



Written by [Staff](#) on June 6, 2023

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## Inside Track

### Carbon-credit Scammer Steps Down



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David Antonioli announced on May 22 that he will step down as CEO of the climate-action nonprofit Verra, one of the world's foremost certifiers of so-called carbon credits. The announcement comes after a recent investigation into the group found that approximately 90 percent of Verra's "carbon credits" are worthless and have no measurable impact on carbon reductions.

As reported by *The Guardian*, a joint investigation completed in January by *The Guardian*, the German newspaper *Die Zeit*, and SourceMaterial, a nonprofit investigative journalism group, found that only a few of Verra's rainforest projects showed any evidence of halting deforestation, which climate alarmists claim is a major factor allowing runaway global warming. The investigation also found that the threats to rainforests on projects for which Verra was issuing carbon credits were overestimated by 400 percent, according to a 2022 University of Cambridge study.

According to lead author Thales West from the University of Amsterdam, "The evidence from the analysis ... suggests we cannot [trust Verra's predictions about deforestation]." Erin Sills, a professor at the Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources at North Carolina State, was also vexed with Verra, calling the results of the Cambridge study "disappointing and scary."

David Coomes of Cambridge University, senior author on the Cambridge study, claimed, "It's safe to say there are strong discrepancies between what we're calculating and what exists in [Verra's] databases, and that is a matter for concern and further investigation."

It's important to note that West, Sills, and Coomes are not climate contrarians, but scientists with a vested interest in the climate narrative being pushed by the UN. If Verra's carbon-credit claims do not meet with their approval, it's likely that any emissions reductions claimed by Verra are nonexistent.

The scam that Antonioli and Verra are pushing on major corporations is the same sort of swindle that made Al Gore rich. "Carbon offsets" are a con made to line the pockets of flim-flam men. Ultimately, they're worthless where investors — and the climate — are concerned.

— *Jim Murphy*



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## Australian Territory to Take Over Catholic Hospital



Dfadden/Wikimedia Commons

Australia's ABC News reported on May 10 that an Australian territorial government plans to take over a Catholic hospital to make way for a new, government-run facility — and to ensure that “reproductive justice,” i.e., abortion, marches on.

The Australian Capital Territory (ACT), which encompasses Canberra and its environs, announced May 10 that it would spend more than \$1 billion to build a new hospital on the site of the current Calvary Hospital, a facility run since its 1979 inception by the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary. Since the hospital would not agree to the government's terms, ACT Health Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith introduced legislation to enable the government “to acquire the Calvary Public Hospital land, and transition existing Calvary staff and assets to the Territory.”

In April, a legislative committee issued a report that excoriated Calvary for its opposition to “reproductive justice.” “It is problematic that one of the ACT's major hospitals is, due to an overriding religious ethos, restricted in the services that can be delivered to the Canberra community,” penned the committee, which decried the government's “ethically fraught dependence on the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary for provision of health services.”

The report recommended “that the ACT Government advocate Calvary Hospital to provide full reproductive health services in accordance with human rights” — gestating humans not included.

Local Catholics understand the significance of the move. The archbishop of Canberra, Christopher Prowse, posted a May 24 letter on Australia's Catholic Outlook website stating, “This extraordinary and completely unnecessary government intervention could set the scene for future acquisitions of any faith-based health facility, or, indeed, any faith-based enterprise including education or social welfare.”

To be fair, though, Calvary has been the recipient of a great deal of government funding over the years. According to the committee report, the ACT government gave Calvary \$261 million in 2021-22. The hospital could hardly expect to go on receiving taxpayer largesse forever without eventually ceding control to the powers that be.

— *Michael Tennant*



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## Vivek Ramaswamy's LinkedIn Account Suspended



AP Images

Noting that “Big Tech election interference has begun,” GOP presidential candidate Vivek Ramaswamy reported on Twitter on May 25 that his LinkedIn account had been suspended for violating the website’s policies on “misinformation, hate speech, and violence.”

The job-seeking site referenced three videos that Ramaswamy had shared. The first was a February 5 video in which Ramaswamy opined that the Chinese Communist Party was “playing the Biden administration like a Chinese mandolin”; the second, shared on February 16, contained the comment, “If the climate religion was really about climate change, then they’d be worried about, say, shifting oil production from the U.S. to places like Russia and China. Yet, the climate religion and its apostles in the ESG movement have a different objective”; and the third, posted on May 7, had the audacity to say that “The climate agenda is a lie: fossil fuels are a requirement for human prosperity.”

Ramaswamy’s account was blocked for nearly a week — until he made the May 25 announcement on Twitter. Later that day, LinkedIn restored his account, claiming that it had been “restricted in error.”

Back in February, the GOP candidate also had strong words against the ESG movement, which considers climate policy and “woke” politics when giving out its scores for investors. “If you really cared that much about so-called carbon emissions, you would be a proponent of nuclear energy,” he noted. “And yet, this ESG movement ... excludes nuclear energy companies from their ESG funds. The ESG movement is hostile to nuclear energy.... The problem with nuclear energy for this movement is not that it is too bad, but that it might be too good at solving their own — in my opinion — mostly made-up problem.”

Ramaswamy, a first generation Indian-American, is a problem for leftists. He’s young, intelligent, well-spoken, and, worst of all from the Democrats’ point of view, a person of color. Expect him to receive the Clarence Thomas treatment from the Left going forward.

— *Jim Murphy*

## George Washington University Changes Monikers



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[twitter.com/barstoolsports](https://twitter.com/barstoolsports)

On May 24, George Washington University announced on its website that a new moniker had been chosen for its sports teams. Instead of the Colonials, which had been their name since 1926, the school's teams will now be known as the Revolutionaries. Students and faculty considered the name Colonials offensive, so decided in June of last year that a change was needed.

While Indian- and Confederate-themed names have been considered offensive to many on the political left for decades, this might be the first time that a name referencing America's Founding Fathers has been replaced with a (supposedly) more politically correct one.

The new name was chosen because Revolutionaries "are not afraid to break boundaries and change the game. The GW Revolutionaries go beyond what's conventional or expected to focus on shifting mindsets and creating a new future for ourselves and our world," the school explained in its announcement.

What was wrong with the name Colonials, which paid homage to America's Founding Fathers, who broke away from their colonial status during America's Revolutionary War? Apparently, it was not "inclusive" enough for many. Plus, "It was a term [George Washington] associated with narrow-mindedness, with a certain provincialism," said history professor Denver Brunsman.

Opposition to the name Colonials began in earnest in 2019, when the student body voted to remove it and an "Anything But Colonials Coalition" was created. In 2021 the coalition delivered a petition to the university president, claiming that "Colonials were active purveyors of colonialism and were complicit in militarized and racialized violence, oppression, and hierarchy. Colonialism has been historically and contemporaneously built upon usurping land, labor, and autonomy from racialized communities through dehumanizing violence and suppression."

Happily, the school's mascot, George 1 — a George Washington caricature — will be allowed to stay, for now, at least. With the Left's pathological hatred of all things American, though, how long will it be until President Washington himself — a slave owner — is deemed unacceptable to "woke" students and faculty?

— *Jim Murphy*



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