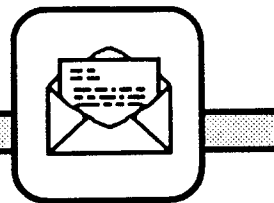


Guest View



Endless chatter from the left

By Albert T. Woodson
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Liberals, it seems, have made it a national past-time chipping away the moral fabric of the nation. We see endless numbers of articles putting the liberal spin on everything from special rights for sexual deviates to federal funding to kill unborn children, along with a plethora of immoral excesses in between. At times, it appears that this generation is out to destroy any sense of moral responsibility for the collective future. We see bad ethical models for our youngsters and almost daily they see stories of government corruption and private greed. They also see it in rock stars, football players, corporate raiders and, worse, in the Congress of the United States. It is not surprising, then that kids are "freaking out" with all sorts of behavior — drugs, suicides, teen pregnancy, dropouts, gang wars and the like. The Left likes to point out this may be a result of "Attention Deficit Disorder." Give us a break!

This move to the left, supported largely by liberal press and media and reinforced by the courts and academicians, puts at risk our traditions, our lifestyles, our future and almost everything we value. Americans have a great tradition of concern for the future that originates with the founding fathers. Our forefathers, who designed our system of government, were keenly aware they were making decisions that would affect future generations. But they, too, are not immune from ridicule from the Left.

In a recent article in *The Recorder* (Blue Grass Notes, July 8), the Declaration of Independence was portrayed as "an old-timey, it's-all-your-fault bill of complaint" issued by a group of money-hungry colonists. The author, an impertinent chatterer who writes endless drivel on such subjects as "winter flies" and "shoveling manure," goes on to quote what Jefferson "might have said," poking fun at him and America "conceived as a feel-good

commune pursuing hippy happiness." What Jefferson might have said could fill volumes.

There are others, however, that see it differently. The nation's "First Document" deals with three basic things. First, it is a statement of deep religious belief, not just a "notion"; secondly, it's about power and abuse of power; and third, it's about "liberty," a word that today's liberal establishment doesn't like to use much anymore.

The Declaration of Independence is also unique as it is both a religious document and a political statement. The basic belief states there are certain "God-given" rights granted to mankind and that these natural, indubitable rights are incontestable rights, undeniable, beyond dispute and not in the field of government.

In 1758 the Right Honorable William Blackstone, an Englishman, published a book known as "Commentaries of the Laws of England," a document that didn't escape the attention of such men as James Madison, Thomas Jefferson and other "revolutionaries" of the period. Blackstone speaks of natural liberty as "being a right inherent in us by birth, and one of the gifts of God-to-Man at His creation, when He endowed Man with the faculty of free will." Does this mean that we can simply choose which laws we wish to obey? Of course not, but, it does mean that man has a God-given innate ability to choose what is morally right from wrong.

According to a colonial named Thomas Paine, "the government cannot be applied to invade the natural rights of man which are retained in the individual, and in whom the power to execute is as perfect as the right itself."

Whatever these rights are called, the founding fathers, as expressed by Jefferson, believed that mankind had been given a treasure by the Creator — the treasure being the inalienable right to "Life, Liberty and Pursuit of Happiness," and a belief that all laws or any government that impinges on that God-given treasure shall and will be swept

away. So says the Declaration of Independence.

After 50 years of a Congress dominated and controlled by the democratic party, we find ourselves on the brink of Socialism. In the White House sits a decadent President who fails miserably to fulfill his duty and responsibility to instill honest virtue, character and morals in our nation's population. The national news abounds with reports of immoral behavior by these people. This administration apparently believes that we, as a people, cannot make our own choices but, require more domination of our daily lives by an ever-expanding government, as the only way to save us from ourselves. Furthermore, the administration appears to think they can fool us by changing our language; for example taxes are now "contributions," government spending is "investment," sexual deviation is now "status" or "orientation," and tyranny reveals itself in the "Waco disaster," health care is a take-over of our freedom to choose, and then there's "gun control, government mandates, no-knock laws, seizure of property, holiday roadblocks and welfare imprisonment." Do you get the feeling that a police state is in the making or maybe already here?

And what about liberty? Liberty is the very essence of responsibility in government. The war trials of Nuremberg proved to the world that a nation must possess a moral conscience and adhere to it. Our nation's men and women since that time who have devoted their life's energies to protecting the "Creator's gift," are indeed the true heroes of America, even though many are unknown throughout all time. But some are known, beginning with those of the revolutionary period, who risked life and limb, who broke the King's laws and fought for liberty. Later on, though not an American, Herr Schlinder violated Hitler's edicts, which were, in effect, Germany's laws, and it was he who lied to the Gestapo to save the lives of

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many Jews whose names appear on "Schlinder's List." Then there were those school children who sat down at a southern lunch counter and engaged in an illegal act of protest to segregation laws that violated "Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness."

And, finally, there's Lt. Col. Oliver L. North, who misled members of Congress to save the lives of hostages and violated a Congressional prohibition to provide assistance to desperate men and women fighting for their freedom from a Nicaraguan communist dominated government. All of the above mentioned "law breakers" understood the meaning of the Creator's treasure and what duty, honor and country required of them.

Those who criticize North for executing his "God-given" right to defend the "natural rights of mankind" are, in my opinion, misguided! They have been conditioned by the relentless efforts of a liberal media, the propaganda of leftist socialists and communists, or well intentioned moderates of both parties that unwittingly contribute to under-

mine our American heritage. To his credit Mr. North didn't buy into it and neither should we; so decide for yourself! I believe that Virginians must unite and support the only party that aims to restore America's greatness. The time has come for Virginians, in particular, to take the lead to restore moral values to the laws of our government.

The Clinton administration and its supporters are a "wake-up call" to the nation. The days of Republican moderation and compromise must end — the Democrats have been playing "hard ball" with us for half a century, while many Republicans thought moderation could balance the scales. Forget it, the time has come to dump moderation and recognize it as defeatism and as well dump the "tax and spend" and "if it feels good, do it" liberals into that waste basket of history. It's time for any Democrats who believe as we do, to join us to form a new foundation of individual freedom and liberty for ourselves and all prosperity.