

6-30-92

[REDACTED]
Rochester, Minnesota 55902

Mr Brian Lamb
C.E.O.
C-SPAN

DEAR MR. Lamb: Enclosed - 2 cc

Of my weekly Conservative Column in the
Rochester Post Bulletin. I mention you in
it. Hope you like it. I have long been
An admirer of your work, C-SPAN
Coverage, + your Talented Colleagues.

My Columns have also
appeared in two National periodicals:
The New York Guardian, + Conservative
Review.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

PS- I have enclosed other Column samples
as well. Hopefully I will get Syndicated
someday. If so I would leave teaching.

Another riot broke out, this time in Chicago after the Bulls won a second consecutive professional basketball championship. No doubt some liberal thinker will insist these looters, like their Los Angeles brethren, were really social reformers protesting some imagined oppression, say underpaid sports stars. Such philosophical scenarios explain the election of Republican presidents since 1980 and give conservatism a good name.

Nonetheless, conservatism is not dominating the cultural scene (the arts, media, academia, politics), according to R. Emmett Tyrrell Jr. He analyzed the reasons for his juxtaposition in his latest book, "The Conservative Crackup" (Simon & Schuster, 1992).

Tyrrell is the editor of the popular intellectual conservative journal, "The American Spectator," which he founded while studying history at the University of Indiana in the 1960s. The journal grew out of his disgust over the excesses of the student (and faculty) radical movement. He was greatly influenced by his successful, eclectic swimming coach, Doc Counsilman, who contributed to the author's sound body and mind with rigorous workouts and conservative discourse. Tyrrell's cultural knowledge and writing skills were enhanced through graduate studies in history.

Tyrrell published the "Spectator" out of an Indiana farm house until motivated to move to Washington, D.C., in the Reagan years. The syndicated columnist traced the conservative movement with scholarship, eloquence and humor, aided by his personal friendship with such luminaries as Robert Bork, Robert Novak, George Bush, Ronald Reagan, Pat Buchanan, William F. Buckley, George Will, Richard Nixon, The Wall Street Journal's Robert Bartley, Jeane Kirkpatrick and Bill Casey. The author's recitation of philosophical discussions and fascinating dinners with several of these figures provides extraordinary personal insights.



Another View

Tyrrell has given the conservative movement the intellectual leadership he suggests it lacks. His reverence for the personal talents and the cognitive contributions of William F. Buckley to conservatism is clear, but he faults Buckley for not judiciously mentoring successors.

The author believes the conservative movement is too fragmented, sometimes anti-intellectual and too resistant to the arts and political life. Tyrrell finds the very virtues of conservative thought reasons for the movement's undoing. Practitioners are too private, ideological and often humorless. Conservatives are fractionalized into single-issue groups ranging from the NRA, tax credits and "right-to-life" and cannot coalesce into effective, cross-cultural advocacy groups, a talent liberal protestors have in abundance.

R. Emmett Tyrrell Jr.'s very name suggests conservative pedigree. His initials (RET) even symbolize conservative supply-side economics (rational expectation theory). His family's Irish heritage reflects political independence. Kinfolk have been in law enforcement (not unusual for the Gaelic culture) but departed from the usual affiliation with the Democratic Party.

Brian Lamb, C-Span's intrepid president and imperturbable interviewer extraordinaire, elicited from Tyrrell the conclusions that Reagan was the most effective political leader since FDR; Jack Kemp is the most pragmatic conservative intellectual in the administration; and Bush has failed to continue the Reagan legacy. Lamb is a

quiet lion in interviews. I envy Lamb's demeanor and marvel at his neat, highly-starched shirts.

Ah, but I digress.

Tyrrell analyzed the "exclusion" practiced by pro-quota liberals upon conservatives in the media and academia and decried the fragmentation of the conservative movement to which he seems to contribute in his discussions of "paleo," "neo" and "dumb" conservatives.

In my view, he mischaracterizes Pat Buchanan by calling him an isolationist and, by implication, a protectionist. But we shall leave it to that other Irish polemicist to articulate, as he does so well, his own views.

Tyrrell does not, probably due to the publication date, share his views on the impact of Buchanan in the Republican primary elections or the struggle for leadership of the conservative political movement between Buchanan, William Bennett, Jack Kemp and others.

Especially disappointing to the author is the failure of conservatives to come to the timely defense of their wounded, most notably Bork. Tyrrell finds a dearth of substantive, intellectual conservative writing. Perhaps he is not familiar with Roger Pearson's "Conservative Review," or Christopher Ruddy's "The New York Guardian."

The scholarly author brilliantly dissected liberal historian Arthur Schlesinger's cyclical theories of history, a palliative Tyrrell believes is designed to give liberals predestinational comfort during the Reagan-Bush era.

But a cyclical theory from Robert Frost might comfort Tyrrell as he contemplates oscillating conservative influences: "Why abandon a belief merely because it ceases to be true? Cling to it long enough and . . . it will turn true again . . . Most of the change we think we see in life is due to truths being in and out of favor."

is professor of anthropology, geography and history at

PB

By [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] is professor of anthropology, geography and history at [REDACTED]

PB

By [REDACTED]

The California primary results reaffirmed the historic nature of campaign 1992.

Bill Clinton and President Bush have serious problems within their own political parties, and Ross Perot represents an attractive leadership alternative to people of all political stripes, to independents, and to people who have not previously been politically active.

Bush was riding high after Desert Storm, but the survival of Saddam Hussein and congressional inquiries into U.S. Iraqi policies before the invasion of Kuwait muddled the waters. Serious and seemingly unsolvable domestic problems, budget constraints and public mistrust of failed executive and legislative processes have been a catalyst for Perot supporters who care less about his stand on the issues and are most impressed with his perceived leadership style.

Bush's vacillation has incurred the animosity of the conservative wing of the Republican Party and has not endeared him to liberal Democrats. His Haitian sanctions stimulated the flow of refugees. Some have been granted political asylum but the dominant core of the economically moved are being sent back. The Organization of American States, along with the United States, should repeal the sanctions and threaten the military junta with invasion if they do not allow the return of President Aristide. Bush's insistence on most-favored-nation status for the oppressive Beijing regime riles conservatives as well.

Republicans do get a bad rap on government spending and social programs, however. Congress plays a role in the matter. And social spending has increased in the last 10 years, even in Los Angeles County. A powerful Democratic Congress has blocked several creative Republican socio-economic plans. The nation's major cities are, for the most part, headed by Democratic mayors.

Housing Secretary Jack Kemp is the most creative conservative in the administration. His compassion and sensible programs have been bottled up in Congress and not aggressively pursued by the White House. Bush has transparently trotted Kemp out into the public eye after the L.A. riots. It remains to be seen if this is conversion or window dressing.

Bush and Vice President Dan Quayle make sense on family values and individual-responsibility themes. He is wisely trying to balance ecological objectives with commensurate economic productivity and job saving. Bush also is in trouble because he is too nice. That explains some of his vacillation. Jimmy Carter is a decent, sincere person who may have been too nice for the office as well. His post-presidential human rights and poverty projects proved not only Carter's humanitarianism, but the reality of his liberalism. Bush, in contrast, seems to have lost his ideological moorings and has become too political.

A devastating critique of Bush has



Another View

been written by conservative activists Steven J. Allen and Richard A. Viguerie titled "Lip Service: George Bush's 30-Year Battle With Conservatives" (CP Books 1992). The authors respect Bush as a decent person and credit his personal courage as a World War II fighter pilot. Otherwise, they find little redeeming virtue in his political life, which is a history of expediency and vacillating values and catering to Republican conservatives whom he later betrays. The authors support their thesis with numerous examples from his school days, business career, stint in Congress and subsequent appointed federal positions.

His tenure as vice president featured loyalty to President Reagan, but his own presidency has been a repudiation of the Reagan legacy. The authors bring their own legacy to the book. Viguerie is a frequent guest on news talk shows. He is the founder of a direct marketing-advertising firm and founder and publisher of "Conservative Digest." Allen is a former news reporter and news director, a press secretary to Sen. Jeremiah Denton, R-Ala., and edits a political newsletter. He has a law degree and a master's degree in political science.

The authors criticize Bush for supporting Gorbachev too long and responding too meekly and belatedly to independence movements in the Baltic states and Yugoslavia. His initial catering to Saddam Hussein and subsequent failure to remove the Iraqi dictator from power at the height of an otherwise brilliant military campaign are other failures of leadership. Bush is criticized for his failure to pursue budget vetoes, capital gains cuts and the termination of quotas and set-asides. Most serious was Bush's reneging on his "read my lips, no new taxes" pledge and the failed budget agreement with Congress. Bush has vacillated on gun control, abortion and Israeli policies.

The authors are contemptuous of Bush's re-election technique of "running against his own record . . . the rich kid whose regulatory torrent drowned the hopes of millions of small-business people (and the) World War II hero whose political caution borders on cowardice."

Smith and Viguerie are especially passionate about elitist, country-club Republicans and Democratic elites who "used our tax dollars to bail out (banks) preserved special interest loopholes (which) shift the tax burden onto the backs of working people (and) created a welfare system (which) renders the poor (less) able to take care of themselves."

[REDACTED] is professor of anthropology, geography and history at [REDACTED]

Rochester Post Bulletin [REDACTED]

By [redacted]

The aftermath of the Los Angeles riots stimulated a plethora of experts to analyze causes and cures.

Some observers believe a kind of algebraic equal justice has been achieved. Rioting over the King incident cost 60 lives, thousands of arrests and injuries, hundreds of businesses and thousands of jobs, many of which are gone forever, and millions of dollars.

Ted Koppel of ABC and other analysts interviewed gang members. Why don't they consult successful inner-city dwellers, such as Korean, black and Hispanic entrepreneurs and various immigrants?

The L.A. police arrested the men who brutally beat the truck driver. Will civil rights advocates insist that their jury include the diversity of the inner city? Koreans, for example. Let them tell us about hard work, education and family values.

Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-N.Y., became *persona non grata* in the social science community when, decades ago, he alerted us to the disintegration of inner-city families, the cultural, behavioral and political reasons for it, and possible solutions. Anthropologist Oscar Lewis studied the "culture of



Another View

poverty" and its perpetuating behavioral aspects. He too was chastised by his peers for such heresy.

The politics of social unrest is being predictably pursued by Democrats, who insist Reagan and Bush are the cause, and Republicans who insist failed social programs have exacerbated the situation. Both sides are correct. The welfare-state programs have had decades to germinate. Sufficient funding is necessary, but inefficient spending and short-sighted bureaucratic regulations have made things worse, however well-intentioned their sponsors.

Republican programs for the inner cities have been offered by the Reagan and Bush administrations, and most notably by HUD Secretary Jack Kemp. Ideas include tenant ownership of inner-city apartments; better security for and

policing of inner-city housing projects; urban free-enterprise zones with tax advantages for businesses; school voucher plans so youngsters can go to better suburban public and private schools; and workfare for welfare recipients who receive paychecks while improving the infrastructure.

These programs, some introduced as far back as 1979, have been bottled up in committees chaired by leaders of the Democratic-controlled Congress. The Senate has passed some of these proposals, but not the House, which is more sensitive to threatened special-interest groups.

The things that arrive in the mail! A kind reader, of missionary spirit no doubt, sent me a subscription to a fascinating periodical: *Liberal Opinion Week*.

Conversion is unlikely, but I appreciate exposure to contrary views by readers who endure my viewpoints. Intellectual ecumenism is challenging and enriching. The *Liberal Opinion* columnists include several whom I admire, such as Clarence Page, William Raspberry, David Broder, Mark Shields, Mike Royko, Art Buchwald and Ellen Goodman.

There are more cartoons in *Liberal Opinion* than in most conservative

periodicals. That is to be expected given the personality traits of the respective ideological camps and the inherent humor contained in most liberal conclusions. The writers do not always agree with each other. One should expect that from thoughtful analysts. If you are interested in this lively journal, write to *Liberal Opinion*, P.O. Box 468, Vinton, Iowa, 52349, or call (800) 338-9335.

More on the L.A. riots. Some critics referred to Koreans who used guns to protect their property as "vigilantes." The rioters took "justice" into their hands as well. Since the "disturbances," hundreds of residents have bought guns and taken lessons.

As if L.A. lacked pressing problems, councilman Zev Yaroslavsky has conducted a witch-hunt into the professionalism of Assistant Chief Robert Vernon who offended the gay lobby by expressing his Christian values in a public speech. Columnist Joseph Farah quoted Yaroslavsky: "Religion . . . (read codes of ethics or values) has no place in government." The city council begins its meetings with an invocation. Perhaps the councilman should look into that.

More affirmative action lunacy. The New York City Fire Department now has an exam point system which gives

proportional credit for incorrect answers on a multiple-choice test. The exam was designed by some "value-free" (make that "knowledge-free") testing "experts" for \$400,000.

Have spending cuts increased social problems? *National Review* reported the feds will actually spend \$731 billion on social programs this year, 5.3 times (in inflation-adjusted dollars) the 1965 figure. Including local and state data, 19 percent of the GNP goes into social welfare as opposed to 11.5 percent in 1965. Los Angeles County got more money than any other county in the United States in 1991. Even during the so-called stingy Reagan years, the population rose 8 percent, the poverty population 1 percent. But means-tested spending on families increased by 18 percent! The solution to social problems is not job creation or behavior change, but more federal spending! They just don't get it.

But Congress has reformed. House speaker Tom Foley said, "We have eliminated the House bank . . . raised gym fees . . . members (now pay) to get their cars washed . . . (and we no longer) issue drugs to members."

[redacted] is professor of anthropology, geography and history at [redacted]

P B

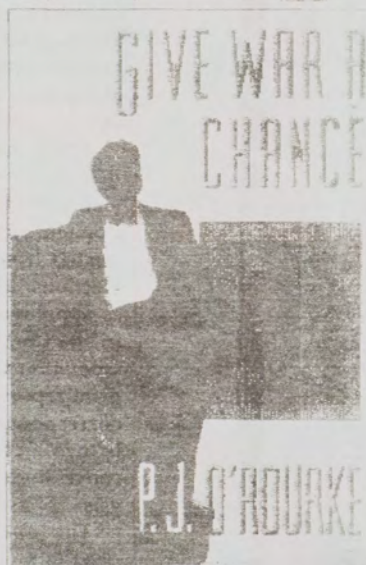
BOOKS

P. J. O'Rourke is back. His humorous analysis of Congress (*Parliament of Whores*) has been supplanted by his latest book, *Give War a Chance* (Atlantic Monthly Press, 1992).

U.S. foreign policy from the 1980s to the present is his primary target. Contrary to many of his journalistic counterparts, the author finds significant diplomatic success, but not without a sprinkling of his usual irreverent jocularity.

O'Rourke is a reporter for *Rolling Stone* magazine. He was in Nicaragua when the Communist Sandinistas were ousted from control in free elections, in Eastern Europe as communism crumbled, and in the Persian Gulf during Operation Desert Storm as a print reporter and as a radio correspondent for ABC. He brings a change of pace to conventional journalistic analysis.

The author, like other reporters, initially accepted pollster predictions of Sandinista victory. Inexplicably, he said, "I accepted the results of (opinion polls) taken in a country where it was illegal to hold certain opinions... (As a) member of the working



P.J. O'Rourke, author of *Give War a Chance*.

press, you'd think I'd know better than to listen to journalists." O'Rourke described how members of the Eastern European press, just then tasting political freedom themselves, were mystified and disgusted by the way visitors from free nations came to Nicaragua to defend the Sandinista dictatorship.

O'Rourke believes the revolutionary values of libera-

tion reside, not in the Third World, or in Marxism, but in Western values and traditions which, by example and military preparedness, prevailed over communism. Hatred of America is in large measure plain jealousy. When in Beirut he was held at gun point by a Shi'ite Muslim who told him the United States was the "Satan devil" but he had plans to emigrate to America to attend dental school.

On the Middle East from ancient times to the present, O'Rourke writes of: "A politically fractionalized land populated with a (complexity) of ethnic and religious groups (each of which) detests the others. Extreme political and theological views prevail. Terrorism and assassination are commonplace. Alliances are momentary. Grudges perennial. And neither colonial subjugation nor local autonomy suffices to keep the peace."

He is similarly critical of the land of his Irish ancestors, and found it disheartening when police and military forces with whom he went on patrol spoke with pride about maintaining "acceptable levels of violence."

O'Rourke's stint in the Middle East exposed him to danger. He described the essential military responses to Iraqi aggression. On more than one occasion, regard for brave allied troops and civilians and tragedy reduced him to tears. O'Rourke was critical of Western policies which initially strengthened Saddam Hussein. He thought Saddam was Hitlerian in his atrocities. The author was critical of the absence of democracy in the Arab world. He described our Arab allies' wartime theme song as "Onward Christian Soldiers." He also credits Islamic values with being responsible for "the first war ever covered by sober journalists."

You'll find *Give War a Chance* a good read.

Dumbing Us Down: The Hidden Curriculum of Compulsory Schooling

by John Taylor Gatto

industrial machine." He says, "School is a 12 year jail

damaged society until we force open the idea of 'school' to include family as the main engine of education. If we use schooling to break children away from parents

By

Rodney King was described by Los Angeles police as a large, dangerous man with a criminal record. That background and his menacing behavior, said arresting officers, necessitated the use of what appeared on a videotape to be excessive force to subdue him.

The Rodney King we later saw on national television making an emotional appeal for an end to the riots which occurred after a jury acquitted the accused officers was not the alleged man. He displayed dignity and compassion as he described the sad and violent death of a Hispanic security guard killed by thugs while protecting the property of his Korean employer. One can only wonder why King's lawyers did not put him on the stand. It might have changed the verdict of the jury which was composed of 10 Caucasians, one Asian and one Hispanic.

The defense attorneys were successful in convincing the jury that pre-tape events and the danger facing police officers justified their response. The tape itself makes it easy to conclude that excessive force was used.

Jay Lee, the director of the law enforcement program at Rochester Community College and a former law officer with a law degree, was surprised by the jury verdict. He said he saw excessive force on the videotape. Lee distinguished between a criminal trial which requires the jury to consider "guilt beyond a reasonable doubt" and the subsequent civil trial the officers face in which jurors consider the "preponderance of evidence."

Lee endorses better police training, more personal contact between officers and the communities they serve, and the selective recruitment and training of qualified members of the diverse communities the police serve, including females and ethnic minorities.

Conservative columnist William F. Buckley favors the concept of a police corps composed of young people drawn from a culturally diverse society. In return for a college education, students



Another View

would serve in police departments. Especially attractive to Buckley is the idea of recruiting members from the demobilizing armed services who are already trained and possess the professional, mental and physical characteristics needed for inner-city police work. About 30 percent are black. They have achieved rank through the service "meritocracy" and would police the inner cities, says Buckley, with a good mix of courage and sensitivity. The federal government should assist paying their wages and civilian police would expose them to further training and supervision.

It is a good idea. Politicians should endorse and fund it. It would not necessarily compete with civilian graduates of law enforcement programs because we need more police presence in high-crime areas to protect and serve the law-abiding populations and "apprehend the perpetrators."

The Los Angeles riots were an unfortunate reaction to the King case. But it is a mistake to conclude that most of the rioters were seeking social justice. Most of them were thugs who took advantage of a situation. If some were legitimately protesting police violence, it is ironic to then justify their own violence as a result of legitimate frustration. Will some of the thousands of arrestees, responsible for 60 deaths and thousands of injuries, be tried for their own hate crimes and racism?

Another irony: Some of the same people who criticized Chief Gates' department for using excessive force as departmental policy criticized him for responding too slowly and meekly to the

riots. Some observers believe Gates delayed the response to illustrate the need for tough policing in the inner city.

Certainly the rage of people after the verdict was understandable. Now perhaps students of the criminal justice system will be more sensitive to the rage that many feel when legal-technical judicial processes result in the release of criminals who are obviously dangerous and guilty.

President Bush sent federal forces to assist in restoring order. He credited people from all socio-economic sectors who exhibited kindness and courage and helped others. The inexplicable process by which protesters and rioters destroyed their own neighborhoods and the property and jobs of their own people challenges social analysts and reformers.

It is important we do not stereotype members of the minority community or police officers. Most officers are sensitive and professional. Their job, as these events indicate, are demanding and dangerous. They must be recruited on the basis of the highest qualifications and standards. Two officers, one a member of the LAPD, the other the female California trooper who initially apprehended Rodney King, testified that excessive force was used. That took professional courage. But even the accused officers are innocent until proven guilty. Another investigation of the King incident by the Justice Department is a good idea.

It is fortunate that LAPD chief-designee Willie L. Williams is coming on board. The son of a police officer, Williams has proven to be an exemplary professional. He solved many of the kinds of problems Los Angeles has when he was Philadelphia's police commissioner. That he is a highly qualified and eloquent African-American is an obvious plus. Williams and distinguished Mayor Tom Bradley should make a good team.

_____ is professor of
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Rochester Post Bulletin

By [redacted]

"The rich got richer and the poor got poorer in the greedy years of failed Reaganomics."

That is what many in the academic and media elite would have you believe. President Reagan is given credit for little or nothing. The prosperity of the 1980s was illusory. He did not increase U.S. influence and had nothing to do with the fall of communism in Central America, Eastern Europe or the Soviet Union. And so it goes.

Economic history is difficult to interpret given political biases and the complexity of economics, which is a cultural and mathematical discipline requiring analysis of multiple variables.

William F. Buckley revealed studies by conservative economists who used government data to show that the poor got poorer under the Carter administration and were better off in the Reagan years. Unemployment increased by 25 percent under Carter and decreased by 45 percent under Reagan. The misery index (unemployment plus inflation) increased by 9 percent (Carter) and decreased by 26 percent (Reagan). Under Carter, per capita income stayed even and rose by 22 percent under Reagan.

Disposable personal income per capita did not change in the Carter years, but was up 18 percent under Reagan. In the Carter years, the poverty rate increased. It decreased under Reagan. The percentage of persons in poverty increased under Carter and decreased under Reagan.

The Office of Management and Budget released 1980-92 figures indicating spending for the poor doubled, tripled and increased by fivefold in specific areas of Medicaid, nutrition, family support and housing. The Reagan-Bush administrations have been accused of cutting spending, when they often just cut the rate of increase, but not expenditure per se. They are also accused of not submitting balanced budgets to Congress which in turn actually added expenditures to presidential budgets.



Another View

Reed Irvine and Joseph C. Goulden ridiculed the carping of network media stars like Dan Rather, Sam Donaldson and Byrant Gumbel, who often speak about the greed and negative social impact of the Reagan-Bush years while negotiating million dollar-plus salaries. Perhaps they secretly tithe to the indigent.

The late conservative economist-columnist Warren Brookes reported that during the 1980s black families making \$50,000 or more rose from 7 percent to 12 percent. The middle class of Americans shrank, as the liberal press reports, because, and this is not widely reported, more people "vanished upwards." As for greed, most of the politicians who intervened on behalf of the savings and loans and raised public liability rates to protect financial institutions were Democrats.

Robert L. Bartley, editor of the Wall Street Journal, was born in Marshall, Minn. Among the first economic writers to explain and endorse neoclassical economics and the supply-side perspectives of the Reagan years, Bartley received a Pulitzer prize for editorial writing. His recently published book, "The Seven Fat Years: and How To Do It Again" (The Free Press, 1992), is must reading for anyone wishing to understand the positive economic nature and impact of the 1980s. The subsequent recession of the early 1990s, said Bartley, is a direct result of the dismantling of Reaganomics and excessive re-regulation which has slowed lending by financial institutions and stifled job-creating entrepreneurial growth.

The grave national and international problems of the 1970s were ameliorated in the '80s. World leaders have accepted

many elements of Reaganomics. The only observers who do not understand this, Bartley said, are the ideologues who compose much of the media and academic elite in the United States.

Bartley's very readable analysis reaffirms the real economic growth that occurred in all socio-economic sectors of American culture. He credits U.S. economic expansion as a catalyst for economic growth in Western Europe and along the East Asian Pacific rim. The author said we must return to policies of deregulation and lower taxes and discourage penalties on personal saving and capital gains.

The author is scholarly, eloquent, insightful and humorous. He believes econometrics (mathematical analysis) is less instructive than the study of economic history, although statistical data must be utilized. Free trade, not protectionism, is the answer for economic growth. Our educational and physical infrastructures must be improved regardless of entrenched special interest groups who resist change and egalitarians who are repelled by meritocratic systems. A revealing historical concept: From World War II to 1973 real U.S. economic growth averaged 3.6 percent; through the 1970s it declined to 1.6 percent; and from 1983-90 it was 3.8 percent — "The Seven Fat Years."

Prophets of doom must be dismissed. Transfer payments should be calculated which show a reduction in poverty rates. Per capita GNP is the best measure of economic growth; and we must not be consumed by debt-deficit worries. Debt means positive foreign investment in America, and deficit as a percent of GNP tells us more than raw figures per se. The author endorses fiscal responsibility as well as growth-stimulating spending.

Bartley's ultimate query: "Does (the nation) really deplore a decade of greed and seek atonement in a decade of envy? For the nation shall also have its way if seven lean years is what it truly wants."

[redacted] is professor of anthropology, geography and history at [redacted]

Rochester (NM) Post Bulletin
- 6/23/92

By [REDACTED]
American Indian Movement leader Vernon Bellecourt recently threw a pint of what he said was his own blood on a replica of Christopher Columbus' ship. The incident took place at the Minnesota Science Museum in St. Paul in a display called "First Encounters."

The politically correct thing to be in this case is "tolerant." But imagine the outrage which would occur if European-Americans desecrated an Amerindian historical symbol. Remember the fuss over the tomahawk chop during the World Series? Perhaps relatives of Custer's 7th Cavalry should throw their blood on Indian symbols. Oh, no. Caucasian historical figures, especially males, are unlikely candidates for victim status regardless of what plights befell them.

Leftist lunacy and hypocrisy was illustrated in an incident involving the University of Massachusetts student newspaper, *Daily Collegian*. Because its articles on social issues were not politically correct, the "there are no truths" crowd stormed the office, forcing the newspaper to be published from a secret location. The zealous voices of social tolerance were not deterred. They simply removed thousands of copies from various distribution centers. Is that censorship? Not according to one of the participants, who said: "We didn't burn



Another View

them. We recycled them."

Insight magazine revealed a second example of leftist ideological oppression. A federal judge upheld an administrative decision at a Pennsylvania elementary school to stop a fifth-grader from presenting an oral report dealing with "The Power of..." She unfortunately chose God as her topic. Another blow from the "tolerance" folks upon free speech. The case has been appealed. She would have been home free had she chosen a more illuminating subject, like the The Power of Condoms. Or Safe Sex. Or Value-Free Ethics.

With value-free sexuality, society reaps what it sows. Date rape is a serious problem on college campuses. Some of the very people who have encouraged the sexual revolution, alternative and sexually-active lifestyles, and co-ed dormitories are outraged when males are aggressive and date rape occurs.

Thomas Sowell has written "sex education" has not reduced the incidence of disease or pregnancy. Proponents of sex education argue the problems would nonetheless be worse without it. They do not accept similar logic from proponents of capital punishment. Sowell said "it never occurs to the anointed that traditional practice and inhibitions came into existence and persisted (for functional reasons) that anyone can see... except those who are busy raising other people's consciousness."

Sometimes the social theorists rediscover common sense. Witness a *Time* magazine article earlier this year: "Why are Men and Women Different? It isn't just upbringing. New studies show they are born that way." No kidding! Insight reminded us that in the 1970s (and '80s) biological explanations for behavior were not fashionable. Cultural experience explained everything.

A feminist and former cultural determinist, professor Jerre Levy, converted because of the personal experience of raising and observing her own daughter. The University of Chicago psychologist discovered what many "less educated" mothers know: "Their little boys and little girls were equally adorable, but differently so."

America is invariably wrong according to certain media pundits. MediaWatch quoted John Chancellor on the Gulf War: "Allied military dead are

counted in the low hundreds. (The Iraqi toll is estimated around 198,000). The disparity is huge and somewhat embarrassing." The egalitarians even want parity in war deaths. More Americans, evidently, should have died to make things "fair."

Another pundit embarrassed by wartime observations is the ever moralistic Bill Moyers of PBS. The *New Republic* reported that when Moyers was Lyndon Johnson's adviser, the present-day pacifist pontificated "on steps we can take to improve coverage of the Vietnam War... We will never eliminate... the irresponsible and prejudiced coverage of Peter Arnett and (Morley) Safer, men who are not Americans and do not have... American interest... at heart."

Logic is sometimes turned around in Orwellian ways. On the Los Angeles riots, the St. Paul Pioneer Press offered the following captions in the same issue...

"Support Gang's Effort to Pursue Peace" and "L.A. Buries Its Riot Victims: More Criticism Heaped on Top Police Officials." That's right. The gang members are the heroes. Remember that next time you dial 911. Chances are they will not answer the call.

[REDACTED] is professor of anthropology, geography and history at [REDACTED] College.

EDUCATION

By [REDACTED]

The National Council on Education Standards and Testing proposed the creation of an autonomous organization to develop curriculum and teacher standards and to determine what students should be expected to know in English, science, mathematics, geography and history.

This will cause waves in schools of education, teachers unions, administrative circles, and among the forces of political correctness. Special interest groups will compete over truths, values, the validity of examinations and evaluation, and student, teacher, administrative and parental accountability.

Ideally, the history-geography components will include a conceptual base of the related subjects of economics, political science, sociology, anthropology and psychology in the schemes of cultural analy-



sis. Cultural literacy was eroded at the elementary and secondary school levels when the amorphous amalgam called "social studies" was created. We must get back to specific academic specialties within the social sciences.

Student cultural illiteracy is enhanced by the unfortunate practice of academic permissiveness in teacher certification, scholastic rigor and the assignment of marginally qualified teachers to the "social studies" classroom. It is sometimes assumed that anyone who can read can teach "social studies," whether it be history or other subjects. It is often assumed that those classes should have less academic rigor than more "important" areas.

It is a disservice to teachers and students when high school graduates enter college unprepared to write papers or essay exams or read sophisticated materi-

al in the social sciences. Their frustration is increased when they receive grades of "D" or less on such assignments. Some students admit they received an "A" or "B" in high school social studies without ever having written an essay exam or completed a formal paper. My colleagues and I exchange stories about frustrated students who believe it is "unfair" to be asked to read extensively or write essays, or to be graded on content and composition.

It is also very difficult to grade (evaluate) students in this age of conflict between standards and compassion, equal opportunity and pressure for equal results, accompanied by the egalitarian sophistry which proclaims that anyone can learn anything if methods are right, or if one has enough time, or whatever.

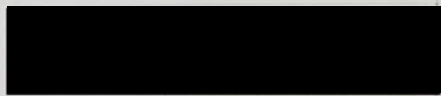
Tests are said to be invalid. IQ tests and ability grouping are frowned upon in this age of equality. We are said to be equal, but "average" is bad. And of course "superior" is an elitist term.

"Self-esteem" can be gained if competence is achieved, but people must find out what they are good at by finding out

what they are not as good at.

Perhaps in this era of finite resources it is time to question whether "everyone" has a right to go to college. Perhaps we should do as the most productive nations in Europe and Asia do: determine what kinds of talent and intelligence students have, and encourage more of them to take vocational and technical courses. Our nation needs people who have the talent to enhance our infrastructure. Students in those fields should get the same encouragement and rewards we confer upon people with college degrees.

Educational institutions must serve students completely. That means having remedial programs, support staff, competent counselors, advisers and tutors. But grade inflation in a time of declining SAT scores does not enhance productivity. Educational progress requires "discriminating" selection and training processes, a sensitive issue for egalitarians.



By [redacted]
The aftermath of the Los Angeles riots stimulated a plethora of experts to analyze causes and cures.

Some observers believe a kind of algebraic equal justice has been achieved. Rioting over the King incident cost 60 lives, thousands of arrests and injuries, hundreds of businesses and thousands of jobs, many of which are gone forever, and millions of dollars.

Ted Koppel of ABC and other analysts interviewed gang members. Why don't they consult successful inner-city dwellers, such as Korean, black and Hispanic entrepreneurs and various immigrants?

The L.A. police arrested the men who brutally beat the truck driver. Will civil rights advocates insist that their jury include the diversity of the inner city? Koreans, for example. Let them tell us about hard work, education and family values.

Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-N.Y., became *persona non grata* in the social science community when, decades ago, he alerted us to the disintegration of inner-city families, the cultural, behavioral and political reasons for it, and possible solutions. Anthropologist Oscar Lewis studied the "culture of



Another View

poverty" and its perpetuating behavioral aspects. He too was chastised by his peers for such heresy.

The politics of social unrest is being predictably pursued by Democrats, who blame Reagan and Bush are the cause, and Republicans who insist failed social programs have exacerbated the situation. Both sides are correct. The welfare-state programs have had decades to germinate. Sufficient funding is necessary, but inefficient spending and short-sighted bureaucratic regulations have made things worse, however well-intentioned their sponsors.

Republican programs for the inner cities have been offered by the Reagan and Bush administrations, and most notably by HUD Secretary Jack Kemp. Ideas include tenant ownership of inner-city apartments, better security for and

policing of inner-city housing projects; urban free-enterprise zones with tax advantages for businesses; school voucher plans so youngsters can go to better suburban public and private schools; and workfare for welfare recipients who receive paychecks while improving the infrastructure.

These programs, some introduced as far back as 1979, have been bottled up in committees chaired by leaders of the Democratic-controlled Congress. The Senate has passed some of these proposals, but not the House, which is more sensitive to threatened special-interest groups.

The things that arrive in the mail! A kind reader, of missionary spirit no doubt, sent me a subscription to a fascinating periodical: *Liberal Opinion Week*.

Conversion is unlikely, but I appreciate exposure to contrary views by readers who endure my viewpoints. Intellectual ecumenism is challenging and enriching. The *Liberal Opinion* columnists include several whom I admire, such as Clarence Page, William Raspberry, David Broder, Mark Shields, Mike Royko, Art Buchwald and Ellen Goodman.

There are more cartoons in *Liberal Opinion* than in most conservative

periodicals. That is to be expected given the personality traits of the respective ideological camps and the inherent humor contained in most liberal conclusions. The writers do not always agree with each other. One should expect that from thoughtful analysts. If you are interested in this lively journal, write to *Liberal Opinion*, P.O. Box 468, Vinton, Iowa, 52349, or call (800) 338-9335.

More on the L.A. riots. Some critics referred to Koreans who used guns to protect their property as "vigilantes." The rioters took "justice" into their hands as well. Since the "disturbances," hundreds of residents have bought guns and taken lessons.

As if L.A. lacked pressing problems, councilman Zev Yaroslavsky has conducted a witch-hunt into the professionalism of Assistant Chief Robert Vernon who offended the gay lobby by expressing his Christian values in a public speech. Columnist Joseph Farah quoted Yaroslavsky: "Religion... (read codes of ethics or values) has no place in government." The city council begins its meetings with an invocation. Perhaps the councilman should look into that.

More affirmative action lunacy. The New York City Fire Department now has an exam point system which gives

proportional credit for incorrect answers on a multiple-choice test. The exam was designed by some "value-free" (make that "knowledge-free") testing "experts" for \$400,000.

Have spending cuts increased social problems? National Review reported the feds will actually spend \$731 billion on social programs this year, 5.3 times (in inflation-adjusted dollars) the 1965 figure. Including local and state data, 19 percent of the GNP goes into social welfare as opposed to 11.5 percent in 1965. Los Angeles County got more money than any other county in the United States in 1991. Even during the so-called stingy Reagan years, the population rose 8 percent, the poverty population 1 percent. But means-tested spending on families increased by 18 percent! The solution to social problems is not job creation or behavior change, but more federal spending! They just don't get it.

But Congress has reformed. House speaker Tom Foley said, "We have eliminated the House bank... raised gym fees... members (now pay) to get their cars washed... (and we no longer) issue drugs to members."

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