

Celebrating past 40 ... Forward by God's Grace!

By Bill Johnson



The grass withers the flower fades away but the word of our Lord endures forever. That is what we discover as we move forward in our lives. **Age:** I might as well call it what it is!

One of the blessings of the calling God has given to me in raising up this ministry has been the privilege of being asked to officiate a number of funerals over these years. I have been humbled by those requests and precious moments. It has largely been dear saints, rightfully called the greatest generation. These were people who served as the backbone of our ministry - assisting us month by month, year by year in assembling and mailing out our newsletter.

An 11 x 17 picture hangs on the wall of our office portraying our faithful volunteers of the past, nearly all of them now with the Lord. I often look at that picture and miss them but also rejoice that God brought them into our lives, assisting us through the various phases of our ministry - as we were once "Citizens Against Pornography (1985-1987), American Family Association of Michigan (1987-1999) to American Decency Association (1999-present). Our name has changed, but our calling has not.

The past: The work that was rendered was plenteous and full with the every day evidences of God's grace and mercy that included major victories - driving Stern off from terrestrial radio; passing obscenity

legislation; impacting Abercrombie & Fitch to discontinue the production and distribution of their pornographic catalog; hundreds of interviews via radio, television and newspaper; untold numbers of speaking opportunities primarily on the subject: *Holiness: God's desire for His people.*

I don't feel like I need to sell you on our July 11 event, but I do want to remind you that it is coming and it likely will be a filled event! My heart is warmed at the thought of seeing so many of you and sharing with you some of the ministry happenings that you have been a part of too, through your stand with us. See the enclosed response card or call us at 231-924-4050 to register.

The future: Our studio (pictured above) is a symbol of our launching into the future. One of my dearest friends, on hearing that we were going to be starting a podcast, jokingly said he knew of someone who could assist me with cosmetics (meaning my wrinkles and - yes, aging). And, then came the punch line: he mentioned a local funeral director. Ha,Ha,Ha. As I was writing this, a staff member left a message on my phone stating: "I appreciate you, now not meaning this to be a criticism, but at your age you are not afraid to jump in to new things-things that a lot of people your age couldn't do."

So what is podcasting? It is a version of interviewing - though much more casual and intimate. Chris has written an article on

page 8 for a much more thorough explanation. By the time that you receive this, it will finally have been released. I have recorded five episodes at this writing. The podcast is called "*Finally, A Decent Podcast.*" Most of these are over 60 minutes. It will have the capability to be on YouTube, Spotify, Facebook, Instagram, and Rumble as well as sent via email. It will enable us to deepen our communication to you more personally. Sidenote: We will still be sending email alerts and newsletters.

Some of our podcasts will be tear-producing, such as Pastor Gene Walter as he shares his conversion on a mountaintop in California; others touching, but with points of light-heartedness. Some will include the need for action, like that which we just completed with Jacky Eubanks, Field Operations Director of Michigan Fair Elections Institute.

We have not lost sight of the issue that anchored this ministry. The heart cry of this ministry was the conviction that pornography destroys. God has called us to expose the hellishness of pornography, a concern that will never end among us fallen people, and to faithfully and passionately remind God's people that we are to pursue holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord. Pray for God to light our hearts with that fire that we can be used regarding this often-neglected issue of national and individual significance.

Personal Note



Recently, I had the good pleasure of meeting with a young man, prayerfully considering whether to do an internship with us in the months ahead. The several hours of communication gave me the opportunity to discuss with a young man in his mid-twenties a variety of issues that are largely front and center, particularly with young men: specifically pornography.

Speaking very personally here, most of you reading this are aware that my calling emanates from my early twenties in the early 1970s when I was ensnared in the sin of pornography, but God's grace and mercy led me to victory over the slavery of pornography in my thought life and personal life. With those several years of struggle came the spiritual strengthening and love for Christ to fight the fight of faith and obtain victory. His love was clear and personal! That He saw fit to love me and forgive me and, by the Holy Spirit, show Himself to me in His love and truth as revealed in His Word. By His Spirit, the Lord wooed me into trusting and leaning upon Him as He revealed and imbedded His victory even unto me.

So, as I said in my conversations with the young college student, "*pornography is every man's battle.*" But, it doesn't have to be, and doesn't have to be because of Christ!

I know the details of the fight and the tangible nature of pornography. I say tangible as in something that you could see on paper, in magazines, pictures, in bookstores and convenient stores and video outlets renting a wide variety of movies, including R-Rated and even some PG-13 in which indecency and pornographic imagery and themes crept in.

In those years, there were ministries both

large and small organized around the country to educate, inform and address the wickedness of pornography wherever it was found. I was a part of what was called the DC group that met quarterly in Washington, DC at one of several ministry headquarters: Concerned Women for America, Family Research Council or the Heritage Foundation.

Our history in the fight in which we were strongly active and ever faithful spans from 1985 through at least 2005. And while we've continued to stand against pornography, it hasn't been to the degree of those years just named.

In the past there were a wide variety of ways to push back against pornography:

***Boycotting was very popular.** Boycott Blockbuster. Boycott Walden Book Stores. Boycott Abercrombie & Fitch, and the list goes on and on. Places were targeted for legitimate concerns, and as the word got out, often the targeted business changed direction.

***Speaking individually to store owners/managers** was also a way to push back against the encroachment of pornography.

***Pastors addressed the subject in their sermons.** As a part of their preaching ministries, there is abundance of scriptures whereby a pastor has Biblical authority to preach the Word against placing wicked things before your eyes and/or "be holy for I am holy, says the Lord" and so much more. It is part and parcel of the Christian faith.

***Meeting with your county prosecutor,** urging them to investigate and enforce the law against illegal pornography (obscenity) being sold in his/her jurisdiction.

***Working to pass strengthened state obscenity legislation.** We did that in our state of Michigan in 1991.

***Meeting with your U.S. Attorneys.** (Each state has two). I did this back in the day.

***File specific complaints with your county prosecutor** whether regarding an

adult book store or a particular X-rated video being rented at a video rental outlet.

All of the above are things that could be done, but are hardly even heard of in our day.

As I have stated many times in different circles, for then came the emergence of the internet and the cell phone with pornography just a click away! And, that dear friends, is what has stymied the anti-porn groups throughout our nation since nearly the turn of the century. I say this with great sadness and frustration.

With the advent of the cell phone, national organizations did discuss and attempt to find and implement a course of action to regulate pornography on the internet. I was in on some of those conversations. But, to no avail. Large corporations like America Online (AOL) and others had a far greater lobbying affect than a core of national pro-decency organizations.

So with the cell phone, people at first found it useful, and then entertaining and, yes, very entertaining, and then addictive - if not careful. And, at first we were careful not to put it into the hands of our young people until they are 18 or, well, maybe 16 but with filters of some kind, and then the further accommodation, and now cell phones for 9-year-olds and even younger. But, "nothing to see here," though. Right? Right? Or wrong.

And, so we hardly ever hear about pornography on the internet. Does that mean it's not there? Then why do we hear that even various polls of pastors show that a significant percentage of pastors indicate that they view pornography on a regular basis.

There needs to be a revisiting of the issue regarding pornography and its deleterious affect upon the American culture. The internet has resulted in a massive introduction of pornography and obscenity. And, while there is a lot of good brought by the internet, it has also led to a great deal of damage and addiction into the American family; the half has not been told. Much, much more could be said and needs to be said. It is an issue we will continue to fight.

Fight, Fight, Fight!

By Steve Huston



Those iconic words – “Fight! Fight! Fight!” – after the assassination attempt of Donald J. Trump in Butler, PA still ring in the ears of many Americans today. This, combined with the image of Trump’s blood-streaked face and fist pumps as he stared into his crowd of supporters, was not simply a rallying cry; it was a demand for steely determination, that he and his supporters were to continue on regardless the cost.

Since then, Donald J. Trump has become the 47th president of the United States. He and his administration have already done much good and conservatives are feeling a sense of relief now that the Biden regime has “left the House.” It’s a breath of fresh air as we’re moving toward transparency, common sense, government accountability, and the constitutional boundaries given us by our founding fathers to limit the government rather than limiting “We the People.”

While we’re grateful for President Trump and for all that he’s done, it’s obvious that we mustn’t let our guard down regardless the reprieve. Great numbers of leftists within our branches of government and amongst “We the People” show animosity for President Trump, conservatives, and the ideals which America was founded on and which made her great. We must be engaged in the battle for the hearts and minds of our young people and for the protection of our Constitution. “Fight! Fight! Fight!” must not just be an echo emanating from Butler, PA; it must be a call that resounds in the hearts and minds of Americans today wherever we live. There’s still much work to do. We mustn’t coast along during this season, expecting the president to do all the heavy lifting; we must join him and “**Fight! Fight! Fight!**” When we say those iconic words, **we’re talking about standing for righteousness** even if this administration becomes misled on some issue. Please pray that doesn’t happen. **We’re talking about**

standing for truth, regardless the personal cost; there’s almost always a cost. **We’re talking about a demand for justice.** Without it, it’s an invitation for further and greater injustices.

The battlefronts are many, but a major one which deals with righteousness, truth and a demand for justice is **election integrity**. The future of our nation is at stake and we cannot afford to assume that all will be alright during the midterms or 3 ½ years from now just because things went well last November. The need for paper ballots, cleaned up voter rolls, voter ID, and transparency are still needed. Thankfully there are good people who are still pushing for these and calling for justice on a mass scale.

Illegal immigration: Just prior to being shot, Trump declared: “We have millions and millions of people in our country that shouldn’t be here, dangerous people. Criminals, we have criminals. We have drug dealers.” Such is still the case thanks to activist judges.

Though Roe v Wade was repealed during President Trump’s first term, attacks against the **sanctity of life** continue to plague American society. Some states are actively restricting abortion; a few others are legislating that public school classes cover human growth, development, or sexuality, and must include ultrasound or animated footage that shows the development of a prenatal human. Other states have made abortion more accessible and with the advancements in IVF technology, embryos – image bearers of God – can be treated as commodities to be bought, sold, or discarded.

National sovereignty: Frank Gaffney recently warned: “*In less than a month, world government will be imposed on us indirectly, if not directly, thanks to a new pandemic treaty the World Health Organization finalized...and plans to adopt and make legally binding in mid-May – with profound implications for public health, personal freedoms and national sovereignty...*”

There are state governors, school officials, and organizations throughout our nation which continue to fight for the opportunity

for **males to hurt our daughters**, steal their scholarships and accomplishments, and invade their personal/private spaces. Although President Trump is standing to protect our girls, activist judges and others continue to push hard against common sense policies.

Though we must leave many of the battlefronts unnamed, I would be remiss if I didn’t remind our readers that **Christianity remains under attack**, even in our beloved America. Anti-Christian hatred is growing in strength and boldness. When our government deemed the church “nonessential” during COVID-19, the left became bolder in their verbal, legislative, and physical attacks. Even though COVID-19 is behind us, Curtis Bowers urges us to “*pray for Pastor Mike McClure and Calvary Chapel San Jose as they continue their 4-year court battle against the state declaring the church is non-essential.*”

Hostility against Christianity has already gained a foothold in our nation; it doesn’t go away simply because we have a president who promotes it on some or many levels. Presidents come and presidents go, but once a spiritual climate begins to wane and become established, it’s difficult to regain or even maintain the national spirituality we once knew – only by God’s grace.

How do we get in the fight? The left hasn’t given up, so we must watch and pray. Become informed and search out legislative actions to support or urge your congressmen to initiate bills on some issue that will protect America and its people. Stay abreast of what’s happening in our country and look for Biblical solutions.

We must “Fight! Fight! Fight!” but with a finger pointing heavenward, not a fist pump. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; let us work and help move the minds of men to sanity and reality. By God’s grace and our obedience, might we play our role in moving America to spiritual sensibility.

During this “reprieve,” let us learn how to stand, having done all to stand in the evil day and let us prepare ourselves and our nation, with truth, for the things yet to come.

Truth from the White House to a Nation that Needs It

By Lisa Van Houten



What a difference a year – and an election – makes! Last year, Joe Biden made a mockery of Christianity by celebrating “Transgender Day of Visibility” on Easter. One year later Trump’s White House released an Easter greeting laying out the salvation message more clearly than many wishy-washy churches do.

This Holy Week, Melania and I join in prayer with Christians celebrating the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ—the living Son of God who conquered death, freed us from sin, and unlocked the gates of Heaven for all of humanity. ...

Through His suffering, we have redemption. Through His death, we are forgiven of our sins. Through His Resurrection, we have hope of eternal life. On Easter morning, the stone is rolled away, the tomb is empty, and light prevails over darkness—signaling that death does not have the final word. ...

This week, we pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our beloved Nation. We pray that America will remain a beacon of faith, hope, and freedom for the entire world, and we pray to achieve a future that reflects the truth, beauty, and goodness of Christ’s eternal kingdom in Heaven. ...

This presidential message doesn’t refer to God in some vague, “unoffensive” way as past presidents have done. Rather, it unashamedly lays out the gospel message – Christ’s atoning sacrifice, paying the penalty for our sins; the conquering of death through His resurrection; and the promise of eternal life. One theological bone I will pick with the Easter message above is that the gates of Heaven are not unlocked for all of humanity, but only for those who believe and confess Christ as Lord. (Romans 10:9-

10). As Jesus said: ***“I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live.”*** (John 11:25) Every person is called to repent and believe.

It seems unlikely that President Trump wrote this message himself. And it’s unclear if President Trump has truly repented and put his faith in Christ – I pray that if he hasn’t, he will do so. Yet how encouraging that he welcomes prayer in cabinet meetings and is surrounded by Christians who bring their faith into his administration. As it says in Philippians 1:15-18, ***“...whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.”*** Trump did post a similar Easter greeting on his Truth Social page, proclaiming, HE IS RISEN! and adding: *“America is a Nation of Believers. We need God, we want God and, with His help, we will make our Nation Stronger, Safer, Greater, more Prosperous, and more United than ever before.”*

Yet, are we truly a nation of believers? It’s obvious that the number of Americans who identify as Christians has been steadily declining. In 2007, 78% of adults said they were Christian, yet by 2023 that number had dropped to just 62%. In addition, Americans who don’t identify with any religion—referred to as “nones”—went from 16% in 2007 up to 29% by 2024. It’s also important to note that “identifying” as a Christian, does not necessarily equate to actual faith.

In addition, a massive Pew Research study revealed that “a fifth or more of all adults have left the religious group in which they were raised” and that Christianity had “the largest net losses.” This should be a wakeup call to Christian parents and churches who are failing to disciple their children.

These same young people are ripe for harvest. In the annual World Happiness Report the U.S. dropped out of the top 20 happiest countries and, as the report added, *“if you were only to assess those below 30, the U.S. wouldn’t even rank in the top 60 happiest countries.”* The report added this tragic information, ***“nearly one in five young adults in the U.S. said they had no one they could count on for support.”*** Coinciding with the

drop in Christianity, levels of anxiety and depression among Americans have dramatically risen.

Yet the news is not all bleak; Matthew 16:18 promises that Christ IS building His Church and there are hopeful signs that perhaps America is on the cusp of a spiritual awakening.

The most recent Pew Research study, which has shown the decline of Christianity in America over the last two decades, now shows that decline has leveled off. Even more encouraging is the growth of interest in God’s Word – from increased Bible sales to the use of Bible/religious apps. The app Bible Chat has been downloaded 7 million times since 2023 and on the first Sunday of January this year, almost 800,000 new users installed the Bible app YouVersion, with 18.2 million people opening the app that same day. There is also encouraging evidence of thousands of young people responding to the gospel on college campuses, including Ohio State, Purdue, and West Virginia University. In addition, the Barna Group has released data showing a rise in faith among those in their twenties and thirties – especially young men. Barna also shows that more than half of teenagers are “very motivated” to know more about Jesus, with an additional 25% at least somewhat motivated.

There are millions in our nation who are hungering for hope, for meaning, for truth – and we have what they are ultimately longing for: Jesus Christ. May we be emboldened to share Christ with those around us and heed the call to ***“pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our beloved Nation”*** – that we truly would become a nation of believers.

American Decency Frontline
Vol. XXXIX, Issue V
Published monthly by
American Decency Association

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A Picture Worth a Thousand Megawatts

By Chris Johnson



Last month, the governor of the great state of Michigan was the subject of one of the most memorable photographs to come out of the oval office under this president: Gretchen Whitmer in President Trump's office shielding her face from the camera with a file folder, like a child hiding under a blanket.

Whitmer apparently did not want to be seen working with the arch-villain of her supporters, the "45" apparently referenced in the cryptic ornament which can be seen on her desk in yet another awkward appearance before the camera lens which reads "86/45" – "86ing" something meaning to remove an item from service, by one interpretation, or to bury it by another and Trump being the 45th president.

Yet, Whitmer's reason for being in the Oval Office that day received much less attention than her awkward photo, although it was likely the reason for her extreme embarrassment.

Whitmer's selling point when she convinced the people of Michigan to vote for her was to focus on repairing our state's aging infrastructure, particularly to "fix the d*** roads," as you may remember.

Yet, as per my last road trip, crossing the state line into Michigan is still a jarring experience, if you catch my meaning. As MLive puts it, "*Fast forward to late 2024, Michigan's d*** roads still aren't fixed to national standards and they're not on pace to meet that 90% good-and-fair-condition target in the next five years.*"

It's fair to say that Gretchen's attention has been elsewhere. Namely, converting Michigan to 100% "renewable" energy by 2040. To give an idea of how far we are from reaching that goal, only 11% of Michigan's power was from "green" energy in 2023. So, Michigan has to faze out 89% of our

energy production power in the next 15 years while covering the landscape with solar panels and wind turbines.

For example, residents of Gaylord township were recently unpleasantly surprised to find that Michigan DNR had made plans to clear state woodlands near Gaylord to allow a private firm to install 420 acres of solar panels. The company now says they will not use state land, but plans to continue development of a 1,000-acre solar farm on private land. Michigan farmers have also been frustrated as owners of valuable farmland are incentivized to sell to green energy companies rather than other ag-businesses.

Meanwhile, a functioning coal-burning power plant in Ottawa County is scheduled to be taken offline in the weeks ahead and is planned for demolition. Consumer's Energy confirmed that this closure is part of its push for "clean" energy production.

Also meanwhile, Democrats in power in Michigan and around the country are pushing citizens to convert to electric cars and appliances which will only place a greater load on the electrical grid, not to mention the massive expected demands of Artificial Intelligence.

The Mackinac Center recently shared a report released by the North American Electricity Reliability Corporation which states that, "*Most of America and Canada are at elevated risk of blackouts and power outages in the next five to 10 years... 'The 2024 Long-Term Reliability Assessment addresses the key problem for the grid: We plan to increase electricity demand while relying on energy sources that are woefully inadequate.'*"

It continues: "*The NERC report explains that despite the attempt to replace coal with solar panels and battery backup, 'the performance of these replacement resources is more variable and weather-dependent than the generators they are replacing. As a result, less overall capacity (dispatchable capacity in particular) is being added to the system than what was projected and needed to meet future demand.'*"

The director of energy and environmental policy at the Mackinac Center, Jason Hayes,

put it this way: "*There's no doubt that people would quickly experience increased costs and widespread grid instability as a result of a wind, solar, and battery backup-based electric grid.*"

While Whitmer has, in the past, cited low energy costs as one of the goals of her administration's energy policy - "*Michigan is committed to leading the future of clean energy so we can drive down utility costs for families...*" - Michigan ranks 38th out of the 50 states for energy costs, and Consumer's Energy just last month sought and received permission from the state to raise rates again.

And while we are among the more expensive states for energy costs, Michigan is also a leading state for power outages. In fact, at the beginning of last month, 300,000 Michigan residents found themselves without power in the aftermath of an ice storm and several tornadoes, due to damaged transformers and power lines. Days later, 70,000 still had no power as Michigan weather fluctuated between winter and spring.

While Michigan's power companies invest billions in transforming our energy *sources* at the urging of Gretchen Whitmer, residents have been calling for money to be spent on the lines themselves being buried, which would make them far less vulnerable to the many such assaults of nature which Michigan's powerlines endure.

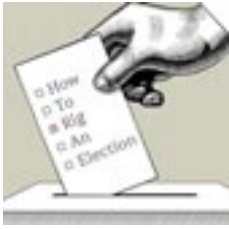
That brings us to why Whitmer was in at the White House hiding behind a file folder.

Whitmer was in Trump's office to ask him to issue an emergency declaration on behalf of the northern counties where thousands continued without power for weeks as roads were cleared and lines repaired. This would provide the affected area with millions of dollars of funding for recovery efforts.

Power outage is a sore subject for Gretchen Whitmer as it shines a spotlight on her misplaced priorities, and more so when she has to seek President Trump's help in dealing with it. But, the longer we continue down Whitmer's road lined with windmills and solar panels, the more painful a subject it is likely to be for all of us.

A Battle Over Ballots

By Lisa Van Houten



Our nation's electoral system is established on the principle of one person, one vote. Voters select one candidate and the candidate with the most votes wins – simple as that. However, **ranked-choice voting (RCV)** – a scheme pushed mainly by left-wing groups to undermine conservative candidates – would turn our election process into a confusing and unfair mess. And this ploy could be coming to Michigan.

With RCV, instead of just voting for their favorite candidate, voters must vote for all the candidates on the ballot – no matter which party they're in - ranking every candidate in order of preference. This requires the voter to cast a vote for candidates whose policy positions violate the voter's convictions, such as being forced to check a box for a pro-abortion candidate. If a voter fails to rank/vote for every candidate, the ballot is not counted and that voter is then disenfranchised. For example, in Alaska, which implemented rank-choice voting in 2020, more than 11,000 ballots were tossed out in a recent congressional election because those 11,000 voters voted for only one candidate.

With RCV, it's not simply the candidate with the most votes who wins. Instead, the winner must receive over 50% of the vote. In our current deeply-divided political climate, and with the addition of numerous third-party candidates, that percentage can be difficult to reach. If no candidate receives over 50% first-choice votes, the candidate with the fewest number of votes is eliminated. Then, the voters who chose the last-place candidate as their first preference, have their second-choice votes on the ballot counted and assigned to those candidates. In essence, this allows these voters to vote twice. This continues until one candidate gets over 50% of the vote. Under ranked-choice voting, a candidate who receives the most first-choice votes can, and often does, lose the election.

Confused yet? Here's a hypothetical example to hopefully help you understand. Let's say in a Senate race there are three candidates running for the seat – a Republican, a Democrat, and an independent. Under RCV, voters are required to vote for all three, ranking them in order preference – their first, second, and third choice. When ballots are counted, the Republican receives 47% of the first-choice vote, the Democrat 43%, and the independent 10%. With none reaching the required 50%, the independent candidate is eliminated and just the voters who selected the independent as their first choice would have their ballots counted again, assigning their second-choice votes to the candidate they ranked second. If most of those independent voters chose the Democrat as their second choice, it would push the Democrat candidate over 50%, given the seat to the Democrat candidate, even though the Republican received more first-choice votes. **With RCV, winners lose and losers win – while voters are left confused and frustrated.**

With numerous rounds of ballot counting, it often takes weeks, if not months, to get results. In addition, with a longer and more complicated ballot, RCV creates long lines at the polls. Ranked-choice voting is aptly referred to as “rigged-choice voting,” since wherever it's used it benefits mostly Democrats and thwarts conservative candidates. It's also not surprising that leftist groups, such as those backed by George Soros, are funding efforts to push RCV. Thankfully, 15 states have prohibited RCV, while only two have implemented it – Alaska and Maine. However, Michigan could be the third, if a group seeking to enshrine RCV in Michigan's constitution is successful.

The group, called Rank MI Vote, aims to collect enough signatures needed to put RCV on Michigan's ballot in 2026 which, if passed, would amend the state constitution establishing ranked-choice voting in Michigan. Once an amendment is added to the constitution, it's nearly impossible to reverse. For pro-life Michiganders, that wound is still fresh from 2022 when massive amounts of out-of-state money from leftist groups poured into the state, funding an overwhelming glut of misleading ads which successfully swayed a majority of

voters to pass the radical pro-abortion Proposal 3, tragically enshrining unlimited abortion into our state constitution. We can expect the same thing to happen if Rank MI Vote is successful in obtaining the roughly 450,000 valid signatures needed to put RCV on Michigan's ballot. Rank MI Vote has yet to submit its ballot proposal language to the Board of State Canvassers for approval, but it can be assumed that – just as with Proposal 3 – they'll strive to make the language as deceptive as possible.

Rank MI Vote says they expect the ballot language to be approved and the group has already recruited more than 2,000 volunteers to begin collecting signatures by the end of May. Michigan residents beware: RCV proponents will be out in droves this summer seeking your signature to advance RCV in Michigan.

Yet while ranked-choice voting would undermine our elections, another group is seeking to restore election integrity in Michigan. **The Committee to Protect Voters' Rights (operating under the name: *Prove It, Michigan*) is also seeking signatures for a Michigan ballot proposal which, if passed, would require voter ID for both in-person and absentee voting in Michigan and would also require those registering to vote for the first time to show proof of citizenship.** These common-sense stipulations are overwhelmingly popular: polls show that 77% of Americans support requiring a photo ID to vote and 83% are in favor of requiring proof of citizenship when registering to vote. Thanks to Trump's DOGE team, we've learned that illegal aliens are not only registered to vote, but many have voted. Even Michigan's Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson was forced to admit that noncitizens voted in Michigan's last election. Prove It, Michigan has already received approval for their ballot proposal language, but now faced the same task of obtaining 450,000 signatures withing the next six months.

Michigan voters may face two very different election ballot proposals in 2026. One would undermine our elections through ranked-choice voting and the other would restore election integrity. The choice is yours, my fellow Michiganders.

The Battle for Your Brain

By Steve Huston



Star Trek's Captain Kirk of the starship *Enterprise* would have us to believe that outer space is the final frontier, yet terms like Artificial Intelligence (AI), Technocracy, Transhumanism, Biosurveillance, Cognitive Warfare (and a host of others) tell us that the "space" between our ears which houses the greatest "computer" ever – created by the one true God – our brain, is the "final frontier," which men are exploring and attempting to control. While the terms above sound scary and hard to comprehend, it's even scarier when we understand that the battle for your brain has been taking place for the last 125 years, with "research into the human psyche...weaponized by Machiavelian manipulators and secret schemers whose intent is to socially engineer the masses." (*Your Brain Is the Next Battlespace* – The Corbett Report)

Though *Star Trek* belongs to the genre of science fiction, many of the topics the series dealt with are the very hopes and aspirations of the Technocrat – an adherent or a proponent of technocracy. Some may then wonder, what is technocracy? According to Wikipedia: "*Technocracy is a form of government in which the decision-makers are selected based on their expertise in a given area of responsibility, particularly with regard to scientific or technical knowledge. Technocracy follows largely in the tradition of other meritocratic theories and assumes full state control over political and economic issues. This system explicitly contrasts with representative democracy...*"

Cognitive warfare/manipulation, transference of consciousness, implanted memories or skills are only a few of the topics I was referring to above. Sadly, it was often the hedonistic lusts of the flesh and strong, violent emotions which allowed the *Enterprise's* characters to overcome their technocratic attackers. Might we overcome by thoughtful consideration of what we

allow, wisely recognizing that easier is not always better, and trusting God to be the giver – and taker – of life.

If you want to stay informed about the things covered in this article and more – including the truth behind these trends, which are never as humanitarian or altruistic as they appear – follow Patrick Wood at www.technocracy.news and Frank Gaffney's www.presentdangerchina.org. Frank's most recent all AI webinar was 1-29-2025.

As stated above, the battle for the brain has been ongoing for a long, long time. Many are familiar with Pavlov's conditioning experiments regarding dogs and salivation, but most are not aware that he continued those experiments on orphans he grabbed from the streets. There's a long list of those who have followed in Pavlov's footsteps into the present day. "The technology to rewire the brain – quite literally – is already being tested and deployed." (The Corbett Report)

Connie Elliott is an expert on technology, social media platforms, and government regulation; she spoke on "Artificial Intelligence: The Chinese Communist Party: Insights into the Weaponization of A.I." during Gaffney's webinar mentioned above. She shared how social media companies have studied human brain responses and found how to manipulate its users to spend more time on their sites and what generates the most clicks. As we've stated many times in other articles, what we feed our minds affects our minds. Much manipulation comes through our emotional state. Research has found that people will most often "click through on rage" and "buy to relieve fear." Such knowledge is used for cognitive manipulation and is even politicized to manipulate voting.

Let me interject here that we, particularly those who are Christians, would be better off to be ruled by peace and love, than anger. It would behoove us to be conformed to the image of Christ and not be conformed to this world and to set our affection on things above, not on the things of this earth.

Near the end of the webinar, Connie continues: "*A lot of Silicon Valley views death*

as a waste. Everything that we learn, our personality, everything we understand hits a stop state in that moment of death. And we're back to a very ancient quest of how to defeat death or to prolong life... Can we use our understanding of the physical sciences in order to prolong our consciousness or to create clones of our consciousness in memory so that they're not lost to the world."

For the believer, death is not "a waste;" it's a doorway to eternal glory, to be in the presence of our Lord, our Saviour, our Bridegroom! We need not fear death as the technocrat does; how can you threaten the believer with heaven?

Patrick Wood, in introducing an article by The Free Thought Project, states: "*The Biosurveillance industry is rapidly drilling through your body to get to the apex of your existence: your brain. This is the final frontier for Technocrats to read your thoughts, edit them, replace them, and erase them. This is not the future – it's now!*"

This lengthy article which shows how *Big Tech Has Big Plans On How To Read Your Mind* ushers us through the Internet of Bodies, which uses biosensors, connected to the internet, to (supposedly) better your physical and emotional health. They're actually collecting data from your mind and body through microchips, wearable health trackers, using mental and emotional sensors designed to detect how you're feeling by analyzing your expression and voice.

The article concludes by discussing Apple specifically and its biosensors that "*could play a role in developing a brain-computer interface, or a computer controlled by your brain. They could also play a part in visualizing your thoughts.*"

Regardless the trendiness of these consumer devices passed off as a means to better health, take heed of "how biosurveillance could lead to government surveillance of our minds and bodies." Let us remember that we are fearfully and wonderfully made and that God has given us the "most powerful biocomputer ever created." May we rely on that and our Creator instead of man and his "improvements."

Finally: a Decent Podcast

By Chris Johnson



Since the first of the year, we've been teasing our upcoming podcast, hosted by ADA president Bill Johnson.

As we thought about what to call this new project, we were looking for something that would grab potential listeners' attention, communicate something about the subject matter, and relate the podcast to our organization in the name.

We are excited to announce the launch of *Finally: a Decent Podcast*!

We've shot the first five episodes as of this writing – the podcast will be available in video and audio formats for people to watch or listen to – and as the man behind the camera, I can tell you that *Finally: a Decent Podcast* features some every day, decent people. Every day, decent people whom God has used to do amazing things!

Our first episode features one of our friends and board members – Pastor Gene Walter. Gene shares his testimony of his time in Vietnam, how he met his wife, and how God worked through the challenges in his life to prepare Gene to accept Him as Lord and Savior. Throughout the interview, Gene's humility shines as an example you can't help but be inspired by.

Upcoming episodes will include a young election integrity activist with Michigan Fair Elections, Jacky Eubanks. She shares her experiences as a poll worker in the 2020 election and as a congressional aide in Washington, D.C.

We also have an interview with James Simpson, the author of [Manufactured Crisis: The War to End America](#). James discusses the Marxist roots of the culture war our organization has been on the frontlines of since the late '80s.

One of our good friends from those "good old days" is another of our guests. Kenny

Williams is a backwoods Missouri man with an excavating business. Yet, he's the one God tapped on the shoulder to keep adult bookstores and strip shows out of his rural community.

The last interview we have recorded so far is with a new friend. Chad Sutton's testimony of God's relentless pursuit of his whole-hearted service grasps your attention in this interview – through addiction, divorce, and other struggles, God didn't quit on Chad until He had his whole heart.

When we came up with the name for the podcast, *Finally: a Decent Podcast*, we meant it as a play on words. The idea came up when one of our ministry partners said, "I can't believe you don't have a podcast yet!" So, here we finally have one, and we're American Decency Association, so it should be a decent one.

But, since recording the interviews we have, it occurred to me that God must have meant something else by it. Most podcasts seek to feature high-profile guests with impressive resumes and backgrounds, and I'm sure we will too sometimes. But, so far, our guests have been what you would call normal, *decent* people – but with amazing stories of God's work in and through their lives. It is truly an inspiration to hear the amazing ways God can use a few decent people.

So, where can you find this podcast? You can follow *Finally: a Decent Podcast* on YouTube, Rumble, Spotify, and iTunes soon.

We would love to have you follow our social sites on X, Facebook, and YouTube for clips and previews, and if you can share our content that you find interesting and leave us good reviews, we would appreciate that too! Our goal is to release new episodes at least once a week, so if you like what you see, check back often!

As always, we hope that our efforts are a blessing to our readers, listeners, and now our viewers, pointing you to look to Christ for hope in an often-dark world.

Your Stand with Us!



This is a special call out to those who are either very regular, faithful supporters or those who seldom support but are with us in spirit and truth.

In earlier months, we have taken a few short spaces in our newsletter to express our deep appreciation for years of faithful and generous support and at the same time to state that we are very careful not to make a special appeal unless the giving patterns that we are experiencing indicate a need for heightened help or even for a significant boost in support.

I am writing to you right now with that request. In recent months we have seen a troubling decline in giving.

Yet, in December we received a very large number of gifts that demonstrated to us that you, our supporters, were solidly behind us and wanted us to move forward with vigor and tenacity. We therefore made plans and unfolded those plans to begin a podcast that we believe will give us a much greater ability for outreach and demonstrate to you the passion by which we minister!

Lastly, dear friends, if you feel that you want to share with us your view regarding our work as a team, please let us hear from you. We want to be sharpened by you for service - even greater service. Thank you. And, please pray for us in these coming days as we look forward to God's continued leading in the life and ministry of American Decency.

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:20-21