

[REDACTED]
Mt. Vernon, NY 10552

[REDACTED]
Mount Vernon, New York 10552
August 19, 1993

Dear Mr. Lamb,

I called C-Span on 8/17 when the Vincent Foster "experts" were on and first the operator cut me off and then I got through. The young woman asked me what I wanted to ask the "experts" and I said I had heard on the radio that morning that a palm print had been found on Mr. Foster's torn-up memo which reminded me of Oswald's palm print on the rifle 30 years ago. My second question was whether he was found in the same park that the congressional postal employee was shot in the face. 00559 1553

After that a man got on the phone and I had to explain the same questions to him. Then he said they were not taking calls yet and I should call back. That was a total lie because the questions started immediately. C-Span is either paranoid about Howard Stern or it is screening calls that it deems appropriate. That radio news report was the only one I heard (WCBS-AM) about the palm print. Then on CNN on Inside Politics a pre-commercial slide said that Mickey Kantor fell down an elevator shaft and broke some vertebrae, and that wasn't reported anywhere else. Where was his staff and bodyguards? How come the experts on Mr. Foster didn't mention or know of the palm prints? You owe me for a phone call!!!!

The last time I called was when Sen. Pell was on the air and Lew Ketcham cut me off as he usually does to callers. He is worse than Bruce Collins in cut-offs. I enjoy congressmen more when you have a Dem. and a Rep. opposing each other. Otherwise, the politician should be attached to a lie detector that is visible on television. (Only half kidding.)

I think your new on-screen logo is obtrusive and intrusive - two words I learned about surveys which I never liked which also goes for your logo. It is too BIG!!! Is Carrie Collins an example of nepotism? If so, she doesn't have to wear Bruce's glasses too. I am glad you have the courage to have Washington Times reporters and editors on your programs in spite of the complaints.

I think your use of the big shot names from the big shot press on Mondays and Fridays (AM) is to build ratings but these same corporate socialists can be seen on CNN, ABC, CBS, NBC, PBS, etc. I also like columnists better than the young, biased reporters who smirk or claim ignorance when they hear about CFR, and creeping socialism (This isn't Russia' was one smart comment I heard).

The only program on C-Span where I note any bias is Close-Up and it is consistent. I can understand the students being brain-washed by their teachers but the male and female hosts are definitely biased in their attitudes and questions. You don't seem to have much control over them.

Do you have plans to visit Guam, Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico so Americans can learn about these congressmen and their countries?

When you are in NY why not spend a day in Mount Vernon to see how a city of 68,000 functions (or doesn't function)? You could tape an empty City Council or Board of Estimate meeting unless you get some publicity. You can visit the Bill of Rights museum where the John Peter Zenger trial was held and Anne Hutchinson started a church and was promptly killed by the Indians.

Sometimes I think your Russian translators are speaking in Greek. They don't seem to believe in ending sentences or tone. When you deal with the crime bill why not get factual reports about murders, parole and probation, education of criminals, prisons, drugs, and the death penalty from the Justice Dept. reports, Bureau of Justice Statistics, instead of holding up newspapers? Call them for experts.

Since you can't get Justice Scalia to allow C-Span cameras^{to} cover his speeches why not show two-half hour programs from PBS via Columbia U. with him as a guest. It appeared on PBS in NY on 2/13. The program is called Leading Questions, and would be good for Americas and the Courts.

How about doing a half-hour program on AARP, that insurance/investment company that claims to represent 37 million people? People join it for the magazine, newspaper, and discounts, not its socialism. Ask Sen. Simpson to debate the AARP president.

Also, ask Sen. Dole, the Father of Food Stamps, about the fraud, lack of eligibility and investigation in the program. Ask him how much his pension is too. If you ever get Lee Miringoff of the Marist Institute on the program ask him about his surveys' sampling of minority groups, methodology, and accreditation. He is a fraud, hiding behind a Catholic college's non-profit status.

Have you ever had Fred Smith of the Competitive Enterprise Institute on C-Span? (202-547-1010). See attached.

How about the president of Hillsdale College, George Roche? I believe it is one of two colleges that doesn't take federal funds. You could also send a camera crew to tape its seminars, 1-800-437-2268. Walter Williams of George Mason University would be a good guest too.

I have seen at least two Fed. Reserve members on C-Span who claimed they didn't know how much of the fed. debt is owned by foreign banks or what foreign banks are members of the Fed. Reserve Open Market Committee. The Concord Coalition and Ross Perot claim foreign banks own 12 or 18% of U.S. debt, and 70% is due in 5 to 7 years. I think the total was \$440 billion. The Fed. Reserve has numerous, free books, reports and booklets on how the banking system works. I think it was the president of Sony in his book who said the yen would be reduced to 100 to \$1 and then a new denomination would be issued so 1 would equal \$1, resulting in Japan as the dominant financial power.

I'm curious. Were you directly involved in the hiring of the 9 or 10 hosts with the exception of Mr. Ketcham?

Two facts about health care: 35 million people is the cumulative, annual figure for the uninsured. In any one month the figure is about 9 million. Most of these people make a conscious financial decision not to buy insurance because they are young (18-40) and healthy, and have no intention of subsidizing people who smoke, drink, use drugs, overeat, and don't exercise.

How about asking some health care guests to explain the Hill-Burton Act whereby any hospital that takes fed. funds must provide a certain % of free health care even in rich neighborhoods?

Health premiums should be based on claims or usage, exempting pre-existing or genetic conditions; the same as auto insurance. About 75% of illness is due to lifestyle - drugs, alcohol, overeating, smoking, no exercise. (Mass. Gen'l Hospital). In spite of your numerous programs on health care these facts rarely are mentioned. It is extremely frustrating.

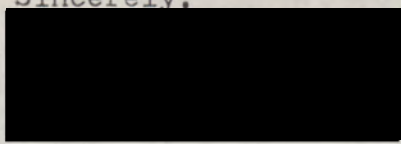
Finally, how about some programs with pollsters like Harris, Gallop, WSJ, CNN, ABC, etc. not to discuss results but sampling, methodology, questionnaire writing, weighting, etc.

I would like to be a guest on C-Span to discuss initiative and referendum legislation so states like NY, NJ, CT can vote on term limits, school choice, tax reform, alternative teacher certification, agency consolidation, bond debt limits, life without parole, etc.

I watch C-Span for hours a day while I write, read, use the phone so when I finally got through and I was questioned by two people about my motives and questions and then they hang up on me I not only felt angry I felt like a friend didn't trust me. I would be glad to give my name and phone number if that would help. I have never even listened to Howard Stern. I guess he is like Beavis & Butthead.

Enclosed are some of my articles on initiative and referendum, education, and legislators' newsletters, a book review on Thomas Sowell's book (Inside American Education), a column by Walter Williams, and a state by state tax summary.

Sincerely,



Thank you! A million times, thank you! I'm so glad "Cheers 'n' Jeers" [June 26] had the bravery and alertness to Jeer the totally unnecessary yet very trendy practice of networks having their logos on constant display except during commercials. It is an awful practice. Very annoying.

LOGOS

Robert L. Boyer
Bensalem, Pa.

Generally speaking, one would have to be some kind of idiot not to know what channel one was watching, so I must conclude that the recent addition of the Fox and ABC logos superimposed on our television screens serves to accommodate the aforementioned intellectual capacity of these two networks' executives.

My wife and I, however, do not need these intrusive, distracting, irrelevant, and unwanted graphics. They have no bearing on the content of the broadcast and do not enhance the photography or the plots. If this is the best decision network executives can make, I stand available to take their place at half the salary in order to at least double the quality of their decision-making.

The ABC logo appears on our TV screen at just slightly over three inches in diameter and represents 28.27 square inches of unviewable area denied from us as viewers. At a cost of \$2.99/sq. inch for our TV set, we estimate that ABC owes us the sum of \$84.54 for the amount of television space they are now denying us. A billing to that amount has been sent to ABC.

Dr. R.F. Sun
Moreno Valley, Cal.

British Open (CC) 10 A.M. (7, 8) From Sandwich, England.
World University Games 12 noon (ESN) Telecast from Buffalo.
NCL Cycling 12 noon (SC) Taped in Tulsa.
Baseball (CC) 1 P.M. (2, 3) Athletics at Yankees.
Tennis 1 P.M. (SCA) U.S. Pro Championships.
Auto Racing 1 P.M. (TBS) Arca 150.
Auto Racing 2 P.M. (MSG) Pocono Sportsman 150.
Bowling (CC) 3 P.M. (7, 8) El Paso Open.
Hydroplane Racing 3 P.M. (ESN) Indiana Governor's Cup.
Volleyball 3:30 P.M. (MSG) Russia vs. U.S.
Auto Racing 3:30 P.M. (TNN) NASCAR Goodwrench Delco Battery 200.
Women's Golf 4 P.M. (4, 30) Big Apple Classic.
Auto Racing 4 P.M. (ESN) IMSA GTP Grand Prix of Road America.
Baseball 4 P.M. (SC) Mets at Giants.
Boxing 4 P.M. (SCA)
Senior Golf (CC) 4:30 P.M. (2, 3) Ameritech Senior Open.
Wide World of Sports (CC) 4:30 P.M. (7, 8) Roller skating; Harlem Globetrotters.
U.S. Olympic Gold 5 P.M. (TNT) Wrestling: U.S. Nationals.

Pro Championships
Saturday Night T
 (ESN) Sprint-car
Auto Racing 8:30
 ASA Salem 200.
Auto Racing 10 P.
 Midget World Cha
Bowling 1 A.M. (M
 Team Challenge
 ship.

SUNDAY,

British Open (CC)
 8) From Sandwich
World University
 12:30 P.M. (ESN)
 from Buffalo.
Baseball 1 P.M. (3
 at Red Sox.
Domingo Deporte
Auto Racing 1 P.
 Gohn Memorial.
Auto Racing 1 P.
 ler Genuine Draf
Volleyball 1:30 P.
 Russia vs. U.S.
Sports Calvacad
 (TNN) Swamp B
Boxing 3 P.M. (M
 Dominguez (sup
 weights).
NCL Cycling 3 P.M.
 Taped in Tulsa.
Senior Golf (CC)
 3) Ameritech Sen
Women's Golf 4 P.
 Big Apple Classic
Auto Racing 4 P.M.
 Toronto.
Baseball 4 P.M. (3
 Giants.

Home Team

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tues
July 17	July 18	July 19	

Bold insurgent Thomas Sowell sounds his battle cry— Why now is the time for revolution in American schools and universities

INSIDE AMERICAN EDUCATION
The Decline, the Deception, the Dogmas
by Thomas Sowell
reviewed by Jim Powell

In recent years, more and more intellectuals have joined over-taxed parents to challenge the dogmas, deceptions and power of America's education elites. John Taylor Gatto lashed out at compulsory schooling. Alan Bloom hit the mindless curriculum. Dinesh d'Souza exposed the enforcers of "political correctness." Martin Anderson reported endemic corruption at major universities. Even John Chubb and Terry Moe, of the mainstream Brookings Institution, declared: "government is the problem."

While few Americans still believe that the education elites can cast magical spells, these elites possess dangerous power, and they are redoubling efforts to protect their privileges. They spend millions lobbying politicians. They use dirty tricks to keep school choice referendums off the ballots in many states. As tenured aristocrats, incompetent school administrators and teachers can almost never be fired, so they thumb their noses at taxpayers whose kids are dragooned into the government's so-called classrooms. Shocking consequence of all this: the next generation of Americans will probably know less than we do today. The future of American civilization is at stake.

Now comes a ferocious counter-attack from Thomas Sowell of the Hoover Institution. In his latest book, *INSIDE AMERICAN EDUCATION*, he issues this blistering 5-point indictment of the education elites:

"1. They have taken our money, betrayed our trust, failed our children, and then lied about the failures with inflated grades and pretty words.

"2. They have used our children as guinea pigs for experiments, targets for propaganda, and warm bodies to be moved here and there to mix and match for racial balance, pad enrollments in foreign-language programs mislabeled 'bilingual,' or just to be warehoused until labor unions are willing to let them enter the job market.

"3. They have proclaimed their special concern for minority students, while placing those students

into those colleges where they are most likely to fail.

"4. They have proclaimed their dedication to freedom of ideas and the quest for truth, while turning educational institutions into bastions of dogma and the most intolerant institutions in American society.

"5. They have presumed to be the conscience of society and to teach ethics to others, while shamelessly exploiting college athletes, overcharging the government, organizing price-fixing cartels, and leaving the teaching of undergraduates to graduate student assistants and junior and part-time faculty, while the tenured faculty pursue research and its rewards."

INSIDE AMERICAN EDUCATION covers all the serious crimes. Sowell chronicles the astronomical expansion of government spending on "education." Although the United States spends more money per student than just about every other country, and the class sizes are generally much smaller than elsewhere, the performance of American education is terrible, and Sowell explains why. He shows how universities raise tuition, offer less teaching and suppress free speech. He explains how the licensing process loads government schools with dumb teachers. He documents the brutal brainwashing agendas of government schools. He rips away academic robes to reveal how affirmative action admission policies promote racism. He seems to explode with rage as he tells how bilingual classes and racial quotas devastate minority students.

Sowell calls for nothing less than a revolution now. In his book, you will see why schools must once again focus on learning, not dogmas like "multicultural diversity"... why compulsory school attendance laws must be repealed... why tenure must be abolished... why the licensing process must be destroyed... why parents and students must be set free to choose their schools.

Sowell's *INSIDE AMERICAN EDUCATION* is a thriller. Don't miss it.
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of this issue to order by mail

More from Thomas Sowell—page 39

Commentary

By Charles Roda

INITIATIVE & REFERENDUM

In November 1992 fourteen states passed term limit legislation, and on election day 1994 eight more states will have term limit proposals on the ballot. In each of these twenty-two states the initiative (and referendum) process allows citizens to collect the required number of signatures to place proposals on the ballot so the voters can accept or reject them. This process is not allowed in New York since the Legislature refuses to pass initiative and referendum legislation.

This year, because of the increased demand by citizens, seven bills have been introduced in the Assembly with four companion bills in the Senate. Unfortunately, six of the Assembly bills are worthless counterfeits of an authentic bill. Forty-two assemblypersons sponsored these bills, including thirty-three sponsors of the worst bill introduced by Assemblyman Casale. (A5014). The Senate companion bill (S2816) was introduced by Senator Nozzolio who, before he ran for the Senate, had the unique distinction of introducing the worst initiative and referendum bills in the Assembly in 1991 and 1992.

The Casale/Nozzolio bills are only shells without any substance. Unlike all or most other bills that are introduced, this bill would require that all initiative proposals state the source of funding for new programs or show where funds would be deleted if a tax decrease was proposed. This would be a great provision if it applied to all legislative bills.

These companion bills would not allow any proposals that deal with the abolition of any state agency or with "the public peace, health or safety, tax levies, or appropriations for usual current expenses of the state." In addition, a law passed by the initiative

process could be repealed by the Legislature after two years, and the legislators would be allowed to set the rules for signature collection and petition circulation. These rules should be the same that candidates follow now.

Acceptable initiative and referendum bills were introduced by Assemblyman Prescott (A3628) and Senator Padavan (S1559) but they could be improved upon too. The Prescott bill has no other sponsors.

If you and your spouse are working at least five months a year, putting up with train and subway delays, traffic jams and car breakdowns, just to pay taxes but you see things getting worse then tell your legislator to support the Prescott/Padavan bills.

Also, members of the League of Women Voters, United We Stand, Take Back America, Concord Coalition, Chamber of Commerce, AARP, Common Cause, and New York Public Interest Research Group should support the Prescott/Padavan bills. Call your friends too.

Charles Roda, a Mount Vernon resident, has been researching and writing about this subject for fifteen years.

Mount Vernon, NY 10552

I&R UPDATE

The SHAPE-SHIFTERS, Governor Cuomo, Senator Marino, and Assembly Speaker Weprin are still BULL-HEADED in their opposition to I&R so your cards, calls, electronic mail, letters to the editor, radio talk show call-ins, and public access appearances are still critical. Also, write Inside Albany.

Maybe we should think of dividing NY into three states like CA. voters may decide to do. Then we can have six Senators instead of two to represent this part of the Northeast.

Voters in Maine may pass state term limits this November by initiative. A school choice initiative should be on the CA. ballot next year.

I would appreciate hearing about any developing local efforts or successes you may have had. Send news articles if you want.

Lessons That Go Unlearned

by Walter Williams



There's a big difference between ignorance and stupidity. Ignorance means that knowledge, information and experience can save us. Stupidity is incurable and we must await the kinder and gentler afterlife for salvation. Which characterization best describes us Americans? Let's look at it.

It is merely coincidental that our big problem areas are the ones that are also the most

socialized (government controlled): like education and medicine? The formerly ignorant person would say, "Oh, I didn't know that socialism is a disaster. Let's marketize education and medicine!" In the face of widely available, indisputable evidence about the bankruptcy of socialism, the stupid person says, "Let's solve our education and medicine problems by having more socialism and greater government control."

By the way, work this out: Our primary and secondary schools are the laughingstock of the industrialized world. How come our colleges and universities are the envy of the world? Could it possibly be that there's far more competition in higher education than there is in lower education? Students use private money or public money, such as Pell grants and the G.I. Bill, to attend private or public colleges and universities. That kind of competition is prohibited in primary and secondary education.

Stupidity can't explain our corrupt Congress; but our gutlessness does. The average American doesn't have the stomach to directly intimidate, threaten, coerce and confiscate his fellow man's property. Congressmen and their agents are the thugs we hire to do what we lack the stomach to do. In the process, they play us for fools and we deserve it. We fall for one political rope-a-dope after another. How about this favorite? Congress likes to enact controversial laws like family leave and the recently enacted Americans with Disabilities Act (which we might just as easily name Discrimination Against Americans Without Disabilities Act). They typically exempt a segment of the population from the law's coverage, like firms with fewer than 50 employees. That's to weaken political resistance, but once the law passes and is established, they rope in the previously exempted.

That's how Congress got passage of the 16th Amendment that overturned previous U.S. Supreme Court rulings

that income taxes were unconstitutional. During legislative debate, Congress promised that the top tax rate would never exceed 10 percent. Initially, the personal exemption for a single person was \$3,000 (\$34,400 in today's dollars) and for a married couple, \$4,000 (\$45,900 today). Higher income was taxed 1 percent and an additional 1 percent surtax was levied on income greater than \$20,000 (\$229,400 today). A 6 percent surtax was levied on income over \$500,000 (over \$5.5 million today). Therefore, in 1913, only 4 percent of the American population earned enough to file a tax return. Had Congress revealed its true tax agenda, today's unprecedented tax-gouging, the 16th Amendment, would not have passed.

How about a more recent example of our smarts? Two days after Hurricane Andrew, insurance company claims adjusters were out in force processing claims and getting desperately needed cash into the hands of victims. Washington didn't act until there was a massive outcry. Blundering bureaucrats are caring humans just as insurance company claims adjusters. Differences in behavior can be explained by the penalties for blunder. Insurance companies would lose customers (in Florida and elsewhere) and profits; bureaucrats lose nothing. So what else is new? But here's where stupidity enters. Many Americans demand that our health care be controlled by the same blundering politicians and bureaucrats. You tell me: Are we stupid or what?

By permission of The Washington Times, November 2, 1992

WHAT IS WANTED FOR government to do is: guarantee their jobs and incomes; protect them from foreign competition and limit the entry of new competitors at home; assure them "living wages" for their labor and "fair" and "reasonable" prices for their products; protect them from the common mistakes of everyday life; and relieve them of any responsibility for the community efforts that would otherwise demand of them charity and the giving of some of their free time. And all these guarantees, protections, and securities are to be provided at someone else's expense....The Age of Democratized Privilege

the U.S. Constitution? Didn't they try to seal its limited nature with the Ninth and Tenth Amendments? And isn't there wisdom in the vision of Jefferson, who in his First Inaugural Address in 1801, called for.

"Still one thing more, fellow citizens—a wise and frugal government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, which shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned."

Opinion

By Charles Roda
Mount Vernon Resident

In this new year, citizens can expect the usual, self-congratulatory newsletters from legislators, filled with pabulum, nice pictures and a list of their spending accomplishments. First, these legislators pass complex laws, rules and regulations and then they proudly tell their constituents how helpful they were in solving massive problems caused by the bureaucracy.

On the federal level, for example, the House of Representatives' 1992-93 budget for mailings (franking) is forty-seven million dollars while the Senate's budget is twenty million dollars. Most of this mail is not in response to citizen inquiries. According to one representative, in 1989, 262 million pieces of mail were sent to constituents although only eighty-seven million letters from citizens needed a response.

Some suggestions for future newsletters are:

1. A quarterly report to their citizen - employers which lists expenses (including lunches, travel, car phones, entertainment, free trips supplied by lobbyists and political action committees (PACs), foreign and interstate trips (including the number of aides who went along), and the money spent on newsletters.

2. A list of the Top Ten contributors to their 1992 campaigns, including PACs and special interest groups, and the amounts.

3. 1992 voting record and how much each vote costs each citizen.

4. Their rating, based on their voting record, as determined by the National Taxpayers Union (NTU), Citizens Against Government Waste (CAGW) or Change NY in Albany with a Westchester chapter.

5. Legislation they introduced or supported to reduce the 400 billion dollar deficit or five trillion dollar long term debt on the Federal level or the deep-rooted two billion dollar deficit on the State level (not counting the massive long-term bond debt).

6. What efforts are the legislators making to reduce their staffs and committee aides?

7. The total number of citizens' letters received vs. the number of newsletters and computerized form letters mailed.

8. An explanation of the real costs of government intervention in: health care; student loans (with no responsibility on the part of the colleges or banks, resulting in three billion dollars in defaults paid by taxpayers); low interest loans to large corporations subsidized by the taxpayers; and "prevailing wage" rates which raise the cost of all state and federal construction while depriving unskilled workers of low paying, entry-level jobs.

These data that should appear in legislators' newsletters are no less than any employer would ask of her employees as a basis for salary increases and promotions. If these "employees" don't provide it on a regular basis, the citizen-employers

can get the information from the Federal Election Commission (mostly for free) by calling 1-800-424-9530 or Vote Smart -- 1-800-786-6885 which provides Federal data on committee assignments; PAC contributions; key votes; ratings by NTU, CAGW, etc.; and other information. On the State level, PAC information can be gotten from the Board of Elections, One Commerce Plaza, Albany 12260, at relatively nominal charges.

To introduce greater change and to end gridlock, ask your State and federal legislators to support (in writing) initiative and referendum legislation so citizens can put proposals on the ballot, after getting the required number of signatures, and then the vote can accept or reject legislation directly.

Opinion

By Charles Roda
Mount Vernon Resident

Mandatory Community Service

During the last five years there has been increased debate on the local, state and national levels over the issue of mandatory community or national service. On the national level it has the support of President Clinton, Senators Nunn and Kennedy, former President Bush, and William F. Buckley, Jr. who outlined his ideas in his book, "Gratitude." Another book on the subject is "A Call to Civil Service" by Charles Mosko.

Maryland is the first state to require students to perform seventy-five hours of service in order to graduate from high school. This rule takes these hours away from paid work which the students may need to support the family or to save for college. These seventy-five hours may not be used for study, the science club, football practice, family get-togethers, church, synagogue or mosque visits, caring for brothers, sisters or grandparents.

Guidance counselors apparently decide, instead of parents, whether or not a student will be forced to work in a hospital or soup kitchen in spite of the very high incidence of tuberculosis and other diseases at some of these locations. Other students may be required to work for free for a CPA or a lawyer if it can be shown that their work will help poor clients. If these youngsters were paid minimum wage for seventy-five hours each of them could earn about \$340. The loss of insurance, workmen's compensation, and social security must also be considered.

This obligatory service is in direct contrast to constitutional rights of freedom. When the draft was repealed it may have resulted in a decrease in discipline, literacy rates, civility, and respect for others but forced labor is not the solution.

Mandatory community service is not going to improve math, science, reading and writing skills if the basics aren't taught in school, and it isn't going to decrease the dropout rate; on the contrary, it would probably increase it. There is too much govern-

ment intervention in the family now which has resulted in its fragmentation and dissolution, and has decreased homework supervision.

To improve education and to decrease crime in our schools parents must understand the abstract concepts of subjective values, relational morality, value neutrality, and secular humanism - the philosophical foundations of many school systems and the textbooks they use. These concepts must then be replaced by absolute morality, traditional values, personal responsibility, and respect for others while not having to accept their attitudes and beliefs. Compulsory service will not instill these values in students.

Instead of mandatory community service legislation there should be Parents' Rights and Responsibilities laws so they can have a voice in their children's education. Any further discussion of forced labor should start with a pilot program for the children of politicians and school board officials if any of them are in public schools. Also, organized labor should be involved in this issue.

If parents decide that they don't want their children to be part of mandatory service then they should have the right of school choice, supported by a voucher system or substantial tax credits. If guaranteed student loans can be used at independent colleges then these loans or vouchers should be available for independent elementary or high schools. Also, parents could spend more time with their children and in their communities if they could work less and pay fewer taxes - another form of state control of the family.

Opinion

By Charles Roda

Some Thoughts On Education

1. It is a basic premise that the educational system should stress Math, English, History, Science and Language. Although emphasis can be placed on analytical reasoning, creative thinking and decision making, they must not replace a strong foundation in the basics. For students to learn these subjects they must do homework and memorize certain rules, terms, spelling, names, approximate dates, and grammar.

2. Academic, not social, standards must be the basis for promotion and graduation. The policy of passing students who are actually failing subjects, just because of their age or to maintain their "self-esteem" is very bad for the students' future. If promotions and salary increases in business or sports are based on ability, skills, knowledge of rules and terminology, verbal and oral communications then the same evaluations should be used in schools.

3. If students can achieve these goals in three years instead of four without being burdened by numerous social courses then they would be able to attend college, to receive training in a specific skill such as carpentry, plumbing or nursing, or to get a job a year earlier than usual.

4. Students' rights are based on the U.S. Constitution, not on membership in a specific group. It would be easier to deprive students of their inalienable rights if they gave up their individual protections in favor of protections for the group. The Con-

stitution is based on absolute moral and ethical values but its protections still cover those who refuse to live by its underlying standards.

5. An honest grading system builds self esteem, not a false sense of security as does a grading system based on social or peer group acceptance whereby all students are considered equal in ability, regardless of effort. Students know that the difference between an "A" and a "D" depends on the amount of study, homework and self-discipline.

6. Self-respect, respect for the dignity of others, ability to keep promises, honesty, punctuality, and personal responsibility are principles that should be incorporated into every subject and re-inforced by the example of the teacher. Separate subjects aren't needed to show that each student's actions have an impact on someone else, and that individuals acting alone or in organized groups are able to solve the problems of crime, pollution, disease, unemployment, homelessness, and illiteracy. Students should not be taught "The government should do something about that" but should be told "We must solve that problem even though it is extremely difficult but we have the brains and guts to do it."

7. Students should be taught that there are various levels of success and achievement, and while they should aim for the highest goal - the pinnacle -- students can accept a lesser level if they have strived honestly to do their best in every instance. As part of this philosophy students can be shown

that they can be in control of their own lives since they have free will and they are not victims of fate. Students can make rational choices that have consequences for which they are responsible.

8. If the values of the majority shouldn't be imposed on all the students then the values of the few shouldn't be imposed on all the students either.

9. Testing should be standardized and conducted by an outside, independent, objective body, such as the Educational Testing Service, twice a year. Also, competition should be introduced into the educational system by allowing school choice. In addition, by reducing taxes, one spouse would be able to stay home to supervise his/her children's education and to solve community problems.

Finally, alternative teacher certification should be allowed in New York.

Editor's Note: Charles Roda has taken education courses, has been a substitute teacher, and is an adjunct professor.

SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER

"He [Clinton] wants to co-opt business to be a party to his enterprise. This is a new collectivism. It looks very much like the corporate state. Some call it fascism."

—Larry Hunter, former chief economist at the Chamber of Commerce (*Washington Post*, March 1, 1993).

CHICKEN LITTLE AWARDS

The "Global Ozone Depletion Hoax" has been awarded the Chicken Little Award for "the most original and least-sustained environmental catastrophe. This award is bestowed annually by the Chicken Little Society of Boca Raton, FL. A special "all-time classic environmental catastrophe" award was also bestowed upon the "Love Canal Fiasco" for the "incredible hysteria generated by environmental activists and the obscene expenditures that resulted." Love Canal is often credited as being the impetus for the federal Superfund program. The Chicken Little Society can be contacted at P.O. Box 276130, Boca Raton, FL 33427.

WAITING TO DIE

Advocates of Nationalized Health Care often point to the "successful" programs of other countries, but what they don't point out are those countries' notorious queues for medical services. "The one common characteristic of all national health care systems is a shortage of services," according to Michael Tanner of the Georgia Public Policy Foundation. Tanner points out that "in Great Britain, a country with a population of only 55 million, more than 800,000 patients are waiting for surgery....In Sweden, the wait for heart x-rays is more than 11 months. Heart surgery can take an additional 8 months....Surgeons in Canada report that, for heart patients, the danger of dying while on the waiting list now exceeds the danger of dying on the operating table."

ANCIENT WISDOM

"People are much more careful of their personal possessions than of those owned communally; they exercise care over common property only insofar as they are personally affected. Other reasons apart, the thought that someone else is looking after it tends to make them careless of it."—Aristotle.

Washington, D.C. 20003

Endnotes

THE PARASITE ECONOMY

In case anyone thought that big government was incapable of creating jobs, here are a few interesting facts about our nation's capitol, courtesy of the Institute for Policy Innovation in Lewisville, TX. In 1956 there

were 4,900 national trade associations in Washington; today there are 23,000. In 1960 there were roughly 3.5 paid lobbyists per U.S. Senator, today there are over 400. Finally, it should be noted that PAC spending more than sextupled between 1970 and 1988.

THE COSTS OF QUOTAS

In the February 15 issue of *Forbes*, Leslie Spencer and Peter Brimelow endeavored to tabulate the entire cost of affirmative action regulations to the American economy. Their findings were quite shocking. They concluded that quota-inducing regulations impose costs of more than \$225 billion each year. That is equivalent to approximately 4 percent of GNP in 1991. The article is sure to be controversial, but its conclusions are hard to dismiss. It just goes to show, even the most well-intentioned regulations can impose tremendous costs.

BIRDS OF A FEATHER...

With the failure of communist role models in the east, Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, the man responsible for brutally crushing Poland's 1981 Solidarity movement uprising, has turned west. Jaruzelski says he's modified his hard-line views slightly, but claims to retain "the values of the left," and said that "actually, in Clinton's program I see elements I like a lot." (*New York Times*, March 4).

HONOR THY PROGENY

"I honor Earth First! for having the guts to do the things they do. It's not for me, but I understand why they do what they do. And, ultimately, we all help each other."—Brock Adams, Audubon Society

BIRDS OR BABIES

"I got the impression that instead of going out to shoot birds, I should go out and shoot the kids who shoot birds."—Greenpeace founder Paul Watson.

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By The Way...

Notables

- ♦ **Kent Jeffreys**, Director of Environmental Studies, testified March 2 before the Committee on Science, Space and Technology subcommittee on Technology, Environment and Aviation. The subject of the hearing was environmental R & D.
- ♦ The March issue of *Reader's Digest* features an article on the safety defects of CAFE, and cites CEI's court victory against NHTSA. The Feb. 14 *Detroit News* also noted CEI's work on CAFE.
- ♦ **Kent Jeffreys** was recently named as a contributing editor and columnist to *The Earth Times*, a bi-weekly environmental journal published by the Earth Pledge Foundation.
- ♦ As a result of the work done by **Jonathan H. Adler**, Environmental Policy Analyst, a bill was introduced on Feb. 4 in the Arizona state senate: "Establishing a Pilot Program Relating to the Measurement of Motor Vehicle Emissions."

Mentions

CEI recently received mentions in the following print media:

- ♦ *Governing* magazine (January 1993) included a report on *Environmental Politics: Public Costs, Private Rewards*.
- ♦ *City Journal* (New York), Winter 1993, in an article on lead.
- ♦ *Sierra* magazine mentioned **Jonathan Adler's** Policy Review study "Little Green Lies," in its March/April issue.
- ♦ *The Seattle Times* (Feb. 9) quoted **Matthew Hoffman** discussing CEI's opposition to Jeremy Rifkin's "Beyond Beef" campaign to eliminate beef consumption.
- ♦ *Intellectual Ammunition* (January 1993) noted CEI's work on Free Market Environmentalism. The February issue featured **Kent Jeffreys'** column on various environmental issues.
- ♦ *Chemical Marketing Reporter* noted **Kent Jeffreys'** criticism of Greenpeace's opposition to the construction of a hazardous waste incinerator in Ohio.
- ♦ *Greenwire* quoted **Kent Jeffreys** regarding President Clinton's recent moves to abolish CEQ.

Appearances

- ♦ **Fred Smith** spoke to a class at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania on Feb. 8. On Feb. Smith spoke in the Lord Acton Lecture Series, sponsored by the Acton Institute in Grand Rapids, Mich.
- ♦ Research Associate **James Sheehan** attended a meeting on Feb. 23 with Trade Representative Mickey Kantor. The topic was trade and the environment.
- ♦ **Jonathan Adler** spoke at a Consumer Alert-sponsored press conference, opposing proposals for an energy tax. The conference was covered by CBS Morning News.

Radio and TV

- ♦ **Fred Smith** was interviewed on several radio stations, including WAVA (Washington, D.C.) after President Clinton's State of the Union address. Fred was interviewed by WOOD-TV in Grand Rapids on Feb. 11 about *Environmental Politics: Public Costs, Private Rewards*.
- ♦ **Kent Jeffreys** was interviewed Feb. 3 on WAMC (Albany, NY) on "The Environment Show," syndicated nationally over ABC and NPR. The topic was energy taxes.
- ♦ **Jonathan Adler** discussed Clinton's economic plan on KPFL (Lafayette, LA), KSRO (Santa Rosa, CA) and on WMHK (Columbia, SC) on Feb. 17-18. Adler also did a radio debate on February 5 with a member of Greenpeace over the East Liverpool, OH incinerator project.

Articles and Op/Eds

- Jonathan H. Adler**, Environmental Policy Analyst:
- ♦ "Is Lead a Heavy Threat?" Fall 1992 *Regulation*.
- ♦ "Telephoning Faulty Fears" (cellular phone cancer), Feb. 20 *Washington Times*.
- ♦ "EPA and the Pesticide Problem," Feb. 23 *Journal of Commerce*.

Patrick Cox, Adjunct Policy Analyst:

- ♦ "Don't Nit-pick Nominees," Jan. 15 *USA Today*.

Matthew Hoffman, Adjunct Policy Analyst:

- ♦ "CRS Networks Are Not Monopolies" (airline computer reservation systems), Feb. 6 *Human Events*.

- ♦ "Worldwatch Institute blind to the truth," Feb. 13 *Detroit News*.
- ♦ "EPA's Bad Science Mars ETS Report" (Environmental Tobacco Smoke), Feb. 13 *Human Events*.
- ♦ "Private Ends of Public Use" (public land use), Feb. 14 *Washington Times*.

Kent Jeffreys, Director of Environmental Studies:

- ♦ "A Sea of Change: Someone Needs to Own the Oceans," Winter 1993 issue of *Trilogy* magazine.
- ♦ "Higher Gasoline Tax Will Backfire," Jan. 17 *Houston Post*.
- ♦ "Too Many Holes" (ozone depletion), letter to the editor, Feb. 11 *Wall Street Journal*.
- ♦ "'Sound and Fury' Warms to Ecological Treason" (review of *Sound and Fury: The Science and Politics of Global Warming*, by Patrick Michaels; see *CEI UpDate*, Nov. 1992), Feb. 24 *Detroit News*.
- ♦ "It's Time to Reassess the Earth Summit," Feb. 28 *The Earth Times*.

Cassandra Chrones Moore, Adjunct Policy Analyst:

- ♦ "'One-stop Shopping' Benefits Buyers" (reprint of *WSJ* op/ed), Jan/Feb *Realtor News*.

James Sheehan, Research Associate:

- ♦ "World Bank's Ecological Woes," Jan. 22 *Journal of Commerce*.
- ♦ "NAFTA: No Exactamente Libre Comercio," *La Prensa* (Buenos Aires), and *El Caribe* (Dominican Republic) Jan. 15-16.
- ♦ "NAFTA: A Poor Substitute For Free Trade," February *K.C. Jones* magazine.
- ♦ "The UN's Environmental Power Grab," *The World & I*, March 1993.

Ike C. Sugg, Walker Fellow in Environmental Studies:

- ♦ "Eco-Apartheid: It's Africans versus Elephants & Environmentalists," *Diversity & Division*, Winter 1992 (see *CEI UpDate*, February 1993).

Jim Heetderks

Managing Editor