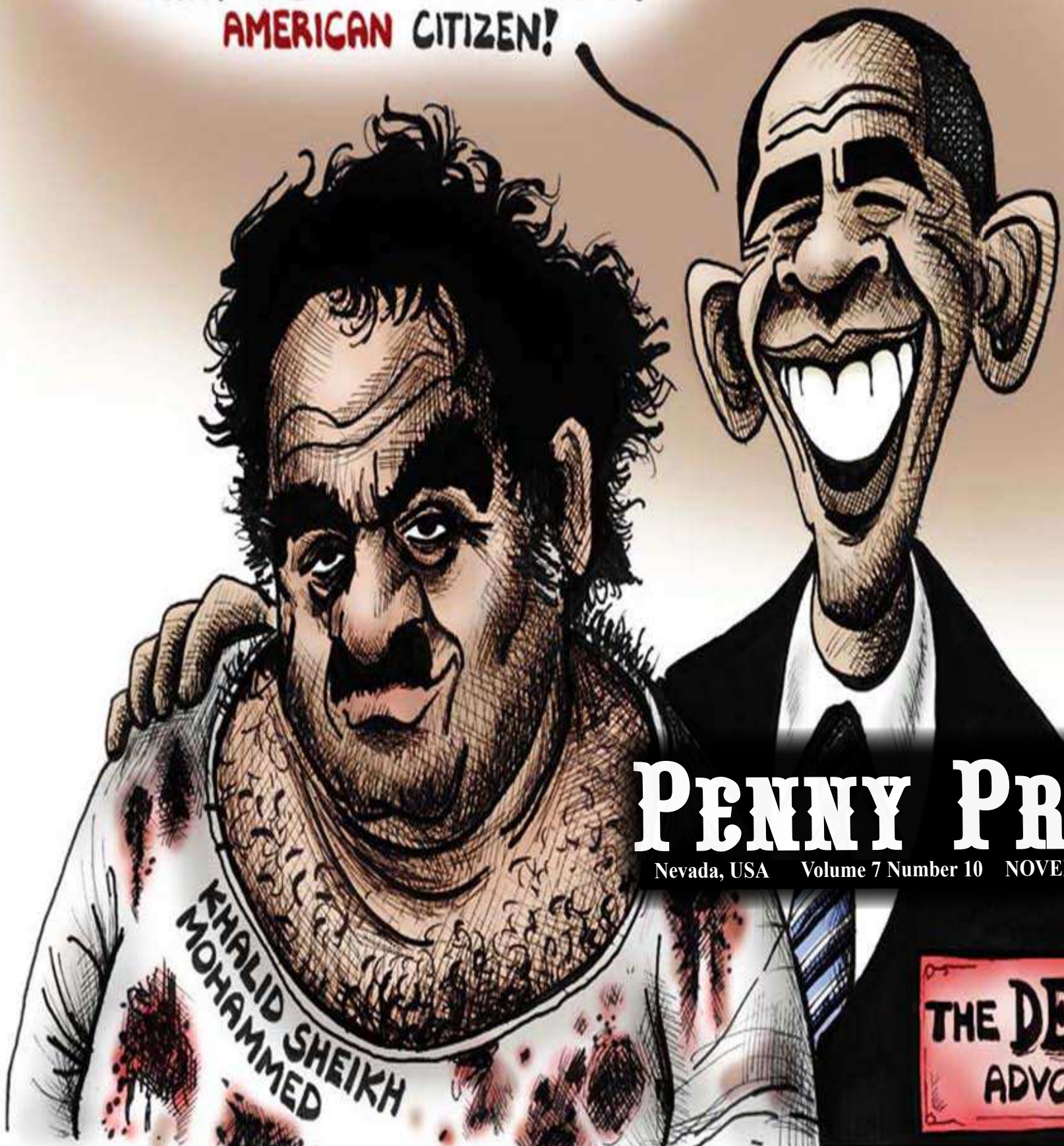


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NOVEMBER 26, 2009

Obama Throwing America Under Bus

By **TREVOR SIDES**
Special To The Penny Press

At the NATO summit back in April, President Obama was asked if he subscribed to the “school of American exceptionalism that sees America as uniquely qualified to

Commentary

lead the world.”

“I believe in American exceptionalism, just as I suspect that the Brits believe in British exceptionalism and the Greeks believe in Greek exceptionalism,” he answered.

For all of Obama’s flip-flops, he has been insistent on the issue of American exceptionalism – or lack

thereof. Events over the last week have added to the evidence that Obama’s America is one enslaved to multicultural postmodernism. It’s been a bad November for American exceptionalism.

November 5. Remember, remember the fifth of November – the Jihadist treason and plot: U.S. Army Major Nidal Malik Hasan shouts “Allahu Akhbar!” as he kills 12 of his fellow service members, one contractor, and wounds 42 others in an attack on Ft. Hood. Obama cautions “against jumping to conclusions” about the religious motivations of Hasan’s attack.

November 9. The world celebrates the 20th anniversary of the collapse of the Berlin Wall. Conspicuously absent from the ceremonies was the President of the United States, who had decided against the trip even

before the Ft. Hood attack.

November 10. During the memorial service for the Ft. Hood fallen, one day before Veteran’s Day, Obama hails the United States as a “nation of laws whose commitment to justice is so enduring that we would treat a gunman and give him due process . . .”

November 13. Attorney General Eric Holder announces that Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and four other 9/11 conspirators will be tried in New York City.

November 14. Obama nearly touches his toes as he bows to Japanese Emperor Akihito during the first leg of his Asia trip.

November 16. At a “town hall” gathering in Shanghai, Obama threw America under the geopolitical bus, stressing that, “. . . it’s very important for the United States not to

assume that what is good for us is automatically good for somebody else.” He needn’t worry. During this leg of the Asia trip, the Chinese government commented on how nations should be deficit neutral and have a stable monetary policy.

The implications of Obama’s beliefs and actions go far beyond our own “Proud to be an American” ethos – and even our national security. When the 20th century’s altruistic good-guy super power begins to abdicate its moral, economic and military leadership, a power vacuum is created.

Iran, North Korea, Russia and China (among others) are the first to want to fill this vacuum. Europe has been lulled to sleep by decades of socialism, a deathly-low birth-rate, and moral relativity; even Great Britain is incapable of standing up in

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The Conservative Weekly

Voice Of Las Vegas

Inside:

It All Gets Down To

Who Do You Trust?

See Editorial Page 6



Penny Wisdom

The Constitution gives every American the inalienable right to make a damn fool of himself.

—John Ciardi

FLOYD BROWN
FRED WEINBERG
DOUG FRENCH
AL THOMAS
WYATT COX
JOYCE MEYER
PET OF THE WEEK

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Wait Until China Gets To Decide What's Good For Us

Continued from page 3

place of a suddenly bow-happy United States. Saving the world from global warming is much more important than the exportation of peace, freedom and liberty to the far reaches of the globe.

Obama knows that the world is a safer, freer place because of American exceptionalism. He knows that wealth and prosperity have reached unprecedented levels in human history because of American exceptionalism.

But the multicultural pluralist in him can't stand this, and, furthermore, dictates (ironically) that hegemony – even by the “good guy” – is wrong and undesirable. In his mind, it's OK that China is on the rise (and owns all our debt), because why should America keep all the power? It's OK that Iran wants nuclear fuel (weapons), because if we have them, how can we deny

them to others? It's good that KSM is tried in civilian court instead of being executed, because that shows we're compassionate towards someone who was pushed to do what he did precisely because of American hegemony. Hasan is a criminal suffering from “pre post-traumatic stress disorder” – not an enemy combatant or traitor to his country. It's not his religion's fault – it's our fault for sending him to war.

The danger in not assuming that “what is good for us is automatically good for somebody else,” is that before long, someone else – China, Russia, Iran, etc – is going to start assuming what is good for us. And our president is perfectly OK with this arrangement.

Trevor Sides is a Liberty Features Syndicated writer.



“EITHER THAT OR LOOKING FOR HIS APPROVAL RATING.”

Commentary: Floyd Brown

Obama's Weakness On Display Around The World

President Obama, trying to escape the turmoil he has created in the U.S.A. with an over-aggressive legislative agenda, is spending time overseas, but obviously he is in way over his head abroad as well.

Obama sets the record for countries visited during a president's first year. In 10 months he has visited 20 countries. Even with all his globetrotting, Obama returns from

his multitude of trips with no real accomplishments or agreements. His most recent expedition to Asia was an abject failure for America.

Proudly strutting into office promising a new foreign policy based on cooperation and international brotherhood, Obama pledged to do away with what he called "Bush's cowboy diplomacy." Rather, he would sit down with world leaders playing nicey-nice, building a multilateral consensus. His magic words may have persuaded naïve American voters, but thus far he is having no such luck when it comes to foreign heads of state.

Obama is no stranger to failure in foreign relations, unless you believe apologizing for your country's past

defines success. In previous attempts at diplomacy, Obama failed to negotiate commitments from Europe on troops in Afghanistan, bowed to the King of Saudi Arabia, and botched our once close relationship with the British.

Obama's Asian trip soured rapidly after he bowed before the Emperor of Japan. Obama has shown a penchant for prostrating himself before foreign leaders, giving visual representation to how he is seeking to submit America to the desires of foreign powers. Obama bent so low, it approached the level of groveling to the diminutive son of the man who ordered the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

Next, when attending the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Obama shook hand with Gen. Thein Sein, the Prime Minister appointed by a vicious and brutal military junta in Myanmar. By shaking hands and meeting with this unelected dictator, Obama sends a message to all those fighting for freedom across the world: America is no longer standing with you, but with your oppressors.

In China, Obama was pushed around by those from whom he is borrowing more and more money. Obama failed to gain any commitments from the Chinese regarding their oppression of human rights. His creditors also greatly restricted his ability to speak to the Chinese people. Obama was allowed one highly scripted town-hall meeting that was not broadcast on state-run television, as he had expected. While he was in China, the Chinese verbally attacked American economic policy. To top it off, the Chinese signaled they would block American-led efforts to sanction Iran for its nuclear program.

Other world leaders know weak-

ness when they see it.

To complete the disastrous list of disappointments, Obama failed to make any progress on North Korea. Upon meeting with Russian President Medvedev, Obama announced the U.S. would not complete a new nuclear disarmament agreement to replace the START treaty that expires on December 5. Evidently, receiving a Nobel Peace Prize is much easier to do than reaching agreements that merit one.

In the biggest blow to Obama's agenda, leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum dropped efforts to reach a binding international climate-change agreement. Obama's misguided efforts to lead a worldwide healing of the planet will, fortunately, have to wait for now.

In response to Obama's repeated failures in China, Obama Press Secretary Robert Gibbs down-played the trip, saying they "did not think the waters would part and everything would change as a result of his 2 1/2 day trip to China." Now, compare team Obama's current complaints about high expectations with promises from June 2008. It was Obama himself who loftily proclaimed after securing the Democratic nomination for president, "this was the moment when the rise of the oceans began to slow and our planet began to heal; this was the moment when we ended a war and secured our nation and restored our image as the last, best hope on earth."

When you are down bowing to another leader, it is very hard position in which to lead the free world. Obama's in way over his head and it shows.

FLOYD

and

MARY BETH BROWN



The Penny Press Tips Its Cap To:

The medical establishment and those women's organizations who reacted to the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force's recommendation that women should now have mammograms beginning at age 50 rather than 40. By Wednesday -- following protests from women, lawmakers and many clinicians -- the Obama administration distanced itself from the new standards, declaring that government insurance programs would continue to cover routine mammograms for women starting at age 40. How's that for reform?

The FBI which is investigating claims that sensitive patient information was leaked from University Medical Center, violating federal privacy laws.

The Penny Press Sends A Bronx Cheer And A Bouquet of Weeds To:

State Engineer Tracy Taylor who has decided to join the Southern Nevada Water Authority in appealing a court ruling that dealt a blow to the authority's plans to tap groundwater in Lincoln County. This guy is supposed to be impartial and not take the side of the people who are apparently paying him off to pimp for them. This is a bad idea and needs a stake through its heart.

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OPINION

From The Publisher...

Health Care Gets Down To Who Do You Trust?

The topic of death panels was not too far away from the American psyche in the past couple of weeks and while many people can understand the concept intellectually it all boils down to a basic question:

Can you trust the government with your medical future?

The answer for a huge majority of America is, **NO**.

Intellectually, we know that we probably spend way too much money prolonging life when all hope is gone.

But the key question is who gets to decide at exactly what point all hope leaves the building?

And allowing any government entity to make those decisions is simply not acceptable to most people.

If you need any real evidence on that point, look at the pronouncement last week from a government sponsored panel which said that mammograms really weren't necessary for women in their 40s. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force is one of those government entities whose recommendations carry a lot of weight—particularly with insurers—and it's fair to point out that this group was appointed during the Bush administration.

And, intellectually, what they said is correct. Because what they really said was not that women in their 40s don't need mammograms but rather that such mammograms only saved a relatively few women from breast cancer.

That certainly makes financial sense—unless the woman in question happens to be your wife.

You see, it's easy for a task force to look at cost-benefit relationships.

If there are two percent more women who die of late-diagnosed breast cancer, well, that's life. Right? After all, look at all the money we'd save.

Wrong.

The problem is that women (and men) who wear pink ribbons and participate in the Susan G. Komen events are worried about saving every life possible. And the task force is worried about saving money. Apples and Lugnuts.

Unfortunately, if the government takes control of our health-

care system—more than it already has—such task forces will set those protocols and there will be little or nothing which can be done. It's how government works.

You were expecting maybe Marcus Welby MD would make those decisions? Or Dr. Huxtable?

The problem with the hard left's promise to reform our health care system is they have no idea how to lower the costs.

The first question nobody has ever asked is why some of this stuff costs what it does?

We seem to have an inverse of the law of supply and demand.

If you put 15 CAT scanners in one town both the number of CAT scans AND the price seems to increase.

That's an indication that a) there is no free market in CAT scans because b) there is no incentive to lower the price. Why? Because the government has set an acceptable price it will reimburse and that sets a floor under all pricing.

What would happen if insurers put out such commodity procedures such as MRIs and CAT scans for bids and the low bidder got all the business?

The answer is that in mere days, billions would be saved.

This happens because the vast majority of Americans never even look at their medical bills. Just like they never get first count on their taxes due to with-holding.

If every American first had to write a check and then was reimbursed by their insurer, my guess is that the cost of most medical procedures would be reduced overnight. If every American actually had to write a check to the government on April 15, the same thing would happen to government.

If you want to reform our healthcare system, start with the source of the ever increasing costs. You'll get a lot farther than by merely re-arranging the deck chairs on the Titanic which is a pretty good description of Harry Reid's bill in the Senate.

FRED WEINBERG

Commentary: Doug French

Dollar Meltdown

The current investment climate is more perilous than ever. The Federal Reserve's balance sheet continues to grow stuffed with the dubious paper purchased from the too-big-to-fail banks that are now wards of the state. The music stopped and there were no chairs, but the Fed and the Treasury snapped their fingers and trillions of dollars later the chairs appeared, the band played on and the banks live on. The taxpayers are now the not-so-proud owners of AIG, General Motors, Fannie and Freddie and dozens of banks. Where did the money come from? Out of thin air.

Every paper currency in history eventually reaches its intrinsic value – zero – and the Fed's Ben Bernanke is doing all he can to see that the dollar becomes worthless sooner rather than later. As Marc Faber told an investment conference crowd recently, Zimbabwe's serial inflator Robert Mugabe is Bernanke's mentor.

Investors live in the here and now. We can't pick what our investment climate will be. If only we could live our lives with the market deciding what money is and 100-percent reserve banks protected our money on deposit. No such luck. The financial waters are treacherous and we must navigate them.

Charles Goyette provides a roadmap for survival with his newly released book, [The Dollar Meltdown: Surviving The Impending Currency Crisis With Gold, Oil, And Other Unconventional Investments](#). The former Phoenix radio talk-show host has learned from some of the brightest minds in economics and investing. It's the rare book that engagingly teaches sound economic theory, provides the history of how we got in this mess and then provides solid investment advice that considers the precarious times we live in. As ambitious as this sounds Goyette's fast-paced book gets it all done.

The author brings the reader up to speed writing about the bailouts and the nation's debt. After explaining why gold has been the market's choice for money for thousands of years, he writes about every saver and investor's nightmare – inflation – using the modern example of Mugabe's Zimbabwe, a once prosperous nation reduced to a Stone Age economy with the continuous printing of paper money. Everyone is a billionaire but nobody can buy anything.

Goyette looks to Murray Rothbard to explain the history of America's Federal Reserve and fractional reserve banking, and to Ludwig von Mises to see what the crack-up boom might look like. He makes the poignant point that hyper-inflation is not just something engendered in banana republics. Israel experienced triple-digit price inflation in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Every once in a while dissatisfaction with the dollar makes the news, most recently with super model Gisele Bündchen demanding to be paid in euros rather than dollars. But the Brazilian bombshell was not the first. Goyette writes that Bette Midler demanded gold Krugerrands to perform overseas in the 1970's. No doubt the Devine Miss M was influenced by then manager and boyfriend Aaron Russo.

Ultimately inflation leads to a state-controlled economy and America is headed that way, evidenced by Washington picking which businesses survive and which are left to fail, not to mention how much executives – high level and low – can be paid. So what's a person to do? There is no academic hemming and hawing with Goyette and don't be looking for stock tips. The author suggests investing in real things and he especially likes the yellow metal. What's especially valuable is the primer he provides for buying physical gold – something that many people ask about.

All the other ways of investing in gold are addressed along with a separate discussion about silver. Goyette knows the whole energy independence chatter is nonsense and spends a chapter discussing what the world will not be living without in our lifetimes – oil.

Specifics are provided on how to invest in other commodities and what to invest in to take advantage of the coming bond market crash. Goyette's explanation of how volatility can eat up an investment in leveraged funds is especially helpful as well as his tip about TIPS.

For readers who want more information, the author's suggested readings at the end of the book will arm investors with ongoing market and economic knowledge.

At the book's end Goyette's sadness of America's loss of liberty is evident. He worries what will become of this country's prosperity and freedoms. But he doesn't waste time urging his readers to write their congressmen or elect the right people. It's too late for that. Protect your assets, get out of the dollar.

DOUG FRENCH

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The American Family That Lives Here Doesn't Need to Own Firearms



The residents of the White House are one of the few American families that don't really need to own firearms for their own defense. They have the best personal protection a nation can buy...24/7 Secret Service guardians.

Some governors and other high government officials are similarly shielded at taxpayer expense. And a few families are wealthy enough to pay for personal bodyguards.

Everyone else is on their own. Of course there are dedicated law enforcement officers, but they can't be everywhere all the time, and they are vastly outnumbered by the criminals. The courts have ruled repeatedly that police can't be liable for any failure to come to anyone's aid, even when lives are at stake.

The American people know that when threatened by the unexpected, they must provide for their own defense. The Supreme Court has ruled that the Second Amendment to the Constitution guarantees the right to arms for domestic defense, and 48 states provide for legal concealed carry of firearms.

In their homes and businesses, millions of families own firearms for personal defense, and many of those are the same popular semi-automatic rifles, shotguns and pistols which some misguided policy advocates propose to outlaw.

Such efforts would further tip the scales of safety in favor of criminals and terrorists who always ignore laws against murder, rape, robbery, carjacking and burglary just as they always have ignored gun laws. Enforcing gun bans against good citizens would place another, more difficult burden on law enforcement, with little effect on those intent on violence.

If you think you have the right to defend yourself and your family, use the coupon at lower left to remind President Obama of his campaign promise not to take away anyone's guns.

If you believe others should be exposed to this message, or if you wish to get more facts about firearms policy from the Second Amendment Foundation, use the coupon at lower right.

Dear President Obama:
 During your 2008 campaign you said you believed in the Second Amendment and would not take away anyone's guns. Please don't let Congress turn law-abiding citizens into criminals with misguided gun laws affecting commonly owned firearms.

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Commentary: Albert Thomas

Making Money In A Down Market

In 2008 almost everyone lost money. Almost everyone. A few made a profit because they would not remain in the box.

To make money today the investor must think outside the box as the market approaches the new tipping point. It looks like it is headed for a wide sideways pattern for the months ahead.

Most brokers have not been taught by their companies how to make money and few have any idea what to do when the market tanks. They look at each other with blank faces and ask what do we do now. Customers call either crying or screaming.

There are two basics brokers have heard of. Selling out and putting customers into a money market fund which their company will not allow or going short which most of them do not understand and their customers are afraid of with good reason. The latter can be very dangerous for the novice.

There is a third which some have heard of, but do not know how to use. There are both mutual funds and exchange traded funds that go up while the market is going down. Anyone can buy them. They are called bear funds. I made good use of them last year.

All investors are familiar with the S&P500 Index. It is one of the standard measurements of the stock market. There are many mutual funds that follow it exactly. It is an excellent investment while the market is rising. You don't want to own it while the market is crashing. Last year it lost about 40%.

There is an exchange traded fund with the symbol SPY that mimics it. Conversely there is an exchange traded fund with the symbol SH that is the mirror image is the SP500. It goes up while the SPY goes down.

The problem is brokers don't know when to sell out the long positions and buy the bear funds. There are several methods that work very well all of which Wall Street tells their brokers will not work.

How many times have you heard market timing doesn't work? It does. Several years ago the Federal Reserve wrote a treatise saying it outperformed the Buy and Hold method.

Using a simple 200-day moving average penetration will have a good broker watching to protect his clients. There are things called oscillators where two moving average lines crossing over give buy and sell signals.

If your broker or financial planner is not trained in these technical indicators it is time to change to a new advisor. If you don't know about them it is time you learned or you can watch your money disappear again in the next down sweep. Yes, I guarantee there will be another one; it is impossible to predict when.

Only technical indicators will show investors when to be in cash. Fundamental analysis will not.

An investor who learns to use bear funds will protect his capital and can make money while the market is crashing.

AL THOMAS

Al Thomas' best selling book, "If It Doesn't Go Up, Don't Buy It!" has helped thousands of people make money and keep their profits with his simple 2-step method. Read the first chapter at www.mutualfundmagic.com and discover why he's the man that Wall Street does not want you to know.

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Commentary: Wyatt Cox

Californication 2009: The STD To Kill Nevada (We TOLD You So!)

Dear Friends:

I wrote this piece twenty-five months ago. This piece and the fallout from same became the final straw in my decision to leave Las Vegas and bring my family to what ultimately will be a better life here in Northern Nevada. I want to share this with you, and then bring you a few new thoughts...

Dear Fred:

I know you expect these well thought out opinion pieces from me to fill some space in your paper each week. Well, this week it's a little hard.

Sadly, I'm truly sick of Las Vegas.

Well, scratch that. I'm not sick of the city. There's still a big part of me that likes the "feel" of being in this city. A couple of winters ago I spent a weekend in one of the old Vintage Queen rooms down at the El Cortez. It was a trip. When I came down the winding staircase from those second floor rooms and into the casino I kept expecting to see Dan Dailey and Ginger Rogers at the tables.

No, it's not the town I've come to hate. It's the people.

Las Vegas seems to be a sicko magnet. For all the nice people I've met here, I've met a dozen people that I wouldn't spit on if they were on fire. *[The preceding line was sanitized for your protection.]* I've had more people con me, scam me, deceive me, play me, and totally rip me off in the eight years I've lived here than the rest of my 52 years **combined!**

It seems like everyone that I talk to wants to be somewhere else. The town isn't good enough for them. They all have attitudes. They can't smile, they can't be happy.

Monday morning I had to go up to Bubba Brown's school for the first day of his school year. I know, everyone else started school two weeks ago. He's on a track that starts late. Parents usually are all happy to see each other, to say hi and friendly. They seem to be so clannish here, almost like being in high school again. Afterwards, I rode my bike to the post office with the intent of being very friendly and smiling at everyone. Of the 30 people I saw, only six answered me when I said "Good Morning". The rest looked at me with expressions that screamed, "Go shoot yourself." *[The preceding line was sanitized for your protection.]*

And the panhandlers.

I wouldn't be this upset except I see the same ones trying to get change for food in the Flamingo Wash drinking beer and smoking cigarettes and doing God knows whatever else.

See, I know that this town is a melting pot. I know that people come here from all over the nation -- and the world -- to work and play here.

I use to have issues with the tourists.

Not anymore.

The people that live here are far and away much more annoying.

They want Las Vegas to be "just like home". It's too hot, it's not family friendly enough, it's too open, it's too much like the wild west.

Then go home! Oh, that's right. There aren't any good jobs there, are there? That's why you came here.

So go ahead, kill the economy here with the same over-regulated, over-built, over-priced, business-unfriendly environment that California is in. Kill the golden goose.

And enjoy your recession.

I suspect that by 2008, Fred, I'll be heading back to a smaller town in Northern Nevada. Someplace where you can feel a lot safer being out at 11 o'clock at night anywhere in town.

Someplace where there's less concern about "Rights", and more concern about "Responsibility"...

Someplace where a family of four making \$50,000 a year can afford more than a crackerbox apartment; where **real** houses with **real** yards aren't a quarter of a million dollars.

If it was just me, Fred, I'd stay. The glitz, the glamour, the atmosphere, it still appeals to me. But it's not just me. Between Bubba Brown, his mom, and our forthcoming new arrival, it's just not right.

We've lived in small towns before. We understand the dynamic of living there for 30 years and still being the "new" people in town. We can live with that.

Living with the negative vibes that the people that I keep encountering, I can't live with.

There's something that an old friend of ours once said, Fred. Lee Pete told me shortly after I arrived that I would have enjoyed this town, but I "missed" it. I keep thinking that he's right.

Moving outstate has a lot of the appeal of old Vegas. Sure, I'll have to drive to Reno or Vegas for any shows, but there are plenty of casinos and gaming to keep me busy, I hear the food is really good. Plus there's something up north that we don't have here. Something not permitted in this county. I doubt that Dolly Parton's running any of them, though... *[The preceding line was sanitized for your protection.]*

Thanks for the catharsis, Fred. I figured if anyone would understand, you would.

So what are you going to run in my column space this week?

Wyatt

Prologue: On this Thanksgiving day, I am so happy that I trusted my instincts and brought the family to Northern Nevada.

Two years out from our move, and it was the right thing to do.

So many of the people that I knew in Las Vegas are unemployed, unable to find work. Some are gone, unable to be located unless I find a PI. Many couples split and went their separate ways, thinking it would be easier. Others have stayed together for the sakes of their bank accounts.

Truth be known, we had the roughest 2009 possible, but it's coming back. And so are we.

The local economy hit a huge rough patch. Some long-time businesses closed. Harry Reid rewrote our future here from a bright exclamation point to a huge question mark. Many, holding on for the redevelopment the coal-fired plants would bring, gave up.

But the city will survive, despite inside and outside influences. It always has.

We'll be back to visit, probably after the first of the year. I'm not anxious to make the trip, but there are too many people that really want to see us again.

Truth be known, so do I.

After all, Las Vegas is a wonderful place to visit.

Living there, not so much anymore. Not for us, anyway...

WYATT COX

Commentary: Joyce Meyer

Watch Your Mouth! It Matters More Than You Think.

It's a simple message: "Watch your mouth!"

Have you ever said that to anyone? Or has anybody ever said it to you?

Most of us would probably agree that we need to think more before we speak. James 1:19 tells us to: *...Let every man be quick to hear [a ready listener], slow to speak...* (The Amplified Bible).

Why? Because our words have power. The Bible says the power of life or death is in the tongue (see Proverbs 18:21).

So, what are you talking about? I think the three things we talk about more than anything else are what we *want*, what we *think*, and how we *feel*. And a lot of us spend more time thinking about what we're going to put *into* our mouth than what comes *out* of it.

We need to be aware of what we're saying because it's what comes out of us, not what goes in, that makes us unclean (see Matthew 15:11).

Our words reveal what's in our heart. They reveal the true character and level of spiritual maturity of a person. If you pay attention to what you're talking about, you'll learn some things about yourself.

The book of James has a lot to say about the words of our mouth. In James 3:2, we're told that anybody who can control their mouth and never say anything wrong can control everything else about their life. This means that what we say determines our direction in life – it either agrees with what God says and what His plan is, or it doesn't.

James 3:4-10 expounds on this. It compares the tongue to a bit in a horse's mouth. The bit, a small piece of metal, in the mouth of a horse can

turn the whole animal around. And a rudder on a ship, which is a huge vessel, determines which way the ship goes. Both the bit and rudder are small compared to the horse and the ship that they control.

Our tongue does the same thing for us. And because of it, our mouth is the biggest problem we have – not finances, people, jobs, or the world.

The bottom line of these verses is, the tongue determines the outcome of your life. Even though it's tiny, it can cause huge problems. It's frequently used by Satan to cause great harm. And the tongue can be tamed by no man, so we need God's help.

I believe the Holy Spirit tries to help us and give us guidance. It's that

uncomfortable feeling that you get in your gut before you say something you shouldn't. When I start talking about something I shouldn't, I feel it right away.

Now, the Holy Spirit won't make us do the right thing, but He'll remind us what's right when we need Him to. And when we're prompted by the Holy Spirit not to say something and do it anyway, we're basically saying, "I have conviction that this is sin but I'm going to do it anyway."

We need to be accountable for the words we speak. Confess your faults to someone you trust. Tell them when you say things you shouldn't have said. When we make ourselves accountable to someone else, it helps us behave better.

I also want to encourage you to pray some scriptures over yourself. Here are a few that David prayed:

❖ Psalm 19:14 *Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my...Rock and my Redeemer.*

❖ Psalm 141:3 *Set a guard, O Lord, before my*

mouth; keep watch at the door of my lips.

❖ Psalm 39:1 *I will take heed and guard my ways, that I may sin not with my tongue; I will muzzle my mouth as with a bridle...*

I'm so grateful that I've learned scriptures about the power of the words of my mouth. Before I understood this, I didn't think much about what I was saying and how it was affecting my life.

So I'll ask you again: What are you talking about? Do you really know what you're saying? Ask God to help you be accountable for the words of your mouth. He alone has the power to tame your tongue!

JOYCE MEYER

For more on this topic, you may order Joyce's four-CD series **"Tests, Trials, Temptations and Triumph"** by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

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