

Improving America

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The elections of 5 November 2002 created a consolidated Republican power structure in America - for the fourth time in history, America has a Republican president, house, and senate. Americans have good reason to look forward to progress in domestic and foreign affairs. We have reason to expect improved human relations, peace, and prosperity. Many worked diligently to put their candidates of choice into office, but a big question remains. Will America's politicians actually work the magic of which they are capable in demanding and getting that peace, prosperity, and improved relations? I think everyone knows the answer to that. Lots will be done, but there will be little progress. Very little will be done.

However, we should all have hope. As I survey the good and bad of America, I see the power of a people who are free to work, marry, learn, and build business success. At the same time, I feel that I am looking at an America that is haggardly primitive in many ways. I cannot help thinking we should use that power to bring about truly substantive improvements in our social mechanisms.

Problems

Our nation is ridden by problems that are horrifying on the grand scale of civilization:

- our inner cities are dominated by evil gangs,
- our streets are flooded with illegal drugs that enrich organized criminals,
- our prisons have over two million inmates who will never be rehabilitated,
- families are overburdened with taxes that

support spendthrift politicians and require all the adults in a family to work to subsist on half the pay they earn,

- our society is being terrorized by Islamic fanatics backed by 14 centuries of successful militancy,
- more than half of our marriages end in divorce,
- the nation is plagued with illegitimate births, over a million of which are by teenagers,
- our welfare roles are burgeoning with hapless but professional incompetents and indigents,
- our porous borders are flooded with illegal aliens who bleed the economy and contribute much to crime and little to the nation's brain trust,
- our children, if they graduate, leave school being only barely literate. And, I will not even broach the issue of American morality.

Solutions - 12 Steps for USA

1 Immigration

The borders and shorelines need to be slammed shut like a steel trap, and all illegal aliens deported and foreign governments held responsible for the associated costs. If it were left up to me, I would deny all citizens of Islamic states entry into the USA for any reason whatever.

2 Dictatorships

All Islamic dictators need to be taken out,

particularly Saddam, and their major income-producing natural resources nationalized under American control. This will stabilize the world, remove the potential for additional financing of terrorism, and give the whole world cheaper oil.

3 Drugs

Legalizing drugs will destroy much of the financial base of organized crime and terrorism, and transfer much of the money now being spent into the federal government through excise taxes (as on tobacco, alcohol, and gasoline). Until drugs are legalized, America should declare out and out war on illegal drug traffickers: growers, merchandisers, dealers, users. Every means available should be used to destroy drug crops and factories, without remorse for the negative impact it may have on economies of criminals, users, and third-world countries.

4 Cost of Addiction

Making alcoholics and other addicts pay the high cost of the results of their dependency (murder, robbery, broken homes, loss of productivity, medical problem) will put balance and fairness into our economy and the nation's families.

5 Social Security

Social Security "insurance" is a lie and should be completely converted into an actual investment fund. Payments into it is in fact a tax that goes into the general treasury; payments out of it are in fact just another "welfare" check.. It is not an insurance policy, and a simple act of Congress can shut it down. That will never happen because too many people depend on it and would fire politicians who take it away. The fund cannot go broke because Congress merely allocates more money to it as needed. Social Security really should be converted into insurance and not a tax. It should be "voluntary" and administered by a government-controlled insurance company that invests the money safely and backed by an actual contract that provides a death ben-

efit and payment benefit to retirees and their survivors.

6 Income Tax

The Income tax system is corrupt and insane. From what I can tell, the IRS is not even part of the federal government, and it high-handedly colludes with banks in freezing citizens' assets without court order. The constitution establishes two methods of taxation - direct for property, money, and labor (to be apportioned among states), and indirect (for happenings, activities, and events). The 16th amendment put the income tax firmly in the indirect category, and therefore, statute must stipulate exactly what activities are taxable. Title 26 makes individuals taxable only for the manufacture and importation of alcohol, tobacco, and firearms. All other individual activities (like "working" for a living) are not, and so participation in the tax system by most citizens is purely voluntary. It is easy to opt out by properly putting the IRS on notice, and for that reason, no flat tax should be established. However, the IRS needs to be forced to stipulate on its forms what individuals' activities are subject to the tax, and make it clear that other activities are not.

7 Schools

American school systems are turning out bozos, and students are cut loose at 2 PM to run the streets, have sex, do drugs, and get into other trouble. There are so many families in which all parents work that few adults are available to supervise school kids after school, and the cost of child care is outrageously high. The consequent problems to society and future generations are enormous. Making smaller classes or more classrooms is not going to fix it. What will fix it is

- 11-hour school days,
- 6-day school weeks,
- 11-month school years,

- subsistence pay for ordinary teachers bolstered by fat bonuses for statistical proof of student excellence (much higher income for “good” teachers),
- three 12-hour-day weeks for teachers, extra tax on parents for school-age children (just a portion of what is now paid for child care),
- training of all students to teach junior students,
- commercial sale of student group services and products to local businesses,
- abolishing teacher unions and protection of tenured incompetent teachers,
- public monthly postings of individual and collective grades of all students and teachers via internet
- establishing a mandatory 3-year apprenticeship program in useful trades for all students.

All of these will get kids off the street, cut the individual cost of child care, increase school income, increase utilization of school facilities, attract competent and energetic teachers, give teachers a 4-day weekend in which to work part time (or do extra work at school to remain extra competitive), reduce the number of teachers needed, graduating normal students from high school by age 14, and training all children in useful trades.

8 Ethical Politicians

A constitutional amendment that stiffens ethics and personal behavior requirements for political candidates, prevents political parties from appointing replacement candidates within 3 months of an election, and enacts stiff penalties for abuse of public trust by elected officials and others who bribe them or give them special favors (the death penalty should be considered), will do a lot to improve the character of political office holders and reduce corruption in government.

9 State Representation

A constitutional amendment that removes the 17th amendment will restore to state legislatures the right to appoint U.S. Senators will improve the character of our republic, particularly since state governments have zero say in the federal government, other than the rare exception of the governor appointing a senator to replace one who died in office. In point of fact, the widespread corruption (influence peddling by those with big money) that precipitated the amendment was not eliminated. Furthermore, state governments are the representatives of the interests of the state itself, and while imperfect, nevertheless represent the best efforts of the state populations to elect representatives with wisdom and good sense. And, after all, this IS the United STATES of America, not the United People’s Democratic Republic of America.

10 Use of Military Force

A constitutional amendment that conditions America’s use of military forces in foreign nations will prevent needless risk of American lives and property, and it will also keep US troops from being used in U.N. police and counter-insurgent actions such as the disastrous fiascos of Korea and Vietnam. In particular, all American military police, defense, counter-insurgent, or war deployments must clearly define

- the nature and identity of enemy
- objectives of winning and controlling territory
- objectives of achieving the death or unconditional surrender of the enemy
- objectives of enemy resources to capture in order to pay for the conflict.

11 Families

Improve families of the future with legislation preventing marriage or procreation by people who

- are addicted to alcohol or narcotics,
- are not adults at least 21 years of age,
- are convicted felons
- have not an appropriate course of instruction and training.

Courses should teach prospective spouses how to keep the relationship fun and invigorated, how to balance work with play, how to deal with unwanted emotions, family ethics and morality, monogamy and fidelity, how to manage family finances (shopping, saving, remaining solvent, going into debt only for investments that promise reasonable returns, health and nutrition, how to rear and train children, acceptable models for family government, how to apportion household duties and child rearing responsibilities, how to acquire, clean, and maintain a residence, retirement planning, participating in community affairs, voting, and being charitable to the needy in the community.

12 Eugenics

Improve families of the future with legislation establishing a foundation for racial and genetic improvement, preventing people with serious genetic defects from procreating, aborting unborn children that exhibit such defects, and fostering intelligent mate selection. Examples of the unborn that should be aborted are extreme physical deformity, down syndrome, or addict/alcoholic parents.

The foundation should identify characteristics of superior people and encourage average and superior people to meet, marry, and produce families, while discouraging inferior people from procreating at all. No can deny the right to general pursuit of happiness by all people. However, that does not mean irresponsible people of low intelligence should have the privilege of bringing children into the world, and afflicting those children with the problems of the parents.

The bottom line is that children are the future of a society, and where parents and children are concerned, both genetic defects and personal insanity are contagious. Entrusting stupid, criminal, and ignorant parents with the care, training, and rearing of children is a heinous crime against humanity, for statically speaking it will produce more of the same children - it is civilizationally insane.

In effect, that is like a license to kill or infect the children with horrible diseases. It would be understandable in medieval society, but in modern America it is absolutely unacceptable.

Brighter Future

The wonderful thing about being human is that no matter how good or bad things are, the future can always be bright.

It could be said that life is a self-evident fact. The *meaning of life* is its adaptability, the *value of life* is its progressibility, and the *purpose of life* is recognition and expression of relative divinity - *perfection* in motive, judgment, and action - thought, word, and deed - to the extent allowed by individual capacity.

All that is needed for that formula to find fulfillment in American society is one simple ingredient amongst our people and politicians: *sincerity*. Only an insincere society will see problems like those identified in this article and fail to push for effective solutions similar to those I have suggested. Some of the solutions could be considered dangerous to politicians, but implemented correctly they will be universally beneficial to the people of our nation and our world.

That is what makes the future so bright. Americans can and should stand up and fight for righteous politicians who are both sensible and sincere. That is the hope for America.

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