Institute of Washington, has long warned about the consequences of radically deconstructing the institution of natural marriage. "Now that the law says marriage is genderless," he [recently wrote](#) of Ms. Stutzman's ongoing abuse, "those who think otherwise [must] ... conform or be punished. ... Now liberals believe they are legally entitled to someone else's labor."

To homosexuals I say this: Yes, you are equal in God's eyes. You are loved. These things are true, not because of your homosexual lifestyle, but, rather, they are true in spite of it.

Most homosexuals know intuitively, I think, that their lifestyle is unnatural and immoral and that the oxymoronic notion of "same-sex marriage" is a silly farce. Thus, they must force others to affirm both their self-destructive lifestyle and their mock "marriages" under penalty of law. They must physically compel everyone to engage their "emperor's new clothes" delusion, so they can feel better about bad behavior.

Well, my friend, making everyone else "call evil good and good evil" won't fill that dark void in your soul. Only repentance and redemption through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ can do that.

When we give deviant sexual conduct preferred status in law, Christian morality becomes illegal. If you think government-recognized "gay marriage" is harmless to society, you're playing the fool. It places the Christian sexual ethic and free exercise of religion in direct conflict with law. It's my sense that many liberty-minded people are finally coming awake to this disturbing reality.

Although we all sin, Christians are commanded to neither support nor engage in evil. Hence, Christians – true Christians – cannot engage in nor condone the unrepentant practice of homosexual behavior. Neither can we support sin-centric "gay marriage."

This rudimentary equation is built upon the natural laws of moral physics. Christianity is magnetically charged truth. Homosexual behavior is a magnetically charged lie – a spiritual and biological falsehood. Christianity and homosexual sin are as north to south. Polar opposites cannot occupy the same position in time and space. They repel one another. It's physically, spiritually and legally impossible for religious freedom and preferred legal status for sexual sin to coexist in harmony. Ms. Stutzman's persecution is just the latest example of this timeless reality.

Why are Christians so afraid to call sin sin? It's time for invertebrate believers to grow a backbone. Truth, in love, is the balance. Yes, the world will hate you, because it first hated Christ. So what? Count it a blessing – even unto death.

Here's my recommendation: When those who are lost to the world hate on you, laugh at them. Then cry for them. Then pray for them. Follow Christ's example and ask, as did He, that God "forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Then get up, dust yourself off and get back in the fight.

Albert Einstein once said, "Never do anything against conscience even if the state demands it."

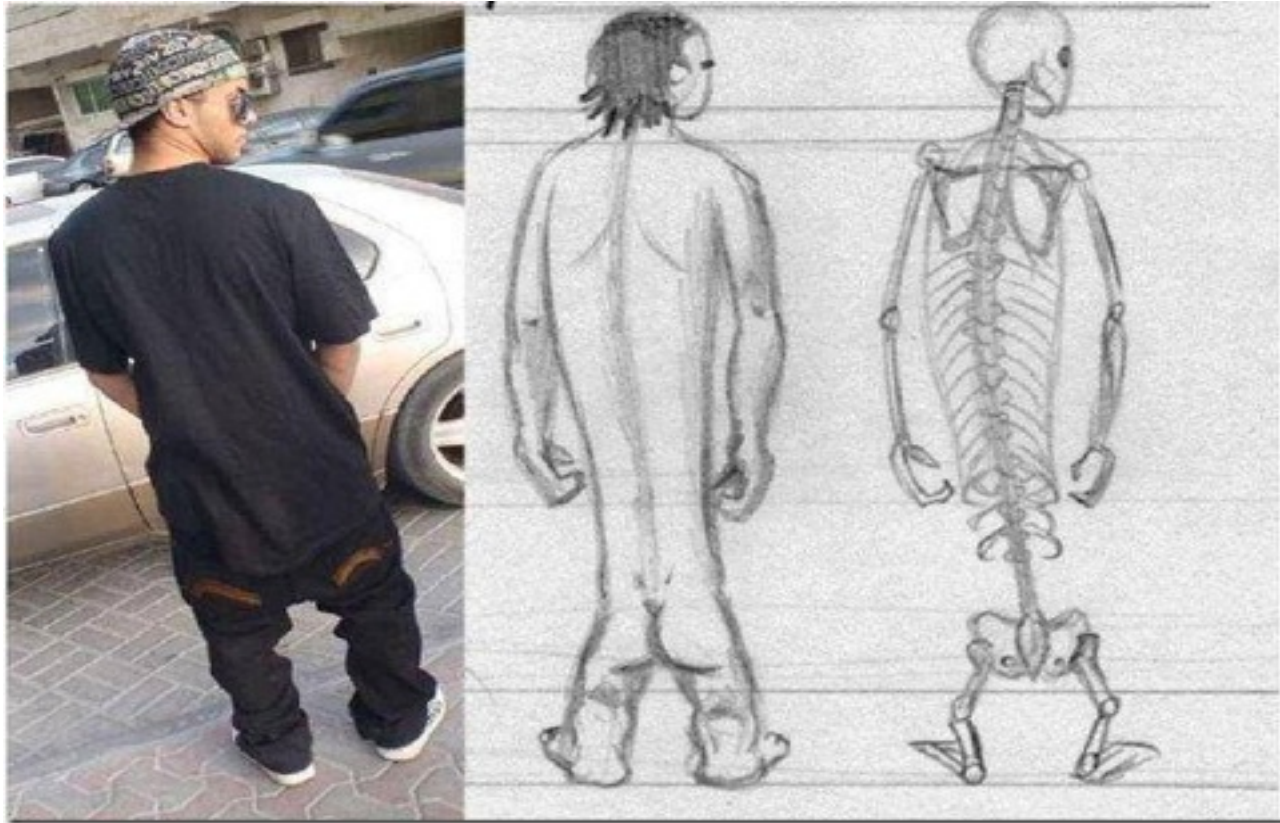
He was right.

Barronelle Stutzman followed this advice and – though she currently faces government persecution for her choice – she has also become an accidental hero. Pray for her. I know God will surely bless her faithfulness.

Still, know this: If you are a Christian in today's America, you too will almost certainly find yourself with a similar decision to make. When man's law violates God's law, you will have to choose which to obey. Choosing God can mean persecution.

I've made my choice. How will you choose?

Read more at <http://www.wnd.com/2013/04/religious-freedom-gay-marriage-cannot-coexist/#jIQzzlzRIFAUpvKM.99>



Possible New Species

They are referred to as homo slackass-erectus created by natural genetic downward evolution through constant spineless posturing and spasmodic upper limb gestures, which new research has shown to cause shorter legs and an inability to ambulate other than in an awkward shuffling gait. The "drag-crotch" shape also seems to effect brain function. Expect no eye contact or intelligent verbal communication. History shows that this species mostly receives food stamps and full government care. Unfortunately most are highly fertile.

I'm sorry! I badly needed a laugh today, PLEASE join me!! On to more serious things

Federal Judge Dismisses Lawsuit to Ban Traditional Ammunition

Posted on 5/14/13

In 2010, [the Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\) denied a petition](#) filed by a number of groups (led by the radical [anti-gun](#), anti-hunting environmental group Center for Biological Diversity) to ban the use of lead ammunition. The 2010 denial was based on the simple fact that the EPA does not have the legal authority under the Toxic Substance Control Act to ban or regulate ammunition.

As we reported in 2010, this is not an accident. When TSCA was passed in 1976, pro-gun legislators led by the late Sen. James McClure (R-Idaho) added language to the bill specifically exempting ammunition from EPA control. They knew, even then, that radical anti-hunting groups could try to use the law to end hunting and recreational shooting by making ammo too expensive. Their foresight has now provided an invaluable protection against the effort to ban traditional lead ammunition.

But you can never count on radicals to stop just because they have been beaten. The EPA has also previously denied their petition to ban the use of lead fishing sinkers, and when they sued to force the EPA to impose an ammunition ban, a federal court ruled that the suit had been filed too late.

Last year, CBD filed a new petition that was just slightly different than the original, only changing the language to specifically target ammunition used in hunting or recreational shooting so that it would not apply to law enforcement or the military.

This week, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia dismissed that lawsuit. The suit sought to force the Environmental Protection Agency to ban the manufacture, processing, and distribution of lead-based ammunition and was brought in an attempt to overturn the EPA's previous denials.

The NRA, Safari Club International, and the National Shooting Sports Foundation each intervened in the case to defend the rights and interests of hunters, competitive shooters, and others with firearms-related interests.

Federal Judge Emmet G. Sullivan dismissed CBD's lawsuit, finding that CBD's current petition was nothing more than an attempt to seek reconsideration of their previous petition, which the EPA had denied. Judge Sullivan also indicated that he would defer to EPA's determination that the agency was not congressionally authorized to regulate lead-based ammunition.

By ruling on procedural grounds, Judge Sullivan was not required to address CBD's flawed legal argument in his ruling. CBD claimed that the Toxic Substances Control Act provides EPA with the authority to ban lead-based ammunition, notwithstanding that the law has an exclusion that puts "shells and cartridges" outside its regulatory scope. CBD contended, strangely, that bullets and shot are not within the exception for "shells and cartridges," notwithstanding the very obvious fact that shells and cartridges are where bullets and shot are found.

The CBD is unlikely to ever give up in its effort to ban lead ammunition, which means NRA and gun owners will have to remain vigilant to protect our rights in the future.

The Battling Boys of Benghazi

We're the Battling Boys of Benghazi

No fame, no glory, no paparazzi

Just a fiery death in a blazing hell,

Defending the country we loved so well.

It wasn't our job, but we answered the call.

Fought to the consulate, and scaled the wall.

We pulled twenty countrymen from the jaws of fate,

Led them to safety, and stood at the gate.

Just the two of us, and foes by the score.

But we stood fast to bar the door.

Three calls for reinforcement, but all were denied.

So we fought and we fought, and we fought till we died.

We gave our all for our Uncle Sam,

But Barack Obama didn't give a damn.

Just two dead SEALS, who carried the load,

No thanks to us - we were just "bumps in the road."

Nancy Pelosi Blames George W Bush For IRS Scandal

Added by Darla Dawald, National Director on May 24, 2013 at 1:33am

Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) blamed former President George W. Bush for the IRS' targeting of tea party groups in the lead-up to the 2012 election.

According to NowThisNews' Julie Eckert, Pelosi claimed Bush is responsible for the scandal because he appointed Douglas Shulman, former commissioner of the IRS. Shulman, who was appointed in 2008, left his post in November 2012, when his term expired.

While facing questions from lawmakers on Tuesday, Shulman said he doesn't know why his agency targeted conservative groups seeking tax exempt status.

"I very much regret that it happened and that it happened on my watch," Shulman said.

While blaming Bush, Pelosi defended President Barack Obama, who has called the scandal "outrageous." "Well the President doesn't know about everything that is going on in every agency of government," Pelosi said. "Should Mr. Boehner have known that this is his neighboring district and in Cincinnati where the IRS office is? I don't think you can hold him accountable for what happened in that IRS office.

"Pelosi wasn't the only one to focus on Bush's role in Shulman's appointment. During an interview on Fox's Kilmeade and Friends, Karl Rove -- who called Shulman "an arrogant little weasel" -- blamed Sen. Max Baucus (D-Mont.) for the former commissioner's appointment.

"My colleagues tell me they had a terrible time trying to convince Senator Max Baucus to let Bush name another person. And in essence he objected to anybody who did not have Democratic credentials," Rove said. "Like many things in the waning days in the administration, you have to make concessions to Congress, and Max Baucus played a particularly large role in his selection.

Will Wrigley contributed to this report.

Can you believe this? They are still blaming George W. Bush. When will it stop? They sound like a bunch of kids tattling on each other and finally blame someone who isn't there to protect themselves. I'll bet Bush was the one that forced the Obama family to go on 9 vacations last year spending over a BILLION \$'s the country doesn't have. How many American families couldn't afford a vacation last year? Must have been Bush's fault!!

The following was sent to a member of FHTP as well as to Rep. Merrick explaining the Common Core Educational Agenda being pushed by the Federal Government. It will cost our state MILLIONS of dollars as well as dumbing down our children. Read and you'll get the point.

Dear Speaker of the House, Representative Merrick,

I appreciate your response to my last letter stating your lack of support for Common Core based on its usurping state influence of control of education. I understand you may have had some individuals against Common Core today in Topeka and I am sorry I have missed the opportunity to be there and speak on this subject. I hope to share some additional concerns with this curriculum.

It is distressing to see this curriculum embraced, implemented and funded at huge sacrifice to our state for a curriculum with such systemic deficiencies, clearly promoted as something it is not and introduced into our state not on its merits, but through suspect circumstances akin to bribery, both through the Race to the Top Stimulus money incentive, No Child Left Behind Waivers, and additional incentive opportunities that highlight a value to those promoting it that exceeds the initial incentive dollars, namely control of our education system as well as the immoral intention to remove influence of this education of children from local, elected official influence and certainly from the hands of parents in favor of promotion of a political agenda.

The concerns over Common Core in general as well as personally can be simplified into six categories.

1. Creation & Propagation of CC reveals many concerns of deception and manipulation Common Core has been created and propagated in the country as a whole through suspect methods involving \$4.35 billion in Stimulus Bill incentive money through a 'Race to the Top' competition that challenged states to commit to implementation of CC in Phase I before it was even written, let alone reviewed. Also, NCLB waivers were offered to states that committed to CC. The USDE has NO constitutional or statutory authority to demand or grant any waiver with strings attached. Promoters of CC have insisted that it was state led and voluntary. The stimulus fund prompted 45 states to scramble to apply for these dollars. Two states won in Phase I and another 10 in Phase II. KS was not a state that received the incentive money as I understand it, but regardless of receiving the prize, is legally committed to implementation of CC. The creation is promoted as

state led, but in fact it is well known that the creators were two trade organizations in DC, the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers who accepted foundation grants, including strong support from politically aligned private funding.

2. Low Standards

Parents nationally as well as locally have serious concerns about the low standards Common Core proposes. Parents have been very vocal this year at our school against the drastic decrease in homework, the apparent lack of challenge for accelerated students and the perception of a lack of rigor. When researched, the evidence is even more clear. ‘The two major experts on content who were on the Validation Committee reviewing the standards backed out and repudiated them when they saw what the standards actually are.’ ‘As admitted by one of the creators of Common Core, Dr. Jason Zimba, at the meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in March 2010, Common Core defines ‘college-readiness’ as ready for a nonselective community college, not a four-year university.’ ‘Dr. Sandra Stotsky of the University of Arkansas, a member of common Core’s Validation Committee who refused to sign off on the Standards, criticizes the ELA standards as ‘empty skill sets....{that} weaken the basis of literary and cultural knowledge needed for authentic college coursework’. Common Core’s focus on skill sets rather than true content is unlikely to genuinely educate students in English, reading, rhetoric, or composition. Her analysis of the high-school examples of ‘complexity’ in CC concluded the ‘the average reading level of the passages on the common tests now being developed to determine ‘college readiness’ may be at about the grade 7 level. Common Core replaces the study of classic literature with ‘informational text’. Arguably, ‘teaching students informational documents rather than classic literature may train them to be adequate entry-level workers for existing factory jobs, but it will not educate them to be thoughtful citizens and empower them in the exercise of their liberty.’

Mathematics Professor R. James Milgram of Stanford University, the only mathematician on the Validation Committee, concluded that the mathematics standards would put students two years behind those of many high-achieving countries, such as those in East Asia. Dr. Milgram thus refused to sign off on the math standards. Curriculum expert Grant Wiggins described the math standards as ‘a bitter disappointment.’ Professor Milgram concluded that the Standards simply do not qualify as ‘comparable to the expectations of other leading nations.’ Ze’ev Wurman, a member of the 2010 California Academic Content Standards Commission, using sound mathematics teaching principles and comparison with strong, proven standards used by the highest performing states and by our international competitors as benchmarks determined that, ‘Common Core suffers from a number of systemic defects....leading to under-preparation for STEM disciplines. In terms of college readiness, its content is far below what is presently expected for college eligibility.’ To give an example of what ‘going deeper’ means in Common Core math, one story problem read, ‘One bridge is 412 feet long and the other bridge is 206 feet long. Which bridge is longer? How do you know?’ The Common Core math standards deemphasize performing procedures (solving many similar problems) in favor of attempting to push a deeper cognitive understanding-ie asking questions like ‘How do you know?’ (quoted material from A Pioneer Institute and American Principles Project White Paper by Emmett McGroarty and Jane Robbins, ‘Controlling Education From the Top Why Common Core is Bad for America’)

3. Illegal direction of curriculum

Those in favor of Common Core insist it’s implementation does not avoid local control of curriculum, but in practice high-stakes tests aligned to the Common Core standards with certainly drive curriculum.

Efforts to influence curriculum detrimentally are not new as seen in the 1930s over ‘Progressive Education, the 1950s over Secular Humanist Education and more recently in the 1990s over Outcome Based Education.’

According to Frontline, Truth in American Education, ‘For hundreds of years students were educated by the passing on of knowledge and understanding of the world around them in a logical, sequential and chronological way set within context. A search for truth inspired great inventions and discoveries, but it was done based on the belief that there was order and purpose to the world. Common Core Standards and the accompanying state assessments reveal the philosophy to be fractured, and non-contextual.’ It seems illogical to promote an education system that introduces material without presenting it in context. A child is unlikely to identify it’s significance or to learn to think as an individual intended by the Founding Fathers. If our education system is intended to condition thinking for the collective, this system is likely to be an effective tool toward that end.

'Federal law lays down broad prohibitions on Department involvement in curricula decision. The General Education Provision Act prohibits the Department from 'exercising any direction, supervision, or control over the curriculum... Similar prohibitions exist in the Department of Education Organization Act and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). Common Core is the vehicle by which the federal government is evading these prohibitions.'

In 1926 when Congress was considering establishing a federal department of education, noted Princeton theologian, Dr. J. Gresham Machen, testified before a joint committee, saying, 'If you give the bureaucrats the children, you might as well give them everything else as well. Intellectual decline comes through the development of this principle of unification and standardization to which I object, for I think that in the sphere of education uniformity always means not something uniformly high but something uniformly low.' (lowest common denominator) (Frontline, Truth in American Education)

4. Governance has not been clarified

Governance of the CC standards is unknown but what is clear is that the standards are owned, and copyrighted by nongovernmental entities unaccountable to parents and students in each state. 'The standards and assessments are copyrighted and cannot be changed or modified by the states,' said Gretchen Logue, a Missouri education activist. 'The Standards must [be] accepted word for word and will [leave] little opportunity to add content, so state's autonomy is compromised and obviously in turn, the parent's rights.' Control essentially will be centralized in the federal government and private organizations in Washington, DC. The progressive view of education is that the education of children is too important to be left, as the Founders intended, to parents, localities and the states.

The Washington, DC-based contractor, Achieve, warned the 'states who adopt [the cc] are expected to adopt them in their entirety... discouraging states from adding even the paltry 15 percent allowed under RTTT... [since] it would diluted the overall focus of the standards'.

5. Costs

Are clearly expected to be amazingly high. Cost analysis information for implementation are limited, but 'the states and their taxpayers face significant increased costs in four areas: textbooks and instructional materials, professional development, assessments, and technology and infrastructure for the computerized assessments'. Accountability Works estimates that total additional costs (one-time costs plus seven-year implementation costs) to state taxpayers will amount to \$15.8 billion, not counting identified technical challenges as well as the additional costs if states exercise their right to add up to 15% optional untested curriculum.

To glance at what we have seen at our school, this means fundraisers have been added at the school. Existing fundraisers have been earmarked, dictated to families for use in implementation of the new Common Core, despite the growing distress that this curriculum is something we want. Deception seems to be a cornerstone of this implementation from the perspective of the parent. There seems no room to opt out of sudden dramatic increases in technology use, which seems to be critical to the implementation of Common Core.

As a parent, this translates to what my 5 children perceive as learning through tv/movies and video games. My 3 yr old watches 'Clifford the Big Red Dog' and my 2nd grade and Kindergartener describe various video games used to learn math. Some would argue that as long as they are practicing math, what's the problem, but I have already raised three teenage boys and I know firsthand the addictive quality that are inherent to video games. If I want to teach my boys to eat vegetables, the first thing I do is take all the junk food off of the table, not condition my 5 and 7 yr old to acclimate to technology as a native language.

6. Privacy

Until recently, federal student-privacy law protected personally identifiable information from disclosure to outside entities. That changed, however, in January 2012, when the Department issued new regulations eviscerating the protections contained in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The new regulations allow transmission of students PII w/o parental consent to any governmental or private entity designated by the Department and others as an authorized representative for the purpose of evaluating an education program. According to the national Education Data Model, a myriad of information such as health-care history, disciplinary record, family income range, family voting status, and religious affiliation could be included in this system-over 400 data points in all. The Department suggests data is aggregate, not personally identifiable, but the assessment scheme aligned with Common Core is designed to

change that.’ As I understand, as the parent, I am not able to opt out of this tracking system for my children. I urge you strongly to remove Common Core from our state in any possible way. A traditional curriculum has been an effective tool toward empowering future voting citizens to utilize effective critical thinking and reasoning skills. This curriculum clearly represents a political agenda intended in fact to ‘CHANGE’ America to another form of government, but to a citizen in favor of our Constitution and empowering individuals of a democratic republic, I find this proposition unacceptable. I appreciate your devotion to this subject.

**Cordially,
Diane Jones**

If you would like to forward this Newsletter as is on to others – be my guest.

If you would like to send comments to the editor – be my guest.

If you have an editorial to submit – be my guest.

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