



# The Liberty Sentinel



of North-Central Florida



FLORIDA'S BEST SOURCE FOR REAL NEWS AND COMMENTARY



"It is a misnomer to call a government republican in which a branch of the supreme power is independent of the nation." --Thomas Jefferson

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## Local charities offer solutions

With more charities in North-Central Florida than almost anywhere on earth, locals are leading the way to help relieve suffering. One area man with a dream cares for orphans devastated by socialism while local students build homes for the poor here and in New Orleans.

ALEX NEWMAN & LYLE KOSSIS  
*Sentinel Staff Writers*

GAINESVILLE -- As politicians continue clamoring for more money while patting themselves on the back for "fixing" problems, regular people across North-Central Florida labor voluntarily on everything from building houses for the poor locally and nationally to building orphanages and sending school supplies internationally. And nobody forces them to do it.

While most media outlets happily print taxpayer funded ads and help politicians pat themselves on the back, praise and recognition should really be going to the countless passionate individuals who do good because they are motivated by love - not votes, riches, publicity or power.

One of those people is Jote Thompson, the founder and president of Gainesville-based 'Friends of our Orphanages.' His charity cares for children in the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics whose parents died of starvation or left them at orphanages as the government that tried to solve everybody's problems failed - and ultimately crumbled. Because of Thompson's efforts and the voluntary contributions of donors around the state, some of those children now have hope. Before him, they were living in miserable conditions and were almost surely destined to fail.

"The suicide rate over there for kids coming out of these places was at about 20 percent," he told the Sentinel.

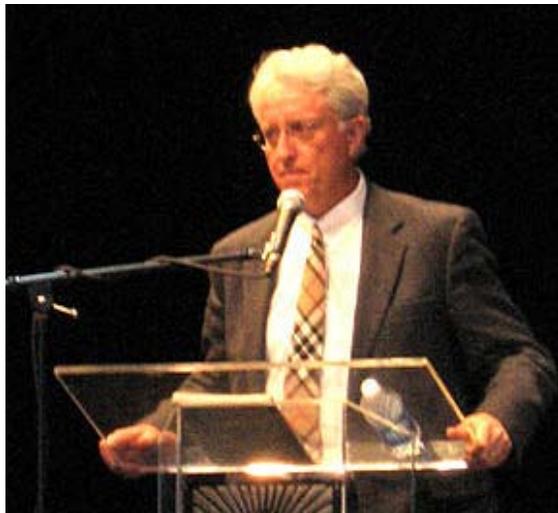


Jote Thompson stands behind some of the Ukrainian orphans that his local charity helps support. This picture was taken as some of the children visited Gainesville.

"Most of the girls ended up in prostitution ... it's just so sad to see, it makes you really have an urge to do something." The orphans inspired a dream; Thompson had to help. Today, his organization has shipped countless boxes of clothes, school supplies and other donated essentials from right here in North-Central Florida after getting started with one donation on Sept. 11, 2001. During one of his more recent visits to Ukraine he refurbished an orphanage and got desks for the children there to study on. Friends of our Orphanages also helped send some of the orphans to sporting events or competitions; Thompson even brought a few of them to visit Gainesville and see America in '06. "They're very good athletes, they just didn't have the opportunity to travel," he explained glee-

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## Are Florida's judges for real?



Attorney Jack Thompson says Florida judges were not legally eligible to hold office, citing a criminal violation involving loyalty oaths required by the state and U.S. Constitutions.

A Florida lawyer armed with evidence of widespread criminal activity in the judiciary is finally bringing attention to the issue after making the accusations on national TV. The implications of the law could bring the state government to a standstill. Experts say the federal government may even need to step in.

PAUL SYMONS  
*Sentinel Staff Writer*

MIAMI -- Chief Judge Joseph Farina of Florida's 11th Judicial Circuit has commissioned a criminal investigation of Judge Dava J. Tunis for allegedly having a forged loyalty oath filed on her behalf. Additionally, her oaths were not notarized as required by law, a crime that could carry severe penalties.

According to attorneys and legal researchers, the violation is actually a statewide problem.

"There may be other judges in the state as well who have not complied with this crucial law, so this may be a scandal that engulfs Florida's bench," Attorney Jack Thompson said. "This thumbing of their noses by judges at the law and the Constitution is what we are increasingly seeing from judges at all levels, state and federal."

The case against Tunis was brought to light by Thompson after a scuffle with the video game industry

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## TOXIC WATER

Gainesville was the first place in Florida to "fluoridate" its water and mass-medicate the population without "informed consent," but critics and researchers say the alleged benefits are not worth the adverse health effects.



'Flouride' added to local water is actually toxic industrial waste regulated by the EPA.

GARY R. SCHOR  
*Sentinel Staff Writer*

OCALA -- Health care freedom advocates decry any attempts to limit the access to necessary medications by regulations, laws, or force. But what kind of society would force drugs on its population without consent? Lest you think such a society is an abstract fiction of some Orwellian nightmare, you should know that we are all living in such a place today. The medicine being forced on you and your loved ones is fluoride, and according to countless experts and studies, you and your family could be in danger.

Over 50 years into the practice of intentionally fluoridating municipal water with this industrial waste, the American Dental Association still maintains that it is both safe and effective; "The Association has continually reaffirmed water fluoridation as the most effective public health measure for the prevention of dental caries and strongly urges that its benefits be extended to those served by communal water systems."

The Center for Disease Control touts, "Nearly all water on earth contains naturally occurring fluoride at levels below, equal to, or above those used in community water fluoridation. Investigation of the decay preventing effects of naturally occurring fluoride in water led to the start of community water fluoridation in 1945." What they don't men-

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**UPDATE:** The Liberty Sentinel reported that a recent court ruling in California could require home-schooling parents to obtain a state teaching certification. The case appears to apply to only one interpretation of the law, and state officials have announced that parents will not

be prosecuted. California law mandates public or private school for all children and doesn't actually deal with the issue of home-schooling. By registering as a private school themselves, it seems like parents will be allowed to continue home-schooling.

### Dear readers,

As newspapers around Florida and the nation continue to flounder and slash budgets, The Liberty Sentinel of North-Central Florida is growing by leaps and bounds; and it's all thanks to you, our readers.

This issue we explore a number of important topics that could threaten to your rights, your family and your health. We have some great stories coming along for the next issue as well, but to continue reporting the truth and doing the job that the press was protected for we need your continued support.

When you visit or contact our advertisers please make sure they know that the Sentinel sent you. They love to hear that and so do we!

Due to the volume of great of letters that poured in after our last issue, the newspaper now has two pages dedicated solely to your opinion. If we had more space I would have liked to publish them all. We've been itching to publish some angry letters but unfortunately we don't seem to get any, so if you've been meaning to send us one I'd love to hear from you.

Be sure to see the list of some of our guaranteed distribution locations on page 3 so you can pick up the next issue or grab some extra copies for family and friends. Subscribers will start receiving extra material with each issue so if you've been meaning to get a subscription, now is the time. Also, if you'd like to read more from the editor pick up a copy of The New American magazine at Lloyd Bailey's Scuba store or get one online. The Liberty Sentinel's new bumper stickers will also be available in the shop as well, but supplies are limited.

Remember, if the people don't know their rights, they can't defend them. As the founding fathers said, freedom will surely perish if the people are not informed. Are your other news providers really reporting real news? Preserving America and the Constitution is the responsibility of every American. With education and the Lord willing, liberty and righteousness will prevail.

If you have a story that should be told or if you'd like to find out how to get involved with the Sentinel, I am at your service.

Sincerely,

*The editor*

### About The Liberty Sentinel:

The Sentinel is a non-partisan monthly newspaper dedicated to reporting the truth about current events from a patriotic perspective. We rely on donors and readers in the North-Central Florida region.

While we don't accept government ads, we have a dedicated staff of volunteers. We operate on a budget provided by advertising and the generous contributions of our readers. With a combination of free-lance writers around the world, local reporters, and other authors and publications that offer their material, The Liberty Sentinel contains a wide variety of information and opinions to en-

courage lively debate and discussion.

The Sentinel adheres to the highest principles of journalistic integrity and will always run corrections if something is reported inaccurately.

We are guided by the principles enshrined in our Constitution to do the job the press is supposed to do: guard liberty, expose corruption, and keep the public informed. That's why it's protected by the very first amendment.

From the local level to Tallahassee and from D.C. to the international arena, the Liberty Sentinel covers issues of importance to all citizens while steadfastly upholding the values of life, liberty and

property.

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# State & local headlines at a glance

## -Hearing to restrain taxation draws supporters, government lobbyists

Half-a-dozen taxpayer funded lobbyists representing a variety of local governments and associations clashed with almost 50 activists who gathered in Tallahassee last month regarding the 'Taxpayer Protection Amendment.' The plan would cap state and local government revenues unless voters approve of increases.

Both sides offered testimony before the Florida Taxation and Budget Reform Commission which decided to delay the vote until April 4 due to the amount of testimony.

Several commissioners have considered strengthening the proposal after everybody who spoke came out in favor of it, except one woman from Colorado and the lobbyists. Many speakers told horror stories about "out-of-control taxation" and most even urged members to "add more teeth."

If 17 out of the 25 commissioners offer approval, the amendment will be automatically put on the ballot in November.

Rumors that the lobbyists hired by local governments flew to Tallahassee on private jets paid for by taxpayers emboldened supporters of the measure. Alachua County Commissioner Rodney Long also drew fire from local conservatives for testifying against the TPA on behalf of the Florida Association of Counties.

## -Census Bureau: Florida's real-estate markets worst in nation

Orlando is the worst metropolitan market for vacant homes in the entire nation, with a 7.4 percent vacancy rate. Next was the Tampa Bay area where more than one in twenty homes is vacant.

The recent report issued by the U.S. Census Bureau also ranked Miami and Jacksonville among the bottom ten. In Central Florida the rate is higher than five percent, a figure that underestimates the problem by excluding homes that are in default but have not yet been repossessed.

Many economists blame the housing bubble created by the Federal Reserve's market manipulations for the crisis, and real-estate experts forecast a continued surge in foreclosures and further decreases in both prices and sales for 2008. Meanwhile the so-called "inflation-tax," also a product of the central bank and its monetary policies, continues to rob people's life-savings.

## -Ban on public funds for religion could go

Floridians will have the chance to vote on an amendment to remove the state's constitutional prohibition on taxpayer funding for religious organizations this November.

The Taxation and Budget Reform Commission voted at its last meeting in March to approve the amendment and place it on the ballot.

If adopted by voters, it would remove from Florida's Constitution 100-year-old language known as the "Blaine amendment." State courts have cited the text in question to strike down part of a program that allowed students from failing government-schools to receive vouchers for private alternatives, including religious schools. Government teachers filed suit.

Observers are worrying that churches could become "vassals" of government while others have raised concern over their taxes funding beliefs contrary to their own.

## -Local hospital to ask for more tax money

Steve Purves, president and CEO of Munroe Regional Medical Center, spoke with Marion County Commissioners on March 18th and signaled that the hospital may be looking to the county government to make up budgetary shortfalls the hospital has been suffering.

While "other local media" have reported that the hospital currently receives no taxpayer subsidies, a single phone call to the hospital confirmed that they do in fact take payments from Medicare, Medicaid, and other government subsidies.

The high cost of operations is due, in no small part, to the fact that the emergency rooms of hospitals are mandated by



Some of the activists seen here in Tallahassee drove from across Florida to support a proposal that would require voter approval on all new taxes and fees. Taxpayer funded lobbyists came to oppose the measure on behalf of local governments.

the federal government to provide care to anyone who arrives, regardless as to whether or not the illness or injury is actually an emergency.

## -While local governments seek to cut budgets, water district goes shopping!

The St. Johns River Water Management District's Governing Board voted today to purchase 137 acres bordering the District's Newnans Lake Conservation Area. They agreed to spend \$920,111 for three parcels that make up the property. It is anticipated that Alachua County will also participate in the purchase, pending local approval.

The property is located about five miles northeast of Gainesville and borders the conservation area on three sides. The acquisition will also encompass almost a mile of Hatcher Creek.

## -Property appraiser under scrutiny

Alachua County Property Appraiser Ed Crapo has found himself mired in controversy over \$1.1 million in contracts he signed with companies tied to his outside consulting work.

Crapo has said he will seek an opinion regarding the possibility of a conflict of interest from the Florida Commission on Ethics, but weeks after his statement it had not received the request.

The ruling should come in April, but Crapo maintains he has done nothing wrong.

## -Republican delegate selection process draws disgruntled conservatives

Around a dozen local Republicans hoping to become delegates to the national convention spoke about how they felt their party was losing its way at the caucuses for the 6th congressional district.

None of the constitutionalists were selected out of the 3 delegates and 3 alternates who were chosen last month despite making up a large portion of the applicants. They applied hoping to be able to push a more Constitution-oriented platform despite having to vote for a candidate that they were obviously unhappy with.

Several applicants blasted McCain directly during their short speeches. Others accused Republicans of trying to "out-democrat the democrats" or criticized the "enormous bloating" of the federal government that has occurred under the current administration.

Party insiders and old-timers encouraged the disgruntled younger members to continue pushing for conservative principles; they're time will come.

Congressman Cliff Stearns, who represents the district, spoke well of McCain yet claimed to oppose illegal immigration. He has recently come under fire by constitutionalist-Republicans for an alleged disregard of his oath of office, but those same critics have applauded his efforts to stop the North-American Union.

The ballots were destroyed immediately after the count.

## The Liberty Sentinel

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• Micanopy Shooting Sports (12130 Highway 441 S)

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• Island Food Stores(14485 Cole St)

### Ocala

• Richard's Place/Distribution Box (316 E Silver Springs Blvd)

### Silver Springs

• Dairy Queen(5240 E Silver Springs Blvd)

Visit [LibertySentinel.org](http://LibertySentinel.org) to find our many other locations or subscribe to The Liberty Sentinel and have it delivered to your home!

# LOCAL EVENTS

## First Annual Ocala Music and Art Festival

-Saturday, APRIL 5 - 10:00 am to 11:30 pm.

Liberty Sentinel Media is one of the many sponsors, so come on out and meet some of our staff, pick up back issues, get your bumper stickers, support the troops and more.

-Ocala - Florida Horse Park, 11008 S. Hwy 475

## Community Potluck Dinner

-Saturday, APRIL 5 - 6:30 pm

Enjoy vegan cuisine at this potluck hosted by veg4lifegainesville.com.

-Gainesville - Universalist Church, 4225 NW 34th St.

## Taxpayer Action Group

-APRIL 7 & 19 (MON. & SAT.) 6:00 pm.

Get involved in local politics and make sure politicians are accountable to taxpayers.

-Ocala - Marion County Main Library, 2720 East Silver Springs Blvd.

## Lincoln-Reagan Dinner

-Saturday, APRIL 12 - 4:30 pm.

See Marion County G.O.P. ad on page 11

-Ocala - Holiday Inn - Call (352) 236-8808

## Gun Show

-Saturday & Sunday - APRIL 16 & 17, starts at 9:00 am  
Shop for everything from hunting rifles to concealable protection. Huge selection.

-Ocala- Ramada Inn, 3810 Northwest Blichton Road.

## Empty Holster Protest

-All day Monday, APRIL 21

Students across America will show support for concealed carry on college campuses by wearing an empty holster.

-UF, SECC, UCF and more. Visit [www.concealedcampus.org](http://www.concealedcampus.org) for more info.

## Eagle Forum of Sun Country

-Thursday, APRIL 24 - 6:30 pm.

Concerned conservatives hoping to get involved and make America even greater.

-Ocala- Freedom Public Library. 5870 SW. 95th St.

## John Birch Society

Monday, APRIL 28, 7:00pm

Join patriotic Americans in their quest to restore the U.S. Constitution.

-Gainesville-Lloyd Bailey's Scuba- 3405-B NW 97th Blvd - [www.LloydBaileysScuba.com](http://www.LloydBaileysScuba.com) (352) 332-0738

## Libertarian Party of Alachua County

Friday, APRIL 25, 7:00 PM

-Gainesville - Kazbor's Grille, 4860 NW 39th Ave. [www.LPAlachua.org](http://www.LPAlachua.org) (352) 327-3443

## Union Street Farmers' Market

EVERY WEDNESDAY, 4:00pm - 7:00 pm.

Enjoy shopping for organic and locally grown food in a friendly atmosphere.

Gainesville. 7016 NW 158th St.

If you have an event you'd like to see listed in the Sentinel, please send details to [contact@libertysentinel.org](mailto:contact@libertysentinel.org) or call (352) 275-5876



**Pulse of the Taxpayer**  
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# Investigation of Miami judge could reveal statewide corruption

*Continued from front page*

resulted in disciplinary proceedings against him under the judge in question - this is despite Thompson's good standing with the Florida Bar for over 30 years. The law requires all public officers to swear notarized loyalty oaths to both the State and Federal Constitutions, so Thompson maintains that Tunis is not eligible to collect a paycheck or use the title "judge," let alone make rulings.

The Christian attorney is well known for his campaigns to stop the peddling of objectionable music or video games to children. He says that because of his successes, the "big money" of his wealthy opponents is being used to try and stop him from practicing law. The Florida Supreme Court assigned Tunis as the referee in Thompson's disbarment proceedings, so he sought to have her disqualified because of her alleged prejudice against him.

He said his investigation led to an expert witness who will testify that Tunis allowed someone to forge her signature on the loyalty oath required by Florida Statute 876.05 and United States Code Title 4 sections 101 and 102. He is seeking what is called a "judgment of ouster" in accordance with Florida law if Tunis cannot prove her right to hold office.

Additionally, Thompson claims to have discovered that Tunis did not even have a valid oath on file at the beginning of her current term. The governor made the appoint, but he failed to require her to swear the oaths prior to allowing her to start performing duties or collecting pay.

According to Florida legal researcher Bob Hurt who has studied the issue and even

written a book that helped draw attention to the problem, someone in the State Department ordered the notarization requirement removed during Jeb Bush's first term as governor. That omission rendered the forms null and void because the U.S. and Florida Constitutions require the oath, and the law requires that it be properly notarized.

In the summer of 2006, Hurt unearthed what he calls a massive scam involving the loyalty oaths. Without the signature and seal of a notary, a public officer cannot legally prove that they actually swore the oath, so it is not recognized as valid, he said. Without being legally bound to the law which protects the rights of the people, Florida's judges were allegedly running rampant.

"It could have been signed by a spouse or friend for all anyone knows," Hurt explained. "So the people of Florida, through the legislature, require the proper, notarized oath," he said. According to Hurt, the missing 'jurat' means none of the elected officials who swore the oath between 2000 and summer 2007 can prove it, and therefore did not even qualify for office.

The only notarized loyalty oaths on file for the judges in Alachua County and the entire 8th Judicial Circuit were all filed in late 2007 or early 2008 as well. No documents stretching back to 2000 were immediately available, supporting the allegations being made by a growing body of Florida activists, researchers and attorneys.

Thompson might even be entitled to special compensation for blowing the whistle

on Tunis, Hurt said. By accepting compensation while allegedly not being legally qualified for office, Tunis owes all that money back to Florida's Chief Financial Officer.

Thompson has already asked Florida Attorney General Bill McCollum to file an action against Dava Tunis under the False Claims Act. McCollum will probably refuse to do it, Hurt expects, so Thompson may eventually file it himself. The False Claims act entitles him to a 15% whistle blower reward.

"Jack lucked out by obtaining the evidence that her oath is a forgery," said Hurt. "This puts Dava Tunis in a unique category of people with invalid oaths."

Thompson, Hurt and many other attorneys and legal researchers in the state have

***"This thumbing of their noses by judges at the law and the Constitution is what we are increasingly seeing at all levels."***

suggested that the violation may involve more than just judges.

"None of the officials elected or appointed since 2000 have a valid candidate oath. That includes the Governor, Attorney General, Supreme Court justices, legislators, State Attorneys, County Commissioners, Sheriffs, Tax Collectors - in short, everyone," Hurt said. He claims that every elected and appointed official without a valid candidate oath, public officer's oath, and public employee's oath on file for the current term is guilty of violating three criminal Florida statutes under the chapter on Treason and criminal anarchy:

1. 876.10 and 837.012 - 1st degree misdemeanor - False swearing and perjury outside an official proceeding (for swearing they had qualified when they had not)
2. 839.18 - 2nd degree misdemeanor - Taking office before qualified
3. 843.0855 - 3rd degree felony - obstruction of justice by impersonating a public officer

Thompson actually faces an even bigger hurdle that came to light during Hurt's research. As a result, he has encouraged Thompson to take matters to federal court and officially challenge Florida's form of government.

Hurt believes the government of Florida does not constitute a republic as guaranteed

to the people by Article IV Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution for two reasons:

1. The failure of Florida's elected and appointed officers to have valid loyalty oaths on file serves as a fundamental destruction of the Florida Republic because Florida has no duly constituted government - every elected and appointed officer is an imposter as defined by law; and

2. The action of the Florida Supreme Court to make the Florida Bar part of the Judicial Branch of government violates the separation of powers.

"In 1949 the Florida Supreme Court absorbed and integrated the Florida Bar with the court, making the Bar and all its members also members of the Florida judiciary," Hurt explained. Article II Section 3 of the Florida Constitution prohibits members of one branch of government from working in any other branch. "It makes exceptions of the Attorney General and State Attorneys, but it shouldn't," Hurt continued. The implications of this have been called "earth-shattering" by observers.

Hurt is hoping the US Department of Justice will "come down hard on the government of Florida for tolerating a judicial oligarchy and using it to abuse the people and minimize the other branches of government," he said. Thompson might function perfectly in bringing the issue to the DOJ and U.S. Supreme Court.

"Jack has the motivation, the professional need, and the raw lawyering skills to push this issue all the way to the top," he said. "He won't do it now because he first has to obliterate the efforts to disbar him. If and after he prevails, maybe he'll accept the challenge."

Another Florida attorney who spoke with The Liberty Sentinel said he considers Thompson somewhat eccentric, but that he raises very important points on this issue.

More troubling to others is that the failure to comply with the legal requirements for oaths of office has come during a time when our constitutional form of government has come under attack.

"Of the first ten amendments that compose The Bill of Rights, I can think of only one that hasn't been explicitly or implicitly violated - that being The Third Amendment, which prohibits the quartering of soldiers in private homes," said Miami Attorney and constitutional law expert Elaine McKillop.

The U.S. Supreme Court and the Attorney General of Florida have ruled that the loyalty oath is constitutional, and that it must be complied with strictly. Ignorance of the law is also not considered an excuse for violating it, so experts say penalties could be stiff.

Hurt runs an online group about legal issues at [groups.google.com/group/Lawmen](http://groups.google.com/group/Lawmen)

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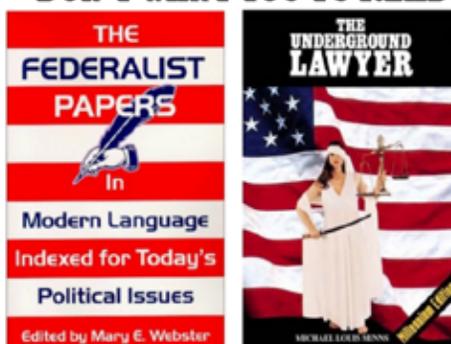


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# National headlines at a glance

## 'Dead' man doing well

An Oklahoma man declared brain-dead by a team of doctors after an accident was about to have his organs harvested. Now, Zach Dunlap says he's feeling "pretty good."

The helicopter was on its way to transport the organs and his family was paying their last respects after giving their consent. Suddenly he moved.

He was put back on life support despite staff assurances that it was just reflexes. Five days later he opened his eyes.

"I heard it and it just made me mad inside," Zach said during an interview on NBC's dateline. He wanted to throw the doctors out the window. He returned home after 48 days in the hospital and what many call a miracle.

The Constitution "allows the president to execute the laws, not make them," wrote Chief Justice John Roberts in the decision. He said the international court's ruling could not be forced on the states and that the president may not "establish binding rules of decision that pre-empt contrary state law." The treaty does not require individual states to take action.

Critics of the increasing power being accumulated by unaccountable international bodies and defenders of states' rights celebrated the decision as a positive sign from the nation's highest court.

## -Gun rights activists hope Supreme Court rules properly

After a D.C. appeals court struck down the city's oppressive gun laws as unconstitutional, the Supreme Court has taken up the case.

Defenders of the second amendment to the U.S. Constitution which prohibits the government from infringing upon the individual's right to keep and bear arms are nervous as the case proceeds, saying the court seems to be willing to tolerate many existing restrictions that limit the people's right.

Some lobby groups have tried to make the argument that "people" in fact refers to the state militia. The court has largely rejected that argument, especially considering that then only state militias would have the right to free speech, due process, etc.

Gun-rights enthusiasts are still hopeful that the court could "interpret" the language strictly so they can challenge laws that they say have relegated the unalienable right to a mere privilege.

The managing partner of Harry Beckwith's gun store in Micanopy said he feels like he is being legislated out of business, but that he hopes the Supreme Court will do the right thing and protect the right of law-abiding citizens to defend themselves, their families and their properties.

## -Federal Reserve printing more money for banks, destroying the dollar and your savings

As the value of the dollar continues to spiral to historic lows because of an ever-increasing supply of money being pumped into the economy, the Federal Reserve has decided to print more.

They will help J.P. Morgan to buy Bear Stearns in a deal that observers have raised alarm over, especially as the increased liquidity continues to eat away at people's savings and Americans' purchasing power abroad.

Gold, which was at \$250 per ounce in 2001, is now hovering around \$1,000. Other commodities like silver and oil have seen similar trends as the dollar depreciates against other currencies as well. A bill to abolish the private Federal Reserve Bank and return to constitutional money that was introduced by Rep. Ron Paul is gaining support in Congress as the economy worsens.



The Supreme Court is hearing a case regarding an oppressive gun ban in D.C. overturned by an appeals court.

National publications like U.S. News & World Report and U.S.A. Today have drawn sharp criticism for publishing cover stories wondering if people truly have a right to defend their lives, liberty, families and property. Anti-American bias has been cited as one possible cause of the industry's decline.

In a ruling seen as a positive sign by gun rights activists, the court recently ruled that a 'world court' could not make Texas to comply with it.

## -Newspaper industry suffers as the Sentinel steadily grows

Advertising revenue for the newspaper industry is experiencing its most severe decline since the 1950's according to new data released by the Newspaper Association of America.

Experts have blamed the drop on a variety of factors including the rise of the internet, current economic woes, the lack of real news and even what media critics call an "anti-American" bias in most major outlets.

The New York Times Co., News Corp. and other media giants have been laying off hundreds over the last several months as they continue to rely more on wire services.

The trend has not affected Liberty Sentinel Media, Inc., which continues to expand. The Liberty Sentinel of North-Central Florida has more than doubled in circulation, revenue and growth in just the last few months.

## -Texas can ignore Bush and 'international court'

The Supreme Court ruled 6-3 that the State of Texas did not have to give a Mexican convicted of raping and killing two teenage girls a new trial despite the "world court" and President Bush who sided with Mexico in a suit to mandate a retrial.

The prisoner was allegedly not given access to the Mexican consulate as "required" by international treaty.



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# Report card: Florida's insurance market flunks

Analysts and lawmakers say the state preventing competition in the market is at fault for Florida's dismal ranking as one of only five states nationwide to receive an 'F'

**MARY LYNN RICHARDSON**  
Sentinel Staff Writer

TALLAHASSEE -- Florida's insurance market flunked -- it's officially among the worst in America.

According to a recent study by several non-partisan think tanks that compared insurance environments in all 50 states, Florida earned its 'F' letter grade because of "massive risks" posed by the current system.

"Our property insurance market has be-

come a real liability for Florida's residents," explained Representative Dennis Ross, one of the Florida lawmakers who presented the report. "Legislation enacted last year has created a system that stifles any opportunity to bring private insurers to Florida."

Counter-productive regulations imposed by government have contributed to "one of the worst scenarios our taxpayers could face," he explained.

Florida representative Don Brown who

also spoke said that state efforts to resolve the issue over the past two years have failed.

"Most Floridians will eventually face huge and unbearable premiums due to a state-backed, heavily-subsidized property insurance corporation," he said. "We need to figure out what kind of 'affordability' Florida can afford before we bankrupt our state and its 18 million residents."

The study - Restoring Florida's Insurance Market - was a collaboration between Florida's James Madison Institute and several other non-partisan public policy groups. It offers a variety of proposals to reform the insurance system and bring down prices.

"We know from experience that when Florida is in the path of a hurricane, we will suffer more damage than any other state," explained Bob McClure, the president of the James Madison Institute. "Florida must develop a better strategy to deal with the enormous risks associated with these storms."

Today, he said, Floridians are faced with a dangerously unstable insurance market that is a direct result of the state government's dominant involvement. The recent insurance reforms passed in 2007 didn't reduce rates at all according to the report; they simply caused "massive liabilities for taxpayers."

The "overwhelming risks" led many private insurers to reduce or eliminate their operations in Florida.

"In the end, the real losers here are the people," McClure added. He said the system is so unstable that Florida will need "massive tax increases to pay for it" unless something changes.

The 2007 legislation contained provisions to allow the government's "Florida Citizens Property Insurance Corporation" to compete directly with private insurers for most coastal business. It also greatly expanded the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund's role in providing backup coverage if claims exceed a certain "catastrophic" level. Insurance experts and economists say these reforms have forced Florida's taxpayers to assume all of the risk. Existing laws would

even allow these entities to impose massive new taxes without legislative or voter approval.

According to the study, the system in place now could eas-

ily raise household premiums by \$1600 a year.

The report concluded by arguing in favor of significant reforms, saying modest efforts just won't cut it. Some of the recommendations outlined during a press conference would include property tax credits to help people purchase private wind insurance.

The consensus among the organizations and lawmakers who participated was that restoring free-market principles and allowing competition in the market would bring insurance costs down and help Florida's economy across the board.

*"Most Floridians will eventually face huge and unbearable premiums due to a state-backed, heavily-subsidized property insurance corporation," said Florida lawmaker Don Brown.*

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# Experts compare toxic waste in local water to poison

Continued from front page

tion is that the fluoride being put in your water isn't the naturally occurring type - it's the poisonous kind.

Water fluoridation is the practice of adding compounds to water "with the intended purpose of reducing tooth decay in the general population." But the research that led to this radical idea of "mass medication" has been called into question by numerous authorities that point to inconclusive results and the possibility of serious negative health effects associated with water fluoridation.

According to the Florida Department of Health, Gainesville holds the unique distinction of being the first city in Florida to fluoridate the water.

"Beginning in Gainesville in 1949, Florida cities have embraced the concept of water fluoridation for their citizens. At present, approximately 12.9 million people are benefiting from fluoridation in Florida. Nationally, over 170 million people benefit from water containing fluoride at the recommended level for controlling dental decay," it boasts.

But in order to discuss fluoridation, it's important to define some terms. Fluorine is a naturally occurring gas. When fluorine combines with another element, it becomes a "fluoride." In nature, it combines to make compounds like sodium fluoride.

The initial research that led to the idea of fluoridation centered around areas where naturally high levels of fluorides caused a deformity in children's teeth called mottled enamel, what we now call "dental fluorosis."

Although the teeth were yellowed and malformed, researchers noticed that they had a lower level of cavities.

While the correlations between naturally-high fluoride content and less cavities seems fairly well established, fluoridation opponents point to the fact that the chemicals used in municipal water fluoridation are not the naturally occurring sodium fluoride or calcium fluoride, but hexafluorosilicic acid. The "fluoride" in municipal water is actually the waste collected from the smokestack scrubbers of the phosphate fertilizer industry to prevent the severely carcinogenic substance from escaping into the atmosphere. The American Dental Association and fluoridation advocates like to refer to the various types of fluorides as though they were interchangeable, yet the acid in drinking water has the corrosive potential of hydrofluoric acid, one of the most toxic and corrosive substances known to man. It is so corrosive that it cannot be stored in glass or even unlined metal containers.

The Environmental Protection Agency actually limits the release of this toxic waste and other compounds like it, but when these very same poisons are intentionally added to drinking water, the EPA defers authority to the Center for Disease Control. "The EPA was pressured by supporters of fluoride, however well-meaning, and by states that would have to remove excess fluoride, to raise the standard to a level that now borders on unsafe, according to EPA's own scientific review. EPA's actions were not driven by science, but by political pressure from supporters of fluoride," reported the Journal of the Academy of General Dentistry when the EPA finally moved on the issue because of health concerns.

Professor Albert Schatz, Ph.D. (Microbiology), discoverer of streptomycin and a Nobel Prize winner, called fluoridation, "the greatest fraud that has ever been per-

petrated." He further stated, "There is no well-designed research which provides convincing evidence that fluoridation is safe and reduces the incidence of dental caries. This is why it has been banned in many countries."

Director of "Alternative Therapies Training Center" Patrick Hamouy explains that "Most of the fluoride added to drinking water is hydrofluoric acid - a compound of fluorine that is a chemical byproduct of aluminum, steel, cement, phosphate, and nuclear weapons manufacturing. Fluoride is also the active toxin in rat poisons and cockroach powder. It is nothing but a carcinogenic industrial waste product, passed off on the public as a 'nutrient' with necessary health benefits, to benefit the nuclear arms, aluminum, and phosphate manufacturers financially, to the tune of about \$10 billion per year."

Another expert and natural health advocate, Dr. Mercola states, "The fluoride added to water is a toxic industrial byproduct in a

## A wide range of studies over 50 years have linked water fluoridation to a plethora of potential health problems.

form nature could never have come up with. Once you realize this simple fact, you will be able to see the rest of the (ADA's) website whitewash in its proper light."

If there is so much evidence that water fluoridation is questionable or even harmful, why is it that those in power seem so resistant reconsidering the hypothesis?

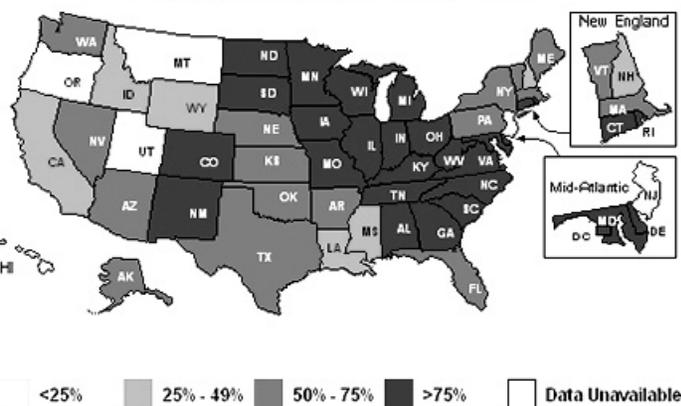
"To reverse the policy of fluoridation now would be for the ADA, the EPA, the FDA, and the U.S. Public Health Service, Congress, and all the municipal water polluters in the US to admit that they made a mistake. Not a good move for re-election. To criticize fluoridation as a policy would challenge the billions of tons of fluoride being released into the air and water," Dr. Mercola explains. "If fluoridation stopped, a multi-million dollar gravy train of research grants, propaganda contracts, and sweetheart arrangements between government and industry would vaporize overnight."

A wide range of studies over a period of 50 years has linked water fluoridation to a plethora of potential health problems including; osteoporosis, arthritis, hip fractures, cancer, infertility, brain damage, Alzheimer's, thyroid disorder, as well as the proven and admitted problem of dental fluorosis.

A study in China found that fluoridation lowers the intelligence capacity of humans, with children being especially susceptible. IQ levels were significantly lower than children not exposed to fluorides in all age groups listed. Dean Burk, Chief Chemist at the US National Cancer Institute, testified at congressional hearings, stating, "fluoride causes more cancer, and causes it faster, than any other chemical."

A 1994 study by the Journal of the American Medical Association found that, "Drinking fluoridated water will double the number of hip fractures for both older men and women. Extremely low levels of water fluo-

Percent of Population on Public Water Systems Receiving Fluoridated Water - 2002



Source: Water Fluoridation Reporting System 2002

ridation 0.1 ppm still produced statistically significant increased hip fractures."

And what of the supposed benefits of water fluoridation? Among communities where water fluoridation was halted, not a single statistic can be cited showing any significant increase in the occurrence of cavities. But even if there were, would a lower cavity count be worth the risk of dental fluorosis, let alone the all the other potential health issues? Some even call into question that most basic assumption about fluoride's effectiveness.

"I now realize that what my colleagues

and I were doing was what the history of science shows all professionals do when their pet theory is confronted by disconcerting new evidence: they bend over backwards to explain away the new evidence. They try very hard to keep their theory intact - especially so if their own professional reputations depend on maintaining that theory," wrote John Colquhoun, Principal Dental Officer of Auckland New Zealand in *Why I Changed My Mind About Water Fluoridation*.

While all these studies can be disputed, perhaps the most powerful argument against public water fluoridation isn't a scientific argument, but rather a legal one. That is the issue of "Informed Consent."

This field of bio-ethics usually refers to the idea that the uninformed are at risk of mistakenly making a choice not reflective of their values. It does not specifically mean the process of obtaining consent or the specific legal requirements for decision-making capacity. Patients can elect to make their own medical decisions, or can delegate decision-making authority to another party. They are also entitled to make decisions for their children.

Fluoride is most clearly a drug, by even the loosest definition of the term. The FDA defines a drug as "any articles intended for

use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease" and "articles (other than food) intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of man or other animals."

One of the most important things to remember when taking a drug is the significance of dosage. Too little will not have the desired effect, and too much can cause unwanted or dangerous side effects.

Too much fluoride can cause the following side effects; discolored teeth, weakened tooth enamel, changes in the appearance of your teeth, stomach upset, headache, or weakness. Overdose symptoms may include nausea, vomiting, stomach pain, diarrhea, drooling, numbness or tingling, loss of feeling anywhere in your body, muscle stiffness, seizure (convulsions), and death.

Yet the mass medication introduced by municipal water fluoridation does not discriminate between a full-grown man and a three-year-old child. To further complicate matters, dosage is not simply dependent on how much water an individual drinks because there is any number of possible sources of fluoride in people's diet that can increase the dosage any one person receives.

Public water fluoridation violates the principles of "informed consent" by subjecting everyone to the same "drug" without any acquiescence by the subject or consideration of other factors.

Dr. Hardy Limeback, Head of Preventive Dentistry, University of Toronto writes, "The issue of mass medication of an unapproved drug without the expressed informed consent of each individual must be addressed. The dose of fluoride cannot be controlled. Fluoride as a drug has contaminated most processed foods and beverages throughout North America. Individuals who are susceptible to fluoride's harmful effects cannot avoid ingesting this drug. The rights of individuals to enjoy the freedom from involuntary fluoride medication certainly outweigh the right of society to enforce this public health measure, especially when the evidence of benefit is marginal at best."

When asked about the ethical implications of medicating an entire population via the use of its drinking waters without consent, Gainesville Regional Utilities representatives simply pointed to the position of the American Dental Association.

"If they stand behind it, then so do we," he told the Sentinel.



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- Former Mexican President Vicente Fox, May 16, 2002



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# Critics blame powerful organization for lack of positive 'change'

Members of the Council on Foreign Relations include power brokers from government, media, education, defense, industry and more. Many of them openly support abolishing national borders and even instituting global socialism. But despite the involvement of everyone from Vice-President Cheney on the 'right' to Senator Hillary Clinton on the 'left,' the group is never scrutinized by the media.

**WARD HEGOCK**  
Sentinel Staff Writer

Concerned Americans of all political stripes often ask the same simple question – why is it that no matter which party or politician is in power, the course of the nation never seems to change? There are many who answer that question by pointing to the vast concentration of economic, cultural, and political influence held by an organization called the Council on Foreign Relations, also known as the "CFR."

The "nonpartisan" foreign policy organization was founded in 1921 as a solution to post World War I America's resistance to the growing trend toward internationalism; specifically the refusal of these United States to join the so-called 'League of Nations.' Edward Mandell House founded the organization. He was a top adviser to President Woodrow Wilson and an architect of the League of Nations. He was also the driving force behind the establishment of the income-tax and Federal Reserve.

Resistance to the agenda was strong in America. The league faced fierce opposition by non-interventionists like Senator William E. Borah. Considered one of the great orators of the 20th century, Senator Borah reminded Americans of "the great policy of 'no entangling alliances' upon which the strength of this Republic has been founded."

While House was plotting the creation of the League of Nations in Europe, Senator Borah took the case against it directly to the American people. "America has arisen to a position where she is respected and admired by the entire world," he said. "She did it by minding her own business... the European and American systems do not agree."

With membership in the League of Nations defeated in vote after vote, House and the cabal of internationalists who worked with him realized that their dream of creating what they called a "new world order" might not succeed. The fundamental power structure of America would have to be changed, so according to historians, they created the CFR and used the vast fortunes and resources at their disposal to shape the next generation of American leaders.

A list of the founding members of the CFR reads like a virtual "who's who" of early 20th century: John Foster Dulles (older brother to CIA Director Allen W. Dulles), Herbert H. Lehman (Governor of New York and founder of Lehman Brothers investment banking firm), Averell Harriman (son of railroad baron Edward Henry Harriman), Paul M. Warburg (architect of the U.S. Federal Reserve system), as well as insiders from the J.P. Morgan and Rockefeller families like John W. Davis, Alexander Hemphill, and Paul Cravath. The organization today has infiltrated virtually every aspect of American life in its quest to fulfill its founders' agenda.

Every American president elected since the end of WWII has been a member with the exception of Ronald Reagan. But even

Reagan was forced to take CFR insider George H.W. Bush as his Vice President.

"Make no mistake about it: the CFR has dominated every administration, Republican and Democrat, since World War II. They hold sway over most every critical Presidential appointment. Look carefully and one will discover that the Republican President George W. Bush has had as many CFR members in his administration as Democrat President Bill Clinton did in his," said Florida Pastor Chuck Baldwin who has studied the organization.

So why isn't this all over the news? Unless you are reading *The Liberty Sentinel* or some other alternative source, you are most probably getting your information from CFR controlled media. Walter Cronkite was a member, and he was the so-called "most trusted man in America." He was congratulated by Hillary Clinton for receiving the "global governance" award. Katie Couric is a CFR member too. Other prominent members include David Brinkley, Barbra Walters, Tom Brokaw, Dan Rather, Diane Sawyer, George Stephanopoulos and Jim Lehrer, along with the editors and publishers of virtually every major "mainstream" news organization. Most of this information is available right from the CFR's own Web site.

With the media as part of the CFR, the group had free reign to pursue its goals un-

***Every American president elected since the end of WWII has been a member of the CFR, with the exception of Ronald Reagan. But even Reagan was forced to take CFR insider George H.W. Bush as his Vice President.***

hindered by public scrutiny.

"We are grateful to the Washington Post, The New York Times, Time Magazine and other great publications whose directors have attended our meetings and respected their promises of discretion for almost forty years," explained David Rockefeller. "It would have been impossible for us to develop our plan for the world if we had been subjected to the lights of publicity during those years. But, the world is now more sophisticated and prepared to march towards a world government. The supranational sovereignty of an intellectual elite and world bankers is surely preferable to the national auto-determination practiced in past centuries."

Global socialism under a one-world government is the unapologetic goal of the CFR - even the current president of the organization has written articles calling for an end to national sovereignty and for the rise of an all-powerful United Nations. U.S. Presidents declare it proudly as well, though former CFR director Dick Cheney mentioned on C-SPAN that it isn't something he told voters about.

"We have before us the opportunity to forge for ourselves and for future generations a new world order," proclaimed the first President Bush as he announced the first invasion Iraq to enforce U.N. mandates. "An order in which a credible United Nations can use its peacekeeping role to fulfill

the promise and vision of the U.N.'s founders."

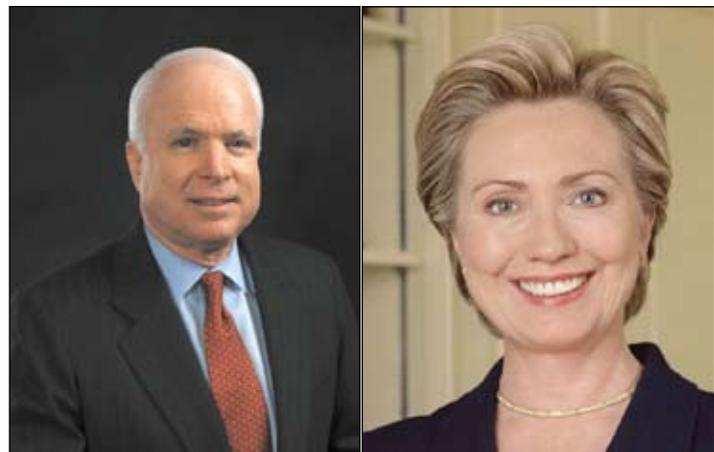
Bill Clinton told the world on C-Span that every president since Truman had been working towards the creation of this so-called "new world order." After the Sept. 11 attacks the co-chair of the CFR and former senator Gary Hart said it was time for Bush's vision. Former vice-president Dan Quayle agreed on CNN, saying it was "the best chance to establish the new world order."

Countless officials have attempted to publicize the intentions of the organization, but the media refused to help.

Dan Smoot, a former member of the FBI Headquarters staff, summarized as follows: "The ultimate aim of the CFR is to create a one-world socialist system, and to make the U.S. an official part of it." Navy Admiral Chester Ward was a member for 16 years. Upon resigning from the organization in disgust, he warned the American people.

"The most powerful clique in these elitist groups have one objective in common – they want to bring about the surrender of the sovereignty of the national independence of the United States," he said. "A second clique of international members in the CFR comprises the Wall Street international bankers and their key agents. Primarily, they want the world banking monopoly from whatever power ends up in the control of global government."

Some reporters have written about the subject as well. William Blase of *The Courier* explained, "If one group is effectively in control of national governments and multinational corporations; promotes world government through control of media, foundation grants, and education; and controls and guides the issues of the day; then they control most options available. The Council on Foreign Relations, and the financial powers behind it, have done all these things, and



Republican presidential nominee John McCain's affiliation with the CFR should be particularly troubling to conservatives concerned with upholding American sovereignty. Democratic senator and Hillary Clinton is also a prominent member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Barack Obama's wife is actually on the board of the CFRs Chicago branch.

promote the "new world order," as they have for over seventy years."

Critics of the organization also point to evidence and writings of the most important members. On page 405 of his autobiography, David Rockefeller boasts of his family's plan for the U.S. and the world.

"For more than a century ideological extremists at either end of the political spectrum have seized upon well-publicized incidents ... to attack the Rockefeller family for the inordinate influence they claim we wield over American political and economic institutions. Some even believe we are part of a secret cabal working against the best interests of the United States, characterizing my family and me as 'internationalists' and of conspiring with others around the world to build a more integrated global political and economic structure - one world, if you will. If that's the charge, I stand guilty, and I am proud of it." According to Mr. Rockefeller, anyone who opposes global socialism and rule by an amoral elite is an "extremist."

In a deathbed interview, film producer and patriot Aaron Russo described his invitation to join the Council on Foreign Relations and what he learned from Nick Rockefeller. According to Russo most of its members are in the dark.

The expressed goals of the Council on Foreign Relations are contradictory to the U.S. Constitution and therefore represent a violation of the oath every politician must take. Critics of the organization come from all political orientations but many agree that membership in the CFR should alone disqualify anyone from holding office in the United States.

Voters desperate for positive 'change' will be seriously disappointed in November. Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, and John McCain are all high-ranking members of the Council on Foreign Relations.

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# Local charities help here, nationally, abroad

Continued from front page

fully. "Lots of them even won medals."

His next big project will be to actually start an orphanage there. An abandoned building has already been selected, so he'll be heading back to Ukraine soon.

"It's hard to even tell people what it's like to go there and see all those suffering children, it's definitely a life-changing experience," he said. "There is nothing in the world like the feeling you get from helping them; it's just the best feeling in the world, nothing can compare to it."

Thompson said he encourages everybody to follow their dreams and help make the world a better place.

"If I believed in government force, I would say it should be mandatory," he chuckled. "It really makes you a better and stronger person."

Thompson's orphans in Ukraine represent only a fraction of the victims created by a phenomenon witnessed throughout history: When government is allowed to "solve" all problems, it inevitably creates more. The tragic results of Ukraine's centrally-planned economy under the Soviet Union is exactly why passionate people like Thompson and his donors, not government bureaucrats, need to care for the less fortunate. Excessive taxation and government interference in economic affairs produces misery and poverty - no matter how well intentioned. If the government stays out, history shows and America proves that everybody is better off.

A 2007 study published by the Wall Street Journal called the "Index of Economic Freedom" ranked the world's nations based on the extent of government involvement in the



Photo credit: Drew Keller  
University of Florida student Larry Stratton divides volunteers into groups and assigns crew leaders for the day's construction on this house in South-East Gainesville that will go to a local low-income family. Members traveled to New Orleans last month to help on builds there.

nation's economy and its respect for property rights. Not surprisingly, the two countries where government "solves" the most problems were the poorest: Cuba and North Korea. Among the richest nations were places like the United States and Switzerland where the role of government is strictly limited.

The current election season is dominated with government promises concerning the plight of the poor; discussing the availability of social services like healthcare and social security and even more abstract concepts like motivation and hope. Both "sides" of the political spectrum seem ready to use the taxing power of government to generate revenue for even more special assistance programs. But even with this apparent consensus that coerced charity is both appropriate and necessary, there are more organizations offering a different solution in North-Central Florida than almost anywhere in the world. The American people remain the most charitable of any nation, giving around ten times more to charity than average Europeans.

These figures alone provide ample reason to believe that voluntary charity and a concern for the poor are a far better means of social change.

Another organization that deserves credit for its work is the University of Florida's local chapter of Habitat for Humanity, part of an "international non-profit Christian housing ministry." These local student volunteers seek to provide affordable and adequate housing to the less fortunate throughout Alachua County.

In contrast to many of the state and federally mandated housing programs supposedly designed for the poor, Habitat for Humanity

is another example of local citizens bonding together over a common cause and working to help their fellow citizens voluntarily. Since its inception, the organization has built over 200,000 homes around the world, providing better living conditions to over 1 million people in need. They usually ask the future owner to participate in the process to allow the less fortunate to help themselves as well.

"I just love what we do," said Paul Loschak, the UF chapter president of Habitat

**"If I believed in government force, I would say it should be mandatory... It really makes you a better and stronger person."**

for Humanity. "It's so rewarding to be able to give back to the community, people should consider joining us on some of our builds."

The third-year engineering student joined in 2005 and has helped build countless houses since. He says volunteering is something he will do for the rest of his life, and like Thompson, he encourages people to get involved in anything positive. The group he leads is building several homes right now including one in South-East Gainesville and another in Hawthorne.

Last month over spring break, seventeen students from the local chapter traveled to the Gulf Coast and spent a week building houses. To pay for expenses they take donations and use fund-raisers like bake sales and auctions.

Another local program that works to ease the troubles of the poor through charity is the St. Francis House in Gainesville. The St. Francis house is a soup kitchen that provides food, shelter and related social services to those who find themselves in a financial bind.

There are a number of benefits to charitable efforts like these over government-sponsored projects. The first is that the government is not taking more money from citizens to spend on whatever "it" considers a "good idea." Voluntary charity and allowing people to make their own choices about giving will ensure that available resources are allocated where they are needed most. According to economists, this also keeps government accountable and leads to more wealth and prosperity for everybody.

Another benefit of charity according to proponents is that local citizens get to work together and become closer with one another. Through this process, people will learn more about each other, their community, and how they can continue to work together to help alleviate the suffering of those in need. Stronger communities are always better communities, and charity enthusiasts point out that this kind of cooperative teamwork creates good people who care about one another as opposed to apathetic subjects who accept the idea that government can spend people's money more wisely than them.

Excessive taxation and government programs further the notion that people are too dumb to take care of themselves and those around them, critics say. People like Thompson and Loschak prove that, if left alone, the people can produce everything they need and much more.

Just last year Americans gave over \$250 billion to charity! That's despite surrendering almost half of everything they earn to government and all its programs that claim to "solve" the problems.

We are at a critical juncture in our political discourse. If we continue using worthless fiat currency and increasing taxation, spending and regulation, economists say the current situation will continue to spiral downward. All the charity in the world, if there would even be any left, can not rectify a situation where everyone is helpless and in poverty. Economists contend that we can not stay on this trend towards centralized management of the economy through the force of govern-

ment much longer. Historically it has always failed and led to a ruined citizenry, both financially and emotionally.

When authorities barred volunteers from helping rescue efforts after Katrina while they busily disarmed the population, thousands of people lost their lives. Volunteers from Florida who arrived with air-boats and supplies were turned away at gun-point because the government claimed to have everything under control. But the local Habitat for Humanity students who traveled there just last month to help rebuild are proof that it didn't - and still doesn't. It never will, no matter how much of the people's money it takes.

The Ukrainian orphans should serve as another reminder of why problems in society should be solved by people, not politicians. Not including the over 50 million people directly exterminated by the all-powerful state, government-caused starvation from central-planning and war was probably responsible for over 100 million deaths. Remember; the promise was that government would solve all problems.

As H.L. Mencken said; "The urge to save humanity is almost always only a false-face for the urge to rule it."

A return to the wise and noble ideals of charity and voluntary devotion to good causes would lead to a huge boost for our economy and our nation's moral character. It would also remind people of the joy that comes from a life dedicated to helping those in need.

To send a contribution to Friends of our Orphanages, mail checks to 4500 S.W. 44th Street, Gainesville, Florida 32608. Go to [www.kovii.org](http://www.kovii.org) for information about a similar charity also run by Jote Thompson and to see pictures of the children. The local Habitat for Humanity has pictures and more information at [www.ufhabitat.org](http://www.ufhabitat.org)

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- ...Your child indoctrinated to believe in socialism

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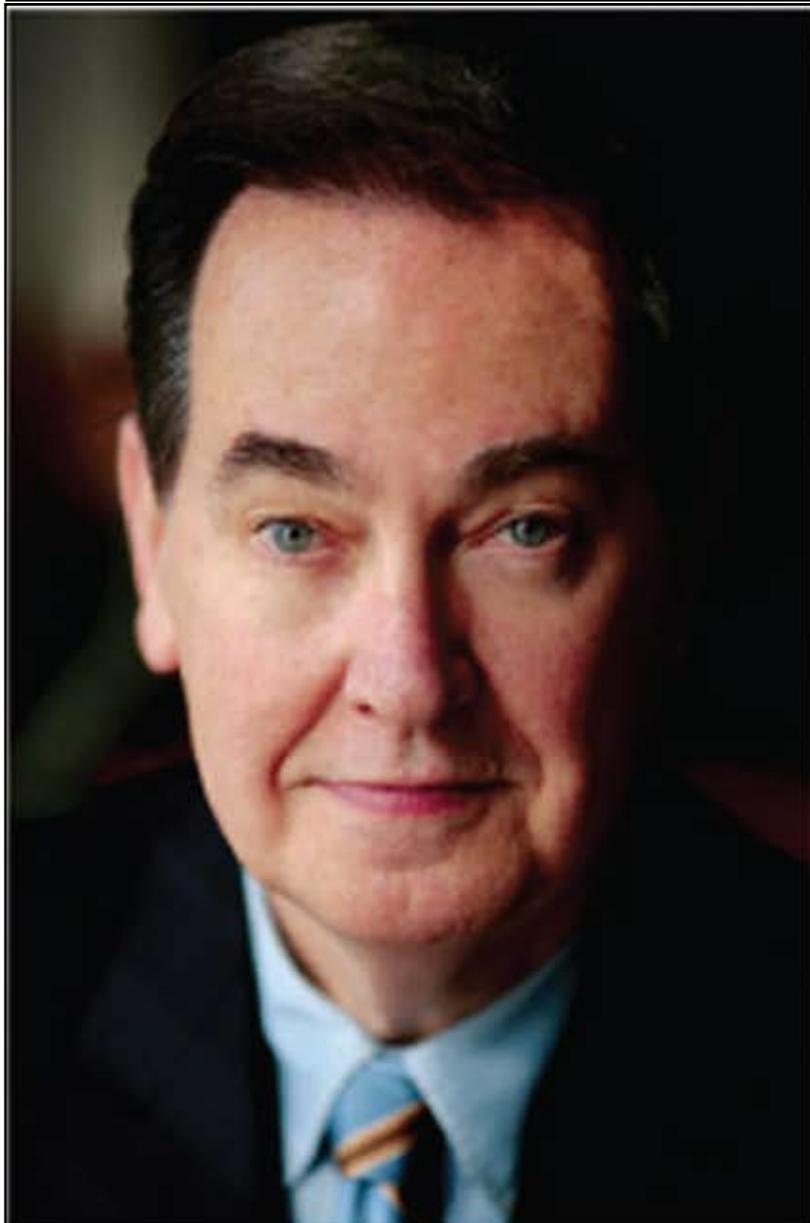
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# Florida law professor challenges 'pervasive' gov't spying

- Government surveillance has expanded dramatically in recent years but a new book written by a University of Florida professor at the Levin College of Law says courts and lawmakers need to enforce the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution.

**PAUL SYMONS**  
Sentinel Staff Writer

GAINESVILLE - From the increasing use of closed-circuit televisions and global positioning systems to an array of sophisticated technologies that can access personal records without even a warrant; out-of-control government surveillance represents an insidious assault on the freedom of Americans. According to the University of Florida law professor who just wrote a book explaining the issue, the law is failing to respond.

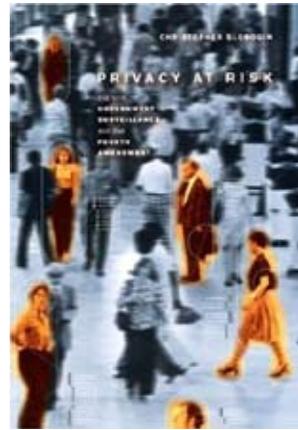
"The Supreme Court of the United States and the court system generally are not involved in overseeing this new surveillance, not so much because of a power grab by the executive branch, but because the courts themselves have taken the judiciary out of the game," said Christopher Slobogin, the author of 'Privacy at Risk: The New Government Surveillance and the Fourth Amendment.' "The assault comes from government monitoring of our communications, actions and transactions. The failure results from the inability or unwillingness of courts and legislatures to recognize how pervasive and routine this government surveillance has become," Slobogin writes in his book.

To ensure that the government's use of these powerful tools is not abused, Slobogin argues something equally powerful — the Constitution; the Fourth Amendment in particular — must stand guard. The book also focuses on new develop-

ments in the government's use of technology designed to observe our daily activities through physical surveillance and to peruse records of those activities.

While some of these technologically enhanced investigative techniques have been around for years, most are recent in origin, and their use by law enforcement officials has increased dramatically since America was attacked by enemies of freedom.

Since Sept. 11, the administration has pushed aggressively in two areas — camera surveillance and data mining. The government has provided millions of dollars



to cities and municipalities, including many in North-Central Florida, for the purpose of setting up sophisticated camera systems. This allows police to zoom in on street activity at night as well as during the day. Enormous amounts of tax dollars have also been poured into establishing data mining programs where dozens of government agencies dig through records through

the Internet and contract commercial data brokers to obtain personal information about American citizens.

"The Supreme Court has held that, in essence, we don't have privacy in public so the cameras that watch what we do in the streets aren't governed by the Constitution," Slobogin said. "It has also held that any information that we give to third parties such as banks or schools or businesses or even doctors is no longer protected by the Fourth Amendment or the courts; the court says that we've essentially waived our Fourth Amendment protection when we decided to give information to a third party. So in both of those areas the Constitution is pretty much a dead letter."

In addition to the controversy over the legality of the increasing surveillance in the first place, it is often counter-productive. Despite governments' arguments for the cameras at intersections, a recent study by the University of South Florida published in the 'Florida Public Health Review' determined that they weren't just expensive and ineffective - cameras actually increase the number of crashes and injuries.

"People see a yellow light and normally they would drive through it, but at camera intersections they do the quick stop," said Barbara Langland-Orban, one of three co-authors of the study and an associate professor in USF's Department of Health Policy and Management. "They slam on the brakes and that means everybody else behind them slams on the brakes."

At the federal level more than 120 government data mining programs gather personal information that can be connected to a particular individual, Slobogin says. These programs troll through financial, travel, and

medical records; all with the goal of identifying patterns of behavior that might reveal criminal activity.

"Privacy concerns seem to be very secondary to the government when it's engaging in these kinds of surveillance programs," Slobogin said. "While Congress or the executive branch has ended some efforts, there always seem to be new programs that crop up to take the place of the previous program. So until the government runs out of money, I think we're going to continue to see these data mining endeavors, even though they tend to be very ineffective, and even though they can potentially gather huge amounts of personal information about people."

Harvard Law School professor Carol Steiker said Slobogin's book could not be more timely.

"In the years since 9/11, the growing power and incentive of the government to collect information about its citizens have posed new and increasingly difficult questions. Scholars and students of these questions, as well as legislators and law enforcement officials, will find this book both a wide-ranging analysis of the implications of technological developments for the scope of personal privacy and enormously helpful conceptual framework for regulating the government's surveillance power under the Constitution."

Critics of the so-called "out-of-control" surveillance say these flagrant violations of the people's rights are exactly what the enemy actually wants. The 2001 attacks on liberty and the American way of life should never serve as an excuse to extinguish the very foundation of America's freedom: the U.S. Constitution.

## WORLD'S SMALLEST POLITICAL QUIZ

See where you stand on the new political spectrum!

How do you stand on **PERSONAL** issues? 20 10 0

- ▶ Government should not censor speech, press, media, or Internet. A M D
- ▶ Military service should be voluntary. There should be no draft. A M D
- ▶ There should be no laws regarding sex between consenting adults. A M D
- ▶ Repeal laws prohibiting adult possession and use of drugs. A M D
- ▶ There should be no National ID card. A M D

SCORING 20 for every A, 10 for every M, and 0 for every D: \_\_\_\_\_

How do you stand on **ECONOMIC** issues? 20 10 0

- ▶ End "corporate welfare." No government handouts to business. A M D
- ▶ End government barriers to international free trade. A M D
- ▶ Let people control their own retirement: privatize Social Security. A M D
- ▶ Replace government welfare with private charity. A M D
- ▶ Cut taxes and government spending by 50% or more. A M D

SCORING 20 for every A, 10 for every M, and 0 for every D: \_\_\_\_\_

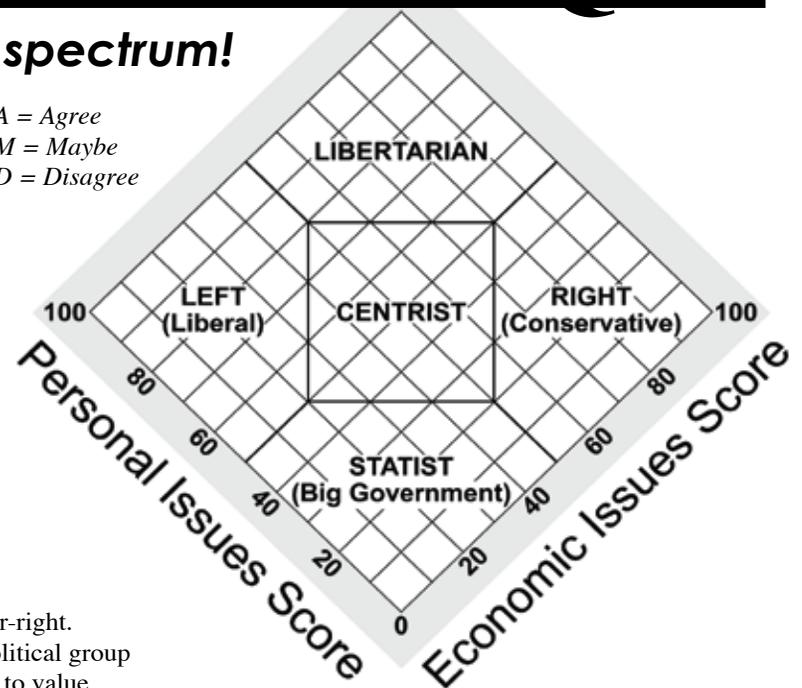
Mark your **PERSONAL** score on the lower-left scale; your **ECONOMIC** score on the lower-right.

Then follow the grid lines until they meet at your political position. The chart shows the political group that agrees with you the most. Liberals tend to value personal freedom. Conservatives tend to value economic freedom. Libertarians value both.

### ARE YOU A LIBERTARIAN?

Libertarians believe in, and pursue, personal freedom while maintaining personal responsibility. Libertarians strongly oppose any government interfering in their personal, family and business decisions. Essentially, we believe all Americans should be free to live their lives and pursue their interests as they see fit as long as they do no harm to another.

A = Agree  
M = Maybe  
D = Disagree



**SUGGESTED READING:** *The Law* by Frederic Bastiat, *Free to Choose* by Milton Friedman, *Libertarianism: A Primer* by David Boaz, *Libertarianism in One Lesson* by David Bergland.

**SUGGESTED WEBSITES:** **The Cato Institute** - cato.org, **Reason Magazine** - reason.com, **DownsizeDC.org**, **FreeStateProject.org**, **The Libertarian Party** - lp.org, **Republican Liberty Caucus** - rlc.org, **Libertarian Party of Florida**, lpf.org

# Being rested and renewed

**MICHELLE BRYANT**  
Sentinel Contributing Writer

As we begin preparing for income-tax deadline time, the end of school (when the kids will be home), our summer vacations and so on, it just adds more to our already hectic days of soccer practice, ballet lessons, church functions, work obligations and appointments and whatever else may be piled on our plate at the time.

It seems our days get filled with more "to do" stuff than we have hours in the day to actually do them. During daylight savings time I was running around crazy because in my busy schedule I... forgot to set my clocks.

When it's all said and done it seems we simply wind up at the end of our day feeling overworked, over exhausted, and overwhelmed. Sometimes we get so busy we don't even stop to eat. Ever pull up to the drive-through and call it dinner? Well guess what? You are not alone. There were times when even Jesus himself had simply had it also! He told his disciples "because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat... 'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest'" (Mark 6:31).

Jesus knew the importance of getting away and taking a breather. Taking a break is not a waste of time or energy. It is a time to refuel. Refuel your mind, body and soul - a time to reconnect. I was recently on a two night women's retreat where I found it interesting that several of the women could not part with their cell phones. Still attached to their ears or hips, they just could not relinquish that cellular connection to their families. Could they not surrender the control of their lives

and families to God, if even for a few hours?

All he wants is to show us that he could and would take care of things when we allow ourselves to get away. He wanted these ladies to simply trust Him and take a few days to soak on Him - just for themselves without the cares of the world clouding their one on one time. We get so involved in doing, especially for others, that we forget to do for ourselves, and especially for God. I took my cell phone on the trip, mind you, but I left it in my room and only twice the entire weekend, during free time did I briefly check in, only to be reassured that God really was in control. He truly did want me to rest.

Whatever is going on in your world, believe me it will still be there when you come back from your quiet place of rest and regrouping. The agendas and schedules will be the same, but you will be different - drastically different. When you return you'll be renewed, refueled, invigorated and refreshed. You'll probably be more productive too.

So I challenge you, the next time you're feeling overwhelmed ask yourself, (WWJD?) What would Jesus do? Take time today to rest, really rest. Find a quiet place. Feed the birds at the park, walk on the beach, take a stroll through the woods or simply lie on your hammock and see what shapes the clouds look like. Let your mind wander. For today, even for a few moments, forget about deadlines and day planners. Simply go by yourself to a quiet place... and get some needed rest.

*c. Michelle Bryant is a writer for the Liberty-Sentinel and the author of the devotional book "God, are You listening?"*  
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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Adult and embryonic stem-cell research,

There seems to be a lot of confusion on the issue of stem-cell research today. I'm not sure if it's the fault of the media, but they never tell the public about adult stem-cell research and the cures that have come from it.

President Bush announced in 2001 that federal funding for stem-cell research would be restricted to lines of embryonic stem-cells derived from embryos (read pre-born children) that were created for reproductive purposes (people wanted these babies to be implanted). They were supposedly set to be thrown away. Informed consent from the "owners" of the embryos had to be secured without offering money.

What this means in layman terms is that prospective parents who "own" unneeded or unwanted "surplus" pre-born children could "donate" them. This is all takes place, of course, without the consent of the child who is to be destroyed in the name of "science."

All this happens when there is absolutely no moral, ethical or religious objection to research on ADULT cells, which have been PROVEN useful.

While embryos have been destroyed for almost 25 years, there have been no successful transplants, much less any "cures." In the one case I know of, they actually killed the patient by making BONE, HAIR and TISSUE grow in his brain using embryonic cells.

Adult stem-cells are readily available with absolutely NO medical risk to the donor, and they possess the amazing ability to

develop into other tissues! Physicians have already successfully used the treatments derived from adult-cell research on multiple sclerosis, arthritis, paralysis, heart diseases and much more. A 16-year-old girl paralyzed from the neck down was treated with olfactory mucosa translation (her own cells). Because of antiquated laws endorsed by the FDA it had to be done outside the US, but upon returning the girl went into rehabilitation. Within six months the lesion had begun to heal and 70 percent of the damaged area recovered into normal spine tissue. By '04 she announced that she had walked more than 1,400 feet.

Heart attack victims can receive a transplantation of their OWN stem cells into their hearts! I could go on and on, but for those suffering from diseases, please go online and simply Google adult stem cell successes.

There are 72 verified cures using adult cells. For embryonic stem-cell research, exactly ZERO. Could it be possible that the Creator of ALL LIFE could have had His powerful hand in this; keeping these scientists from any successes resulting from such research?

Hopefully there will never be any more government funding of this useless research. Instead of forcing taxpayers to pay for this, why not let these scientists spend their time where they can make a positive difference to humankind.

*Jacqueline Sikes  
Respect Life Coordinator,  
Our Lady of Consolation Parish  
Callahan, Florida*

## UF's over paid speakers,

There are a number of issues regarding the University of Florida that have preoccupied me for months now; the nature of the guest speakers that are invited and the amount of money they are paid are among them.

Firstly, if one were to look at the nature and caliber of the people that are invited to speak not only at UF, but at all universities in this country, one would find that they hold overwhelmingly liberal views. That's OK, we are in America where we have the first amendment. But the universities in this country state that the reason for hosting such speakers is to expose the students to "controversial" people that will provoke thought.

However, if the people who frequent such presentations already understand and agree with the speaker, no thought is provoked.

Examples of such people include John Kerry and 'Dr. Death.' It was recently brought to my attention that Ron Paul was invited to speak at UF and the invitation was dismissed by the university. That action speaks for itself! They line liberals up around the block to speak about their views but when a conservative is invited, they wouldn't allow it. Isn't this America though? Don't we all have the right of free expression? If that's true, then why aren't conservatives allowed to speak at universities?

If the university wants to invoke thought, conservatives are exactly the kind of people it should invite! Hearing the views of the "other side" is what makes people get out of their box and think ... right?

The universities are quick to invite murderers, holocaust deniers and enemy dictators to spread their views under the guise of "tolerance," all while they deny conservatives an invitation.

I know that not all of you agree with my "moral question" as to why we shouldn't invite these types, so I'll move on to what these people have cost us monetarily.

Apparently the "university" doesn't invite people to speak, "student government" does. Fair enough...but who funds student government? Isn't it the university? And who has to approve or deny the speakers the SG chooses? The standard "speakers' fee" is \$50,000! They pay this while they warn that they may not be able to hold summer classes and that they may have to cut admissions for financial reasons. And yet, they have \$50,000 here and there to waste on student government. With the money that they use for speaker fees they could hire teachers, or fund research.

To conclude I will say this: the speaker fees are too high, and the universities clearly show a liberal bias when choosing who they

invite, and more importantly; who they deny. Why not make it fair? Why not invite an equal number of both? A fair guess would be that the universities are liberal strongholds! If you are a liberal in student government, heed my words! If I am wrong, then prove it! Allow people that don't agree with you to come to UF.

*Anthony Gray  
Gainesville, Florida*

## War on the family,

It took great insight and courage to publish constitutional law attorney Shelby Sharp's expose on no-fault divorce. The battle he describes is truly World War III. The battle front spread rapidly from California in 1969 to each of the American states, taking out 42 million families in the US before extending to every nation across the globe.

This is a war that pits fidelity against brokenness. It infiltrates every institution and every facet of a nation's life corroding the human core along the tributaries of the nervous system into the soul. Unlike any World War in history, it is waged internally by citizens fighting their own country, county by county, attacking their own children, spouses and other family members with the full support of their communities, legislators and other office holders, judges, police, mental health professionals and members of the clergy. Americans, through their government operations, even attack their own soldiers as they defend the nation externally, by dismantling their families in their absence.

What is truly remarkable is that the nuclear device responsible for this conflagration was launched by the guardians of law, the American Bar Association (see [www.uniformdivorce.com](http://www.uniformdivorce.com)) not long after Soviet Premier Khrushchev swore from the United Nations podium in 1960 that he would "bury [the US] without firing a shot." America's top attorneys, member's of the ABA's Uniform Law Commission, quietly designed and detonated this social weapon in stages beginning in 1965 and culminating in 1974 with the publication of the Uniform Marriage and Divorce Act. The key leadership of this project proceeded with full awareness of how Vladimir Lenin implemented no-fault divorce in Russia after the Bolshevik Revolution to topple the social order, eliminate opposition and install a dictatorship to control the masses.

*Michael T. Ross, MD  
President,  
Family Rights Coalition of Michigan  
Troy, Michigan*

*Continued on next page*

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# MAIL FROM OUR READERS

*Continued from last page*

## Founding fathers and small government,

The more I talk to people the more I realize there is a universal sense that America is in trouble. Citizens are uneasy about the future. We're at war, economic problems are on the horizon, social security is bankrupt, inflation is on the rise, and the list goes on and on.

Republicans blame the Democrats. Democrats blame the Republicans. Some blame the religious right, others blame the liberal media. We may differ in who we point the finger at, but we all know in our hearts that something is wrong. This country is way off track.

Recently I realized that what we are seeing is not a failure of the Republicans or a failure of the Democrats. It's a fundamental failure of government. Our system isn't working anymore - government is too big. We have lost sight of our founding fathers and their vision. They would be horrified at what we have done with the free society they created.

While buying my groceries the other day I spoke to a very smart cashier. She was able to sum it up in one short statement: "I cannot believe how civilly ignorant people are. They don't realize what this country is supposed to be like." She was talking about the Constitution and what a society based on it should look like.

Our founders knew the evils of a large oppressive government. They fought a revolution to escape from its clutches. A system of checks and balances with a separation of powers and even a Bill of Rights were all adopted to ensure the limitation of government power. Thomas Jefferson once said "My reading of history convinces me that most bad government comes from too much government."

Do you feel that there is a concentration of power in Washington that you and I are not part of? Do you really have a say, or do special interests run the show?

Over the years we have turned our small government based on constitutional principles into a monstrous mess that continues to grow. Every time there is a problem we turn to government to fix it. But, we know that this is ridiculous. When has government ever fixed anything? Every time the government gets involved there are more laws and regulations written, huge amounts of tax payer money spent, and often no resolution to the problem. Examples include the war on drugs, the war on poverty, and No Child Left Behind.

A brilliant bumper sticker I saw said- Government; getting nothing done expensively. Doesn't that sum it up? Each time we allow our government to grow we sacrifice a little more of our power and freedom. Think about this, after gas taxes, utility taxes, sales tax, property tax and income tax, about half of our hard earned money goes to paying taxes! If we want to fish, hunt, drive, or even get married we need government permission! Does that sound like a free society?

I'll end with this very famous excerpt from the Gettysburg Address; "government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth." Of the people? By the people? For the people? Is this still the America that we live in today? Sometimes I wonder.

*Shannon Walker,  
Ocala, Florida*

## Democrat infighting helps Republicans,

The country and its political parties are in shambles. Democrats want to ensure that they win the White House, but the mean-spirited nature of the campaign is going to leave whoever comes out a bloody mess, even though most of the accusations only scratch the surface. McCain is already unpopular among conservatives, but at least his battle for the nomination seems to have been won with just Ron Paul still left holding out.

I think democrats have a choice: either the party will be torn asunder by this infighting, or the candidates can run an honest, issue-based campaign. The media should focus more on the issues than on whether or not Senator Clinton was the first First Lady since Eleanor Roosevelt to visit a war zone.

It's ridiculous.

When was the last time the media honestly told people what the differences in any of the candidate's economic policy proposals are? Senator Obama gave a speech on the economy on March 26th. He attacked Senator McCain and everything.

If the democrats were to have a brokered convention, I really think the issues could be the deciding factor in this one. It may not be over for Clinton; she has won very important states that democrats will need to win in order to get into the White House in November.

As of now, I don't think that what the media calls a "dream ticket" is possible. Because of the veracious nature of the debates and campaigns, it would be very hard at least for them to work together. But again, they are

very similar on most of their policies and beliefs.

If the Democrats were to come together and unite around the so-called "dream ticket," I don't believe McCain could beat it. However, if the Democrats keep tearing at each other apart and doing the Republicans' work for them, it will be almost impossible for either of them not to come out looking weak.

*Matt Kovarsky  
Orlando, Florida*

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# ★ Ray Strickland

is Better for

# Marion★ County...

Keeping our Economy strong and creating new jobs is important for everyone that lives in Marion County. Whether you are retired or a young family entering the workforce, it is important to keep our economy growing. Ray Strickland's goal is to create an environment that will attract and retain high paying, quality jobs to Marion County, Florida.



**Jobs are  
Better for Marion!**

### *Ray Strickland will vote to...*

- ★ Provide funding to organizations that will bring quality, high paying jobs to Marion County.
- ★ Provide tax incentives to encourage existing businesses to stay in Marion County.
- ★ Reduce impact fees for businesses that create jobs in Marion County.
- ★ Provide funding to assist entrepreneurs to develop their ideas to create quality jobs in Marion.

Once Ray entered the race his opponent changed his vote and took Ray's positions by voting to fund the EDC and a permanent plan for economic development in Marion County.

The election is a year away, and we are sure that the politicians will change many votes to get re-elected. Ray wants to make Marion Better, but he understands that not all good ideas come from politicians.

**Making Marion Better** is Ray's goal and he would like to hear your ideas.

Go to [www.runray2008.com](http://www.runray2008.com) and share your ideas for **Making Marion Better**.

**Ray Strickland, (R)**  
**for County Commissioner**



*"We must compete in a global economy. The American worker is the most productive in the world if given the opportunity."*

