

Don Wood
PO Box 1201
Bedford, TX 76095
dwooddirect@gmail.com

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Dear Young Student,

All these current issues you raise — government intercepts of communication, costs of health care, mosque construction at the World Trade Center, deciding whether either Iraq or Afghanistan were “just wars,” and, of course, government spending — can be addressed. But they are not the bigger issue. Sometimes we are so close to the issues, we can’t see our way. We need an overview. So, as a student of history and theology, a husband of over 30 years, a father of four mature sons, and an owner of two businesses and a part-time ministry, I will educate you. Here we go! Follow me, Grasshopper!

We have lost more freedom in the last 18 months than in the last 18 years. Barack Obama is not a constitutional scholar — he is an ideologue bent on changing America into a socialist regime. He repeatedly violates provisions of the Constitution regarding the limitation of powers and separation of powers. In his autobiography, he admits that in both his university studies and his political career, he surrounded himself with radicals. Now he has appointed them to every position where he has discretion to move the country toward his vision of socialism. Regardless of his citizenship, he is an “alien in the White House,” unfamiliar with our country’s founders or their core values. It is a strange and dangerous situation.

In Europe, Moslem communities establish Sharia law and supplant local law where possible. Instead of assimilating, they plant foreign enclaves. Then their birth rate compared to European birth rates ensures that in as little as 40 years, they can vote changes into their new host territory. As a result, soon we will all be asking, “Who lost Europe?” In your lifetime, absent a major and rapid shift toward the foundations of liberty, and a resistance to the processes already underway, it will be as described in Mark Steyn’s book *America Alone* — you will be living in the sole superpower republic remaining in the world with no strong allies to come to our aid.

Likewise socialists have planted enclaves in countries around the world, extending their influence by taking over cultural centers such as higher education, journalism, union organizations, and political parties. They take advantage of freedom within our own country to subvert the Constitution and overturn the purpose of the Declaration of Independence. They insert their ideology, disguising its original name, and use liberalism, progressivism, or secular humanism tags, with the purpose — not of honoring our founding fathers — but of supplanting and removing them.

It is not only ungrateful to our founders, it is frightening. Unlike Bill Clinton, a liberal who made a turn toward the middle when he lost political power in the mid-term elections, Obama shows no sign of making a course correction but will become even more driven to “fundamentally change” America, as he stated before he was elected. He is another Woodrow Wilson.

Disgust over the ever-expanding government, never-ending appetite for taxation, blaming America first mentality, expanding social programs, and exploding national debt has fueled the

rise of the “Tea Party,” a reaction against both Republican and Democratic ineptness and corruption in high places. Preservation or expansion of political power at any expense is corruption — no matter who does it.

Obama’s recent Supreme Court nominee, Elena Kagan, when asked about her view of “unalienable” rights, said she would defend the rights granted by the Constitution. It was a telling reply. She said she had no personal opinion on “unalienable” rights. Like Obama, she overlooks the rights that cannot be separated from the individual. Those rights were recognized in the Declaration. They are the reason for the limitations imposed on the federal government by the Constitution. Those rights predate the Constitution. The Constitution did not grant those rights, but instead the Constitution’s limitations on government preserve them.

Clearly, the Constitution limits the federal government’s ability to infringe on those “unalienable” rights. For example, these rights are the reason for the “right to bear arms” — to strengthen the individual’s power against tyranny — both from without and within. The Second Amendment, recently upheld and expanded by the Supreme Court:

“A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed.”

Socialism sees the government as granting rights. The Declaration sees them as God-given and “unalienable.”

“The sacred rights of mankind are not to be rummaged for, among old parchments, or musty records. They are written, as with a sun beam in the whole volume of human nature, by the hand of divinity itself; and can never be erased or obscured by mortal power.” — Alexander Hamilton, 1775

The Declaration enshrines the actions of a free people to protect their rights from being usurped by their own government. Even today, when presidents sign legislation, under their signature, the date is given as “in the year of our Lord...” followed by “and in the year of our independence...” and it dates from the Declaration — not the Constitution. *The Constitution does not grant us rights. It ensures those “unalienable” rights are not violated by our own government.* To not understand this is to not understand America!

Multiple states have sued the federal government over health care reform, claiming it is an unwarranted expansion of government intrusion. I agree since it violates the Tenth Amendment:

“The Powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.”

To enforce mandatory purchase of coverage, the IRS will hire 16,000 more auditors. A comparison with mandatory car insurance, regulated by various states, is lame — per the Tenth Amendment, the states have powers the federal government is forbidden to have. Thankfully, the state governments are closer to the people and more subject to their voice.

Speaking of the income tax and the IRS, the tax was created by the intellectual leader of the progressive era and avowed segregationist, President Woodrow Wilson, former president of Princeton. The automatic withholding of tax deductions was not instituted until WWII — to create a *temporary* increase in revenue to fund the war. But as Ronald Reagan said, there is nothing closer to eternal life than a federal program.

Regarding the rights of individuals, the Ninth Amendment further states:

“The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.”

Thus the Ninth Amendment makes it impossible to interpret the Commerce Clause to give unlimited rights to the Federal Government to regulate our personal lives or business. Furthermore, the Commerce Clause was written to prohibit the restriction on commerce as might be imposed by one state taxing the imports from another state, as stated in Article 1, Section 8:

“To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with individual Tribes.”

This is a far cry from its current use to prohibit a farmer from growing a crop for his own consumption or sale, not even transporting it across state lines. Multiple states are now challenging on constitutional grounds this expansion of the Commerce Clause.

Peter Drucker, former head of General Motors, said years ago that when government interferes with business, three things happen to the object of their attention — availability decreases, quality goes down, and price goes up. The same thing will happen with health care and every other industry when the federal government gets involved. You have only to look at the US Post Office, Amtrak, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and the Federal Flood Insurance program. Sadly, once the government gets its hand in your pocket, you are usually unable to extract it for the rest of your life.

Having said the federal government has no power to enact mandatory health care purchase, since any powers not specifically given to the federal government are reserved to the states and the people, you will immediately begin to name all the other federal laws that usurp states’ and individuals’ rights that are currently in place. You are right. There are hundreds. It is a result of years of progressive policies — creeping socialism. Again, quoting Ronald Reagan, 40th President of the United States:

“Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn’t pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children’s children what it was once like in the United States when men were free.”

President Obama mocked the Supreme Court in his last State of the Union address even while the judges sat on the front row listening, unable to rebut his factual and legal errors. And he mocked

them on a ruling that strengthened free speech to a greater extent than any court had done since the founding fathers adopted the Bill of Rights!

Now, Obama, Pelosi, and Reed are pushing for another law to regulate free speech — while simultaneously exempting their political allies from the law. This is in violation of the Constitution, since the First Amendment states:

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people to peaceably assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.”

Sadly, many young Americans are products of indoctrination rather than education and did not even notice what Obama had done on national television while they watched.

Regarding immigration, President Obama is considering granting citizenship by executive order to the 12,000,000 illegals currently in the US as a partisan move to gain political leverage. He has refused to prosecute cities that have enacted “sanctuary city” ordinances protecting illegals. Yet he has chosen to sue Arizona over its desire to protect its citizens from criminals entering its borders! Obama has violated his oath of office to uphold the Constitution, which in Article IV Section 4 states:

“The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) against domestic Violence.”

Furthermore, according to Article I, Section 10, states do have the right of self-defense:

“No State shall, without the consent of Congress ... keep Troops ... or engage in War, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit of delay.”

States’ rights are one of the bastions of defense against internal tyranny and external invasion. Individual rights are the last and final defense against all forms of tyranny. When both are compromised, the federal government becomes all encompassing and all powerful — a situation the founding fathers specifically and thoughtfully prevented by a carefully crafted Constitution.

Socialism fails every time it is tried. As Margaret Thatcher said, “The problem with socialism is it keeps running out of other people’s money.”

In this century alone, 148,000,000 (Wikipedia’s number) have been killed by their OWN government — every one of them some form of socialist or communist government imposing their ideology on their own citizens.

All socialist governments eventually collapse. The Soviet Union collapsed under the burden of its own central planning after starving 40,000,000 of its people.

Socialism is a despicable ideology that masquerades as charitable fairness and justice for all. It ignores basic human nature. Its proponents hold it with a religious fervor, almost self-righteousness, ignoring the poverty and tyranny that follows in its wake.

Theology matters. The American colonies were impacted by men such as George Whitefield and Jonathan Edwards — men most US school students have never heard of. All the founding fathers knew them or knew of them. The US Constitution set up a system of checks and balances because the founding fathers, unlike modern academics, did not believe it was possible to change human nature. They did not trust the human tendencies of unchecked pride and greed that obliterate freedom and impose tyranny. Instead, they designed a system to enhance the other parts of our human nature — yearnings for freedom of expression in speech and writing, self-determination, self-discipline, self-government, financial independence, charitable and religious expression, right to self-defense, and individual ownership of property.

Churches used to speak up about such matters. But progressive President Lyndon Johnson — architect of the failed “Great Society” that gave us forty years of welfare, creator of three generations of freeloaders at taxpayer expense (successfully purchasing party loyalty and political votes for generations) — did not like a Texas preacher’s radio messages against corruption. He had the IRS issue regulations that forbade churches with tax exempt status from making political speeches endorsing or castigating a political candidate. To this day, the pulpits are largely silent, and the pall of political correctness has extended into the sanctuary.

Again, this is a violation of the US Constitution:

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people to peaceably assemble ...”

Quite a contrast to the colony’s “Black Robed Regiments” who thundered liberty from the pulpits. In fact, the King of England called our Revolution that “Presbyterian Rebellion.” The first body to vote to secede from England was the Mecklenburg Convention, held in Charlotte, North Carolina in 1775. Its delegates included many ministers from parts of Mecklenburg County.

The unchecked abuses of the current administration extend to taking over private businesses — NOT allowed under the Constitution — such as General Motors, Chrysler, AIG, major banks, and mortgage companies. The federal deficit has tripled, the national debt has ballooned to a horrible level, and the country is on the verge of bankruptcy. Even Vladimir Putin told Obama not to go toward socialism — that they had tried it and it didn't work.

But socialism is still revered by professors on Ivy League universities, many of whom long for the fantasy utopia of communism. 90% of these professors call themselves “progressives,” the new moniker of socialists since the old term fell out of favor after Hitler and Stalin were defeated. Political correctness and campus censorship is now the standard practice on American

universities. Or at least it was before Obama showed the fruit of its full expression. There are signs of changes coming to campuses.

Even handing out billions of dollars in stimulus money has not affected the private sector unemployment rate — we have so few factories, there are few positions to fill. Taxation and over-regulation had already driven the jobs to Mexico, China, Pakistan, and India. If we have a world war, we will have to import steel for weapons.

In 1963, the Communist Party in America published their strategy to destroy America. It included infiltrating one of the major political parties. They have succeeded in capturing the Democratic Party and now operate under the guise of “Progressives.” The communists are no longer an organized party with influence, but their ideology lives on in academia. Obama is a product of the US liberal academic system. Since FDR, they have made big government the solution. They have captured the labor unions, the teachers’ unions, and the media. They planned to infiltrate the church as well and have succeeded under the label of “social justice,” “liberation theology,” and social-club churches that have abandoned “salvationism” and “biblical supernaturalism” — terms C.S. Lewis used to describe the distinction between high and low churches.

Before he became governor of California, Ronald Reagan said the likely way communists would take America was through health care, since Americans were kind hearted and would give up their freedoms thinking they were doing the right thing. Yes, we are kind hearted. And we are patient. But it’s time to return to our founding principles.

We have lost patriarchy — now it’s just politics. We’ve lost saving for what we want — now it’s borrow, borrow, borrow. We’ve lost courage — young people are afraid to think critically, especially about their teachers, pastors, and government leaders.

We have lost initiative — we used to be a “can do” country of problem solvers. The last generation before us was called “the greatest generation” because they defeated tyranny in WWII. This current generation of adults may go down in history as the “wimp generation” — having lost the greatest economic engine and greatest free nation on earth because they were afraid to stand up to the federal government power grab.

It is embarrassing that 50 percent of America voted for a man they did not know who had never held a job in his life — because he promised them “hope and change.” How shallow. Changing Congress is not enough. Individual Americans must learn our country’s actual history — not the revised versions of current textbooks — and act accordingly. The task before us is immense.

Rahm Emanuel said to never waste a crisis. Saul Alinsky’s *Rules for Radicals*, used by Professor Obama in his classroom, says to create so many crises that only the federal government could solve them — a plan to make tyranny the choice of a formerly free people who willingly embrace it to get out of the chaos. It’s a radical agenda to overthrow the founding principles. Our only remedy is a resurgence of individual responsibility.

I believe the American people will eventually throw off tyranny — even the “soft tyranny” of stifling excessive government. Perhaps our economic demise will cause us to examine our course, rediscover our roots, and shake off our lethargy. Perhaps we will look into the face of Barack Obama, realize where we are heading, and dramatically alter course. If that happens, Obama, due to the sheer audacity of his agenda, will be a gift to our country — causing us to awaken from our slide into mediocrity.

Every nation on earth that has been conquered by our brave soldiers to overthrow their despots has then become the recipient of our benevolence, our technology, our genius, our free trade. What a privilege to be conquered by America and then liberated — like Japan, Germany, and Italy. And the nations that have been rescued — France, Poland, and England — they all must hope our flirtation with this inept loquacious junior Senator who became President is short lived — because there is NO OTHER PLACE on earth where freedom has a heritage to rise up and reassert itself, where there are enough RESOURCES to resist worldwide Moslem extremisms, where there is enough FAITH to liberate the human spirit to resist oppression, where there is enough COMPASSION to rescue other oppressed peoples. We are the last best hope of mankind on earth.

Who else will stand up for the property owner — the communist regimes that claim the state owns everything? Who will defend the small business owner — the “thugocracies” like Cuba’s Fidel and Raul Castro? Who will defend the rights of free speech around the world — dictators like Hugo Chavez who nationalized the press and television stations that disagreed with him? Who will stand for freedom of religions, planting a church on every street corner as we have in America — can you do that in Saudi Arabia? Who will defend the rights of women — Pakistan, where acid is thrown on the face of women who commit some minor trespass? Who can create freedom of property rights so that farmers flourish and starvation is eliminated — North Korea?

If the “great experiment in freedom” called America is brought down by its own internal corruption of power, where would you flee to protect your liberty? Is there any better place on earth to take a stand than here? Here you have the protection of the courts, as long as the progressives do not pack the court so as to abridge or negate the plain meaning of the Constitution’s language. Try to peaceably assemble to “petition the government for a redress of your grievances” in Iran. We saw what happened to Iranian citizens before that government censored the press and the stories were embargoed from distribution.

Would you rather await a better time to speak up to defend your liberty? Will you be working shorter hours to make a decent living in the future?

Would it be more convenient for you if there were more people joining you to make your voice heard so you were not intimidated by authority figures?

Will you have more money later — after you have successfully worked through the maze of regulation and ever-increasing taxation and built up your own business — will you have more resources to address political issues at your leisure?

All these questions are rhetorical. The answers are obvious. You cannot fully answer unless you can predict the future. To do that, you must extrapolate the present trends into the future — what will your life be like under oppressive taxation, intolerable debt, unbearable regulation, stifled freedom of speech, and inability to effect meaningful change in a bloated federal bureaucracy? It won't be easier then, will it? You can see the trend, but can you interrupt it and bring a change of direction?

American exceptionalism is the fruit of years of the entrepreneurial spirit that gave us the Panama Canal, the Hoover Dam, the Interstate Highway System, radio, television, a national power grid, the automobile, the airplane, the International Space Station, the Internet, air conditioning, and more food than we can possibly consume. We are the breadbasket of the world. We are the single bastion of freedom on the planet. Our preservation of contract law draws every business on earth to desire the protection of our courts to create wealth. Our resistance to tyranny has made us a safe haven for immigrants from around the globe. They flee to America to escape oppression. Our religious tolerance makes us safe for believers and unbelievers alike.

Astoundingly, *this secular nation was the creation of believers — Bible believing Christians* who created excellent secular things out of their faith in God and Jesus Christ, the Liberator of mankind. That's the way Christianity works — it creates freedom to succeed while exposing oppressors. Its liberty infuses the thought behind healthy government, free enterprise, property rights, and personal dignity. When it is denied and mocked, resisted and persecuted, the government descends into arrogant rule by all-knowing men who think they have a better way — their way. Our Republic should avoid the despotism of democracy, where a lazy populace discovers they can secure their future by voting themselves a stipend out of the “largess of the government treasury,” and avoid the tyranny of egotistical leadership. It's called a “republican” form of government — balancing cool heads of elected leaders with popular elections of those statesmen.

Our form of government is in flux. The Republic is in danger. Only an awakened and educated population can return us to our roots. Without desire and effort, we will lose the exceptionalism that made us the greatest nation on earth.

We have been the envy of the whole earth. That is the way it should be, because our founding principles were higher principles. Our founding purpose was a higher purpose. Our method of governing has been a higher method. No other nation on earth has come close. It is all in jeopardy.

If God loves America, and I believe He does, He will correct our waywardness and take us to the woodshed for not being grateful for our heritage. It will be a painful lesson — not just for the leaders but for the entire country that allowed the creeping socialism to happen. But the price of going uncorrected is to become fatherless, a bastard nation, abandoning our rightful fathers — our founding fathers!

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“That is one good thing about the truth: in the beginning its voice sounds very weak and feeble, but mighty in the end. While the voice of deception and lie on the opposite is mighty in the beginning, but weak and feeble in the end.”

Sunday Adelaja, Kiev, Ukraine