



The Phyllis Schlafly Report

VOL. 50, NO. 8

P.O. BOX 618, ALTON, ILLINOIS 62002

MARCH 2017

Making American Civilization Great Again

Donald Trump's effective use of Twitter has often dominated the news cycle, but a tweet from Representative Steve King (R-IA) is giving the president a run for his money. On Sunday, March 12, the 8-term Congressman from northwest Iowa tweeted, "culture and demographics are our destiny. We can't restore our civilization with somebody else's babies."

The liberal media reacted in horror, which briefly distracted them from their nonstop criticism of President Trump. A columnist for the *Washington Post* objected to King's reference to "our" civilization as being distinct from "others," while feminists predictably took offense at the suggestion that American women should have more babies.

Steve King's belief that we have a distinct civilization, which is better than others and worth preserving, has a long and distinguished history. Alexis de Tocqueville noted it during his nine-month tour of America in 1831-32, which he summarized in his 1835 book *Democracy in America*: "The position of the Americans is therefore quite exceptional."

A half century before Tocqueville's tour, a French immigrant named Crèvecoeur asked, "What is the American, this new man?" Crèvecoeur's *Letters from an American Farmer*, published in 1782 and widely circulated in Europe, reflected the widely held view that Americans were in the process of creating a new civilization better than any other.

Yet another Frenchman who recognized the preeminence of "our civilization" was the sculptor Frédéric Bartholdi, who created what the poet Emma Lazarus called "a mighty woman with a torch." But Bartholdi never intended his Statue of Liberty to invite the world's "huddled masses" to come here, and he would have been horrified that his masterpiece was hijacked to symbolize immigration.

Far from immigration, the statue's title and theme is "Liberty Enlightening the World." In other words, the statue means that other nations should learn from America's success and try to replicate it in their own countries, not

move here to share in its benefits without working for them.

Immigrants can be valuable members of our nation if they come in small numbers and assimilate to the culture, values, and civilization that our ancestors created for us. That doesn't happen much anymore because so many powerful forces promote multiculturalism and separatism of immigrant groups, encouraging new immigrants to indulge in grievances and resentment for their alleged oppression by the white male patriarchy.

Unlike the great wave of immigration a century ago, today's immigrants from poor countries tend to maintain their language, religion, and culture, even into the second and third generations. This is illustrated by a new report from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) which said that "most foreign-born, U.S.-based violent extremists likely radicalized several years after their entry to the United States."

As the DHS report concludes, that has the effect of "limiting the ability of screening and vetting officials to prevent their entry because of National Security concerns." Orlando, Chattanooga, and the Boston Marathon are just a few examples of first- and second-generation Muslim immigrants who became radicalized and committed terror attacks in our country or left to join the fight overseas.

Steve King is not backing down in the face of criticism, including the second part of his tweet which said that we can't build a civilization with "somebody else's babies."

Speaking the next day on CNN, King elaborated: "You've got to keep your birth rate up, and you need to teach your children your values. In doing so, you can grow your population, you can strengthen your culture, and you can strengthen your way of life."

After the postwar baby boom collapsed around 1970, some began to think that immigrants could somehow substitute for the babies that Americans stopped having. The idea that immigrants will save Social Security has been debunked by research showing that low-skill, low-wage immigrants inevitably consume more benefits than they contribute to the system.

Steve King's comments are especially timely as Congress considers a bill to repeal and replace Obamacare. One of the most pernicious aspects of Obamacare was its insistence on defining abortion and contraception as "preventive care" which all health plans must provide to women with no co-pay or deductible.

"Preventing babies from being born is not medicine," Steve King said in 2011, when Obamacare's contraceptive mandate was challenged by Hobby Lobby and the Little Sisters of the Poor. "That's not constructive to our culture and our civilization. If we let our birth rate get down below replacement rate we're a dying civilization."

Without backing down, Steve King tweeted "Let's Make Western Civilization Great Again!" No one should take offense at that goal, given how much Western Civilization has achieved for the immense benefit of the entire world.

Immigration policy should reinforce our culture, not undermine it. Immigration is no substitute for producing the next generation of Americans to carry on our great country.

China Needs More Children – And So Do We

It made front-page headlines around the world when China's Communist Party announced the end of its notorious "one child" policy. Imposed by Chinese dictator Deng Xiaoping in the late 1970s, the one-child limit has been ruthlessly enforced with forced abortion, infanticide, sterilization, and heavy fines on families that dared to have a second child.

As a result of that vast experiment in social engineering, China created an unnatural society with 150 million "only" children without siblings, cousins, uncles or aunts. Due to sex selection, some 50 million more males than females were born – 50 million men who can never marry or start their own families.

Don't assume that China is becoming a free society, or that its Communist rulers concede they were violating fundamental human rights. A new "two child" policy will continue to be enforced by the same apparatus requiring every family to apply for and receive permission to have a child, with severe penalties for noncompliance.

No, the policy was changed because China is literally running out of people to maintain its economic growth. After 35 years of a very low birth rate, China has created a demographic time bomb in which the aging population in need of care is growing much faster than the population of young working people who can support them.

Believe it or not, the working-age population of China, the world's most populous nation, has already been falling for several years. In the foreseeable future, a fourth to a third of China's huge population will be over 60 years old and in need of support by younger people, but there will only be 2 workers for each retiree.

Does this sound familiar? It's the same story in our own

country, as Social Security and Medicare groan beneath the weight of too many retirees supported by too few working adults. The percentage of Americans who work peaked in 2000 and has declined almost every month since then.

As Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK), a powerful member of the House Budget Committee, explained on C-SPAN: "The baby boom generation didn't have nearly as many kids as their parents did, and they are living a lot longer. And so they are now drawing more money out than they paid in."

Or, as Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) said in the CNBC presidential debate, "After the war we had all of these kids, the baby boomers. Now we're having smaller families. We used to have 16 workers for one retiree; now you have three."

During the post-World War II baby boom, when Phyllis had her six children, most Americans got married in their early twenties and the average family had 3 to 4 children. Now the average age of first marriage has risen to almost 30, and the average family has only 2 children.

A population that merely replaces itself (two parents having two children) doesn't generate enough savings to support those two parents into a ripe old age. A single working person doesn't pay enough into Social Security and Medicare to support his own retirement; the system has always depended on having several younger working adults making contributions to support each retired person.

Listening to Republican candidates, we hear a lot of talk about "economic growth" as the way to save Social Security and Medicare without bankrupting the nation. The Chinese Communists, facing a similar problem of reduced economic growth in an aging population, have decided that what really needs to grow is the size of their families.

Jeb Bush, in his failed presidential campaign, promised to double America's growth rate to 4 percent, partly by giving a special tax break to induce married women to enter (or remain in) the paid labor force. That's the wrong policy if you realize, as China's leaders do, that more young people are needed to sustain the economy of the future.

Most women who marry, and have a family, leave the labor force during some part of their lives, and we should be glad they do, even if their lifetime earnings suffer as a result. A policy that expects women to remain in the full-time labor force, pursuing a lifelong career of full-time work, may help to close the "pay gap" between men and women, but it will mean fewer children.

A feminist reporter for Bloomberg Business set out to find where women's participation in the labor force is lowest and the male-female pay gap is the largest. She found that place in Utah, and specifically in the medium-sized cities of Provo and Ogden, which are about an hour's drive from Salt Lake City.

The reporter was shocked to find that in Utah, only 52.8% of mothers with young children are in the labor force, compared with 95.5% of fathers – "the biggest gap in the nation." A University of Utah demographer said, "By every

major metric, we're about two generations behind the nation."

Family-friendly Utah, with the nation's highest birth rate, also boasts the highest economic growth rate. The best way to improve the economy is to strengthen the family.

The Darkness of the Women's March

President Trump's inaugural address was well received by the people who voted for him, but the media reacted with predictable hostility as the plain-spoken non-politician repeated the themes he used so successfully during the campaign. Newspapers called the speech dark, a word that was repeated by almost every reporter.

Trump was certainly blunt about the challenges facing our country, but his address was sweetness and light compared to the truly dark rhetoric of those who demonstrated in Washington the following day. It was billed as the "Women's March" on Washington, but it featured every kooky cause you ever heard of (and several you probably haven't).

Speakers at the "Women's March" were consumed with the grievances of those who think they are oppressed by institutional prejudice. They were obsessed with the rights of illegal immigrants, Black Lives Matter, Muslims, refugees, and unusual sexual preferences.

Abortion was repeatedly celebrated at the march, which was co-sponsored by Planned Parenthood. Most speakers used the euphemism "reproductive rights," although one speaker, Kierra Johnson, said "I am unapologetically abortion positive."

A speaker named America Ferrera announced, "As a first-generation American born to Honduran immigrants, it has been a heart wrenching time to be a woman in this country. Our rights have been under attack. Our freedom is on the chopping block for the next four years." Doesn't Ms. Ferrera realize how fortunate she is to be a woman born in the United States, instead of Honduras?

Muriel Bowser, the self-proclaimed "chick mayor" of Washington, D.C., "soon to be the 51st state" (not!), said: "Mayors have to stand up for immigration rights, for reproductive rights, for LGBTQ rights. We have to stand up to fight climate change from the mayor's office."

The next speaker, documentary filmmaker Michael Moore, seemed out of place as he told the mostly female audience to "call Congress on Monday and tell your Senators we do not accept Betsy DeVos as our Secretary of Education." Conservative women were not welcome at the Women's March.

Actress Ashley Judd kept repeating "I'm a nasty woman" among other vulgar chants. "I feel Hitler in these streets," she continued, as she raged against "racism, homophobia, trans-phobia, misogyny, and white privilege."

Zahra Billoo, speaking on behalf of the radical Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), said: "I am an American Muslim woman, a daughter of immigrants, a

person of color, a community organizer, and a civil rights lawyer. I am proud to be among Donald Trump's worst nightmares."

She went on: "Our liberation is interconnected. When Muslims are harassed by the FBI, when our LGBTQ friends are attacked in hate crimes, when our black brothers and sisters are gunned down by police officers, when what is left of native land continues to be stolen, and when undocumented individuals among us are targeted, we all hurt. But we are also fired up."

The next speaker was Janet Mock, who proclaimed: "I stand here as someone who has written herself onto this stage to unapologetically proclaim that I am a trans woman-writer-activist-revolutionary of color." Janet Mock, it turns out, used to be Charles Mock before he had surgery in Thailand to mutilate his male anatomy.

By her own account, Janet Mock's Siamese surgery was financed with money that Charles had earned as a teenage prostitute, or as Janet now says, a "sex worker." Do American women really have something to learn from that bizarre experience?

"Our approach to freedom must be intersectional," Mock continued. "My liberation is directly linked to the liberation of the undocumented trans Latina yearning for refuge, the disabled student seeking unequivocal access, the sex worker fighting to make her living safely."

Mock was referring to the trendy doctrine of intersectional feminism, which defines the feminist movement within a general theory that all minority groups are victims of oppression by white men. That explains why 82-year-old Gloria Steinem was almost the only non-minority on the program.

Signs proclaimed "refugees welcome" and many speakers referred to them. Why refugees at a women's march? These things don't happen by accident: a tax-funded refugee contractor helped sponsor the march.

"If you are coming to the March, join our HIAS delegation and speak out in support of refugees. HIAS will provide signs and stickers," according to the website of an organization that receives more than half of its income from U.S. taxpayers.

Other tax-funded agencies were there, too. Planned Parenthood president Cecile Richards organized a mass call-in to members of Congress to keep the funds flowing to her organization which pays her well over \$500,000 a year.

One demonstrator, who apparently didn't get the memo about intersectional grievances, carried a homemade sign that read: "Women are foolish to think they are equal to men. They are far superior."

Yes, women are superior, because only they can bring us the future by bearing children. But to make that future happen, we need to honor motherhood, as a real women's march (the March for Life) does every year to mark the anniversary of the tragic *Roe v. Wade* decision.

The Hazing of the President

A new president is supposed to enjoy a “honeymoon” of good will and support from the press and public after he assumes the office once held by George Washington. But Donald Trump and his Cabinet nominees received what can only be described as a hazing without precedent in recent American history.

Rep. John Lewis (D-GA), a member of Congress for more than 30 years, received inordinate attention for his irresponsible declaration that “I don’t see this president-elect as a legitimate president.” We’re told he’s a “civil rights icon,” but in his 30 years in Congress John Lewis cast more than 100 votes against legislation to protect the civil rights of unborn children.

Lewis is one of 67 Democratic Congressmen who announced their intention to boycott the presidential inauguration this year. Their boycott was joined by an assortment of celebrities from Hollywood and the music industry, such as Elton John and Celine Dion, who declined invitations to perform at inaugural-related events.

One of the boycotters was the Italian opera singer Andrea Bocelli, who decided not to perform at Donald Trump’s inauguration ceremony after “Boycott Bocelli” appeared up on social media and the blind tenor decided he was “getting too much heat.” Trump, who once hosted an evening with Bocelli at his Mar-a-Lago club in Florida, said, “It’s sad people on the left kept him from performing on a historic day.”

Another singing star, Jennifer Holliday, reneged on her commitment to perform, saying: “I sincerely apologize for my lapse of judgment and for causing such dismay and heartbreak to my fans.” She and her family reported receiving death threats from fans feigning outrage that she would use her talent to honor our new president.

Another no-show was the singer Beyoncé Knowles, who was caught lip-syncing “The Star-Spangled Banner” to pre-recorded accompaniment at the last presidential inauguration in 2013. Beyoncé’s faked performance was a closely guarded secret until someone noticed that the superb musicians in the U.S. Marine Band were merely pretending to play their instruments while the band’s director, Col. Michael Colburn, was energetically pretending to conduct them.

An anti-Trump boycott was declared against the L.L. Bean catalog store merely because Linda Bean, a granddaughter of the founder and one of 50 family members who co-own the company, had supported Trump. Linda Bean protested the “bullying” campaign against her which would injure the company’s 9,000 employees.

When asked to justify his statement that Trump is not “a legitimate president,” Rep. John Lewis claimed there was a “a conspiracy on the part of the Russians and others to help him get elected.” Lewis’s conspiracy theory was ironic to conservatives who were accused of “McCarthyism” whenever they warned about the dangers of Communism.

During the Cold War, there really was a worldwide conspiracy based in Moscow in which Soviet Communists manipulated liberal fellow travelers and other “useful idiots”

to subvert the American way of life. Russia’s Communist government was disbanded 25 years ago, but four years ago President Obama influenced the presidential election by concealing his planned appeasement of Putin.

While running for reelection in 2012, President Obama told Putin’s puppet president Medvedev: “On all these issues, but particularly missile defense, it’s important for him (Putin) to give me space. After my election I have more flexibility” — to which Medvedev replied in English, “I understand. I will transmit this information to Vladimir.”

Once he was safely reelected, in March 2013 Obama cancelled plans to build missile defense interceptors in Poland. Obama’s decision not only gave Putin exactly what he wanted, but it effectively ended President Reagan’s vision of strategic defense against Russia’s dangerous nuclear-armed ICBMs.

The hazing of the new administration goes beyond Trump himself, who often fights back on Twitter, and extends to nominees for Cabinet positions. First up was Rex Tillerson, Trump’s nominee for Secretary of State. Democratic Senator Chris Coons of Delaware asked Tillerson to support the Law of the Sea Treaty, which the U.S. Senate has refused to ratify for the last 34 years.

Mr. Tillerson wisely disavowed his previous support for that treaty “in a different role” as CEO of Exxon Mobil. In his new role in the Trump administration, he said, “I acknowledge the concerns people have about subjecting any of our activities to international courts.”

The Democrats’ obsession with “climate change” consumed much time in the hearings, and California’s new Senator Kamala Harris badgered the nominee for CIA director to say that he believed in it. She also asked Mike Pompeo to commit that his “personal views” on “the importance of having a traditional family structure for raising children will not impact internal policies at the CIA.”

Not to be outdone, Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren demanded of Dr. Ben Carson, “What other actions will you take to adapt to or prevent climate change while you are HUD Secretary?” Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown asked Dr. Carson if he believes that “HUD has a duty to provide housing opportunities for LGBTQ people.”

“Of course, I would enforce all the laws of the land,” Dr. Carson replied. “And I believe that all Americans should be protected by the law. What I have mentioned in the past is that no one gets extra rights. Extra rights means you get to redefine everything for everybody else. That, to me, doesn’t seem very democratic.”

The Phyllis Schlafly Report

PO Box 618, Alton, Illinois 62002

ISSN0556-0152

Published monthly by the Eagle Trust Fund, PO Box 618, Alton, Illinois 62002. Periodicals Postage Paid at Alton, Illinois. Postmaster: Address Corrections should be sent to the Phyllis Schlafly Report, PO Box 618, Alton, Illinois 62002. Phone: (618) 462-5415.

Subscription Price: \$20 per year. Extra copies available: 50¢ each; 10 copies \$4; 30 copies \$8; 100 copies \$15; 1,000 copies \$100.

www.phyllisschlafly.com

www.pseagles.com