

## China's Ambition the Destruction of America A Critical Voting Issue

By Frank J. Gaffney



In the upcoming 2022 elections, voters will not just be selecting people to represent them on impending decisions concerning inflation, immigration, and the direction of our country more generally. The winning candidates may well be required very soon to participate in decisions that will bear on our national security and survival in the face of a mortal threat: the determined efforts of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) to decisively defeat our country in the one-sided war it has been waging against us for decades.

The magnitude of this danger is hard to overstate – yet, many Americans aren't even aware it exists. And, unless the public becomes knowledgeable about the CCP's ambitions and what they mean for us, a fleeting opportunity to prepare for what's headed our way may be squandered.

This article is part of a concerted effort being made by groups like our Committee on the Present Danger: China and the Association for Mature American Citizens to equip you – and those who want to represent you – with the knowledge to recognize this challenge to ours and future generations and to rise to it as *we must*.

**The Chinese Communist Party is a Monster**

Let's start with a fundamental truth: In the course of human history, there has never been a more dangerous regime. That is particularly problematic since the CCP is bent on the domination of not just our country but the entire world. To calibrate how ominous a prospect that is, let's consider how the CCP treats *its own* people.

Over the past seven decades, the Chinese Communists have enslaved not only a number of ethnic minorities, including Uyghur Muslims, Tibetans, Southern Mongolians, and, most recently, the people of Hong Kong; they have also subjected the Han Chinese majority to systematic and severe repression.

In fact, by some estimates, from Mao Tse-tung's time to now, the CCP has murdered roughly 100 million people in China. And that doesn't include the 400 million unborn babies the party boasts of killing as part of its barbaric population-control program instituted to enforce the "One-Child" policy.

Among the techniques used by the Chinese Communists to achieve and maintain the party's totalization control of a population of some 1.4 billion are engineered mass starvation, serial rape, torture, industrial-grade organ harvesting, persecution of religious communities, slave labor, the incarceration of millions of political pris-

oners, and genocide.

An essential feature of the CCP's effective use of such methods to gain and maintain power has been Orwellian mass surveillance. In recent years, the Chinese Communists have greatly enhanced the comprehensiveness and efficiency of such surveillance by integrating into it many millions of cameras, facial-and gait-recognition, massive data aggregation, artificial intelligence, and quantum computing. Together, these constitute what is known as the "Social Credit System," which rewards people for conforming to the party's dictates and punishes them, for example, by denying opportunities to travel, be employed, have access to bank accounts, educate their children, have housing or buy food.

The CCP's treatment of the people of China is not just a profound humanitarian concern. Any regime that brutalizes and even mass murders its own population will do the same, or worse, to others whom they regard as inferior and barbarous – people they hope to enslave.

**The CCP's War on the Rest of the World**

And make no mistake, that is what the Communist Chinese have in mind for us, as

[\[Continued on Page 4\]](#)

## Personal Note from the President



“O the Wonder of it All.”

How gracious our God! I recall those early days when God was making a move upon my heart. It was actually at my in-law's church in the '70s. We were singing the traditional hymns - such as “Holy! Holy! Holy!”

My voice would break and I couldn't sing as tears were rolling down my cheeks. I was 23 years old.

What was going on? When it happened again and again, I realized God was pouring out His grace and mercy upon me. I began experiencing that God loved even me and He has never withdrawn His love, grace and mercy. He never will!

More recently, I have been trying to lead my Sunday school class of three kids aged 8, 9, and 10 into a deeper and more personal understanding of worship. I've been using a Sunday School lesson from last year that breaks out eight means of worship: Praise, listening to sermons, baptism, communion, the offering, the benediction, the confession of faith, meditation.

I'm humbly trying to help them see and know God as personal and WORTHY to be praised. I am burdened to do what I can, by God's grace, to help them have guidance and instruction on where they must look if their lives become endangered in the increasingly hostile world that is unfolding daily.

A couple of weeks ago I came across a Bill Gaither Homecoming song featuring old time Gospel singer, Doug Oldham singing "The Wonder of It All." In that gathering of gospel singers was George Beverly Shea and Billy Graham's wife Ruth (each now

with the Lord). And there was Doug Oldham belting out those glorious words. I felt compelled to play that for my kids to show them an example of people worshipping the Lord and to hopefully help them get a sense of the movement of God upon His people and perhaps in their own hearts. Suddenly, there I was sitting with them and tears were running down my cheeks right there in our Sunday School room.

*There's the wonder of sunset at evening,  
The wonder as sunrise I see;  
But the wonder of wonders that thrills my soul  
Is the wonder that God loves me.*

Refrain

*O, the wonder of it all! The wonder of it all!  
Just to think that God loves me.  
O, the wonder of it all! The wonder of it all!  
Just to think that God loves me.*

*There's the wonder of springtime and harvest,  
The sky, the stars, the sun;  
But the wonder of wonders that thrills my soul  
Is a wonder that has only begun.*

Why am I sharing this with you? Because my burden is that I do what I can to help point my loved ones to know the personal God for the power, comfort, goodness, glory, love, mercy, grace, truth, counsel, strength that He and He alone imparts upon His children - young or old.

The worship of God also deals specifically with the trials that affect us from our fallen world. One glaring trouble that stands before us now is Proposal 3 and the issue of abortion.

"WE THE PEOPLE" are increasingly recognizing the darkness of the hour. Barb Listing, President of Right to Life of Michigan, stated it this way in a thank you letter - giving the shortened form. Barb described a scene in Kenya of two different animal groups migrating together protecting each other. *The zebra has great eyesight but a poor sense of smell. The wildebeest*

*has poor eyesight but a keen sense of smell.*

*They rely upon one another for survival in one of the most hostile environments in all the world. ...*

Mrs. Listing continued: *Just like the zebra and the wildebeest, we find ourselves in one of the most hostile environments in the entire world. The zebra and the wildebeest work together to preserve their very lives. You and I work together to preserve the lives of the most helpless and innocent among us.*

Barb Listing is sounding the alarm to vote NO ON PROPOSAL 3! At a Right to Life of Michigan (Newaygo County Chapter), dinner/fundraiser, a passionate pastor/speaker effectively and rightly informed the audience of the darkness and treachery that will befall our state if Proposal 3 passes. Meanwhile, Planned Parenthood and their ranks have outraised the pro-life forces significantly and have used their funds craftily, attempting to make their proposal appear as though they are on the side of truth.

As with the zebras and the wildebeest, may God help us to similarly migrate together. This is not a time for differences or being single issued (as vitally important as the life issue is), as opposed to not having a heart and mind to study the many issues before us such as "present danger China," Proposal 3, 2, and 1 (vote no on each of them); the gubernatorial race, secretary of state, attorney general, local candidates for school board, state and senatorial positions, et al

We have long ago turned our back upon God. We are a reprobate nation, having exchanged the truth for a lie. Yet, still there remains a remnant, a praying remnant.

May it be that God will once again turn back the evil tide of this administration and the hundreds of thousands/millions of their minions. If not, still God is faithful! As never before, there is a need for earnest prayer, love, diligence, salt and light, bravery, and steadfastness.

"Oh the Wonder of it All." Just to think that God loves me and YOU.

# A Fox Guarding the Electoral Henhouse

By Lisa Van Houten



In 2006 leftist billionaire George Soros, known for using his massive wealth to push Marxist policies, began efforts to elect liberal Democrats as secretaries of state nationwide. Why would Soros care about who's in charge of the DMV? What some may not realize, in most states the secretary of state oversees more than license plates; she or he is the chief election official in their state, with ultimate oversight of elections and voter registration. **Whether a state has free and fair elections often hinges on one person – the secretary of state.**

In 2008, the liberal news outlet Politico called the secretaries of state the “Democrat firewall.” *“...Democrats have built an administrative firewall designed to protect their electoral interests in five of the most important battleground states. ... With a Democrat now in charge of the offices, which oversee and administer their state's elections, the party is better positioned than in the previous elections to advance traditional Democratic interests —such as increasing voter registration and boosting turnout — rather than Republican priorities such as stamping out voter fraud. Perhaps more important... Democrats are now in a more advantageous position when it comes to the interpretation and administration of election law ...”* These Soros-backed secretaries of state are using their positions to undermine election integrity. For example, the Colorado secretary of state recently sent out voter registration information cards to 30,000 non-citizens.

**One of those Soros-funded secretaries of state is Michigan's Jocelyn Benson, a Democratic activist with a long history of cutting her teeth on leftist ideology.** While earning her Master's degree, Benson conducted research on the sociological implications of “white supremacy and neo-Nazism” - what have now become the

Democrats' go-to buzzwords to falsely malign conservatives. Benson then worked for the left-wing Southern Poverty Law Center, an organization whose main focus is to target Christian and conservative organizations, labeling them as “hate groups.”

Let's look at a few of the ways Jocelyn Benson has used her position to undermine election integrity and increase the likelihood of voter fraud. The Federalist states, “as Michigan's secretary of state during the chaotic 2020 presidential election, Benson played a key role in making last-minute changes to election law to bolster Democratic voter turnout and swing Michigan in then-candidate Joe Biden's favor.” In 2020 Benson sent out automatic voter registration forms to all eligible Michigan citizens, padding the voter rolls with 114,000 additional names right before the election. Because these forms were automatically sent to all mailboxes, it increased the likelihood that many of these forms were used for fraudulent registrations. In addition, Benson has been sued multiple times for refusing to clean up Michigan's voter rolls. In 2020 the Michigan Freedom Fund filed a suit against Benson and a number of county clerks for failing to maintain accurate voter rolls. For example, Leelanau County had more registered voters than adult citizens and numerous other counties had registration rates of nearly one hundred percent, a highly unlikely statistic. In another case, a judge ruled in August that a suit against Benson for failing to remove dead voters from the rolls can go forward, a case which Benson had attempted to have dismissed. Two years ago, the Public Interest Legal Foundation (PILF) provided documentation to Benson of over 25,000 dead registrants on Michigan's voter rolls, which Benson ignored. So, in 2021 PILF filed a lawsuit against Benson for failing to remove these dead voter names from Michigan's voter lists. According to PILF's own analysis: *“23,663 registrants have been dead for five years or more, 17,479 registrants have been dead for at least a decade, 3,956 registrants have been dead for at least 20 years.”* Section 8 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 requires officials make a reasonable effort to remove the names of ineligible voters from the official lists of eligible voters.

And in yet another case against Benson, the Republican National Committee (RNC) has recently filed a lawsuit to stop Benson's illegal efforts to restrict citizen poll challengers. Right before the August primary, Benson issued new prohibitive guidance regarding poll watchers, impeding their right under Michigan law to monitor election proceedings. *“Volunteers across the political spectrum have a right to be poll challengers, and election laws exist to be followed — not subverted by Democrat officials at the last minute,”* stated RNC Chairwoman Ronna McDaniel. Even before serving as secretary of state, Benson has advocated for the restriction of poll challengers, limiting citizen oversight of elections. Then in 2020, with Benson now serving as secretary of state, there was the debacle in Detroit where election observers were kept at a distance and windows were papered over, preventing them from observing the vote counting. One of those poll watchers in Detroit that day was Kristina Karamo. After the 2020 election, Karamo cited examples of voter fraud which she stated she had witnessed. **Kristina Karamo is now the Republican nominee facing off against Democrat Jocelyn Benson in the November 8 election.**

Another leftist ploy to permanently enshrine election fraud into Michigan's constitution will be on Michigan's ballot in November. **Proposal 2 is an effort by the Left to permanently undermine election integrity.** This amendment to Michigan's constitution would make voter fraud easy and likely to occur, including eliminating voter ID requirements, opening the door for non-citizens to cast ballots in Michigan. In addition, Prop 2 would deny citizens access from voting records, preventing citizens from discovering election fraud.

As secretary of state, Jocelyn Benson has followed the George Soros playbook, subverting the electoral process – where the only hope Republicans have is to turn out such a massive number of voters that it overcomes the thousands of fraudulent votes. In order to have fair elections, we need a secretary of state who will uphold election integrity. **Pray fervently, then vote wisely on November 8.**

# China's Ambition the Destruction of America: A Critical Voting Issue

(Continued from Page 1)



their leader, XI Jinping, himself has declared this as the object of his “China Dream” of restoring China to its rightful, historic place of *tianxia*-ruling “all under heaven.” To that end, the CCP is weaponizing such things as its “United Front Work Department” for exporting Chinese Communism through foreign front organizations; the PRC-dominated World Health Organization and the “China Model” it promoted as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the insinuation of the Social Credit System, here and elsewhere; a global colonial infrastructure build-out program known as the “Belt and Road Initiative”; the use of Huawei’s 5G networks for espionage and other forms of data collection; utilizing CCP’s platforms like Tik Tok and WeChat to aggregate and mine private information worldwide and to indoctrinate especially impressionable young people; propaganda and other influence operations; and technology theft and other forms of espionage.

Regrettably, the Chinese Communists have gotten away with using these techniques and others to wage what they call “unrestricted warfare” against our country for decades. They have thus inflicted immense damage here *without firing* a shot – thanks largely to the CCP’s success in corrupting or otherwise subverting our political, media, academic, cultural, business, and financial elites.

Moreover, in May 2019, the CCP’s main propaganda outlet, *People’s Daily*, actually declared a “*People’s War*” against the United States. And, as an important new study sponsored by our Center for Security Policy recently established, within months, the CCP deliberately unleashed a biological warfare attack against this country and indeed, the rest of the world, in the form of

the COVID-19 pandemic. To date, they have killed a million of us.

Worse yet, there is reason to believe the Chinese communists are now preparing to add to such “non-kinetic” kinds of warfare the old-fashioned, violent kind. The most obvious target is Taiwan, whose freedom the CCP is determined to crush. But our own assets, personnel, and territory may well be murderously attacked as well.

### Required Now: A Strategic Course-Correction

The upshot of the foregoing, ominous facts is self-evident: *We must make a major course-correction in our dealings with Communist China.* And the 2022 election offers an opportunity to secure the American people’s mandate for such a change – and to get it underway as soon as possible.

Here are seven commitments everyone running for federal – or state-level elective office should be asked to endorse – and held accountable in fulfilling if elected:

1. The United States must recognize that the CCP is our mortal enemy, a transnational criminal organization, and a threat that must be defeated.
2. To that end, the United States must adopt a *war-footing* that will end our dependence on Chinese supply chains for everything from medicines to rare earth minerals to fertilizers and silicon chips.
3. In fact, we must wean ourselves immediately from such vulnerabilities by disengaging from business dealings with China and finding genuine alternative sources of supply (not simply Chinese cut-outs in other countries).
4. We must rebuild our military by focusing its funding, energies, training, deployments, and acquisitions on deterring and, if necessary, defeating the Chinese Communist threat.
5. The government of the United States at every level must be purged of politicians and officials compromised by the CCP.

6. Financial managers must stop using American investors’ money to underwrite the Chinese Communist threat.

7. We must stand with our allies and partners like Taiwan to resist and roll back the CCP’s global expansion and protect vital US interests.

Help us spread the word to educate our countrymen and women and to encourage candidates running in this fall’s elections to make these commitments part of their platform by signing up to receive “The Brief” at [www.CCPatWar.com](http://www.CCPatWar.com).

[Used with permission from AAMC (The Association of Mature American Citizens) Magazine - September/October 2022 issue. <http://digitaledition.qwinc.com/publication/?m=40499&i=763841&p=26&ver=html5>]

**A Note from Bill Johnson:** Frank Gaffney is uniquely prepared for such a time as this. In recent months, he has energized and informed untold numbers through his weekly webcast entitled “Committee on the Present Danger China” featuring highly engaged former civil servants from the military, the FBI, ambassadors, Congressman, Senators and, I might add a number of them Christians.

At American Decency, I rarely give up newsletter space to others; I do so here because of what we at ADA recognize as the urgency of the hour for our supporters to take to heart the urgencies expressed by Frank Gaffney. Without God’s grace and mercy and the humble labors of untold numbers of people, our country and its future as the “land of the free and the home of the brave” is in peril.

**American Decency Frontline**  
**Vol. XXXVI, Issue X**  
**Published monthly by**  
**American Decency Association**

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## Possibilities of Persecution HERE

By Steve Huston



When I was growing up, and until recent years, most Americans likely took Paul's words in 2 Timothy 3:12 as little more than a commentary on a different time or meant for distant places. Yet, **the Word of God is ever-contemporary** and "...all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution" has always been a way of life for the firm believer. Persecution may have looked different in a land that was founded on godly principles by men who trusted in the Word of God. However, as that government leaves the Constitutional guarantor of religious freedom and as society debases itself through absolute liberty, persecution becomes an American reality and, barring the intervening Hand of Providence, we must "think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you." (1 Pe. 4:12)

In 2014, I wrote a piece entitled, *Becoming PC*. It began, "What happens when 'PC' stands for Persecuting Christians rather than Politically Correct? Both the President of the United States and its Secretary of State (John Kerry) have done much to promote the homosexual agenda while, by and large, ignoring the persecution of Christians;" closing with this warning, "As a nation, we once looked at homosexuality as unacceptable behavior; now, those who promote homosexuality look at Christians as unacceptable. Now we're called a type of 'child-abuser' for teaching our children biblical truth. America has left her moorings and has set sail on a dangerous journey which will be to our own demise unless we return to that harbor which we once held dear—freedom under God."

Since embarking on that dangerous journey we've traveled far and wide, all but leaving that "shining city on a hill" in the wake of mist and fog of better days and, in many

ways, safer ones.

In 2015, American Decency held *The Rising Tide: Persecution in America* conference, where local pastors "encouraged those in attendance to count the cost of discipleship and reminded us that ... we serve a powerful God who allows things to happen that His purpose might be fulfilled, that His plan would be unfolded exactly as designed. Persecution is not something to be feared but rather rejoiced in, knowing that nothing happens to you except by the allowance of God."

In last month's newsletter we warned about the "othering" of conservative and Christian America, which if left unchecked will naturally lead to unabashed persecution. In a recent webinar entitled *The Demonization of America's Christians* we are warned: "This 'othering' of America's Christians is of grave concern to Save the Persecuted Christians. In too many countries worldwide, we have seen how the marginalization, discrimination, and harassment of people of faith eventually leads to violent persecution. **When Christians, and other believers, are pushed from the public square, they become vulnerable to persecution—and that is precisely what is happening in America.**" I urge you to visit and view this timely warning.

Although the prospects are frightening, these things are not shared to scare anyone; it's done in love so that each of us might prepare for that which God, in His divine purposes, might allow to come our way. As Americans, we have a duty to use our constitutional rights in standing against evil for the glory of God; and as Christians (citizens of a much higher Kingdom), we are called to remember that our battle is a spiritual one, against spiritual wickedness in high places, and that our weapons and protections are not carnal but spiritual (Eph. 6:10-20, 2 Cor. 10:3-6).

**How can we best get ready for that which seems inevitable?**

**Prepare your family for difficult times** by memorizing scripture, singing hymns, praying together, and reading the inspiring

stories of martyrs, missionaries, and heroes of the faith who have gone before us ([Foxy's Book of Martyrs](#), Faith Cook's [Singing in the Fire](#) or [Sound of Trumpets](#)). **Share the gospel** with someone. There are many who are concerned about the uncertainty of America's future, help them to become certain of their eternal future. **Develop a heart of constant praise.** This is a great spiritual weapon and a witness to a watching world. In response to persecution Jesus tells us to "Rejoice and be exceeding glad." **Pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters** around the world. **Memorize and learn how to deal with persecution from Peter's own hand:** "But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf. For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?" (1 Pe. 4:13-17)

**Finally, invite family and friends** to watch Andrew Brunson's Prepare to Stand video series with you and have discussions afterward. (These are found on YouTube.) Here are the titles and length of each session:

**Session 1:** Recognizing the Danger (18 min)

**Session 2:** Overcoming Fear (15:05 min)

**Session 3:** Guarding Against the Offended Heart (17:58 min)

**Session 4:** Pursuing God's Heart (16:14 min)

**Session 5:** Building Perseverance (17:31 min)

**Session 6:** Avoiding Deception (17:20 min)

**Session 7:** Some Benefits of Persecution (19:56 min)

**Session 8:** A conversation between Andrew and Norine (45:54 min)

# Our Culture Needs to Take a Good Look in the Mirror

By Chris Johnson



*“A man... is the image and glory of God, but woman is the glory of man.” 1 Corinthians 11:7*

A glance at the cultural barometer that is celebrity culture reveals a decided lack of pressure for a woman to be “glorious.” Instead, the feature most valued in women in our day is confidence. And while being glorious in a godly sense - being what God made you to be to the best of your ability - does produce confidence, our culture prefers to affect confidence without the glory, often by wearing ridiculous things shamelessly.

The most obvious example is the current pop icon, Lizzo – a very large woman who prides herself on wearing very small clothes and crooning ballads such as: *“That’s my girl, we CEO’s And dancin’ like a C-E-ho”* and much more such poetry that cannot be reprinted here. Her schtick is “body positivity,” or the conviction that being an unhealthy weight is, in itself, something to glory in.

Somehow, I think that is not what Paul had in mind. What is considered fashionable today is in fact a conscious (by the trendsetters, anyway) rejection of traditional beauty. This is the reason for the popularity of the clown colored hair dyes, the androgynous fashion, the ubiquitous athletic wear, the “body positivity,” the purposeful uglification of the glory of the image of God in mankind.

This is not an argument for trophy wifehood. That, in itself, is often a marring of the image of God – a washing of the outside of the cup, with indifference towards the state of the inside.

But, Paul says, to be a woman is to be the glory of the glory of God – the crown of the crown of creation. That is a high calling and

a high honor! Yet, as we can see, it is a calling and honor which is for the most part being rejected in modern secular society. And the examples are not all as offensive as Lizzo. We could look at the characters offered up as heroes to little girls in the past few years: Black Widow, She-Hulk, the Woman King, even Amazon’s iteration of Galadriel. Think of some of the slogans you might have seen featured on little girls’ graphic tees in recent years. No “sugar and spice and everything nice,” but “Fierce;” “Grrrl Power;” “Girls Run the World.”

Each example on its own is no big deal. But together it is incontrovertible evidence of a spirit of the age that seeks to amplify traditionally masculine traits like competitiveness and ferocity in women and girls, while devaluing traditionally feminine traits like gentleness, empathy, and hospitality.

Meanwhile, what does the spirit of the age have in mind for men? Ulta Beauty Supply provides an answer in their social media campaign featuring transgender influencer Dylan Mulvaney – a male, self-styled woman, made up as a woman, dressed as a woman, clearly well studied on the aesthetics of traditional femininity and being interviewed on his experience as a woman. This guy knows his “sugar, spice, and everything nice!” And the result is... disturbing.

Mulvaney’s persona is an exaggerated performance of feminine innocence, as if he were impersonating Shirley Temple or Judy Garland. Yet, his wide chin - caked in makeup - gives him away in spite of the silly, girlish smile he’s doubtless spent much time in the mirror perfecting.

What the world has considered adorable in the roles of these ladies becomes something different as this man channels their memories, exclaiming *“I want to be a mom one day—and I ABSOLUTELY can.”*

Meanwhile, on Mulvaney’s TikTok channel, one video features him opening tampons. “I’ve been carrying around tampons and pads for the past two months but I’ve never actually opened one up, so let’s do it. Woohoo!”

As if this is not enough, the one interviewing Mulvaney for Ulta is David Lopez: a large longhaired, bearded, made-up man wearing tight women’s jeans and a crop top – a cross between a biker and a Barbie.

This is what our culture has in mind for men. These are the most extreme examples - for now - but you can also find front pages of fashion magazines and online write-ups gushing over the rising popularity of skirts and gowns as formal wear for men – and not just drag queens and transgenders, but normal men.

The only time traditional gender roles seem to be popular is when they are being adopted by the *opposite* gender. Or, to put it another way, when they are rejecting God’s purpose for His creation: masculine men and feminine women, reflecting the glory of their design.

Abigail Dodds is an author and blogger for the Council for Biblical Manhood and Womanhood. At CBMW, she writes this in a piece titled *“5 Truths for Our Daughters:”*

*“Accept the external beauty God’s given you as part of his particular design for you. Give thanks and move on, realizing that it is not the substance of your personhood, but simply a gift. Do not waste your time wishing you were other than you are and dishonoring your Maker. God made you and he made you beautifully so that he could give us a picture of what he wants our souls to be like. He wants you to cultivate a beautiful spirit. Spend your time on this, not looking in the mirror. There is only one mirror that will show you yourself: it’s the Word of God.”*

Neither Dylan Mulvaney, nor Lizzo, nor those under similar enchantments will ever look into that Mirror and see what they hope for. Unless, of course, what they hope for is conformed to the Reality of God’s Word.

This is, in fact, the only hope for our whole culture: being *“transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”* Romans 12:2 May it be.

# Covenant Children or Community Property?

By Lisa Van Houten



Do your children belong to you or the state? The answer seems obvious – children are gifts from the Lord and parents are given the authority and the responsibility to guide and protect them. But to many on the Left, children are seen as community property, and they’re determined to capture their hearts and minds. To separate children from the influence of parents, progressives are striving to undermine parental rights.

For example, in Michigan voters are facing Proposal 3, a ballot initiative that would allow minor children to obtain abortions, as well as cross-sex hormones and gender transition surgeries without parental knowledge or consent. If Proposal 3 passes, children will be able to obtain puberty blocker drugs from one of Planned Parenthood’s twelve so-called “gender affirming” facilities in Michigan, while keeping parents in the dark. Planned Parenthood of Michigan says it will also soon be offering “gender affirming care” via telehealth so children in Michigan would be able to receive chemical castration drugs from the comfort of their own bedroom and parents wouldn’t be any the wiser. Proposal 3 will strip parents of their rights and responsibility to make medical decisions for their children, and instead empowers LGBT-driven teachers and counselors to convince kids to pursue transgender “treatment.”

In Virginia, Democrat Elizabeth Guzman recently stated she would be submitting a bill to the House of Delegates which would “expand the state’s definition of child abuse and neglect to include parents who do not affirm their child’s gender identity or sexual orientation.” When asked about the possible penalties parents would face, Guzman stated: *“It could be a felony, it could be a misdemeanor. ... We know that CPS (Child Protective Services) charge could harm*

*your employment.”* In other words, parents would be criminally prosecuted for protecting their children from the LGBT indoctrination that is convincing thousands of kids to join the transgender craze. Under this bill the government could take away your children, your job, and put you in prison for refusing to call your child by their “preferred pronoun.” Thankfully, her fellow Democrats did not want to defend this bill right before the midterm elections, so Guzman withdrew it– for now. But do you really think this issue is going away? Numerous parents have already lost custody for resisting their child’s transgender delusion.

Another example of the assault on parental rights occurred in California, the trendsetter for radical ideologies which often spread to other states. Gov. Gavin Newsom recently signed a law making California a “sanctuary state” for minors who want to receive what they describe as “gender-affirming care” without parental permission. This law would actually grant California courts custody of children from other states, if their parents refuse to allow them to seek transgender “treatments.” As attorneys for Alliance Defending Freedom explains: *“California courts will have the power to strip custody from parents, wherever they live, who doubt the wisdom of these experimental and irreversible procedures — if their child so much as steps foot in California. It would also allow California doctors to treat minors still in other states. With the advent of telehealth, a child could get a prescription for hormones from a California doctor while at home in Arkansas or in Florida.”*

Then there’s the letter that the American Medical Association (AMA), The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the Children’s Hospital Association (CHA) sent to Attorney General, Merrick Garland, asking him to sic the Department of Justice on anyone who openly opposes the chemical castration and genital mutilation of minors. Just as the DOJ threatened parents who spoke out at school board meetings, the AMA, AAP, and the CHA want Garland to *“take swift action to investigate and prosecute all organizations, individuals, and entities”* who spread *“misleading infor-*

*mation targeting individual physicians and hospitals”* regarding the abuse these “healers” are inflicting on children, in order to advance an ideology and make big bucks by prescribing sterilizing drugs and performing surgeries to permanently mutilate the bodies of teens who can’t comprehend the ramifications.

The letter from these medical organizations to the Attorney General also claimed that “high-profile users on social media” are spreading “disinformation” when they expose what these hospitals are doing to kids. What is blatantly clear is that these medical professionals are the ones spreading disinformation – convincing kids of the lie that boys can become girls and vice versa; they are the science deniers. The letter also stated: *“Our organizations have called on technology companies to do more to prevent this practice on digital platforms, and we now urge your office to take swift action to investigate and prosecute all organizations, individuals, and entities responsible.”* In case you didn’t notice, that’s people like you and me. The DOJ is urged to prosecute anyone who speaks out against transgender ideology.

At the heart of each of these examples is the underlying goal to undermine the institution of the family. It’s Marxism 101 – separate children from the moral influence of their parents and indoctrinate them with a godless worldview. Horace Mann, a major force in advancing secular public schools in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, wrote: *“We who are engaged in the sacred cause of education are entitled to look upon all parents as having given hostages to our cause.”*

The Left wants to indoctrinate your children; you are called to inculcate them in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Deut. 6:1-7; Prov. 22:6; Eph. 6:4). God commands children to honor and obey their parents, for in that way they learn to honor and submit to the authority of their Heavenly Father; while secularists rebel against God and His authority and strive to teach children to do the same. **Why would we allow those who hate everything we believe in to have any influence over our children?**

## Sitting on the Edge, Trusting in the Lord

By Kimberly Cargill



I recently had the great opportunity to attend a ladies retreat. It was a great time listening to a speaker, worshipping the Lord in singing, spending time in fellowship with other ladies, and enjoying nature. One of the activities that we could do in the afternoon was zip lining. Our group wanted to do it and it looked fun, but I am scared of heights so I was going to push myself with this challenge.

When I got to the course with the other ladies, I kept telling myself that I can do this – it’s no big deal. We all proceeded to get harnessed up and then it was my turn to climb the stairs to get to the area. As I started to climb, I could feel the anxiety rise in me. I could feel it was getting harder to breathe. So, I slowed down my pace and kept taking deep breaths. I kept saying “My God is bigger and My God is stronger” over and over in my head. My head knew that I would enjoy it but I was starting to doubt myself.

When I reached the top with another lady from our group, she looked at me knowing that I was scared. She reassured me that I could do this. I knew that I could but it was frightening. I had actually gone zip lining a couple of times before at other locations, however those times I could just walk off the ledge and start, but this time I had to sit down on the ledge and lean forward and fall.

As I sat there on the edge, many thoughts ran through my head – “What am I doing?”, “Can I do this?”, “My God is bigger and My God is stronger” and “I am in God’s hands – He has me.” In our previous message, we had just talked about if we really trust God with our mind and our heart. I finally had to release my fears and let go. So after sitting there for what seemed like forever, I did it.

At one point I asked the instructor if she could just give me a little push, but she said she couldn’t. Afterwards, I thought about that. It is just like our walk with God. We may be on the verge of a major decision and we are anxious because it is outside of our comfort zone. It would be easier if God would just give us a nudge, but God wants us to take that step of faith. He wants us to give him our fears of falling and trust Him that He will catch us.

I am not saying it is easy and Satan uses our insecurities, but we need to remember that God is bigger and stronger than any insecurity that we may have. We have given Him our hearts, but have we given Him our minds? Do we really surrender all?

I am reminded of a couple of songs:

### “I Surrender All”

All to Jesus I surrender  
All to Him I freely give  
I will ever love and trust Him  
In His presence daily live

For people like me who like to control things, that is not an easy song to sing. Yes, I can sing the words, but to really mean it is another thing; yet, that is what God is asking us. Do we really surrender all and give it freely?

The other is “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to  
guide

### Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow

Blessings all mine with 10, 000 beside

Great is Thy faithfulness  
Great is Thy faithfulness

Morning by morning new mercies I see  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

I love the assurance that this song brings while I am battling these stressful/anxious moments. God’s love and faithfulness are GREAT. He gives us strength for what we are going through and hope for tomorrow.

## Praise Ye The Lord

By Steve Huston



Worship, or praise, of God is both a high duty and a beautiful privilege of all men, particularly those who are His children. Praise, like holiness, must begin within, filling our private worship of God, and then, overflowing into our public jubilations of praise and thanksgiving to God.

Praising God has less to do with “the right candidate” winning, a bounty of food on the table, or many of the things for which we give thanks, and more to do with who God is and what He has done. When a person who is “down on their luck” cries out, “What do I have to praise God for?” they are asking the wrong question. It’s not about us; it’s ALL about our Creator and letting others know about His greatness. “I will praise thee, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvellous works. I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High. When mine enemies are turned back, they shall fall and perish at thy presence. For thou hast maintained my right and my cause...” (Psalm 9:1-4)

Even in death praise should ring forth from our lips. Puritan John Janeway on his deathbed gave this cry: “Come, help me with praises, yet all is too little. Come, help me, all ye mighty and glorious angels, who are so well skilled in the heavenly work of praise! Praise him, all ye creatures upon earth; let everything that hath being help me to praise God. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Praise is now my work, and I shall be engaged in this sweet work now and for ever. Bring the Bible; turn to David’s Psalms, and let us sing a psalm of praise. Come, let us lift up our voices in the praises of the Most High. I will sing with you as long as my breath doth last, and when I have none, I shall do it better.”

Praise ye the LORD!