



Texas Eagle Forum

November 2020

Dear Eagles,

It's the day after the election, and the Democrats' much-heralded Texas Blue Wave has crashed and burned! Texas Republicans won BIG—President Trump won Texas, the Texas Senate still has a Republican majority (18 Republicans, 13 Democrats), and the Texas House remained in GOP hands, with only one Republican incumbent, Sarah Davis, losing her race. Davis often sided with Democrats and consistently scored low on conservative scorecards, including ours. Thank you for the roles you played in creating the decisive win for Texas.

As predicted, the Presidential outcome has not been decided. In fact, there will likely be court cases in some of the swing states as they allow late mail-in ballots and roll carts with boxes and bags into counting stations in the middle of the night. We have watched video of workers pulling ballots out of bags on their laps, Republican poll watchers in Pennsylvania being thrown out of their polling places, and Arizona being called early for Biden, despite knowing conservative county ballots were not yet counted. The American people will have to wait to see who will be in the White House for the next four years. As the battle continues, please pray for President Trump, his family, the administration and the outcome of the election.

Of course, God knew and placed us here for such a time as this. I often think of the John Quincy Adams quote: "Duty is ours; results are God's." We voted and stood up to be counted! If chaos results in our cities and government, God knows where this is going. I will do my best to listen and respond to His leading in these turbulent times.

In his book, *If You Can Keep It*, Eric Metaxas shares a concept Os Guinness calls the "Golden Triangle of Freedom:"

Freedom Requires Virtue,
Virtue Requires Faith,
Faith Requires Freedom.

When our founders sought the wisdom of God in America's founding, they were seeking freedom. They never could have given the freedoms they built into our Constitution without knowing the new Nation's citizens were a virtuous people. The people of early America built faith into education, government, and daily life. This imbued a society-wide basic moral goodness that supported societal freedom. And isn't that what we are fighting for for our families and what we want from our government?

Freedom, faith, and virtue were some of the hallmarks of the American Women + American Freedom Conference we highlight in this month's *Torch*. The speakers gave vital, interesting, and helpful information about the Democrat-Socialist-Left agenda for America. Attendees were inspired and energized to keep fighting for a great America. Regardless of who wins the presidency, we conservatives will remain vigilant in defending the values we hold dear.

(over, please)

I wish you and your family a happy Thanksgiving! You can add to your list of things to be thankful for that you don't live in California, where you will need a lawyer to help you navigate the rules and regulations of simply trying to gather as family to thank our God for His blessings. We would not be surprised if thanking God was also "against the rules" in CA!

Aren't you glad you live in RED Texas where God, Family, and Country still remain a way of life? Please remember our faithful Eagles fighting virtuous ideals in their blue states when you are praying for America.

We at Texas Eagle Forum are so thankful for you, your prayers, faithful support, and generous financial gifts. Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cindi Castilla".

Cindi Castilla
President of Texas Eagle Forum



THE TORCH

— Texas Eagle Forum —

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Conservative talk show host Debbie Georgatos welcoming attendees to the American Women + American Freedom 2020 Conference.

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Texas Eagle Forum gives thanks to God for the blessings of family, friends, and freedom.

Takeaways From the American Women + American Freedom 2020 Conference

By **Marilyn Statler**, Texas Eagle Forum Editor

America, *Can We Talk?* talk show host **Debbie Georgatos** came up with the idea to hold the **American Women + American Freedom 2020 Conference** “because freedom is on the ballot this year.” Over 200 people agreed with her premise and attended the daylong conference on September 26 at Southfork Ranch in Parker,

Texas. Texas Eagle Forum and Dallas Eagle Forum were among the sponsors of the event.

In her welcome, Mrs. Georgatos said, “Ideas once rejected as antithetical to freedom in America—Marxism, socialism, secularism, government-controlled economy and society—have been mainstreamed and legitimized in recent times. How do we present the greatness

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of America, since we are facing strong efforts to dismantle liberty in 2020? We will look at ways freedom is under attack in America and how we can take a stand for what is good and worth preserving in this precious Country.”

First, a view from overseas. **Katie Hopkins**, a witty British columnist and broadcaster, began with the shocking statement that the U.K. will fall by 2030. Brits are no longer allowed to fly the country’s flag, because it is “racist.” Muslims have taken over London and other English cities, and by 2040, whites will be a minority. Hopkins said, “America, you are on the cusp of losing your Country. So many of us are with you. We need you for hope and something to hang onto.” She added, “The 2020 election is the tipping point for western civilization. Time for asking permission is over. It is time to fight for your Country.”

“Healthcare freedom and COVID-19” were addressed by **Drs. Richard Bartlett, Simone Gold, and Kelli Ward**. “For decades, American healthcare was the best in the world,” stated **Dr.**

Bartlett, a family and emergency doctor in Midland, Texas, “but, in January 2020, decades of success were ignored.” He says the virus was an excuse to push a global agenda of bigger government-run healthcare. “We traded facts for fear and became a land of the lockdown.” Dr. Bartlett began treating his COVID-19 patients with what he calls “a silver bullet:” an inexpensive asthma drug, taken through a nebulizer or an inhaler to remove inflammation in the lungs. He posted his success on Facebook and Twitter, and immediately got pushback from his hospital administration, and a letter from the medical board, threatening his livelihood if he didn’t take down his sites, even though other hospitals found similar success using his treatment. “This ‘new normal’ is bad for your health,” says Dr. Bartlett.

“We can live Biblically free or in chains by secularism.”

- STAR PARKER

Dr. Simone Gold, founder of Frontline Doctors and a board-certified emergency room physician for 20 years, was part of the “White Coat Summit” press conference, which took place on the steps of the Supreme Court last July. She and her fellow doctors all touted the success of the drug Hydroxychloroquine along with zinc to cure the Wuhan virus. The Summit went viral and was quickly taken down, but not before it was watched by millions. “I was threatened to stop using the drug or be fired,” said Dr. Gold. “We have a medical issue that has become politicized and is now a legal crisis. It is a tragedy.” She stated that the motives of the media, Big Pharma, liberal intellectuals, and billionaires, are moving in the same direction, not just against us, but against western civilization. “We have made foolish decisions because of fear.” Dr. Gold suggests we look at the facts (the flu is more deadly), educate others, and be joyful—the other side wants us to be miserable.



Debbie with Frontline Doctor Simone Gold

Q&A moderator **Dr. Kelli Ward**, an emergency room doctor, and currently Arizona’s State Republican Party Chair, said, “Since January, patients’ rights have been trampled. The CDC is not the law of the land; it is all about control. Laws are already in place. We need our legislators to stand.”

“Every problem we have in this country is the fault of teachers and teachers’ unions,” said **Rebecca Friedrichs**, a public school teacher of 28 years and an outspoken critic of American education. She said our Founders knew the only way to keep a free republic was a moral and virtuous society. Our first textbooks were the Bible, *The New England Primer*, and *McGuffey’s Eclectic Readers*, guaranteeing a classical education based on truth. In the mid-1900s, humanistic education was brought into the U.S., based on a Prussian model (The Frankfort School), which began infiltrating teacher training and teacher unions. Today, the K–12 and university curriculums are filled with “evil.” For example, comprehensive sex education is all double speak—laced with porn and pedophilia—and is child abuse. The plan is to drive out good teachers and bring in new Marxists. So what can we do? Adopt a Teacher. Most teachers are good people—educate them. If you are a teacher, do not pay union dues. And the PTA is corrupt—do not join. Friedrichs says, “Freedom for teachers is freedom from unions and freedom for America!”

The keynote luncheon speaker was **Star Parker**, founder of CURE, the Center for Urban Renewal and Education. “Sixty-eight million babies have died by abortion since 1984,” said Parker. “Abortion is a crime against humanity.” There is a war on marriage and the family—especially in the black community, where only 24 percent of black kids have a mom and dad in the home. Parker, who is black, states, “We are told, ‘Don’t work, don’t save, don’t get married, and let the government take care of you.’” She believes America is not systematically racist, but a beautiful Country with opportunity. Parker’s own story proves that point. She is a former welfare mom, who pulled herself out of poverty and thrived. Today, her organization, CURE, fights poverty to restore dignity through faith, freedom, and personal

responsibility. “We can live Biblically free or in chains by secularism,” says Parker.

Clare Lopez, former CIA officer and a national security expert, quoted Chinese Communist leader Mao Tse-tung from his *A Little Red Book*, “Power grows out of the barrel of a gun.” Lopez believes we are facing a Communist-Marxist-Mao revolution in America today. She says the Bernie-Biden Task Force (their manifesto) has two lines of massive efforts in play: over 100 years of subversive infiltration and propaganda in every part of American society, and violence aimed at law and order, which can overturn the system and take down our Constitution. Three elements to the current street insurrection in Democrat-run cities are: international Communists, Marxists, Maoists and Antifa (an American terrorist organization); Black Lives Matter (a conglomeration of groups led by trained Marxists); and Islamic organizations (Muslim Brotherhood, CAIR), all working together to usher in a revolution. Connecting the dots, much of the current unrest is led by the Communist Chinese Party (CCP) and their allies, who see America ripe for the picking.

Advocating for Second Amendment rights was **Leyla Pirnie**, a former Harvard graduate student, who was forced out of graduate school housing when her liberal roommates searched her belongings without her permission and found guns she legally possessed. Now a speaker with Turning Point USA, she says, “The Left is the authority on thought in our media, educational system,

and bloated government. Conservatives are silenced.”

Also, discussing freedom under assault was **Nathan Watt**, Director of Public Affairs for First Liberty, who ran through a litany of religious liberties under attack in schools, churches, the military, and the general population. First Liberty is on the frontline protecting religious liberties, and he shared many success stories.

Winding up the day were Texas State Republican Chairman **Lt. Col. Allen West**, and **Dr. Kelli Ward**, Arizona’s State Republican Chairman, who both echoed they believe the Republican Party is unified in the upcoming election. Both ended the conference giving ideas on how to steer America toward freedom. Dr. Ward said, “Education plus opportunity equals prosperity. The Party must recruit champions who will put conservative ideas into action. We are looking for servant leadership in politics.” Lt. Col. West agreed and said, “America’s freedom begins in the home. We must raise the next generation of freedom fighters. Now is the time for American women to stand up!”

NOTE: As we wait for the final election results, we are hopeful God, in His mercy, will give us four more years of President Trump and his administration to uproot the corruption in government, the media, and our educational system. Let’s continue to pray and do our part, regardless of the outcome, so America will remain the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Taxpayer-Funded Lobbying Must End

When lawmakers convene in Austin, the biggest financial influence on them shifts from campaign contributions to lobbying. And taxpayers are footing the bill for a lot of it.

During the Texas legislative session, state law prohibits campaign contributions to legislators. This law is designed to prevent donors and PACs from currying favor with legislators while they are casting votes. But that doesn’t mean lawmakers are free from potential financial persuasion. Once the session begins, lobbying becomes the primary form of influence. Although lobbyists get their title from standing in the lobby—usually of the House or Senate—while waiting to talk to lawmakers, their favorite form of persuasion is wining and dining politicians—even buying them tickets to sporting events and other entertainment.

Under Texas law, lobbyists are only required to file detailed reports (names of lawmakers and specifics on spending) when those costs exceed 60 percent of the lawmaker’s per diem (recently raised to \$221). In other words, a lobbyist can spend up to \$132.60 on a lawmaker each day without having to report it. If a lobbyist takes four legislators to dinner or a game, he or she can spend more than \$530 without having to file a report. If two lobbyists happen to be there, they can spend more than \$1,000 on those legislators without voters ever knowing.

Those in favor of tax-funded lobbying argue these paid lobbyists are needed to represent the interests of local government entities and school districts.

Those against the practice argue that taxpayers are effectively forced to pay people to advocate against their financial interests. They also assert that local government entities don’t need paid lobbyists because their interests can be adequately represented by private citizens. If opponents are successful, tax-funded lobbyists may soon find themselves out of a job.

Last session, Rep. Mayes Middleton’s (R-Wallisville) bill (HB 271) to end taxpayer-funded lobbying passed in the Senate but failed in the House with two dozen Republicans voting against it. Rep. Middleton pointed out that much of the money spent by government to lobby government went toward efforts contrary to the interests of their own constituents. Lobbyists hired with taxpayer dollars worked against common sense legislative reforms like limiting property taxes. He says, “... if taxpayer-funded lobbyists continue to be successful in killing property tax caps, taxpayers will be on the hook for an additional \$8.7 billion in property taxes by 2024, according to a study by Governor Abbott. This practice must end.”

Grassroots conservatives from Texas, including TEF, worked to make a ban on taxpayer-funded lobbying not only a part of the GOP platform, but also one of the Republican Party’s eight legislative priorities heading into the 2021 legislative session.

SOURCES: “The Battle for Tax-payer Lobbying,” *Transparency USA*, 2/27/19, and Michael Quinn Sullivan, *The Texas Minute*, 10/12/20

The NBA's Airball On Human Rights

Dallas Mavericks Owner Mark Cuban was pressed to answer why, exactly, he along with the entire National Basketball Association (NBA) claimed to promote human rights, but looked the other way concerning China's gross human rights abuses. His justification was simple—for money. He told Megyn Kelley on her podcast that “They are a customer of ours, and guess what, Megyn? I'm OK with doing business with China. And so, we have to pick our battles.” Apparently for Mark Cuban, China's campaign of suppression against the Uighur Muslims through mass internment and forced labor is not enough to warrant his criticism, though he is happy to “put a priority on domestic issues.” So, while the NBA is happy to stay silent because China is a “customer,” fans are done buying the NBA's hypocrisy—literally. Viewership of the NBA Finals this year was down 66 percent.

SOURCE: Family Research Council, 10/12/20

The U.S. Must Beat China in Space

We are already in danger of witnessing China's surpassing the United States in critical areas economically, technologically, and militarily. It follows, then, that we must ensure that China does not successfully challenge America's leadership in space. Sen. Cory Gardner, (R-CO), has proposed two amendments to a NASA appropriations bill, which would make it easier for us to determine if agency contractors are linked to Chinese companies. After all, Chinese companies and Chinese communism are one and the same. We should be barring NASA from any and all ties to Communist China. This should be the next step in an eventual and complete decoupling of the U.S. economy from China's economy.

SOURCE: Roger Simmermaker, “The U.S. must beat China 1, if by land, and 2, by space,” *World Net Daily*, 10/18/20

Math Is Racist?

Mathematics has always been the base science for understanding our world. But not even this most objective, logical of all sciences is safe from the groupthink of the Left. The Mathematical Association of America, a professional association of high school and university teachers, has announced that math is racist. “It is time for all members of our profession to acknowledge that mathematics is created by humans and therefore inherently carries human biases,” the MAA proclaimed in a recent press release. “Until this occurs, our community and our students cannot reach full potential.” The MAA also noted that only by embracing Critical Race Theory (CRT) can the hopelessly racist white masses hope to be purified. So, the nation's top math teachers have agreed to reject thousands of years of mathematical science in favor of a crackpot racist theory that seeks to pin all of society's ills (and a few made-up ones) on white people. It would be a laughable idea if it weren't so scary.

SOURCE: Lewis Morris, “Math is racist?,” *The Patriot Post*, 10/14/20

Good News

The economy continues to show strong signs of recovering from the pandemic, in spite of the Left's desire to keep you scared and locked in your home. One million passengers were screened at the nation's airports on October 18 for the first time since March. And homebuilder sentiment is now at a record high, after breaking a record last month, too. Any reading above 50 is considered positive for economic growth. The September reading was 80 and the October reading was 85! Last year, the October reading was 71.

SOURCE: Gary Bauer, Campaign for Working Families, 10/19/20

Quote of the Month

“I interpret the Constitution as a law. And I understand it to have the meaning that it had at the time people ratified it. So that meaning doesn't change over time, and it isn't up to me to update or infuse my own policy views into it.”

~ Newly confirmed
Supreme Court Justice
Amy Coney Barrett at
her hearing on 10/12/20

Great American Quote

“The time has come to turn to God and reassert our trust in Him for the healing of America ... our Country is in need of and ready for a spiritual revival.”

~ President Ronald Reagan,
1980

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