



### SPOTLIGHT

#### ***Liberal Democrats... Please Report to Summer School***

By Dale M. Glading

Summer School is meant for those students who didn't pay attention during the regular school year or who just couldn't cut it academically. And so, while their peers are enjoying lazy days lounging around the pool or at the beach - or perhaps preparing for college by working a summer job - they are forced to sit in an often-stifling hot classroom and relearn information they failed to comprehend the first time around.

That is why, out of the goodness of my heart and a concern for the future of our country, I consider it my patriotic duty to volunteer my services to teach a Summer School class on the First Amendment. Specifically, on the so-called "Establishment Clause" that reads as follows...

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..."

I plan to limit the class size to the first 50 Progressive Democrats, liberal members of the mainstream media (I realize that is redundant), and

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#### ***Introducing the Glading Doctrine - Part 1***

By Dale M. Glading

At age 65, I have come to the stark conclusion that I will never serve as President of the United States. Sorry to disappoint my legion of loyal supporters that includes my mom, six grandkids, and two dogs.

Actually, that realization sunk in about 60 years ago, but it hasn't prevented me from imagining what I would do if I were sitting behind the Resolute Desk making decisions that would impact not only the lives of 330 million Americans, but also seven billion people around the world.

And so, as I sit - not in the Oval Office at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue but in my home office at 188 Calle de Lagos - I thought I would take a few minutes and put pen to paper (or more accurately, fingers to keyboard) and share with you the still-evolving Glading Doctrine.

After all, James Monroe had his doctrine, which basically told Europe to keep its cotton-picking hands off the Western Hemisphere... and whether he was bluffing or not, it pretty much worked once the War of 1812 was settled. In fact, the Monroe Doctrine wasn't really tested until the early 1960s when the Soviet Union tried to build a missile base in Cuba.

Enough with the history lesson and back to the Glading Doctrine.

If I were POTUS, here is what I would do...

1. Take a sledgehammer to the federal government. If you thought Elon Musk was too ambitious with his proposed budget cuts, you ain't seen nothing yet! I subscribe 100% to the philosophy articulated by Ronald Reagan in his 1981 inaugural address. "In this present crisis, government is not the solution to our problem," the Gipper said. "Government IS the problem."

Every six months of my term in office, every federal department would be required to reduce its budget by 5%. That makes a 40% reduction over four years. Since the federal government spends almost \$7 trillion per year, that would be a savings of \$2.8 trillion... every penny of which would be applied to paying down our \$36 trillion national debt.

2. Get Uncle Sam out of the "social safety net" business. This goes hand-in-hand with #1. The federal budget is divided into mandatory spending (such as Social Security and Medicare), discretionary spending (such as defense, education, and transportation), and supplemental spending (such as Covid-19 appropriations). Mandatory spending is far and away the biggest piece of the pie, with Social Security (21%) and Medicare (14%) accounting for more than one-third of all government spending. Add interest on our national debt (14%) and you're up to roughly one-half of the federal budget

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even a handful of activist judges... especially ones that serve at the federal level.

The reason for the class?

Last month, a federal appeals court ruled unanimously in favor of a coalition of Louisiana parents who sued to block a state law that requires public schools and colleges to display the Ten Commandments in classrooms.

"Parents and students challenge a statute requiring public schools to permanently display the Ten Commandments in every classroom in Louisiana. The district court found the statute facially unconstitutional and preliminarily enjoined its enforcement. We affirm," the court said in its ruling.

For those normal everyday Americans who don't speak in twisted legalese, what the federal court was saying is that the hanging of an 11" x 14" poster - which is what the Louisiana law required - of the Ten Commandments in a public school classroom somehow violated the First Amendment.

Jonathan Youngwood, a lawyer for the coalition of parents representing Jewish, Christian, Unitarian Universalist and nonreligious backgrounds said the purpose of the law is tied to religion and violates a separation of church and state.

"What makes this so significant is the requirement that it be in every single [classroom] throughout your 13 years in public school, 177 days

a year," Youngwood said. "It can't be avoided. It can't be averted."

Thanks for the explanation, Jonathan. I get it now. Drag queens reading to kindergarten children during storybook hour is fine, but a legal-pad sized copy of the Ten Commandments would do irreparable harm to impressionable school children.

With all due respect, Jonathan, you're a buffoon... and so is the American Civil Liberties Union, the American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, and the Freedom from Religion Foundation, all of whom supported the plaintiffs.

Meanwhile, Louisiana Attorney General Liz Murrill promised to appeal the court's decision, stating that "The Constitution does not bar our Legislature's attempt to teach our students what the Supreme Court has repeatedly said: The Ten Commandments have historical significance as a foundation of our legal system."

Murrill said that no public funds would need to be spent on printing the posters and that they can be supplied through private donations. The law dictates that the posters must include a "context statement" that provides historical context for the commandments, which the state believes makes its law constitutional.

Undaunted by the Louisiana ruling, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott signed a bill into law the very next day that mirrors the Louisiana statute. According to the Texas Tribune...

"Come September, every public school classroom will be required

to display the Ten Commandments - part of a larger push in Texas and beyond to increase the role of religion in schools. On Saturday, Gov. Greg Abbott signed Senate Bill 10, despite a federal court ruling that a similar Louisiana law violated a constitutionally required separation of church and state."

Good for you, Gov. Abbott. Apparently, you were paying attention in U.S. History class and the judges on the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals were not.

And so, for the sake of those jurists - and the aforementioned Progressives, liberal "journalists", and their fellow activist judges - let me commence with our first lesson.

At the time of the American Revolution, there was one official church in England and that was the appropriately named Church of England. British subjects who did not belong to the official state church were either persecuted or in some cases over the long course of English history, executed.

The colonial version of the Church of England was the Anglican Church and in some of the colonies - Virginia, for instance - you had to be a member of the Anglican Church to vote, hold political office, or own property.

Not surprisingly, when our Founding Fathers drew up the Constitution of the United States, they did not want to duplicate the situation in England... or in Virginia, for that matter. And so, at the insistence of George Mason and James Madison, a Bill of Rights was added to the core text of the Constitution.

At the top of the list was a provision that there be no official state reli-

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## ***Introducing the Glading Doctrine - Part 1***

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for just three items... one of which (interest) is a total waste of taxpayers' dollars.

That has to stop.

When President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act on August 14, 1935, there were only 127 million Americans. Today, there are 200 million more than that... and counting. Also, in 1935, the average life expectancy for an American male was just 59 years, which means that very few men lived long enough to receive benefits. Today, American men live on average 77 years and American women 80 years, which is why the worker to recipient ratio has dwindled from 16:1 in 1935 to 2:1 in 2025.

In other words, Social Security is NOT sustainable in the long-term, no matter how much you tweak it... and we already know that Congress hasn't the stomach nor the backbone to make the really radical changes that are needed to shore it up in the short-term.

And so, over a period of say 20 years, it needs to be phased out

entirely.

Start with allowing workers 50 and over to invest up to 50% of their Social Security payments in a privatized account instead of sending the money to Washington D.C. to earn 2% annual interest. For workers under 50, let them invest up to 100% of their Social Security payments in such privatized accounts. At the end of the 20-year phase-out period, cut everyone a lump sum check for the amount they paid into the system (plus the aforementioned 2% interest) and stick a permanent fork in the Era of Big Nanny Government.

3. Incentivize charitable giving. Historically, Americans are a very generous people. Whenever there is a natural disaster or a neighbor in need, Americans don't have to be asked twice to roll up their sleeves and open their wallets. Unfortunately, ever since FDR and the Great Depression, Uncle Sam has decided he is better suited to handle that task, raising our taxes so he can do what churches, charities, and communities were already doing... and far more efficiently, may I add. Meanwhile, the federal government and its bureaucratic red tape - not to mention its overlap of agencies and departments - creates a double-digit surcharge with monies meant for indigent care and

disaster relief being wasted on protocol, redundancy, and ineptitude.

So, here's a solution. For every dollar Americans contribute to a legitimate 501 (C) (3) charitable organization, they get to deduct 50 cents off their federal tax liability with no artificial ceiling imposed. In other words, give enough to charity and you don't owe Uncle Sam a dime come April 15th.

Having served in the nonprofit industry for the past 42 years, I know that most charities are run far more efficiently and cost-effectively than a government agency. So, let's cut out the middleman in Washington and see that the dollars go straight to where they are needed the most.

I know that sounds simplistic, but it's worth a try because the current system is broken beyond repair.

4. End foreign aid. If you look at the income side of the federal ledger, there isn't a line item that reads "aid from other countries". Which begs the question: Why are we shipping billions of taxpayers' dollars overseas when Americans - including children, the elderly, and veterans - are suffering here at home?

You shouldn't have to pay people to be your friends.

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gion - meaning no official state denomination - in the newly established republic.

So, can anyone tell me what official state denomination is established by the posting of the Ten Commandments in a public school

classroom? Is it Judaism, since Moses was a Jew and the Ten Commandments are included in Exodus 20 in the Old Testament?

Or is it Southern Baptist... or Methodism... or Presbyterianism... or any of the dozens of Protestant denominations and sects that teach and revere the Ten Commandments? How about Catholicism, Mormonism, or the Jehovah's Witnesses? Which, pray tell, becomes the official state religion of the United States of America because

an 11" x 14" poster is hung in a second-grade class in Baton Rouge or a sixth-grade class in San Antonio?

Do you see just how preposterous, groundless - and downright silly - the Progressives' argument is? I would respect them more if they were intellectually honest and just admitted that they hate God and everything He stands for.

Thus endeth our first lesson. Class dismissed.

## ***Introducing the Glading Doctrine - Part 2***

By Dale M. Glading

Let's pick up where we left off with foreign aid...

Follow my logic. If the federal government is incentivizing charitable giving through major tax breaks, then the next time there is an earthquake in Bolivia or a tsunami in Indonesia, the American Red Cross, Samaritan's Purse, and other U.S.-based international relief organizations will have the resources to meet those needs. That frees up Uncle Sam to fulfill his constitutional duties here at home... no more and no less.

Stop policing the world and start policing America because, in case you haven't noticed, things are getting a bit out of control in the good ol' U.S. of A.

That doesn't mean, however, that we can't learn something from other countries. For instance, in Japan - where capitalism is king - CEOs earn roughly one-tenth of what American CEOs do. In fact, in the United States, corporate executives earn an average of \$265 for every \$1 earned by a line employee.

I am a dyed-in-the-wool free market Capitalist, but I think that is obscene.

In Germany, the executive to employee earnings ratio is 136:1 and in Switzerland, it is 152:1. Because corporate boards won't rein in their CEOs, maybe it's time for Congress to step in and place a 150:1 cap on executive compensation.

Call me whatever name in the book you want, but I guess William Jennings Bryan is starting to rub off on me a little. Known as "The Great

Commoner", Bryan pushed for child labor laws, a 40-hour work week, and a minimum wage at a time when industrial giants like John D. Rockefeller and J.P Morgan were living in luxury at the expense of their employees.

Palatial palaces and pate de foie gras for the monopoly owners... and sweatshops and tenement housing for their oppressed workers.

Speaking of Congress, I realize this is 2025 and not 1825, but do we really need our lawmakers in Washington on a year-round basis? As recently as 1938, the 75th Congress convened on January 3rd and adjourned on June 16th, returning home until the following January... and this was at a time when America was still in the throes of the Great Depression and a World War was breaking out in Europe!

The way I figure it, the less time our elected officials spend inside the Beltway, the less trouble they can get into... and the less taxpayers' money they can waste. Heading back to their districts might actually force them to interact with the people they are supposed to be representing, too.

Hmmm... let's see what other feathers I can ruffle.

Term limits for all federal officeholders? Absolutely, positively. Maximum age limits, too.

A ban on former members of congress serving as lobbyists? You betcha! And while you're at it, throw those members guilty of insider trading in prison for life.

An end to federal pensions for elected officials and government bureaucrats? It can't happen soon enough. Just imagine the savings!

Switch over to a FAIR or national sales tax in lieu of the federal income tax... or implement a flat tax that can be filed on the back on a postcard, thereby reducing staffing at the IRS by 90% or more? Count me in!

Bring back the death penalty for all criminals convicted of first-degree premeditated murder and limit them to one appeal so that their sentence is carried out swiftly. Kill a cop and you don't get a trial or an appeal... just an execution.

O.K., let's figure a way to "land this plane" called the Glading Doctrine. Basically, I want the federal government to do the things we can't do for ourselves - like build and maintain roads, bridges, ports, and other infrastructure... ensure that our food and water supply is clean and pure... secure our borders and protect us from foreign invasion - and then pretty much get out of our way.

I am sure that I'm overlooking a few glaring omissions, but I think you get the general idea.

John Locke, Thomas Jefferson, and Henry David Thoreau are alternately credited with saying, "That government is best which governs least" and both Calvin Coolidge and Ronald Reagan did their best to put that philosophy into practice.

If elected, so will President Glading.

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