



Written by [Staff](#) on November 22, 2022

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Inside Track

Two More Oregon Counties Vote to Study a Move to Idaho



(Sam Beebe/Wikimedia Commons)

Upset with being ignored by Oregon’s population centers whose far-left politics dominate the state, two additional rural Oregon counties have voted to study the possibility of a move to neighboring Idaho. Both Morrow and Wheeler counties have voted to join the Greater Idaho campaign, which posits that Oregon east of the Cascade mountains fits better socially and politically with the Gem State. The measures passed easily, with nearly 60 percent of both counties agreeing to study the move.

Morrow and Wheeler became the 10th and 11th eastern Oregon counties to approve a plan to study a possible move to Idaho. The Greater Idaho movement has targeted 15 Oregon counties to switch states; Crook, Gilliam, and Umatilla counties have not yet agreed to put an advisory question on the ballot.

Greater Idaho organizers claim that they have gained enough signatures for Wallowa County, in the extreme northeast portion of the state, to be the next county to consider the move.

Proponents of a move to Idaho believe that the left-wing population centers in Portland, Salem, Eugene, and other areas of western Oregon have an unfair advantage electorally.

“The voters of western Oregon overwhelmingly passed a ballot measure that will increase the power of the Democrat majority to run roughshod over objections by legislative minorities. This will prevent us from blocking the worst mistakes the Legislature has tried to make in the past, such as a carbon cap that would hobble eastern Oregon livelihoods,” said Greater Idaho leader Mike McCarter on November 9.

Regardless of whether Greater Idaho achieves its goal to have all 15 counties study and approve a request to move to Idaho, the movement still faces two hurdles: The Oregon and Idaho state legislatures would have to approve the move; and they would be required to get the federal government’s approval.

— James Murphy



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Survey: 42 Percent of Gen Z Diagnosed With a Mental-health Condition



(SDI Productions/iStock/Getty Images Plus)

Our government's reaction to Covid-19 — with lockdowns, mask mandates, and other draconian policies — appears to be largely responsible for the current mental-health conditions of Generation Z (born 1996-2012). A new survey has revealed that an astonishing 42 percent of these young people have been diagnosed with a mental-health condition.

The September 2022 survey of over 1,000 Gen Zers by Harmony Healthcare IT found that these young adults began dealing with mental-health problems in the months immediately following the start of the global pandemic in the spring of 2020. A staggering percentage of young adults shared that they were diagnosed with anxiety, depression, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) during the pandemic.

The survey reported, “Almost 3 in 4 Gen Zers say the pandemic has negatively impacted their mental health. On top of day-to-day mental health struggles, many are concerned and unsure about what lies ahead for them.”

Close to a third of Gen Zers rated their overall mental health as “bad” in 2022. One out of four reported having more bad days than good each month, with an average of about 10 tough mental-health days in the span of one month.

The survey also revealed, “More than two in five have a diagnosed mental health condition. Of those, more than one out of four (26%) were diagnosed during the pandemic (from March 2020 or later). The biggest mental health issue Gen Z deals with is anxiety. Nine out of ten Gen Z with diagnosed mental health conditions struggle with anxiety, and nearly eight out of ten (78%) are battling depression.”

Most concerning was that Gen Z is quite worried about the future. “Nearly 90% of Gen Z does not feel like their generation has been set up for success, and 75% feel they have a disadvantage compared to other generations.”

The question now is how Gen Z will move forward in handling their future, as they will one day be leaders with the opportunity to change our world, hopefully for the better.



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— David Kelly

Biden Gets WaPo “Bottomless Pinocchio” Award



Joe Biden (AP Images)

President Joe Biden earned his first *Washington Post* “Bottomless Pinocchio” award for repeating a claim the left-wing paper had previously debunked, while other recent Biden “gaffes” were also put under fact-checker Glenn Kessler’s microscope November 7.

Actually, one of Biden’s recent claims, which he has been making for years, had already merited a full fact-check within a month of his inauguration. Specifically, the president said on November 3 that he had spent “more time with [Chinese President] Xi Jinping than any other head of state,” having “traveled 17,000 miles with him.”

In February 2021, however, Kessler had debunked that claim. “There is no evidence Biden traveled that much with Xi ... and even if we added up the miles Biden flew to see Xi, it still did not total 17,000 miles,” he penned November 7. “The White House could not offer an explanation for that number either.”

At the time, Kessler awarded the claim Three Pinocchios. But since Biden has repeated it at least 20 times despite its having been publicly debunked, it has been upgraded to a Bottomless Pinocchio, which Kessler describes as “false or misleading statements repeated so often that they [become] a form of propaganda.”

Kessler next examined Biden’s October 27 assertion that “the most common price of gas in America” was “over \$5 when I took office.” According to the Energy Information Administration, the average gas price was around \$2.48 per gallon the week of Biden’s inauguration.

In an October 23 appearance, Biden said, “You are probably aware that I just signed a law” forgiving student-loan debt. “I got it passed by a vote or two,” he added. “But,” Kessler pointed out, “he never presented such a proposal for Congress to consider.” Instead, his administration simply invented a new interpretation of an existing law to allow the Secretary of Education to forgive student-loan debt.

Kessler’s analysis merely scratches the surface of Biden’s misstatements. Let’s see how many more Pinocchios, bottomless or otherwise, Biden can rack up before vacating 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.



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— Michael Tennant

“Ministry of Truth” Still Operating



Alejandro Mayorkas (U.S. Department of Homeland Security)

Constitutionalist Americans cheered the rapid “demise” of the Orwellian “Ministry of Truth,” but it appears the celebration may have come too soon.

According to leaked documents obtained October 31 by journalists Ken Klippenstein and Lee Fang at The Intercept, the Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) supposedly short-lived Disinformation Governance Board (DGB) is not defunct, as the public had come to believe. Rather, it has simply been renamed and reorganized, and will continue to exert a censoring presence on speech in America.

The DGB was the subject of widespread public scrutiny from the moment it was announced on April 27. Only three weeks later, the board was shelved and its appointed chief, Nina Jankowicz, resigned.

Once DHS head Alejandro Mayorkas supposedly closed the DGB permanently in August, it appeared the story was over. But leaked documents from DHS’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) paint a different picture.

The Intercept reports about CISA’s goals on the disinformation front: “In June, the same DHS advisory committee of CISA — which includes Twitter head of legal policy, trust, and safety Vijaya Gadde and University of Washington professor Kate Starbird — drafted a report to the CISA director calling for an expansive role for the agency in shaping the ‘information ecosystem.’ The report called on the agency to closely monitor ‘social media platforms of all sizes, mainstream media, cable news, hyper partisan media, talk radio and other online resources.’ They argued that the agency needed to take steps to halt the ‘spread of false and misleading information,’ with a focus on information that undermines ‘key democratic institutions, such as the courts, or ... other sectors such as the financial system, or public health measures.’”

It should have been suspected that the administration would preserve the unconstitutional powers of the DGB under the deceptive guise of another agency. When tyrants grab hold of power, they never let it go willingly.

— Luis Miguel



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