



EDUCATION

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Democrat for all New England '24 Independent AGAINST Bernie / Marxism for "Every Politically Independent Citizen

To: All concerned with America, especially 2024 federal candidates

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It's NOT the economy; it's the culture. Whatever happens with the economy, from robustness to depression, it pales in comparison to our quality of everyday life. With few exceptions, none of us has the same privileges and comforts than we had 30 years ago. The despicable state of American culture SHOULD be what's at stake in the fall campaigns.

We have a crazed culture that's been abetted by every elected Democrat, and some elected Republicans. A culture that now

Rewards people rioting when they get upset,

Allows criminals who grew up poor to avoid jail and prey on others,

Pays people who don't feel like working,

Cordons off free speech lest someone's words are offensive ("speech = violence!")

Stops policing crime-ridden neighborhoods because high arrest rates look "racist",

Denies students places at elite colleges because other students have stronger sob-stories,

Allows children to be mutilated by "doctors" in the name of gender affirmation,

Squelches female athletes because some confused boys' feelings are hurt, and

Keeps diligent students from rising, because less-diligent kids might lose "selfesteem",

is a culture that cannot last much more than a generation. Chinese leaders are gleeful that America fights over pronoun use, trigger warnings, and LGBT demands, while they ally with new nations and need not fire a shot against us.

Notice how all the above are based on FEELINGS. There is a very good place for the feelings we have for our fellow humans – it's in our own individual actions to help some distressed people. When government takes it upon itself to act outside its boundaries based on some shared FEELINGS, it dis-serves the feelings of others, and mis-serves its own role (which is largely to butt out). America with minimal government intervention has been a remarkably just society for all of our lifetimes. More than anywhere else, in America, the people we "feel for" can and do get ahead without government messing things up. When a government legislates based on "Feelings", it's is both unjust AND ineffective.

The private sector, even more powerful than government, is following in this cultural malaise. Universities, public and private, but almost always with ties to government funding, take hirings, promotions, and customers (accepted students) to an extreme. In the last two decades, large corporations have also entangled themselves in the business of "feelings". They hire based on feelings, promote based on feelings, and even choose customers based on feelings. The more profitable (and powerful) corporations now program the media to play to falsities, further luring people, especially youngsters, into wrongs beliefs about climate change, justice, racism, and America's place in the world.

What can a good U.S. Congress do about the culture? Pass no law that plays to feelings. State laws typically contain "conflict of financial interest" provisions; we should consider federal laws that play to feelings as equally conflicted. Congress would do well to begin REMOVING laws. All feelings-based laws passed and all regulations allowed by Congress' deference, should be removed from the books (or at minimum not enforced), if outside the bounds of the U.S. Constitution, strictly interpreted. A good congress sets up a committee to remove at least as many laws as it passes over the next two years.

A complete change in Congress can't instantly reshape the culture; federal legislators lack the power to do this. But Senate and Congressional candidates can ALL be making the case for a better culture, stating with government that does its JOB: to follow the Constitution.

The return to a truly American culture should be paramount for every U.S. Senate and House candidate. For at least three reasons, regulating the economy should be subordinate:

- *1)* Congress usually messes that up too. The best regulation is the FREE-MARKET.
- Even when well-directed, government policies move far fewer dollars than corporate opportunities and international opportunities.
- 3) Tax policy is largely directed by spending policy. We can't go into debt forever (Schumer's MMA theory is literally ridiculous), and our revenueraising policies are girded by a big group that's off-limits: you can't federally tax the poor and you can't get much revenue from the lower-middle. The policy is really a matter of pitting the uppermiddle against the upper-upper, and that too is constrained by the fear that highly taxing the latter, with few loopholes for their accountants to work around, means the super-rich leave and take their earnings with them. "Bahamas, baby".

So...though I wrote this two months before J.D. Vance echoed it this week in Milwaukee:

Work on the culture, not the economy. Work on your LOCAL race, starting with TALKING to colleagues. You'll help win your race, and America will be better off, even if Gavin Newsom wins the presidency.

A better U.S. Congress starts with culture.

Mark Stewart Greenstein is the Independent candidate in Vermont – for U.S. Senate. Vermont's senior senator, this century's largest icon for Marxism and against American values, is running for the 12<sup>th</sup> time statewide. Neither VT nor the USA prospers with Marxism, the tool of tyrants. Greenstein has no issue with Republican Gerald Malloy, and encourages Republicans to vote for Malloy. It's independents, traditional Democrats, and even progressives (who should be disappointed by Biden's usurpations) who should evaluate MSG for their next US Senator.