

# December 2023

## **Utah Eagle Forum President's Message**

by Gayle Ruzicka

#### UTAH EAGLE FORUM AND GLENN BECK

Many of you probably think that most of the work that Utah Eagle Forum does is during the legislative session. Even though we work long, hard hours during the session, that is just a small portion of the work that we do. My work in Utah Eagle Forum is a full time, year-round, unpaid volunteer job. Many others in Utah Eagle Forum also work year-round.

We work on many issues that have to do with education, life, the Constitution, elections, energy, food security, health freedom, religious freedom, taxes, protecting children, and any other issues that affect the family. Utah Eagle Forum is a pro family, pro-life organization. We are about God, family and country.

We often sponsor events, inviting great speakers to come and educate us on the things that we believe you would want to know about. The most important event that we have is our Annual Utah Eagle Forum Convention. In addition, every month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, we sponsor Liberty Forum at 10:00 AM, in the Provo Library. We have speakers that include elected officials and leading experts covering all of the issues that we work on.

We had several great events this year. One of the events that we sponsored was with Glenn Beck. We had over 3200 people in attendance. I had watched a video called, "My Most Powerful Speech," by Glenn Beck. After watching this video, I was convinced that Glenn should come to Utah and give that speech to all of us. I contacted Glenn and told him that this speech gave people hope and faith in the future, even though there were so many bad things happening around us. His speech was about why America is a covenant nation. Glenn agreed to come.

The speech that Glenn gave in Utah was even better than the original one. The title is, "America, a Covenant Nation." This is a must watch for everyone. In his speech Glenn shares his testimony of Jesus Christ and how the covenant we make with Jesus is the answer to saving this nation. The video is available on our website, UtahEagleForum.org. Even if you were there, you need to watch it again. Then invite your friends and neighbors to come to your home and watch it with you. Send the link to the video to everyone on your e-mail list.

I look forward to being with you on Saturday, January 6, at our 2024 Utah Eagle Forum Convention.

**WE NEED YOU!** One of our most intense volunteer efforts is during the Legislative Session. If you are interested in helping by volunteering, please contact our Legislative Director, Whit Cook for more information.

## Whit Cook

## 801-688-1785 • j.whitney.cook@gmail.com

#### Online Volunteers:

Join a weekly team that attends meetings online and take notes on bills and actions taken. Only requires one day a week and can be done from the comfort of your home.

#### *In Person Volunteers:*

Join us at the Capitol when you can and attend meetings in person. These volunteers also take notes on bills and actions taken.

#### Team Lead:

The Point of Contact between the weekly team and the Legislative Director. Keeps the team appraised of what is happening and what is needed. Once a week – and most of it is virtual.

There are many other opportunities for volunteers, as well. Please let Whit know of your availability and we will find a fit for you!

Kevin D. Freeman, CFA, is considered one of the world's leading experts on economic warfare and financial terrorism.

The purchasing power of the dollar bills in your wallet has declined 87.5% since 1971 (according to official government inflation measures). Basically, everything costs about eight times more.

What costs \$1 today could be bought for 12 ½ cents in 1971 based on official government inflation statistics. The Federal Reserve notes you have in your wallet certainly buy a lot less today than they did 50 years ago. Every American has felt the very real pinch of inflation. Since 2000, inflation has made things 76% more expensive. Even since 2020, prices have gone up nearly 20%.



Here is another perspective: maybe the dollar has not lost value over 50 years? It depends on how you define the term. The word "dollar" as used by the Founders referred to something much more specific than a dirty green piece of paper with the picture of a dead president. It referred to a silver coin issued by Spain, a "Spanish milled dollar." The value of this dollar was defined by weight and purity of silver in an amount well understood around the world.

History shows that the real "dollar" is a coin containing 371.25 grains (troy) of fine silver. Both Article I, Section 9, Clause 1 of the Constitution, and the Seventh Amendment use the noun "dollar." ... The American Colonies did not originally adopt the dollar from England, but from Spain ... Known as pesos, duros, piezas de a ocho ("pieces of eight"), or Spanish dollars, the coins achieved predominance in the New World because of Spain's then-important commercial and political position.

The original concept of dollar was based on a "piece of eight," which we know best as pirate treasure!

What made it a "piece of eight" was the contents of 371.25 grains (troy) of fine silver. That is 0.7734 troy ounces of fine silver (a troy ounce is 480 grains). You could divide that dollar into eight pie-shaped wedges, each valued at 12.5 cents. Two bits make a quarter, and four quarters make a dollar.

When you look at the purchasing power of the silver in a "piece of eight" over the past 50 years, you would have actually gained ground relative to the price of most goods and services. From this perspective, a "dollar" has more than held its value.

A good example is the price of gasoline. People could buy five gallons for a dollar (or ten dimes) a 100 years ago. The same deal is available today if you pay for the gas using the metal value of pre-1964 (90% silver) dimes (worth more than \$20).

Are dollars good or bad? Depends on what you call a dollar. If we are talking unbacked paper money, then dollars are bad. The Founders knew this and were universally against "fiat" currency. Jefferson declared plainly, "Paper is poverty."

In 1971, President Nixon shocked the world by completely abandoning the gold standard. He said it was "temporary." The move made international waves but has been largely forgotten. That bad idea resulted in an 87.5% loss of purchasing power for Americans over 50 years.

Now, we have the government proposing something even worse, a Central Bank Digital Currency because they can't print money fast enough. Using cash affords privacy and freedom, even if unbacked by precious metal. The next all-digital evolution, however, will deny freedom.

On March 9, 2022, President Biden issued Executive Order #14067. It seemed innocuous enough. Sure, it was 37 pages long and had a lot of jargon, but it was exciting, especially to Bitcoin fans who seemed thrilled that the government would finally take them seriously. They had no idea that it was a declaration of war on cryptocurrency and monetary privacy.

The EO concludes: "We must take strong steps to reduce the risks that digital assets could pose to consumers, investors, and business protections; financial stability and financial system integrity; combating and preventing crime and illicit finance; national security; the ability to exercise human rights; financial inclusion and equity; and climate change and pollution."- Sure, I want innovation, affordability, convenience. I want stability, integrity, and safety. But is my money supposed to deliver

human rights, financial inclusion, equity, and halt climate change? This is simply enforcing the woke principles of ESG and DEI. Money should be neutral, not political. Most experts agree that CBDC would be programmable money and allow the government a "line-item veto" of your spending.

So, what is the solution? As with many of our problems today, the answer can be found in the Constitution. Many will argue over whether Congress had the right to create a Federal Reserve, order the printing of unbacked paper money, or create CBDC. But absolutely, the States are allowed to make gold and silver coins "tender" in payment of debts according to Article 1, Section 10.

This ability to make gold and silver coins to be legal tender recently has been exercised in some states with many others considering it. There are a few problems. It's hard to lug around doubloons and "pieces of eight" to pay for stuff. [Even if you could, the Coinage Act of 1857 banned the use of foreign coins as legal tender.] Gold and silver are taxed as "collectibles" even if they are legal tender, because they are not "functional money" according to the IRS. Functional money is defined as being able to conduct business broadly in a jurisdiction with that currency.

Over the past decade, however, we've developed a plan for States to use gold and silver transactionally. Start with a state-based bullion depository. Add a debit card capability and the ability to buy and sell real gold and silver that is delivered to and held in that depository. Then provide a means to buy and sell using a debit card connected to each account. It is actually very simple and even available commercially by a U.K. service called Glint. With a MasterCard, Glint users can make purchases with gold and the merchant is none the wiser. Glint simply sells the gold and delivers money to the merchant.

By combining transactional capability with a state declaration of legal tender, we will create a personal, optional gold/silver monetary standard offered as an alternative to the federal system. It would be functional legal tender and over time should hold its value relative to paper money when inflation hits. You would own real gold (or silver) and could take it out, keep it, or spend it. This is NOT fractional banking. Finally, our approach is state-based and promises privacy and a useful alternative to CBDC. Legal, reputable, and away from Washington D.C.'s control!

# **High Fidelity**

by Anne Cori



My mother, Phyllis Schlafly, signed all of her letters "Faithfully, Phyllis".

Faith was the key to the life of Phyllis Schlafly. She had faith in God and Jesus Christ as her Savior. She was faithful in her marriage to her husband, Fred. She was faithful to our nation, the United States of America. Phyllis spent her life promoting and protecting America.

I honor the legacy of my mother's faithfulness. Her word was always true and she was always faithful.

The 43-year marriage of my parents is a study in fidelity. My father fully supported my mother in four key ways: spiritually, financially, intellectually, and emotionally. He was her rock. Fred Schlafly also protected my mother; I well remember the day when he summarily fired a male employee who attempted to get physically close to my mother. My mother cared for my father during his lengthy decline into dementia and Fred died at home. She then had 23 years of widow hood and never considered remarriage or removing her wedding ring. As Paul Newman said about his 50-year marriage to Joanne Woodward, "I have steak at home; why should I go out for hamburger?"

Their passion for truth, justice, and the American way is an inspiration to me. Two years ago, my husband passed away from cancer. As I grieved, I was consoled by remembering his faithfulness to me and my faithfulness to him. I was blessed with a very happy and successful marriage to a man who protected me and supported me in the four key ways that my father supported my mother.

Today, fidelity is undervalued and mocked. Young people are encouraged to explore a wide range of emotional and sexual experiences. "Bisexual" and "pansexual" are euphemisms for unfaithfulness. But my mother and I can attest that there is no substitute for the satisfaction that comes from a faithful marriage. Both of us wished for more time with our wonderful husbands.

I was fortunate to both witness and experience marriage as not just fidelity, but high fidelity.

Peter Murphy is a Senior Fellow at the Committee For A Constructive Tomorrow



America and the rest of the world are headed for food shortages if policymakers enact laws based on climate change. The effort to "decarbonize" or to achieve "net zero" carbon emissions has led to deliberate policies to reduce consumption of fossil fuel energy, that is, oil, natural gas and coal. It also is leading to policies to reduce livestock, namely cows since they emit methane, and nitrogen gas, which is essential to produce fertilizer for farming and food production.

The climate industrial complex comprised of non-governmental organizations, the United Nations, the Biden administration, government-funded scientists, activists, and virtue-signaling billionaires are relentless about wielding power and control over the global population, especially in the United States. The ostensible purpose for their tyrannical impulse is to address a supposed "climate emergency" affecting the planet they claim is inexorably turning warmer to the point of an "existential threat" to human life itself.

The climate alarmists' delusional idea of controlling Earth's climate means controlling Earth's inhabitants, including what kind of energy we can use and what we can eat. Meat is in the climate crosshairs, and not because climate fanatics are vegetarians who care about animal rights. Rather, they wish certain animals did not exist, especially cows, which they view as a major climate malefactor since they flatulate methane gas that purportedly is warming the atmosphere and contributing to eventual planetary doom.

Their logic goes like this: banning beef means fewer cows, so less methane, less warming and we save the planet. Who knew that back yard barbeques and fast-food hamburgers put the planet in peril? Restricting energy and beef consumption means the cost of both will rise to the point of being unaffordable to all but the wealthy.

Food prices have increased sharply due to general inflationary actions by governments that are cheapening the value of currencies and from policies to raise the cost of fossil fuel energy, which is essential to produce and transport food to the marketplace. In the United States, food inflation has consistently exceeded overall inflation for more than a year. For example, in the 12 months ending in February, inflation jumped by six percent while food increased overall by 9.5 percent.

A study by the University College, London, published in 2022, warned less fossil fuel also means extracting less sulfuric acid from these energy sources. Sulfuric acid is essential for producing phosphorus fertilizers that maintain global food supply. Restricting this ingredient will inexorably lead to less food production and greater shortages.

Fewer cows, less fertilizer and undependable energy will lead to food shortages and higher prices. These climate policies are a recipe for malnutrition, starvation and revolution.

The canaries in the coal mine are two small nations on opposite sides of the planet: Sri Lanka and the Netherlands—

Sri Lanka banned the use of synthetic fertilizer and pesticides, which resulted in a major drop in the rice and tea pro-

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duction in 2022, both major exports of that nation. Rice alone is a staple food in Sri Lanka, which ended up having to import the product. The fertilizer ban greatly exacerbated underlying economic problems that led to rioting, a state of emergency and the fall of that nation's government last July.

In the Netherlands, since at least 2019, climate policies have caused upheaval in the agriculture sector, which is world's second largest exporter of beef. To meet the European Commission's rules for lower emissions, the Dutch government proposed to cut emissions from its agriculture sector in half by 2030. This necessitated reducing livestock through buying out or terminating farms, especially smaller, family-operated businesses which could not survive financially with fewer beef-producing cows.

Unable to afford using nitrogen fertilizer and reduced livestock, Dutch farmers rebelled. In 2019, they also created a new political party, the Farmer-Citizen Movement, which has won several provincial elections that determine the make-up of the Netherlands Senate. Since the Senate can block legislation from the lower house of Parliament, the nation's policies to curtail nitrogen emissions and livestock are in jeopardy.

International organizations continue their crusade for meatless "climate smart" food production. The U.N. Environment Programme maintains that worldwide meat and dairy consumption — the cows, again — must be reduced by 50 percent by 2050.

The World Economic Forum has promoted the eating of insects, which it claims is an "unsung category of sustainable and nutritious protein," and that "insects require less care and upkeep than livestock [and] positively impacts climate change." Still, at the annual WEC meeting last January in Davos, Switzerland, attended by many the world's political and financial elites, I hadn't noticed insects were on the menu.

This penchant for power and control is not only replete in U.N. and other international organizations, but in the Biden administration. Samantha Powers, the head of the U.S. Agency for International Development, last year, said fertilizer shortages, particularly from the Russian invasion of Ukraine, are opportunities to "hasten transitions" in farming toward more so-called green alternatives.

The climate obsessive Bill Gates believes developed nations should convert to synthetic meat. He has been steadily putting his billions of dollars to work to become the largest private farmland owner in the U.S. and is an investor in plant-based protein companies, Beyond Meat and Impossible Foods. All of this is designed to reduce and ultimately eliminate farming and ranching that produce meat and dairy products for a balanced, enjoyable protein-rich diet for Americans and the world.

The founders of these companies in 2019 made the hysterical, self-serving assertion that, "the destructive impact of animal agriculture on our environment far exceeds that of any other technology on Earth, there is no pathway to achieve the Paris climate objectives without a massive decrease in the scale of animal agriculture."

Curtailing carbon emissions by reducing fossil fuel energy use and meat consumption is all about the year 2050, which stands as the latest of many arbitrary climate goalposts established by U.N. climate bureaucrats. During this imminent, yet distant enough period, we are told the global community must achieve net carbon zero emissions to keep the average global temperature from rising by more than 1.5 degrees — or else...what? No one honestly can say since the number is more political than science based. Nor can anyone accurately predict if the temperature will warm due to higher carbon emissions. In fact, some indications suggest average global temperature may cool.

Global carbon emissions have risen steadily in the last 100 years (and longer) according to data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Yet, average planetary temperature has fluctuated throughout, while slightly warming overall during this period. Despite the predictions of so many climate charlatans, the polar ice caps remain, polar bears have proliferated, and wealthy people still own and build on oceanfront property. Moreover, warming periods are influenced by natural causes other than carbon and methane emissions, including ocean temperature and currents and sunspot activity. In reality, over millennia, CO<sup>2</sup> levels in the atmosphere have no historic correlation to global temperature.

So long as politicians, billionaires, celebrities and their media stenographers warn us of planetary risk and doomsday in the future, they will buttress their means for societal control and feed their self-importance. But, like our fellow citizens in Sri Lanka and the Netherlands, we should unapologetically embrace freedom and promote genuine science to work in our chosen profession, warm and cool our homes, travel freely, and decide our own meal choices.

# **Rousing the American Judiciary**

Woke Marxism undermines law, and for it to succeed, it must pervert law to advance its own ends. So far, it has been extremely successful at this, from the Critical Legal Theory movement in the 1970s and 1980s through Critical Race Theory and outright legal and judicial activism. If our remaining judiciary remains unaware of the infiltration and subversion, we will probably lose our country. If it wakes up and discharges its duty more... judiciously...we can save our country the same way they're trying to take it from us: without firing a shot, as the saying goes.



Such is the power of law, and such is the power of judges who adjudicate on the law.

The issue is that judges are very busy and asked to render legal judgments on an array of cases filled with subject matter in which they are not, cannot be, and should not be expected to be experts. This represents a major crack in the legal and judicial armor that's susceptible to legal subversion. A great deal of this subversion has already taken place in both low courts and high, though we're also seeing a wakening judiciary quickly starting to realize the problem and its underlying nature. This rousing of the judiciary is patently visible in the Dobbs decision that overturned Roe v. Wade, especially in light of Justice Clarence Thomas's remarks about misapplications of substantive due process in that and other decisions. We see it also in the recent Supreme Court decision about racial discrimination in college admissions at Harvard and the University of North Carolina, challenging the entire basis for the "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion" industry by reversing much of the logic of Bakke v. Board of Regents and Grutter v. Bollinger. The awakening of the American judiciary seems to be arriving just in the nick of time.

The fact is, law is being subverted and has been subverted. This has been the result of decades of intentional activism. Aside from the direct legal activism resulting from activists taking the roles of judges, another form of subversive legal activism exists as well, one that exploits the gap in the judicial armor in two ways: by having hijacked language and expertise. Busy judges have to go significantly on domain-specific information that they are given, prepared through testimony and amicus briefs and the likes. Their domain is the law, not necessarily the domains upon which they have to adjudicate the law. In that breech, the lies of activists flourish.

This activism is definitely intentional and purposed, and its purpose is to undermine the institution of American law and turn it toward Marxist ends. Going back to one of the fathers of Western Marxism, Antonio Gramsci, Marxist strategy in Western nations has been largely subversive rather than overt. Gramsci described a Western world that is ruled over not merely by a class of people but by a powerful cultural force he alleged is produced and maintained by those people for their own benefit. This force he called "cultural hegemony," and he said the only way to bring socialism (and Marxism) to the West would be to infiltrate and subvert the cultural institutions that generate cultural hegemony and turn them from within so they instead produce a "counter-hegemonic" view that can then trickle out into the cultural milieu and make it ripe for revolution. The five domains Gramsci identified for infiltration and capture are religion, family, education, media, and law, with a special emphasis on education because all professional activities are downstream from schooling.

The goal was to infiltrate the institutions and turn them from within. Simultaneously, using Marcuse's Critical Theory, which he adapted from his Frankfurt School colleague Max Horkheimer, the entire fabric of Western Civilization and culture was to be hauled into "ruthless criticism" and turned inside-out.

Today, the results of these two initiatives—the Long March and Critical Theory—we have a credentialed expert class and expert-credentialing apparatus (the higher education system and professional organizations) that are effectively completely captured. When students pass through, even if they are not taken in by the Critical Marxist, or Woke, perspective, they're flooded with it such that it no longer rankles their sensibilities when they encounter it later in life. Meanwhile, the professional class of experts who might show up to inform the judiciary on crucial cases is filled with purposed and well-funded activists who make sure to render their fake-expert opinion in the best professionalese in every case of relevant importance. If judges aren't aware that expertise itself has been tainted, they're likely to fall for the distortions of this bogus professional cadre and the bogus studies they use to back their activist claims. Justice, the domain of the judiciary, is the victim.

Without awareness that Critical Marxism has equivocated much of the language itself—take "diversity" in the context of the Bakke and Grutter decisions, for example—rendering sound adjudications is simply impossible.

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Our judiciary, insofar as it still cares about this country, needs to be made aware of these two gaps so that prudence and discernment can return to their rightful positions in rendering judgments on these important cases.

If we are going to save this nation and restore and establish a fair Rule of Law, the Gramscian infiltration and subversion of law must be stopped. Much of this subversion takes place by taking advantage of a judiciary that does not fully comprehend how tainted expertise, expert testimony, and language are as a result of decades of Critical activism. My hope is that this essay sounds an alarm and starts a movement to shake them awake before it's too late.

## **Defund the UN**

Senator Mike Lee has introduced the Disengaging Entirely from the United Nations Debacle (DEFUND) Act, which calls for the United States' complete withdrawal from the United Nation (UN). This legislation confronts imperative issues of national sovereignty and fiscal accountability, which have been persistent points of criticism against the United States involvement in the UN. Representative Chip Roy (R-TX) has introduced the companion bill in the House of Representatives.

"No more blank checks for the United Nations. Americans' hard-earned dollars have been funneled into initiatives that fly in the face of our values – enabling tyrants, betraying allies, and spreading bigotry. With the DEFUND Act, we're stepping away from this debacle. If we engage with the UN in the future, it will be on our terms, with the full backing of the Senate and an iron-clad escape clause," said Senator Lee.

Representative Chip Roy said of the bill "This year, the United Nations' corruption, and it's despicable, brazen political agenda have been on full display. From UNRWA actively protecting Hamas and acting against our ally Israel, delayed condemning Hamas, to China being elected to the "Human Rights Council", to the propagation of climate hysteria, covering for China's forced abortion and sterilization programs, the UN's decades-old, internal rot once again raises the questions of why the United States is even still a member or why we're wasting billions – indeed, \$12.5 billion in 2021 – every year on it. The UN doesn't deserve one single dime of American taxpayer money or one bit of our support; we should defund it and leave immediately."

Some of the Key Elements of the DEFUND Act are:

- Repeals critical acts that bind the US to the UN, such as the United Nations Participation Act of 1945 and the United Nations Headquarters Agreement Act.
- Ceases all forms of U.S. financial support to the UN, including assessed and voluntary contributions.
- Prohibits any U.S. involvement in UN peacekeeping operations.
- Revokes diplomatic immunity for UN officials within the United States.
- Formalizes withdrawal from the World Health Organization and other UN conventions.
- Sets stringent conditions for any future engagement with the UN, requiring Senate approval with explicit with-drawal provisions.

The introduction of the DEFUND Act comes in response to years of unchecked bureaucratic expansion and financial misuse by the UN at the expense of American taxpayers.

**WE ARE OFTEN APPROACHED** by people who would like information on how to join Utah Eagle Forum. One of the most effective tools we have are our chapters. If you would like more information about joining a chapter, please contact a Chapter Leader in your area. If you would like to start a chapter closer to you, please contact Bruce Williams and he will help you get started.

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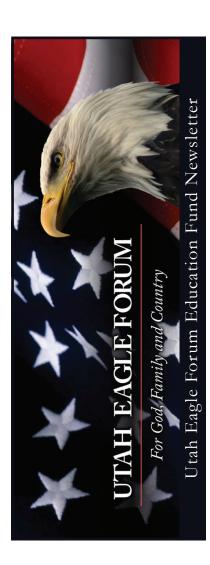
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## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

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**INTERN PROGRAM** One of the most valuable parts of our "Legislative Machine" is our Intern Program. This is available for teens and young adults ages 14 - 24. Our interns consist of 5 different teams - one for each day of the week. They are led by our Intern Director, Olivia Dawn and our Lead Intern, Nola Williams.

The Intern Program consists of 3 different parts:

- 1) Office work keeping our efforts organized and running smoothly
- 2) Learning about legislation and law-making
- 3) Learning about conservative issues and principles

For more information about this AMAZING opportunity, please contact our Intern Director, Olivia Dawn 801-807-8972

Gayle Ruzicka, President
Rana Williams, Executive Director
Dani Palmer, Executive Vice President
Kristin Richey, Secretary
David Kyle, Public Relations
Dalane England, Legislative Issues
Sandy Winward, Editor/Designer