President’s Message: Stopping the Rioting

In 1819 Chief Justice John Marshall wrote, “...the power to tax involves the power to destroy ...” The Left began destroying the U.S. in 1913 with the 16th amendment, which legalized the federal income tax. That opened the Pandora’s box of underfunded entitlements, notably Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid, leading to a federal debt now at $27 trillion ($208,000 per household).

Today, however, the Left’s destruction is overt, burning cities while co-opting the very legitimate issue of racial inequality.

The irony of Antifa and Black Lives Matter (BLM) lies in their demand for the resignation of Ted Wheeler, the liberal Democrat mayor of Portland, Oregon. Rioters called Wheeler “the “true embodiment of white supremacy.” BLM thus recognizes liberal Democrats as racist and liberal policies to achieve equality as a failure. However, BLM solutions are liberal policies taken to the extreme.

As justified as the Right may be in condemning the wanton destruction by Antifa and BLM, racial inequality needs a real solution in order to neutralize the justification for the rioting.

The solution requires recognition that a major cause of inequality is public schools, where the affluent are educated and the poor are not. As has been noted in this space, “progressive education” promoted a century ago by Columbia University’s John Dewey destroyed the crucial early elementary curriculum. Dewey replaced phonics with “whole word” and rejected arithmetic drill. Affluent children learn phonics and get arithmetic drill at home, more so than low-income children. The result is that by fourth grade, Blacks and Hispanics fall behind Whites and Asians and never catch up.

There is a nearly universal belief, especially among educators, that low-income children cannot learn, due to poverty or lack of family support. This is false. The problem is the curriculum, not the students.

Dewey also introduced Social Studies to crowd out history instruction and secularized what little history instruction that remained. Young people know little about the Revolutionary War, Civil War, and the two World Wars, for example. They do not study, much less memorize, the Declaration of Independence or Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address and his Second Inaugural Address or George Washington’s Farewell Address.

We are seeing in the streets generations that have no sense that they were “endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights”, “...that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom”, or to “judge not, that we be not judged.” Can protestors be certain that they would have acted differently had they walked in Jefferson’s or Washington’s shoes and lived in their times? Racism would end tomorrow if everyone “did as they would be done by,” but many feel no moral obligation to do so and indeed may never have heard that precept. For decades, the prosperous, including Liberals, living in comfortable neighborhoods ignored or cared only superficially for those living in poverty.

(Continued on page 7)
Terrorism — then and now
From 2015 “off with their heads” in Jihadist-controlled Libya to 2020 kick in the head in Democrat-controlled Portland.

The Fear Factor
When Trump took office, we had great fear of the international terrorism being fostered by ISIS. Obama had been ineffective in defeating ISIS; Trump unleashed our military and ISIS’s great power was defeated. Then Trump, despite Democrat objections, stopped immigration from seven nations that supported terrorism. Biden wants to reverse Trump’s order. Meanwhile, domestic terrorism has arisen, as evident in Portland, Seattle and other cities. Democrat mayors do nothing to stop the looting and destroying. They refuse Trump’s offer to help. Instead, they have been defunding the police. During the Democratic National Convention, the Democrat speakers said nothing about the riots, despite the great concern of the U.S. citizens. Trump cannot override the mayors but he did step in to stop the destruction of Federal property.

Ronda Kennedy, a Black, Conservative woman and the Dean of the School of Law at American Heritage University, wrote: “The Democrats are focused on scaring voters, and President Trump and the GOP are inspiring voters. It is an important distinction that says a lot about how the Democrats will govern.”

Slogans
Liberalism lives on slogans; slogans are frequently a substitute for thought, especially among undereducated youth. Today’s anti-intellectual distortions are being peddled by the cancel culture that plagues our society. The promoters of the liberal spirit will not tolerate any contradiction of their dictatorship of sloganeering. They demand assent to the latest never-to-be-questioned slogans used in the ongoing project to dismantle the U.S. Failure to agree with their revolutionary demands is treated as a culpable failure by “haters” who do not “get it.” Slogan-brandishing progressives seek not rational dialogue with presumably honorable opponents but rather submission from those they stigmatize as recalcitrant, self-interested defenders of their own “privilege.” These progressives emphasize their slogans with riots, chaos, and destruction.

Welcome to Our New Members
New and existing FCTA members can now enjoy the nifty FCTA gift: the tax history for their own real-estate property. See the sample at http://fcta.org/Pubs/MonthlyMsg.html, after scrolling down to July 2019. Email your street address to Fred Costello (facc@facinc.com) and he will email you your property’s history.

Scope of this Bulletin
Usually we do not consider national politics, but focus on local taxes. However, this November we have stark differences between the parties. The Democrats want to move toward socialism and raise taxes. Socialism is so contrary to human nature that is must be maintained at gunpoint and thereby becomes Communism. Your income tax is then close to 100%. Republicans still favor the Constitution and the freedom it offers. Under our current system, taxes are too high, but not confiscatory. Trump is for lower taxes.

Help Needed at the Polling Places
The Democrat Party has enough workers to work at the polling places on November 3; however, the Republican Party does not. The result: People who want to vote for the Republican side of the ticket will not know how to vote on the two amendments to the Virginia Constitution or the four bond issues (see article What Is on the 2020 Ballot on Page 3). The Republican Party needs people to hand out sample ballots outside the polls for all shifts on Election Day. Observers (poll watchers) inside the polls are also needed. Volunteering to work a 2-hour shift or two is crucial! Even working part of the 2-hour shift helps. Although it’s better to have two people covering each shift handing out sample ballots, at least one person should be present. An unmanned table is a weak substitute. To select a time and place, volunteers can call their District Republican chair or the Fairfax County Republican Chair, Steve Knotts, at his office: (703) 766-4467 (09:00 am - 2:00 pm) or on his personal phone: (703) 832-1718 or (202) 297-1156. Volunteers can bring a book, kids, lunch, drinks, etc. with them during their shift. If you have questions, call the FCTA’s Miriam Sullivan at (703) 508-7154. Whichever you call, you will be given instructions on how to perform your duties.

Black Americans Supporting Trump
The National Center for Public Policy Research reports that President Trump has a 36% job approval rating among Black Americans. It laments the long-standing vaunted social safety net which it claims has become a web that ensnares Black families in a vicious cycle of dependency. Trump has implemented many of the National Center’s Project 21 recommendations. Project 21 is an initiative of The National Center for Public Policy Research to promote the views of African-Americans whose entrepreneurial spirit and dedication to family and com-mitment to individual responsibility have not traditionally been echoed by the nation’s civil rights establishment. For example, Trump has implemented an income-tax credit for donations to scholarship programs. He is circumventing the Davis-Bacon Act which prices unskilled workers out of jobs. He has criticized the (Democrat) states that facilitate fraudulent voting (vote by mail, no voter ID, no proof of citizenship). He allows 501(c)(3) churches to endorse or oppose political candidates. He is working to bar illegal aliens from using public services, except in emergencies, so illegal aliens are not drawn to the U.S. Illega-l aliens take away jobs from Black Americans.

Trump has also established enterprise zones in predominantly Black communities; provided $100M to historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs); and established the First Step program, part of his criminal-justice reform.

Because Google opposes Trump, many references to the foregoing cannot be found through Google.

Would you dare to put a Trump sticker on your own car?
What Is on the 2020 Ballot

The candidates for office are:

**President/Vice President**
- Joseph R. Biden / Kamala D. Harris (D)
- Donald J. Trump / Michael R. Pence (R)
- Jo Jorgensen / Jeremy F. “Spike” Cohen (L)
- Kanye West / Michelle Tidball (I)

**Member, U.S. Senate**
- Mark R. Warner (D)
- Daniel M. Gade (R)

**Member, U.S. House of Representatives**

- **8th Congressional District**
  - Donald S. Beyer Jr. (D)
  - Jeff A. Jordan (R)

- **10th Congressional District**
  - Jennifer T. Wexton (D)
  - Alicia N. Andrews (R)

- **11th Congressional District**
  - Gerald E. “Gerry” Connolly (D)
  - Manga A. Anantatmula (R)

Citizens in the Town of Herndon will be voting for the Mayor and the Town Council.

Proposed Amendments to the Virginia Constitution (Vote Yes or No)

**Boundaries of the voting districts.** The question on the ballot is: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to establish a redistricting commission, consisting of eight members of the General Assembly and eight citizens of the Commonwealth, that is responsible for drawing the congressional and state legislative districts that will be subsequently voted on, but not changed by, the General Assembly and enacted without the Governor’s involvement and to give the responsibility of drawing districts to the Supreme Court of Virginia if the redistricting commission fails to draw districts or the General Assembly fails to enact districts by certain deadline.

**Taxes on disabled military veterans.** The question is: Should a tax be changed by or for a veteran of the United States armed forces or the Virginia National Guard who has a one hundred percent service-connected, permanent, and total disability be free from state and local taxes?

More details about the two amendments can be found at [sample%20ballots/ca_brochure_english2020.pdf](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/sites/elections/files/assets/). The sources for the information contained in FCTA bulletins can be found at: [www.fcta.org/Pubs/Reports/](https://www.fcta.org/Pubs/Reports/). To see what the FCTA is doing for you, besides reading our quarterly Bulletin and the frequently updated newsworthy web site ([www.fcta.org](https://www.fcta.org)), we send a brief monthly message to members for whom we have email addresses. Send your email address to [purves@fcta.org](mailto:purves@fcta.org) to be added to the list.

**PUBLIC LIBRARY BOND:** $90,000,000 for new construction

**PARKS BOND:** $112,000,000 for new park construction

**TRANSPORTATION BOND:** $160,000,000 for WMATA transportation improvements and facilities

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOND:** $79,000,000 for new construction

More details about the bonds can be found at [https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bond/](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bond/).

In 2014, library shelves were emptying. Why do we need new library construction? WMATA does not publish salary scales, annual raises, pension liabilities, or pension and health benefits. Why trust it? Revenue from the proposed bonds amounts to 4% of the school-plus-county budget; debt service is 6%. We showed in 2014 that, if we had no bonds, we would save $125,000,000 per year ($330 per household).

**Taxation Without Education**

On September 3, the FCTA emailed the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) asking:

- Are school employees who are not working or working less during the COVID shutdown still getting full pay?
- If so, how many employees have received full-time pay while not working or only working part time?
- Also, how much has been spent on salaries for employees who were not working or were working part time?

On September 11, FCPS responded with:

> "The cost for staff time to search for, review and supply the responsive records is $105.00 (3 hours @$35 per hour. Fairfax County Public Schools is allowed under VFOIA to charge for such expenses pursuant to Va. Code § 2.2-3704(F). As a courtesy, we do not charge requesters for the first half hour required to process the request; therefore, the total search cost will be $87.50.”

Thanks to dues from FCTA members, the FCTA can afford the fee. But why aren’t the answers already known? That they are not known suggests that none of the 12 school board members care how much money is spent on employees that are now working, while in the private sector businesses are closing, employees furloughed, and salaries cut.

Also, many Fairfax County taxpayers are paying higher real estate taxes this year because the supervisors did not reduce the tax rate to offset the increase in assessments. Hardest hit will be the poorest: Apartment building assessments increased 4% which means a 4% tax hike that landlords will probably pass on to renters.

COVID did not hurt the school budget last year. While revenues were down $4 million, expenditures decreased by $42 million, leaving a $38 million surplus.

While this year's increase in county funding for FCPS is only $7 million, compared to the $90 million requested before COVID, FCPS got an extra $21 million in COVID relief from the federal government and $70 million more from the state. Usually state funding increases by about $35 million. Overall, FCPS is getting $100 million more this year. Of that $30 million is held in reserve for COVID and $29 million is going to health insurance and pensions.

Another $29 million will pay for 323 new employees for 1482 new students, or one new employee for every 5 new students. Even so, achievement is low in most schools, resulting in huge price increases for homes near the few high-performing high schools.

**Sources for the Bulletin Articles**

The sources for the information contained in FCTA bulletins can be found at: [www.fcta.org/Pubs/Reports/](https://www.fcta.org/Pubs/Reports/). For this bulletin, look for Costello-256.

**FCTA's Monthly Newsletter**

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**FCTA's Monthly Newsletter**

To see what the FCTA is doing for you, besides reading our quarterly Bulletin and the frequently updated newsworthy web site ([www.fcta.org](https://www.fcta.org)), we send a brief monthly message to members for whom we have email addresses. Send your email address to [purves@fcta.org](mailto:purves@fcta.org) to be added to the list.
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**Child Abuse during the Lockdown**

NPR (National Public Radio) claims that child abuse has increased during the COVID-19 shutdown. Most articles on the subject state that the risk for child abuse is greater during the shutdown but not that it has happened. Data emailed to Arthur Purves from the Fairfax County Department of Family Services, in response to his VFOIA request, show that child abuse has decreased, not increased. During the shutdown from April to June, the number of abuse cases dropped to 57% of the number in 2019 for these months. The cynics might say, without proof, that the lower rate results from fewer detections by school teachers. Fred Costello can vouch for the teacher’s role. His grandson, wearing shorts, was playing in the woods. The teacher saw the scratches on his legs and reported the findings to Child Protection Services. The investigation cleared everyone, but there is nothing more frightening than getting a call from Child Protection Services announcing an investigation, then anxiously waiting two weeks for the investigator to arrive with the opening line that she had the authority to take the child away from us. She was prosecutor, judge, and jury, all in one.

**Election Integrity**

Wayne Root wrote, “Think about an election where a ballot is sent to a person regardless of eligibility; to an address they may not live at anymore; signed by someone else; picked up and delivered by a Democrat campaign operative; and still counted.” That is what can happen with mail-in voting. Even if submitted by mail rather than hand delivered, Biden supporters handle every mail-in ballot: the USPS Labor Union supports Biden. The USPS is able to handle mail-in ballots, but should it?

Mail-in ballots are the ballots most vulnerable to being altered, stolen, or forged. Just look at the current investigation going on in Paterson, New Jersey, over a recent municipal election conducted entirely by mail. Then there is the problem of mail-in ballots being miscarried or not delivered by the U.S. Postal Service. States with recent primaries, including Wisconsin and Maryland, have reported voters not receiving their ballots or not getting them in time to be voted and returned. In addition, there have been problems with the Postal Service not postmarking ballots, making it impossible for election officials to determine whether the ballots were mailed in time to be counted. The U.S. Election Assistance Commission says that in the last four federal elections, 2.7 million mail-in ballots were misdelivered and 1.3 million were rejected by election officials. New York Post reporter Jon Levine revealed how Democrats will try to steal the 2020 election with their mail-in vote scheme. A Democrat insider revealed to Levine how Democrats rig elections by paying homeless voters, taking advantage of elderly in nursing homes, fraudulently posing as registered voters, printing up phony ballots and actually removing real ballots from envelopes and replacing them with counterfeit ballots.

If Trump wins the election, the results will surely be contested. On January 20, the results might still be contested. The 20th Amendment to the Constitution provides that Congress “may by law provide … who shall then act as President.” Under 3 U.S.C. § 19, Congress has provided that the speaker of the House shall upon his or her “resignation as Speaker and Representative” act as president until a president or vice president has been determined. We will then have President Pelosi – a Democrat win.

One solution: Make voter rolls public (name, address) so the public can police them. The government clearly cannot or does not keep them clean.

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**Re-Open the Fairfax County Public Schools**

Condensed from an article by FCTA’s Ron Quasebarth:

Fearing COVID-19 transmission, the Fairfax County Public School (FCPS) system has decided not to re-open public schools. But does the data and science warrant the closing of the schools? (See the graph in the preceding article.)

What is the real risk for school age students and staff? If you haven’t already, consider checking the Va Dept of Health Covid 19 Demographics section to see actual data. In Fairfax County, there have been 2177 cases for the age group 0-19, the school ages, 0.007% of the 0-19 population, but there were only 61 hospitalizations and no deaths. There were 10,535 cases for the age group 20-50, the teacher and staff ages, 2.2% of that population, but only 665 hospitalizations and 27 deaths. With screening, social distancing, masks, and cleaning procedures recommended by the CDC, the risks will be lower.

Remote learning affects student growth. A McKinsey & Company study showed students using remote learning lost the equivalent of 3 to 4 months of learning, 7 months if without Internet. About 90% of high-income students log in; 60% of low-income students log in; and 40% of Black and Hispanic students. The result: an increased educational performance gap, diminished earning power, and a weakened economy.

The County is offering a daycare program for low-income children, charging up to $1472/month/child, in addition to the real estate taxes they already pay. How can it be safe to have daycare in a County facility and unsafe to have regular classes?

If you agree that County schools should re-open, that the COVID risk is at most now negligible, and that the risk of under-developing the children is worth the risk of COVID, please make your voice heard now. The County will reconsider the subject in the next few months or possibly sooner. Contact your school-board member.
The existing members of the Board of the FCTA are:

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<th>Directors</th>
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**Corporate Donors to Black Lives Matter**

Many of BLM’s goals contradict traditional US values; for example, BLM works toward defunding the police and disrupting the Western-prescribed nuclear family. Its founders are trained Marxists. It does not work toward racial harmony. Amazon and DoorDash are major contributors to Black Lives Matter (BLM), giving it millions of dollars. There are many other corporations that also contribute. It also receives millions of dollars indirectly through non-profits such as the Ford Foundation and Georg Soros’ Open Society Foundations.

In Pat Buchanan’s 1998 book, The Great Betrayal, he warned that international companies are loyal to themselves, not to any single country. They donate to BLM and other organizations that advocate the overthrow of the US government. They foresee an oligarchy the executives of the large companies, complete with censorship of news as currently practiced by Google, Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter. These companies are international and care little about the U.S. They want world power over governments so they can prevent anti-trust and other adverse laws and generate more wealth, power, and comfort for the executives.

**Party Platforms for the 2020 Election**

The newspaper Epoch Times has published a useful list of the Democrat and Republican Party platforms. The list is too long to publish here. The full list can be found at [https://www.thepochtimes.com/trump-and-biden-policy-stances-2_3483640.html](https://www.thepochtimes.com/trump-and-biden-policy-stances-2_3483640.html). The topics considered are the economy, taxes, governance, health care, education, border security/immigration, infrastructure, housing, environment, criminal justice, second amendment, military, foreign affairs, and China. We include the listing in a side-by-side comparison in our backup to the bulletin, [http://fcta.org/Pubs/Reports/2020-09a-fac.html](http://fcta.org/Pubs/Reports/2020-09a-fac.html).

In addition to the material from the Epoch Times, we have compared the two party platforms on moral issues ([http://fcta.org/Pubs/Reports/2020-07c-fac.html](http://fcta.org/Pubs/Reports/2020-07c-fac.html)). This listing does not include issues of prudential judgment — issues that are not morally prohibited. For example, this listing does not consider what is the best way to handle immigration. Those issues are considered in the Epoch Times listing.

Catholics are 20% of the population, but they will not all heed Catholic Archbishop Samuel Aquila of Denver, who said, “There are some issues that can legitimately be debated by Christians, such as which policies are the most effective in caring for the poor, but the direct killing of innocent human life must be opposed at all times by every follower of Jesus Christ.” DNA tests prove that abortion kills a human being. That human being is an innocent human.

Would you encourage your son or daughter to join the police force? Becoming a police officer is riskier than ever. The police must certainly feel insecure when the rioters turn on them and the mayors tell them to remain relatively hands-off in quelling the unrest, to stand and take the abuse. They can’t even assist the nearby federal law enforcement officers who are protecting Federal property. Molotov cocktails have been thrown at them. Many police have been injured. One has been killed. To exacerbate the problem, in its 2020 session, the governing bodies in Virginia, now all Democrat, reduced the seriousness of the crime of attacking a policeman, from felony to misdemeanor.

If we don’t have police, whom do you call when the rioters arrive at your door? The Second Amendment prevents having your guns taken, but not having your ammunition taken. The anarchists will know that you have no means to defend yourself when they arrive at your door. If you do dissuade them with an empty gun, you might be arrested for brandishing a weapon, as the McCloskeys were. The mayors care only when the rioters arrive at your door. If you do dissuade them with an empty gun, you might be arrested for brandishing a weapon, as the McCloskeys were. The mayors care only when the rioters arrive at their doorstep, then they want the police to act.

There are few campaign signs for Trump. Do Trump supporters fear attacks? If you had a Trump bumper sticker on your car, would you park it on a city street?

Such is life today. We are always to be terrified. If not from the coronavirus, then from the anarchists and lack of police protection. Terrified people will do much to relieve the tension, even electing a Socialist/Communist, surrendering their right to their property and to the ownership of the products of their labor, never thinking about what happened in Russia, China, Venezuela, and Cuba when a Communist took power. Watching the wrong television station in those countries could land you in the police station.

Do you feel less safe today?
Northam’s Green Energy

FCTA’s Bill Peabody investigated the cost of switching from our present energy sources to renewable (Green) energy sources. He looked at Germany, which claims to be using 54% renewables. Taxpayers tend to look only at their personal energy expenses: energy for their cars and their homes; however, increases in energy costs increases the price of everything the taxpayer buys.

Bill chose to look at Germany because it is a manufacturing marvel. Making your dream car and the best-selling tank in the world requires lots of energy. In 2012 Germany’s green program went into high gear. Using the leakage from Japan’s Fukushima nuclear reactor as an excuse, the Green New Dealers started closing reactors. They quickly found themselves short of energy and had to buy cheap, dirty, brown coal. Germany still uses 30% coal in electric generation. German households now pay almost three times the rate we do in the US for electricity. Gasoline is $5.60 per gallon. There also are more taxes: road taxes plus a stiff value-added tax (a sales tax) when you buy a car. A German citizen’s total tax burden is almost 20% higher than a Virginian’s. Since 2012, the German stock market has returned about 30% less than the U.S. Standard and Poor’s.

What did Germany get for this financial abuse? It claims that it saved the world some carbon pollution. The Ruhr valley is slightly less polluted, but so is every American city. France, which kept its reactors, sells Germany electric energy at high prices. In addition, Germany is getting tenuous help via a gas pipeline from Putin.

Virginia has two reactor sites that are designed to accommodate doubling their output. If you want carbon free electricity at low rates, it's waiting. One gas pipeline has been stopped and another is under attack. This leaves new homes with a heat pump. A heat pump is only bearable if you have cheap electricity. Meanwhile, in an attempt to match Germany, this year, Virginia’s Governor Northam approved the Democrat legislature’s 78% increase in gasoline taxes in Central Virginia. He has never shown us how many windmills and solar fields we will have when his Green program is finished and how much electricity will cost. California’s aggressive reliance on wind and solar now results in brown-outs when there are no clouds and no wind. This is where Democrats are taking Virginia as they dismantle fossil-fuel power plants.

Racially Balanced TJ Admissions

Is TJ next? In 2017, Maryland’s Montgomery County Public School system implemented major changes in the admissions process for its gifted-and-talented programs. Administrators replaced the old process of admissions, which was based on a combination of cognitive test scores, grades, and teacher recommendations, with a new “field test” that automatically screens a student’s qualifications using a secret formula that takes into account his or her “peer group.” Under the new selection process, the percentage of Asian Americans admitted to the selective Takoma Park Middle School dropped from 40% of applicants in 2017 to 31.4% in 2018, while the percentages increased for all three other races. Similar declines were seen in other selective schools. The “peer groups” seem to be racially homogeneous groups.

The Asian parents are now suing the schools for discrimination based on race. At the very least, the secret admission criteria should be made public.

School Choice

Citing a Reason Foundation article, FCTA’s Miriam Sullivan writes: Some states are preventing school choice for families. Teachers’ unions are successfully stopping parents from pulling their children out of the public-school system so they can enroll their children into alternative educational choices. Such interference with parental choice is unfair, but common in dictatorships. An educational monopoly, as can any monopoly, whether government or not, can do much harm.

Government education money should be allowed to “follow” parents’ choices regarding their children’s “K-12” educational decisions. US Department of Education’s Secretary Betsy DeVos, could “craft” school choice legislation so the public-school system would be required to remit taxes to parents who choose alternative education over public schools. Education is the state’s domain, but Federal regulations, policy, and guidance, and the withholding of Federal funds could compel state and local public-school jurisdictions to remit the funds.

Some help is available at the Federal level. The Supreme Court ruled that states must allow religious schools to participate in programs that provide scholarships to students attending private schools. In Virginia, 65% of your donation to a scholarship program can be deducted from your taxes. This is not simply a reduction in your AGI, it is a direct reduction in the amount you send the IRS. You can start the process by downloading the application form at https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/Development/Scholarship-Foundation-Pre-Authorization-Form.pdf. Even if you download this form from the Catholic Diocese of Arlington, it can be used for any qualifying scholarship program. The Catholic diocese also has the authority to approve the application. Other potential recipients also have this authority.

If you choose to keep your children in public school, you should monitor what they are being taught. A commonly used history textbook was written by an anti-American who liked Communism. You might want to correct the story and teach your child about propaganda.

Critical Race Theory (CRT)

CRT is based on the view that the law and legal institutions are inherently racist and that race itself, instead of being biologically grounded and natural, is a socially constructed concept that is used by white people to further their economic and political interests at the expense of people of color. Although little information is available about Fairfax County’s CASEL program (Collaborative for academic Social emotional learning), it seems to incorporate CRT ideas.

As is evident from a Google search, Critical Race Theory is everywhere. It is the basis for the idea of “systemic racism” — i.e. that racism is part of the institutional structure of the United States, a theory that has now been embraced by Democratic Party nominee Joe Biden.

Elementary schools teach elements of Critical Race Theory to children; corporations assign readings on “white privilege” to their employees; professional sports leagues encourage fans to support protests against “systemic racism” in our society. Its tenets foster inter-racial discord. When Fred Costello asked readers of Bacon’s Rebellion for an example of systemic racism, the only one he was offered — from the 1960’s.

Shelby Steele, Black author of White Guilt, condemns it. President Trump is the first leader to do anything to fight it.
The following is condensed from an article published by Mercator on August 31, 2020.

Children living with their biological mother and father are better students, better citizens, and better adjusted in society. How has this family structure become rare? Famous essayist and author Mary Eberstadt recently addressed this question in her book Primal Screams: How the Sexual Revolution Created Identity Politics. The change started with the Sexual Revolution in the 1960s when faith waned and morals loosened. Personal happiness was sought through sexual fulfillment. Rates of infidelity, divorce, teenage sex and unmarried pregnancy began to soar. Abortion and the pill turned sex into a childless exchange. This made marriage optional. IVF therapies took this a step further by enabling children to be born in the absence of either a father or a mother. What the family unit looks like now is limited only to the imagination (stimulated by what the FCPS teaches in its FLE program). Eberstadt believes that the new “family” relationships caused a “sharp rise in psychiatric trouble among the young… the explosion of loneliness on a scale never before recorded [and] the rise in so-called ‘deaths of despair’ that are plainly related to loss of love.”

She explains how the weakening of family ties and identity has led to a “longing for belonging,” a craving for family and loyalty elsewhere. Enter identity politics. Having taken individualism to an extreme and having tasted the loneliness it can cause, we now face a new kind of tribal warfare — a postmodern caste system. We are losing the ability to see each other as individuals, and instead we see them as members of rival groups, groups that fight and riot against each other — soldiers in the tribal warfare. The “melting pot” is frozen.

We might conclude from Eberstadt’s book that the BLM, encouraged by the Democrat mayors and governors, is no help. It wants to abolish traditional marriage. More police in schools and out, more laws, and more identity politics will not create peace. Socialist and Communist governments give the appearance of peace by making everyone, except the rulers, slaves of the state, exterminated if troublesome. There is only one cure: we must return to our traditional world view with a merciful God helping in this life and judging and meting out justice in the afterlife. If there is no ultimate justice, there is no reason to be good. As FCTA President Arthur Purves often says, put prayer back in the schools.

President’s Message  (Continued from page 1)

in poverty and crime just a few miles away. As long as the crime and poverty were out of sight, the Ted Wheelers administered their palliatives of affirmative action and welfare while the underlying problems festered. Conservatives offered no alternative, except for President Trump who did what he could by lowering minority unemployment to historic lows. Injustice and inequality cannot be ignored indefinitely, and now the Left is exploiting them to destroy our government. Destruction is not a solution. Fixing early elementary education is a solution. Instead of defunding the police, we should defund public schools until they return to the pre-John Dewey teaching methods that worked for hundreds of years and made the U.S. the most powerful nation on earth: phonics, drill, history, and faith. Liberals should embrace this and school choice. Also, as a nation we should consider what Washington stated in his Farewell Address: “… let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion.”

Will USA become USS

The name “United States of America” is offensive to some Canadians and some people south of the border, so the Democrat Party has decided to change the name to the “United Socialist States”. The Party has learned that, by declaring an emergency, they can destroy businesses and confine people to their homes just as done in Communist countries. They call their new government organization “Socialist” because “Communist” has bad connotations among older people, but they mean Communist. Far fetched? Not if Biden is elected. Because he seems to be suffering mental deficiencies, Biden would probably be a figurehead, with the government being controlled by Harris, Sanders, and the wealthy who control the Democrats with their donations. At first, it will be an oligarchy but, eventually, the donations from the wealthy will not be needed and a tyranny will result, as in Cuba and Venezuela. As in the USSR, spying on enemies will be common, perhaps not only poisoning the enemy with lies but even with chemicals. You will not know about such things until their enforcers arrive at your door.

Some minority party might remain so the Democrats can accuse it of actions such as colluding with Russia (which the Democrats did, not the Republicans), with Ukraine (which the Democrats did, not the Republicans), and with China (which the Democrats did, not the Republicans). The Democrats will accuse the minority party of causing divisiveness (because its leader opposes the Democrats); lying (which Schiff did, not Trump); biasing the news (which the Main-Stream Media does, not OANN); fomenting riots (which the Democrat mayors did, not Republicans); receiving quid-pro-quo donations from foreign countries (which Hillary Clinton and Hunter Biden did, not Trump); favoring the wealthy (the income gap increases more under Democrat presidents than under Republicans); neglecting the poor (unemployment was higher with Democrat presidents than under Trump); separating immigrant families (which Obama did in cages, not the Republicans); etc.

The November 2020 election could have far-reaching consequences.

Questionable Democrat Tactics

Nancy Pelosi, Jennifer Wexton, and many others clearly plot to create chaos and upend our entire social and economic system by emptying the jails, eliminating bail, ending local cooperation with ICE, taking away your right to self-defense and defense of your family, throwing open the borders to millions more illegal aliens, giving them financial aid using YOUR money, and allowing mayhem and destruction in cities. Locally, Fairfax County is using your taxes to pay lawyers to defend illegal aliens.

The election process is jeopardized by the same liberal politicians: eliminate voter ID, increase the number of absentee ballots, and keep inaccurate voting roles so votes can be submitted in the names of people who are dead or have moved away. In Philadelphia, PA, a poll judge confessed to stuffing a ballot box for the Democrat candidate. Too late. The winner had long been in office. Who are the likely bullies? A New Jersey fitness club opened against the Democrat governor’s order. Two days later, the sewer backed up into the club, but not into other shops in the same strip mall. A Mississippi church was burned down by an arsonist after holding worship services in defiance of the Democrat mayor’s order.

The winners in a chaotic society are the bullies, the wealthy, the tyrants. The liberals’ army, the BLM, shows how. People will even vote for an emperor if only to put order into society, just as happened after the French Revolution.
What FCTA Has Been Doing on Our Members’ Behalf

Much has transpired at FCTA since the previous bulletin. For a complete list of the reports generated since then, go to http://www.fcta.org/Pubs/archivelist.html. The list of files will be of interest to many readers. To see only what FCTA has done, type into the search box the word blue. FCTA actions have the date and category in blue, so the search will result in the FCTA actions only. You will see the texts of presentations, letters to our politicians, reports on meetings, opinion articles, and research reports. Click on the title of the article and you can read the full report.

(Re)Join the FCTA and invite a friend to join too!

The Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance analyzes Fairfax County, Virginia, and Federal budgets. We publish the FCTA Bulletin, which explains budgets, exposes excesses, and offers solutions. We also maintain a website (www.fcta.org) with much commentary. Use this form or join online at www.fcta.org. We need your help to reach more taxpayers. For additional memberships, simply enclose a check with the new member’s name, address, and email.

Current members: Please renew if the date on your mailing label is before July 1, 2019. Thank you!

Enclosed is my annual FCTA membership dues of $25 ($10 for first year for new members).

Mail to the return address, above.

I’m enclosing an extra contribution of $ ________

I would like to volunteer. Please contact me.

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