



### THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE RENEW THE PASSION

The greatness of America began with the courage, sweat and blood of early settlers who understood the value of freedom and the destruction of oppression. They came with a passion for freedom and the will to work for their survival fleeing tyrannical governments that prohibited fundamental rights. They sought a place where they could unleash their spirit to envision possibilities, create, produce and reap the rewards of their labor without the disruption and destruction of government interference. They came to a land of promise called America.

Over time Americans took for granted the wisdom and intent of their elected officials, state representatives, governors and president. We failed them by not paying attention to the precious ideals that underlie a Republic and they failed us with marginalized vision and lack of passion to honor, protect and abide by the founding principles of this nation.

Is the America we believe in, lost? Not as long as there is breath. Not as long as the light of liberty burns. Some may ask, "What can one person do?" There is much every individual can do. We elect representatives in our state to speak for us, the people. We elect a governor to lead and protect against federal invasion of state rights. We elect a president that will abide by and protect the constitutional rights for the benefit of this nation. As individuals we must exercise the opportunity and responsibility to write, email, call their offices and attend public meetings. It is important to discuss with our children, neighbors, or others issues that impact our rights. Are we involved by supporting freedom promoting organizations? Do we vote in all elections with full knowledge of candidates views? Our actions illuminate the ideals of freedom upon which this Republic thrives. Today, we are fighting for the America we love. What greater cause is there?

The world economy is in a very fragile state with most of the growth coming from emerging markets like China, Brazil and India. Their debt levels are lower and they have accumulated large savings surpluses. In contrast the U.S congressmen and the president, in apparent arrogance and fiscal idiocy, are obsessed with power. The value and meaning of the Constitution fades with each increase in taxes upon the individual. It fades under the weight of regulations that diminish the integrity of private property. It fades as the free market is manipulated into government owned and administered entities. The greatness of this nation fades under the weight of indebtedness to others countries.

Two years ago, Tea Party proved that the spirit of patriotism is alive and well. It is the responsibility of all to keep the patriotic passion burning to insure that our voice is greater than the adversaries of our Republic. Listen carefully to the ideals and promises made by candidates running for office whether locally and nationally. Know their voting history. Is the candidate purporting higher taxes or lowering debt, eliminating waste or expanding bureaucracy, accepting federal money that allows the federal government control over the state or protecting state sovereignty? Is the candidate promising solvency and dedication to the Constitution?

Celebrate the opportunity to choose America's future! Celebrate the Fourth of July! Celebrate America! Celebrate freedom!

By Nancy K. Armstrong



## FIND THE MISSING AMERICAN IN YOU

By John Anderson

The problems facing America today are so large and so many that most of us are overwhelmed by the sheer magnitude of the mess we have created for ourselves. Historians, sociologists and political scientists cite all manner of repetitive trends, cataclysmic events, social unrest and world conflicts to explain America's current collective maladies. Perhaps their conclusions are right, but I tend to think that people, more than events and circumstances, provide a more accurate explanation of a country in decline.

At age 62, I have enjoyed a very blessed life in this country, experienced good times and bad, war and peace, and all the other facets of American life. I took a little time recently to look at where we are today and then cast a gaze backward to my grandparents. I wanted to revisit my roots and ponder what they might think of it all.

My grandparents enabled me to see America through the eyes of people who came here from afar, with tremendous hopes and dreams, little money and only the expectation of an opportunity to seek a better life. Their view of this country profoundly defined for me, the unique nature of the American idea. That definition of my country is being sorely tested today.

The current vexing state of affairs in America is a result of what I call "the missing American" in all of us. We are different people today than our grandparents and great grandparents were. We are less grateful, less moral, less kind, less practical, less frugal and less patriotic than those Americans who paved the way for the creature comforts we all enjoy today. In short, we Americans come from very solid stock, but for whatever reason, we have simply lost our American nature to greed, laziness, an unfounded sense of entitlement and a total lack of faith in God and country. It's sad to see it happen before our eyes.

As immigrants from Sweden, by way of Canada, my grandparents would be puzzled by people buying groceries at the store using government provided food stamps. They were profoundly poor people but the idea that the government should provide free food for them would have been absurd. They worked for their food or grew it themselves. When they had to buy things on credit, they made arrangements with the shopkeeper to repay the debt in a timely manner. The expectation of something for nothing would never have occurred to them.

If my grandparents saw foreign enclaves cropping up around them, with signs and shop displays in languages other than English, they would be confused. In America people spoke English and immigrants such as they, simply learned the language. They had no expectation that America would encourage them to establish a "New Sweden" here in this country. They were of course proud of their Swedish heritage, but they came here to be Americans in every possible way.

Upon seeing bilingual classes in public schools, my grandparents would have wondered, quite appropriately, how these children would ever learn English if they didn't speak it all the time. My Dad learned his English from his best friend, a German boy who had been in America a bit longer and had mastered the language. It didn't take my Dad long to learn to speak perfect English. All that was required was emersion and a little effort.

Something that my grandparents would be completely baffled by is the absolute banning of prayer or any mention of God in public schools. They lived in a small California coastal town made up of immigrants from many nations. Kids said a prayer before school every day, asking their God to bless their school, their teachers, their parents and their country, whether they were Catholics, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims or Methodists. Prayer was a sign of thankfulness and an acknowledgment that blessings came from God, not government or people. Their naturalization classes as they waited seven years to become American citizens demonstrated to them that religious freedom and a reliance on divine providence were the very foundations of America. Unlike many places in the world, Americans could pray anywhere they chose, in any way they wanted, at any time of day and in any place in town.

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If my grandparents were to see the absolute decay in our morals and ethics in this country it would appall them. The foul language, lack of respectful discourse, and sexual promiscuity so prevalent today in America would cause them pause. However, these very decent and moral immigrants would not be in the public square demanding that the government censor speech, television, radio or public commentary. They would simply redouble their efforts to instill in their children and grandchildren the proper moral foundations that had favored them well over their lifetime

The current debate over radical Islam by academics, sociologists and politicians would befuddle my grandparents. They were raised with a deep faith in God, a working knowledge of the Bible and an understanding of the origin of mankind. I think they would wonder why so many educated people had so little understanding of the conflict between Islam and the Judeo-Christian religions. To them, it was simply the manifestation of the Biblical conflict between the sons of Abraham, Isaac and Ishmael. They knew well that the conflict between Muslims and Judeo-Christians will be sorted out in the end times according to scripture. They would not see this conflict as political at all, but rather as common knowledge. So would the Muslims of their day. All of them understood the issues, just as they do today. Only politicians, sociologists and academics seem to be confused by it all.

My grandparents thought America was worth fighting for. So much so that they sent two of their boys off to war to fight the Germans in North Africa and Italy, and the Japanese in the Pacific. They didn't see themselves as anything other than Americans in those days. If you could pick up a weapon, or work in a factory or help keep a business open, you did so, without reservation. They would not understand how an American university could ban military recruiters from talking to students or refuse to allow the ROTC to be part of the school's curriculum.

Finally, if my grandparents were to have someone try to explain to them that because they were poor, money would be involuntarily taken by the government from those who were more fortunate and given to them, they would most certainly be puzzled and concerned. Taking money from one and giving it to another by the government is theft, isn't it? It would be to my grandparents. They had needs, for sure, but wasn't that what friends, neighbors, or their church family were for, they would ask. Why would the government be involved in helping the poor? Their faith and sense of community instructed them that it was their job to help one another, not the government's job.

Each of us should search deep into our family tree and find that missing American in us. We need to resurrect that committed citizen who thanks God for the blessings of living here, offers his or her effort to keep this country free and on the right course, and remembers the sacrifices of those who came before us. We need to tap into their willingness to work hard, to be honest and to help those in need with whatever they had. If we all did that, America might just make it through this mess we are in today.

## BOOKS

WHAT'S YOURS IS MINE: OPEN ACCESS AND THE RISE OF INFRASTRUCTURE SOCIALISM By Adam Thierer and Clyde Wayne Crews Jr. The authors examine the hazards of mandatory "open access" -- a new trend in which hyper-regulatory bureaucrats and central planners are increasingly commanding technology companies and industry sectors to share networks, facilities, or specific technologies with rivals.



## SPENDING: PROGRESSIVES OF BOTH PARTIES' CHOSEN DRUG

By John Anderson

The battle over the fiscal 2010 Budget that Democrats failed to pass last fall is the test case for the war to come over our federal government's addiction to spending taxpayer money. Addiction is a disease and it must be treated. Congress and the White House simply must go into mandatory drug rehabilitation. The only court that can force them there is the American voting public, and the court order must be the ballot box.

Given the 2012 Budget created by Congressman Paul Ryan, and other formidable efforts by some of our newly elected freshman Senators and Congressmen and women, like Rand Paul of Kentucky, the war will almost certainly result in a government shut-down at some point. If simply cutting \$327M for Planned Parenthood can move the Democrats and President Obama to threaten a veto of the FY 2010 remaining budget proposal, there is little doubt that the vote on Ryan's budget and the Debt Ceiling looming before us will result in a major outage. Call it "going cold turkey". Although none of us want to see our government shut down, we shouldn't fear it. As long as the House, Senate and President, through a stand alone bill, ensure that all military pay is protected from interruption, a government shutdown can be survived, counter to all the melodrama from the left. It might even be instructive. In a government shutdown, the President has designated that no fewer than 800,000 federal employees will become "non-essential". By definition, that means that these employees are "secondary", or "unnecessary". What company or organization can you cite that can lose almost a million employees and still meet "essential" needs? It's worth considering, isn't it?

Consider this fact. According to the CATO Institute, the average federal worker makes \$81,258 salary per year, compared to only \$50,462 salary per year for the average private sector worker. It is astounding when you then consider the benefits paid to each group of employees. Federal workers receive \$41,791 in benefits, while private sector workers receive only \$10,589 in benefits, on average. That means that, during a government shutdown, 800,000 "non-essential", meaning "unnecessary" federal employees who average \$123,049 per year in salary and benefits can evidently be spared. You do the math on that. It makes my head spin. If only half of those employees were cut from the roles of government, would they really be missed by the average American? I doubt it.

## GOVERNMENT SPENDING ADDICTS SAY GOVERNMENT SERVICES ARE NECESSARY.

This is pure folly. Let's consider just one example, the Department of Education. Formed in 1979 by Jimmy Carter, this federal agency now requires somewhere between 4,200 and 5,000 employees, averaging over \$123,000 per year in salary and benefits. Jimmy Carter and the progressives decided that a federal school board with a "one size fits all" mentality could do a better job of educating our children than could the states, local school boards and parents. So how has it gone, you say? Since 1985, inflation-adjusted federal spending on K-12 education has increased 138 percent. Yet, indicators of educational improvement such as increases in academic achievement and graduation rates by any reasonable metric, is an absolute failure. Yet we continue to fund it year after year. The president's FY2011 budget for the Department of Education tops \$77 billion. This includes \$50 billion in discretionary spending, \$1 billion for successful Elementary and Secondary Education Act (EASA) reauthorization, and \$35 billion for Pell grants, which became mandatory in 2010. The budget increase comes on top of last year's \$100 billion infusion of "stimulus" cash into the Department of Education's coffer. Add to that another \$9.3B for a new Pre-School program and the picture gets worse. It appears that the sacred cow of education spending has been spared of the spending freeze. By eliminating the Department of Education, control would be automatically returned to the states, local school boards and most importantly, parents. In fact, that's exactly how the Founders setup this function. When you federalize education, you leave parents with no place to go when public education fails to produce results. Republicans and all fiscally responsible Democrats and Independents must stand up for something more important than reelection. It is called statesmanship, principled leadership or responsible governing.

No economic or academic case can be made for continuing to fund the Department of Education. The only reason it exists is because politicians are too cowardly to cut waste in government. So as we move closer to the showdowns on Budget 2012 and raising the Debt Ceiling, don't fear a government shutdown. First, it appears, according to the President, that we can spare up to 800,000 employees in a pinch. The amount of money we save just on their salaries and the cost of heating and air conditioning the buildings is staggering. It is also a reason to reduce the number of federal employees by a significant number. When lawmakers do that, redundant and ineffective federal programs and agencies will begin to be eliminated. America will begin to live within her means and some of that money sitting on the sidelines, waiting for a sign that we may finally be over our addiction to reckless spending, will begin to show up in investment in businesses and creation of good jobs. It is amazing what a little courage can produce.



IDAHO

RISCH TOURS GUANTANAMO BAY DETENTION FACILITY

Tour Provides Perspective on Much-Discussed Site-

June 14, 2011

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Jim Risch returned from touring Guantanamo Bay Monday evening, capping a full day of meetings and tours of the detention facilities located at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base on the island of Cuba.

“This tour was an opportunity to understand first-hand the enormous challenge facing military personnel and lawyers that work to keep America safe. I was able to tour the legal and detention facilities, as well as talk with a number of military personnel and lawyers about how the United States treats and handles detainees from the global war on terror,” said Risch. “I can say without a doubt that a lot of what is said in the press about Guantanamo is inaccurate and overblown.”

Since 2002, Guantanamo has held some of the most dangerous terrorists and combatants, and President Bush sought to try detainees through military tribunals. As a result of the U.S. Supreme Court case, *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*, Congress drafted the Military Commissions Act, which was signed into law in October 2006 and provided the legal authority for the United States to try detainees.

Unfortunately, in January 2009 President Obama issued an executive order to close the detention center and transfer the detainees. In January, Congress prohibited the transfer of detainees from Guantanamo Bay to the United States, and six months ago, President Obama reversed his position, issuing a new executive order to try detainees using the military commissions authorized by Congress.

CITY GOVERNMENT

BOISE BUDGET GROWS 8 TIMES FASTER THAN POPULATION

The Guardian  
May 17, 2011

A big shout out to the STATESMAN and reporter Cynthia Sewell for once again doing lots of digging through census, budget, and other records prior to the annual Chamber of Commerce “Live Aid” speech Wednesday by the Mayor Dave Bieter which grosses up to \$45,000 for the private special interest lobbying group.

We have been the squeaky wheel for so long about Team Dave shilling for the Chamber that we are nothing but annoying background noise. The GUARDIAN thinks the annual “state of the city speech” should be given either at a council meeting or as an opening act for the Food Bank, Idaho Youth Ranch, Women’s Shelter, or a Homeless group.

The DAILY notes Boise’s population has increased 11% in the past ten years, but the city budget has increased eight times as fast—a whopping 88% over the same period. With property values down and per capita income down, we find it hard to believe the city’s survey results which claims folks are happy with a city management that has consistently increased its budget EVERY YEAR while other units of government are cutting back.

They listed the top 16 employers and the GUARDIAN notes at least 11 of them pay no taxes—nearly all are either schools, hospitals, or government agencies. Micron has been a “non-profit” for so many quarters we don’t think they pay much income tax either. Meanwhile, here’s what they say about Boise Schools over the same time frame:

Boise School District’s annual budget is \$187.4 million this year — up 8.9 percent from 2000. The district’s total enrollment decreased 4.4 percent in that time, to 25,317, and the number of certified teachers dropped 3.7 percent, to 1,420.

One figure the DAILY didn’t include in their piece was the increase in City spending for public relations, advertising, lobbyists,



THE TEACHERS UNION (IDAHO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION)

VS.

IDAHO STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (not affiliated with Idaho Education Association)

A plan to improve Idaho schools called The Students Come First plan is based on recommendations developed by the Education Alliance of Idaho, which includes the Idaho Education Association, Idaho School Boards Association, Idaho Association of School Administrators and 80 of Idaho's largest corporations, among others. Working together, recommendations were made to write Idaho's Race to the Top application, including a pay-for-performance plan. Students Come First puts these recommendations into action and creates a way for Idaho schools to get back on firm financial footing. Tom Luna, State Superintendent of Public Instruction for the Idaho State Department of Education, sought solutions that eliminate waste, lighten the burden on property owners who have been funding a failed system and progress with new and available technology that will prepare students for the future.

Luna has introduced a sweeping proposal to the Legislature that would, in part, increase class sizes, mandate some online courses and eliminate 770 teaching positions over five years. Idaho has cut and shifted \$200 million from K-12 public schools. Even with optimistic revenue growth, it will take the state 10 years to overcome the existing debt. This year, the state faces an additional shortfall of up to \$80 million.

Under this plan-

Teacher who currently have tenure will keep it. New teachers will receive a two-year rolling contract. Districts will no longer use seniority as a factor in reduction-in-force because we know longevity does not define teacher quality. Research shows neither tenure nor seniority help raise student achievement, but can hinder it.

The vast majority of our colleges, universities and employers expect Idaho graduates to learn and work in an online environment. We must ensure our students are prepared for this. Studies show online learning is just as effective as traditional education. Today, more than 2 million students in public schools nationwide, and 15,000 Idaho students, are taking online courses. This number will only grow in the coming years.

The goal is to ensure every Idaho public high school has a 1:1 ratio of students to computers by providing a laptop, or other mobile computing device, beginning in the ninth grade. The state will provide the technical support, maintenance and security, including filtering software. Local districts and parents will shoulder none of the burden. Local school boards will own and control the devices and determine if students take the laptops home or use them at school. In addition, Idaho will provide funding to prepare teachers on how to integrate this technology into the classroom. Similar programs have been successful in Maine and Texas.

See: <http://www.studentscomefirst.org/bill.htm>

The proposed plan is receiving an outcry of 'job descrimination' from the teachers union who refuse to acknowledge the system is broke and further, have no solution to fix it. However, the taxpayers keep footing the bill. In the private sector, poorly run businesses go broke. There is no 'free' money for them to continue repeating the same mistakes. Where is the descrimination?

The Idaho Education Association, the state's teachers union, is holding public meetings around the state to discuss Tom Luna's proposed education overhaul. IEA has strongly voiced its opposition to Luna's proposal. Signatures were gathered that will place three new education-reform laws on the 2012 election ballot for a potential repeal. They include: a limit to the collective-bargaining rights of teachers and their unions, make teachers at-will employees and mandate a merit-pay plan for teachers. This repeal is nothing more than promoting more of the same-a broke system.

By Nancy Armstrong



## DEFINITION OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING "RIGHTS"

David Henderson, February 20, 2011

We're hearing a lot in recent discussions of Wisconsin's government workers' unions about how newly elected Governor Scott Walker plans to limit or end the unions' collective bargaining rights. Here is a discussion by an opponent of Walker's move that, as far as I can tell, gets the facts right. Except for one thing. It's not about rights. It's about power.

Almost everyone on both sides of the debate uses the term "collective bargaining rights" to mean the right of a union to bargain with an employer who must, by law, bargain in good faith. It also includes the right of a union to negotiate even for employees who don't want to be members of the union and don't want to pay dues to the union. So "collective bargaining rights" really mean the power to force others--to pay the dues and/or to join the union and/or to give up their power to negotiate with an employer. So the alleged right is really the "right" to monopolize the supply of labor to an employer. That's a phony right, not a real right. It's really a power. Interestingly, even many economists who defend union monopoly power, recognize that it is monopoly power. Harvard economists and union defenders Richard Freeman and James Medoff, for instance, wrote, "Most, if not all, unions have monopoly power, which they can use to raise wages above competitive levels." See: [http://econlog.econlib.org/archives/2011/02/collective\\_barg.html](http://econlog.econlib.org/archives/2011/02/collective_barg.html)

## DEFINITION OF RIGHT TO WORK LAW

Legislation that allows a person to work at any place of employment without being forced to join a union as a condition of employment. <http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/right-to-work-law.html>

State laws permitted by section 14(b) of the taft-hartley act that provide in general that employees are not required to join a union as a condition of getting or retaining a job.

Right-to-work laws forbid unions and employers to enter into agreements requiring employees to join a union and pay dues and fees to it in order to get or keep a job. Twenty-one states, mostly in the South and West, have right-to-work laws.

The ability of states to pass right-to-work laws was authorized by the Taft-Hartley Act of 1947, also known as the labor management relations act (29 U.S.C.A. § 141 et seq.).

Right-to-work advocates argue that no person should be forced to become a union member or to provide financial support for a labor organization as a condition of employment. Such compulsion is said to be contrary to the U.S. concept of individual rights and freedom of association. It is also alleged that compulsory unionism enables large labor organizations to exert excessive power in the workplace and in the political arena.

Organized labor believes that right-to-work laws allow free riders at the expense of their fellow workers. Opponents of these laws argue that everyone should pay a proportionate share of the costs of the union in negotiating contract benefits that will go to all. Unions also maintain that the real objective of right-to-work laws is to sow dissension among workers and thus weaken the labor movement. See: <http://legal-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/Right-to-Work+Laws>

## RED TAPE RISING: OBAMA'S TORRENT OF NEW REGULATION

Published on October 26, 2010 by James Gattuso , Diane Katz and Stephen Keen Backgrounder #2482

The burden of regulation on Americans increased at an alarming rate in fiscal year 2010. Based on data from the Government Accountability Office, an unprecedented 43 major new regulations were imposed by Washington. And based on reports from government regulators themselves, the total cost of these rules topped \$26.5 billion, far more than any other year for which records are available. These costs will affect Americans in many ways, raising the price of the cars they buy and the food they eat, while destroying an untold number of jobs. With the enactment of new health care laws, financial regulations, and plans for rulemaking in other areas, the regulatory burden on Americans is set to increase even further in the coming year.

Fifteen of the 43 new major rules involve financial regulation. Another five stem from the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. But 10 rules adopted by the Environmental Protection Agency were responsible for the lion's share of new regulatory costs—some \$23.2 billion.

**Editor's Note: House appropriators last month released their proposed spending levels for the Interior and Environment Appropriations Subcommittee, at \$27.5 billion for the agencies it funds. This represents a \$2 billion reduction compared with enacted levels, and nearly \$4 billion less than the president requested for EPA, Interior and other related agencies.**

**EPA will continue to expand at a destructive rate unless more serious cuts are initiated.**



**TEA PARTY BOISE NEWSLETTER INVITES  
YOUR COMMENTARY.**

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The threat against the very essence and core of what the United States of America exemplifies, is real. Our Constitution, the Declaration of Independence and Bill of Rights were written to prohibit political and judicial manipulations that bespeak oppressive i.e. big government. This is a Republic (A state in which supreme power is held by the people---). We are a nation suffering a threat from within.

If we, in our home towns, our state and nation, are subjugated by the government, our dollar weakened, property diminished, and spirit depressed, does it not indicate that we must act with stronger resolve and greater passion to dismantle the foes of freedom. Contact your congressmen and senators in Idaho. Let them know how they are doing and what you believe will promote freedom from big government. Invite them to join us at Tea Party Boise. Encourage your friends to do the same.

- EMAIL, FAX, WRITE AND CALL STATE REPRESENTATIVES & SENATORS
- CONTACT THE GOVERNOR
- SUPPORT WITH YOUR RESOURCES ORGANIZATIONS THAT IMPACT PUBLIC OPINION.

SIGN UP AND VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME TO SUPPORT LIBERTY.

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Articles written for and included in the Tea Party Boise Newsletter are perspectives on various issues and are the opinions of the writers.

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GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY, PAYROLL AND EXPENDITURES:

[www.OurIdaho.com](http://www.OurIdaho.com)

LEGISLATIVE SCORECARDS AND VOTING RECORDS:

[www.IdahoVotes.org](http://www.IdahoVotes.org)

The Tea Party Boise website, newsletters, communications to our state representatives and public leaders, the annual membership meeting, rallies, special Email announcements to members, and coordinating efforts with other freedom based organizations are just part of the activities that promote 'our' message that "We will not trade our freedom for statism". We all know that the federal government is on a power binge. Those that support big government have invested in that end and we have an enormous battle ahead to stop and reverse the damage. We must expand the 'reach' and impact of our voices that resonate "our passion and our allegiance is to the republic (a state where supreme power is held by the people--).

The board of directors are volunteers who, since the onset of organizing, have donated all time. We look to our nearly 3,000 members to get involved-make us a formidable force. *See: <http://www.teapartyboise.com>*

**P.O Box 2576 Eagle, ID 83616.**

**Thank you!** Tea Party Boise, Inc. Leadership