



WOMEN FOR THE AMERICAN CONSTITUTION NEWSLETTER

JULY 2023

VOLUME 4, #3



President CJ's Letter

Dear Colleagues:

The sentimental nostalgia of the Fourth of July/Independence Day grows more and more valuable to me each year that passes.

We share other holidays with people all over the world, but this one is OURS! It's the singular most American holiday we celebrate. It is OUR Declaration of Independence, OUR Revolution, the birth of OUR great Nation.

Just the thought of this day congers up so many memories – things “Americana.” The flag going up on every house in the neighborhood, the parade overflowing with patriotic pageantry unique to our community. Hot dogs, fried chicken, sweet tomatoes, corn-on-the-cob, watermelon, and apple pie. Homemade vanilla ice cream churned with the old crank and rock salt. Catching fireflies, waving sparklers, cherry pop firecrackers. Neighbors gathered on the street to watch the collective display. Riding in the back of a pickup truck, lying on blankets – to view the city's fireworks.

I remember especially my great-grandmother, who as a child emigrated to America from Germany in the 19th century. She had one major rule for which she never wavered: English, NOT German, would be the family's spoken language, both inside and outside the home. She was an American from the moment she stepped off the ship. She named her first born son after someone she admired. An American, she said, a person of courage and loyalty. She never revealed the story of who this was, but I like to believe I know the answer.

Many of you may have a family story or an ancestor linked to the American Revolution. This is the story I'd like to think is the reason for my grandfather's name. My grandfather's first name was Talmage, my father after him, Talmage, Jr., and now my grandson has this middle name.

He must have been named after Benjamin Tallmadge (later written Talmage), a courageous and loyal patriot. Benjamin Tallmadge served in the Second Continental Light Dragoons and was commissioned Major on June 20, 1776. He was given the position of Director of Military Intelligence by General George Washington. Tallmadge spent the winter of 1777 and into January 1778 with Washington at Valley Forge. Washington was so impressed with Tallmadge, that he assigned Tallmadge the task of spymaster. Tallmadge assembled a network of spies known as the *Culper Spy Ring*. Established in 1778 during the British occupation of New York City, the spy ring operated mostly in New York City, Long Island, and Connecticut, beginning in late October 1778. The *Culper Spy Ring* used a numerical substitution code that Tallmadge developed. The spy ring kept General Washington informed on the movement of the British troops. The *Culper Ring* was further involved in revealing the betrayal of America's most famous traitor, Benedict Arnold.

Tallmadge directly participated in the battles of Trenton, Fort Mifflin, Red Bank, Monmouth, Stony Point, and the Siege of Yorktown. He later served at Washington's headquarters from March 1781 until the Continental Army was disbanded in November of 1783. By that time, he was ranked Lieutenant Colonel. (In recent years, there was a television series called *TURN* about Tallmadge and the *Culper Spy Ring*.)

This is simply the story of an American patriot. Yet, how many thousands of patriots like Tallmadge risked their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor so that you and I could live in a country free from tyranny and oppression? How many young Americans today know the varied stories of the birth of our Nation and what it took to beat the largest 18th century global power? A war not only against British rule, but to establish the FIRST of its kind – a government of, by, and for the people. Does the next generation of Americans know or fully understand the consequences of losing this freedom? The “America” established by our Founding

Fathers seems to be slipping away. With our open U.S. borders and school districts no longer requiring American history, or perhaps offering an altered version (The 1619 Project), we have an uphill battle to educate and secure for future generations the free Nation they too deserve to celebrate.

– C. J. Hatcher, W.A.C. President

INSIDE CONTENTS

WAC Members Heard from Local Talk Radio Host Joe Thomas at Our June Luncheon.....	2
The Supreme Court's Three Decisions Honor the Constitution, By Andrea Widburg, American Thinker.....	3
America and the Future of Globalism, By Edward Ring, American Greatness.....	4
ESG Defenders Pose as 'Free Market' Disciples, By Alabama AG Steve Marshall, Wall Street Journal.....	6
The Left's Plan for a Hostile Takeover of the Supreme Court, By Thomas Jipping, Daily Signal	7
Transgender Movement Has Dangerous Hidden Motivations, Says Former LGBT Activist, By Jackson Elliott, Epoch Times	9
Board Members/Announcements.....	12

WAC Members Heard from Local Talk Radio Host Joe Thomas at Our June Luncheon

On June 15, 2023, WAC members enjoyed listening to local conservative talk radio host Joe Thomas, of WCHV's "Joe Thomas In-the-Morning," speak to our group. He covered a number of topics of particular concern to conservatives including the erosion of free speech in America and the fact that nowadays having an opinion that is counter to favored opinion can get you cancelled. He told a particularly poignant story about his mother's journey as an employee in a small local bank and rising through the ranks to a high position in a much larger banking system. He lamented that it is much harder for young people to take a similar path today since our banking system, and many American businesses, are controlled by conglomerates. He urged conservatives to fight for our values because otherwise they will be gone. He did leave us with a hopeful message, however, believing that the tide is starting to turn against leftist ideology. Also, Election Integrity Committee Chair Karen Juul-Nielsen urged members to get involved in electing conservatives to local positions this November.





The Supreme Court's Three Decisions Honor the Constitution

By Andrea Widburg, American Thinker, condensed

It's been a busy time as the Supreme Court ended its 2022-2023 term. The three most noteworthy opinions ended affirmative action (although with a dangerous caveat), limited executive authority to erase debt, and struck a blow for free speech. Because all three are completely normal in analysis and effect, they're rather uninteresting. What's more interesting are the dissents, which predict what a leftist-controlled future will look like.

The first case of note was [*Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President and Fellows of Harvard College*](#). The Court held that race-based college admissions violate the letter and spirit of the Constitution, especially the Fourteenth Amendment. If Chief Justice Roberts, who wrote the opinion, had stopped there, that would have been great. Race as a consideration in college admissions (and, indeed, one could argue, hiring for any job) would be dead in the water.

Sadly, because this is Roberts, and he's a squish, he added squish language to the decision:

At the same time, as all parties agree, nothing in this opinion should be construed as prohibiting universities from considering an applicant's discussion of how race affected his or her life, be it through discrimination, inspiration, or otherwise.

We know how that works. In California, affirmative action has, technically, been dead for a while, thanks to the fact that voters hate it. What colleges and universities do, instead, is make those "lived experiences" central. That is a substitute for race.

Predictably, the three hard-left female justices (two of whom are affirmative action hires) reacted badly to the ostensible end of affirmative action. Justice Jackson, as already noted, relied on a flawed study to bolster her position. If you want a look at how faulty this reasoning is, just read Justice Thomas's concurrence.

JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR apparently believes that race-conscious admission programs can somehow increase the chances that members of certain races (blacks and Hispanics) are admitted without decreasing the chances of admission for members of other races (Asians). This simply defies mathematics.

As [Jackson] sees things, we are all inexorably trapped in a fundamentally racist society, with the original sin of slavery and the historical subjugation of black Americans still determining our lives today. The panacea, she counsels, is to unquestioningly accede to the view of elite experts and reallocate society's riches by racial means as necessary to "level the playing field," all as judged by racial metrics. I strongly disagree.

Yet, JUSTICE JACKSON would replace the second Founders' vision with an organizing principle based on race. In fact, on her view, almost all of life's outcomes may be unhesitatingly ascribed to race. This is so, she writes, because of statistical disparities among different racial groups.

Put simply, "the fate of abstract categories of wealth statistics is not the same as the fate of a given set of flesh-and-blood human beings." Worse still, JUSTICE JACKSON uses her broad observations about statistical relationships between race and select measures of health, wealth, and well-being to label all blacks as victims. Her desire to do so is unfathomable to me.

There's more, and it's all brilliant. Put simply, Thomas, who grew up in abysmal poverty under Jim Crow, is a humanist and a realist. Jackson, the cosseted daughter of an upper-middle-class household, is a racist and a fantasist. That's all you need to know.

In *Biden v. Nebraska*, Chief Justice Roberts wrote an unexceptional opinion arguing the obvious: The Constitution does not give the executive, via the Secretary of Education, the unilateral ability to rewrite legislation to diminish or cancel tens of millions of student loans, costing taxpayers around \$500 billion.

Again, it was Kagan's dissent that was illuminating. First, she says that, just because states are affected by the Secretary's actions doesn't mean they get to complain. Roberts did not agree with Kagan's "logic":

Substantively, Kagan argues that the ability to waive or modify legislation under specific and limited circumstances was a license for the executive to rewrite the statute. This is how leftists view the administrative state. Once given a mandate, it can do *anything*. Kagan argues that the statute applies to all individuals affected by a national emergency and, darn it, everyone was affected, so there you have it, carte blanche to change the law. Of course, everyone was affected by COVID, including the taxpayers who would be burdened with this regulatory overreach. But really, who cares when you've got the votes of student deadbeats?

Perhaps the most interesting decision is *303 Creative LLC v. Elenis*, which reaffirms Americans' right to be free of coerced speech. The complainant, a devout Christian in

Colorado, wanted to make personalized wedding web pages. However, she was afraid that, just as it did to Jack Phillips of Masterpiece Cakes, the state would sanction her and force her into a reeducation camp for refusing to make websites for same-sex weddings. Gorsuch, writing for the Supreme Court, agreed with her.

This is not a situation in which a store is refusing to sell widgets to gay people. It is, instead, a situation in which an individual would be forced to use her skills to express ideas with which she strongly disagrees. That is the essence of state-coerced speech, and it violates the First Amendment. The decision is about three times longer than it needs to be, but it makes the point.

Sotomayor's dissent abandons rationality. As far as she's concerned, not forcing people to engage in expressive acts that constitute speech pretty much means LGBTQ++ people will die (and I exaggerate only slightly):

Around the country, there has been a backlash to the movement for liberty and equality for gender and sexual minorities. New forms of inclusion have been met with reactionary exclusion. This is heartbreaking.

Nothing more clearly reflects Sotomayor's mindset than this sentence, complete with scare quotes:

A business open to the public seeks to deny gay and lesbian customers the full and equal enjoyment of its services based on the owner's religious belief that same-sex marriages are "false."

The disdain for traditional Christian belief drips from Sotomayor's keyboard. And her disdain for the Constitution is there, too:

As I will explain, the law in question targets conduct, not speech, for regulation, and the act of discrimination has never constituted protected expression under the First Amendment.

The conduct, in this case, is speech, because it's expressive. It's not like a sign in a general store saying, "LGBTQ+ people may not buy our goods," which is purely discriminatory conduct. And again, the government doesn't get to control speech, no matter how it's expressed.

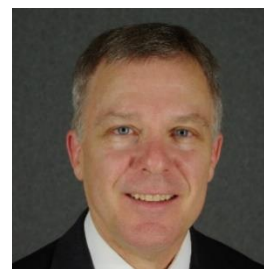
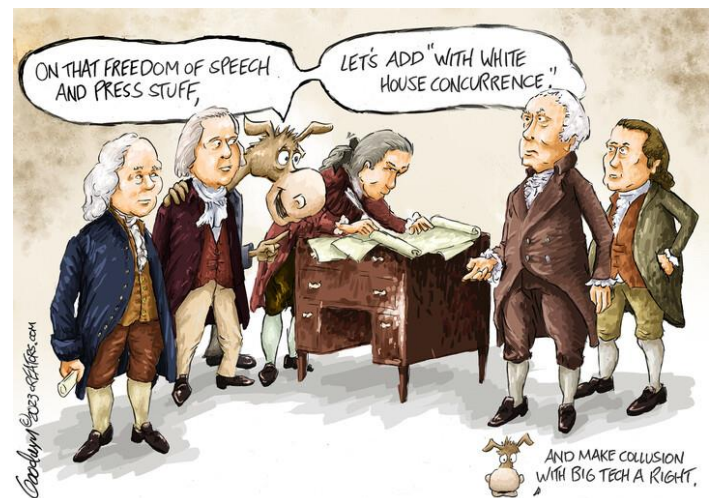
Sotomayor struggles. Gorsuch slapped her back nicely:

In some places, the dissent gets so turned around about the facts that it opens fire on its own position. For instance: While stressing that a Colorado company cannot refuse "the full and equal enjoyment of its services" based on a customer's protected status, the dissent assures us that a company selling creative services "to the public" does have a right "to decide what messages to

include or not to include." But if that is true, what are we even debating?

Instead of addressing the parties' stipulations about the case actually before us, the dissent spends much of its time adrift on a sea of hypotheticals about photographers, stationers, and others, asking if they too provide expressive services covered by the First Amendment. But those cases are not this case.

The majority on the Supreme Court got all three cases right, although Roberts may have undercut *Students for Fair Admissions* so badly that it swiftly becomes irrelevant. And while it's amusing to read the emotion-laden, irrational dissents, I'd like to remind all of you that the left spells out its positions and never abandons them. If conservatives are not vigilant (which means getting their act together by 2024), the leftist justices' vision will soon be the law of the land.



America and the Future of Globalism

By Edward Ring, American Greatness

If globalization is the economic integration of nations in a world where technology has all but erased once formidable barriers to long-distance communication and transportation, globalism is its cultural and ideological counterpart. In theory, the same dynamics might apply. As economies merge, cultures merge as well. As we move deeper into the 21st century, a global melting pot blends everything and everyone together. A planetary civilization marches united into a future of peaceful coexistence, ecological restoration, human life extension, and galactic exploration.

If people were saints and reality utopia, this idealized version of globalism could be embraced without reservation. Globalism, like communism or neoliberalism, is beautiful when described in these abstract terms and not rooted in the real world. And there is a legitimate moral imperative for us to try to come to terms with what civilization will look like as technology continues to shrink the world. Technology makes globalization, in some ways, inevitable. But what ideology regulates globalization is a choice.

This is the lens through which to view the identity struggle that currently grips the United States and other Western nations. It clarifies what is at stake and points to the consequences of getting it wrong. Unfortunately, for reasons that are not hard to explain, people are not saints and reality is not utopian. Thus, the institutions currently defining policy in America are doing almost everything wrong. Their malpractice is pushing America into decline at the same time as it is alienating allies and empowering malevolent regimes. It must be corrected.

In two fundamental areas, the consensus of America's elites, relentlessly escalated in policies imposed both by unelected administrators and elected officials, is horrifyingly wrong. The first of these concerns energy in particular, and more generally, environmentalism. These policies, which nations elsewhere on earth will not accept – to the point of being willing to go to war to stop them, if necessary – are going to strip Americans of freedom and prosperity if we continue to pursue them. That process is well underway.

In the name of saving the planet, Americans are being denied access to affordable energy, despite the fact that “renewables” are not only incapable of replacing oil, gas, coal, hydro, and nuclear power, but are even more destructive to the environment. In an attempt to reduce “greenhouse gas” emissions, Americans are being driven out of rural areas and into cities. In turn, America's cities are prevented from expanding outward in order to prevent “sprawl.” Instead, people evicted from rural areas, along with millions of migrants from foreign nations, are packed via “infill” into multifamily, high-density apartments.

To express the scope of this transformation would require volumes. It is designed to eliminate America's middle class and destroy small businesses. It extends into every economic sector – energy, water, food, transportation, housing, media, medicine. It is regulatory tyranny that only billionaire individuals and multibillion-dollar corporations can navigate. It centralizes power and cannot be administered without monitoring and micromanaging individual behavior. It is a dystopian nightmare, and it is quietly and systematically smothering what remains of free and economically independent Americans.

The other fundamental mistake America's elites are promoting is the destruction of the meritocracy that, perhaps more than anything else, made America great. In the name of eliminating racism, sexism, and disproportionate outcomes for people with other identifiable group characteristics, merit and qualifications are being replaced by identity quotas. This, too, is rolling its way through America's institutions.

Meritocracy, in the broadest sense of the word, is closely related to normality. It is normal to want the best-qualified people to fill positions. It is normal for social organizations, including businesses and government agencies, to best cohere when everyone is not only chosen for their competence, but for their acceptance of shared values and behaviors. Replacing normality with a celebration of abnormality, and replacing competence with quotas, as America's institutions are doing, undermines the efficiency and the happiness of everyone involved. What's left are implacable bureaucracies, vast and empty organizations without souls.

These mistakes are going to kill America. Energy poverty, environmentalist tyranny, “equity” over competence; these choices are fatal. But these are merely surface phenomena. The bigger problem is that there is a collective soul that has defined western civilization, developed over millennia, and now warped and abandoned by America's elites. It is dismissed as an anachronism and an impediment. But it is the source of America's greatness and restoring it is the only solution to America's current misdirection.

A recent essay by Cauf Skiviers – a provocative writer who was recently banned by *Medium* (you've been warned) – includes a paragraph that describes the foundations of Western civilization. For brevity, it's as good as any. He writes:

“The foundations of the West are anchored in the triad of Christianity, Greek philosophy, and Roman law. These pillars are not erected by a single, all-directing force, but rather were forged out of disagreement, wars, jealousy, and love. None of the elements necessitating any particular racial impetus. Much to the contrary. Christianity dispelled the notion of a ‘chosen people,’ extending salvation indiscriminately through faith. Rome, too, was built upon the bedrock of the Rule of Law, applicable to all. Greek philosophy was not concerned with the ‘lived experience’ of Athenians or the ‘spoken truth;’ of Milesians, but rather with universal values.”

The relevance of this paragraph is in its appeal to everyone, everywhere in the world. Salvation indiscriminately through faith. The rule of law applicable to all. Universal values. What this heritage gave rise to was a nation that even

now remains an inspiration. A nation where individuals enjoy personal and economic freedom. A nation where the government does not intrude on where people live or how they develop their property. A nation where private enterprise and private ownership are respected and protected. But our values – our piety, our idealism, our respect for individuality – have brought us to the present struggle to define our identity. We no longer agree on what’s normal. We no longer agree on what’s fair. Every right and every traditional value we cherish is threatened.

Fixing the surface phenomena – the orchestrated abolition of affordable energy and meritocracy – is conceptually easy. The most powerful coalition of special interests in American history must be opposed with equal resolve by an American people united against the tyranny that must govern a society that’s economically broken and indifferent to competence.

Fixing the foundations of the West, however, is a harder job. The goal, and the opposition, is harder to define. Will we settle on values that restore a healthy society? Can we overcome woke hysteria without overreacting our way into a version of repression that is just as dark as the tyranny it displaces? Can we recognize enough of the enlightened and evolving values of this century without succumbing to decadence and decay? If we can do this, we offer the foundations of a world civilization.

How America resolves its own identity struggle will largely determine what kind of culture we live in centuries from now. To say, probably accurately, that no nation on earth is trying with more integrity than America to figure out how we should live in a way that is sustainable and equitable while preserving individual freedom and economic independence is discouraging but also must be an inspiration. We have to get this right.

Whether nations eventually merge together or remain separate members of a community of sovereign states depends on how globalism is ultimately defined. America’s elites offer a future of green poverty and woke decadence. In doing so, they are squandering the greatness that other nations once admired and emulated. Instead of setting an attractive example, inviting other nations to join a global civilization, America’s elites are imposing a repugnant vision on the world. They must be stopped. There are alternatives. It is not too late.



ESG Defenders Pose as ‘Free Market’ Disciples

By Alabama Attorney General
Steve Marshall, Wall Street
Journal, condensed

Proponents of ESG—environmental, social and governance—investing are posing as champions of the free market. Utah Attorney General Sean Reyes and I testified earlier this month before the House Oversight Committee regarding our continuing investigations into several global financial alliances that aim to impose ESG policies on American businesses and consumers in defiance of our free-market economy.

Minutes into the hearing, Rep. Jamie Raskin (D., Md.) claimed that my colleagues and I were “assaulting the free market” and attempting to “stop the market from responding to the climate crisis.” Rep. Katie Porter (D., Calif.) continued the gaslighting, noting that “capitalism delivers freedom,” which “happens when markets let people choose what they want.”

As Mr. Raskin and Ms. Porter surely know, the free market has resisted onerous ESG mandates. That’s why sectorwide financial alliances have emerged to restrict the market’s functioning and stymie consumer choice.

A company’s affinity for ESG ideology is its prerogative. Likewise, it is the consumer’s choice to reward a company’s social messages with continued business. Such corporate stances are often nothing more than virtue signaling. This can often be a costly decision, as Anheuser-Busch is learning in the wake of Bud Light’s partnership with transgender activist Dylan Mulvaney.

The more sinister ESG acolytes, however, aren’t merely printing woke messages on six-packs. America’s self-proclaimed “socially responsible” financial institutions, which should be competing in the free market, are instead joining forces with one another and their global counterparts to decide which companies—and, in some cases, which industries—should be permitted to continue their market participation unimpeded.

Since 2017, a growing number of these financial alliances, including Climate Action 100+, the Net-Zero Banking Alliance and the Venture Climate Alliance, have plotted to pressure blacklisted companies into making a priority of decarbonization and other social goals at the behest of the United Nations, not American consumers. In other words, by controlling trillions of dollars in assets, these groups intend to corner the market through potentially illegal

horizontal agreements and force preferred social and political objectives on American companies and consumers.

The Net Zero Asset Managers initiative boasts 301 signatories and \$59 trillion in assets under management. On its website, the group writes: “Our industry’s ability to drive the transition to net zero is extremely powerful. Without our industry on board, the goals set out in the Paris Agreement will be difficult to meet.”

This statement doesn’t refer to a company making a business choice because of consumer demand or shareholder interest. Rather, it reveals a coalition of major financial-industry players that have come together to choke out certain disfavored companies and industries by limiting their access to capital and then pointing to this manufactured obstruction as evidence that these firms are a bad investment. The resulting harm to the working public—of little interest to global elites—is higher energy costs and fewer options across a variety of markets, including automobiles, appliances and food production.

My fellow attorneys general and I have launched investigations into various components of our financial system—banks, asset managers and insurers—to understand better how quickly and how tightly the walls are closing in on U.S. companies and consumers. If truly collusive and anticompetitive behavior exists within these alliances, we will take action to protect the free market. Our multifaceted investigations also carry a warning—and likely some welcome relief—for banks and investment firms facing increased pressure to join the ranks of the climate cabal.

Opposite us in these efforts is Joe Biden, whose presidency has been an ESG crusade in the crudest form. Mr. Biden is attempting to create the federal government’s own version of Climate Action 100+ by imposing emissions disclosures and other ESG litmus tests on federal contractors without the approval of Congress. The president would then have his own blacklist, useful for strong-arming companies to go woke in defiance of market forces and the legislative branch. Republican attorneys general will continue to stand in his way.

Consumer choice and businesses’ access to funding are central to our free-market system. Because ESG dogma isn’t playing well in the open market, Mr. Biden and his administration’s favorite big banks and asset managers want to close off certain sectors of the market altogether. If they are successful, Americans will pay the price, be it with tax dollars spent to finance green subsidies or simply with unaffordable vehicles and power bills.

For all the bluster from House Democrats, our fight against anticompetitive ESG agreements is a fight for free markets and the consumers we have a duty to protect.



The Left’s Plan for a Hostile Takeover of the Supreme Court

By Thomas Jipping, Daily Signal, condensed

Democrats in Congress, together with their allies among left-wing groups and in the media, are attempting a hostile takeover of the Supreme Court. Their current tactics demonstrate what “by any means necessary” really means.

In the system of government America’s Founders gave us, limits on government are necessary to achieve its purpose of protecting liberty. Those limits include the separation of powers, federalism, a written Constitution, and a judiciary that will follow—rather than control—that Constitution. Limits like those help keep too much power from ending up in too few hands.

The Left, however, is after power rather than liberty and, therefore, sees limits on government as obstacles to be overcome. They especially want to control the Supreme Court because it’s the final interpreter of the Constitution, the “supreme law of the land.” Controlling what the Constitution means is controlling what the Constitution is, no matter what it says.

The Left’s campaign to control the Supreme Court has three parts. First, they push the idea that the current justices are deciding cases politically, rather than impartially. In other words, the justices are twisting and shaping the Constitution’s meaning to reach results that advance certain political interests.

This tactic appears to be working. In a March poll, 62% of respondents said that justices often decide cases based on “their own personal or political views,” rather than “legal analysis.”

Second, the Left attacks Supreme Court decisions, and individual justices, that do not reliably advance liberal political interests, as partisan, corrupt, or unethical. Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse D-RI, for example, claims that the Republican-appointed justices have “delivered rulings that advantage the big corporate and special interests that are, in turn, the political lifeblood of the Republican Party.” Whitehouse doesn’t even try to argue that the decisions he doesn’t like were legally

incorrect, or applied the law improperly, only that they advanced the wrong political interests.

The Left's personal attacks on certain justices follow the same pattern. Their agenda is obvious from the way they try to smear justices they don't like and give a pass to the ones they do. Most Americans know nothing about the laws and guidelines that justices follow in making decisions about such things as financial disclosures, recusing themselves from individual cases, or following general standards of judicial conduct. Recent articles focused on Justice Clarence Thomas show how the Left exploits this ignorance.

One such article, "Clarence Thomas and the Billionaire" in *ProPublica*, claimed that Thomas and his wife, Virginia "Ginni" Thomas, had accepted transportation and lodging from a close friend on past vacations. Hardly the stuff of deep intrigue and scandal, right? But call the friend a "real estate magnate" and a "megadonor" and the vacations "luxury trips" involving a private jet and a "superyacht," and you can hear the gasps and see the head-shaking.

There are only two relevant ethical questions: Did the friend bring cases before the Supreme Court, and was Thomas required to disclose such personal hospitality? No and no. As Thomas explained in a statement, he sought guidance on that question when he joined the court in 1991 and was advised that the disclosure rules did not require reporting "this sort of personal hospitality from close personal friends, who did not have business before the court." No one has shown otherwise, nor could they.

But didn't the Judicial Conference of the United States, which sets policy for lower court judges and whose guidance Supreme Court justices follow, change its disclosure rules for personal hospitality? Yes — effective March 14 of this year. This "tweak" distinguished between staying at a friend's home and at a resort he owns. The Left wants us to believe that Thomas should have followed disclosure guidance that did not exist at the time and would not exist for years.

Then there's the *Washington Post* headline that Thomas "claimed income from a defunct real estate firm." Turns out that, at least for purposes of attacking Thomas, "defunct" means only that the firm in question changed its name. Thomas had, in fact, reported the income, but apparently had not noted the name change in his disclosure paperwork. That's pretty minor even for an oversight, and certainly not evidence of an ethical scandal.

The Left also used the personal smear to fight Thomas' Supreme Court appointment in 1991 for same reason they do so now—to undermine his influence. Then-Virginia Gov. Douglas Wilder suggested that, having been raised Catholic, Thomas' allegiance might be to the pope. The *New York Times* falsely reported that Thomas had a Confederate flag on his desk when serving as assistant attorney general of Missouri. (It was actually the Georgia state flag.)

Critics claimed that, while serving on the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, Thomas should have recused himself in a case involving a company in which his former boss, then-Sen. John Danforth, R-Mo., owned stock. Then, as now, the Left promoted such nonsense because they cannot, with a straight face, tell the American people that the Constitution should mean whatever any five members of the Supreme Court (at least when liberal justices are in the majority) say it means. Thomas remains in the Left's crosshairs because he has never believed that and, over the years, has been an increasingly influential voice on the Supreme Court.

The Left's strategy is also obvious by their silence about ethical "lapses" by their favorite jurists. Take now-deceased 9th U.S. Circuit Court Judge Stephen Reinhardt, the most liberal member of the most liberal appeals court in the land. He refused to recuse himself from the constitutional challenge to Proposition 8 on same-sex marriage even though his wife had spoken publicly about it and her organization, the ACLU of Southern California, filed a friend-of-the-court brief in the case.

The Left was content with Reinhardt's statement that his wife's views "are hers, not mine, and I do not in any way condition my opinion on the positions she takes regarding any issues." The Left, however, demanded that Thomas recuse himself from any case arising from the Jan. 6, 2021, riot at the U.S. Capitol because his wife had expressed her views on it. If you're not scratching your head about that, you should be.

Another liberal favorite, Judge Nina Pillard of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, did not recuse herself from cases in which her husband's organization, the national ACLU, had taken a position. Even when her court, with her participation, ruled in favor of the position the ACLU supported on issues such as conditions of confinement of detainees at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, the Left never said a word.

There's also the now-deceased Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who refused to recuse from multiple cases in

which her husband's law firm filed briefs. During the 2016 presidential campaign, Ginsburg called then-candidate Donald Trump a "faker" and said that she could not imagine what the country would be like if he were president, yet she never recused herself from any case involving the Trump administration. Again, the Left said nothing.

Recently, the media similarly tried but failed to create an ethics "scandal" around Justice Neil Gorsuch. Days after he was appointed to the Supreme Court, and before participating in any cases, Gorsuch and two partners sold a vacation property, and he disclosed the sale on his next financial disclosure form without identifying the buyer. Columnist David Hersanyi examined a pile of disclosure forms and writes that no justice provided such information with regard to any income. While some are claiming that Gorsuch violated the ethics rules, the *New York Times* piece on this actually admitted that Gorsuch's disclosure "did not violate the law" but, for some reason, still "underscored the need for ethics reform."

A headline in *Politico* in late September claimed that Supreme Court "justices shield spouses' work from potential conflict-of-interest disclosures." It mentions Ginni Thomas; Justice Amy Coney Barrett's husband, Jesse; and Chief Justice John Roberts' wife, Jane, but stops there. Liberal Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, however, failed to disclose that her husband gets paid as a consultant in medical practice cases, but no one on the Left said a word, never asked about his clients, and never checked whether they had ever brought cases that reached the Supreme Court.

Jackson's disclosure omissions went even further. She failed to disclose that, while a U.S. district court judge, both law schools and nonprofit organizations reimbursed her for expenses related to events in which she participated. There was not a peep from the Left. No questions were asked about whether the law schools' faculty or the organizations' boards had interests before the Supreme Court.

Do you see a pattern here? The Left smears only Supreme Court decisions they don't like and individual justices they cannot rely upon for political help.

That brings us to the third part of the hostile-takeover strategy. Having created this politically driven, faux ethics controversy, Democrats have introduced legislation to require the Supreme Court to produce a formal ethics code. That much might not sound serious, but because the Constitution, not Congress, created the Supreme Court, Congress does not have such authority.

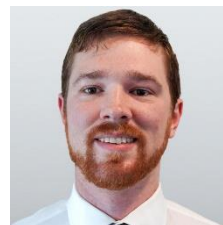
All nine current justices signed a lengthy Statement on Ethics Principles and Practices explaining how they approach ethical questions, including in ways that necessarily differ from lower court judges.

The more serious problem, however, is that these bills would then allow anyone to file a complaint that a Supreme Court justice has allegedly violated some provisions of such a code. Under S. 359, introduced by Whitehouse, every complaint must then be investigated by a group of five of the chief judges from the 13 appeals court circuits. Under S. 1290, introduced by Sen. Angus King, I-Maine, such complaints could be investigated by "federal agency personnel" and even "businesses that contract with the federal government." The latter bill says nothing about how such complaints should be handled, but it does require that they all be posted on the Supreme Court website.

Listen closely and you might hear the Left preparing action alerts, fundraising appeals, and hysterical tweets urging their minions to start preparing those complaints. Think that's paranoid? Starting even before Justice Brett Kavanaugh was confirmed, no fewer than 83 complaints were filed with the court on which he previously sat. That was just practice for what would come under these bills.

The Left craves power, and Supreme Court justices who respect the limits on their power are just standing in the way. The Left's takeover strategy requires convincing Americans that judges are just politicians in robes, that the "conservative" ones are the enemy and unethical to boot, and that they will—as Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., warned in March 2020 — "reap the whirlwind" if they don't get with the political program.

If successful, the Left's hostile takeover of the Supreme Court will destroy the independence of the judiciary that is necessary for our liberty.



Transgender Movement Has 'Dangerous' Hidden Motivations, Says Former LGBT Activist

By Jackson Elliott, Epoch Times

Despite consumer opposition, companies believe backing transgenderism will win them more long-term cash because

it has the approval of global regulatory power players, according to women's rights activist Kay Yang.

The push is part of a philosophical movement aimed at allowing for customization of the human body with sex-change surgery, technological advances, and more, she said. And companies seek to be part of this fast-growing lucrative industry.

Yang speaks with authority on the push to build acceptance for transgenderism. She's seen that cabal from the inside.

Until she left in disgust, Yang worked passionately as an LGBT activist, she said. Her employer received funding to push the acceptance of transgenderism across society. The money came from within the United States and abroad.

She's speaking out now about her alarm as she watches a cavalcade of corporations launch marketing campaigns that celebrate transgenderism, despite customer outrage.

Sure, some companies are losing money now, she said. But they believe it will be worth it over the long term.

"That money, to them, is nothing," Yang told The Epoch Times. Those companies are "being promised that, 'OK, you might lose a little bit now. But you'll make it in the new economy. And you'll still be here."

"And all the businesses that don't go along with this—we'll make sure that they're excluded."

It's a coordinated effort, a conspiracy, she said, promoted by global organizations like the World Economic Forum (WEF).

And it's why corporations, government organizations, and nonprofits have joined forces to push acceptance of transgenderism on a largely unwilling populace, Yang said.

'Back to Reality'

Yang left LGBT activism behind, she said, when she realized the movement was leading children to accept certain sexual ideas and normalize the ideas of sexual acts.

It was grooming them, she said.

The horror of that hit her when she learned a transgender-identifying man in her circle of friends had molested a 16-year-old boy, she said. No one seemed alarmed.

She can't disclose details publicly because of fear of retribution, she said. But she showed public records of his criminal charges to an Epoch Times reporter. The man's name is on the sex offender registry, The Epoch Times confirmed.

This brought Yang "back to reality," she said. She had to accept that LGBT grooming of children was real.

Though she'd been an advocate for LGBT causes, she became repulsed by them.

She's not surprised to see American brands including Target, Bud Light, and Adidas celebrating transgenderism in their products and marketing, even after widespread consumer outrage.

The motivations behind corporations' decisions to back transgenderism go deep, she said.

It's motivated by a desire to help create a "Fourth Industrial Revolution" that merges human biology with manmade technology, creating endless possibilities for profit, she said.

Transgenderism as a widely accepted part of society furthers that push, she said.

"This is where they are planning to take humanity as a whole," she said.

Monetizing the Human Body

Sex-change surgery, cross-sex hormones, and breast implants are just the beginning, she said.

Trying to "customize" the human body with technology is called "transhumanism"—going beyond being human.

Transgenderism teaches a fundamental separation between the soul and body, Yang said. Transgenderism argues that if a man's soul or mind is female, his body can be customized until it appears female. The same goes for women.

This approach makes it possible to sell intensive body modification, Yang said. It's fast becoming a global industry.

Even now, doctors are planning the first transplant to put a uterus into a man. They believe it will allow him to experience carrying a baby to term, when it would be delivered by Cesarean section.

'Biohacking' the Human Body

The transhumanist movement also promotes "biohacking," the practice of putting technological implants into the human body, Yang said.

"Make your own body. Make your own gender. They're priming those young people. They're grooming them to accept that. The next thing you can do is implant something in your brain, implant something in your arm."

Technology also will allow government control over reproduction and the population, Yang said.

“We’re being moved more toward this idea that reproduction, the birth of children, can happen without women and without a dad,” Yang said. “And they’re superseding the natural form of reproduction to the point where they want to wrest total control of how human reproduction occurs and have that be modified through the lab.”

It sounds like science fiction. But companies like Neuralink seek to connect the human brain to computers. Facebook’s Metaverse intends to create a virtual world that could host a billion people, Mark Zuckerberg wrote in a 2021 letter.

Companies like Cyborg Nest look for ways to implant people with technology to provide new senses and abilities. And transgender millionaire Martine Rothblatt is working on entirely separating humanity from the body, using software to create “mind files.” These files would hypothetically record a human mind without a brain or body.

The WEF declared in a video that by 2030, “You’ll own nothing. And you’ll be happy.”

It included some optimistic claims, such as new technologies able to fabricate replacement organs for people in need.

It also predicted that climate change would displace 1 billion people, and that “the U.S. won’t be the world’s leading superpower.”

Meat would become “an occasional treat,” the video asserted, and “Western values will have been tested to the breaking point, and people will rent everything and own nothing.”

That could apply to the human body, Yang said. With implanted technology, people may soon find their own bodies for rent.

The WEF has said this view is a prediction, not a goal.

Top-Down ‘Activism’

The promise that pro-LGBT companies will succeed in the future comes from a web of organizations, including the WEF, the United Nations (UN), and Business for Social Responsibility (BSR), Yang said. BSR is a business network of more than 300 companies dedicated to social justice causes.

The Epoch Times reached out to the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner, the WEF, and the BSR for comment. None have responded.

When Yang started her work as an LGBT activist in 2011, she had never heard of a “trans kid,” but believed in the transgender cause, she said. Out of fear of retribution, she asked not to disclose publicly the name of the New York LGBT center where she worked, but an Epoch Times reporter confirmed the details.

The group sent representatives to local schools and local businesses to deliver programs ostensibly to combat bullying. But the programs also were meant to encourage children to adopt LGBT identities, Yang said. The group received funding from the New York State Department of Health, she said.

“The more children who identified as LGBT, the more funding we would get,” said Yang. “Of course, more kids are going to start identifying as LGBT when we start going into their classrooms and teaching them about all of this language that they didn’t know about before.”

As the LGBT center began to discuss transgenderism with children and encourage children into transgender identities, “trans kids” started appearing, she recalled.

Her New York employer received funding from the Gay, Lesbian, & Straight Education Network (GLSEN), Yang said. Similar centers receiving similar funding are spread across the country, she said.

In 2011, GLSEN told activists that refusing to let boys into girls’ locker rooms was “hostility” against LGBT students, Yang said.

GLSEN partnered with the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2011 to create an anti-bullying program funded by the International Business Machines Corporation and the Arcus Foundation, Yang said. The Arcus Foundation is an international LGBT charity group.

This anti-bullying program used surveys to establish that LGBT-identifying kids were being bullied in school, Yang said. But the surveys were worded to gain the desired answers, and not to reflect reality accurately, she said.

“You’re cherry-picking,” Yang said. “You’re basically asking the kids at the gay-straight alliance already. They’re already indoctrinated to believe that they’re part of an oppressed class.”

After these surveys returned results that LGBT kids were likely to be bullied in school, the U.N. and activist groups

used the surveys to lobby for international programs promoting LGBT activism, Yang said.

Her group indirectly received support and funding from UNESCO by way of GLSEN, she said. And in 2011, UNESCO embarked on a global campaign against anti-LGBT bullying, she said.

But it was all a push to bring LGBT conversations into students in schools, she said.

“They had already started laying the groundwork to establish that the way that they were going to get this into the schools is by saying, ‘This is how we make a safe school. And if you don’t have safe facilities for trans students, meaning if males aren’t allowed to come into the women’s and girls’ bathrooms, then that means your school is not a safe place.’”

In 2019, the WEF launched the Partnership for Global LGBTI Equality. The “I” stands for “intersex,” a term describing a rare genetic disorder resulting in genitals that are neither entirely male nor entirely female.

The partnership will enlist 50–100 WEF member companies to implement the United Nations LGBTI Standards, the WEF website states. It will also list “best practices” for presenting LGBT discrimination and encourage “new cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholder collaborations.”

Global Gender Agenda

The U.N. document also encourages companies to subtly or openly urge “LGBTI” inclusivity in the countries in which they operate.

This means developing policies that “respect human rights,” the document states.

The document explains that “human rights means not discriminating against LGBTI people, calling transgender people by their preferred gender names and pronouns, covering the cost of sex-change treatments for employees, allowing trans-identifying individuals into opposite-sex spaces, supporting the creation of LGBTI “informal staff groups,” the document adds.

Companies should force even unwilling employees to “respect the name, pronouns, terms, and gender used by the person concerned,” the United Nations document states.

The document suggests that international companies have three options when dealing with local laws.

They can have their local branch policy obey laws against LGBT agendas while keeping global policies pro-LGBT. Or

they can pass LGBT policies within the company, but not push to change local cultures. Or companies can promote LGBT activism both within and outside the workplace, affecting the local culture.

Finally, the United Nations guideline tells companies it will be in their best interest to comply.

“There is a trend towards socially responsible consumption in many countries, where consumers identify with and reward companies committed to meeting environmental, labor, social, and human rights standards,” the U.N. document reads.

So if companies don’t support LGBT issues, they will struggle in a changing world as customers and investors reject them, the U.N. suggests.

The work of transgender activists is a profound threat to humanity because it threatens the integrity of the human body, Yang said. Once a soldier in that army, she’s now committed to fighting it.

“This is very, very dangerous.”

Board Members

President C.J. Hatcher:

cj@cjhatcher.net

Vice President/Newsletter Editor Tamara Thies:

tamaramct@yahoo.com

Secretary Donni Long:

g_long@comcast.net

Treasurer Madeleine Chandler:

mbc4z@earthlink.net

Bylaws Chair Tanya Skeen:

tanyaskeen@yahoo.com

Membership Chair Rena Snow:

renasnow@hotmail.com

Fundraising Chair Christy Lloyd:

Christy_n_lloyd@comcast.net

Election Integrity Chair Karen Juul-Nielsen:

kjuulnielsen@yahoo.com

Upcoming Events/Announcements

- **July Luncheon** – Join us on Thursday, July 20, 2023 at the Greencroft Club for our July luncheon to hear state and local candidates speak about their races. Registration begins at 11:30am.