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Ambiguous Bathrooms? ASUCSD resolution calls for unisex restrooms for transsexuals

Lucas W. Simmons
Technology Director

The ASUCSD Council unanimously passed a resolution demanding unisex bathrooms on campus, primarily to make transsexuals feel more comfortable.

President Jenn Brown ignored the transsexual aspect of the resolution, but rather cited that there are not enough bathrooms on campus for women.

"Any woman that has waited in line at a single stall bathroom while men have been able to go in and out of their single bathroom right next door would most definitely in favor of this resolution," Brown said.

Student Advocate Brie Finegold, who actually proposed the resolution, had a different opinion on its intent, saying that the

implementation of the resolution would help UCSD be a safer, more welcoming place to all people.

"The resolution shows A.S. support for creating a campus that is a safe, inclusive space for everyone, specifically parents, students

with disabilities, and students whose sex is not readily apparent," Finegold said.

Finegold also asserted that she doesn't think anyone would be offended by unisex bathroom resolution.

"I don't see why anyone would be offended by a suggestion that there be bathrooms that can be used by anyone," Finegold said.

However, council members were unaware of exactly how many people this resolution would affect.

"Our campus has a very low reporting statistic, which does not accurately reflect how many instances perhaps that there are," Brown said.

Revelle Soph. Sen. Achim Lyon said that he supported the resolution, but was also unable to provide information as to how many students would be affected if its policies were implemented.

He also said he was unaware of what the costs would be to implement such a policy.

The UCSD Police Department was unable to give exact figures on the number of transsexuals harassed in bathrooms at UCSD. The University of California Police Department's Annual Report and Crime Statistics, however, stated that there were a total of two "bias motivated incidents" in the year of 2001 at UCSD.

Other senators were clueless on the resolution as a whole.

When asked for her comments about the unanimously passed resolution, Marshall Fr. Sen. Caitlin Colman said, "I don't know enough about the resolution."

Kristy Mac Dougall also contributed to this article



Long Live the GOP Democrats' leftward slide will ensure Republican Success in 2004

Charles Billinger
Staff Writer

Who says presidents don't have clout in midterm elections? In what turned out to be one of the most memorable nights in GOP history, the Republicans took back control of the United States Congress and now have total control over the House, Senate and Presidency for the first time since the Eisenhower administration.

In all, the Republicans gained two seats in the Senate - with the Louisiana Senate race to be decided on Dec. 7 - and three seats in the House of Representatives, which, in turn, led to the resignation of former House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt (D-MO).

How did this happen? I mean, all you heard from the political experts of the major news networks was how the status quo would remain. No major changes,

with Dennis Hastert (R-IL) remaining Speaker of the House, and Tom Daschle (D-SD) remaining Senate Majority Leader. In fact, Tucker Carlson of CNN's *Crossfire* was the only political pundit to predict a victory for the Republicans in both the House and Senate campaigns.

How could a majority of the people who study politics for a living get it so wrong?

First, we must not overlook the bold strategy of Karl Rove, President Bush's chief political strategist. As described extensively in this week's issue of *TIME* magazine, "Karl Rove's strategy for winning the midterm elections was risky and brash."

For the past year, Rove handpicked candidates in key Senate races all over the country, from Jim Talent in Missouri to Norm Coleman in Minnesota, to John Sununu in New Hampshire. Originally, these men were planning on running for their

states' gubernatorial races, but with a little nudge from the Rove and the President, decided to run for the Senate instead. Though

popularity pushed many of the candidates over the top. Over the final two weeks of the campaign season, the President traveled to

Republicans needed to win four of these races to secure control of the Senate and they did just that, capturing key wins in Minnesota, Georgia, Missouri and Arkansas.

The biggest surprise of all of these elections was Georgia. No one anticipated that Saxby Chambliss would defeat incumbent Senator Max Cleland by a 7% margin (53-46). Chambliss trailed Cleland in the polls by double digits just a month earlier. By winning the election in Georgia, the Republicans could afford to lose both the South Dakota and Arkansas races.

George W. Bush put his political reputation on the line in this midterm election. If the Republicans failed to achieve victory after the President vigorously campaigned for several candidates in close elections across the country, the GOP would have been in serious trouble in 2004.

See "GOP" on page 11

NEWS ITEM: SAN FRANCISCO LIBERAL SAYS SHE'S SECURED ENOUGH VOTES TO BE HOUSE DEMOCRATS' LEADER!



these races remained tight until the end of election night, both Republican candidates won their races. Second, President Bush's

several key campaign battleground states, including Minnesota, South Dakota, Georgia, Missouri, Arkansas, New Hampshire and Texas. The



Also In This Issue:

How to get involved! | Transsexual Bathrooms? | Fall of the Democrats | California GOP in Serious Trouble | The Costs of the New Propositions | Pro-Life | A Dangerous High | Pro/Con on Gun Control | Book Review: "Let Freedom Ring"... and more!

In Review...

GET INVOLVED!!! Contact us or any of these fine organizations and make UCSD a better place

UCSD Marksmanship Club

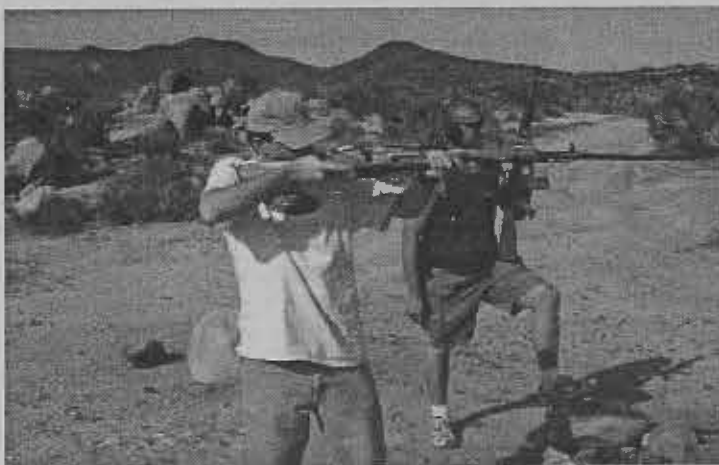
The Marksmanship Club has had a successful year thus far after expanding its membership. We have held numerous safety lectures, and our first shooting event went considerably well. We rented out the range bright and early at 8 a.m. on a Saturday morning, and 30 of us met there and fired many different models and calibers of firearms.

Combined with rentals from the range, the Marksmanship Club provided the guns and some ammunition for the morning. The bulk of what we fired was .22 LR, however we also shot a variety of other calibers, including 9mm, .45, 12 gauge, and .223. All in attendance, men and women, enjoyed shooting some of the larger caliber guns as well, if not for just a few shots.

The Marksmanship Club will continue to conduct safety lectures for

those who would like to attend and learn basic firearms safety and handling procedures on a weekly basis. After the Thanksgiving holiday, we would like to hold another shooting event before school lets out for winter break.

If you are interested in being added to the e-mail list to receive information about upcoming events, please send a message to a1richar@ucsd.edu. Hope to see you at our next event.



The UCSD Conservative Union

The CU prepares to welcome Star Parker to UCSD winter quarter

Fall quarter has been a flurry of planning for UCSD Conservative Union leaders. Co-Chairs Esther Johnston and John Allison recently attended the Young America's Foundation's annual West Coast Leadership Conference, along with other conservative students from UCSD.

After her own presentation on welfare reform and personal responsibility, Star Parker expressed an interest in working with YAF and UCSD

students to present a speech at UCSD during winter quarter. With the recent news that the Associated Students has approved partial funding for this request, plans are in full swing to bring Parker to campus.

Besides being the author of a number of articles published in the *Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, and *The Washington Post*, as well as her own autobiography, titled "Pimps, Whores

and Welfare Brats," Parker is president and founder of the Coalition on Urban Renewal and Education (CURE).

CURE is a non-profit research foundation designed to provide national dialogue on how social policies impact America's inner cities and the poor. These goals are a perfect complement to the CU's own goals of providing a forum for discussion of domestic issues.



The College Republicans at UCSD

Another successful quarter

Join the best party on campus and most powerful conservative movement in Southern California! We do everything from political internships and student conferences to road trips and hosting our own all-campus events.

Every UCSD student is invited to drop in on a meeting. In fall quarter alone, the College Republicans have had over 175 UCSD students sign up! Aside from our massive recruitment drive, the College Republicans have sent out 3 banners that students signed sending holiday well wishes to our troops on the USS Constellation and at Camp Pendleton.

We also campaigned for local and state candidates for the 2002 election. There are many more ways to get involved in Winter Quarter, as we are planning to host speakers and have our 2nd annual pro-America rally and Roger Hedgecock broadcast.

If you are interested in getting involved, e-mail us at collegerеспублиans@ucsd.edu or come see us every week on Library Walk!

<http://stuorg.ucsd.edu/~ucsdgop>
CollegeRepublicans@ucsd.edu

The CU also hopes to begin holding more regular meetings next quarter with focus on environmental policy, gun regulations, and many other topics.

If you are interested in getting more involved with the club as an officer or board member, or would like to be added to the e-mail notification list, please contact ucsdcu@yahoo.com.



A.S. Council in Review

The Good and the Bad



The Good

Services and Enterprises Commissioner Jeremy Gallagher has helped the Grove Caffe achieve considerable profits, which is good news for everyone.

V.P.-Internal Kevin Hsu's ability to run the council meetings seems to have improved considerably.

Athletics Commissioner Robin Shelton and Triton Tide Co-Chair Bryce Warwick continue to expand the fan base of Triton athletics.

Interim Academic Affairs Commissioner James Lynch led a successful charge to delay the administration's harsh new academic disciplinary policy.

The Bad

The resolution supporting unisex bathrooms for the transgendered must be the most inane legislation of the year. We were under the impression that political ideology has no place on the council. Now, about that pro-America resolution....

Although some council members have succeeded away from the council, the meetings themselves haven't been extremely productive. Granted, the "West Wing" is on Wednesday evenings, but couldn't some of your roommates tape it in order to tackle a little bit more legislation?

Common Sense

from Ryan Darby, Editor-in-Chief

Should we build restrooms specifically for transsexuals?

The student council's unanimous support of unisex bathrooms for the sexually confused is yet another example of the politically correct left trying to fix a problem that doesn't seem to exist, presumably to promote a narrow political ideology.

After all, how many transsexuals are there on this campus, anyway? All we know is that there is no official statistic on the matter. It seems silly to me to spend time and money on a project that would theoretically help only a handful of people we're not even certain exists.

Moreover, the council has provided absolutely no evidence that there is a problem in the first place. I certainly don't recall ever reading about transsexual harassment in public restrooms, and for all the proponents' rhetoric, none of them seem capable of divulging any concrete statistics suggesting that this even happens.

I for one can't say I've ever seen someone in a restroom and thought to myself, "Oh, that's a transsexual." Although I'd probably be caught a bit off guard if I saw what appeared to be a woman standing guard at a men's urinal, I think it's safe to say that most of us consider restrooms to be less of a social call than a nature call; one would really have to call attention to oneself to be singled out, and if those resembling women use the women's room while those resembling men use the men's room, odds are that nobody would notice the difference.

If the problem is that these people feel the need to 'express' their sexuality, I have a simple solution: Don't express yourself. While I absolutely don't condone any resulting violence, if somebody knows that certain actions may cause other people to attack them, it's probably wiser not to give any provocation in the first place. Life is, after all, a series of choices.

I honestly couldn't care less what other people do with their lives; if someone feels the need to switch sexes, that's up to him or her... or her or him... or whatever sex that person wants to be. But at the same time, it's not exactly my conversational topic of choice when I go drinking with my friends.

They have the right to do what they want with their sexuality, and God knows they have the right to speak freely about it – and I have the right to say, "Dammit, I really don't want to hear about your sex change operation."

I really don't think I'm out of line for feeling some level of

nausea at the thought of changing one's internal plumbing, and I don't need to explain that any more than repulsion at any other sight which most people would find disturbing.

Besides, should it be the responsibility of society to wholeheartedly embrace such things? Just as the sexually confused have the right to craft their chosen sex, society has the right to formulate and express its own opinions on the matter; if people are offended by that, then that's just the way

I have the right to say, "Dammit, I really don't want to hear about your sex change operation."

it is. Free speech can be an offensive thing at times.

Unfortunately, those who speak out against unisex bathrooms are likely to be labeled a bigot, a homophobe and a Republican, just for good measure. Intellectual debate on the topic usually gives way to the cries of, "You bigot! I'm offended by your argument, so it's hate speech!" To force one's beliefs onto another or intimidate an opposition into silence is fascism, plain and simple.

Then again, tolerance is not a matter of embracing something, but rather leaving it unmolested and to its own devices. If most people are as decidedly adverse to something as they are to the concept of sex change operations, then what's wrong with simple tolerance? It is absolutely wrong to physical assault or verbally threaten transsexuals – or anyone else, for that matter – so shouldn't we be content by simply curbing such aggression rather than attempting to reengineer society's entire perception?

If so, then I think we as a society are already doing a pretty good job of that, particularly at UCSD, because we have been unable to even discover whether or not any such problems have even been reported here. Then again, I suppose the burden of proof should be on the side claiming the problem exists, but their lack of evidence leads me to believe the problem really doesn't exist.

Despite its best intentions, the council is only emphasizing how different these people are from the rest of the population. The real

irony here is that the bathroom habits of transsexuals was never an issue until the student council made it an issue. If anyone is going to harass transsexuals in a restroom, it will be now that the issue is actually on people's minds. After all, did the restroom habits of transsexuals ever cross anyone's mind before recently? The idea of unisex restrooms is so ridiculous that a backlash from bigots is probably imminent, especially if they see an odd-looking person exit a unisex bathroom. If a bigot is someone who hates others for being different, then the council has done a great job of ostracizing these people; they may as well have declared, "These people are so different from you and I that they can't even share a restroom with the rest of the population.." Would it be surprising if there's a sudden increase in violence toward transsexuals?

If the council really wants to change people's perception of transsexuals, this is the worst way of doing it. In my opinion, there should be an emphasis on what these people have in common with everyone else rather than how different they are. Perhaps if they want society to accept them, they shouldn't demand segregated restrooms – other groups fought long and hard to overcome such discrimination, so I think it's sad that they want to cast themselves into it.

I also think it's interesting that such a high-profile issue would be passed unanimously without any debate on the floor. Is there not a single senator willing to at least present the devil's advocate, just to provide a semblance of fairness? It's also interesting how some senators evidently didn't even know what they were voting for, as at least a few have been proud to voice their cluelessness on the matter.

Honestly, I don't see why some people would have such difficulty choosing which restroom to use. Moreover, why should their indecisiveness fall upon the shoulders of the vast majority of people whose sexuality is, in fact, 'well defined'?

As cold and heartless as this may sound, these people have made conscious choices, and it's their responsibility to face the consequences that go along with them – and that includes choosing one restroom or the other.

There are a lot of questions here left unanswered, and I think that if the council genuinely cares about this issue – and these people – then it ought to start answering them.



California Review

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Election Commentary

Overhaul the California GOP

Party's subpar election performance demonstrates its weakness

Robert Forouzandeh
Staff Writer

All across this glorious country today, Republicans and conservatives of all walks of life are cheering and celebrating the historic thumping Republicans delivered in the recent midterm elections. For the first time in seventy years, the President's party has made gains in both houses of Congress during a midterm election, as Republicans now control the government. All across the country, Republican upsets were taking place, from Jeb Bush in Florida to Norm Coleman in Minnesota. To sum it up, the Democrats got spanked. Yes, it is good to be a Republican... except if you live in California.

In spite of all of the remarkable gains made by Republicans across the country, the one state where the Republicans seemed to get shut down was the state which should have been the most vulnerable: California. We have a governor who has the personality and charisma of a snail and does not have the competence to even keep the electrical power on to the state boasting the sixth largest economy in the world. Yet, this vulnerable governor, who nobody wanted to vote for, was decisively re-elected.

Here in San Diego, a military-rich community with a very strong conservative base, an incumbent congresswoman who has failed the area's schools in her past offices and who does not even know how to spell or understand the word "Homeland Security" was re-elected to a second term in office. All across this state, Democrats made gains or held on to vulnerable seats in light of the

crucial independent vote in this state. Our state party here has yet to realize that the President of the United States is not from California anymore and his coattails here are not as strong as they were when President Reagan was in office. George W. Bush, is a great and tremendously popular leader, but he is not from California so he cannot sway and invigorate

that is still sky rocketing, yet the Republican party has yet to cater to them.

In Maryland, we saw the Republican party defeat a Kennedy family member for the first time ever in that state's governor's race, and above all, in an extremely liberal state. All parties agreed that the reason for this amazing upset was plain and simple: the Republicans reached out for the minority vote. This is what Republicans must do here in California as well: distance themselves from the image of being racist and elitist and expose the left for their policies which hurt immigrants and minorities more than help them.

The nomination of Bill Simon as the Republican candidate for governor is a perfect example of the Republicans being completely out of touch with the voters because he was the worst candidate for the job. People did not want to vote for Gray Davis; they hated him and wanted to remove him at all costs, yet Simon looked just as bad—if not worse—to voters. The Republicans could have picked a much better candidate in Richard Riordan—encouraged to run by President Bush—who would have won the election by a landslide, even according to most Democratic

strategists. As mentioned earlier, President Bush does not have the impact here in California that Regan did, yet he still does have a significant impact and coattail effect, so to not choose a candidate endorsed by the President was a disaster.

Instead, the Republican party of this state allowed for Gray Davis to spend over ten million dollars on attack ads against Riordan stating that he was not enough of a Republican. Imagine that, a Democrat was telling Republicans that they should not vote for a candidate because he was not an extreme enough Republican. Yet the California Republican Party stood by and did not defend Riordan and allowed for the Republicans of California to be fooled into voting for Simon as their candidate.

The year is 2002, not 1984, and the Republican Party of California must come to this realization so that in the next election we are able to make the same gains in this state as were made in almost every other state of the Union in this election. To not do so would give the Democrats continued control of this state, along with its 53 electoral votes, and we simply cannot allow that to happen.

This state has one of the highest minority populations in the entire country that is still sky rocketing, yet the Republican party has yet to cater to them.

pouncing delivered to Democrats across the country. Why is this?

One reason, plain and simple: The California Republican Party is archaic, and its platform must be redressed. The party is completely out of touch with what the voters of this state want. While other Republican parties across the country are moving on certain social issues to more moderate positions, the California party is moving to much more extreme positions and alienating the

the independents of California like Reagan could.

Seeing this vulnerability, the party must come to more moderate positions on such social issues as abortion in order to not alienate the moderate voters who determine elections. Most importantly of all, though, it is time for the party to reach out to the minority voters of this state who are so critical. This state has one of the highest minority populations in the entire country

Proposition 101

How newly passed propositions will affect you

Kristen Rhodes,
Staff Writer

Prop 46: Housing & Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Bond Act of 2002

PASSED 57.5% to 42.5%

This proposition creates a fund for developing shelters for battered women, affordable housing for low-income senior citizens, emergency shelters for the homeless and housing for the homeless and mentally ill. It also sets aside funds for creating apartments for handicapped citizens, aiding military veterans in purchasing their own homes and repairing existing shelters.

What it means to you: This \$2.1 billion (\$2,100,000,000) bond issue program will take money from the state General Fund to repay bonds. Overall, with the cost of interest included, the total bill for taxpayers is \$4.7 billion over 30 years. This will give money to individual cities and counties that qualify to institute improvements such as the ones listed above.

Prop 47: Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2002

PASSED 58.9% to 41.1%

This thirteen billion fifty million dollar bond-issue proposition gives money to California schools to help relieve overcrowding and give much-needed repairs. Some of the money is also going to the California Community College District, California State University system and the University of California system.

What it means to you: UCSD is already benefiting from this proposition, and is set to receive \$35 million over the next thirty years for improvements and expansions.

Prop 48: Court Consolidation.

PASSED 72.4% to 27.6%

This proposition simply deletes all references to the municipal courts in the state constitution. The superior and municipal trial courts have merged to form the unified superior courts, and thus the municipal courts no longer exist on their own. There was no serious debate over this proposition.

What it means to you: This prop has no financial cost to the state, and thus no additional cost to taxpayers. So unless you're the one with the job to delete all the "municipal courts" from the constitution, it doesn't affect you much.

Prop 49: After School Programs. State Grants.

PASSED 56.6% to 43.3%

Arnold Schwarzenegger endorsed and voter approved, this prop will provide before and after school programs for California public elementary, junior high and high schools. It also makes every public and charter school eligible for \$50,000 to \$75,000 in grants.

What it means to you: The estimated costs of this program are up to \$455 million per year. If you know someone in a California public elementary, junior high or high school, they could have more access to school programs, homework help and tutoring.

Prop 50: Water Quality, Supply and Safe Drinking Water Projects.

PASSED 55.4% to 44.6%

General obligation bonds will fund a variety of water projects, including urban and agricultural water use efficiency projects; grants and loans to reduce Colorado River water use; purchasing, protecting and restoring coastal wetlands near urban areas; water management and quality improvement projects and development of river parkways and grants for desalination.

What it means to you: The \$3.4 billion for this prop will provide benefits to you such as the ones listed above, and will also reduce property tax revenues by anywhere from a few million up to \$10 million annually. Money from the state general fund will be used to pay off bonds, and the expected cost of the interest for this prop is a staggering \$4.46 billion, bringing the total bill up to \$6.9 billion over thirty years.

Liberal Identity Crisis

Routed Democrats struggle to establish identity

Dustin Frelich
Staff Writer

In the aftermath of the Nov 5 elections, Democrats are scrambling for meaning in their fractured national party. Some insiders believe the party should move to the hard left, while moderates believe a more central approach is necessary.

The Democrats are at a historical fork in the road and only time will tell whether they decide to alienate the majority of Americans or shift back to rational, reasonable, pro-American policies. The hard left has forgotten which country they exist within, and the American public is punishing them for that.

What's worse for Democrats is that two of the three directions for their party — marching to the left or entrenching themselves as a party with no scruples about politicizing every little thing — will surely solidify Republican control of the presidency and congress for many years to come. Were the November elections a sign for the future? Maybe not entirely, but the magnitude of the shift should not be overlooked.

Usually a president's first off-year elections bring huge losses for the presidential party. For instance, President Reagan lost 26 House seats in 1982, and Clinton lost 52 in 1994. And for President Bush and the Republicans not only to keep the seats they had in the House and Senate, but to pick up a few here and there is a testament to the resonating power of the Republican Party today.

And when you compare what Republicans want to do with what Democrats want to do (to stop Republicans from doing anything), the answer to this historic event becomes clear.

Ever since jumpin' Jim Jeffords leapt from the Republican Party to become an independent, giving Democrats control of the Senate, Democrats have bickered, shuffled their feet and stalled their way to the midterm elections.

Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) has given a whole new meaning to the term politicization: Homeland security was held up for months after passing in the House in early summer; the war vote on Iraq was put off for weeks because Daschle was "concerned" and, arguably, the only time anything was done was in the immediate aftermath of Sept. 11.

However, one of the surprising policy shifts by Daschle occurred immediately after the Senate returned to business, the absolute first day back after the midterm elections. What did Daschle do? Well, he brought the Homeland Security Act up in the Senate.

After stalling the bill for so long when Democrats had control, only to change his mind after the elections, the only question I'm itching to ask is why didn't he do this before Democrats lost power? And I believe his answer would be, "I knew that I couldn't stall

things anymore since they'll just get it done in January when control of the Senate changes, and then I'll look like a donkey's rear end." Heads up Mr. Daschle, you look horrible already.

But all the while that Daschle was "concerned" with Bush's

first black Secretary of State, Colin Powell; (3) and it also took President Bush to name the first black woman, Condoleezza Rice, as National Security Advisor. A racist party? I think not. And the other myths are also bound to fall with time.

Bush hasn't said anything about social security recently (he wasn't running in November), Democrats wrongly think that they can win by making Bush and his fellow Republicans out to be more of a threat than bin Laden or Saddam Hussein.

for by the Democratic Central Committee in Washington state that said, "He doesn't want you to vote," with a picture of President Bush on the front. This is what the Democratic Party has resorted to: scaring voters into voting democrat since they have been indoctrinated to believe that Republicans want no less than to hog-tie all Democrats and deport them.

One of my favorite axioms is, "Being a liberal means never having to say you're wrong." As evidenced through their attempts to spin the results — i.e., saying they couldn't get their message across — they are unwilling to accept the outcome. But they have no one to blame except themselves and their flimsy, non-ideological, what-can-get-us-the-most-votes policies.

If Democrats continue to sit on the fence, opposing Bush's policies in theory but too scared to voice that opposition, the Democratic Party is destined to go down in flames. They need to stop blaming the Republicans for their own inefficiency and either get out of the way so Republicans can govern or offer separate ideas of their own. Thus far, neither has happened.



policies, did he or any other Democrat advance any policies of their own? No. The American people have voiced their opinion that they want a Congress that will help Bush get what he wants to get done, not to block everything and shout "politicization!"

Take the Iraq vote. With all the seemingly consensual negative support stemming from Democrats in the Senate, it's highly odd that only a quarter of the Senate voted against it. For being an opposition party, it is strange that half the Democrats believe Bush is leading us in the right direction.

Democrats have to face it: Bush is doing an excellent job. But this is where the Democrats split themselves. On the one hand you have the peaceniks, the anti-war, anti-Bush Democrats. On the other, you have the pro-Bush, do-what's-right Democrats. Isn't it paradigmatic of modern-day Democrats when you have democratic candidates campaigning with the goal of riding Bush's coattails into office, saying they'll support the tax cut and the war in Iraq?

And this is all because, for the Democratic Party at large, they don't have an issue to stand on, at least not one that will resonate with the American people. A major problem with the Democrats today is that they time and again attempt to demonize Republicans, contributing to wholly false myths (they're racist, sexist, homophobic, etc.), but never give any reasons to vote for Democratic candidates. Indeed, the absence of solutions coming out of the modern-day Democratic Party is staggering. Not since Johnson's Great Society has the Democratic Party even attempted to contribute anything worthwhile to politics.

On the whole, these false myths are starting to die off. For the party that supposedly is racist, it took: (1) a Republican president to put the first black, Thurgood Marshall, on the Supreme Court; (2) our current Republican president to name the

One tactic that the Democrats have concentrated on is fear-mongering, and the American public is getting sick of it. For instance, the Democratic National Committee ran a political cartoon that depicted Bush pushing an elderly woman and a black man down a hill of social security losses. Aside from the fact that

Democrats are offering up the same old "I'm concerned, but I'm not going to offer a substitute" play from their outdated, outmoded, one solution, don't-do-anything-but-throw-money-at-problems, inefficient playbook.

Another instance of Democratic fear-mongering this election season was a flyer paid

JOIN US!

The CCR Youth Congress!

California Congress Republicans (CCR) is a grassroots Republican organization dedicated to broadening the party base, fostering inclusion and winning elections.

The Youth Congress is the only mainstream Republican club in San Diego that promotes "big tent" Republicanism, campaign volunteering and fun socials and events for young Republicans.

The CCR was founded in 1989 and permanently chartered by the California Republican Party. It is built upon the shared Republican principles of individual liberty, genuine economic opportunities and leadership in world freedom.

To join, contact:

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The Forum

The California Review encourages free and open expression of thought which reaches beyond the bounds of our own ideology. Therefore, in the interest of intellectual debate, we offer two sides of an intriguing issue that will surely be contested for some time to come: gun control. The arguments are as follows, but the final opinion is yours.

People Kill People

Firearms remain the final safeguard of liberty

Cristina Casis Conde
Staff Writer

In light of the sniper incidents that have recently taken place in the Washington, D.C. area, there has been a strong push for anti-gun legislation. It is of no surprise that gun owners are, and will continue to be, attacked by anti-gun legislation advocated by liberal ideologues. Highly profiled gun-related crimes have resulted in a public panic about gun violence and the left's knee-jerk response to try and make it almost impossible to purchase firearms.

When a highly publicized shooting occurs, gun control becomes an immediate issue. Liberals demand that America should be protected from crazed, gun-wielding lunatics, but most gun owners own firearms for self-defense. Although gun control advocates have good intentions, they do not realize how harmful this is for society's well being. As the popular saying goes, "The road to hell is paved by good intentions," and gun control advocates are laying out the red carpet.

We cannot, however, ignore the fact that guns are used five times more often to save lives than to take them away. The problem is that the media only focuses on tragic outcomes of gun violence, rather than the devastating events that they have helped avoid. Fear of guns has increased because they ignore the fact that lives are saved because guns are used defensively, and instead focus on tragic events like the sniper incident. The cost of this misinformation is the safety of the people, as this hampers our ability to defend ourselves.

Guns actually do a lot more good than people give them credit for. Most people are unaware of the costs and benefits that private citizens acquire by owning firearms. Prof. Gary Kleck of the School of Criminology at Florida State University estimates that approximately 40,000 Americans would die every year if they could not use guns for self-defense. When attacked, the last thing a person should do is to give in to the assailant. The Department of Justice states that a person is 2.5 times more likely to be injured when offering no resistance than when resisting with a gun.

The fact is that criminals pick individuals they believe are weak; a criminal thinks twice when facing

the possibility of confronting a loaded weapon. Studies have shown that injuries have been prevented by gun fear. Most criminals know a good way to get shot is by breaking into someone's home. The flash of a gun sends assailants running, and many lives are saved. Kleck studied facts and statistics from the Department of Justice, the FBI and other law enforcement agencies, and he has concluded that private ownership of guns prevents crime and criminal behavior.

If America decides to take away every little thing that kills, then logically cars should go also because they claim more lives than guns. According to the 1998 National Safety's Council, 43,200 thousands deaths were caused by cars, while 1,500 were caused by guns. This does not include the damage to the environment caused by smog from cars. Both cars and guns, though a necessary part of citizen's lives, are dangerous. They should be considered a necessary evil.

It would be ludicrous to take away the privilege to drive, and the same should be true for guns. Cars kill more people than guns, but no one is trying to take another person's privilege to drive. People, if they choose, should have the right to own guns.

Self-defense is a human right, and guns are as necessary today as they were during early American history. They have been a part of American society from the moment the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock, to the *Declaration of Independence*, to the Old West and to today. If a person has no right to defend him or herself, then we are truly not free. If the government takes away our right to defend ourselves, then there will be no freedom left to fight for.

The Second Amendment is not just a bunch of meaningless words guaranteeing citizens the right to bear arms and start a militia, but, just like every other amendment, is a symbol of what this nation fought so hard to keep.

Suppressing and removing any one of these amendments because some do not feel that they fit with the times means removing the basic human rights that our forefathers fought so hard to preserve.

Suppressing or removing the Second Amendment because guns kill is the same as saying we must remove the First Amendment

because it spreads hate speech. The government should always support the amendments and not call upon them when they are convenient.

James Madison feared tyranny of the masses and believed it should be the government's obligation to protect the interests of the minorities. The anti-gun movement is growing due to fear and ignorance, wherein we see in this day and age an example of Madison's fear of tyranny. What would happen if the interest of the majority were to prevail?

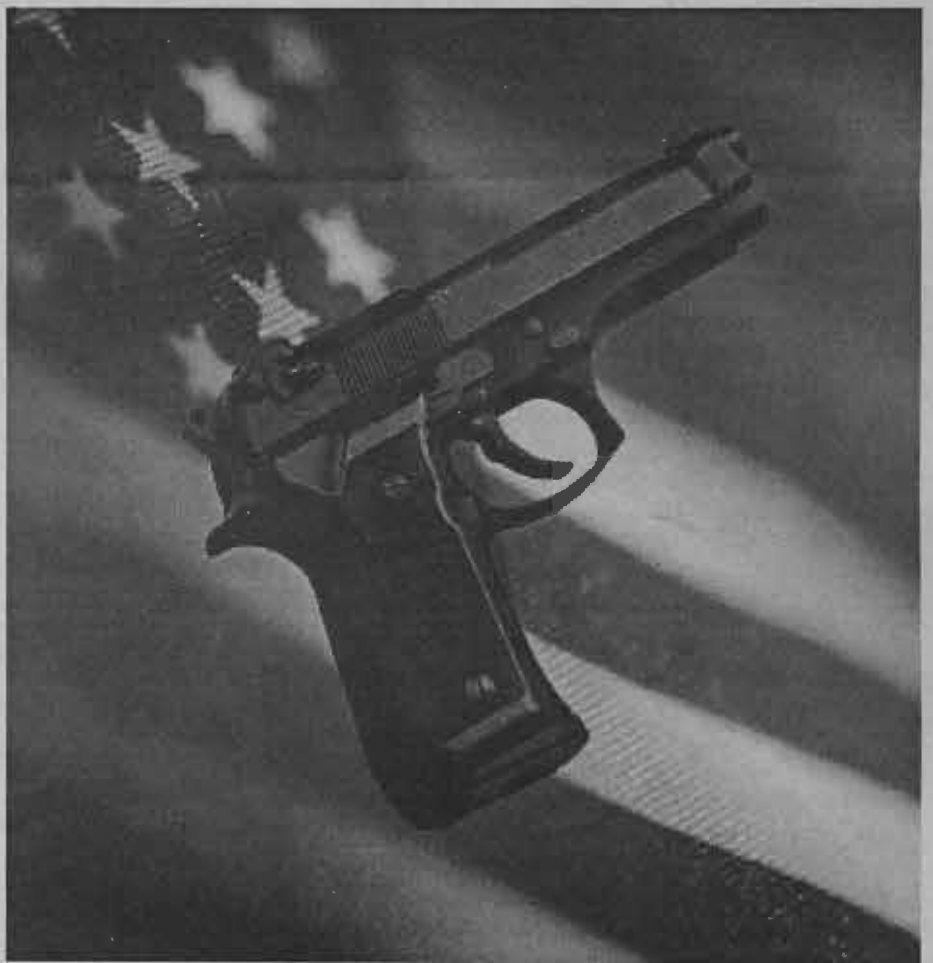
Guatemala and Uganda, where millions of defenseless victims were rounded up and exterminated. These countries controlled people by disarming them. Gun control didn't protect these millions of people from dying; it certainly will not protect millions of people today.

If one takes a case study of different today countries and compares homicide rates between different countries with different gun laws, then it's evident that countries with less restrictive regulations have fewer homicide rates than those with more

but they also have the highest crime rates, including a drastic increase in homicides.

If gun control protects lives, one must ask how exactly. Would prohibiting guns help a woman fight off an attacker? Would it protect law-abiding citizens from those who break into their homes? Would stricter gun laws prevent criminals from illegally obtaining firearms? Would stricter gun laws protect potential victims?

Stricter gun laws will not prevent criminals from obtaining firearms. Passing new laws will not stop criminals from stealing guns



The fact of the matter is that gun control does not make the world safer; gun control instead creates millions of victims. In 1938, Adolf Hitler said, "The most foolish mistake we could possibly make would be to allow the subject races to possess arms. History shows that all conquerors who have allowed their subject races to carry arms have prepared their own downfall by doing so."

Jews, Gypsies and other 'undesirables' were prohibited from using any type of weapon; these people could not defend themselves. 13 million men, women and children died because of gun control. The same goes for other countries like China, Turkey, Soviet Union, Cambodia,

restrictive regulations. For example, Switzerland, which requires that every household own a gun and ammunition, has a very low homicide rate, while countries like Brazil boasting restrictive gun laws, also have a very high homicide rate. England forbids its citizens from carrying any weapons, but assault, burglary and robbery are now higher in England than the United States.

The Department of Justice shows that American cities with minimal gun regulations have lower crime rates than those with strict gun laws. Baltimore, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. have the strictest gun laws,

or buying them on the black market. Instead, stricter gun laws make it more difficult for law-abiding citizens to obtain firearms, leaving them vulnerable and defenseless.

The best way to approach these attacks is to punish the offenders, and not every American citizen exercising the freedom to bear arms.

Gun violence is a major issue, but we must realize the important role guns play in our society. Balancing between the dangers of guns and the right to own them is a fine line. American citizens, though, ultimately have the right to protect themselves.

Guns Kill People

Society would be safer without firearms

Simone Santini
Guest Contributor

As we all know, these days the media, especially TV, have an unfortunate tendency to glamorize and trivialize crime stories, to the point that in the last decade, while crime in the U.S. has been generally declining, crime coverage has increased sixfold, creating the generalized paranoia in which we are living.

One aspect of mediatic simplification is the search for easy scapegoats. In the case of the recent murders by the "Washington sniper," the question of gun control came up quite often and, almost invariably, inappropriately.

Now, you might be surprised to see an adamant advocate of gun control like me complain because the media are talking about gun control but, sometimes, an inappropriate approach to the problem can cause more damages than a thoughtful silence.

Let me explain.

thereof, as part of the general American gun culture, that is, the high regard of guns as instruments not only of resolution of controversies but, in a more lyrical fashion, of freedom. This culture, of course, doesn't stem from nothing, but it is deeply rooted in the history of the country, from its revolutionary roots, to the philosophical stance that the action of the government should be limited to the point of relying on more or less self-organizing movements of citizens for national defense.

My contention is that this cultural stance, while perfectly understandable and, to some extent, commendable in its historic origins, is outdated and incapable of dealing with the problems, the structures and the complexities of contemporary American society.

The question, in other words, is not as much whether loving guns is ethically good or evil — it is probably neither — but to see if the gun culture has a positive or negative

predictable: It is maybe not a case that gun advocates often favor draconian and simplistic solutions to many social problems. A person needs a gun especially when he is isolated, and a gun is all the more useful if the rippling consequences of its use do not go to into far and unpredictable territories. None of these presuppositions are true in today's society.

One should also consider the relations between the gun culture and the general American violence culture. It would be a naive oversimplification — one that I would reject — to believe that one generate the other, but it would be an illusion to think that the two are unrelated.

Violence in America is often seen as a necessary — if not positive — behavior, and is peddled in some subtle and many not-so-subtle ways, from certain male rites of passage and stereotypical activities to Hollywood films (hence the statement, which I believe originates from Jack Nicholson, that "in America, if you kiss a

Army was created to deal with them — and consider the internal enemies.

If by internal enemies one means ordinary criminals, then the matter is of concern of the police. Criminality may justify some citizens with peculiar needs to go around armed (e.g. people escorting large amounts of money), but not a vigilante culture that ultimately is more dangerous for democracy than criminality.

This leaves the defense against a tyrannical government. The U.S. has a pretty strong democratic tradition but, of course, a future tyranny can't be completely ruled out, and one can understand how citizens might be concerned about the prospect.

The problem is, what kind of upheaval are militiamen preparing against a possible tyrant? A truly popular revolution, as countless examples from Romania to India have shown, doesn't need a previous accumulation of weapons. A mass movement can in general count on a certain support within law enforcement and the army, and this is, in the end, more important than training small militia groups.

So, it seems that the outcome of the gun-from-freedom ideology is the pursuit of illusory dreams of an elitist revolution. Illusory because, of course, without a mass support one needs more than guns to fight a government with tanks and fighter jets.

I don't believe that this oligarchic pursuit deserves the support that it receives from so many gun advocates.

But if the "gun problem" in America is eminently cultural, does it make sense to propose gun regulations? Shouldn't one work on a cultural level to change certain attitudes?

It is true that, in a society in which people who buy guns without a compelling reason are considered "a little weird" one would not need gun regulation laws, but we don't live in that society, and, in the context of the United States, laws restricting the use of firearms make sense for a variety of reasons.

For one thing, firearms are dangerous gizmos, and, by and large, we have regulations to make sure that dangerous gizmos will be used only by cognizant people, and with suitable safety precautions. This is why we have driver's licenses, plane pilot licenses and safety caps on drugs. A legislation that puts more childproof safety devices on a bottle of Aspirin than on a

pistol is in any case a legislation that needs improvement.

In abstract terms, gun advocates acknowledge that some form of control should be exerted. At least, when you hear NRA spokespersons, they often talk about the rights of "law abiding" citizens to bear arms, separating them from citizens with a criminal record or a history of violence, for whom presumably access to firearms can be somewhat restricted. The argument, as a minimal level of control, certainly makes sense: If somebody with a history of bank robberies suddenly decides to purchase a machine gun, the matter might be of interest for the local Sheriff.

In practice, however, many gun advocate organizations oppose even reasonable attempts to enforce existing gun control laws. For instance, while acknowledging that criminals should not have access to guns, they oppose the background checks that would reveal whether a person that is purchasing a gun is, indeed, a criminal.

As an extreme example of this attitude, while the FBI can suspend almost all civil rights of terrorism suspects, they can't know if Mr. Bin Laden himself walks into a gun show to buy a few M-16.

A good gun control legislation can help steer the public consciousness away from the positive consideration of firearms and, at the same time, support and amplify the debate about their dangers and social role, just like the cultural shift that led to the generalized use of safety belts in cars was aided by the presence of legislative tools enforcing their use and regulating their production.

An education to a greater cultural openness might ultimately be the best way to go beyond our outdated gun culture. In his film "Bowling for Columbine," Michael Moore interviews Ted Nichols, the brother of the Unabomber, and asks him why he has so many firearms. The answer is that he needs his arms to defend his freedom in case the federal government were threatening him or his property. Moore asked why couldn't one defend his freedom acting like Gandhi who, after all, defeated the British Empire without firing a single shot. Nichols' answer was "I am not familiar with that."

Maybe this is the true problem: Americans are so enamored of their gun culture that they don't spend any time exploring any alternatives.



It would be nice to think that there is a simple one-on-one connection between gun control legislation and individual crimes like those of the sniper, but things are seldom this simple: Once the guys had decided on their plan, they would have managed to put their hands on a rifle even if they had lived in Lichtenstein.

If we want to understand the issue of gun control, and if one wants to understand why many people in this country, including myself, think that a stronger gun control legislation would be desirable, one must take a broader perspective, and look at the issue of gun control, or lack

connection with the rest of the contemporary social values and practices. I regard this connection as largely negative — as you may have expected — for several reasons.

The gun culture is a reflection and a natural outcome of an idea of individualism bordering on loneliness that might have been appropriate 200 years ago in a largely rural and wild country of sparse European settlements, but it is fiercely out of place in the interdependent society in which we live.

It comes from a culture of simple action and reaction, in which the consequences of a gesture are delimited and

breast, the film is rated R; if you lop it off, the film is rated PG-13"). It is this social attitude towards violence that makes our rate of deaths by firearms two order of magnitude larger than that of the other industrialized countries and, I surmise, the gun culture is intertwined with this benevolent attitude towards violence.

An important component of the gun culture is the belief that an armed citizenry is necessary to defend our freedom, a statement that deserves serious consideration.

There are, let's say, two types of enemies of freedom: internal and external. Let us leave the external enemies aside — the U.S.

Policy Analysis

The Logical Fallacy of Abortion

Human life begins at conception rather than birth

Graham Hawkes
Staff Writer

Recently, I overheard an acquaintance explaining to her friend that while she leans to the right on most political issues, the trend stops at abortion. The pro-life position is based too heavily on "religious" arguments, she claims. Of course, to dismiss a theological point simply because one is not "religious" is an example of willful ignorance, but that is a topic for another article. I do believe that God is pro-life. But just as my Christian faith is not blind, my support for the rights of the unborn is logically and philosophically sound.

First of all, let's cut through the moral confusion. The issue is not complex. It all boils down to one question: *what is the unborn?* If the fetus is not a person, then abortion deserves no condemnation. If, however, the blob of cells growing in the womb is in fact a human being, abortion is simply unjustifiable.

If abortion advocates can prove conclusively that the unborn are not human, I'll shut up. Unfortunately, pro-aborts tend not to bother addressing this central aspect of the debate. Instead, they so cloud and complicate the issue that many a genuine truth-seeker has thrown his hands up in exasperation, concluding that no real answer is possible. The most common example: "Abortion is a woman's private choice." But, why don't we give the same rights to a woman abusing her son in the privacy of her own

home? For some reason, the child is universally recognized as a human being with inalienable rights, while the fetus is not. So, the issue is not that of a

The consequences of an abortion-ban would be tragic. But if the unborn is, in fact, a human being, we certainly wouldn't want it to be safe and

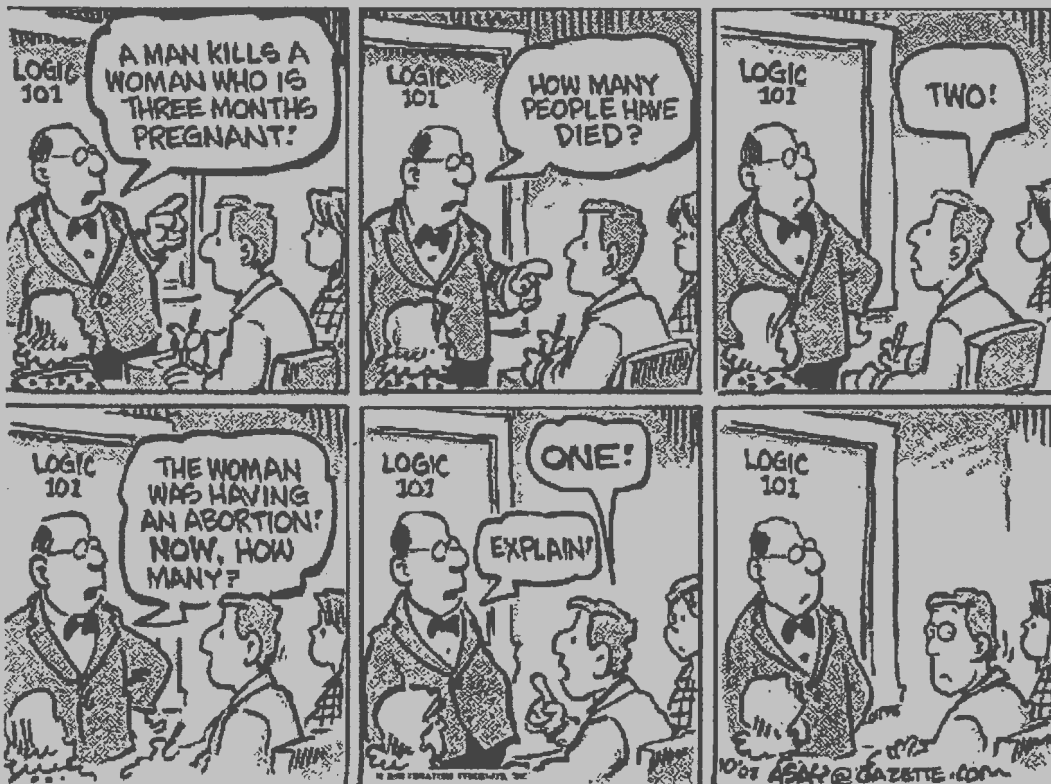
unborn fetus and a newborn baby: size, level of development, environment and degree of dependency, according to Prof.

Second, the unborn fetus is definitely less developed than the newborn. However, this difference is also insignificant. After all, a newborn is less developed than an adolescent and an adolescent is less developed than an adult. Yet, they are all seen as humans with inherent moral value. This is because we define persons based on what they are, rather than what they can do.

Abortion advocates, however, argue just the opposite when it comes to the unborn. That is, since the fetus cannot perform basic human functions, it is not human. This is silly. Even those in a coma, under anesthesia, or simply sleeping, cannot feel pain, cannot reason and are not self-aware. Clearly, the unborn's lack of development does not warrant a lower moral standing.

Third, let's look at environment. One's moral value does not depend on one's location. As I walk from the kitchen into the living room, I am still a person. Francis Beckwith writes, "A newborn in an incubator is not worth less than one in her mother's arms or one who is a week younger and still in her mother's womb." Birth is thus an arbitrary point at which to abruptly assign moral value to a person.

The fourth and final difference is the degree of dependency. Many pro-aborts point to the inviability of the fetus as proof that it is not human. But by this logic, one See "Abortion" on page 11



woman's private right to choose, but: *is the unborn a human?* If not, a woman has every right to reproductive freedom; if so, abortion is murder.

Pro-aborts, please re-read that last paragraph. Your "right to choose" is an intellectual smokescreen. So is the fear that women will die from illegal coat-hanger abortions if the current procedure is restricted.

If the fetus were nothing more than a parasite, then I would agree with this objection.

easy for a pregnant woman to commit murder. It's not about privacy or choice; it's not about safety; it's not about poverty or unwantedness; it's not even about rape or incest; it's simply about one thing: whether or not the fetus is a human being. Without answering this question, all arguments about abortion, pro or con, are meaningless.

Let's address it from the pro-life side. There are only four real differences between the

Stephen Schwarz's SLED test. The problem for pro-aborts is that none of these differences are morally significant.

First, take size — obviously, the fetus is smaller than a newborn. Well, the average woman is also smaller than the average man. Does this mean that women deserve fewer rights than men? Of course not (unless you live in Saudi Arabia), and so should the same moral logic apply to the unborn.

Pass Up on the Blunt

Marijuana's health effects more detrimental than many assume

Charles Billinger
Staff Writer

One of the most hotly contested issues across the nation this past election season regarded whether or not marijuana should be legalized.

In Arizona, a measure allowing the medicinal use of marijuana was struck down by a 57-43 percent margin. In Nevada, complete legalization of marijuana was defeated by a 61-39%.

Though both marijuana measures were defeated, the marijuana legalization movement is gaining momentum, with similar measures expected to arise in different states over the next few years.

However, a study conducted by the British Lung Foundation may dampen the hopes of legalizing cannabis in any U.S. state.

Some of the key findings outlined in the report include: the cannabis smoked today is much more potent than that smoked in the 1960s; tar from cannabis cigarettes contains 50 percent more carcinogens — cancer-causing agents — than tobacco; cannabis smoking is likely to weaken the immune system; smoking three pure cannabis joints is as unhealthy for your lungs as smoking 20 normal cigarettes; cannabis tends to be smoked in a way which increases the puff volume by two-thirds and depth of inhalation by one-third, which means there is a

greater respiratory burden of carbon monoxide than a similar

the risks involved with smoking this substance. Unfortunately, many people who engage in cannabis smoking have the misconception that cannabis is "safer" than tobacco and other narcotics.

British Lung Foundation chairman Mark Britton said, "These statistics will come as a surprise to many people, especially those who choose to smoke cannabis rather than tobacco in the belief it is 'safer' for them."

The main aim of the British Lung Foundation is to make sure the people are fully aware of the potential dangers of marijuana so they can make an educated decision.

quantity of tobacco.

This report was intended to inform the public of medical impact of cannabis smoking on respiratory health.

Both sides on the debate on cannabis deserve to know



If the people knew about the significant harms that are causing by smoking marijuana, more people will stop using marijuana or will never start in the first place. This is evident by the exposure of tobacco and the harms that scientists have proven it does to the human body.

With more studies by American institutions expected in the near future, the harms of cannabis smoking will be exposed to the American people, changing many people's perception of the "gateway" drug.

For a complete copy of the British Lung Foundation's study on cannabis smoking, entitled "A Smoking Gun?" head to the organization's official Web. site at www.lunguk.org.

DON'T Divest Israel

We must continue to support the only true Middle-Eastern democracy

Lucas W. Simmons
Technology Director

Based on the divestment campaign from South Africa in the 1980s, a group of faculty, students, staff and alumni from the University of California has formed a group calling on the UC system to stop investing in Israel. The campaign, though, has been unsuccessful thus far and has little support aside from a limited number of campus leftists. This divestment campaign is based on faulty principles, and we should instead concentrate on the problem of investment in countries that are havens for terrorism.

One of the main problems plaguing this UC-wide divestment campaign is that no one supports them. This is evident when comparing the number of signatures from the pro-divestment site, ucdivest.org – around 1,200 – to the anti-divestment site, ucjustice.org – around 4,500. Even left-coast California politicians have come out against the divestment campaign, including Gray Davis, Henry Waxman and most of the state legislature. Indeed, without California Democrats on the side

of divestment, it is unlikely that their campaign will succeed.

The fact that we are more concerned about the UC system being invested in a well-meaning democracy than in countries supporting terrorism would seem odd to most people. On the

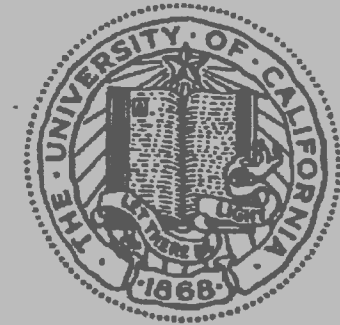


divestment campaign's website, the company in which the UC system has the most invested is American International Group. This company is probably more at fault, however, for having financial interests in Lebanon, whose parliament gives seats to the terrorist group Hezbollah.

There are four principles that the divestment proponents are demanding of Israel, the first of which is that Israel must conform with United Nations Resolution 242, which, according to the website, "notes the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war, and which calls for withdrawal of Israeli

armed forces from occupied territories."

This is the first misrepresentation on their website; the resolution, in fact, says that when – and if – there is peace, then Israeli forces must



then withdraw. Furthermore, the territories were not legally part of any country when Israel took them over after repelling an attack from then-hostile Egypt and Jordan. The term "occupied territories" would normally refer to the taking of land legally established to be a part of another country, but that is clearly not the case here.

The second statement calls for Israel to stop using torture as a method of interrogation. If the divestment campaigners had read the news anytime within the past three years, they would have

realized that the Supreme Court in Israel banned the use of torture in 1999. They do not say, however, that Palestinian militants should stop murdering and torturing innocent Israeli civilians, or that Yasser Arafat should end the *infitada*.

The third principle calls for Israel to comply with the Fourth Geneva Convention, and specifically the section that notes "the occupying power shall not deport or transfer parts of its own civilian population into territories it occupies." Once again, the territories are not being "occupied," but were obtained when Israel defended itself after being attacked by Egypt and Jordan. Additionally, Israel currently only seeks to deport persons committing acts of terror; not an outrageous policy by any standards.

The final statement says that Israel should recognize United Nations Resolution 194, including "the rights of refugees, and accepts that refugees should either be allowed to return to their former lands or else be compensated for their losses." Israel has already agreed to the fact that refugees are due compensation, but also believes that compensation is

due for Jews from Arab countries that came to Israel.

It is also important to note that Israel has been more than willing to accept new Arab citizens, but the tolerance is not reciprocated toward Jews in Arab countries. The Arab population in Israel skyrocketed from 160,000 in 1948 to over one million in present-day Israel, but in most Arab countries, the population of Jews has declined. The UC is invested in some of these countries that have declining Jewish populations – like Lebanon and Morocco – but the divestment campaign makes no mention of divestment from those countries.

The one static element throughout most of this conflict, Yasser Arafat, has not been a friend of peace. Arafat has had over 30 years as chairman of the Palestinian Liberation Organization to work things out, and he has yet to succeed at his supposed goal. Neither side is perfect, but in order to have peace there will need to be some concessions from both sides. Arafat, in his 30 years of "leadership," does not seem to be willing to make any such compromises.

See "Israel" on page 11

The Current Meaning of "Diversity"

True diversity lies in thought, not skin tone

Yosun Chang
Staff Writer

The salient value of diversity on campus is to expose students to peers of "unique backgrounds," so that there can be a mutual exchange of "ethnic culture" and "different perspectives," and to promote "equality" and "understanding" of historically "underrepresented" groups. Although no two definitions of diversity by college campus officials are exactly alike, each is a variation of the words above. And from a first glance, the concept of "mutual exchange" seems acceptable, as the association of "mutual exchange" and "equality" seems plausible, a deeper look into the actual "goods" being "mutually exchanged," and another evaluation of equality in light of that reveals a dark and menacing leviathan whose essence is none but the destruction of the "equality" the proponents of "diversity" claim as their core.

Historically, it is true that certain races have been held back by a close-minded society doubting the intelligence, morality and worth of non-white, particularly non-Aryan races, thus preventing upward advances. One can argue that the current need for "diversity" on campus is to make amends for this particular fault of history. Yet, that argument is easily undermined, as although Indian,

Chinese, Korean, and Japanese races have, too, been historically subjugated to maltreatment no less severe than any other minority race, the campus is not considered "diverse" for having abundances of Indians and Indian-Americans, Chinese and Chinese-Americans, and Koreans and Korean-Americans and Japanese and Japanese-Americans.

Moreover, a recent UC admissions case featured on the *Wall Street Journal* titled "Personal Hardships Help On College Applications" expounded that even in the case of near-equal personal hardships (unique background), a Hispanic candidate will easily be favored over the Asian, non-Pacific Islander, candidate. Transformed to a general case, it goes like this: Both the magenta student and the cyan student have suffered through hardship X; therefore, both are equally capable of contributing unique backgrounds, but because there are fewer magenta students on-campus, the cyan student shall be rejected to promote diversity.

A layer of the façade is now removed, and one can see the real distinguishing factor between someone who is considered "diverse" and someone who is not considered "diverse." This aspect is "race." One might argue that race is intimately related to diversity, that without green people, blue

people would not be unique, nor would the magenta or cyan people. Yet, as a 1/3-philosophy major, I must "pull a Socrates" and ask the question most fear

Does such emphasis on uniqueness being based on racial identity undermine the equality that the original doctrine of 'diversity' was written to promote?

to word, lest the world showers hatred on she who is truly open-minded: "Does such emphasis on uniqueness being based on racial identity undermine the equality that the original doctrine of 'diversity' was written to promote?"

Those who opposed slavery less than two centuries ago supported the idea of equality as treatment independent of racial identity. Even Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech clearly stated his belief that "all men are created equal... I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

It was that sort of equality – and the only legitimate way that equality can be interpreted – that those historic martyr supporters of racial minorities, whom I presently commend for their greatness of soul and integrity of interest, wanted; and, although it is preached to every elementary school child that he or she is "very fortunate for living in the pinnacle of modern technology and modern values allowing for equality of treatment, regardless of race," the world plainly wants "diversity," thus does not support equality, nay, but a discrimination of such base sort, a beautiful word of the English language must be marred to hide its true meaning.

Alas, "diversity," thou shouldst be living – in thy true original meaning – at this hour, America has need of thee! As of 2002, my apostrophe is the melody of the requiem of the original meaning of diversity – the condition of being composed of distinct or unlike elements or qualities – which has been scarred and reduced to the code-name for reverse-discrimination.

One can return to the argument that non-Pacific-Islander-Asians are not historically underrepresented, and that it is therefore legally valid, as well as politically correct, to favor magenta students over cyan students who are otherwise equal by

virtue of everything else. After all, one purpose of government is to ensure the well-being of all its people, giving such historically stagnant races a better chance, a lower threshold than everyone else, will help in that goal. And the exposure of preppie suburban white and Asian kids to other races has profound educational values. Whether or not that may be true, the whole idea of reverse discrimination latent in the meaning of "diversity" is a violation of the very right that the heroic racial rights activists of the past fought for: "judgment not by the color of skin but by the content of character."

Many claim that the decrease in minority populations in top universities increases the staleness of the population. This decrease is supposedly a chain effect. The idea is that if less minorities matriculate currently, less minorities will bother applying in the future, for lack of a significant racial-support group on campus. Yet, has anyone ever bothered to wonder why even in progressive west-coast states, there exists a majority of students in top universities who despise the idea of racial diversity as a vital goal of the institution? These students are the ones who create the academically and socially imposing atmosphere that many minorities are not quite fond of, thus feeling need to band into

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CR Book Review

Al Canata
Business Manager

Title: "Let Freedom Ring: Winning the War of Liberty over Liberalism"
Author: Sean Hannity
Publisher: Reagan Books
Price: \$25.95

Sean Hannity, talk radio host, TV talk show co-host and now, author. His first book is written with the same straightforward, no-nonsense attitude that can be found on his daily programs, as Hannity's position on issues such as rational defense, taxes, family and morality are clear, informative, and backed with facts.

A huge portion of this book is dedicated to foreign and defense policies. Hannity takes shots at policies and leaders that he feels have hurt America's ability to defend itself. For instance, he criticizes President Clinton for pardoning terrorists from the Puerto Rican group, FALN, while at the same having the State Department ignore threats from Islamist terrorist groups. He also criticizes politicians like Tom Daschle, Dick Gephardt and Al Gore for promoting cuts in the military, nuclear forces and intelligence services.

Hannity demystifies issues such as education and social security. He attended schools that he felt served him well and wants to see that every American child gets that opportunity. He wants to see parents have the choice and freedom to determine

where their child goes to school. He points out voucher systems that have worked successfully, as well as the liberal misinformation about the partial privatization of Social Security. Here he argues that privatized systems in some counties of Texas have allowed participants to receive payments and death benefits that even a reformed Social Security system would



probably never be able to provide.

Hannity points out the flip-flop of top liberal leaders on the abortion issue. Clinton was very pro-life throughout his entire political career, until he ran for president in 1992. In fact, in 1989, he signed a parental notification law - which always gets under the skin of abortion activists - in Arkansas. Also, he was opposed to government funding for abortions. That is, until he ran for president.

Hannity doesn't reserve his criticisms for Democrats, although they do make up virtually all of them. He proclaims that he is not a "Republican Kool-Aid drinker." In other words, he doesn't believe in something because the Republican Party says it. For instance, he takes issue with the education bill that Bush signed into law, and the huge increase in farm subsidies that make government bigger, not smaller, as conservatives are supposed to believe in.

Sean talks about goals he has for his family and what he'd like to teach his kids. He also shows his feelings about family and morality. He talks about values he, as well as many conservatives, feels are under fire from liberals and the left in America. These include spirituality and traditional two-parent family systems.

Fans of Sean Hannity will love this book. It has the straight-ahead-pull-no-punches style that his listeners and fan base are used to. Hannity provides, as he'd say, "moral clarity" on issues ranging from national defense to abortion. Readers will find his arguments filled with facts that make his arguments very convincing. For people who usually have a different point of view than Hannity, they would do good to read this book that is filled with facts that would not usually be heard in the five to ten minute debates seen on Fox News.

It's a great book and is definitely worth the \$25.

Harvard's New Class: How to be PC

NewsMax.com
Nov. 22, 2002

NewsMax.com - Not only is Harvard Law considering a ban on 'offensive speech' but it is offering freshmen (that's "first-year students," to them) a new course: How to be Politically Correct.

The course purports to help the young people "manage difficult conversations" and learn how to speak with sensitivity on touchy issues such as race and gender.

Law school Dean Robert C. Clark had nothing to say about the ridiculous new course, but would only say, with regard to the proposed speech code: "There are many on the faculty, including myself, who have grave reservations about heading in this direction."

Harvey Silverglaté, a Harvard Law graduate and civil liberties litigator tried to inject some sanity into the discussion: "What I do find amazing is that [this] should be considered at a law school, any law school, because one thing that law schools do is study the constitution and these codes are clearly in violation of the First

Amendment." Tensions have been building recently at Harvard Law, due to an exchange of supposedly racially inflammatory e-mails. Of Harvard Law's 1800 students, 28% are minorities, and they want more diversity in the school, and more political correctness, of course, hence the speech code.

Believe it or not, the voice of reason in the school's diversity committee meeting to discuss such a code was none other than Alan Dershowitz.

"When I hear blacks saying I want more blacks, or liberals saying I want more liberals, that doesn't seem like diversity - that sounds like self-serving pleading," Dershowitz said.

Philip B. Heymann, another faculty member on the committee, defended Dershowitz, saying, "Making someone uncomfortable should not be prohibited."

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Young Republicans Thank Dems for Advancing Conservatism

Susan Jones
CNSNews.com
Nov. 15, 2002

CNSNews.com -- The College Republican National Committee has started handing out "Rick Kahn Awards" to liberals who "successfully advance the cause of conservatism by alienating mainstream Americans."

The award is named for the liberal Minnesota Democrat who famously politicized the memorial service for the late Sen. Paul Wellstone.

According to the College Republican National Committee, "Left-wing Kahn is best known for almost single-handedly sending Republican voter turnout through the roof during the 2002 election cycle by reminding voters across the nation just how out of touch the Democrat's agenda is."

During Wellstone's memorial service, Kahn - a friend of Wellstone who served as the Senator's campaign treasurer - shouted from the podium, "We are begging you to help us win this Senate election for Paul Wellstone." He told the crowd, "We can be the answer to his prayers if you help us win this election for Paul Wellstone."

'And the award goes to...' In a statement, college

Republicans said they are giving their first "Rick Kahn Award" to House Democrats for electing "ultra-liberal" Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) as "the new left-wing voice" of the Democratic minority in the House of Representatives.

"From leaders like Ronald Reagan to President Bush, young conservatives have heroes to look up to who have helped define America as the conservative country it is today," said College Republican National Chairman Scott Stewart.

"But every so often, some Liberal goes above and beyond the call of duty to inadvertently advance the cause of conservatism by alienating just about everyone, and we at the College Republican National Committee believe those people should be recognized."

"By electing ultra-liberal San Francisco Democrat Nancy Pelosi as the voice of the Democratic minority, the House Democrats have assured the nation that they are out of touch with mainstream America.

"They have truly advanced the conservative cause, and we want them to know we appreciate it."

The College Republican National is dedicated to electing Republicans "from sea to shining sea."

Because words just don't always do justice to liberal stupidity....



Special thanks to Kevin Tuma and Chuck Asay of CNSNews.com for their cartoons!

Don't Stop Reading Now

Bill Clinton Gives Democrats the Kiss of Death

Christopher Ruddy
NewsMax.com
Nov. 6, 2002

Bill Clinton has disappeared from TV screens this morning. He is nowhere to be seen.

Why?

Clinton, just days ago, was all over the place. Never had a former president acted as the antithesis to a sitting president by making a national campaign swing for Democrats.

Never had a former president, and his wife, played such a controlling role in their party after they left the White House.

During this election we discovered, without any doubt, that the Clintons control the Democratic National Committee. They handpicked Terry McAuliffe to head the DNC. Their hand was noticeable in almost every key race around the nation.

But on Tuesday, America rebuked the Clintons and the Democratic Party.

This may be the reason, more than any other, the American people have given Republicans the rare opportunity of controlling both Congress and the White House.

By almost every indicator, the Democrats should have gained seats, especially with a Republican in the White House.

Add to that factor the terrible economy with trillions in lost wealth in the stock market, and the Democrats should have easily had the Senate and House in a cakewalk.

Instead, the Democrats actually lost seats in the Republican House, and lost their control of the Senate. In one word, the main reason the Democrats suffered defeat: Clinton.

The party seems hopelessly in the grips of the left-wing, disreputable Clintons and their minions.

Chris Matthews recently noted Bill Clinton's influence in the Democratic party, and said he was acting like "Boss Tweed." We know that Bill and Hillary continue to control the DNC through their handpicked chairman, Terry McAuliffe.

And, Bill Clinton's dominance in the party became transparent as election day neared. In fact, Clinton's hand was almost everywhere: New Jersey, New York, Minnesota, Florida.

He was also deciding where and how much the DNC would spend on behalf of specific candidates.

Though the Clintons engineered Carl McCall's nomination for governor in New York, Clinton later told McCall he couldn't have national DNC funds for his race.

In Florida, the Clintons and McAuliffe made defeating Jeb Bush their highest priority. Not only did millions flow in from Democrat coffers, but this past weekend the Democrats brought into the state their supposed "big gun," Bill Clinton.

Up until Clinton's visit, McBride had been gaining in the polls, had momentum on his side, and was within striking distance of defeating Jeb Bush.

Then Clinton arrived. He and Janet Reno appeared with McBride on a Miami stage to rally the vote.

Clinton gave McBride the kiss of death.

Clearly, the Clintons have done this with the Democrats nationally as well.

Voters are smarter than the Clinton Democrats give them credit for.

After 9/11, some liberal media tried to blame the new president. But that didn't wash.

In fact, a Fox News poll found that a majority of Americans blame 9/11 on Clinton, not Bush. It was Clinton who decimated America's national security infrastructure, making America vulnerable to attack.

The Democrats have also tried to pin the recession on Bush. But clear-thinking Americans know that Bush inherited the recession from Clinton.

President Bush has been the perfect foil for Clinton. Bush has integrity. America is tired of the Clintons and wants them put in the attic. And so do many Democrats.

Soon after Al Gore lost the race in 2000, he met with Clinton in the Oval Office.

According to the Washington Post, the meeting was anything but amicable. Gore explained to Clinton that with a strong economy and America at peace, he lost to Bush because of Clinton's scandals.

Gore and other Democrats, if they want power again, need to have that discussion again. They need to have an exorcism and free the party of the Bill-Hillary-Carville-McAuliffe-Begala gang. The Democrats need to cut the sleaze. The Democrats need to turn to new leaders, people like Joe Lieberman and Zell Miller, if the party wants to ever be back in power.



GOP

Continued from page 1

The American people demonstrated on Nov. 5 that they have confidence in our President. They mandated that our President should no longer be obstructed by the Daschle Senate and that the President's agenda, including homeland defense, judicial nominations and judicial reform, must be advanced. No longer will the Democratic-controlled Senate have the capability to stall legislation that the Bush administration has proposed and that the House of Representatives has passed.

The final reason for the Republican "November Revolution" was quite simply the stupidity of the Democrats. Terry McAuliffe, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee,

made some key tactical errors. He spent too much time and resources on the Florida gubernatorial campaign against Gov. Jeb Bush. During a political speech, McAuliffe stated that the most important race for the Democrats was winning the race against the President's brother, in order to send a message to the President.

Jeb Bush ended up defeating the Democratic challenger, Bill McBride, by 12 points. The millions that the DNC gave to McBride could have been allocated to other key Senate campaigns, including Sen. Jean Carnahan's bid for re-election in Missouri or Sen. Jeanne Shaheen's race against John Sununu in New Hampshire.

However, the biggest gift the Democrats gave to the Republicans was their lack of a

central message. What did the Democrats campaign on? No one really knows. If no one knows what your party stands for during a campaign, swing voters will have trouble being convinced to vote for your party. Because the Republicans drove home the issue of homeland security, they won all of the key independent, swing voters, guaranteeing a GOP victory.

The Democrats are now saying that since the Republicans were finally given the mandate to govern, they will have no excuses come 2004. Well, I would like to let the Democrats know that Republicans on Capitol Hill do not fear responsibility. Now that Bush has the opportunity to get through legislation that he believes will improve our nation, the President and our party are willing to stand by the results.

Diversity

Continued from page 7

their racial-support groups on campus.

It is an unfortunate case that in many instances the creed of "diversity" is manifested so that a minority student can enter a top institution with barely a 1000 SAT score, while a non-racial-minority student with a 1500 SAT score may be consequently rejected. Thus, as in all academic spheres – even that of the professors – these minorities who are admitted sub-par are somewhat ostracized. A careful unbiased study will probably yield that reason as the basis for the need of minorities to feel racially insecure enough to look at percentages of minority groups on campus as a criterion for applying.

Before I conclude my writ, I must emphasize that I support Martin Luther King, and that I judge purely by content of character – the ability of mind, the tenacity for driven purpose, the way of life and all that – and I hold no value to whether a man

is magenta, cyan, or any other color.

The fact that it is the trend of colleges and universities to debase the meaning of words by reassigning essence, to use the word "diversity" or phrase "diversity on campus" for "racial discrimination" is monstrous. The effects, ironically, have created the very citadel of discrimination by non-minority students of minorities. Might this be a conspiracy of sorts to forever instill in all the idea that true racial equality is politically incorrect? Nevertheless, it is undeniable that the current meaning of "diversity" is far from innocence and congruence. The requirement of racial quotas destroys the very equality – the familiar phrase "equal opportunities" – it sought to promote. It is unfortunate that a rotten core oft resides under beautiful fruit – that once appeasing fraud of "diversity" – each layer designed to conceal or pervert the reality of what it is.

Abortion

Continued from page 6

might reasonably expect them also to declare as non-human those dependent on insulin and pacemakers. Apparently such moral consistency is too much to ask. It seems fairly obvious that becoming dependent upon someone or something does not disqualify a person's right to life, nor should it disqualify the unborn's personhood.

So we see that the four differences between a fetus and a baby are irrelevant in deciding whether anyone, including the unborn, has the right to live. This must mean that life begins at conception. It is at this point that the zygote becomes a genetically distinct entity from its parents.

It immediately has the capacity to develop into a fetus, a newborn, a toddler, an adolescent and finally an adult. To quote Beckwith again, "The unborn, like the rest of us, are not potential human persons, but human persons with great potential." Let's allow that potential to be realized. We can do better than abortion.

Israel

Continued from page 7

To act as though Israel is solely to blame, as this divestment petition does, is simply dishonest. The four principles contained within this

petition make no mention of Palestinian terror or what the Palestinians need to do to achieve peace in the Middle East. Now, doesn't it seem obvious which petition you should sign?

Parting Thoughts

"We have lost our reverence for the profession of teaching and bestowed it upon the profession of acquiring." —Calvin Coolidge

"The Leftists aren't defeated ... they're coiling up and getting ready to strike again." —Neal Boortz

"The supreme value that our veterans have fought and died for (with some tragic exceptions) from the American Revolution to the Civil War to two World Wars is — freedom. America is the country of freedom." —Edwin A. Locke

"It's easy to talk about honoring veterans and their sacrifices on a national holiday. ... We honor our veterans by ensuring that their service to the nation is never in vain." —Ron Paul

"There are various conventional explanations for this week's election results; but unmentioned has been the Democrats' failure to condemn loudly and publicly the ravings of the lunatic Left." —Victor Davis Hanson

"There should be no thought of compromising to appease left-wing Democrats. What we should do, rather, is learn from them. They are not timid about exercising political power when they come into possession of it. Nor should Republicans be." —Robert P. George

"We have seen the first election in 20 years in which scaring the seniors on Social Security

didn't move many votes or change any election results." —Washington Times

"The attempt to resuscitate Walter Mondale was a textbook example of dinosaur chic, of what not to do. This attempt to reach into the past, as glorious as it might be to the true believers of the

"It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather, we should thank God that such men lived."
—Gen. George S. Patton

Left, became only the signature of the Tuesday disaster." —Wesley Pruden

"For Al Gore, it's always Florida 2000 and his chads are dangling." —Mark Steyn

"The Dems in the House have moved Left/ Because Nancy Pelosi's real deft./ Dick Gephardt is gone/ And Nancy's come on/ Leaving the centrists bereft." —Lyn Nofziger

"General Mills announced ... they will close their frozen bakery goods plant in Minneapolis. It's no secret why. If the Democrats had only known that Walter Mondale was toast, they never would have thawed him out in the first place." —Argus Hamilton

"It's a holiday tradition. Every other Thanksgiving, Floridians gather around the

dinner table and recount their blessings." —Argus Hamilton

"To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace." —George Washington

"No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave." —Calvin Coolidge

"Honor to the soldier, and Sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause. Honor also to the citizen who cares for his brother in the field, and serves, as he best can, the same cause." —Abraham Lincoln

"A man's country is not a certain area of land, of mountains, rivers, and woods, but it is a principle; and patriotism is loyalty to that principle." —George William Curtis

"There is a time for all things, a time to preach and a time to pray, but those times have passed away. There is a time to fight, and that time has now come." —Peter Muhlenberg

"Free people must voluntarily through open debate and democratic means, meet the challenge that totalitarians pose by compulsion. It's up to us, in our time, to choose and choose wisely between the hard but necessary task of preserving peace and freedom and the temptation to ignore our duty and blindly hope for the best while the enemies of freedom grow stronger day by day." —Ronald Reagan

- Have you also noticed that while the rest of the country is on the rise, California keeps sliding down the drain?
- Do you think Iraq is a greater threat to Americans than the modification of Title IX?
- Do you know which bathroom to go into?

Then join the *California Review*, because we're **right**.

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