

DEMOCRATS ARE GREAT MARCHERS!

NEW NAME. The President has managed to descend to new lows of small mindedness. I am changing my use of his name in these newsletters from trump to t. Should I shrink it further?

THANKS! Yes, thank you to all of you who brought all that food for CCAP to the last general meeting and party! Democrats certainly know how to help.

IMMIGRANT CHILDREN. We must take care of our children - ALL of them! That should be without question. Yet, our government does a horribly abusive job of it, especially with immigrant children, most of them forcibly separated from their parents. [This](#) CNN article and video tells of abuse in Texas, Arizona, and Virginia tells of forced drugging, torture, and sexual abuse. One facility the courts ordered closed years ago is still open. [Here](#) is yet another CNN article on the subject showing how widespread the abuse is. We have to stop this!

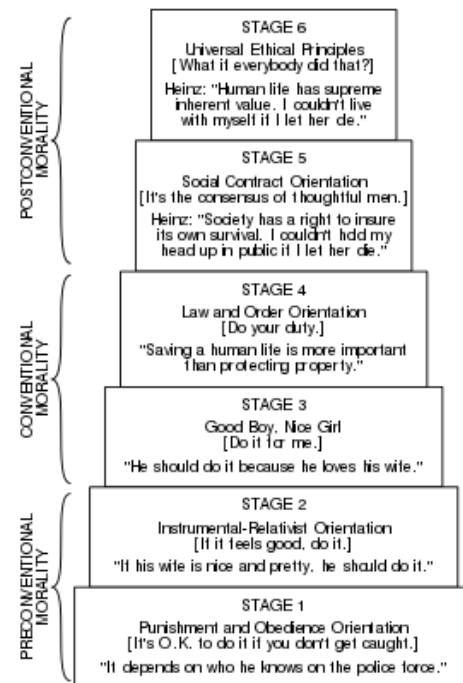
MISSING MIGRANT CHILDREN. Many of them are being shipped to a "Christian" adoption agency with ties to Education Secretary Betsy DeVos. Why? It's because t thinks it too much effort to reunite them with their parents. [Here](#) is an article from Progressive Secular Humanist about it. Isn't this the very definition of human trafficking?

WATER. Yes, there is some good news. Some companies are now providing devices to get water to homes in remote areas where water is scarce. In fact, they are pulling the water out of the air using solar powered devices to do it. It is a great environmentally sound way to provide water. Enjoy [this](#) CNN article and video about it.

KOHLBERG'S STAGES OF MORAL DEVELOPMENT. Lawrence Kohlberg adapted a psychological theory originally conceived by Jean Piaget. Kohlberg's adaptation identifies six stages of moral development (shown on the right) that are interesting in today's political climate. Read more about it [here](#) to see the various stages certain people are in. What is sad is that those in any given level have problems understanding those in higher levels. It seems t is in Stage 1.

BLACKFACE, ETC. Everything in this article is my own, not that of WFCDC or anyone else. I offer it for you to think about when forming your own opinion. The things mentioned are true and happened to me. In thinking about this, I ran across [this](#) Snopes article on the history of blackface. Like me, you may find it informative for the parts you may not know. It's about more than blackface or other racial issues.

I grew up in a small town in a small rural county in southern Alabama. When I was pre-school age, a much older cousin stood in the kitchen one day burning cork to put on blackface for the high school's minstrel show. He is still alive and now would never consider doing blackface. At the time, I didn't know what a minstrel show was, but quickly learned through Our Gang/Little Rascals movies, Al Jolson performances in old movies, and other such sources. From my perspective at the time, it was presented as entertainment and nothing more. At the



time, no one said anything to me about it that could be taken as offensive, so that thought never entered my mind. When I was eight or nine years old, my cub scout den put on a minstrel show for the rest of the pack, but without blackface. The pack's Webelos leader taught us how to play spoons for it. Again, no one thought or said anything of it to me or anyone else involved.

When I went into Webelos – age 10.5 until 11 at the time – we had a word we used to describe the people who lived near the train depot down the hill. That word has since been replaced by "N-word", a term I personally find as disgraceful as the one it replaced. The Webelos leader, who had lived in many areas of the country, simply mentioned that it was not a proper word to use and gave us a replacement for it that is often used acceptably used today. That was the first time I had ever heard any replacement for it.

Do you remember the movie *The Help*? In it, there was one woman who was so nasty, the maid made a special pie for her. You know the pie, I'm sure. My mother was and still is like a much poorer version of the woman who ate the pie. I never understood my mother's actions and opinion – it just didn't make sense – but she was/is not one for logic.

None of this was unusual in the town. There was one day set aside when the only people shopping on the main street lived around the depot area. As a small child, I was barely aware of that. No one ever spoke about it. This from a town with a prominent state politician who eventually ran for governor unsuccessfully.

We, as kids, did these things not out of spite or malice, but it was what we were taught. Was it right? Of course not. Was it our fault? Of course not. We followed the teachings and examples of the adults. Even among them, the die had already been cast by many preceding

generations. Over the years, at least some of us learned to do things better. Regretfully, not all.

I entered college the same year the school was forced to integrate. It wasn't the first time the school integrated. A decade earlier, the school decided to recruit students from Latin America and did so with great success. They still do. Both the first and the second integrations were peaceful and the students, with the exception of one group in the second integration, fully accepted the new students. That was Kappa Alpha fraternity. There are two by that name: Kappa Alpha Society and Kappa Alpha Order. The Society, founded in New York, is older and much smaller. The Order, founded in Virginia, is said to be a replacement for Kuklos Adelphon, the fraternity that supposedly inspired the KKK. Regretfully, we had the Order and they burnt a cross on campus to protest integration. I'm happy to say most students did not agree with them and they no longer exist on that campus. It was

still socially acceptable to some in a few parts of the country at the time. Fortunately, not now, although that fraternity still exists.

It isn't just racial. Add in sexual, nationalistic, religion, and other things as well. I moved to the Pennsylvania suburbs of Philadelphia in 1969. I was shocked by the hatred between people of different ancestry, such as German, Italian, or Irish. That was more prominent in the city than in the suburbs and it existed with far more than just those three. Since that was when [Frank Rizzo](#) was Philadelphia's police commissioner, the City of Brotherly Love would have been known more correctly as the City of Brotherly Hatred.



I tell you all of this because I do understand that we sometimes do the wrong thing without knowing we are doing wrong. Sometimes it is because we do not know better. Sometimes we just don't think. Sometimes we do it anyway. Sometimes it is a case of people doing stupid things and regretting it later.

Recent events with Virginia politicians may or may not fall into line with any of the above. What doesn't help in understanding is when a politician contradicts himself. It also doesn't help if the public is not consistent from one case to another. What is right in the cases of the politicians, I do not know. Life is not easy. Still, we try to climb through the stages of moral development, described in an above entry, as we can. I sincerely hope we can learn not only from our own mistakes, but also the mistakes of others.

Per [this](#), the 1964 film *Mary Poppins* was branded as racist and, interestingly, [here](#) is a recent article about a group, almost all black, that still uses black makeup.

ETHICS. [This](#) 5-minute video of Representative Ocasio-Cortez questioning members of multiple oversight and ethics organizations is quite telling. Thanks to Mark Zimmerman for sharing it. I have two simple requests: Watch it and share it with as many people as possible.

RUSSIA. Who does Russia like? Russian State Television thanked eight US lawmakers for lifting sanctions against three companies controlled by one Russian oligarch. See [this](#) Snopes article for the names and details.

BUMPER STICKER: 1 out of 3 τ supporters is as stupid as the other two.

BANKING CRISES, PART II. Remember the scandalous banking crises a few years back? It's happening again, but this time, they aren't using home loans, although that seems to be on the rise again, too. This time, it is vehicle loans. Currently, more than 7 million vehicle loans are past due by at least 90 days and it is getting worse. [Here](#) is a CNN article about it. "Thank" the republicans for removing the regulations that kept consumers safe from this type of action.

MAKING MONEY ABUSING KIDS. That is happening to immigrant children in at least one federal "children's shelters". Comprehensive Health Services runs a facility in Florida that does just that, charging an average of about \$775/day for each kid for whom they "care". Lawyers managing to interview some of the kids tell the horrible story. Read about it in [this](#) NPR article. Add to this all the credible reports of abuse at other, mostly smaller, 130 facilities, including one near us, that the feds have to house child immigrants and you have a tragic story thanks to τ . Fortunately, the article also mentions legislation that may help solve some of the problem.



SIZE MATTERS? On Feb. 12, both τ and Beto O'Rourke held rallies in El Paso, Texas. Of course, τ claimed he had 35,000 in attendance and O'Rourke had maybe 15 people attending. The fire marshal and police had very different counts saying τ had 6,500 inside and maybe 10,000 to 12,000 outside. Organizers said about 7,000 were at O'Rourke's rally, but police say it was between 10,000 and 15,000 at the event. [Here](#) is a Newsweek article on it.

JUMP TO THE FUTURE. The future may or may not be good. Many people who helped elect Democrats in November seem to feel the battle is over. It is not. We must continue to elect more Democrats at every level. Local elections count as much as national elections since it is locals that can help nationals win. We must do everything we can to ensure we have good victories this November and the work for that has already started. We need more people helping. Will the future be good? It depends on you.

COMING OUT. As Democrats, we often speak about equality for people of every color. Sometimes we forget others who also struggle for equality. Some time ago, a friend showed me a series of cartoons about a very real boy coming to terms with his homosexuality. It is funny, introspective, and not a long read. All 28 episodes (plus a prologue and an intermission) are available [here](#). It is interesting and good to understand what people go through in life. Just click on each episode listed down the left side of the page.

GREEN NEW DEAL. What gets the most press on the details of this proposal is what it says, and you know how accurate that is not. [This](#) CNN article tells you what is actually in it. And [this](#) CNN article tells you how it is actually affordable and feasible.

FOR THE TEACHERS: Did you know that t, Jr. called teachers "losers"? Read about it [here](#).

RUSSIA AT IT AGAIN. There are 3 new Facebook pages aimed at American millennials. All three are produced by a company that is funded by the Russian government and is considered Russia's leading propaganda machine. Collectively, the 3 pages have had over 30 million views in less than 6 months. There is nothing on any of the pages indicating the source of funding. For more information, see [this](#) CNN article and video. If Facebook continues to host propaganda from other countries, it may be time to abandon Facebook.

AURORA, IL. Five people dead, five more wounded and the republicans want more of it.
SOLON TOWNSHIP, MI. Four dead, some children, and the republicans want more of it.

HATE CRIME GAME. Believe it or not, there is now an online game where Jesus, t, Hitler, Putin, and Mussolini kill LGBTQ people, feminists, and "illegal aliens". Read about it [here](#). Thanks, Jon, for this link.

A NIGHT AT THE GARDEN. That is the title of a new short film by Marshall Curry. It is entirely of a political rally in Madison Square Garden. To be more specific, it is a 20,000-person Nazi rally in NYC in 1939. You can view the full 7-minute video and read about it in [this](#) NPR article. I think you will find it too closely resembling a political party of today.



CHRISTIANISM. I fear it is real. Read [this](#) for a good definition of the term.

WATCH OUT FOR CHAOS. It seems τ plans to try to sow chaos leading up to the 2020 Democratic primary. Why? Because it gives him a better chance of winning. [This](#) CNN article and video covers it very well. Don't let his misleading information lead you astray.

WHAT CAN YOU DO? Are you unhappy with the current president? Wish the US Senate would pass the legislation coming from the House? Wish the same in Virginia's legislative branch? Changing political leadership is not something that happens only for a couple of months every four years. It is even more frequent than a couple of months every two years. We must be active now and constantly until we have a majority at the local level, state level, and in all three branches of the federal government. It means constant pressure to elect more Democrats in every election in every year. We can afford no rest.

So, what can you do? Be politically active. Write newspaper articles. Help local candidate get elected. Run for office. Canvass door to door. Contribute to political campaigns at all levels and to your local Democratic Committee. Seek opportunities to help. How can you do this? The best way is to contact your local Democratic Committee ([WFCDC](#) for us). They can tell you where the greatest needs are. Campaigns are already heating up!

STUPID QUOTE: *We have had Medicare since 1965, and Medicare has never done anything to make people more healthy.* ~ Roy Dean Blunt (R) Junior US Senator from Missouri



CENSUS. Of course you have heard about the immigrant question τ wants on the census in 2020. Have you heard about the military controversy? It seems the military refuses to release any data on those deployed overseas until 30 days after their deployment is over. This can impact the congressional share states may get. Read about it in [this](#) NPR article.

THE MUELLER PROBE. Did you know the Mueller investigation has already more than paid for itself? The cost so far is about \$30 million, but it has already resulted in about \$50 million in fines. Per his recent statements, expect even more to come

in. Related to that probe, [this](#) Huffington Post article tells us Michael Cohen may accuse τ of criminal activity in his congressional testimony. It will be done or not done by the time you read this newsletter. [Here](#) is a more recent CNN update that includes some of the testimony.

QUOTE: *I am ashamed because I know what Mr. Trump is. He is a racist. He is a con man. He is a cheat.* ~ Michael D. Cohen in testimony to Congress. 02/27/19

Thanks for being a Democrat!

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