Integration Has Failed (Part II)

Separation is everywhere—because all races want it.

by Jared Taylor

Promoters of “contact theory” believed that through forcible school integration, children of all races would discover their common humanity, and racial prejudice would disappear. This would lead to integrated housing and large-scale intermarriage. Instead, whites abandoned many schools, and even at integrated schools, students seldom mixed. Now that forced integration is coming to an end, neighborhood schools reflect segregated housing patterns that have changed little in the last half a century. Integrationists now argue that there must be housing integration in order to promote school integration.

Theoretically, integration could have been promoted on two fronts, with forcible integration of both schools and housing. Many intellectuals claimed they knew better than parents how to regulate a child’s contact with other races. The same arguments could have justified forcing families to choose housing in ways that increased integration. No one seriously considered this, partly because there would have been furious resistance, and partly because integrationists believed residential integration would naturally follow school integration. It did not.

The reason it did not is that the basic assumption of “contact theory” was wrong. Racial mixing does not usually improve race relations, as Gunnar Myrdal believed, and as his current day followers still seem to believe. For 20 years, during the busing era, millions of American students were forced together with people of other races, but this did not necessarily mean they made friends or became neighbors. There are no signs that busing led either to improved attitudes about race or to increased residential integration. Most Americans still live in neighborhoods that are sharply defined by race.

One large-scale study carried out by the State University of New York at Albany measured integration by means of a “segregation index,” which runs from zero to 100. Zero would mean completely random housing patterns, or complete integration, while 100 would be complete separation. Any number over 60 is considered “highly segregated.” According to this analysis of 2000 census data, the national segregation index dropped during the 1990s from 69.4 to 65.1. However, the segregation index for children rose from 65.5 to 68.3. As the researchers noted, single people are more willing to live in mixed neighborhoods, while parents want a more homogeneous environment for child-rearing.

A different census data study, carried out by the Lewis Mumford Center for Comparative Urban and Regional Research, concluded that segregation increased during the 1990s. “We’re not more integrated—that’s the bottom line,” explained John Logan of the center. He argued that in cities like New York and Chicago, black-white housing patterns have not changed since the 1920s. “You might have thought the black civil-rights movement or the rise of the black middle class or changing racial attitudes surely by now would have made a difference,” he said, but they have not. The Christian Science Monitor concluded from this study that “children of the early 21st century will likely grow up isolated from people of

Continued on page 3
Letters from Readers

Sir — “Integration Has Failed” in the February issue demonstrates that the harder social engineers try, the worse they fail. The Legal Times recently published an instructive story about Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky & Popeo, a law firm that tried, in the summer of 2005, to “enhance the firm’s ethnic diversity” by hiring 12 minority lawyers all at once. Two and a half years later, every one of them had left (amusingly, their practice was to have been “corporate diversity”). The reporter suggests one reason they left was that they were all grouped together on one floor, away from the partners (Attila Berry, “Mintz Levin Diversity Bid Falls Apart,” Legal Times, Dec. 10, 2007). But one could just as easily imagine blaming the firm for “breaking up” the group. As is so often the case with the racial eggshell-walking we do in America, it’s damned if you do, damned if you don’t.

John Ingram, Fairfax, Va.

Sir — I look forward to Part II of “Integration Has Failed,” but in the meantime, I am again struck by the inability of racial egalitarians to draw obvious conclusions. Integration was supposed to go smoothly because whites and blacks would discover they were just like each other, and all prejudices would drop away.

Integration has not gone smoothly, despite more than 50 years of trying. If anything, more blacks and whites (and now Hispanics and Asians) are concluding that separation is better.

Sir — Professor Farron’s criticism of Peter Wilkinson’s book The Howard Legacy (see review, January issue; letter, February issue) contains several erroneous assertions. He says white Australians should not complain about the presence of an Asian professional elite because that elite will raise the standard of living for all Australians. However, in a nation with an affluent and powerful minority, it is not abstract notions such as contribution to standard of living that the majority notices but the presence of an alien population that has economic power and political influence beyond its numbers. Prof. Farron may think them foolishly ungrateful, but black South Africans do not seem to think them foolishly ungrateful, but black South Africans do not seem to appreciate their white minority, despite the economic benefits they bring.

I am prepared to accept that Chinese influence in Australia may not be so great as in Southeast Asia because there is a smaller difference in average Chinese and white IQs compared to Chinese and Southeast Asians. However, the selection process ensures that it is not average Chinese who are entering Australia but a cognitive elite. China has a pool of 1.3 billion people from which to choose its elite; Australia has 20 million. One need only visit a university to see the effect of this difference.

Professor Farron suggests further that because of their distinctive IQ profile, Chinese will not be overrepresented in fields like journalism and law, which influence policy and public opinion. In fact, Mr. Wilkinson points out in his book that Asians are indeed over-represented in law—he does not mention journalism—and wildly overrepresented in medicine, dentistry, commerce, information technology, and engineering. If Professor Farron thinks these professions do not provide access to political influence, we live in different worlds.

Finally, I might add that white South African immigrants are not always held in high esteem here. Professor Farron’s anecdotal and unwarranted comment about the stupidity and laziness of Australians may suggest why.

Christopher Down, Sydney, Australia

Sir — In his February letter about the review of Peter Wilkinson’s book, I note that Professor Steven Farron claims that success is not a zero sum game, and cites examples of European peoples raising black standards of living in various areas. Very well, but an absolute measure like “standard of living” is not the same as a relative measure like “success,” which is part of status competition.

The situation in Australia is that of intelligent, collectivist, and ethnocentric Asians outcompeting intelligent, aracial, individualist whites for limited numbers of positions in the professions and in politics. That is a zero sum game, quite apart from whatever economic effects may ensue. The demographic displacement of whites by Asians is another, and even more serious, matter.

I think the point of people like Peter Wilkinson and Drew Fraser is not that Asians are so much more intelligent than whites—although Australian-Asian migrants may be a high-IQ subset—but that their ethnocentrism and alien nature will displace whites from positions of status and influence, and lead the country in unwelcome directions.

Finally, I take issue with the Gottfried-Taylor assertion in the review of Prof. Gottfried’s Understanding American Conservatism that there are no fascists among modern day race realists, and that we are all, or mostly, paleo-libertarians. Apart from the pejorative meanings neo-conservatives and leftists give it, fascism is palingenetic (hoping to recapitulate past societies in the present), populist nationalism. While there may be more race realists who consider themselves “conservative” than fascist, the latter should not be ignored, particularly if their influence outweighs their numbers. And this need not be seen as a bad thing. In radical circumstances, radicalism is rational.

Ted Sallis, Tampa, Fla.
Continued from page 1

other ethnic groups—much as the children of the early 20th century did.’”

Research that covered 240 metropolitan areas during the 20-year period from 1980 to 2000 found that black/white segregation, already high, increased in just 15 areas. Hispanic/white segregation, however, increased in 124 and declined in 86, and Asian/white segregation increased in 69 metropolitan areas and declined in 47. The study’s author, Brian Stults of the University of Florida at Gainesville, found that although blacks made considerable economic gains in comparison to whites during the 1990s, “it was particularly surprising that we saw no [neighborhood integration] effect from the growing convergence of black and white incomes.”

As with schools, housing integration can mean physical proximity without contact. The Mount Pleasant area of Washington, DC, has been home to many Hispanic immigrants who live so close to blacks they can often hear each others’ voices through thin apartment walls, but the two communities have essentially ignored each other. Omar Zavala is a Latino activist who has tried for years to build bridges between the two groups. “There’s minimal contact,” he says. “The dialogue is nonexistent.”

One town famous for bucking this trend is Shaker Heights, Ohio, which continues its unparalleled, decades-long commitment to integration. Since the 1960s, it has fought white flight with task forces, oversight committees, community associations, social events, and student groups, all designed to monitor and maintain integration. The town of 30,000 has even been known to check on block parties to make sure they are suitably integrated. In 1985, corporations and philanthropists established the Fund for the Future of Shaker Heights, which offers subsidized loans and down payments for home purchases that will mix the races. Judy Rawson, who was mayor of Shaker Heights in 2002, said her job was a constant balancing act. “It’s something you have to be sensitive to, and this community talks constantly about race,” she explained.

With its well-established reputation, Shaker Heights has attracted people who very much want integration to work, but success is never assured. The black population is rising—from 24 percent in 1980 to 34 percent in 2000—and in 2000 the high school was 50 percent black. The part of town bordering on Cleveland has become heavily black, and demographers see trouble. “The biggest threat to an integrated community is resegregation,” said Chip Bromley, a fair housing advocate and executive director for the Metro Strategy Group in Cleveland Heights. “There’s a sense of fatigue of it all and a sense that whites will give up on it . . . that they’ll escape.” Even in Shaker Heights.

Most whites live far from the constant vigilance of Shaker Heights, and rarely think about how segregated their lives are. Emily Hauser described what it was like to walk into a black neighborhood just a few blocks from her upper-middle-class Chicago suburb of Oak Park:

“As I stepped over the curb, I became excruciatingly aware of my skin color, and my heart pounded with social anxiety. In going around a single block, I got stares. Mine was the only white face around, and for five minutes, five blocks from my home, I was a stranger in a strange land . . . .

“The stares I got were from a woman in a high-end SUV and a man on a high-end motorcycle. No matter our class status, I was out of place. We’re not integrated. We’re strangers.”

Most whites would never express the desire to live away from non-whites, and they attribute their housing patterns—if they ever think about them—to class differences. There is considerable hypocrisy in this. Probably not one white journalist in the country would say he chose his house because it was in a white neighborhood, but that, in effect, is what they do. Peter Brown of the Orlando Sentinel looked up the zip codes of 3,400 journalists, and found that they cluster in upscale neighborhoods, far from inner cities. More than one-third of Washington Post reporters live in just four fancy DC, suburbs. Television personality Chris Matthews routinely promotes integration, and Ted Koppel has hectored whites who live apart from blacks. Where do they live? Mr. Matthews in 95-percent white Chevy Case, and Mr. Koppel in 99-percent white Potomac, both in Maryland.

Perhaps these men thought they lived in TV-land. Sociologist Charles Gallagher of Georgia State University has noted that television advertising is a “carefully manufactured racial utopia . . . that is far afield of reality,” where everyone has black and Hispanic neighbors with whom they discuss which brand of toothpaste is best. Jerome D. Williams, a professor of advertising and African American studies at the University of Texas at Austin also laughs at advertisers’ depictions of American life. “If you look at the United States in terms of where we live and who our friends are and where we go to church,” he says, “we live in different worlds.”

The public pretense, of course, is otherwise, and there is considerable
pressure to deny reality. ABC Television had to drop a reality program that let a white family outside of Austin, Texas, decide which of seven competing families would get to move into a free, four-bedroom, 2-1/2-bath house next door. Through interviews, competitions, and contact of various kinds, the white family had eliminated all the “diverse” options—blacks, Asians, Hispanics, and a homosexual couple—and was going to choose the white family as their new neighbors. When word leaked out about this entirely realistic ending, “fair housing” activists badgered ABC into canceling the program.

Regional Segregation

The impulse to separate has not changed from the white flight days of the 1960s, but the shifting population of the United States means it happens differently. Whites are steadily being outnumbered, and to get white neighbors it often takes more than a move across town. William Frey, a demographer at the Brookings Institution, is perhaps the leading expert on the increasingly regional nature of residential segregation. “In the past, people could move to a community five minutes away,” he explained. “Now, those communities aren’t very different from the places they are trying to get away from. So they have to move a much longer distance, even to another state.”

If California is the future of the United States, Los Angeles may offer a lesson. In 1960, it was 72 percent white, but in just ten years that figure dropped to 59 percent, and by 2000 the city was only 33 percent white. During the 1980s, while every other racial group was gaining in numbers, Los Angeles County lost 330,000 whites, and a startling 570,000 during the 1990s. Where did they all go?

Beginning in the 1980s, California saw a major shift of population from southern, immigrant-heavy regions to the white north. Many moved to Nevada County, which Mel Mouser, the police chief of the town of Grass Valley, called “the largest concentration of Caucasians in the state of California.” In the 15 years ending in 1995, the county’s population grew by no less than 65 percent and remained 93 percent white. The newcomers were looking for the kind of homogeneity they grew up with but had lost to immigrants. As Chief Mouser explained, “Those people that do come from all these other jurisdictions and areas, cities and communities from throughout the state and even other states, they bring with them the common strain of thought: Don’t let it be like where I came from.”

Many ex-Los Angelenos were candid about what drove them away. As one 1990s transplant to Nevada County explained, “People come here for a timeout, to go some place where racial problems don’t exist. And when they find it here, they’re pathetically grateful. They want to protect it.” Another explained: “I’d look at my daughter’s classroom and see two blondes. There were a lot of Vietnamese and Asians coming in. That’s one of the reasons we moved out. It seemed like there was more of everything else but whites.”

When whites did not get out of Southern California entirely, they increasingly locked themselves in private, walled-off communities. During the early 1990s, an estimated one third of all new real estate developments in the area were gated, self-policing enclaves.

Many Californians left the state entirely. “This used to be a white, middle-class, bedroom community,” Cloyd Moody said of his native San Gabriel in Southern California. “Now, you go down the main street and virtually every store sign is written in that Oriental chicken scratching.” In 1996 he moved 1,000 miles to a town outside Seattle. “I’m livid that I had to leave the place where I was born and raised,” he added.

California used to be a magnet for Americans from other states, but no more. Even as immigrants poured in during the 1990s, the state lost more native-born Americans than it gained. Seventy percent of the people who left the state were white.

The same process is at work elsewhere. From the 1940s to the 1980s, rural America lost population, 1.4 million in the 1980s alone. Now it is gaining population. Between 1990 and 1995, there was net migration of more than 1.6 million people to rural areas and small towns. Most came from cities and suburbs, and almost all were white. John Kasarda of the University of North Carolina says, “It is a move to remove as far as possible from the inner-city poor areas. It’s both avoidance and flight.”

Herbert Johnson sells real estate in the small Alabama town of Bayou La Batre to newcomers to the area. “People don’t put up a billboard and announce that they are leaving because of immigrants,” he said, “but you can tell what’s on their mind.”

From 1990 to 1996 3.3 million new immigrants streamed into just 10 metropolitan areas. During the same period, 3.6 million people, most of them native-born, moved out to other states. Demographer William Frey called this the “push factor.”

Many of the natives who left these areas were seeking white majorities. Journalist Jonathan Tilove notes that of the 157 counties that grew by 40 percent or more in the 1990s, more than two-thirds were at least 80 percent white, and more than a third were at least 90 percent white. Mr. Tilove writes that these places “could be called white meccas.”

Robert Bullard is a sociologist at...
that led whites to leave the central city. Now they are moving farther and farther out, and the counties that are now the growth machines are the ones that people know: ‘That’s not where people of color are.’”

Calvin Beale, a Department of Agriculture demographer, noted that whites are not always candid about why they are moving: ‘They talk about getting away from urban crime, drugs, congestion and school problems. But it also means getting away from areas that have significant percentages of blacks, Hispanics and Asians.”

It would be wrong, however, to assume that everyone displaced by immigration is white. Aldra Henry-Allison, who is black, spent her whole life in South Central Los Angeles. In 1998 she moved to the suburbs, complaining that the neighborhood had completely changed. “The only people left are elderly blacks my parents’ age and young Hispanic immigrants,” she explained. “I feel out of sync here.”

Rebecca Watkins is of American Indian heritage, but moved out of a small town near Yakima, Washington, when she had a violent encounter with Mexican immigrants. Her mother expected to follow her to Idaho. “We lost our country once because of immigrants,” she said. “And now I feel like we’re losing our country again.”

In the Washington, DC, area, whites have continued a long march to increasingly distant suburbs. As the Washington Post explained:

“The demographic shift is transforming the map of the Washington region into something like a misshapen pizza, with counties such as Calvert, Anne Arundel and St. Mary’s in Maryland and Fauquier and Culpeper in Virginia forming an increasingly white crust around the region’s multicolored inner counties. In each of those five majority-white outer counties, the proportion of white residents has increased at least slightly in recent years.

‘There is this kind of hopscotch effect where people keep moving out,’ noted William Frey of the Brookings Institution.”

Who Wants Segregation?

It is conventional to assume that segregation is caused by the refusal of whites to live with non-whites, and by malign forces that confine minorities in enclaves. But how realistic is it to think that all blacks want white neighbors, or that Asians want to live with Hispanics?

When asked point-blank, ordinary Americans do not show much reverence for integration. A statewide survey of California conducted by Berkeley’s Institute of Governmental Studies in late 1997 found that a majority of whites, Hispanics, blacks and Asians agreed with the statement that “people are happier when segregated.”

When the NAACP and Hamilton College commissioned a poll of “Generation X” opinions on race, they found that about half of 18- to 29-year-olds (52 percent of whites, 40 percent of blacks) agreed with the statement that “it’s OK if the races are basically separate from one another as long as everyone has equal opportunity.”

Scholars are finally beginning to understand this. A study by the Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council reported in 2004 that “choice plays an important role in persistent boundaries of segregation,” adding that people commonly seek “cultural affinity” when they look for a place to live. William Tisdale, president of the council warned that researchers should not overlook the fact that some people—and not just whites—prefer segregation.

Once blacks succeeded in eliminating legal segregation, the question of racial mixing took on a new dimension. Blacks fought for integration when segregation meant washrooms, lunch counters, hotels, and swimming pools were closed in their faces, and when restrictive covenants kept them out of entire neighborhoods. Now that blacks can eat, sleep, live, or be entertained wherever they can afford it, most want racial mixing on their terms, not those set by whites. This means blacks want entrance into white institutions and white society, but insist on the right to withdraw into black enclaves if they prefer. Many middle-class blacks have enough money to live in white neighborhoods but prefer to live among blacks. In the Atlanta area, blacks are self-segregating in suburbs southwest of the city in DeKalb County. “It’s not a separatist thing,” says sociologist Robert Bullard of Clark Atlanta University. “It’s a choice to be whole.” He says many blacks “lost some of their identity” through integration, and now “want to build something on their own terms.”

An analysis of Northern New Jersey by the Newark Star-Ledger found a similar trend. Of the 13,000 black families in the area making more than $114,000 per year—which put them in the top fifth on the state’s income scale—two thirds chose to live in mostly black neighborhoods. “This is surprising to people,” said sociologist John Logan of Brown University, “because we’d like to believe that (neighborhood) differences are mostly based on market capacity and whether you can afford to live here, and it’s hard to accept that race is still a very
important barrier.” Professor Logan got it wrong. Race is not a barrier to these black professionals. It is a choice, just as it is for whites.

Azurest is a seaside community of 119 families near Sag Harbor, New York. It was established in 1947 as a vacation retreat for blacks who were not welcome at white resorts. It is now the preferred summering spot for wealthy blacks who can afford to go anywhere but prefer to vacation with other blacks. Among those who have owned property in Azurest are Earl G. Graves, publisher of Black Enterprise magazine and Alma Brown, widow of Ron Brown, who was commerce secretary in the Clinton administration. Helen Marshall, Queens borough president, and Cecil Broderick, the deputy mayor of Sag Harbor have also been owners. The New York Times quoted one resident on the psychological peace he found in Azurest. “When vacationing among our own, in places that have been embraced by us for so long, there is a comfort—and a sanctity—that makes it possible to forget that there is a white power structure touching our lives at all.” “This is a historically black community,” said Lynn Hendy, president of the property owners association. “I’d like it to stay that way.”

Blacks in other enclaves feel the same way. A black journalist wrote about a backyard gathering in an affluent, all-black Atlanta suburb. The party suddenly went silent when a realtor’s car, bearing a white couple, cruised slowly down the street. “I hope they don’t find anything they like,” said one of the guests; “otherwise, there goes the neighborhood.”

In southern California it is Hispanics whom blacks want to keep out. They do not like Ranchera music or neighbors who keep chickens, or who park their cars on the front lawn. They resent soccer players taking over public parks. As one president of a black homeowners association in South Central Los Angeles described the influx, “It’s a different culture, a different breed of people. They don’t have the same values. You can’t get together with them. It’s like mixing oil and water.”

Most black neighborhoods grew out of segregation or developed haphazardly, but some have been designed to be black from the start. A brand new, up-scale St. Petersburg subdivision called Ahali (the Swahili word for family) filled up immediately with the black elite: the head of the NAACP chapter, school principals, doctors and lawyers. As each new home sold, residents gathered for an impromptu celebration of their growing “family.”

One argument blacks give for living in black areas is that this guarantees black political representation. Michael Bennett, an associate professor of sociology at DePaul University, explained the risks of living with whites: “You’re not going to have the same kind of political clout to elect reps or run for office in [largely white] Barrington as you would in the south suburbs [of Chicago], where you can elect a Jesse Jackson, Jr. That could be interpreted as a deficit to integration.”

Ultimately, blacks simply want to be around other blacks. As one reader wrote to the Philadelphia Inquirer:

“There is nothing wrong with segregation. Most African Americans with good sense want the same social relations that most whites want. We don’t want them living in our neighborhoods. We don’t want our children going to school with theirs. We don’t want our daughters and sons marrying their sons and daughters. No thanks . . . we don’t want or need social integration. We want economic and political integration . . . .

“We don’t need tea and cookies and fireside chats with white people. We don’t have to pretend we like one another to have good relations.”

Separatism has come full circle, and blacks are now its most vocal spokesmen. In the past, many blacks were convinced that in order to get a fair share of the money spent on public education—or even a proper education at all—their children had to go to school with whites. Now, with many states ensuring equal funding for all schools, and with many blacks in controlling positions on school boards, this is no longer so great a concern. By the 1990s, many blacks were openly critical of integration. If the funding and educational opportunities for blacks that were to be achieved through integration could be achieved without it, increasing numbers of blacks saw no inherent value in racial mixing per se.

In 1997, Amos Quick, a member of a citizens committee appointed to redraw...
school districts in the Greensboro, North Carolina, area, expressed an increasingly typical view: “Separate but truly equal would not be so bad.” In 1995, Edward Newsome, a black member of the Kansas City, Missouri, school board went further: “I think desegregation is dead and should have died a long time ago, if the focus is on trying to have a physical mix of the races.”

Likewise in 1995, a black law professor, Alex Johnson of the University of Virginia, went so far as to say “Brown [the 1954 Supreme Court desegregation ruling] was a mistake.” He argued that school integration “fails to respect both the African-American community as a distinct cultural community and the concomitant plans made by individual African-Americans to protect that unique community.”

Harry Edwards, a black sociology professor at the University of California at Berkeley, put the case as bluntly as anyone. Integration, he explained, “has not been approached or achieved because nobody wants it. Blacks have always wanted to associate with themselves.”

This sentiment is on the increase. Doris Wilkinson was the first black to enter the University of Kentucky after the 1954 Brown decision, but lost faith in integration, which she calls an “abso-

A&M, was one of the first blacks to integrate New Orleans’ Catholic schools, but now thinks the struggle was misguided. She believes that so long as it is voluntary there is nothing wrong with segregation. “What I have young people telling me is the whole thing about a comfort zone,” she said. “That they prefer to be around people they feel more comfortable with.”

Even the NAACP, which was the plaintiff in hundreds of school integration cases, no longer has its heart in the struggle. At its 1997 national convention, the NAACP questioned the goal of school integration for the first time. Although the group decided not to change its official position, it is significant that a heretofore sacred goal of the civil rights movement could even be debated. In other respects as well, the NAACP is vastly different from the early days when blacks and whites worked together for equal rights. Many local chapters are now 100 percent black, and by 1995, the number of whites on the 64-member board had dwindled to three. In 2007 there were still three.

Many blacks think the NAACP is hopelessly stodgy and out of touch. There are, for example, many private black-run schools that are aggressively Afrocentric and would not welcome white students, and there is also a growing movement to set up all-black, Afrocentric public schools. The way to get them past white liberals who are nervous about black segregation has been to start charter schools. They are supposed to improve education by giving schools greater independence, and letting students profit from the variety that results. For many black administrators, a charter is a license to separate. Seventy percent of blacks who attend charter schools are in student bodies that are “intensely segregated,” compared to 34 percent of the blacks at non-charter public schools.

By 2007 there were 3,500 charter schools, but many were struggling because their innovations had failed. Not the black charters, said Michael Piscal, whose Inner City Foundation operates schools in Los Angeles. “The momentum we’re building is tremendous,” he said, noting that there were thousands of names on the waiting lists of black schools. Urban Prep Charter Academy for Young Men on the South Side of Chicago is typical. It opened its doors in the fall of 2006 to a student body that was 100 percent black.

Roland G. Fryer, a black who teaches at Harvard, has what may be a sound educational reason to separate the races. He thinks the stigma against blacks who get good grades—they are taunted for “acting white”—is absent in black schools. According to his research, in integrated schools, above a 2.5 grade point average, the popularity of white students rises with their grades, while that of blacks and Hispanics drops. Prof. Fryer did not find this popularity decline in heavily non-white schools, and thinks the “acting white” stigma is an important reason for lagging black and Hispanic performance.

Many blacks like segregated schools because they can control them. As the sole black man in the Nebraska state house, Ernie Chambers spent years supporting busing and school integration. In 2006, however, he was the driving force behind a bill that broke up the Omaha school district into three racially identifiable zones for blacks, whites, and Hispanics. He explained that his constituents were for “carving our area out of Omaha Public Schools and establishing a district over which we would have control.”

High Court Bans School Segregation;
9-To-0 Decision Grants Time To Comply

Many blacks are tired of this . . .

. . . and want this instead.

Hopelessly stodgy.
Blacks in other countries want separation, too. Wade Smith, vice principal of St. Patrick’s High School in Halifax, Canada, said in 2006 that blacks were isolated in the school system, and would be better served by a separate, all-black school. Likewise, George Dei, who teaches at the University of Toronto, has proposed alternative schools for blacks, with black teachers, black counselors, and an “Africa-centered” curriculum. The chairman of Britain’s Commission for Racial Equality, Trevor Phillips, announced in 2005 that racial problems in integrated schools were so bad that the time had come to “embrace some new if unpalatable ideas,” in particular, setting up separate schools for black boys.

Churches

During the civil rights era, churches made a passionately moral case for integration, but they have not practiced what they preached. Unlike schools or businesses, which must follow civil rights laws, congregations gather voluntarily, entirely free of government control. As a result, churches are some of the most racially exclusive institutions in the country. According to one study, nearly 95 percent of American churches have congregations that are at least 80 percent one race or ethnic group. A different study found this to be true of 96.5 percent of congregations.

Churches have tried to fight this tendency, mostly without success. In 1965, New Covenant Presbyterian Church was the first church in Miami established specifically to encourage integration. It prompted glowing news stories about its integrated congregation, choir, and administration. By 2006, all but one white member had died or moved away.

Fred Caldwell, bishop of Greenwood Acres Full Gospel Baptist Church in Shreveport, Louisiana, got so tired of seeing only black faces in his congregation of 5,000 that he started paying whites out of his own pocket to show up for services: $5.00 a hour on Sundays and $10.00 on Thursday evenings. “God wants a rainbow in his church,” explained Caldwell.

God seldom gets one. There are now nearly 4,000 Asian congregations in the United States (3,000 Korean, 700 Chinese, 200 Japanese). Most are heavily segregated—often because they conduct services in an Asian language—but even the English-speaking ones are segregated. Victor Kim, pastor of the mostly-Korean congregation at Remnant Presbyterian Church in New York City did everything he could think of to change that. He barred Korean food at church functions, and refused to make announcements for Asian events. He even discouraged members from going to nearby Koreatown for lunch.

Many Asians feel the same way. David Ahn is a Korean who grew up in America and attended a white church in all this jumping around,” said Margie Schwab, a long-time member. “I like formality.” Jamaican-born Joy Magnus likes to jump. “It makes the service more lively,” she said. “It doesn’t take away from the reverence.”

Many Christians simply accept separation. In Beaumont, Texas, two United Methodist congregations—one
San Francisco before ending up in a Korean congregation. “In general, Korean people and white people just act very differently,” he said. “I don’t necessarily see them as good or bad, just very different than I am.” David Kang, is another Korean who does not apologize for his

President Clinton probably worked harder than any American president to make racially diverse appointments that, as he put it, “look like America.” By his last year in office, of the 29 people in the White House who had the title “assistant to the president,” eight were women and seven were minorities. This diversity was reflected at lower levels of staffing as well, but voluntary segregation continued even in this deliberately multi-racial environment. According to one news article, “African American staff members tend to associate with one another, both in and out of the White House, as do whites, creating cliques and a feeling of division, officials said.”

Homosexuals are commonly thought to be free spirits, unburdened by conventional prejudices. Nevertheless, in 2005, a city commission in San Francisco found that Badlands, a popular Castro-neighborhood homosexual nightclub, discriminated against black patrons by requiring several forms of ID and enforcing a stricter dress code. The club’s owner, Les Natali, referred to blacks as “non-Badlands customers,” and wanted them kept out. White customers reportedly preferred it that way.

Pop Warner football is a league for seven- to 14-year-olds. In 1993, the first black inner-city team joined the then all-suburban Bay State Conference. By 2005, there was only one suburban team left in the nine-team conference, and it appeared to be on its way out, too. Suburban teams were quitting en masse, citing “intimidating” rap music at games, unnecessary violence on the field, and questionable safety at some city-center playing fields. One black inner-city coach reportedly urged players to “go get some white [expletive]!” and another called a black on a suburban team a “traitor.” Black coaches said the mass defections to a reconstituted white league were “racism.”

Americans even have racial preferences when they buy cars. A 2004 poll found that the following percentages of the following groups would rather deal with a salesman of their own race or ethnicity: blacks: 46 percent, Hispanics: 38 percent, Middle-Easterners: 65 percent, Northern Europeans: 62 percent, East Europeans: 42 percent.

Beauty pageants—except for those that accept whites—have become segregated ethnic celebrations. By 2005, there was a Miss Vietnam USA, a Miss Ethiopia North America, a Miss India USA, a Miss Asian America, a Miss Latina, U.S., and a Miss Haiti in New York City. “It’s just as important as Miss America, if not more” said Reshoo Pande, 22, Miss India USA 2004, who won by dancing like a Bollywood film idol. “This is not our homeland,” she added. From just 2001 to 2004 about 1,000 women competed for Miss Vietnam USA. The first prize was $10,000 and a Mercedes Benz worth more than $35,000. There has been a Miss Black America pageant since 1968.

Verizon Communications has begun offering segregated telephone directories. In 2004, it debuted its first listing for minority- and women-owned businesses for the Richmond, Virginia market. Gov. Mark Warner was on hand to applaud what Verizon called “a great opportunity for extra exposure.” The company promised similar directories for Baltimore, Washington, and other cities.

Entertainment is often segregated. Comedy clubs routinely book performers of different races for different days of the week, so as to appeal to different audiences. Many offer “Latino Night,” “the Asian Invasion,” and events such as “Mo Betta Mundays” or “Chocolate Sundays” for blacks. As Will Durst, a San Francisco comic explains, comedy is increasingly “tribal,” and “now all the tribes get to elect their own jester.”

As one Hispanic comedian cracked at a Hispanic night in a Los Angeles club called Laugh Factory, “Any white people here? What? You guys make a wrong turn? We got White Wednesdays.
were disconcerted to popular ballot. In both states observers
ations through a process that involved a
these passages from their constitu-
itions were sometimes written into state
lines. In the South, bans on miscegena-
16 states banning marriage across racial
unconstitutional, there were still laws in
1880, when only one in 1,000 white marriages was
to a non-white.

Because the races tend to go their separate ways, there have been many
innocent attempts to accommodate
them. They are usually welcomed by
everyone involved, but when they are
discovered the authorities quash them.
For example, until 1997, the Alabama
Department of Transportation made up
all-black and all-white road work crews,
at the request of the men. The depart-
ment forced no one into or out of such
groups; it simply respected the wishes
of its workers. A federal judge ordered
this practice stopped as soon as it came
to light.

Politicians have discovered that
when they operate telephone banks to
get supporters to go to the polls, black
callers get a better response from black
voters and whites do better with whites.
The Parker Group, an Alabama political
consulting company, obligingly set up
segregated calling banks at the request
of both black and white politicians,
sometimes with different political
pitches for blacks and whites. Again, a
federal judge promptly ended what had
been an effective approach.

In Cincinnati, the city council and
city manager were dismayed to learn
that the city’s firehouses were drifting
into segregation: Three were all-white,
six were mostly black, and only about
one third were what anyone would have
called racially balanced. Firefighters
preferred to work close to home and
with colleagues they found compat-
able. Over the opposition of both black
and white firefighters, the city council
unanimously voted in a new assignment
system to integrate the firehouses.

In prisons in every state there is rigid
racial self-segregation, and prisoners say
they would prefer official segregation.

The state of California kept prisoners
separated by race under limited circum-
cstances, arguing that mixing can bring
violence. In 2005, the US Supreme
Court ordered the state to integrate all
cells at all times.

No one seems to have studied the
question officially, but there is probably
about as much racial mixing at social
gatherings as there is at churches: 95
percent are at least 80 percent one race.
Dinner parties, barbecues, camping
trips, or bowling parties are rarely in-
tegrated. At work, Americans deal with
people of other races because employers
must have mixed workforces, but when
they are entirely free to choose, Ameri-
cans segregate.

It would be difficult to think of a
greater contradiction in American life.
Our laws and ideals are based on the
assumption that race is trivial, even
meaningless. Our daily lives constantly
violate our ideals. At the same time, the
official, race-doesn’t-matter ideology
is so powerful that most whites rarely
admit how many of their decisions re-
fect race.

The regnant racial ideology is clearly
a misreading of human nature. Like
language, religion, and nationality, race
is one of the great fault lines that divide
human societies. There has never been
a multi-racial society without either
chronic racial friction or complete domi-
nance of one group by the other. If the
target of transcending race is in conflict
with the imperatives of human nature,
it is a goal we cannot achieve. In the
Epistles, Horace wrote, “Though you
drive Nature out with a pitchfork, she
will ever find her way back.”
Three Horsemen of the Apocalypse


**How ideology is destroying the West.**

*reviewed by Stephen Webster*

The United States, warns Patrick Buchanan, is on a collision course with history. Each of three major policies—trade, immigration, strategy—is unsustainable, and together they imperil the continued existence of the United States. Such is the grim message of Mr. Buchanan’s latest book, *Day of Reckoning,*

Building the American empire.

Why do our leaders fail to recognize the risks they are running? Mr. Buchanan believes they are blinded by ideology: they want the world to conform to their vision, and are prepared to use force to make it conform. In Mr. Buchanan’s view, real conservatism is the absence of ideology, the willingness to take the world and human nature as they are rather than impose impossible ambitions.

Mr. Buchanan writes that ideology drives all of our most catastrophic policies. Multi-culturalism sees massive Third-World immigration as a great benefit rather than the disaster it obviously is, and faith in free trade is destroying our industrial infrastructure and beggaring the middle class. But in Mr. Buchanan’s view, the most harmful of the regnant ideologies is what he calls “democratism,” the neoconservative doctrine of imposing democracy on the world by force. It is this compulsion to remake the world that has drawn us into the Iraq war, which Mr. Buchanan calls the worst strategic blunder in American history.

“Democratism” would never have been a temptation to our rulers were it not for another related American defect: hubris. Even before the younger Bush became president, George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton acted as if there was no limit to America’s ability to force its will upon the world. The end of the Cold War should have been an opportunity to bring our troops home, to cut back our commitments, to become, in the words of the late Gene Kirkpatrick, a “normal nation” for which foreign policy is a secondary concern. (Mr. Buchanan reminds us that from the Revolution to the end of the Second World War, we had no peacetime alliances.) Instead of scrapping NATO, we expanded it to include former Warsaw Pact nations and even parts of the former Soviet Union. Instead of dismantling our foreign bases we have built scores more, and now have hundreds of thousands of soldiers in no fewer than 135 of the world’s 192 countries. This has produced a potentially disastrous confrontation with Vladimir Putin’s Russia and has encircled China, recreating Cold War-style containment against a country whose trade, according to our elites, is essential to our prosperity.

Despite the collapse of the Soviet Union we are still committed to defending Canada, Europe, Australia, Japan, South Korea, Thailand, the Philippines, Latin America and Taiwan. Worse still, we have added Eastern Europe, the Balkans, Central Asia and the Middle East to our security burdens. We are committed to defending most of the countries of the world against attack—some with economies stronger than ours—yet after six years of fighting we cannot even pacify Afghanistan.

In Mr. Buchanan’s view, the most dangerous and reprehensible combination of hubris and “democratism” has been President George W. Bush. As a candidate, Mr. Bush preached a more humble foreign policy than that of Bill Clinton, who made war in the Balkans on people who did not threaten us. After the September 11 terrorist attacks (which Mr. Buchanan believes were a consequence of our Middle East policies), neocons “seduced” Mr. Bush to their vision of spreading democracy by force. Mr. Bush has since become a uniquely reckless and ignorant steward of American power, blind to the tragedy his policies have left behind, and oblivious to the hatred for America he has stirred up around the world.

**Free Trade**

It may be just as well, then, that the United States is broke and has nothing like the resources for the neocons’ fantastic military program to remake the entire Middle East. And why is the world’s richest country broke? Because it has sacrificed its workers and its industrial might to the false lure of free trade. CEOs who ship American jobs overseas in order to cut costs grow wealthy while the middle class shrinks. Mr. Buchanan reports that because our markets are open to the world while so many are closed to us, we had a 2006 trade deficit of $764 billion, with a deficit in manufactured goods alone of $536 billion. We have not run a trade surplus since the early 1970s.

We had a $233 billion trade deficit with China; $88 billion with Japan, and $60 billion with Mexico. Economically, China treats us like a colonial province:
It had surpluses with us in computers, electrical machinery, vehicles, optical and photographic equipment, furniture, plastics, and iron and steel products. We had surpluses with China in soybeans, corn, wheat, animal feed, meat, cotton, ores, scrap, hides, pulp, wastepaper, cigarettes, coal, rice, tobacco, fertilizers and glass.

Mr. Buchanan sees free trade as an ideological cult, just like democratism. He argues that it was the economic nationalism preached by Alexander Hamilton—and now practiced by the Chinese—that made the American economy the greatest in the world, while free trade destroyed Britain’s early pre-eminence. “Free trade puts the claims of consumers ahead of the duties of citizens,” he writes, adding that “history has proven free trade to be . . . a serial killer of manufacturing.” The world economy now looks to the United States mainly as a market; we are consumers rather than producers.

Mr. Buchanan also calls free trade the “Trojan horse of transnational government,” noting that it is the favored ideology of those calling for North American union and an end to the nation state. Its combined economic and political effect therefore makes it just as pernicious as crusading democratism and the third ideology Mr. Buchanan examines, multi-culturalism.

“Deconstructing America” is the title of Mr. Buchanan’s chapter on multi-culturalism, a slashing critique that could have been written by the late Sam Francis himself. “Since the cultural revolution of the 1960s and the Immigration Act of 1965,” writes Mr. Buchanan, “the ethnocultural core has begun to dissolve. . . . [T]he European ethnic core is shrinking. From nearly 90 percent in 1960, it is down to 67 percent today, and will be less than 50 percent by 2040. Here we come to the heart of the matter. Quo Vadis, America? Where are you going?” Wherever it is going, he believes it can never return.

Mr. Buchanan blames the neoconservatives and the race-denying left for dissolving what he calls the essential constituents of nation: “blood and soil, tradition and faith, history and heroes.” Deconstructionists have replaced these ancient bonds with a new civic religion, based on the “new trinity” of “diversity, democracy, and equality.” The result is an artificial shell, what enthusiasts call a “creedal” nation. Millions of Third-Worlders have but to mouth the creed in order to become authentic Americans or even Europeans. Neons have such a contemptuous view of nation, and such a lust for cannon fodder for their imperial wars that they want guaranteed citizenship for anyone who joins Uncle Sam’s legions. Recruiting centers could be set up all over the Third World.

As Mr. Buchanan notes, the “creed,” whatever it is alleged to include, can never take the place of blood and soil. “It has no roots and does not touch the heart,” he writes. “Americans will not send their sons to fight and die for . . . watery abstractions.”

**Before it is Too Late**

Those who have read Mr. Buchanan’s earlier books—*The Great Betrayal; A Republic, Not an Empire; State of Emergency; and The Death of the West*—will be familiar with many of his arguments. *Day of Reckoning* refines these arguments and brings the facts entirely up to date. Like his previous titles, this book glows with passion for its subject: the United States of America.

Mr. Buchanan warns that disaster can take many forms, but the result would be the end of what we know as the United States. It could, for example, break apart like Yugoslavia or Czechoslovakia. The Southwest is becoming a province of Mexico, and the country is descending into what Teddy Roosevelt warned against: a “tangle of squabbling nationalities.”

Alternatively, like the Soviet Union, the United States could expire from sheer exhaustion and imperial overreach. We are already selling what is left of our economic infrastructure to pay for imports. As whole industries leave our shores, the dollar could collapse and lose its role as a reserve currency, leaving us at the mercy of foreigners who hold our debts.

If we do the neocons’ bidding and add to our roster of disastrous wars, the end could come quickly. The United States could find itself having to choose be-

---

**Free trade is the “Trojan horse of transnational government.”**
No One Wants It

Americans think immigration threatens their culture. According to a study published by the Pew Research Center, people everywhere feel the same way. After polling 45,000 people in 47 countries, Pew researchers found that in 44 of the 47, majorities wanted less immigration. Only South Koreans, Japanese, and Palestinians favored current levels of immigration—which are essentially zero. Seventy-five percent of Americans wanted fewer immigrants, as did similar proportions of Russians, Spaniards, and Britons.

The survey finds that natives think immigrants are a threat: “In today’s rapidly changing world, people from nations rich and poor worry about losing their traditional culture. In 46 out of 47 countries, majorities say their traditional way of life is getting lost.”

Some people are more worried than others. Seventy-three percent of Americans, 74 percent of Germans, 77 percent of Britons, and 75 percent of the French feared a loss of traditions, but the figure for South Korea and Bangladesh was 92 percent. Only in Sweden were fewer than half—49 percent—worried about cultural loss. Majorities in 46 of 47 countries said government should protect the national culture. The majorities were small in Germany, France, and Britain, but were over 90 percent in India, Indonesia, and Egypt. In America, the belief that government should protect the culture was more common among Republicans (71 percent) than among Democrats (60 percent). [Immigration, Loss of Culture, Worry Nations, Jennifer Harper, Washington Times, Oct. 5, 2007.]

‘Jena 6’ Update

Supporters of the so-called “Jena 6,” the young Louisiana blacks who beat a white classmate in Dec. 2006, claimed they were good boys targeted by a racist prosecutor. The truth is somewhat different. Ringleader Mychal Bell had a long juvenile record, and was on probation at the time of the attack. Now co-defendant Bryant Purvis, 19, faces misdemeanor assault charges after he beat up a schoolmate in Carrollton, Texas. His mother sent Mr. Purvis to Texas to live with an uncle so he could stay “out of trouble and out of the light.” If convicted, Mr. Purvis could be fined up to $4,000 and spend a year in jail. He is still charged with aggravated second-degree battery and conspiracy back in Jena, where he goes on trial on March 24.

Along with fellow Jena Sixer Carwin Jones, Mr. Purvis got a standing ovation at Black Entertainment Television’s Hip-Hop Awards last October, when the two helped present the award for best video. [‘Jena 6’ Defendant Facing New Assault Charge in Texas, AP, Feb. 7, 2008.]

Lowering the Bar

Richard Sander is a law professor at UCLA who suspects that when law schools practice race preferences they admit non-whites who are poorly qualified. He thinks this is why they are less likely than whites to graduate, and almost twice as likely to fail the bar exam. He thinks blacks would do better if they were admitted to less prestigious law schools, where their abilities better matched the demands. In order to prove what he calls his “mismatch theory,” he wants the California State Bar Association to release racial breakdowns of Law School Admission Test scores, law school and undergraduate grades, and bar exam results.

California law students and recent lawyers opposed this, claiming that the information was private. In November 2007, the bar association’s Committee on Regulations, Admissions, and Discipline voted 7-0 to keep the data under wraps, and the governing board of the association has since upheld the committee’s decision.

Non-whites are pleased, arguing that since there were so few of them in the database they could be easily identified. Alina Ball, the only black woman in UCLA’s law school class of 2008, also expressed doubts about the legitimacy of research into racial preferences.

Prof. Sander says accounts of his work have been misleading, and that worries about privacy are a “red herring.” He says he would be unable to identify individuals, and that even if he could, he would keep that information private.

Gerald Reynolds, a black who serves as chairman of the US Commission on Civil Rights, supports Prof. Sander’s study. He thinks that if the “mismatch theory” is right, minorities are being hurt, and corrective action could raise their pass rates. “We should not be in a position where we’re scared of the data,” says Mr. Reynolds. “We should have the courage to allow the researchers to take a look.” [Race Data for Bar Admissions Stays Under Wraps, California Bar Journal, December 2007.]

Too White

Walworth County, Wisconsin, 45 miles southwest of Milwaukee, had a population of 94,000 people in 2000, 95 percent of whom were white. Six years later, the population had grown to 100,000 and was ten percent non-white. The newcomers are virtually all Hispanic. Most residents may not know it, but their leaders have decided Walworth County is in a terrible crisis: Every single one of the county’s 150 elected officials is white.

The fact that most Hispanics are
not citizens and cannot vote is not a sufficient explanation for this agonizing excess of whiteness, so local sages have been consulted. Charles Franklin, a political science professor at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, says the Hispanic community is just too new. “It’s not unusual for new and growing populations to lag behind in running candidates for office. . . . It’s simply the way the political and social process works.” Prof. Franklin thinks Hispanics are too busy just trying to get by to worry about politics. He thinks it will take a “mobilizing factor” to get Mexicans to run for office. “That gives them a base to capitalize on—unsatisfied constituents—and it gives them a reason to run.”

Fortunately, the federal government may be stirring up just the dissatisfaction Hispanics needs. In August 2006 Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents raided Star Packaging in the town of Whitewater, arresting 25 illegal aliens along with the company’s owner. Hispanics paraded their outrage, and officials in the left-leaning town (home to the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater) promptly started an “outreach” campaign. UW-Whitewater political science professor Susan Johnson is delighted. She wants “outreach” to “all different groups in your community.” “It’s a communitarian idea,” she explains. [Mike Heine, Why Won’t They Run?, Janesville Gazette, Jan. 25, 2008.]

Talking Back

People who don’t want refugees in their communities are complaining about it. Anne Curtis, director of Bridge Refugees Services of Chattanooga, which helps settle refugees, says, “In the 10 years since we opened our office, I had never experienced any threats until last year,” when her agency began getting phone calls, letters, and e-mail. She says she felt so threatened that she called the police twice. “I feel sad that people forget all of our families were immigrants at one point,” she says.

America Gruner, president of the Coalition of Latino Leaders in Dalton, Georgia, and Jerry Gonzalez, executive director of the Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials, said they too have seen a rise in angry e-mail and phone calls. Miss Gruner says people want Hispanics to go back where they came from. “Last year,” she adds, “when we started a campaign to encourage Hispanics to vote, we received several calls telling us we were breaking the law by registering illegals.”

Prof. Douglas Bachtel of the University of Georgia says the weakening economy and last summer’s debate on immigration have raised nativist anger. “As the economy starts to tighten up they’ll see them [immigrants] as a threat taking scarce resources,” he said. “But it’s also a form of racism and total ignorance.”

Catalina Nieto, of something called the Tennessee Immigrants and Refugees Rights Coalition, says people need to get past the “myths.” “I’ve noticed that every time people interact with refugees or immigrants, they begin to understand their situation better,” she says.

Chattanooga resident Rick Pinson speaks for the opponents: “American soldiers who fought and died for this country did not do it so it could be given away to people from other countries, and that taxpayers be required to pay for their welfare.” [Perla Trevizo, Immigrant Agencies Feel Rise in Harassment, Chattanooga Times Free Press, Feb. 4, 2008.]

Propaganda Works

A recent study conducted by Sam Wineburg of Stanford University and Chauncey Monte-Sano of the University of Maryland asked 2,000 “diverse” high school juniors and seniors to pick the most famous Americans who were not presidents or first ladies. Martin Luther King topped the list, followed by Rosa Parks and Harriet Tubman. Four of the top ten were black, and six were women.

Prof. Wineburg says the prominence of blacks on the list demonstrates “the profound change” in how Americans view their history. “Over the course of about 44 years, we’ve had a revolution in the people who we come to think about to represent the American story. There’s a kind of shift going on, from the narrative of the founders, which is the national mythic narrative, to the narrative of expanding rights.”

Historian Dennis Derenberg, says it’s not surprising “civil rights” leaders head the list. “Since it so redefined America post-World War II, I think educators feel it’s truly a story young people need to know about because we’re still struggling with it. The Cold War is over and gone. The civil rights movement is ongoing.”

Here are the top 10, with the percentages who chose each:
1. Martin Luther King, Jr.: 67%
2. Rosa Parks: 60%
3. Harriet Tubman: 44%
4. Susan B. Anthony: 34%
5. Benjamin Franklin: 29%
6. Amelia Earhart: 25%
7. Oprah Winfrey: 22%
8. Marilyn Monroe: 19%
9. Thomas Edison: 18%
10. Albert Einstein: 16%

[Greg Toppo, High Schoolers Name Women, Black Americans ‘Most Famous,’ USA Today, Feb. 5, 2008.]

Mandatory Spanish

In 2001, a third of the students at Timberline Elementary in Grapevine, Texas, were Hispanic. Now they are more than half, while white enrollment has dropped to 36 percent. The school used to post announcements and write letters to parents in both English and Spanish, but the school now requires all English-speakers to learn Spanish.
Many whites are outraged. “They should not be forced to take Spanish,” says Patrick Swartz, whose daughter Kaitlyn may fail fifth grade for refusing to take the course. Even some Hispanic parents agree that English, not Spanish, should be the focus of the curriculum. Dora Deleon, whose grandchildren attend the school, says, “This is a country, America, with English. So we supposed to learn to speak English.”

Some white parents like mandatory Spanish. “It develops our kids,” says Tia Green. [Nerissa Knight, GCISD Parents Say Students Forced To Learn Spanish, CBS-TV 11 (Dallas/Fort Worth), Feb. 1, 2008.]

‘Hate’ Must be Stopped

A student group has invited AR editor Jared Taylor to speak at Michigan State University in Lansing on March 19. Lefties have organized a group called “Michigan Against White Supremacy” to pressure the university to cancel the talk. They are urging people to e-mail a form letter to university president Lou Anna Simon explaining why Mr. Taylor must not be allowed to speak. Among their arguments:

“[I]t is an issue of hate speech rather than that of free speech. Jared Taylor attempts to justify racism through empirical thought and asserts that there is a natural racial hierarchy. He utilizes the guise of intellectual discourse to proselytize hate. Taylor uses scientific ultrarationality . . . to defend his prejudice against non-white races.

“There is a distinct difference between free speech and hate speech . . . .

“Taylor will not bring about any intellectual discussion or analysis of race issues and his lecture can only serve to further divide people of different races and cultures.”

America’s Heart and Soul

Thanks to a $3 million donation from the Kellogg Foundation, construction of the Martin Luther King Memorial, should begin on the National Mall in Washington, DC, this spring. The King Memorial Foundation now has $90 million, just $10 million short of its goal of $100 million, and expects the giant statue to open to visitors on schedule of $100 million, and expects the giant statue to open to visitors on schedule. The Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial is about much more than bricks and mortar and stone. It is about the heart and soul of the American experience.” That must be why the memorial foundation chose a Chinese sculptor who made his name in giant statues of Mao Tse Tung to design the memorial. [Gerry Shih, Kellogg Donates $3M to MLK Memorial, Cox News Service, Jan. 31, 2008.]

More ‘Hate’

On January 31, president Janet Murguia of the National Council of La Raza—which mean “the race” in Spanish—announced plans to pressure television networks and presidential candidates to clamp down on “hate speech,” meaning any criticism of immigration. “Hate groups and extremists have taken over the immigration debate in an unprecedented wave of hate,” she explains. Freedom of speech has limits, she adds, because “there is a line that sometimes can be crossed.”

So what offends The Race? Calling immigrants an “army of invaders” or an “invading force,” pointing out that immigrants bring crime and diseases, and warning about “Reconquista,” which La Raza calls a “conspiracy theory.”

Who are the biggest offenders? MSNBC’s Pat Buchanan (see review of his latest book, p. 11), CNN’s Lou Dobbs, and radio talk show host Glenn Beck. Of Mr. Beck, Miss Murguia says, “He read a proposed ad for a giant refin-
Here come the brides.


Polygamy Good

Having multiple wives is a crime in Britain, punishable by up to seven years in prison—except for Muslims who marry in a country where polygamy is legal. In that case, Britain recognizes multiple marriages, and pays welfare benefits for all wives and children. If the husband wants, he can have the welfare checks for all his wives deposited into his account. A man with more than one wife may also be eligible for extra housing and tax benefits. No one knows how much this costs taxpayers because no one knows how many “Britons” have harems. [Britain Gives Formal Recognition to Polygamy, Times of India, Feb. 4, 2008.]

At least in Toronto, polygamous Canadians get similar benefits. Mumtaz Ali, president of the Canadian Society of Muslims, estimates that “several hundred” Muslims in the Toronto area are collecting on multiple wives. The preamble to the Ontario Family Law Act states: “In the definition of ‘spouse,’ a reference to marriage includes a marriage that is actually or potentially polygamous, if it was celebrated in a jurisdiction whose system of law recognizes it as valid.” “This is a law and there’s nothing wrong with it,” says Mr. Ali. “Canada is a very liberal-minded country; way ahead of Britain in this respect,” he added, though he conceded that even Britain has recently recognized Muslim polygamy. [Tom Godfrey, Harems Pay Off For Muslims, Sun (Toronto), Feb. 8, 2008.]

Patriotism Bad

The Institute of Education, a think tank affiliated with the University of London, conducted a survey asking students and teachers across Britain how the history curriculum should handle patriotism. Its conclusion? Patriotism is a very doubtful virtue because “it is hard to think of a national history free from the blights of warmongering, imperialism, tyranny, injustice, slavery and subjugation, or a national identity forged without recourse to exclusionary and xenophobic stereotypes.” Teachers must therefore be careful not to encourage patriotism, especially when they cover the rise of the empire or the British role in the Second World War.

The study’s author, Michael Hand, explains why his findings are important. “[Prime Minister] Gordon Brown and [opposition leader] David Cameron have both called for a history curriculum that fosters attachment and loyalty to Britain, but the case for promoting patriotism in schools is weak. Are countries really appropriate objects of love? Loving things can be bad for us, for example when the things we love are morally corrupt. Since all national histories are at best morally ambiguous, it’s an open question whether citizens should love their countries.”

Historian Tristram Hunt of the University of London calls this view “very immature.” “The real problem isn’t that our children are being indoctrinated with patriotism,” he says, “but that they don’t know enough British history.” [Nicola Woolcock, ‘Don’t Teach Children Patriotism,’ Times (London), Feb. 1, 2008.]

Browning of Oz

Two leading Australian academics claim that unless the country opens the floodgates to immigrants, it will not be able to sustain its economy. In their recent report, Population and Australia’s Future Labour Force, demographer Peter McDonald and economist Glenn Withers argue that demand for skilled labor in mining, transport, and communications will increase as baby boomers retire and Australian fertility rates drop. A record 177,600 immigrants settled in Australia in 2007, but the authors claim that in order to keep pace, the country will need at least 227,000 immigrants every year starting in 2021. [Sarah Smile, Workforce ‘Needs More Migrants,’ The Age (Melbourne), Feb. 6, 2008.]