

## 2015 ISSUE 3 CONTENTS

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James Van de Velde, Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Naval Intelligence University, covered the threat of cyber warfare against the U.S. See article on page 2.

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Robert Friedmann, Professor of Criminal Justice at Georgia State University, analyzed the "deal", its risks in the Middle East and threats beyond. See article on page 3.

### **TRUE PERSPECTIVES SEMINAR - September 22 - Crime in Savannah**

DA Meg Heap described crime fighting in Savannah today and the future. See article on page 4.

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### **FUTURE TRUE PERSPECTIVES SEMINAR - November 19 - Immigration Law**

At 5:00pm at the Plantation Club, Attorney Sarah Lamar (Hunter McLean Law Firm) will discuss the legal constraints on what the U.S. can currently do about illegal immigration. Free for Sustaining Members, \$5 for regular members; \$10 for others. For reservations, contact Russ Peterson (598-9845 or russp@aol.com). Member bar starts at 4:30pm.

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### **REVIEWS OF REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE BOOKS**

Pages 8 to 15 cover book reviews of candidates that have released campaign books highlighting their political views and philosophy. These include: Dr. Ben Carson, Donald Trump, Marco Rubio, Ted Cruz, Carly Fiorina, Bobby Jindal, Ron Paul, Rick Santorum, Mike Huckabee (and Scott Walker who just suspended his campaign).

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### **PLANS FOR 2016 PRESIDENTS DAY FUNDRAISING DINNER - February 15, 2016**

Our keynote speaker will be Lt. Colonel Allen West, former Congressman from Florida. He is on a mission to expose the crucial issues of the 2016 presidential campaign to unseat the liberal progressive agenda that has dominated the current Administration in Washington.

Reservations are being accepted now for this event which will likely be an early sellout. Contact: Dick Miller (598-5049 or hrmatthelandings@gmail.com)

This is our major fundraiser, and the proceeds will hopefully help elect a Republican President and other Republican candidates running in the key 2016 elections.

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### **KEY FUTURE DATES**

October 5 - Beer & Brats Rally, Plantation, 5:30pm; Members \$20; Non-members \$25.

November 19 - True Perspectives Seminar on Immigration Law

February 15, 2016 Presidents Day Banquet, Speaker: Colonel Allen West.

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## **Cyber Security Threats – July 14**

James Van de Velde, Ph.D., Adjunct Lecturer, Georgetown University, gave a grim portrayal of cyber tactics used by ISIS to create home-grown terrorists worldwide. His perspective comes in large part from his consulting on strategy and intelligence issues to U.S. Cyber Command (dealing with this fifth form of warfare after land, sea, air and space).

### **Russia, China and ISIS In That Order**

He rated our adversaries in this arena, starting with Russia as the most formidable, followed by China and now ISIS (the Islamic State terrorist group based in Iraq and Syria).

While Russia and China can do us more existential damage from colossal breakdowns in key services, he chose to focus his talk on ISIS because of their recent and unique approach to cyber warfare.

### **ISIS Thrives Via the Internet**

What is unique about ISIS is that the threat is enabled primarily because of the existence of the worldwide web - the Internet. He also contrasted their tactics with those of their predecessor al Qaida (AQ).

### **Combatting al Qaida**

AQ operated as a terrorist group with a Sunni Muslim origin as a planning and execution operation. From Afghanistan they plotted to damage traditional Western symbols to reinforce their intent to replace Western culture and return to fundamentalist Muslim beliefs.

They relied on a command structure to recruit operatives to carry out well-planned attacks. They initially succeeded via the well known 9/11 attacks in 2001 on U.S. symbols - the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Led by Osama bin Laden holed up in Afghanistan, they stealthfully planned a coordinated attack using dozens of dedicated believers who were willing to sacrifice their lives for the big moment.

Of course, after 9/11 the awakened U.S. began a systematic campaign to try to prevent such an event from recurring. Special Forces invaded Afghanistan to deny AQ their safe haven planning base and overthrew their willing enablers - the Taliban. We also continued to identify their leaders and, via drone strikes, take out known leaders so that their influence and mode of operation was severely disrupted.

### **ISIS Differs From al Qaida**

In stark contrast are the goals and methods of ISIS. In addition to creating a Caliphate on the ground in Iraq and Syria, ISIS is recruiting home grown terrorists to do lone wolf attacks abroad. These new recruits are to use their own individual ideas - inspired by ISIS videos and articles sent to them via the Internet. Emagazine articles describe how to make bombs and how to select targets to carry out homicides.

Social media also is effective in recruiting fighters in Syria and Iraq, but the ISIS goals are far beyond the Middle East. The ultimate goal is a worldwide Caliphate and return to Sixth Century primitive religious beliefs based on the Koran.

Their current recruiting message is simple. Using barbaric images such as beheadings, they hope to inspire malcontents everywhere to join their movement signified by brutality and horror. "Jihadi cool" is the term used by young recruits who, with no grounding in morality, want to join this new, seemingly successful, counter to Western civilization.

Terrorism is "performance art" for these jihadists and the Internet is a form of "gateway" drug for ill-informed, malleable youth to become exposed to jihadist ideology and join

ISIS. Thus ISIS relies on news organizations to do their handywork by publicizing the latest ISIS accomplishments. ISIS ironically uses modern technology to accomplish this. In essence they couldn't really thrive, or perhaps even exist, without the Internet! They use it for all their fundamentals: Recruiting, Planning, Organization and Information Sharing.

### **How to Combat These Tactics**

So far the FBI has been mainly successful in tracking down these lone wolf and small group attackers in the U.S. (the Boston Marathon explosions being a prominent exception).

To do this the FBI (along with NSA and the CIA) needs massive access to phone and electronic records to pick up the culprits before they attack.

One approach might be to shut down vast areas of the Internet in Syria, where the videos are being produced, but the current Administration is reluctant to do that.

### **The Next Big Risk**

Of greater concern is whether these ISIS tactics can move to the next level - where Russia and China have the capability. The first escalation could be denials of services to regular commercial enterprises via flooding websites and deforming them.

After that would be active Cyber-weapons to take down infrastructure such as dams, reservoirs and power plants.

To do that, they would need to recruit very sophisticated scientists (such as are functioning in Russia and China). The latter, being nation states, are not sympathetic to ISIS tactics as they might be next on the agenda to transform their societies to Sharia Law.

The U.S. can and should monitor the set of sophisticated scientists who might potentially be "turned" to the Dark Side by ISIS propaganda.

Some critics of surveillance, worried about our government spying on civilians, need to evaluate the relative risks involved and ensure themselves that civil rights are protected. But civilization as we know it also needs to be protected, if the wrong people get access to the wrong weapons.



Note: The Van de Velde complete slide presentation is available on SIRC's website: [skidawayrepublicanclub.com](http://skidawayrepublicanclub.com)

## **The Iran Nuclear Deal – August 11**

Dr. Robert Friedmann was the speaker on this overall Middle East perspective with emphasis on the Obama Administration's attempt to create a legacy of newfound peace with Iran and deferring their emergence as a nuclear state. He is Professor Emeritus of Criminal Justice at Georgia State University and Director of the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange.

### **Historical Perspective**

He started with a review of what happened towards the end of the First World War, when Britain and France created countries that had never really existed before - namely Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine and Jordan via the Sykes-Picot Agreement. This region had throughout history (before the discovery of the New World) been strategically situated as a connecting focal point near the developed continents of Asia, Africa and Europe. So it was geography and not just religion that created controversies there. Jerusalem being claimed as an important city for Jews, Christians and Muslims.

Also noted was that Iran and Turkey have become powerful non-Arab Muslim countries and rivals in the region.

Iran was a sophisticated military power for centuries, so when it became a Shiite state after the fall of the Shah, things turned for the worse. Some blame was placed on President Carter who misread the dangerous nature of that new Islamist State ("Khomeini is a noble cleric").

Carter then refused to exert American power to free the 52 hostages taken from the American Embassy in 1979. It took less than a day in 1981 for the new President Ronald Reagan to get them released. The implication is that the Middle East mentality respects power and senses the original action void as weakness by the U.S. This is viewed as crucial to the current Obama Administration getting out-negotiated by Iran by a wide margin.

Not just Jimmy Carter, but many Westerners were fooled by the intensity of the fundamentalist Muslims in intending to recapture their Caliphates and even desiring to take over the whole world.

### **The Deal - Why It's So Bad**

The principal reason is the very fact that Iran agreed to it, as they never intended to give up on their original intent to become a nuclear power. Friedmann's view is that Obama and Kerry were so intent on having a deal that they virtually conceded on every major point. There is a general view among those familiar with the participants close to this "Deal" is that the U.S. got virtually nothing.

Obama's assertion that only one nation publically expressed opposition to the Deal, Israel, is very misleading as all of Iran's foes in the region privately are aghast at it, but will not publicly say so.

One reason offered for the one-sidedness of this Deal is that the U.S. tends to negotiate in good faith, respecting contracts, while the other side is totally duplicitous. "Taqiyya" in Islam means you are encouraged to lie to non-believers to achieve ultimate Islamist goals.

Further proof that we got hoodwinked in the Deal was Secretary Kerry's astonishing admission that he had not read the "secret" bilateral side deal arranged between Iran and the IAEA. Iran can now declare any site as military and thwart inspection completely. Before that the "agreement" that Iran had 24 days to cover up a site before inspectors could get in.

Did we learn anything when Bill Clinton's team of negotiators botched the North Korean

negotiations to prevent nuclear expansion, and now North Korea has the bomb?

### **Audience Questions**

In the Q&A session, Friedmann first explained why the U.S. Jewish community has not supported the Israeli abhorrence to this treaty. There is still an historical liberal view of American politics, stemming from thousands of years of fearing a persecuting establishment, so they are reluctant to criticize Democratic politicians. Reaction to NY Senator Chuck Schumer's opposition to the deal shows how his fellow partisans question his loyalty.

On whether Israel, as a formidable military power in the region, will allow an Iranian bomb to be developed, he warned against unilateral Israeli action as inadvisable, as many others have an equal stake in preventing a nuclear Iran. Surprising alliances are starting up among Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and the Emirates, aligned with Israel against this Iran power play.

Will Iran be reluctant to bomb Israel for fear of retaliation? Not likely as they have little regard for life in general. During the Iran-Iraq war, they marched 40,000 young Iranians through an Iraqi minefield to clear it for their own military to then march through. Also even if nuclear radiation prevents Iranian invasion subsequently for 50 years, they have a very long perspective to their ultimate desire to expand the Caliphate, willing to wait centuries if they are convinced of ultimate victory. Be wary America.

And how naive is the Obama/Kerry view that being friendly with Iran will serve to inspire them to join the community of modern nations that prefer peace rather than war?

There is also the Islamic State threat (Friedmann eschews the terms ISIS and ISIL) that may create unusual alliances in the Middle East. (As for precedence in flip-flopping alliances, he referred to the Soviet Union and Germany and the Allied Powers in WWII.)

A final observation was made by Friedmann that the U.S. congress opposition to the Deal was crucial even if it is overridden by an Obama Veto. It sets the dynamic for a new president's actions in 2017, if the Republicans win.

And if the Deal rejection survives an Obama veto, that will be a major opportunity to renegotiate. It will likely get support from the U.S. allies that caved in the past negotiation (England and Germany). Russia and China may even come around a bit as the U.S. still has formidable pressure points around the globe on trade and financial sanctions.



## Crime In Savannah – September 22

Savannah District Attorney Meg Heap gave a rapid-fire review of her tenure as the head of the DA Office since her term began 2013.

Her office is the largest law firm in Savannah, with 123 full time staff in six different departments, from Early Intervention, Child Support and Juvenile, to an 11 person Investigation Unit.



In nearly three years, the accomplishments include:

Installing a rigorous **Tracking System** for the over 10,000 cases active at any given time.

Expanding a **Public Integrity Unit**, which includes arresting and prosecuting police officers.

A revised **Gang Prosecution Program**, as 70% of Savannah's violent crime is committed by gang members whom make up less than 0.5% of the population.

Vigorous investigation and prosecution of a previously under-scrutinized **elder abuse problem** in Savannah.

A new tactic on the **homeless** problem. Instead of just sending them to jail for 30 days on a vexing but recurring problem, find out how to solve some of their problems.

Correcting a **spousal abuse** problem, by requiring a delayed release of the abuser. This allows the victim to be placed in a Safe Shelter before the perpetrator can return home to do even more vengeful harm to the spouse or live-in girlfriend.

A new approach to investigating **convict re-entry** into Savannah after serving their terms, by challenging a problem with a very lax Correction Division, abusing pardons and paroles. The DA's office found out by chance that over 90% of applicants were given pardons, thwarting the requirements for sex offender registration. The Georgia law was recently changed to prevent that. Victims are now have the right to find out about such pardons and to be heard on the issue of such exoneration.

### Controversies Confronted in Savannah

Many may remember the case recently in West Savannah where a young man was killed by a policeman and questions were raised as to whether excessive force was used. This event happened at about the same time as the Ferguson Missouri riots. There were even outsiders dispatched to Savannah to stir up trouble.

Because of the rising controversy in America about these incidents, the DA's response was to go to a grand jury, even though the facts on the ground supported no charges should have been filed against the officer.

The investigation unit also found that false statements had been made to the press by alleged eye-witnesses, which were not made in sworn statements in the regular investigation. The Grand Jury was made aware of this.

Also many ministers of churches on the West Side of Savannah were kept informed of the releasable facts of the case. The real witnesses affirmed that the victim had aimed a hidden gun at the arresting officers as he escaped custody from the back seat of a

moving police car.

The Grand Jury found the police officer response to fire back was appropriate. Justice was done at the same time as a crisis was prevented in Savannah.

### **Illustrating Risks the Police Face**

The audience was next shown an actual dramatic film of a police unit investigating a kidnapping and stabbing in a mobile home in Savannah. The young investigating police officer came upon an already stabbed woman and her infant held captive in the bathtub of the trailer, with the perpetrator threatening to kill both of them as well as the police. The meth crazed man was shot and killed by quick and accurate police fire in the confrontation, with no further injury to the woman and child held captive.

The young officer, who himself recently had a child, should really have been given a medal. The whole incident was shown to illustrate the danger that police face, all too frequently, in keeping the community safe.

### **Redirecting Resources**

Early on it was clear that the Major Crimes Unit needed more resources to shorten the two to three year time it was taking to get to trial, especially in Capital Murder cases. That much delay was compromising the ability to get good witnesses to testify. Thanks to a reorganization of the Superior Court establishing two separate divisions, major crimes now take as little as six months to go to trial.

### **Other Initiatives**

Recently launched was Operation Cease Fire (just renamed End Gun Violence: Step Forward), patterned after experiments in Richmond and New Orleans that had dramatic results in reducing murders and shootings by 30% to 60%. It involves calling in gang members who have past arrests and conveying that they are being targeted by top police units. As motivation, gang members' families have a nine fold higher likelihood of being victims due to revenge crimes. 12% of such confrontations produce a total turn away from a life of crime. The results have produced a dramatic reduction of gang murders.

### **Q&A Session**

Several questions dealt with root causes of crime in poverty areas - the breakdown of the traditional family and a struggling public education system. These problems are acknowledged as not readily solvable by DA units.

On the perceived declining respect for police in poor areas, this is a national problem. But Savannah's DA office is up on the tactics used by troublemakers. Yet it was acknowledged that cases where only one police officer's word is against one other witness, juries are tending to require more corroboration for conviction.

Problems with jails were mentioned, as drugs and even guns are being smuggled in. The enabling culprits are likely prison guards that are being bribed.



# **Solving Political Correctness**

by Ben Wright

*With the passing of our beloved curmudgeon but insightful and good-hearted Ben Wright of Skidaway Island, we decided to run a reprise of his five-year old essay on one of his favorite topics which he ridiculed and tried to eradicate over the years - Political Correctness. This essay is even more relevant today.*

## **Political Correctness**

Over the past several years I have become more and more disturbed about the use of “political correctness” (PC) in our language and overall culture. Wikipedia defines “political correctness” as “language, ideas, policies, and behavior seen as seeking to minimize social and institutional offense in occupational, gender, racial, cultural, sexual orientation, disability, and age-related contexts.”

In effect, it has become an attempt by a minority to coerce the majority into suppressing contrary opinions and thus making independent thought less acceptable. It serves to inhibit free speech through intimidation, and has little value to justify this restriction.

## **How Did This Happen?**

It is not just a function of language, per se, but truly a reflection and culmination of a number of divergent societal events that have occurred over the last 60 years. Its origins could well be a result of Dr. Benjamin Spock’s teachings to accommodate children’s feelings and cater to their preferences, which became a national child rearing thesis beginning in the late 1940’s. No longer was it important to teach self-denial and respect for authority in bringing up your child. Spock parents taught self-indulgence instead of self-control. As a result, some children came to accept personal gratification as a “right.” Home life now came to reflect narcissism, entitlement and victim thinking. Personal responsibility and respect for self and others - key elements of proper parenting - became a thing of the past.

In the 60’s and early 70’s, the feminist movement launched a campaign to eliminate gender-based terms from the language. In 1975, the National Council of Teachers of English fell into the politically correct line (although that term had not yet been defined).

About the same period, Dr. Martin Luther King’s civil rights movement was successful in promoting equality of opportunity and justice for all blacks. In its favor, the PC movement helped to downplay the use of demeaning racial epithets from our language. Unfortunately, it has sometimes been abused by some so-called black leaders (e.g. the NAACP, Jesse Jackson, Al Sharpton and the Congressional Black Caucus), who take “racial offense” at anyone who disagrees with their own agenda, thus playing the “race card” as a tactic to try to win a public opinion argument.

Other minorities such as gay rights advocates also use the PC card to attack traditional views, hoping that changing the language will ultimately change society. Labeling people “homophobic” is often a way to ignore the substance of those people’s arguments.

Thus, it has gotten to the point that real solutions to minority problems in this country may be thwarted. Some people don’t even enter public debate for fear of being labeled “prejudiced” or worse. Ironically some minorities are free to “name call” their opponents. Thus PC may inhibit the majority from even entering the discussion.

## **Extent of Societal Restrictions and Changes**

Educational curricula, at all levels, have been subject to reform in order to utilize currently fashionable and progressive ideas rather than the factual teaching of history and current events.

Family life has also become a victim of the PC movement. Over the years, the traditional role of a father has been minimized and that of the single mother (many with multiple children) has been accepted if not glorified. This even in light of extensive studies that confirm the best outcome for children occurs in families with both an actively participating father and mother.

Since the late 1980's, the political-left has asserted that those on the political-right have used the term in an attempt to distract attention from substantive debate about discrimination and unequal legal treatment, thus re-framing U.S. politics as a culture war.

As our country is exposed to Islamic terrorism, both abroad and at home, we are told that we should be sensitive (tolerant) of the Islamic religion as this will counter the extremist momentum. This is proffered even as the majority of muslims have been consistently silent on their radical brethren's activities from the events of 9/11 to the present dispute over the construction of a major Islamic mosque adjacent to Ground Zero in New York City.

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***...issues can only be resolved through open, honest dialogue, however uncomfortable it may be at times.***

***How Do We***

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***Counter It?***

Most of us would not intentionally offend our friends, neighbors or others. However, in our language we have adopted the intentional parsing of our words with specific deference to the subject sensitivities – at the expense of other considerations. In our everyday life, we have gone overboard with actions/responses such that we can never be accused of offending or discriminating against anyone.

These actions are truly counterproductive to the real solution relating to the problems we face of prejudice, racism, inequality and partisan politics. Such issues can only be resolved through open, honest dialogue, however uncomfortable it may be at times.



Ben Wright, a long time Landings resident and past Board member of The Landings Association, died on July 3, 2015.

## ***One Nation, What We Can All Do to Save America's Future*, by Dr. Ben Carson**

Review by Mike Walters

As the subtitle implies, Presidential candidate Dr. Ben Carson believes America is at a crossroads. He was thrust into national prominence at the 2013 National Prayer Breakfast when his speech challenged the sitting president a few seats away. Carson's strong message was we need to reject the secular progressive approach of the last six years under Obama's reign.

Get rid of political correctness controls which inhibit our ability to discuss and resolve major problems today. Education is crucial, with 30% of high school students dropping out, and restore our founding fathers belief that an educated populace is needed for the three branches of government to function properly, because the public needs to throw out those who are not performing.

Also, restore our moral character so that we don't go the way of ancient Rome's destruction – moral decay from within. He revealed a bold three-part message:

- Convert the progressive income tax to a flat tax

- Repeal the horrible healthcare reform of ObamaCare

- Fix the national debt & unfunded entitlement systems.

This caused the White House to call for Carson to apologize to Obama who was apparently offended by this. Carson refused, and instead wrote this book explaining how he came to these conclusions.

His life story is amazing. From abject poverty in broken down Detroit, his single mother, raising two small boys, deduced that the way out of poverty was to take control of your lives and eschew excuses. She made them read two books a week and write book reports on them, even though she hid from her boys her own illiteracy.

Through mostly self education, Carson realized he could have dreams and could rise above poverty. He became a doctor and ultimately head of pediatric neurosurgery at world renowned Johns Hopkins Hospital.

His book *One Nation* describes his philosophical and pragmatic positions on most of the major issues confronting our Country. At the end of every chapter he has four action steps for each person to take to help resolve these issues and make for a better citizen. His command of history and perspective on these issues are remarkable.

His revilement of secular progressivism as the contributing cause of major problems is also well documented. He genuinely believes in American exceptionalism and is aghast at what's happened to the American "can do" spirit. He also believes we can recover to be the world's leading light again on what is good about humanity.

Despite being a gentleman and not pointing fingers as part of the solution to our problems, it is hard not to see his disappointment at many failed leaders. They are not genuinely interested in solutions but in furthering their own ambitions and their attempts to guaranteed future power. (Let's just say that Hillary's senior thesis on the works of Saul Alinsky has not escaped Carson's notice.) The Alinsky tactics of demagoguery, deception and demonizing opponents are all too evident in many of today's politicians, pundits and special interest groups. He also decries the mainstream press's inability to realize this.

The arrogance of America's supposed elites were first noticed at Yale where he met students coming from great wealth but whom he accuses of hypocrisy and lack of true perspective. They really have no empathy for the poor, whereas Carson himself truly

experienced it and also has real insights in combatting it.

Martin Luther King would also be shocked at what happened to his dream of judging people on their strength of character and developing a way out of dependency on government instead of permanent reliance. And he would have rejected the latest godless ideology.

Dr. Carson's solutions reflect an extraordinary knowledge of our past history and a philosophical insight of a wise and learned person. His solutions, including his earlier listed big three) reveal his true conservatism. Despite having no "political experience," these guiding principles would serve him well if he miraculously found himself in the Oval Office:

Cut waste but grow the economy with less regulation and much more reliance on free market principles

Restore traditional education in history/geography, household economics and finances, civics, nutrition, as well as basic reading and math. and revere knowledge and wisdom over fame and athletic achievement.

Replace the ACA with free market solutions, expanded HSAs including subsidize HSAs for the poor over Medicaid, and meaningful tort reform.

Roll back traditional welfare for the able-bodied (it destroys incentive)

Rely more on charities

Revere and restore the original U.S. Constitution.

On foreign policy, although he had virtually no political experience, he obviously is a student of history, and has strong views of how to approach it:

Giving in has dire consequences - the Nazis confiscated citizens' guns

Push back peacefully but consistently and educate our allies on our positions

Win through Respect - we may not even have to confront our enemies militarily

Know your true enemies - push back on the real ones

Know your history.

On a personal level, he had sage advice in making tough decisions. Evaluate:

1. What is the best outcome if I do it?
2. What is the worst thing if I do it?
3. What is the best thing if I don't do it?
4. What is the worst thing if I don't?

After reading this amazing treatise on civics and governing, one can see why he chose the title from our Pledge of Allegiance: "One nation, under god, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."



## **Scott Walker - *Unintimidated***

Review by Mike Walters

Subtitled, *A Governor's Story and a Nation's Challenge*, this book *Unintimidated* was Walker's launching pad as a presidential candidate (now ended).

Elected in 2010 to be a Republican governor in blue state Wisconsin, he chronicled overcoming stupendous opposition and strong-arm tactics to turn a \$3.6 billion deficit when he took office to a surplus. He did it, not by cutting services, but by taking on the entrenched union establishment that controlled public employees.

### **Teachers Actually Supported Him**

Rank and file teachers actually supported him because he preserved teachers jobs. The union's collective bargaining tactics hurt the ability to preserve the jobs of high performing teachers.

His approach of plain speaking to the public, above the union demagoguery, won him his recall election and then another term of office as governor.

The book starts with what has gone wrong with America over the last six years with progressive policy has worsened the national debt and caused economic malaise. In contrast, he highlighted reforms led by Republican governors and legislatures in 30 states – a dominant majority now – for the first time in almost 100 years.

### **Abuse of Collective Bargaining By Public Unions**

His proposed reform of collective bargaining generated the drastic union tactics against him in the recall election. Most in Wisconsin had not been aware of how the collective bargaining measures had created the state deficits.

Even FDR was opposed to public employee unions with that much power and no effective opposition. By forcing membership in public employee unions, huge dues were channeled into union leader hands to influence elections. Those elected Democrats then would agree in non-arms length negotiations to further the goals of the union leaders towards excessive pensions and bad work rules.

Wisconsin needed legislative reform, whereas Indiana's Governor Mitch Daniels fixed it with an executive order reversing prior Democrat Governor Evan Bayh.

While Walker had the votes to do it in the legislature, the opposition tried bizarre tactics to forestall it. The national news covered the Wisconsin Democrat state legislators fleeing the state to prevent a valid quorum.

The union claimed Walker was taking away a fundamental right of workers to bargain for benefits. The national liberal press jumped on that bandwagon (*Time* magazine called him "Dead Man Walker" for daring to take on a perceived "fundamental right.")

### **Take the Message to the Public**

Walker took his message directly to the public by showing the perverse effects of insincere bargaining between elected officials and Democratic union leaders.

The public was also horrified at the strong-arm union tactics of "occupying" the Capitol and threatening harm to legislator's families if they took away collective bargaining. Yet throughout that period of raucous crowds of 100,000 dissidents threatening the capital, Walker maintained a calm approach, with no rancor towards his detractors. This quality

was later viewed as key to the Wisconsin public's final support of his unwavering position on the right thing to do.

He also highlighted other abuses of collective bargaining that made union members get overpriced health insurance from a supplier that channeled funds back to union coffers to use in influencing elections to preserve their power.

When Walker won his unprecedented recall election as well as the next gubernatorial election in 2014, he drew some takeaway messages. Americans want much more than undoing the bad decisions of the current administration in Washington. They want leadership and true solutions to our problems. Negative campaigning may be slightly effective in reducing turnout, but the American electorate should be given much more credit in this unique experiment of democracy that our Founding Fathers created.

Besides breaking the union's collective bargaining and turning a \$3.6 billion deficit into a surplus, he engineered the following:

- Photo ID for voting
- Expanded voucher programs for private schools
- Concealed carry law
- Lower income tax rates and lower property taxes.

### **Principles in Winning Future Elections**

A lot of insight can be gained about Scott Walker – the man and the candidate - from the headlines he articulated in the last chapter from his battles in Wisconsin:

- Change the Polls, Not Your Principles
- Don't Accept the False Choices Presented to You
- A Big Crisis is a Chance to Do Big Things
- You Can Reform Entitlements and Survive
- Austerity is Not the Answer
- The Benefits of Boldness
- Win the Center With Leadership
- Champion the Vulnerable
- Own Up to Your Mistakes
- Never Stop Reforming
- Win the Fairness Fight



## **Donald Trump: *Time to Get Tough: Making America #1 Again*, 2011**

(recently reissued)

(Review of other reviewers of the book, including [ontheissues.org/Get\\_Tough](http://ontheissues.org/Get_Tough), 2012, by Jesse Gordon, and of late, the Wall Street Journal and Michael Tomasky of the *New York Review*)

Editor's Note: This book appeared in December 2011 as a potential launch of a 2012 Trump presidential campaign. Trump has not updated it, so he is seemingly standing by the positions he took in this 2011 book.

In Trump's current run for the nomination, it is surprising how little he harkens back to this 2011 book which really documented his transformation from some liberal positions to now his representation that he is now a true conservative. Maybe in doing the research for this 2011 book he learned enough that those liberal positions were not sound or sustainable.

### **Trump's Change of Position**

Trump's previous political book, *The America We Deserve*, was a launching point for a possible 2000 presidential run., positioning himself as a populist. In 2011, this book by Trump clearly was meant to show Trump as a conservative. It outlines his changes of views over the prior twelve years.

His avowed motivation in writing the 2011 book was:

"The U.S. is in an economic disaster"

"America deserves better"

"Obama has scuttled the American Dream"

"Citizens need to know the values and principles their president will rely on to lead America."

This book then is that articulation of Trump's values and principles in leading America, presumably if he were elected in 2012.

In transforming himself from populist to hard-core conservative, he has done some serious about-faces. And his prior book allows one to document these amazing turn-arounds. His reviewer expressed the view: "You can be sure that Trump will not criticize Mitt Romney as a 'flip-flopper' since Trump is subject to the same criticism. "

### **Trump's Biggest Transformations:1999 vs. Today**

**Abortion:** He was clearly Pro-choice except partial-birth abortion. Switched to Pro-Life, with no federal funding.

**Gun Control:** He was for an assault weapons ban. He then switched to opposing gun control

**Gay Rights:** He was for prosecuting anti-gay hate crimes. Now he opposes gay marriage.

**Tax Reform:** He was for 14% tax on all wealth to pay off national debt. He then switched to supporting the extension of the Bush tax cuts.

**Health Care:** He was for universal healthcare. Now he wants to repeal ObamaCare.

In the 2011 book, Trump did not even mention his positions on abortion and gun control.

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**"I play to people's fantasies."**

**"I'll do nearly anything within legal bounds to win.  
Sometimes, part of making a deal is denigrating your**

competition.”

**Fox News debate: highest-rated telecast outside of sporting events in history of cable television. Trump, congratulating himself for the big numbers were typical of his rhetoric: “without him, the debate might have drawn two million viewers.”**

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### **Trump’s Consistent Positions**

Trump didn’t change his positions on a number of issues. He is consistently anti-immigration, anti-free-trade and pro-defense. So in summary, Trump was a *conservative-leaning* moderate populist in the 2000 race. For his potential run in the 2012 race, he positioned himself as a more hard-core conservative.

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### **Side Notes on Trump’s Political Maneuvers**

Of interest, in December 2011 he changed his voter registration from Republican to independent. So he could not have run as a Republican. His thought process was possibly to run as an Independent (maybe because it was too late to get into many of the Republican primaries anyway). He did have the financial capability to run an expensive independent campaign.

Trump stated repeatedly that he would enter the 2012 race as an independent if he didn’t see a Republican nominee who could beat Obama and who represented conservative values. He originally made it clear that he did not think Mitt Romney could beat Obama and did not think Romney represented conservative values. Trump had supported Newt Gingrich. But when Gingrich dropped out, Trump ultimately endorsed Romney.

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### **Other Trump Positions in 2011 Book**

(cited by ontheissues.org)

#### **Budget & Economy:**

Supply-side economics is just common sense.

Tea Party made all politicians look seriously at \$15 Trillion debt.

0% corporate tax would create millions of jobs. Fight crony capitalism with a level playing field. Per Ronald Reagan, businesses don’t pay taxes; it’s all passed on to customers.

(continued on page 9)

## **P. 9 - Trump continued**

### **Tax Reform:**

Cutting tax rates incentivizes a strong national work ethic. 4 brackets; 1-5-10-15%; kill death tax & corporate tax. John F. Kennedy in 1962, paradoxically raised revenues by cutting tax rates.

Raising business tax causes businesses to move jobs overseas.

Per Ronald Reagan, System that penalizes success and discourages work is wrong.

### **Free Trade:**

Fair trade instead of embarrassing deal with South Korea.

Repatriate jobs that China has been stealing. 20% tax on all imported goods.

China is our enemy; they're bilking us for billions.

When you love America, you protect it with no apologies. By 2027, tsunami as China overtakes U.S. as largest economy.

China threatens US with cyber warfare and industrial espionage.

### **Foreign Policy:**

Iraq should pick up the tab for their own liberation.

Stop Iran's nuclear programs by any & all means necessary.

American interests come first; no apologies. All freedoms flow from national security.

### **Immigration:**

351,000 illegal aliens are in our prisons; costing \$1.1B.

Anchor babies were NEVER the intent of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

Invite foreigners graduating from college to stay in US.

Triple-layered fence & Predator drones on Mexican border.

### **Principles & Values:**

No more morning in America; we'll be mourning FOR America.

5-point plan to return America to her former greatness.

USA is the greatest force for freedom world has ever known.

### **Social Security and Entitlements:**

Social Security isn't an "entitlement"; it's honoring a deal. Ronald Reagan's Ironclad commitment to it.

Disability Racket: \$25B in fraudulent disability filings.

On Welfare & Poverty, I don't like firing people; work makes people better.

Food stamps should be temporary; not a decade on the dole. Apply welfare-to-work to 76 other welfare programs.

### **Criticisms of Barack Obama**

Foreign Policy: Deal with Russia? no new missile defense in Eastern Europe.

Cap-and-trade will cause electricity rates to skyrocket. \$525M to Solyndra solar panels, a big Obama donor.

No Cap-and-Tax, as oil is this country's lifeblood. Jobs will slump until our lifeblood is cheap again.

Enough natural gas in Marcellus Shale for 110-year supply. Libya: No oil, no support;

no exceptions.

Kill ObamaCare before it becomes a trillion-ton weight.

Increase insurance competition across state lines.

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## **Criticisms ... today that he has just *recently* switched to being conservative neglect the positions he *clearly* took in this 2011 book.**

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### **Other Reviews of Trump Book**

The criticisms of Trump today that he has just recently switched to being conservative neglect the positions he clearly took in this 2011 book. Granted his latest book was issued in 2011 and was meant to launch a possible candidacy in 2012 which never got anywhere serious.

Trump himself called this 2011 book his best one, “better than *The Art of the Deal*, and the “most thought I’ve ever put into a book.” It is on serious subjects such as: welfare reform, energy, illegal immigration and crime, taxes, healthcare, cyber warfare and national defense.

He also lays out a case for Obama’s policies being an absolute disaster:

“Now, America looks like a broken country—stripped of jobs, stripped of wealth, stripped of respect. And what does President Obama do about it? “

“He plays nice with a China that is doing everything it can to destroy our economy, while refusing to stand up for America with Middle Eastern oil mobsters who think they can hold us hostage through higher prices at the pump, and chucking billions in “stimulus” money to his friends and supporters while letting the rest of us foot the bill.”

Trump’s prescriptions for America’s improvements include details on:

Putting OPEC out of business

Creating American jobs by forcing China into fair trade

Reducing our national debt without destroying the basics of Social Security and Medicare.

Undoing the fraud of Obamanomics and the disaster of ObamaCare.



**Marco Rubio** – *American Dreams: Restoring Economic Opportunity for Everyone*, Jan. 15  
(Review of the book reviewers)

The liberal LA Times actually had good things to say about this policy treatise by the young (age 43), energetic junior Senator from Florida. There are apparently ideas that have bipartisan appeal to a cross-section of voters, especially since Rubio's perspective was how to make things better for the middle and lower classes in America. There's no denying the wage stagnation or even retrogression over the last seven years of the Obama Administration.

Reviewers were surprised that an avowed conservative would suggest expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit with "a Wage Enhancement Credit" for low-income workers. They wondered Rubio's idea to expand wage supplements to lower income workers would even have Republican support.

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## **Rubio now supports immigration reform in three stages ... the first stage is ... securing the border.**

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They also highlighted that Rubio now has backed off a bit from his original idea of legalizing the status of undocumented workers. Rubio now supports immigration reform being done in three separate stages instead of one omnibus bill. Presumably the first stage is now securing the border.

Reviewers also applauded him for even suggesting changes to the underfunded entitlement programs (a former "third rail" of American politics: extend the retirement age and revamp Medicare with a voucher system).

The more liberal reviewers were a bit skeptical about the ability of his reforms to solve some of America's major problems in improving the wage portion of the economy in their view: globalization, technology, union decline and waning American education quality. They also concede that his ideas are aimed at the center of the U.S. electorate.

Other reviewers concede that he had just the right amount of biography background in this policy declaration, to appeal to many Americans. Rubio truly overcame tremendous paycheck-to-paycheck hardships, not even paying off his college debt until elected to the US Senate. Then, of course, we have all heard about the sacrifice of his immigrant parents from Cuba who worked as a bartender and a maid to enable him to partake of the American dream.

### **Reviewers Cite Favorite Quotes**

to illustrate Rubio's command of the current problems that need solutions:

"Another Clinton presidency would be a death blow to the American Dream."

And he excoriates Hillary for her: "Don't let anyone tell you it's businesses and corporations that create jobs."

"It is hard for me to imagine retiring at 65 and spending the next quarter century not working. I expect to be working, doing something productive and fulfilling."

"I don't buy into the dystopian scenarios of self-aware robots enslaving mankind, but you don't have to be a sci-fi conspiracy theorist to acknowledge that ..." good, well-paying jobs are being taken over by machines."

In acknowledging that technology does have ramifications, advances in artificial intelligence don't always help American workers. He mentions self-checkout lines at supermarkets,

ordering food from a computer at fast food places, UPS workers “nervously eyeing Amazon’s plans to replace them with delivery drones.”

### **Education Reform**

On education, Rubio supports trade school as a less expensive option to traditional degrees. He also acknowledges that some federal solutions have not worked, “Increasing access to federal student loans has been a bipartisan effort in Washington, one that I have supported. But it has created what many experts believe is a bubble in higher education, not unlike the housing bubble that preceded the financial crisis.” “The open spigot of federal student loans flowing into colleges and universities has become a cost-free government subsidy.” And there is now the specter of a \$1.3 trillion federal debt from student loans some of which that may be uncollectible.

### **Rubio Also Criticizes His Own Party**

“we.... haven’t been creative or innovative enough in offering solutions. We have spent plenty of time opposing the president’s agenda, but not nearly enough time applying principles of limited government and free enterprise to the challenges of our time.”

He does try to stress his conservative bonafides by softening a theme of Ronald Reagan:

“Government doesn’t have to be the enemy, but too much government has produced a new kind of inequality in America: opportunity inequality.”

### **On Foreign Policy**

Rubio puts the Obama Administration in the cross-hairs with “...America finds itself with some leaders who believe we can ignore the world without consequences here at home. They’re oblivious to the reality that we are less insulated from global events than ever before.” He also takes an indirect shot at Rand Paul’s isolationism as a “.. political path of least resistance” to call for restricting America’s foreign commitments.



**Ted Cruz – A Time For Truth – Reigniting the Miracle of America**, Review by James Willis (abridged)  
(the-conservative-underground.com, 7/15)

It has been no secret that I support Senator Ted Cruz for President in 2016. I was initially impressed by him when against all odds he managed to defeat Lt. Governor Dewhurst for the Republican nomination for Senate, and then went on to win the general election. His ability and eagerness to express conservative views in Washington were a refreshing change from the often half-hearted conservatism that is so common with the GOP leadership, and his willingness to stand up and fight for those principles is so rare that he has even been called a “Wacko-bird” by his own colleagues. Several months ago, I became convinced that Ted Cruz was by far the best candidate for President. But after reading his newly released book, I discovered that Ted Cruz is even more suited to be President, and even more qualified than I thought.

Cruz talks about the forces in his life that shaped him, motivated him to become who he is today, the mistakes he made along the way, and the lessons he learned from those mistakes.

He is undoubtedly the most consistently conservative figure in Washington. His conservatism however, is not something he picked up on the way to Washington to appeal to his voter base; it is who he is and it permeates his thought processes. In high school he became fascinated with the Constitution and with economics, and became involved with the Free Enterprise Institute. During that time he traveled across the state giving speeches on “the ten pillars of economic wisdom” to earn scholarship money for college.

Cruz attended Princeton University, where he established himself as a debate champion, and then on to law school at Harvard where he was a primary editor of the Harvard Law Review, ... and a founding editor of the Harvard Latino Law Review. He graduated magna cum laude in 1995. One of his professors, the very liberal Alan Dershowitz, described Cruz as “off-the-charts brilliant”.

After a stint as clerk for Chief Justice Rehnquist, he went to work for the Bush campaign and was instrumental in winning the ballot fiasco in Florida. His career as an attorney has put him in the middle of ...high profile cases defending constitutional principles, especially while serving as Texas solicitor general.

His detractors in Washington, along with their friends in the media, would have you believe Ted Cruz is the “Wacko-bird” John McCain described him as, but nothing could be further from the truth. This book will help you understand the motivations and the methods that have made him stand out from the crowd in Washington; and it will help you understand his vision for “reigniting the miracle of America”.

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### **Other Reviewers and Quotes**

Cruz’s thesis is that concrete policy proposals don’t matter if there is no real intention to put them into practice. What really matters, he says, is a record of acting in accordance with principles.

### **His Principles**

The American Constitution (inalienable rights, limited government); the American Dream (free market capitalism, “opportunity conservatism”) and American Exceptionalism (leader of the free world, model to all).

Has encyclopedic knowledge of the Constitution.

Shock soon upon his arrival in the Senate when it became apparent that senators propose legislation on ... topics without giving a second's thought whether or not they even had the constitutionality to do so.

### **Beliefs**

Believes in fiscal constraint, family values, constitutional principles and most of all, a willingness to stand up to the ruling political class in both parties.

The works of Milton Friedman, Friedrich Hayek and Adam Smith ... became the intellectual foundation for the young Cruz and has fundamentally shaped his philosophy as an ardent defender of the free enterprise system and vocal opponent of government overregulation.

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**“The biggest divide in politics is not between the tea party and the ... establishment. It is not even between Republicans and Democrats. The biggest divide is between career politicians in both parties and the American people.”**

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### **Truth and Chances of Getting Elected**

Not knowingly, but Cruz is something of an idealist, and Washington can be pretty hard on idealists.

Arguably the most contentious member of the Senate.

Telling the truth is a radical act in our nation's capital - a city dominated by empty promises, meaningless "show votes," and a self-protection racket designed to get politicians reelected rather than heeding the demands of the American people.

Cruz intends to go all out with the truth. The question is if he burns too many bridges in the process.

It's a book that will win Ted Cruz few friends in Washington. Then again, that isn't why he went there in the first place.





**Carly Fiorina**, *Tough Choices, A Memoir*, 2007

(from summary.com), abridged

### **Business Is About People**

After she appeared on the cover of Fortune magazine as “The Most Powerful Woman in Business,” Carly Fiorina’s mother told her, “Who knows? Maybe someday you’ll become the CEO of Hewlett-Packard.” Her mother’s comment surprised Fiorina, considering the mother and daughter had never spoken of the company. Fiorina: “that’s never going to happen!”

Following that conversation, she received a phone call from HP board member Jeff Christian in February 1999; nonetheless, Fiorina was almost certain the HP board would not offer her the available CEO position for a number of reasons: She had never held the position before, she did not have a background in engineering, she wasn’t from the industry and she was a woman. On July 19, 1999, Fiorina was proved wrong as HP publicly announced her succession of Lewis Platt as CEO.

### **Law School Dropout to CEO**

After earning her B.A. (medieval history and philosophy) from Stanford University, Fiorina completed a short stint at UCLA Law School, dropping out after she realized that law wasn’t the career for her and that she couldn’t always please her parents with her choices.

Fiorina joined the business world, spending her first 20 years cutting her teeth and climbing the corporate ladder at AT&T and Lucent Technologies before accepting the challenge to lead, as CEO and eventually as chairman, the technology giant Hewlett-Packard. To many people she had seemed an unlikely candidate, but Fiorina managed to lead HP through a number of large internal changes, a significant technology slump, and the Compaq merger, which is considered one of the most controversial mergers in the industry.

While many remember the former Hewlett-Packard CEO as the woman who opted for 7,000 layoffs during the 2001 business downturn, Fiorina positions herself more sympathetically in the book, proclaiming her belief that “in the end, business isn’t just about numbers; it’s about people.” She was not the only one behind terminations at the company. She writes, “One of the great myths of HP was that employees never lost their jobs. The truth was Bill [Hewlett] and Dave [Packard] fired people when they thought it was deserved.

### **Leadership Has Nothing to Do With Title**

Fiorina offers her business wisdom and personal advice in a palatable style. While at AT&T, a woman engineer in Fiorina’s team came to her, conflicted over raising a family as well as maintaining a career. Fiorina told her, “You cannot sell your soul. Don’t become someone you don’t like because of the pressure. Live your life in a way that makes you happy and proud. If you sell your soul, no one can pay you back.”

In reference to her time spent at Lucent and the leadership roles she experienced, Fiorina claimed, “I have believed all my life that leadership has nothing to do with title or position. Leadership is about the integrity of one’s character, the caliber of one’s capabilities and the effectiveness of one’s collaboration with others. Anyone can lead from anywhere at any time.”

On February 9, 2005, Fiorina was fired by the HP board. She writes, “Life isn’t always fair, and I was playing in the big leagues. Yet I realized I had no regrets ... I had made mistakes, but I had made a difference.”



**Bobby Jindal - *Leadership and Crisis* - 2011** (Jesse Gordon, [ontheissues.org/Leadership\\_Crisis.htm](http://ontheissues.org/Leadership_Crisis.htm), 2/14)

Bobby Jindal was considered one of the hottest up-and-coming Republican prospects for the 2012 presidential race, until Feb. 2009. That was when he was asked to deliver the Republican response to Obama's first state-of-the-union speech. That speech was supposed to be Jindal's introduction on the national stage, to propel him to a 2012 nomination race in much as Obama used his keynote speech at the 2004 Democratic National Convention to catapult himself to the 2008 nomination. But Jindal's speech was a flop. He admits "I blew it", framing the flop as evidence that he's "teleprompter-challenged." That's a clever framing which references the common GOP criticism that Obama's greatest gift is reading from a teleprompter.

We'll see if that strategy works come 2012—if Jindal can reintroduce himself despite his bad first impression. This book is his second impression. His strategy this time around focuses on bashing Obama. Besides the subtle teleprompter jab, Jindal is much less subtle about the BP oil spill. He devotes an entire chapter to the subject, detailing how Obama cared about photo ops and defended the bureaucracy while Jindal fought to protect the Louisiana coastline and stop the oil flow. To present himself as bipartisan, Jindal also bashes Pres. Bush's response to Hurricane Katrina.

If Jindal succeeds with this reintroduction, he will bring a different perspective. He declares himself a son of the Deep South—which positions him as an anti-elitist (like Gov. Sarah Palin) and from the Republican heartland (like Gov. Mike Huckabee). As a governor, he can position himself as a Washington outsider (like Mitt Romney). As a two-term Member of Congress, he can position himself as knowing the system.

His advantage is that he is a minority—his parents immigrated from India and Jindal converted to Christianity from Hinduism. That's a strong credential running against Barack Obama, defusing the "race issue" by matching the Democrats. His immigrant parents also let him defuse the too-hot-to-touch immigration issue. And his conversion from Hinduism as a teenager positions Jindal as a solid churchgoer who really understands tolerance of other religions.

We'll see whether Jindal's reintroduction and repositioning succeeds. It's not a sure thing that he's running for president yet—but he faces re-election for governor in November 2011. Jindal will have to declare to the people of Louisiana his intentions for 2012.



**Rand Paul - *Taking a Stand: Moving Beyond Partisan Politics to Unite America*, 2015**  
(Review of other book reviewers)

The reviewers make it clear that Rand Paul is mostly a libertarian, but with exceptions that he tries to justify based on his accumulated wisdom.

He supports the government still having a say in many healthcare areas, but do it differently.

Mandatory vaccinations are ok as well, if done right (similar to proposals by Bill Gates).

Drug laws are also ok if done right, and better drug sentencing, instead of lopsided crack penalties, acknowledging that it is easier to catch drug offenders in high crime areas where the police are concentrated. His tax law changes are alleged to move around the burden instead of just reducing the marginal rates overall.

As for foreign intervention, "I support destroying ISIS militarily." and "intervention when our vital interests are threatened." "My foreign policy would also include protection of our allies' interests. We should reinforce Israel's Iron Dome protection against missiles, for instance. ...I am not an isolationist. I will not forget what is at stake." (True libertarians eschew all foreign entanglements, and push global free trade.)

His distinguishing characteristic, he apparently is pushing, is that he is a new kind of Republican. "Right now, the Republican brand sucks." "I believe the Republican Party and minorities have common ground. The Republican Party can rightly serve minority communities if we stay true to our core, be open to new ideas, and boldly profess what we believe in."

"If Bill Clinton stomped on the Third Amendment, George Bush trampled the Fourth."

"Snowden's 'flight' to Russia didn't help his standing in many Americans' eyes. Though you have to question his destination, his actions are understandable."

"I will also cut spending. Some so-called conservatives recently voted to borrow \$190 billion to fund more defense spending. This proposal is exactly why Republicans and Democrats have created an \$18 trillion debt. When I showed these "conservatives" that you could increase defense spending and offset it with cuts to domestic spending, virtually none of them had the courage to vote for the spending cuts. These so-called conservatives are part of the problem."

"Nearly 90 percent of [marijuana] arrests are for simple possession, and many of them occur in inner-city areas. Why? Because it's easier to arrest people who live close together and where there are more police patrols. It's easier to arrest people who live in poverty. People who are trapped in these crime-infested neighborhoods often have no means to escape, which exacerbates the cycle."

"It has been proven that massive military deployment does more harm than good in the fight against terror....Conventional war will continue to prove ineffective and too costly against an unconventional enemy that numbers in the tens of millions."

"I have been a particular target of the neoconservatives. To this crowd, anyone who doesn't agree with them on every war is the next Neville Chamberlain. To this crowd, diplomacy is a dirty word. To this crowd, anyone who doesn't clamor first for the military option is somehow an isolationist."

"My... foreign policy would understand that hatred toward us exists, and would acknowledge that interference in elections or the administrations of foreign countries may well exacerbate this hatred."

## ***Rand Paul Exceptions from Libertarian***

**Government can do:**

**Healthcare reform**

**Mandate vaccinations,**

**Better drug laws**

**Foreign interventions of the right kind**

- **Kill ISIS**

- **Support defensive missiles for Israel**

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### **Other notable quotes:**

“I believe the GOP brand is broken, that many young people and many people of color simply won’t even consider voting for or becoming a Republican. It’s time for change, and the first part of changing is admitting your mistakes. Remember when Domino’s finally admitted that it had bad crust? They got rid of the old crust and made a better pizza. I’m all for getting rid of the old crust in the Republican Party.”

“Another change that has to be made is redistricting. When districts are gerrymandered, people are often elected for life, and sometimes in spite of behavior that would get them fired in any private business.”

“We are becoming what George Orwell once feared. The state is increasingly, and frighteningly, less respectful of the individual and more certain of its own omnipotence. This authoritarian trend has been as rapid as it is dangerous. Today the breath of government spying on citizens is without precedent in our history.”

“A plurality of Americans are no longer Republicans or Democrats. These Americans want a new combination of beliefs. These Americans are fiscally conservative and also concerned with personal liberty. A philosophy that joins economic and personal liberty becomes a potent political force. Such a philosophy transcends typical political labels and parties – and crosses all classes. A candidate who defends liberty can unify the country.”



**Rick Santorum:** *Blue Collar Conservatives, Recommitting to an America That Works*, 2014  
(Review of other book reviewers)

He uses the 2012 election loss to start his overall thesis – why did some conservatives stay home and not vote in 2012? His reaction? The Reagan Democrats felt left out. Don't keep stressing the job creators so much – the business owners, how about the blue collar workers - the vast majority of American workers? The Republicans need to regain their trust.

The "most effective antipoverty tool is a combination of work, education, and marriage" a theme the Senator has spoken about, consistently, for years on the campaign trail.

"Since 2009, 14.7 million people have been added to the food stamp rolls, while only a few hundred thousand net new jobs have been created. The staggering fact is that we have added 75 new food stamp recipients for every new job. And the burden on taxpayers to fund this expansion of welfare is growing dangerously."

### **Replacing ObamaCare**

Do it "before it's too late." He has a plan to deal with pre-existing conditions and empower states to offer additional policy choices. The government has no right to "ration medicine, as it certainly will do once the expenses of this enormous new program begin to overrun the budget."

"The promise of healthcare for all provided by the largesse of the federal government will not make us stronger. It will lead to less innovation and fewer cures... less choice of caregivers, longer lines, higher cost and lower quality medicine than a private system."

The problem isn't health care cost or access; it's the growing burden of federal control. "Prior to Obama's taking office in 2009, nearly half of the payments for medical care in this country were already made by either federal, state or local government."

So Santorum's answer to better care being more accessible and more affordable is to replace Obamacare and remove the already burdensome controls of the federal government.

### **The Economy**

On manufacturing jobs, he may have revealed himself as a bit of a protectionist:

"If restoring the American Dream is our goal, restoring our manufacturing industry must be an essential part of the plan. ... Manufacturers face foreign competitors that operate under different rules and with different costs. Many foreign manufacturers enjoy government subsidies and weak environmental and labor laws. ... When it comes to competition, our government has a legitimate role in laying down laws that even the playing field. For much of our history, American manufacturing was protected by tariffs."

Further, "Blue collar conservatives across this country are faithful to a vision that has always defined America but that has been obscured in recent years. ... We Republicans must show the unemployed, the underemployed, and the struggling worker that we are on their side and want their support. We cannot forget the blue collar conservatives who are the backbone of this country. We have an obligation to restore the American Dream for them and their families. And until we internalize this as a party, we will continue to lose national elections."

### **Welfare Reform**

His overall view is that many problems in America can be traced to the crumbling family unit. His previous book, *It Takes a Family*, stressed that the government just needs to stop creating dependency.

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## **In 2012, why did some of our voters stay home?**

**Republicans ... “neglected to focus our policies and our rhetoric on the plight of lower-income Americans.”**

**The "most effective antipoverty tool is a combination of work, education, and marriage"**

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### **Energy**

New oil and gas development made possible by “hydraulic fracturing.” North Dakota has cashed in on that boom in producing energy from rock. “North Dakota shouldn’t be alone.”

Yet, even though the U.S. has become “the Saudi Arabia of shale rock” Obama “incredibly enough” is trying to sideline the fracking revolution by its refusal to permit construction of the Keystone pipeline, which would create “thousands of new jobs.”

### **Education**

He feels the federal or even state governments running schools is a bad idea — a “relic of the late 19th century” s when people left the farm to work in factories in the new industrial age, and one-room schoolhouses needed to be replaced by “education factories that mass produced citizens in conformity with state rules.”

On skyrocketing college costs, he believes “Not everyone has the aptitude for or can afford a four-year college. For many, a job or vocational training may be a better option.” “I’d much rather my children know how to fix an eighteen-wheeler or enlist in the Navy than spend \$150,000 to marinate in four years in the toxic ideology of academia while never missing a weekend party.” He and his wife have actually home-schooled their seven children!



**Mike Huckabee: *God, Guns, Grits and Gravy*** (review of other book reviewers)

There seem to be more reviewers of Huckabee's book on line than any of the other candidate's recent books. Maybe it's because his writing is so stimulating - causing critics so much angst and supporters some glee.

The overall impression is that his book *God, Guns, Grits and Gravy* is more an appeal to his base of supporters than an attempt to make converts.

He clearly takes shots at the liberal media and East and West Coast intellectuals that seem to dismiss his down home country folk style approach to major issues. He takes shots at liberals who criticize conservatives as part of a war on women by highlighting Beyoncé's husband Jay-Z by labeling him a "pimp" for showcasing his wife's sexuality for pop culture.

In the introduction, Huckabee contrasts the middle of the country, the "flyover" areas ignored by liberals, as "Bubba-ville" but the East and West coasts and Washington DC as "Bubble-ville" – the home of snobs in LA, NYC and DC. So he clearly is staking out his appeal to his base who resent liberal thinking. He is also apparently chalking off the chance to get funding donations from those cities when he describes them as follows: NYC is "crowded, loud, hurried, and its streets seem filthy, and " where he "can't find a Wal-Mart in Manhattan and people stare at my cowboy boots when I am on the subway." On Washington, "if ego could be turned into electricity,...DC "would have electric power in unlimited levels and never have a power outage."

He also ridicules the Bubble-ville liberals as having an irrational and unrealistic fear of guns, since they never really had any exposure to them. He himself grew up in a hunting environment, and believes it is naïve to think simple laws thwarting ownership can keep guns out of the hands of criminals. "The real 'gun-nuts' are the ones who know the least about firearms or freedom, but who want to make sure the good guys are unarmed when the bad guys decide to murder a few."

Another chapter dealt with Huckabee's view of same-sex marriage. Surprisingly he conceded that its role in harming society is "greatly overstated." He did, however, quote from the Bible on why he is personally opposed to it. He also spoofed some of its proponents by arguing that bisexuals may have a correspondent right to marry two people – one heterosexual and one homosexual.

In another chapter, he took issue with the anti-tax Club for Growth group previously criticizing his tenure as Arkansas governor when he raised taxes to pay for better highways and infrastructure. He pointed out that both Ronald Reagan and Mitt Romney had done similar things. He obviously felt this criticism would hurt his reputation as a true conservative to try to win the Republican presidential nomination. The real question is whether making the Club for Growth people akin to "suicide bombers" is well advised.

## **Endearing Quotes:**

**Being an a economist must be interesting since they are paid handsomely to be wrong most of the time.**

**Government doesn't do things well even when it takes its sweet time. When it acts in haste, it can really screw things up.**

**The IRS is a criminal enterprise, it systematically violates our constitutional rights, and it has to go.**

In another chapter he “praised” John Edwards for being honest in admitting he fathered a child with his mistress, and highlighting that there was still a dichotomy in America of haves and have-nots. This admission was viewed as revealing a bit of Huckabee’s “populist” streak. At the same time Huckabee accused Edwards of being a “serial adulterer”, a “notorious liar” and an “all-around con man.” He also disagreed strongly with Edwards view of how to fix the problems in America.

And Huckabee is not shy about highlighting his modest upbringing from near poverty to how America is still a land of opportunity, as opposed to the liberals who derogate America.

Much was made also of the title of one of his chapters: “Bend Over and Take It Like a Prisoner.” This represented his way of ridiculed the TSA procedures at airports as a way of preventing future disasters.



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Note: As of publication time, other candidates have *not* published books specifically outlining their current candidacy:

Former Florida Governor Jeb Bush (surprisingly, since he was considered the front-runner not too long ago)

Ohio Governor John Kasich

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie

Former New York Governor George Pataki

South Carolina Senator Lindsay Graham

Former Virginia Governor Jim Gilmore

Former Texas Governor Rick Perry (now out of the race).