



The Conservative Underground



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“Printing what they don’t want you to see,
Teaching what they don’t want you to know”

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Alexandr Solzhenitsyn to Amerika: Godlessness, the First Step to the Gulag, from Russia with Love

By Joe Clarke

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn was a Soviet Russian, anti-Communist Christian dissident who was either imprisoned in the infamous Gulags or otherwise persecuted from about 1945 until 1975 for calling Joe Stalin "Mr. Whiskers" and other extremely unpatriotic criticisms of the Russian Socialist Republic. Solzhenitsyn lived not only to be exonerated after surviving so many horrors, he waxed very prophetic by warning the West - over thirty years ago - how we were following the exact path of Marxism which had overtaken Russia and plunged it into the darkest, most demonic era in its history.

Aleksandr S., however brilliant, may not have grasped the importance of the diminishing and eventually non-existent power of his Orthodox Ecclesia which lost its purity of faith, thus setting up the entire Russian society, including the Czars, for their own downfall at the hand of the Bolsheviks.

As I witness the Annual Sodomite Parade in downtown Cleveland, Ohio, where local churches are marching - with musical bands - arm in arm with the local gay community, and as I see President Obama abandon all semblance of faith, and appointing Czars, who would not think that we are becoming the Soviet Socialist Republic of Amerika?

This time around, Joe Clarke reminds of some prescient words about Marxism and atheism from a man who had been there and done that, and Carla Harper reminds us that not all cures are the same. Jamie Freeze tries to encourage us to stand up for the truths of conservatism by showing us that being hated on isn't as bad as you'd think, while Tim Dunkin uses the President as an example of why we need to return to the rule of law. Lastly, Charles Welty's *Ameristan* approaches its exciting conclusion as the Islamic subversion comes to its climax!

Godlessness, The First Step to the Gulag, “Men Have Forgotten God,” By Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn circa 1983 [Before The Fall Of The Wall]

“More than half a century ago, while I was still a child, I recall hearing a number of older people offer the following explanation for the great disasters that had befallen Russia: Men have forgotten God; that's why all this has happened.

“Since then I have spent well-nigh fifty years working on the history of our Revolution; in the process I have read hundreds of books, collected hundreds of personal testimonies, and have already contributed eight volumes of my own toward the effort of clearing away the rubble left by that upheaval. But if I were asked today to formulate as concisely as possible the main cause of the ruinous Revolution that swallowed up some sixty million of our people, I could not put it more accurately than to repeat: Men have forgotten God; that's why all this has happened.

“What is more, the events of the Russian Revolution can only be understood now, at the end of the century, against the background of what has since occurred in the rest of the world. What emerges here is a process of universal significance. And if I were called upon to identify briefly the principal trait of the entire twentieth century, here too, I would be unable to find anything more precise and pithy than to repeat once again: Men have forgotten God.

“The failings of human consciousness, deprived of its divine dimension, have been a determining factor in all the major crimes of this century. The first of these was World War I, and much of our present predicament can be traced back to it. It was a war (the memory of which seems to be fading) when Europe, bursting with health and abundance, fell into a rage of self-mutilation which could not but sap its strength for a century or more, and perhaps forever. The only possible explanation for this war is a mental eclipse among the leaders of Europe due to their lost awareness of a Supreme Power above them. Only a godless embitterment could have moved ostensibly Christian states to employ poison gas, a weapon so obviously beyond the limits of humanity.

“The same kind of defect, the flaw of a consciousness lacking all divine dimension, was manifested after World War II when the West yielded to the satanic temptation of the "nuclear umbrella." It was equivalent to saying: Let's cast off worries, let's free the younger generation from their duties and obligations, let's make no effort to defend ourselves, to say nothing of defending others - let's stop our ears to the groans emanating from the East, and let us live instead in the pursuit of happiness. If danger should threaten us, we shall be protected by the nuclear bomb; if not, then let the world burn in Hell for all we care. The pitifully helpless state to which the contemporary West has sunk is in large measure due to this fatal error: the belief that the defense of peace depends not on stout hearts and steadfast men, but solely on the nuclear bomb....

“Today's world has reached a stage which, if it had been described to preceding centuries, would have called forth the cry: "This is the Apocalypse!"

“Yet we have grown used to this kind of world; we even feel at home in it.

“Dostoevsky warned that 'great events could come upon us and catch us intellectually unprepared.' This is precisely what has happened. And he predicted that 'the world will be saved only after it has been possessed by the demon of evil.' Whether it really will be saved we shall have to wait and see: this will depend on our conscience, on our spiritual lucidity, on our individual and combined efforts in the face of catastrophic circumstances. But it has already come to pass that the demon of evil, like a whirlwind, triumphantly circles all five continents of the earth....

“In its past, Russia did know a time when the social ideal was not fame, or riches, or material success, but a pious way of life. Russia was then steeped in an Orthodox Christianity which remained true to the Church of the first centuries. The Orthodoxy of that time knew how to safeguard its people under the yoke of a foreign occupation that lasted more than two centuries, while at the same time fending off iniquitous blows from the swords of Western crusaders. During those centuries the Orthodox faith in our country became part of the very pattern of thought and the personality of our people, the forms of daily life, the work calendar, the priorities in every undertaking, the organization of the week and of the year. Faith was the shaping and unifying force of the nation.

“But in the 17th century Russian Orthodoxy was gravely weakened by an internal schism. In the 18th, the country was shaken by Peter's forcibly imposed transformations, which favored the economy, the state, and the military at the expense of the religious spirit and national life. And along with this lopsided Petrine enlightenment, Russia felt the first whiff of secularism; its subtle poisons permeated the educated classes in the course of the 19th century and opened the path to Marxism. By the time of the Revolution, faith had virtually disappeared in Russian educated circles; and amongst the uneducated, its health was threatened. (cont. on page 5)



Renew America (<http://www.renewamerica.us>) is a grassroots organization that supports the self-evident truths found in the Declaration of Independence, and their faithful application through upholding the U.S. Constitution, as written. Its purpose, therefore, is to thoughtfully and courageously advance the cause of our nation's Founders.

Radical Cures

By Carla Harper

In 1787 prior to the Constitutional Convention, George Washington wrote of a need for “radical cures” regarding our fledgling nation. A few years earlier he had written that unless Americans believed that they constituted one people with one sense of purpose and one overriding goal they would never achieve true independence. Yet over ten years after the remarkable defeat of the British by a “rag tag band of rebels,” Americans remained mistrustful of centralized, national political authority. After all, whites, blacks, American Indians and all shades in between had sacrificed blood and treasure to gain freedom from an oppressive, over-taxing government far removed from them. Many were leery of creating another such government.

When the 55 delegates converged on Philadelphia, Pennsylvania that May and sat sequestered, sweltering in the statehouse for four months without recess, none took lightly their charge. It was without doubt the most revolutionary undertaking in political planning the world over. Through “a finger of that almighty hand” according to James Madison and “little short of a miracle” said Washington they seemed to simultaneously understand the power a national government would need and the seriousness with which that power must also be balanced. Historian James M. Burns noted that they knew the new federal legislature would be the engine of law and policy but were unwilling, as James Madison wrote to allow it to “absorb all power into its vortex.”

So, the American Constitution produced by consensus set up a system of government, a constitutional republic where branches of government, interest groups and citizens would collide, and it worked. It has worked for 222 years because it hinges on an understanding of free will and human nature. They knew that coercion does not breed loyalty; only men and women free to choose their own paths and suffer or enjoy the consequences thrive.

Americans are being told that once again “radical cures” are in order. Our government is the largest shareholder in a General Motors now in bankruptcy after being “bailed out” along with the nation’s largest banks. Health care is on the way to being nationalized. As of today, according to the US National Debt Clock (<http://www.brillig.com/>

[debt_clock/](#)), our debt is \$11,390,708,957,103. With an estimated population of 306,354,751 that makes each citizen’s share \$37,181.43. The national debt has increased at \$3.83 billion per day since September 2007.

It’s a risky business dealing in radical cures and for over 200 years Americans have been willing to let the federal government conceive of and administer those cures usually based on confidence in the sitting President. The trick is to intuit the tipping point and not go beyond it because despite being latent for many, many years there is still a revolutionary spirit in America; a love for freedom that at times exceeds self-interest.

NOTORIOUSLY



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Haterade...the Breakfast of Champions!

By Jamie Freeze

Like many twenty-something Americans, I am hooked on Facebook. I love being able to keep in touch with friends from elementary school, and I also love being able to follow my favorite politicians. I would be lying if I said I didn't love to debate current events with my not-so-conservative friends as well. My Facebook statuses (updates on what I am doing) are quite controversial, or so I've been told. It is nothing for me to update my status, come back five hours later, and have twenty-five or more comments on my status. I love debating so much, that my liberal friend and I started a political blog on Facebook called "Behind Enemy Lines" where we can post news stories and debate them.

However, I am often shocked that the statuses that receive the most comments are often ones I feel are innocuous. After Michael Jackson's death, and subsequent media affixation, I posted the following as my status: "Jamie Freeze is sickened (but not surprised) that the media cares more about the death of a pedophile than the revolution brewing in Iran. Sure, "Thriller" was great, but it seems our priorities are screwed up when we care more about Michael Jackson's autopsy reports than democracy in Iran. Just saying...."

Thus began the descent into the maelstrom. For your reading pleasure, I will submit a **partial** list of the comments that followed:

Melinda: First of all, I honestly think Michael Jackson was an "off" man and I don't know what he did with those children because he was so strange and troubled. But he revolutionized music and consistently sung about important issues. Secondly, you know the media has no priorities...LOL. We are going on and on about Iran and there is even crazier stuff going on in other countries and here. God forbid they report more than one time on a black man being killed by police officers or women getting raped in the army.

"When you can't make them see the light, make them feel the heat." - Ronald Reagan

James: While it's pretty bad that they are ignoring the Iran conflict, there's no arguing the significance of the man's passing. This is still America and our culture does have influence in our news cycles. Secondly, if you're going to insult a dead man, learn to spell it correctly [auth. note: I had misspelled "pedophile" in my original post].

Me: Guys, I don't begrudge the media reporting the passing of Jackson. I agree, he did make a significant contribution to music. However, it saddens me that we care more about pop stars than liberty for other people. It saddens me that we care more about celebrities and their personal lives than the lives of people around the world. Is it too much to ask Americans to care more about the struggles of people around the world instead of what the latest overpaid one-hit wonder is doing? Is it too much to ask that we care more about the freedom of other people than the sordid lives of Hollywood? I suppose it is....

Melinda: I personally don't think any ONE topic should DOMINATE the media because there are multiple issues to address. And I have no clue why people are trying to compare Farrah to Michael when we all know that Michael transcended gender, race, age...etc. Even Farrah's fans go on about her hair or how sexy she was. I know her life offered more and her battle with... cancer should be acknowledged...Personally, Michael brought attention to a lot of issues and he is a true lyricist and he worked hard writing HIS OWN music, unlike so many artist/puppets today. Anywho, a black high school athlete supposedly shot himself during a "routine" police stop a couple of months ago....they reported it once and life went on! But lets go on about Iran and forget that Osama is still SOMEWHERE. Jamie- I agree. Because when people went flooding to Jackson's hospital and childhood home, I thought "If Jesus came for the second coming, would these people react the same way!?" I do believe we will gather and protest for a celebrity before our own civil rights. They said the autopsy will take 4-6 weeks yet they want to keep speculating...However, when you call him a pedophile then best believe folks are gonna pounce on you....

James: Apparently you [Jamie] have proof that no one else has, or you're just making a baseless accusation. I'm leaning towards the latter.

Me: Well James, I guess Macaulay Culkin and Wade Robson were lying when they

were willing to testify in Jackson's 2005 trial that they had been molested by Jackson (Read the prosecution's report). After all, a grown man who sleeps in a bed with little boys could NEVER be a pedophile. Anyway, my final word on the subject: My sympathies to Jackson's family on his passing. It's always hard to lose a loved one.

James: And still he was found not guilty. If you have no reserves in calling a dead man a pedophile with no proof, that's your thing. But don't call him one then say you have sympathy for his family.

Me: James, believe it or not, I DO have a heart. I may detest Michael Jackson as a man, but that doesn't prevent me from feeling bad for his family. No matter how I feel about someone, I don't wish for their death. I can genuinely say I am sorry for the family's loss. You may not believe me, but then again, you don't know me very well, so your jump to judge my motives or intentions may be faulty at best. Talk about having no proof? Hmm... Anyway, I would hope that you would have enough knowledge of me to know that glorying in anyone's death is not something I do. I'm not THAT liberal.

It amazed me that expressing my irritation towards the media for its lack of news reporting ignited such a firestorm. In all, thirty comments were posted on my status ranging from support to what I like to call "haterade." The reason I shared this experience with you is so that you may be encouraged to drink "haterade" and stand up for what you believe. Being a generally nice person, I do not enjoy enraging people or having them upset with me. However, Christ taught us to stand up for what is right. He did warn us that standing for right would cause the world to hate us. When I wrote for UNC-G's newspaper, my editor often asked me if the hate mail and threatening comments bothered me. I always responded by saying, "Chris, if I don't offend people, I want you to fire me because I'm not doing my job. I WANT to make people uncomfortable by challenging their preconceived ideas."

It is our duty as conservatives, Christians, and citizens to boldly stand up for what we believe in. We should be the "silent majority" no longer. We need to learn to like drinking our "haterade." After all, it is the breakfast of champions.

(Solzhenitsyn, cont. from page 2)

"It was Dostoevsky, once again, who drew from the French Revolution and its seeming hatred of the Church the lesson that 'revolution must necessarily begin with atheism.' That is absolutely true. But the world had never before known a godlessness as organized, militarized, and tenaciously malevolent as that practiced by Marxism. Within the philosophical system of Marx and Lenin, and at the heart of their psychology, hatred of God is the principal driving force, more fundamental than all their political and economic pretensions. Militant atheism is not merely incidental or marginal to Communist policy; it is not a side effect, but the central pivot.

"The 1920s in the USSR witnessed an uninterrupted procession of victims and martyrs amongst the Orthodox clergy. Two metropolitans were shot, one of whom, Veniamin of Petrograd, had been elected by the popular vote of his diocese. Patriarch Tikhon himself passed through the hands of the Cheka-GPU and then died under suspicious circumstances. Scores of archbishops and bishops perished. Tens of thousands of priests, monks, and nuns, pressured by the Chekists to renounce the Word of God, were tortured, shot in cellars, sent to camps, exiled to the desolate tundra of the far North, or turned out into the streets in their old age without food or shelter. All these Christian martyrs went unswervingly to their deaths for the faith; instances of apostasy were few and far between. For tens of millions of laymen access to the Church was blocked, and they were forbidden to bring up their children in the Faith: religious parents were wrenched from their children and thrown into prison, while the children were turned from the faith by threats and lies....

"For a short period of time, when he needed to gather strength for the struggle against Hitler, Stalin cynically adopted a friendly posture toward the Church. This deceptive game, continued in later years by Brezhnev with the help of showcase publications and other window dressing, has unfortunately tended to be taken at its face value in the West. Yet the tenacity with which hatred of religion is rooted in Communism may be judged by the example of their most liberal leader, Krushchev: for though he undertook a number of significant steps to extend freedom, Krushchev simultaneously rekindled the frenzied Leninist obsession with destroying religion.

"But there is something they did not expect: that in a land where churches have been

leveled, where a triumphant atheism has rampaged uncontrolled for two-thirds of a century, where the clergy is utterly humiliated and deprived of all independence, where what remains of the Church as an institution is tolerated only for the sake of propaganda directed at the West, where even today people are sent to the labor camps for their faith, and where, within the camps themselves, those who gather to pray at Easter are clapped in punishment cells - they could not suppose that beneath this Communist steamroller the Christian tradition would survive in Russia. It is true that millions of our countrymen have been corrupted and spiritually devastated by an officially imposed atheism, yet there remain many millions of believers: it is only external pressures that keep them from speaking out, but, as is always the case in times of persecution and suffering, the awareness of God in my country has attained great acuteness and profundity.

“It is here that we see the dawn of hope: for no matter how formidably Communism bristles with tanks and rockets, no matter what successes it attains in seizing the planet, it is doomed never to vanquish Christianity.

“The West has yet to experience a Communist invasion; religion here remains free. But the West's own historical evolution has been such that today it too is experiencing a drying up of religious consciousness. It too has witnessed racking schisms, bloody religious wars, and rancor, to say nothing of the tide of secularism that, from the late Middle Ages onward, has progressively inundated the West. This gradual sapping of strength from within is a threat to faith that is perhaps even more dangerous than any attempt to assault religion violently from without.

“Imperceptibly, through decades of gradual erosion, the meaning of life in the West has ceased to be seen as anything more lofty than the 'pursuit of happiness,' a goal that has even been solemnly guaranteed by constitutions. The concepts of good and evil have been ridiculed for several centuries; banished from common use,

they have been replaced by political or class considerations of short lived value. It has become embarrassing to state that evil makes its home in the individual human heart before it enters a political system. Yet it is not considered shameful to make daily concessions to an integral evil. Judging by the continuing landslide of concessions made before the eyes of our very own generation, the West is ineluctably slipping toward the abyss. Western societies are losing more and more of their religious essence as they thoughtlessly yield up their younger generation to atheism. If a blasphemous film about Jesus is shown throughout the United States, reputedly one of the most religious countries in the world, or a major newspaper publishes a shameless caricature of the Virgin Mary, what further evidence of godlessness does one need? When external rights are completely unrestricted, why should one make an inner effort to restrain oneself from ignoble acts?

“Or why should one refrain from burning hatred, whatever its basis - race, class, or ideology? Such hatred is in fact corroding many hearts today. Atheist teachers in the West are bringing up a younger generation in a spirit of hatred of their own society. Amid all the vituperation we forget that the defects of capitalism represent the basic flaws of human nature, allowed unlimited freedom together with the various human rights; we forget that under Communism (and Communism is breathing down the neck of all moderate forms of socialism, which are unstable) the identical flaws run riot in any person with the least degree of authority; while everyone else under that system does indeed attain 'equality' - the equality of destitute slaves. This eager fanning of the flames of hatred is becoming the mark of today's free world. Indeed, the broader the personal freedoms are, the higher the level of prosperity or even of abundance - the more vehement, paradoxically, does this blind hatred become. The contemporary developed West thus demonstrates by its own example that human salvation can be found neither in the profusion of material goods nor in merely making money.



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“This deliberately nurtured hatred then spreads to all that is alive, to life itself, to the world with its colors, sounds, and shapes, to the human body. The embittered art of the twentieth century is perishing as a result of this ugly hate, for art is fruitless without love. In the East art has collapsed because it has been knocked down and trampled upon, but in the West the fall has been voluntary, a decline into a contrived and pretentious quest where the artist, instead of attempting to reveal the divine plan, tries to put himself in the place of God.

“Here again we witness the single outcome of a worldwide process, with East and West yielding the same results, and once again for the same reason: Men have forgotten God.

“With such global events looming over us like mountains, nay, like entire mountain ranges, it may seem incongruous and inappropriate to recall that the primary key to our being or non-being resides in each individual human heart, in the heart’s preference for specific good or evil. Yet this remains true even today, and it is, in fact, the most reliable key we have. The social theories that promised so much have demonstrated their bankruptcy, leaving us at a dead end. The free people of the West could reasonably have been expected to realize that they are beset by numerous freely nurtured falsehoods, and not to allow lies to be foisted upon them so easily. All attempts to find a way out of the plight of today’s world are fruitless unless we redirect our consciousness, in repentance, to the Creator of all: without this, no exit will be illumined, and we shall seek it in vain. The resources we have set aside for ourselves are too impoverished for the task. We must first recognize the horror perpetrated not by some outside force, not by class or national enemies, but within each of us individually, and within every society. This is

especially true of a free and highly developed society, for here in particular we have surely brought everything upon ourselves, of our own free will. We ourselves, in our daily unthinking selfishness, are pulling tight that noose....

Our life consists not in the pursuit of material success but in the quest for worthy spiritual growth. Our entire earthly existence is but a transitional stage in the movement toward something higher, and we must not stumble and fall, nor must we linger fruitlessly on one rung of the ladder. Material laws alone do not explain our life or give it direction. The laws of physics and physiology will never reveal the indisputable manner in which the Creator constantly, day in and day out, participates in the life of each of us, unfailingly granting us the energy of existence; when this assistance leaves us, we die. And in the life of our entire planet, the Divine Spirit surely moves with no less force: this we must grasp in our dark and terrible hour.

To the ill-considered hopes of the last two centuries, which have reduced us to insignificance and brought us to the brink of nuclear and non-nuclear death, we can propose only a determined quest for the warm hand of God, which we have so rashly and self-confidently spurned. Only in this way can our eyes be opened to the errors of this unfortunate twentieth century and our bands be directed to setting them right. There is nothing else to cling to in the landslide: the combined vision of all the thinkers of the Enlightenment amounts to nothing.

Our five continents are caught in a whirlwind. But it is during trials such as these that the highest gifts of the human spirit are manifested. If we perish and lose this world, the fault will be ours alone.



Obama, Zelaya, and the Rule of Law

By Tim Dunkin

American conservatives may perhaps take some small comfort in the fact that there is at least one country in the Western hemisphere that actually takes its own constitution seriously. Unfortunately, that country is Honduras, and not the United States.

By now, most readers are probably familiar with the events that have taken place in Honduras over the past two weeks. If one only listened to the reports from the mainstream media, one would get the impression that horrible, evil right-wingers in the Honduran military had staged a *coup d'état* against a popular democratically-elected President. This, of course, is not what happened. In fact, the deposed – Manuel Zelaya – had attempted to amend the Honduran constitution by popular referendum to allow himself to serve a third term as President. According to said document, not only is the constitution not amendable in this fashion, but a sitting President *immediately forfeits* his right to hold that office if he proposes to alter the constitution to give himself extra terms. Hence, the moment he put forward the proposal, Zelaya legally deposed himself.

Further, the Honduran military removed Zelaya from office as their constitution *expressly* says they can do in such a case, and this move was approved (in fact, it was ordered) by the Honduran Supreme Court, acting in its capacity as the interpreter of Honduras' highest law of the land. To top it off, Zelaya was replaced by Roberto Michelletti, formerly the President of the Honduran Congress, by a nearly unanimous vote of Honduras' legislature – again completely in accord with what their constitution stipulates.

Yet, America's Hypocrite-in-Chief calls these events "illegal."

What we see in Obama's statement is not merely a lack of understanding of the situation, or even a position in which partisan expediency has been allowed to overrule good sense. Instead, we see that it is the result of a fundamental difference between the worldview that Obama and other leftists like him have and the one held by those who hold to traditional Western values such as the rule of law.

In archaic and classical Greece, there existed during periods of political turbulence the institution of the "tyrant." A tyrant was a man who, in contravention of the prevailing constitution of a city-state's government, would seize control of the reins of government for himself. Despite our modern assumptions that a tyrant is one who is ruthless, violent, and destructive towards the people as a whole, Greek tyrants often were quite cultured and peaceable. They were often great supporters of public works and civic beautification, and in many cases dealt with the citizenry with a slack hand.

Typically, these were part of the tyrants' efforts to buy legitimacy for their rule, legitimacy that their usurpation had voided. Yet, this benevolence did not usually get them much sympathy in the long run. The Greeks did not take kindly to those who sought to overturn the established and traditional legal frameworks governing a *polis* in favor of their own power to rule, no matter how "well" the tyrant may have ruled in practice. Momentary success was not a justification for unconstitutional usurpation. Tyranny, in ancient Greece, was abhorred not so much because it necessarily meant oppression for the people, but because it was a direct assault upon the ideals of civic legitimacy and the rule of law – concepts that were supremely important to the Greek ideal of a well-ordered polity.

Manuel Zelaya was essentially trying to establish himself in a tyranny. He purposefully tried to subvert the Honduran constitution so as to enable himself to become yet another tinpot "Presidente for Life" like his allies - Venezuela's Chavez and Cuba's Castro brothers – had done.

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Indeed, the constitutional provisions that were legally used by the Honduran Supreme Court and military to remove Zelaya from office were designed to prevent just this sort of thing. They were meant to keep Honduras from returning to the typically Latin American cycle of banana republic dictatorships that it had suffered under for so long before the present constitution was established. Unlike many of the Greek tyrants, Zelaya was so corrupt and inept in office – under his governance even when he was legitimately the President, Honduras was defaulting on its debts – that he didn't even have the pretended legitimacy of wise or beneficent rule. All he has is the support of his fellow corrupt haters of the rule of law.

One of these haters is Barack Obama. Now, we all must admit that the American government has, since either 1865 or the 1930s, depending on your perspective, had some problems with understanding just what our Constitution limits it from doing. Even under Republican Presidents, our government has grown and expanded into roles that the Founders never envisioned it to fill. But Obama takes this to a whole new level. Soviet-style takeovers of whole corporations. Attempts to dominate entire blocs of the American economy. The establishment of dozens of Constitutionally impossible “czars” who are unaccountable to the legislative branch and who oversee segments of our economic and personal life which the government has no business being involved with. Obama and his cadre have gone far beyond the typical Constitutional “fudging” that we've all, unfortunately, gotten used to in recent decades. He has struck out into new territories that show that he doesn't view the Constitution to be any sort of restraint on his power whatsoever.

We knew this was to be the case, even before he took office. This is what Obama and his lackeys meant when they said he would be ready to “rule” from Day One. Not govern, but “rule.”

And therein lies the rub – Obama and those like him, including petty Latin American tyrants like Zelaya and Chavez – do not operate under the worldview that government should have restraints upon it that cannot simply be undone at the slightest caprice, even by the people themselves if attempted in an unlawful manner. They do not acknowledge that laws and constitutions apply to them, too, and that these documents restrain them from doing what they

want to do. In Obamaland, legality is defined by his own personal whim – which is why he called the completely legal Honduran removal of Zelaya “illegal.” He wanted a fellow Marxist to remain in power in a nation that had hitherto had drifting into the Marxist Latin American axis being built by Chavez, Castro, and Nicaragua's Daniel Ortega, and the Honduran constitution be jiggered. Obama and those like him completely subvert the whole notion that law transcends and defines government, rather than the other way around.

What we as conservatives need to understand and uphold, both in this particular case of Honduras and in our approach to those who are in positions of power in general, is that government must be accountable to law – and the law in our system is fundamentally rooted in our Constitution. In theory (and I wish it were in practice too!), any law that does not conform to our Constitution is immediately null and void, and any action of an officeholder that goes against this fundamental Law is illegal. We cannot get wrapped up in merely applying this to political enemies like Obama, while turning a blind eye to it when “our guy” is in office, as many conservatives and Republicans did during the Bush years.

As I said above, law transcends government. Law is what establishes government, and therefore those in government are *subject* to law. Government does not operate independently of foundational law, nor do government officials, even to the highest in office itself, simply have leave to make and remake law according to their personal desires. Our government has been so unconstitutional in recent decades specifically because it has been so lawless – in the sense that bureaucrats, administrators, regulators, and politicians have been unfettered from any sense of having to have their governing behavior checked by the originating power of the Constitution. We conservatives need to regain, reiterate, and reintroduce into our nation's political discourse the importance of foundational, establishing, original Law. Law, ultimately, should not be just so much statute that limits the people from doing harm to one another, but also a fundamental that limits the arbitrariness of government and disables it from putting men into positions of unrestrained power, no matter how much benevolence they profess “for the people.”

“A king ruleth as he ought, a tyrant as he lists; a king to the profit of all, a tyrant only to please a few.” - Aristotle

The rule of law is one of the “pillar” principles of Western civilization. Without it, we crumble to dust. Greek constitutionalism set us on that course, and passed it on to Rome. In the Roman Republic, as imperfect and unrepresentative by our standards as it may have been, law was a bulwark against the whims of populist demagogues, and the Republic fell when supporters of law were unable or unwilling to withstand the tyrannical forces that led to Julius Caesar. Rome itself fell, not so much because of outside attacks by the Germanic tribes, but because of the demoralization that centuries of arbitrary government (as well as licentious morals among the ruling classes) had imposed upon a people who were taxed to the hilt and not even able to choose their own profession anymore. The rule of law enabled the limits on monarchical power that were represented in the Magna Carta. The rise of Renaissance republicanism and the liberal political philosophies of men like Locke, Sydney, and Montesquieu implicitly understood the importance of restraint upon the government by law. The distilled product of such enlightened support for law over and against arbitrary government was, in fact, our own Constitution, engineered by men who were thoroughly schooled in the history and political philosophy of the Western tradition.

In short, our Constitution is not important just because it is traditional. It is not important just because it is American, and hence the patriotic thing to support. Our Constitution is important because it is the check upon government that separates us from much of the rest of non-Western

history in which nations have been ruled by men, rather than by laws; by absolute monarchs and dictators and Politburos, rather than by constitutionally-delineated powers that act to restrain tyranny.

Likewise, then, the situation in Honduras and Obama’s response to it are not so much important because of the momentary politics or events. Rather, they enlighten us to the underlying attitude toward transcendent law held by Obama, and other leftists like him. For them, government is about power – and those in government, if they are ideologically correct, naturally have the right to wield power to whatever degree they like. Obama’s buddy Zelaya was in power, and since he’s a leftist, he ought to be able to do whatever he needs to do to make sure the Honduran people continue to “enjoy” his rulership. Similarly, in Obama’s view, “he won,” and that means he can do what he likes regardless of the constitutional “discrepancies” involved. This may explain why there is talk among Obamatons of doing away with our own constitutional prohibition of third terms for Presidents.

Nevertheless, our opposition to Obama should not be simply focused on the fact that he disagrees with us politically. It needs to be rooted in the fact that we are aware of and opposed to the terrible damage that he is doing to one of the pillars of our society, and the regression towards humanity’s unfortunate baseline of tyranny that he represents.



Fight FOCA
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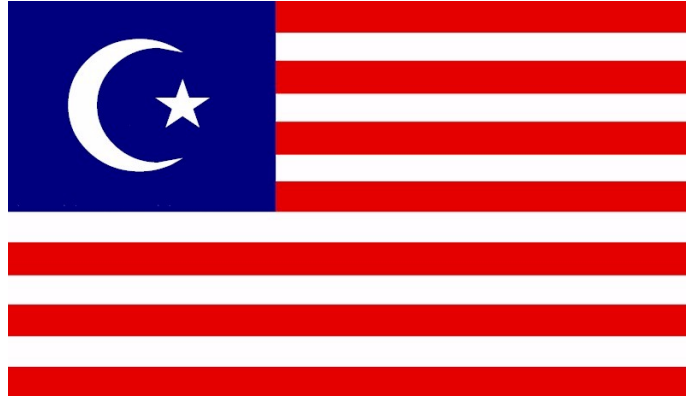
FOCA Would Wipe Away Every Restriction on Abortion Nationwide!

This would eradicate state and federal laws that the majority of Americans support, such as:

- ◆ Bans on Partial Birth Abortions
- ◆ Requirements that women be given information about the risks of getting an abortion
- ◆ Only licensed physicians can perform abortions
- ◆ Parents must be informed and give consent to their minor daughter's abortion

FOCA (the Freedom of Choice Act) would erase these laws and prevent states from enacting similar protective measures in the future!

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Now, *Ameristan* continues from last week....

Surah 20 – It's Just the Beginning

Yusef Achim wasn't required to wear his scout uniform on this day, but he chose to. He was the leader of a troop that included thirty young men, good and brave to the last one.

So he proudly wore the brown shorts and shirt, the brimmed hat and the medals of Houston's finest Muslim Boy Scout troop.

Jack Goetz, aide to the new Speaker of the House Alford Dickinson, had arranged for a private tour of the Monument. The Boy Scouts stood proudly in their uniforms, all wearing backpacks and "Allahu Akhbar" awards on their shirts.

One by one, they walked through the security scanner and waited while the last few backpacks were searched by a guard. His hands moved quickly as the guard sorted through the same stuff he'd seen in most of the other backpacks - lunch pails, scouting manuals, flashlights.

All the backpacks also carried white clay sculptures of animals—bunny rabbits, squirrels, cats, dogs. He thought it odd that the boys would choose to lug those along on a field trip, especially since they planned to hike down the stairs. But he shrugged and returned each sculpture to its owner's backpack.

Jack Goetz loosened his tie and directed the troopers through a side gate, away from other tourists and toward a large interior service elevator.

"OK boys, this is where I get off," Goetz said. "Enjoy your day in Washington."

Achim shook his hand and watched the Congressional aide walk toward the exit.

"Nine hundred steps, boys," Yusef announced as the elevator doors slid shut. "It will be a long walk down. But for now, we ride."

During the long elevator ascent, Yusef checked his watch twice. After the doors opened, he stepped out with the boys and decided to point out the sights.

“You can clearly see the Capitol dome over here,” the troop leader said, leading the boys to the east side of the observation area. They had the entire deck to themselves. “That’s the mall area. And to the north there? That is the White House, gentlemen.”

The boys fell very quiet.

“To the south we see the Jefferson Memorial. And to the west here? That reflecting pool leads up to the Lincoln Memorial.” Yusef paused, admiring the majestic view for a moment. “These are all symbols...just symbols. But very important.”

The boys stood like soldiers, quiet and somber. Achim thought he heard a sniff.

“Gentlemen,” he said firmly. “Time.”

He motioned to the doorway that led to the stairs, and the troopers moved quickly.

Every fifteen steps or so, one of the Scouts would stop, stand aside and whisper the words, “Allahu akhbar! Allahu akhbar!” From his perch at the top, Yusef could hear it over and over again. In a matter of moments, his Scouts stood in a line that stretched down the interior stairwell, deep into the heart of the spire, all facing east.

Yusef wanted to smile at their obedience and bravery, but he couldn’t summon one up. He walked to the center of the observation desk and took one last look over the Mall. He stiffened with resolve and looked at his watch. It was 9:10 a.m.

Yusef unclipped his cell phone from his belt and whispered a soft prayer. He finished with a firm, “Allahu akhbar!”

Then he punched a series of buttons on his phone.

☪ ☪ ☪

The weather arose remarkably clear throughout the eastern seaboard on that September 11 morning, the anniversary of their previous success.

The sleek yacht *Star of Medina* lay anchored in New York Harbor between Ellis Island and the Battery. Standing proudly as a backdrop to the boat, the Statue of Liberty held her torch of freedom aloft.

Not far away, at the Ground Zero memorial where the famed twin towers of the World Trade Center once stood, the President spoke before a crowd of TV journalists. Only a few members of the White House Press Corps bothered to show up. This anniversary had lost some impact over the years, and the President’s appearance amounted to little more than a photo opportunity.

Two hundred and twenty-seven miles to the south, a private jet bearing the logo of the Bin-Salem Chemical and Construction Supply sat on the tarmac at Potomac Airfield. It was a small airport outside of Washington D.C. that had recently reopened after being closed for years as a post-9/11 security measure back in 2001.

☪ ☪ ☪

Ibraim Aziz leaned back in the comfortable leather seats of Bin-Salem’s jet. A sense of exhilaration coursed through his veins, even though they had not yet taken off.

Captain Schlesser, sitting next to Ibraim, held a cell phone. With a grunt, the erstwhile skipper of the *Star of Medina* punched several buttons, then stared at the digital readout and rubbed the grey whiskers on his chin.

Ibraim leaned over and saw that Schlesser’s phone was showing only half a bar.

“Can’t get a signal,” Schlesser said in German-accented Arabic. “Stinking American cell system. It’s never adequate for the task at hand.”

☪ ☪ ☪

Jack Goetz wasn’t enjoying the long morning walk from the Washington Monument back to his office in the Capitol building, and he couldn’t understand why.

The fall air was crisp and invigorating. The foliage was still lush and green. He’d successfully carried out Speaker Dickinson’s

wishes with the Boy Scout troop. He should have been happy. But something was bothering him.

Jack stopped and turned around to face the giant white obelisk of the Washington Monument. Was it something the Scout leader said? His tone of voice? Something in his eyes?

• • •

Ibraim chuckled at Captain Schlesser's frustration.

"Patience, my friend," Ibraim said in Arabic. "From 1993 to 2001. Eight years. From 2001 until today. What's another minute?"

"But this is critical," Schlesser muttered. "You must see that."

Ibraim patted the captain's hand. "This was all checked out in advance. Your service has coverage here. Try again."

Schlesser pushed a button and tried holding the phone in different positions and facing different directions. He even held it over his head and stared up at the digital screen. Then he turned and faced the back of the plane.

"Ah. Two bars," Schlesser said. He punched in several numbers, and Ibraim could hear the comforting sound of a ring.

• • •

Two hundred and twenty-seven miles away, the sound of a cell phone ring broke the silence inside the captain's cabin on board the *Star of Medina*. Nobody was onboard to hear it. The vessel had become a ghost ship.

The ring tone wasn't coming from a phone, but from a large black suitcase lying on the floor of the captain's cabin. After three rings, the suitcase sprung to life with electronic beeps and boops. Small red lights from inside flickered through a thin crack near the suitcase's latch.

• • •

The whine of the jet engines sounded like beautiful music in Ibraim's ears. Shahid Rachman

quickly moved through the cabin, found a seat next to Abu Kareem, across the aisle from Ibraim, and fastened his seatbelt. The stairway had been pulled up, and the jet was slowly taxiing toward the runway.

The pilot was patching his tower communications into the passenger cabin so everyone onboard could keep track of their progress.

"Bin-Salem craft 1776," the confident male voice said through the speakers, "you are cleared for takeoff."

The tarmac and weeds rushed by faster and faster, and with a thump of the wheels, Ibraim knew they were off American soil. Schlesser turned around to face his benefactor, Ali bin-Salem, and held out his cell phone.

"You want to light up New York, sir?"

Bin-Salem ran a finger over his thin white moustache. The look of satisfaction on his face was all the reward Ibraim needed, although he knew Schlesser required something more.

"Too bad we can't see the light of Allah from here," Shahid said.

"But perhaps we can," Ibraim answered. "In high definition."

He used a remote to tune an HDTV monitor to the cable news station CNN. A talking head was droning on about the President's anniversary visit to the Ground Zero memorial. The time marker on the CNN screen read "9:10 a.m. EDT" Ibraim and Schlesser seemed to spot it at the same moment.

"Time," Schlesser said.

Bin-Salem accepted the cell phone and punched in a series of numbers. He spoke the code aloud.

"J... I... H... A..."

Next Issue – Surah 20 will continue....