Written by Luis Miguel on April 13, 2023



# Why Teachers Shouldn't Be Allowed to Unionize

Former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo may have a varied political record when it comes to constitutionalism, but his reply when asked about the most dangerous person in the world is insightful:

"I tell the story often — I get asked 'Who's the most dangerous person in the world? Is it Chairman Kim, is it Xi Jinping?' The most dangerous person in the world is Randi Weingarten."

Weingarten is the president of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), the secondbiggest teachers union in the United States.



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Pompeo added, "It's not a close call. If you ask, 'Who's the most likely to take this republic down?' It would be the teacher's unions, and the filth that they're teaching our kids, and the fact that they don't know math and reading or writing."

At this point, it's not up for debate whether teachers unions are politically driven and inherently leftist. The facts speak for themselves.

As *The New American* previously <u>reported</u>, between 2020 and 2021, the National Education Association (which is not only the largest *teachers* union, but the biggest *labor* union in the country) gave over \$8 million to left-wing dark money groups such as the State Innovation Exchange, Strategic Victory Fund, and State Engagement Fund. The latter, which received \$6.5 million of the teachers union's cash, exists under the umbrella of Democracy Alliance.

Democracy Alliance is the <u>brainchild</u> of socialist megadonor George Soros. According to its website, Democracy Alliance was created in 2013 to keep supporters of Barack Obama engaged, using its network, technology, and volunteers to support issues such as "gun violence, women's health, comprehensive immigration reform, middle-class job creation, climate change, marriage equality, and other legislative priorities at the state level."

Notably, Weingarten campaigned for former Virginia Democratic Governor Terry McAuliffe, who lost in an upset to Republican Glenn Youngkin. Both the NEA and the AFT disclosed a combined contribution of \$600,000 toward McAuliffe's campaign.

Moreover, NEA and AFT gave \$1.3 million to Democrats — as opposed to just \$2,500 to Republicans — for the 2022 cycle.

NEA also endorsed the national organization Black Lives Matter at School (BLMS), which is seeking to foment a "new uprising for racial justice" by injecting Black Lives Matter's "guiding principles" (including concepts such as "globalism," "transgender affirming," and "queer affirming") into school curricula throughout the country.

Given these realities, Pompeo's declaration that Weingarten poses a greater threat to America than Kim and Xi is not without grounds.

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Hitler famously said that "He alone, who owns the youth, gains the future." The Left has taken this principle and run with it, using schools not as places of learning, but as indoctrination centers where they socially engineer a new generation of Marxist fanatics.

Just look at how vehemently teachers, administrators, and teachers unions are fighting to keep pornographic materials on campuses, to teach LGBT propaganda and critical race theory, and to keep parents in the dark about what is going on in their children's lives.

Of course, the swiftest solution to ending the power of the teachers unions is to deprive Marxist "educators" of work in the first place — by getting the kids out of government schools.

But since inculcating the general public about the benefits of homeschooling and other public-school alternatives is a long-term project, the Right should in the short term also seek to curtail the power the unions have over schools.

After all, it is not just about our own children. At the end of the day, we are all affected by the successful indoctrination of other people's kids. We want to ensure our own children receive a true education, of course, but we also don't want them to grow up in a world run by a generation of die-hard Marxists.

The teachers unions must be eliminated. And there is legal justification to do so. While private-sector employees should naturally be allowed to make associations as they wish, as protected by the Constitution, public school teachers are *public* employees.

Government employees of any stripe should not be allowed to unionize; the entire point of being *public* is that they serve at the discretion of tax-paying citizens and should be answerable to the people. If teachers want the freedom to organize and insulate themselves from their employers, they should pursue employment in the private sector, not government.

The notion of teachers unions runs counter to the proper social dynamic of rearing children. A child's rearing is the responsibility and jurisdiction of his parents. Education is merely an extension of that process, one which parents are paying teachers for (usually through taxes). The final word is and should always be with the parents; teachers do not have a right to place themselves above the will of parents.

This proper order has been attacked and eroded immensely over the years, and the teachers unions have played a pivotal role in taking the power in education away from the parents. If parents want to reclaim this power, they must do away with the teachers unions once and for all.





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