



Dear Friend,

A few months ago, one of my colleagues here at The National Center got out a ruler and a calculator and figured out that, if copies of all the print media The National Center received in 2002 were laid end-to-end, the paper trail would cover the distance of almost two-and-a-half trips to the Observation Deck of the Empire State Building from the ground.

I have to admit, I was kind of impressed.

Of course, the way one gets attention like that for the conservative/free market causes is by having something significant to say.

I think we do.

In recent weeks, for instance, we've published our book, *Shattered Dreams: 100 Stories of Government Abuse*, our fourth compilation of stories of victims of regulatory and government abuse.

In it, we've told 100 stories that should make any red-blooded American's blood boil. Stories about how the National Park Service, in violation of federal law, blocks off roads in winter, forcing families in rural areas to walk home in wolf country. Stories about a church losing its building to government takeover without proper notice or full compensation. Or stories about how Janet Reno's Justice Department tried to confiscate funds belonging to Third World orphans, or how a man may lose his brake repair business because his local government wants to give his land to a hardware store.

I could go on, but I also want to tell you about our study showing how policies advocated by the environmental left disproportionately hurt minorities and the poor. Imagine that: the left loves to complain (falsely) that conservatives don't care about the poor and minorities, yet it pushes policies that harm these very groups! (And we can't help but notice that although our study received national publicity, Jesse Jackson hasn't said a word about it.)

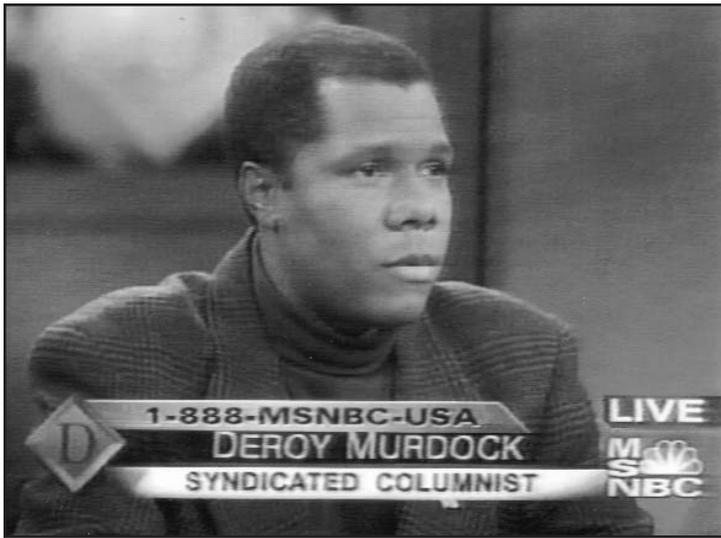
Speaking of harm, we've also gotten a great deal of attention talking about the United Nations — and why no President of the United States needs U.N. permission to defend the U.S. from threats.

If you'd like copies of our work, visit our website at [www.nationalcenter.org](http://www.nationalcenter.org), drop us a note or give us a call. We'd love to hear from you!

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amy Ridenour". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Amy Ridenour  
President



Project 21 member Deroy Murdock appeared on the "Donahue" program on MSNBC to discuss race relations and affirmative action policies.

### Strange bedfellows

The New York Stock Exchange and U.S. corporations are doing themselves no favors by supporting and sponsoring the Rev. Jesse Jackson's sixth annual Wall Street Project conference, a leader of a conservative black group told reporter Marc Morano at [www.CN-SNews.com](http://www.CN-SNews.com).

"It never ceases to amaze me how the business community continues to feed the hand that bites them," said David Almasi, director of Project 21, a leadership network for conservative blacks that is critical of Mr. Jackson.

Mr. Jackson received corporate support last week, despite his strong opposition to President Bush's economic-stimulus plan, which Wall Street supports.

"If Wall Street truly supports the Bush stimulus package, this is certainly no way to show it," Mr. Almasi said.

Mr. Jackson rang the opening bell on the New York Stock Exchange Wednesday morning and was feted at an invitation-only gala fund-raising reception on the floor of the stock exchange Thursday. Mr. Jackson was in New York for his 2003 Wall Street Project, which ran from Tuesday through Friday. The event was billed as "Equity for All: Establishing the Economic Agenda for Growth."

Mr. Almasi was incredulous, saying, "The business community doesn't seem to know who its friends are."

Corporate giants such as Citigroup, Coca-Cola, AOL Time Warner, Freddie Mac, AT&T, Ford Motor Co., General Motors, IBM, Kodak, Boeing and the Daimler-Chrysler Corporate Fund all sponsored the 2003 Wall Street Project.

## WASHINGTON TIMES

WASHINGTON, DC  
TUESDAY 107,358  
JAN 21 2003

## CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO, IL  
SUNDAY 689,026  
DEC 8 2002

### HOME BUILDING

# Study: 'Smart growth' hurts minorities

By Matt Krupnick  
Contra Costa Times

WALNUT CREEK, Calif. — Restrictions on home construction often harm minorities and young families, a study has determined.

The report, released last month, was completed by Randall Pozdena, a Portland, Ore., economics and finance consultant. His work was commissioned by the National Center for Public Policy Research, a conservative think tank in Washington, D.C.

Pozdena found that "smart-growth" policies that restrict expansion of cities and metropolitan areas often drive home prices too high for low-income families to afford. The study refers to such limits as "Portlandization," a reference to the strict growth boundaries set in place by Oregon officials.

"When land costs \$1 million an acre, there is no such thing as low-cost housing," Pozdena said in a telephone interview from

Oregon.

Without affordable housing, a region risks losing teachers, nurses, carpenters and others who provide vital — but low-paying — services, he said. That situation bodes badly for the Bay Area, where housing prices have consistently been among the nation's highest, he said.

"You can become a community of lawyers and engineers," Pozdena said. "But you start pricing the people who provide services to those enterprises out of the area, it will be a region over time that starts losing businesses that are footloose, ... given the costs in the Bay Area."

The study criticized Portland's urban-growth boundaries, which Pozdena said have increased commute times and distances as people move farther from the city to avoid high housing prices.

If Portland's growth policies had been applied nationwide, the study concluded, a million of today's urban homeowners would not have been able to buy

their homes in the 10-year period ending in 1997. More than a quarter of those affected would have been minorities.

Growth boundaries are used to curb sprawl and preserve open space. Several Bay Area cities, including Pleasanton and San Jose, have such limits, and Livermore residents and officials have discussed them.

The marginalization of low-income, minority and young families has become a concern in the East Bay, where some people work seven days a week to afford low-end housing and others commute as much as two hours to work. The Contra Costa Economic Partnership is working on a Workforce Housing Initiative, designed to allow people to live closer to their jobs.

Initiative organizers say a failure to address the problem could have dire consequences for the Bay Area economy, a result Pozdena also predicted.

"As you make it more difficult for your workers to get to work, employers who can move will

move," said Don Manning, a business consultant with the Contra Costa Economic Partnership. "Employers who cannot move are really in a bind, because you're talking about your teachers living outside the area they serve."

The answer, say Pozdena and others, is to build more high-density housing like town houses and condos to accommodate all income levels.

Merlin Wedepohl, executive director of the Martinez-based Shelter Inc. transitional-housing organization, said he has seen evidence of city and county planners making better decisions on housing options. There still is an opportunity to preserve quality of life in the East Bay without hurting low-income families, he said.

"It's a matter of looking at how we really want to live," Wedepohl said. "We don't have to displace poor people to preserve our open space."

Knight Ridder/Tribune

# Capital Briefs

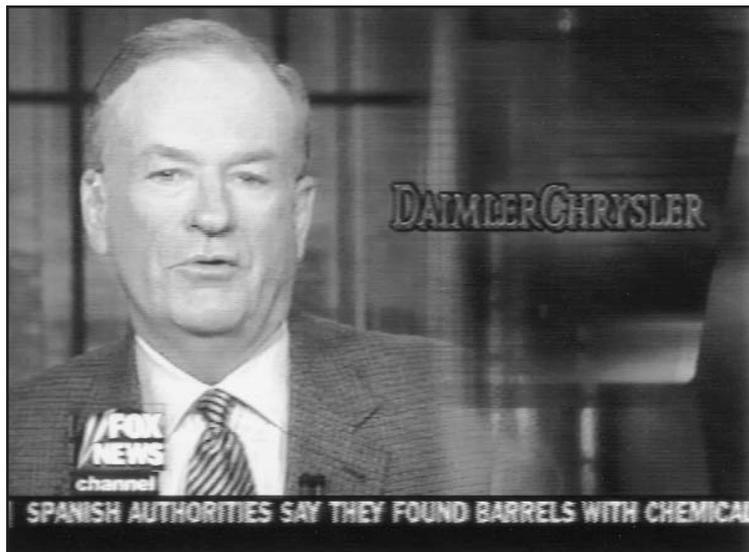
★ **GREEN VOTE SHAM:** The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) recently released its congressional scorecard and “Dirty Dozen” list of supposedly terrible congressional candidates. Though its name sounds innocuous, the LCV is **decidedly anti-energy** and supportive of big government environmental laws such as the land-grabbing Endangered Species Act. “Candidates should be proud to score low on LCV’s environmental score card,” said **David Ridenour** of the National Center for Public Policy Research.

## HUMAN EVENTS

WASHINGTON, DC  
48-TIMES/YEAR 75,000  
NOV 4 2002

## ATLANTA JOURNAL - CONSTITUTION

ATLANTA, GA  
THURSDAY 327,213  
DEC 26 2002



*For New Channel host Bill O'Reilly highlighted the outcry over a DaimlerChrysler executive's claim that conservatives are "myopic." After the National Center made his comments a national issue, the executive apologized.*

# Blandness, not balance, would result

By **AMY RIDENOUR**

The Fairness Doctrine isn't fair and doesn't work. Furthermore, it most likely is unconstitutional.

Sure, the Fairness Doctrine, which until its 1987 repeal required radio and television broadcasters to cover controversial issues with balancing views, sounds good. Those who want the Federal Communications Commission to reinstate it ask: Why not broadcast both sides of every issue?

For one thing, very few issues have just two sides.

Take, for example, the issue of permanently repealing the federal estate tax. If a radio station program director allows one of his on-air personalities to editorialize in favor of a permanent repeal — essentially a conservative position — what's the other side?

If politics were as straightforward as Fairness Doctrine proponents like to think, the obvious answer would be opposition to the permanent repeal. However, that position maintains the status quo, which is President Bush's 10-year temporary estate tax reduction plan. That's a conservative position as well.

If our mythical program director decides fairness requires broadcasting

the liberal position, he's still stymied. Some liberals want to increase the estate tax. Others are content to let Bush's temporary reduction expire as scheduled at the end of the decade. Still others want to counter conservative calls for estate tax reduction with an appeal for other tax-cuts, figuring that it is politically unviable for liberals to oppose all tax reduction.



**Gingrich**

What are program directors to do? The only thing they can do is to stick to bland issues that engender no controversy — to stop discussing the issues people care about most.

In a nutshell, that's why the FCC decided to repeal the Fairness Doctrine, saying:

“We no longer believe that the Fairness Doctrine, as a matter of policy, serves the public interests. The Fairness Doctrine in operation actually inhibits the presentation of issues of public importance to the detriment of the public and in degradation of the editorial prerogative of broadcast journalists.”

The FCC wasn't staking out an extreme position. In 1974's *Miami Herald Publishing Co. v. Tornillo*, a unanimous Supreme Court said, “Government-enforced right of access inescapably ‘dampens the vigor and limits the variety of public debate.’ ”

In 1984's *FCC v. League of Women Voters*, the Supreme Court noted FCC concerns that the Fairness Doctrine was “chilling speech” and said the court would be “forced” to revisit its constitutionality if it did have “the net effect of reducing rather than enhancing speech.”

The ACLU has pointed out that the federal government may not make its support — as in the awarding of a broadcast license — contingent on the surrender of one's First Amendment rights.

Much support for reinstating the Fairness Doctrine comes from those who believe talk radio is too “right wing.” These folks should recall that when the FCC discarded the Fairness Doctrine, Newt Gingrich and Jesse Helms immediately voted for a bill to reinstate it. Not everyone believes the Fairness Doctrine would help the left.

The best way to minimize the influence of radio hosts of any political persuasion is to rebut them, not silence them.

Thomas Jefferson wrote: “Our liberty depends on the freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost.” Whether promoted by Gingrich or by frustrated left-wing activists, the Fairness Doctrine is a bad idea.

Amy Ridenour is president of the National Center for Public Policy Research in Washington.

# Chairman is out of step with party

## ■ Horace Cooper

WASHINGTON — Terry McAuliffe, the Democratic National Committee chairman, puts the “P” in partisan. As attack dogs go, he’s the pit bull that Democrats believe they need to lead their party.

When he rails against President Bush, corporate corruption and the economy, if you’re like me, you stand back a few feet from the television so you don’t get hit by the foam and lather he’s spewing. But his “tofu for you” and “steak for me” routine is beginning to wear thin, judging from the comments of disgruntled Democrats.

Notwithstanding his in-your-face approach of partisan politics, it turns out that McAuliffe may be the worst thing to happen to the Democratic Party since Jimmy Carter met Ronald Reagan in 1980. The lessons of that election in which the mild-mannered Southerner accused his opponent of political extremism and ended up in an electoral blowout and a loss of 12 Senate seats for the Democrats are applicable today.

When Democrats win elections, they do so by forming a coalition of labor unions, minority voters, economic populists, environmental activists, civil libertarians and disaffected independents to drive up turnout and build an electoral groundswell at the grass roots level.

Since 1968 this coalition at the presidential level has averaged about 44 percent of the voting electorate. More important, since 1964 this coalition has never exceeded 50 percent of the voting public at the presidential level.

Contrast that with the Republican coalition made up of small business owners, married couples with children, economic libertarians, property owners, social conservatives and antitax advocates. Since 1968 this voter base has averaged 49 percent at the presidential level and has been as high as 61 percent.

Herein lies McAuliffe’s problem. To win, Democrats need leaders such as Bill Clinton, who unite the party behind a left-of-center agenda and mobilize wide public support for “change” while hoping for a spoiler to divide Republicans.

It has worked three times since 1968. But it’s not likely to work in the next cycle if McAuliffe is still prominent. McAuliffe’s problem is that he embodies everything — except perhaps hypocrisy — that his

party opposes.

Ask Al Sharpton what he believes about *The Barbershop*’s cinematic treatment of Martin Luther King and you’ll have a sense of what Democrats think about Terry McAuliffe. With practically every action he takes, he gives them reason to remember that he’s not part of their team and, more important, that he doesn’t take them seriously.

McAuliffe doesn’t discriminate. He’s either said or done something that makes a mockery of practically every part of the Democratic Party’s activist base. Consider just a few:

■ Environmentalists are having a difficult time explaining the sprawling real estate development project he spearheaded in the heart of Florida.

■ Democratic seniors’ groups are equally hard put to explain McAuliffe’s role in the squandering of \$5-million from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers’ pension program. That chicanery ultimately resulted in a Department of Labor investigation and a six-figure fine assessed against two directors of the pension fund.

■ And union rank and file are more than a little puzzled about McAuliffe’s role on the board of a telecommunications firm that went belly up and decided to fire everyone.

You have to wonder if Democratic activists are beginning to question what this middle-age white guy with more corporate connections than Kenneth Lay has in common with the environmentalists, social liberals and union workers, whose votes the party needs so desperately this fall.

Analysts who study voter patterns attribute the steady decline in voter participation to a sense among voters that they don’t really have a choice.

Congressional investigations into Global Crossing — an investment that reportedly made McAuliffe \$18-million — will only further this alienation. When McAuliffe is called before Congress to explain his role in Global Crossing (as he likely will be), Democrats had better be demanding he come clean. Otherwise, the public and party activists will see that the party leader doesn’t believe in their platform. If he doesn’t believe in it, why should they? Next they may find out that he’s not even a vegetarian.

■ *Horace Cooper is a senior fellow of the National Center for Public Policy Research (www.nationalcenter.org).* ■  
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ST. PETERSBURG TIMES  
(NE CITY EDITION)

ST. PETERSBURG, FL  
FRIDAY 351,110  
OCT 25 2002

SUNDAY TIMES (VALLEY  
EDIT.)

PLEASANTON, CA  
SUNDAY 42,501  
DEC 22 2002

# Regulators play Scrooge; victim wonders why

By Christopher Burger

COMMENTARY

WASHINGTON  
THE EBENEZER Scrooge of Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol” was a wealthy, mean-spirited man who lacked Christmas cheer. He was so consumed with his business that he failed to understand the importance of spreading joy and compassion.

As every schoolchild should know, after visits from the ghosts of Christmases Past, Present and Future, Scrooge had a change of heart. He embraced the spirit of the Christmas season and treated others with kindness and generosity.

Kay Leibrand of Palo Alto, a 61-year-old breast cancer sufferer, is not a Dickens character, but right now she’s hoping that the Scrooge in her life — local government officials — will

change their hearts as well.

Leibrand is being threatened with up to six months in jail and a fine of \$1,000 for violating the city’s “visibility project” law, which is intended to increase the visibility of pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists in this suburb. Leibrand is being charged with violating a regulation stating that bushes in strips of grass between the street and the sidewalk of a property must be shorter than 2 feet. Anything taller is considered a public nuisance.

Leibrand’s 30-year-old bushes already are pruned substantially for safety reasons. No injuries or accidents have ever been caused by her shrubs. The stop sign at the corner near her house has never been obstructed. Motorists at the corner can see approaching traffic for at least a block in each direction.

Significantly, under the law, if the city is displeased with the height of property owners’ shrubbery, it has the right to cut the bushes to the required levels and bill the owner for the work. In Leibrand’s case, however — and only in her case — the city instead filed a criminal complaint. Thus, Leibrand may go to jail.

Leibrand wonders why she has been the only person criminally charged under this ordinance, noting that others in the city, including city council members, also have bushes over 2 feet high. None are being threatened with a jail sentence.

Leibrand is spending this holiday season fretting over her February trial. Just as “Christmas Carol” readers worried if Tiny Tim would have food on his plate, Leibrand worries that she may be incarcerated. The Palo Alto government has played the

role of Scrooge nearly perfectly.

Unfortunately, Kay Leibrand isn’t the only American whose holidays — in some cases, holidays past, present and future — are being ruined by unnecessary fear. Regulatory horror stories like Leibrand’s are all too common. Although it’s unlikely any ghosts will visit Palo Alto government officials this holiday season, Leibrand is still hoping they will have a Scrooge-like change of heart. Dickens’ miser was rightly viewed with contempt. So too, should government officials who consider jailing a breast cancer sufferer over the inconsequential height of a bush. The Christmas season is no time for a “Bah! Humbug!” attitude.

*Burger is program director at the National Center for Public Policy Research.*



# Portland, Ore., paves the way when it comes to smart growth

By Emmet Pierce  
STAFF WRITER

Portland, Ore., may not be high on the National Center for Public Policy Research's list, but Smart Growth America ranks it near the top of the heap among the nation's cities.

Known to Oregonians as The Rose City, Portland ranks 76th among 83 metropolitan areas on the growth-management group's "sprawl index." That means only seven large communities were judged to have done a better job of managing development.

Portland has embraced "smart growth" strategies that favor higher housing densities and the conservation of open land. A recently released report called "Measuring Sprawl and its Impact" rated metropolitan centers on their "strength of activity centers and downtowns."

It also measured street accessibility and the willingness of metro areas to allow residential development near retail and employment centers. One of the goals of smart growth is to break the

pattern of developing housing on open tracts far from established downtowns. The document's authors hailed from Rutgers University, Cornell University and the smart-growth group.

One way the Portland area has controlled sprawl is by increasing housing densities, said Reid Ewing, one of the authors.

"They have an urban growth boundary which has been pretty much maintained since the '70s," said Ewing, who directs the Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers University.

Ranking near the middle of the pack, San Diego County lost points for its lack of community centers. It scored average in its mix of jobs, shops and housing, however. It also scored average in residential density and street accessibility.

The neighboring Riverside-San Bernardino area was judged to be the most sprawling metro center in the country. Driving distances were a key factor.

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emmet.pierce@uniontrib.com



Syndicated columnist Joe Perkins speaks at a National Center luncheon held to release the organization's report on negative effects that "smart growth" land use policies have on poor and minority Americans.

## SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

SAN DIEGO, CA  
SUNDAY 374,856  
DEC 15 2002

## HAMILTON SPECTATOR

HAMILTON, ON, CN  
TUESDAY 106,323  
NOV 26 2002

# Wal-Mart union drive is 'extortion'

By AMY RIDENOUR

A group calling itself People's Campaign for Justice at Wal-Mart — no doubt armed with battering rams, maces and other 14th-century accoutrements of war — is preparing to lay siege to some of the huge retailer's 3,200 stores around the country.

Sounds like a group of idealistic students faulting Wal-Mart for importing clothes made in developing nations.

Or perhaps a band of animal rights activists concerned the company's low-cost vitamins were tested on endangered baboons.

Alas, nothing so altruistic or romantic. The People's Campaign for Justice at Wal-Mart — aka PCJW-M — is actually an auxiliary organization of the United Food and Commercial Workers, the third-largest union in the United States with nearly 1.4 million members. And the issue is extortion, not altruism.

The United Food and Commercial Workers would like to double its size by adding Wal-Mart's 1.4 million employees. It has tried repeatedly to organize them in the past, but the overwhelming majority — apparently as happy as Wal-Mart's friendly greeters — has repeatedly turned them down.

So now the union — with the strong backing of the AFL-CIO and a plethora of left-leaning allies such as NOW, Sprawl Busters and Bowling for Columbine's Michael Moore — has launched what amounts to a full-fledged smear campaign against Wal-Mart. Their intention is to pressure Wal-Mart's executives to force its workers to join the union against their own expressed wishes.

That's a good deal for UFCW president Douglas H. Dority and the small platoon of officials who make six-figure salaries. But it's a raw deal for Wal-Mart workers and even worse for a lagging U.S. economy.

Wal-Mart's workers hardly fit the UFCW's depiction of wretches from a Dickens sweatshop. Here are a few facts you should know:

■ Wal-Mart jobs offer competitive wages and benefits — and then some. Far from \$2 to \$3 less per hour as the union charges, Wal-Mart's compensation compares favourably with unionized grocery workers with the same length of service. Its starting rate, in fact, is usually the same — and in some cases, slightly higher — than unionized grocery workers.

■ More than 70 per cent of Wal-Mart positions are full-time, compared to less than 50 per cent of the unionized grocery workers. That's also a far better ratio than chief rivals K-Mart, where roughly half the workforce is full-time, and Target, where the ratio dips to 40 per cent.

■ Wal-Mart's health-care benefits are among the best in American industry. More than 75 per cent of its associates are eligible to join its comprehensive medical insurance plans with Wal-Mart picking up two-thirds of the tab. Coverage includes life insurance, dental, and both short-term and long-term disability, dependents and out-of-plan expenses.

■ Wal-Mart's retirement benefits also are outstanding. Tax-deferred annual profit-sharing and retirement contributions are made with or without employee participation.

■ And finally, Wal-Mart positions are definitely not dead-end jobs. Some two-thirds of the firm's management associates began their careers as hourly employees.

— Amy Ridenour is president, National Center for Public Policy Research, Washington, DC

**Chrysler's insult**

A top DaimlerChrysler executive dismisses critics of Jesse Jackson as mere conservatives, who by definition are "myopic."

"Most of [Mr. Jackson's] critics are conservatives; they have a rather myopic view of the world," Frank Fountain, Daimler-Chrysler's senior vice president for government affairs, told a reporter at last week's Wall Street Project, which was organized by Mr. Jackson.

Mr. Jackson has been accused of running a "protection" racket in which corporations are given his civil-rights seal of approval in return for funneling money to organizations tied to Mr. Jackson and his associates.

Mr. Fountain, who said Chrysler was contributing an amount "in the six figures" as a gold sponsor of Mr. Jackson's 2003 Wall Street Project, believes criticism of Mr. Jackson is unfair.

"From my fairly close knowledge of [Mr. Jackson's] operations, they are one of integrity and beyond reproach," Mr. Fountain told Marc Morano, a reporter at www.CNSNews.com.

At least one conservative group has demanded an apology from Mr. Fountain and Daimler-Chrysler.

"Conservatives have been active in recent weeks defending the right of consumers to drive SUVs; working to open [the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge] to oil drilling; working to end the double-taxation of corporate profits and working for legal reform — all positions that are good for America, but which happen to benefit DaimlerChrysler," said Amy Ridenour, president of the National Center for Public Policy Research. "DaimlerChrysler makes large contributions to organizations that oppose all of these positions. That sounds myopic to me."

She added: "When a company goes out of its way to insult all conservatives, it goes too far."

**WASHINGTON TIMES**

WASHINGTON, DC  
MONDAY 107,358  
JAN 20 2003

**Bush is seeking to prevent disaster**

**W**ASHINGTON — With a nod to David Letterman, here are the top 10 reasons we needn't worry that President Bush's Iraq policy is politically motivated.

10. If invading Iraq were politically expedient, Bill Clinton would have done it.

9. War with Iraq anytime over the next year would come too early to help Bush win re-election. Former President Bush attacked Iraq on Jan. 16, 1991, almost two years into his first term, won the war by March 3, was hugely popular and considered unbeatable. But during the 20 months between the war's end and the 1992 presidential election, voters asked: What have you done for me lately?

8. The public has evaluated Bush's motives and found them trustworthy. In a Sept. 13-16 Gallup Poll, only 26 percent of Americans said Bush is taking action against Iraq now mainly because it might help Republicans. Even a majority of Democrats said Bush is motivated by a desire to protect the United States. Gallup further reported: "Americans are not as generous in their feelings about the Democrats, however. By a margin of 59 percent to 35 percent, they are more likely to think that the reluctance of some Democrats to have a vote on military action before the November elections results from politics."

7. Presidents historically have tried to avoid war talk before elections, not the other way around. Case in point: Franklin Roosevelt's pledge to keep the United States out of World War II helped him win a third term in 1940.

6. Wars are risky. If this one — which has more difficult objectives than the one his father fought — doesn't go well, the voters will blame Bush. Bush's approval ratings were as high as 70 percent in some polls in September. Politically, he doesn't need to take big risks.

5. The argument by opponents of

**CON**

*Presidents historically have tried to avoid war talk before elections, not the other way around.*

Bush that his Iraq policy is designed to distract voters from the Enron scandal is weak, since the voters aren't holding Bush or the Republicans responsible for Enron. Key decisions in the Enron collapse, in fact, were made in 1998, when Clinton was president and Monica Lewinsky was big news. If the Republicans were suffering from the Enron scandal, they would blame Clinton first.

4. Bush has remained steadfast in his plans despite criticism from international capitals, many Democrats and major media. The Center for Media and Public Affairs found 72 percent of the coverage by The New York Times and the three major broadcast networks was critical of Bush's position. What politician would invite this kind of criticism before an election unless he believes in the policy?

3. Support for regime change in Iraq transcends politics and is longstanding. Case in point: In October 1998, when Bush was still governor of Texas, the U.S. House approved a bill providing \$97 million to promote regime change in Iraq by a landslide vote of 360-38. The U.S. Senate passed it unanimously.

2. Regime change is necessary. Saddam Hussein has devastating weapons; he is acquiring more; he hates America and is demonstrably willing to kill. Men and women, children and even babies all have been killed by Saddam. Bush wants to prevent more murders of innocents. Those who oppose Bush's plan have yet to propose a better one.

1. Honorable men don't go to war for selfish motives.

Amy Ridenour is president of the National Center for Public Policy Research ([www.ncppr.org](http://www.ncppr.org)) based in Washington, D.C.



Project 21 member Kevin Martin makes a point with Fox News Channel commentator Alan Colmes on the "Hannity and Colmes" program.

National Center president Amy Ridenour discusses the political and economic implications of "smart growth" land use policies on poor and minority homeownership at a luncheon in Washington, D.C.



**SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE**

**SAN FRANCISCO, CA  
WEDNESDAY 519,584  
DEC 11 2002**

JOSEPH PERKINS

# 'Smart growth' unwise for minorities

**O**WNING A HOME lies at the heart of the American dream."

So said President Bush in a radio address this summer. He noted that, while nearly three-quarters of white Americans own their homes, less than half of black and Latino Americans are homeowners. "We must begin to close this homeownership gap," he urged.

Toward that end, the president laid out a plan to increase the number of minority homeowners at least 5.5 million by the end of the decade. The government would provide down-payment assistance to low-income families. It would offer developers tax credits to build affordable single-family housing in distressed communities. It would triple the funding for self-help homeownership programs, such as Habitat for Humanity. And it would support programs that aim to simplify the home-buying process and that promote financial education for aspiring homeowners.

The president is to be lauded for trying to close the "home ownership gap." And his plan almost certainly is welcomed by the minority families for whom the dream of home ownership remains beyond reach.

Yet, even if the president's plan is fully implemented, it is doubtful the ranks of minority homeowners will increase by 5.5 million (or 4.5 million or even 3.5 million), because there is movement in states and municipalities throughout the country that would deny the American dream of homeownership to minorities.

It is euphemistically called "smart growth." The putative aim of so-called smart growth is to prevent, or at least curb, "urban sprawl." That is achieved by restricting home construction and other related development.

Portland, Ore., is held out as the national model for smart growth by those

who favor the policy, including environmental activists, who never met a housing project they liked, and anti-business types, who think all developers are evil.

A new econometric report issued by the National Center for Public Policy Research, a Washington-based think tank, reveals that Portland-style restrictions on urban growth heavily penalize minority families.

If the Portland model had been adopted 10 years ago by metropolitan areas throughout the country, 1 million urban families who own their homes today would still be non-owners, and more than a quarter of those families would have been minorities — blacks and Latinos denied the American dream of homeownership because of smart growth policies restricting home building.

Those urban families, the less-affluent and minority, "pay a disproportionate amount of social and economic costs of growth restrictions," according to the National Center report.

"The 'haves,' who already own homes, ride the price bubble created by restricted growth policies while the dream of ownership moves further away from the 'have-nots,'" the report stated.

That's why the clash between smart growth and homeownership rises almost to the level of a civil rights issue. For when metropolitan communities adopt smart growth policies, they shut blacks and Latinos out of their housing markets at disproportionate rates.

One would think that the civil rights community would be all over this issue. But there has been nary a peep from the NAACP, the Congressional Black Caucus or any other black organizations.

In November 2000, according to the National Center study, some 553 ballot measures were put before state and local voters around the country on the issue of restricting growth, and 78 percent of the measures were approved. That suggests that, absent protests from the mostly minority, non-homeowning population in this country, an increasing number of municipalities will follow Portland's lead. They will adopt smart-growth policies. They will restrict new home construction. They will effectively raise the cost of housing. And the homeownership gap President Bush spoke of will grow even wider.

NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN

**SEATTLE TIMES**

**SEATTLE, WA  
MONDAY 225,222  
OCT 21 2002**

# 'House slave' remark stirs debate

## Some want Belafonte apology

BY DEBORAH KONG  
The Associated Press

In his famous, fervent speeches of the 1960s, Malcolm X described the difference between house slaves, who lived in comfortable conditions in the master's house and loved the master, and slaves laboring in the field, who hated the master.

The house slaves, he implied, were mainstream civil-rights groups and leaders who he thought were too closely aligned with whites.

Now the term is being used by activist and entertainer Harry Belafonte to describe Secretary of State Colin Powell.

Belafonte, who opposes a war on Iraq, said he stands by his remarks — likening Powell to a slave "permitted to come into the house of the master" — but said he meant them not as a personal attack but as a condemnation of Bush administration policies.

He said national-security adviser Condoleezza Rice also had failed to meet his high expectations for a fellow minorities.

"As a citizen, I feel it is my sacred duty to speak out when I see injustice, when I see our country going to places of folly," Belafonte said. "I'd like to see both (Powell) and Condoleezza Rice show some moral backbone, show some courage,

show some commitment to principles that are far higher than those being espoused by their boss."

His comments have prompted a debate in the black community, with some saying that Belafonte's slave reference, made on a San Diego radio station Oct. 8, went too far and that he should apologize to Powell.

But others point to Belafonte's record of humanitarian service — raising money for African famine relief, as a long-time goodwill ambassador for the United Nations Children's Fund and champion of civil rights — and say his words hold some truth.

"The question is, should he have said it and should he have said it in the way he did? Therein lies a great deal of discussion and even criticism within the black community," said University of Maryland political scientist Ronald Walters. "This is the kind of allegation that stings."

Belafonte, 75, is respected by many blacks "as somebody who shoots straight and tells the unvarnished truth," Walters said.

In the radio interview, Belafonte said slaves were allowed the privilege of living in the house if they served their master.

"When Colin Powell dares to suggest something other than what the master wants to hear, he will be turned back out to pasture," Belafonte said.

In an interview on "Larry King Live," Powell said he didn't mind Belafonte attacking his politics,

"but to use a slave reference, I think, is unfortunate and is a throwback to another time and another place."

In an appearance on "Fox News Sunday," Powell said, "I'm serving my nation. I'm serving this president, my president, our president. I'm very happy to do so."

Rice said on CNN's "Late Edition," "Everybody should be able to debate views, but I don't need Harry Belafonte to tell me what it means to be black."

James Cone, author of "Martin & Malcolm & America: A Dream or a Nightmare," said Malcolm X criticized mainstream civil-rights leaders and groups as "the black leadership which was chosen by the dominant white society."

"Now didn't the Bush administration choose Powell? So what's the difference?" Cone said. "It's not a nice thing to say, but the truth is often very provocative and hurtful."

Project 21, a leadership network for conservative blacks, said Belafonte should apologize to Powell. The network's director, David Almási, called Powell "one of the most independent thinkers in the Bush Cabinet."

Powell, the first black secretary of state, is seen as a moderate voice in the Republican Party.

Earl Ofari Hutchinson, an author and political analyst, said Belafonte's remarks illustrate that blacks who aren't "pro-civil rights, pro-Democratic party, pro-liberalism" are called names "instead of dealing with the legitimate political differences someone may have."



# The politics of Iraq

## Few Democrats took on the issue with bipartisan approach

By AMY RIDENOUR

In the classic film "Casablanca," the Gestapo orders Capt. Louis Renault — played by Claude Rains — to close the saloon owned by Humphrey Bogart's Rick Blaine. Needing a pretext, Renault seizes the law against gambling and proclaims: "I'm shocked, shocked to find that gambling is going on in here!"

At which point, a croupier hands Renault a pile of money. Just as gambling can be found in nightclubs, politics can be found in Washington. The approach of most — though not all — leading Democrats to the Iraq issue is no exception.

In a debate that should have been characterized by a thoughtful assessment of the threats posed by Saddam Hussein and the best ways to alleviate them, it has seemed that every move of some leading Democrats is instead a calculated maneuver against President Bush.

Take the bizarre trip of House Democrats Jim McDermott of Washington, Mike Thompson of California and David Bonior of Michigan to Baghdad, where they criticized Bush in Hussein's front yard. The spectacle was so clearly inappropriate that Newsweek's Eleanor Clift — a yellow dog liberal Democrat if there ever was one — compared the men to a bunch of "Hanoi Janes." Except, Clift said, what the lawmakers did was worse.

Jane Fonda was a confused young actress. The Baghdad Johnnies are congressional veterans who have repeatedly sworn an oath to protect the U.S. against all enemies.

Fortunately, some other Democrats, notably House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt of Missouri, put these men to shame. Though no Bush supporter, Gephardt distanced himself from the Baghdad Johnnies by supporting a genuine debate and resolution expressing the will of Congress on Iraq. Gephardt also distinguished himself from Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., who urged Bush to get congressional approval for his Iraq policy while Daschle used his control over the Senate calendar to halt consideration of the war resolution.

The hypocrisy didn't stop. While complaining that Bush shouldn't erode legislative branch powers by moving on Iraq without congressional consent, Daschle announced the Senate would only consider the matter after the United Nations had provided guidance.

Does Daschle truly believe that erosion of legislative power to the executive branch is bad while its erosion to the United Nations is good? Unlikely.

Finally, when Bush delivered a well-regarded

*In a debate that should have been characterized by a thoughtful assessment of the threats posed by Saddam Hussein and the best ways to alleviate them, it has seemed that every move of some leading Democrats is instead a calculated maneuver against President Bush.*

speech to the United Nations and the political tide shifted toward the president, Daschle abruptly switched course — even though the basic issues were unchanged.

And then there's Al Gore. A decade or so ago, Gore

was accused by several senators of offering his vote on the first Persian Gulf War to the side that would give him the most TV time. Then Gore seemingly became a committed hawk, taking tough anti-Hussein positions during the Clinton-Gore years and in the months after the Sept. 11 attacks. Now he's staked out the far-left pacifist approach.

Approximately three-fourths of the donors of the Democratic Party — donors Gore will need should he mount another run at the White House — take the far-left line on Iraq. Coincidence? At the conclusion of "Casablanca," the formerly bitter Rick Blaine and Capt. Renault shed their cynicism and self-centeredness, deciding to join the fight for freedom and the allies. "Louis," says Blaine, "I think this is the start of a beautiful friendship."

If only it could happen in Washington.

Amy Ridenour is president of the *National Center for Public Policy Research*, [www.nationalcenter.org](http://www.nationalcenter.org). Readers may write to her at NCPFR, 777 N. Capitol St. NE, Suite 803, Washington, D.C. 20002, or e-mail her at [ridenour@nationalcenter.org](mailto:ridenour@nationalcenter.org).

## Brownback proposes panel on race relations

### Seeks to improve black view of GOP

By James G. Lakely  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A Republican senator wants to establish a temporary congressional committee on race relations that will address such issues as a national apology for racial segregation, construction of a black history museum on the National Mall and reparations for slavery.

Sen. Sam Brownback of Kansas said he will broach the subject officially with his Republican colleagues as they meet and organize this week on Capitol Hill. He said "feedback has been positive" since he sent a letter proposing the special committee to incoming Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist of Tennessee.

David Almasi, director of Project 21, a conservative black think tank, said he is skeptical about Mr. Brownback's proposal.

"It could be used as a weapon against [Republicans]," he said.

Mr. Almasi said Republicans should take a lesson from the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, which was set up on a temporary basis during the Eisenhower administration. The chairwoman, Mary Frances Berry, has used her position on the commission to bash the Bush administration. It took a federal court ruling to allow Bush administration selection Peter N. Kirsanow, a conservative, to take his seat.

The new Senate committee, Mr. Almasi said, might change into something different than Mr. Brownback's "altruistic" vision.

"I'd hate to see that happen on Capitol Hill," Mr. Almasi said. "There's lots of temporary things on Capitol Hill. This is just asking for trouble down the line."

### BIRMINGHAM NEWS

BIRMINGHAM, AL  
MONDAY 178, 132  
NOV 4 2002

### WASHINGTON TIMES

WASHINGTON, DC  
TUESDAY 107,358  
JAN 6 2003



# Politicians can fix what ain't broke

By Amy Ridenour

**I**T'S a peculiar and pervasive phenomenon in the nation's capital. Invent a major problem where none exists. Then propose a complicated and costly solution. Create yet another bureaucratic fiefdom, and hand out scads of federal grant money and patronage positions.

That's apparently what Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Joe Lieberman, D-Conn., have in mind with their new legislation to install a "cap-and-trade" system for controlling greenhouse gas emissions.

Their bill essentially was drafted by the eco-activist Pew Center on Global Climate Change and several multinational conglomerates, including British Petroleum and Royal Dutch Shell. It would establish emissions limits for carbon dioxide and set up an exorbitantly expensive Rube Goldberg apparatus that would allow companies to buy or sell permits to emit carbon dioxide.

It is the sort of plan Enron used to lobby for.

Ostensibly, the idea is to force U.S. companies to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide — emissions that environmentalists believe will cause Earth's temperature to warm by as much as eight to 10 degrees Fahrenheit by the end of this century and, supposedly, trigger catastrophic flooding combined with cracked-earth drought.

Yet the vast majority of U.S. scientists who specialize in climate studies believe the fear-mongers are wrong.

The United Nations Panel on Climate Change — often cited by environmentalists, they note — bases its projections on worst-case scenarios from two flawed computer models, each of which significantly contradicts the other when it comes to the impact of global warming on specific geographic areas.

What is known is that Earth's temperature has increased about 1 degree Fahrenheit over the past 120 years, and even that may be misleading. National Aeronautics and Space Administration satellites show a slight cooling over the past two decades in the lower atmosphere, and, as the 19th century very likely was the coolest century of the past millennium, a slight warming since then is actually a positive development.

Earth has gone through repeated cycles of gradual warming and cooling for millions of years. This isn't likely to change under orders from the U.S. Senate.

While the McCain-Lieberman proposal would not mandate the draconian 30 percent cutbacks in energy use required by the 1997 Kyoto Treaty that most environmental groups favor, it would put a major hit on U.S. economic growth. Their bill would require all major industries to significantly reduce carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, which would cost tens of billions of dollars and likely result in layoffs of thousands of workers.

An economic stimulus plan it isn't. The Bush administration acted wisely in 2001 when it rejected ratifying the Kyoto Treaty, an action consistent with a 95-0 vote by a Democratic-controlled Senate in 1997 urging the Clinton administration to do the same thing.

President George W. Bush and his science advisers believe further study is needed into climate change, but they are promoting economic incentives to encourage voluntary reduction of emissions.

They also support further research into climate change, such as that already under way in Stanford University's new Global Climate and Energy Project. The project is a 10-year collaboration between academia and the private sector to find the clean energy alternatives that will allow reductions in man-made greenhouse emissions without damaging the economy.

Stanford has been supported by \$225 million in grants from ExxonMobil, General Electric and Schlumberger and E.ON, the European energy distributor. The selection of Franklin M. Orr Jr., dean of Stanford's respected School of Earth Sciences, to head the new project apparently has guaranteed its independence to the satisfaction of most mainstream environmental groups.

In the meantime, all eyes are on McCain and Lieberman — which, doubtless, is the way they want it. Expecting opposition from other senators, they've bypassed the Environment and Public Works Committee that normally would have jurisdiction over their bill and provided an early leadership test for new Senate Major Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn.

With the United States about to go to war in the Middle East, Frist should strip McCain of jurisdiction over an ill-advised piece of legislation aimed at fixing something that doesn't appear to be broken.

Until sound science actually demonstrates that global warming is a real problem — and proves that it is one caused by man-made emissions — Congress shouldn't do as McCain and Lieberman ask and take the chance of pushing a frail economic recovery into a major relapse.

*Amy Ridenour is president of the National Center for Public Policy Research. Write to her at NCPPR, 777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 803, Washington, DC 20002, or e-mail her at aridenournationalcenter.org.*

## Daimler-Chrysler Official Apologizes for Conservative Slur

By Marc Morano  
CNSNews.com Senior Staff Writer  
February 14, 2003

(CNSNews.com) - A DaimlerChrysler official who called conservative critics of Jesse Jackson "myopic" in January has apologized for his comments.

In a handwritten letter dated Feb. 13, DaimlerChrysler Senior Vice President Frank Fountain wrote that he wished "to express my deepest regret" for the slur against conservatives.

"My choice of words was unfortunate, but there was no intention to negatively characterize conservatives. Any such characterization was unfair and unintended," Fountain wrote.

The letter was sent to Amy Ridenour, president of the National Center for Public Policy Research, one of two conservative groups that protested Fountain's comments.

DaimlerChrysler spokeswoman Debra Nelson told CNSNews.com, "Mr. Fountain's comments were sincere. We believe that they reflect the company sentiment."

Ridenour accepted DaimlerChrysler's apology without reservations, telling CNSNews.com she was "very impressed with the depth of [DaimlerChrysler's] sincerity. I am very impressed with the way they are handling it."

Ridenour said Fountain "seemed to show a tremendous respect not only for conservatives but for all Americans" in the letter.

In his letter, Fountain wrote "I apologize to anyone who may have been offended by my remarks," adding that he is "committed to sustaining an open dialogue with the conservative community."

Fountain had originally said most conservative critics of Jesse Jackson, had a "myopic view of the world." Fountain made the comments during an interview with CNSNews.com while appearing at Jackson's Wall Street Project fundraiser in New York City in January.

According to Ridenour, officials from DaimlerChrysler indicated that the auto giant received "quite a few" letters from consumers complaining about the "myopic" slur. Bill O'Reilly of Fox News Channel also featured the comment on his program following the CNSNews.com interview with Fountain.

Ridenour is hopeful the controversy is over.

"Conservatives and Chrysler corporations will get along better and we now know they respect us," said Ridenour. "Maybe we can be friends."

# Sharpton talks with Sen. Frist

By James G. Lakely  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The Rev. Al Sharpton called on Republicans yesterday to "clarify themselves" on civil rights issues, and said he has had conversations with incoming Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist that he hopes will "be healthy in this post-Lott atmosphere."

Mr. Sharpton said he and Mr. Frist had a "cordial conversation" a few days before the Tennessee Republican was elected to replace Sen. Trent Lott of Mississippi as majority leader. Mr. Lott was forced to step down after making comments that were seen by some as nostalgic for racial segregation.

Civil rights leaders, including the Congressional Black Caucus, will meet with Mr. Frist early next year to express their concerns about much of President Bush's agenda, Mr. Sharpton said. The coalition will oppose the president's more conservative nominees to the federal bench, making last year's income tax cuts "for the most wealthy" permanent, eliminating the estate tax, and its support for an immediate extension of unemployment benefits, which will expire for many at the end of this month.

"I told [Mr. Frist] that this could be an opportunity for the Republicans to clarify themselves," said Mr. Sharpton, who is considering running for president. "They should not take Senator Lott's decision to step aside as a sign that the concerns of the black community have stepped aside."

David Almasi, director of Project 21, a conservative black think tank, said he is encouraged that Mr. Frist has reached out to people such as Mr. Sharpton, but Republicans shouldn't let them dictate the agenda.

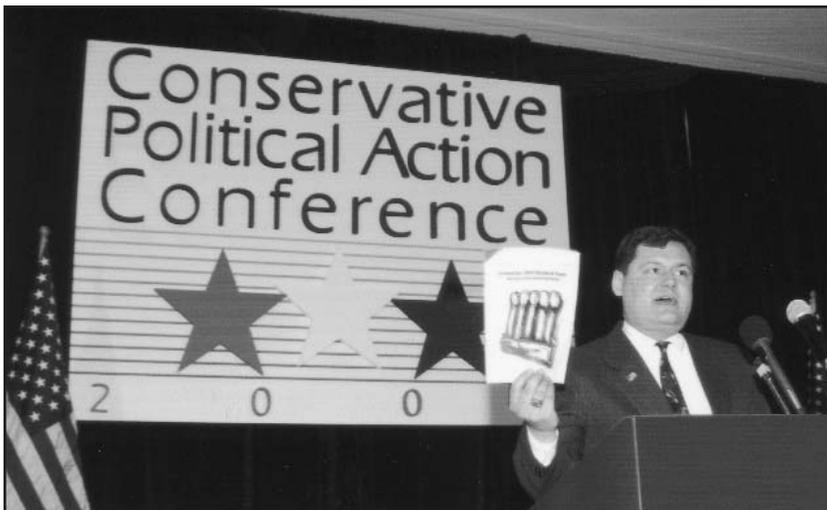
"Mr. Frist should go in there with the upper hand, and not the way Trent Lott did, with his hat in hand," Mr. Almasi said, referring to Mr. Lott's interview on Black Entertainment Television, which some conservatives criticized as a "sell-

***"Mr. Frist should go in there with the upper hand, and not the way Trent Lott did, with his hat in hand."***

— David Almasi,  
Project 21

out" of principled colorblind public policies.

"The way that the Bush administration has done things, the way that the Senate has operated, there's no pressing need for the civil rights community to make new demands," Mr. Almasi said. "They are just looking at this situation as an opportunity to demagogue and force [Republicans] to accept their agenda. Mr. Frist doesn't need to do that."



National Center executive director David W. Almasi speaks on the growing problem of eco-terrorism at the 30th annual Conservative Political Action Conference.

WASHINGTON TIMES

WASHINGTON, DC  
SATURDAY 107,358  
DEC 28 2002



monday night at  
**morton's**



ben stein at hollywood's a-list table

## ASK BEN STEIN

### Dear Ben:

I'm a big fan of yours. You have, however, crushed me with your throwaway line in your recent column about SUVs existing only to make small people feel big. They don't. (Nor do movies, by the way, and I can say that with some confidence, because I've never met a sentient American who has less interest in movies than I do.)

Whatever their impact upon *some* peoples' psyche, SUVs also exist because people with children need the room. We adopted a newborn and had twins the same year--you try putting a triplet stroller in a sedan. I still love you, but I'm miffed.

Amy Ridenour

### Dear Amy:

I am humbled--and instructed, too. From now on, I will love SUVs. Actually, though, family needs notwithstanding, in my neck of the woods, we see mostly young single women lumbering around in SUVs.

# Democrats paid for their lack of vision

## In politics, you stay in the majority by acting like you're in the minority

By Amy Ridenour

**I**RONICALLY, the Democrats lost their Senate majority Tuesday because they haven't learned to be a minority.

Political parties that are out of power succeed or fail on the quality and the popularity of the alternative they offer. If a minority party proposes a clear, well-liked alternative governing vision, voters will be intrigued.

If not, they won't be. Although Democrats have stark policy differences with Republicans, they failed to show the voters a serious alternative agenda.

Take, for instance, the issue of prescription drugs. The Democrats had hoped this issue would be key. It wasn't. Voters sensed hot air — and rightly so.

Consider the much-ballyhooed prescription drug benefit. The GOP-led House approved a bill; the Democrat-led Senate did not.

Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., wouldn't let them. Republican

candidates thus were easily able to deflect Democratic criticism of the GOP plan. Voters didn't get an important debate contrasting alternative visions. Instead, they were led to see the issue simply as "Republicans working; Democrats talking." On generic drugs, an issue offering at least some possible political traction for Democrats, the Senate did pass Schumer-McCain legislation restricting the ability of drug companies to protect their patents.

Democrats, however, were unable to explain away adequately the serious problems with such a proposal — like how generic firms that invent no new drugs would ever help find a cure for cancer or Alzheimer's disease and why new drugs should have less patent protection than any other product.

Having no real answer, and vulnerable to charges that generic drug companies had bought their support through campaign contributions, the Democrats floundered on the issue — even losing key races in border states where they had believed the issue to be particularly

powerful.

The Center for Responsive Politics says the Association of Trial Lawyers of America gave 90 percent of its donations to Democrats. The money made it impossible for Democrats to do anything but ignore the damage done by specious lawsuits against drug manufacturers. These lawsuits tend to raise drug costs and depress the development of new drugs with little benefit to anyone but lawyers.

The Democrats had been optimistic about the political benefits of demonizing Republicans on Social Security, viciously attacking any Republican candidate who dared propose averting a Social Security meltdown through partial-privatization reforms.

However, Social Security's unsound finances are no secret. What is secret is what Democrats would do instead. It was one more instance of Democrats letting Republicans cast an issue as "Republicans working; Democrats talking."

Democrats similarly were unable to exploit economic woes. They've criticized Bush for inattention to domestic matters, but an alternative Democratic plan is missing in action. The Democratic Senate has so far failed even to approve a federal budget, a task it was

supposed to complete by Oct. 1.

Minority parties must do two things to succeed: have an attractive agenda and communicate it well. The Republicans used this model to decisively win control of Congress in 1994.

The Republicans still think like the minority they used to be. They have proposals on major issues and expend great effort communicating details about them. They act like a party that believes it has to prove itself.

Conversely, the Democrats still have many of the bad habits acquired during their decades in the majority. They avoid true debates, often acting like the GOP is barely worthy of notice. Leading Democrats often label Republican proposals "right-wing" or "extreme," but rarely go to the trouble of explaining to the public what makes them so.

A party that won't — or can't — tell the voters what it wants to do is unattractive. If Democrats want to do better nationally in 2004, they must develop sound proposals — and start showing the public that they are fighting hard for them.

*Amy Ridenour is president of the National Center for Public Policy Research, [www.nationalcenter.org](http://www.nationalcenter.org).*

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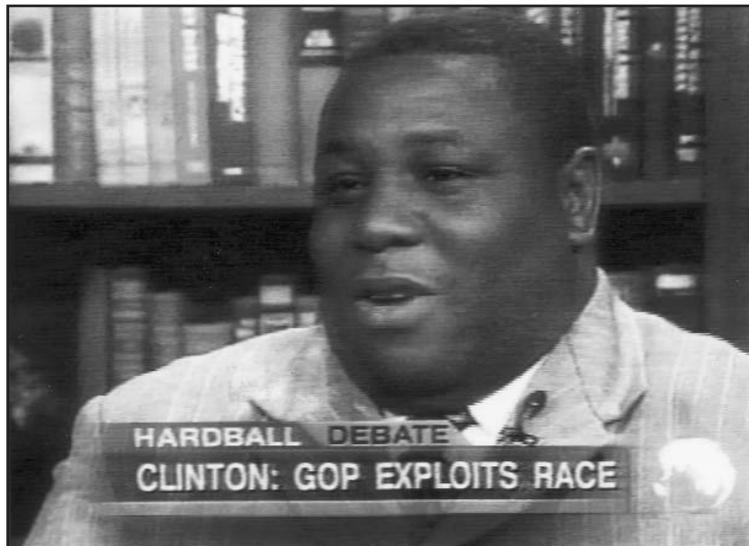
A just-released study of "smart growth" policies in cities around the country challenges claims by supporters that anti-sprawl measures benefit the environment and improve quality of life. The study, by the National Center for Public Policy Research ([www.nationalcenter.org](http://www.nationalcenter.org)), found that the environment is no better in cities such as Portland, Ore., where outward growth is restricted, and that higher housing prices make it harder for low-income families to buy homes. "Restricted growth policies can fairly be dubbed 'the new segregation,' as they deter African-Americans and other minorities from the housing market at disproportionate rates," said Amy Ridenour, president of the center. And that's not smart at all.

DAILY NEWS

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*Project 21 member Kevin Martin sets the record straight on which politicians were playing the race card during the Trent Lott controversy on CNBC's "Hardball."*



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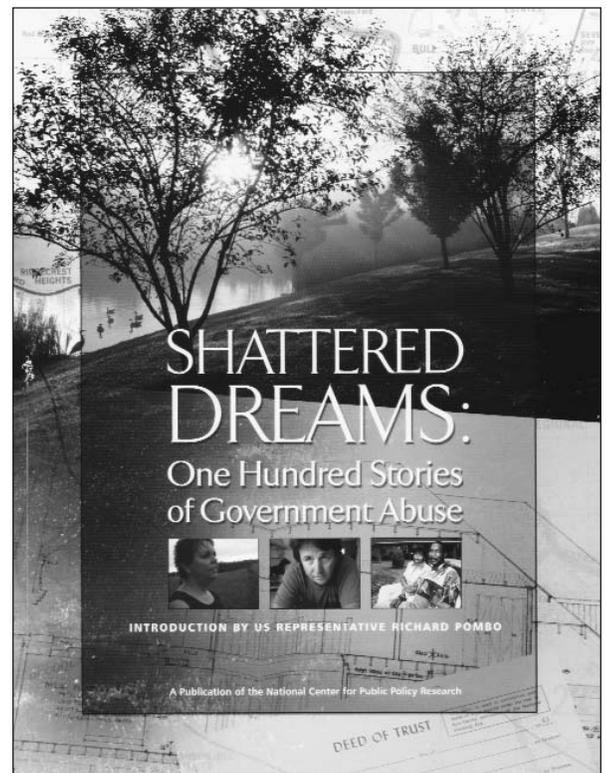
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*Project 21 National Advisory Council president Edmund Peterson makes a point with Marlo Lewis of the Competitive Enterprise Institute and Telly Lovelace of Senator Jim Talent's office. The event: A National Center luncheon examining the disproportionately high price paid by minorities and the poor when policies pushed by the environmental left are adopted.*



*The National Center recently released its fourth edition of stories highlighting the stories of victims of overregulation and governmental abuse. To obtain a copy of Shattered Dreams: 100 Stories of Government Abuse, please visit our website or contact our office.*