



Written by [Staff](#) on July 11, 2023

Published in the July 31, 2023 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 39, No. 14

Inside Track

Bolsonaro Banned From Politics for Eight Years

According to a June 30 report by CNN, a seven-judge panel in Brazil has prohibited former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, the leader of the center-right Liberal Party, from running for office until 2030, thereby killing his chances of a 2026 challenge to President Luiz Inacio “Lula” da Silva of the left-wing Workers’ Party, to whom Bolsonaro lost in 2022 by the narrowest margin in decades.



Jair Bolsonaro (AP Images)

Bolsonaro claimed that the election system in that race was compromised by hackers, and that voting machines automatically filled out ballots for the Workers’ Party. In July 2022, Bolsonaro repeated to foreign ambassadors his claims of voter fraud, and this prompted another left-wing party, the Democratic Labor Party, to file a lawsuit against him. The party called on the Superior Electoral Tribunal (TSE) to ban Bolsonaro from running again, which the court did on June 30.

“This is an injustice against me.... Show me something concrete I have done against democracy. Perhaps my crime was doing the right thing for four years,” Bolsonaro said of the TSE’s ruling. He said he will appeal the decision, but even if he succeeds, there are more cases against him pending at the TSE, any one of which could result in another ban.

Ironically, Lula himself was banned after a conviction for taking bribes in 2017. His conviction was annulled by Brazil’s Supreme Court in March 2021, however, allowing him to successfully run against Bolsonaro and stage his own political comeback, returning to the presidency 12 years after having left the office.

However, Lula served prison time for his bribery charges and was never cleared of wrongdoing. The Supreme Court merely held that the lower court that convicted him, in the state of Parana, did not have jurisdiction, so he must be tried in Brasilia, where he lived at the time of his alleged crimes. CNN noted that the judge did not rule on whether Lula was guilty or not, but simply annulled the cases to be retried in Brasilia, where Lula could be convicted again.

— *Luis Miguel*



Written by [Staff](#) on July 11, 2023

Published in the July 31, 2023 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 39, No. 14

NYC Now Taking Care of More Migrants Than Homeless

New York City's Deputy Mayor of Health and Human Services Anne Williams-Isom announced during a press briefing on June 28 that, for the first time, the number of asylum-seeking migrants being taken care of by the city has surpassed the number of homeless New York residents under municipal care.

Fox News reported on June 28 that New York City is presently looking after more than 50,000 migrants — a figure Williams-Isom said is “unsustainable.” “You see from today's numbers that we have reached a tipping point,” she said. “We now have more asylum seekers in our care than longtime New Yorkers ... in our existing ... system.” Referring to the situation as a “humanitarian crisis,” Williams-Isom wants the federal government to alleviate the city's woes by sending monetary aid and material resources.

The week of June 19 saw 2,500 more migrants taken in by the city, she said. NYC has accepted responsibility for more than 81,200 migrants since spring 2022, and to meet the huge demand, the city has created 12 Humanitarian Emergency Response and Relief Centers and 176 shelter sites. An extension of contracts for 10 navigation sites (and the opening of an 11th) alone will be costing New Yorkers an additional \$2.3 million.



(AP Images)

To deal with the flood of migrants, Democratic Mayor Eric Adams has been transporting migrants out of the city to other counties, other states, and even other countries — though he has criticized Republican-led states such as Texas and Florida for doing the same thing.

Ironically, New York is a sanctuary city, meaning it shields illegal migrants from deportation and prosecution instead of cooperating with federal immigration enforcement authorities such as ICE. Now the Big Apple is having to confront the reality of what being a sanctuary city really means.

It's a fitting turn of events. Perhaps if more communities were forced to live with the consequences of the leftist immigration policies they claim to support on paper, they would quickly change their tune.

— *Luis Miguel*

Biology Professor Fired for Teaching Biology

The *New York Post* reported on June 23 that Dr. Johnson Varkey, a college biology professor at St. Philip's College in San Antonio, Texas, was fired from his position for teaching that sex is determined by



Written by [Staff](#) on July 11, 2023

Published in the July 31, 2023 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 39, No. 14

X and Y chromosomes.



(Christoph Burgstedt/iStock/Getty Images Plus)

On November 2, 2022, Varkey began his human biology class, covering the topic of the human reproductive system. In his nearly 20 years of teaching, he had covered the material many times without incident. But on this particular day, four enraged students stormed out in the middle of his lecture.

According to a June 23 statement from his legal team at the First Liberty Institute, Varkey had “stated, consistent with his study of human biology and religious beliefs, that sex was determined by chromosomes X and Y.” His attorneys pointed out that “in two decades of teaching these basic, unremarkable concepts, no other students complained.” However, these concepts offended the four pupils, who turned the professor in to school administration for discrimination, homophobia, transphobia, misogyny, and “religious preaching.”

In January, the Alamo Colleges District Human Resources Department sent Varkey an email warning him of an investigation. He received a notice of termination on January 27.

According to Varkey’s attorneys, that email included no examples, but stated only that his “teaching was offensive and unacceptable.” However, in this age of transgender hysteria, “offensive and unacceptable” is enough to ruin the career of a 20-year veteran biology professor.

In a late June letter to the school demanding Varkey’s reinstatement, First Liberty noted that “During Dr. Varkey’s 20-year employment as a biology professor at St. Philip’s College, he consistently received exemplary performance reviews and was never subject to discipline. Throughout that time, he never discussed with any student his personal views — religious or otherwise — on human gender or sexuality.”

It should be noted that the National Library of Medicine, an arm of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, identifies the X and Y chromosomes as the two sex chromosomes. Repeating this information is what got Varkey fired.

— *Rebecca Terrell*



Written by [Staff](#) on July 11, 2023

Published in the July 31, 2023 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 39, No. 14

Big Apple Takes Aim at Pizzerias

Historic New York City pizza joints could be forced to pony up thousands of dollars under a proposed city regulation aimed at reducing air pollution, as pizzerias with coal- or wood-fired ovens are being targeted by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for the exhaust from their chimneys.

According to a June 25 *New York Post* article, “Restaurants with coal-and-wood-fired ovens must hire an engineer or architect to assess the feasibility of installing emission controls devices to achieve a 75% reduction in particulate emissions. If this report concludes that a reduction of 75% or more cannot be achieved, or that no emissions controls can be installed, it must identify any emission controls that could provide a reduction of at least 25% or an explanation for why no emission controls can be installed.”



(maverick1967/iStock/Getty Images Plus)

The new rule was enacted pursuant to a 2015 city ordinance signed by then-Mayor Bill de Blasio and drafted in consultation with “environmental justice groups.”

Paul Giannone, owner of Paulie Gee’s Pizzeria in Brooklyn, tried to get ahead of the mandate by installing an air scrubber in the chimney of his wood-fired oven. Since 2018, Fox News reported on June 26, he’s spent \$20,000. And there is no end in sight, as in addition to engineering, plumbing, and installation costs and the cost of the machine itself, there is costly ongoing maintenance.

The pizza rule is expected to affect fewer than 100 businesses, according to the DEP. “I don’t know how much of a difference a hundred places is going to make,” Giannone told Fox News. “It’s a drop in the ocean.”

In fact, compared to the amount of carbon spewed by President Joe Biden’s “climate czar,” John Kerry, it’s microscopic. In a June 26 *New York Post* op-ed, Climate Depot’s Marc Morano calculated that one would have to burn a wood-fired oven continuously for 849 years to churn out the same amount of carbon dioxide that Kerry’s private jet produces in a single year.

— *Michael Tennant*



Subscribe to the New American

Get exclusive digital access to the most informative, non-partisan truthful news source for patriotic Americans!

Discover a refreshing blend of time-honored values, principles and insightful perspectives within the pages of "The New American" magazine. Delve into a world where tradition is the foundation, and exploration knows no bounds.

From politics and finance to foreign affairs, environment, culture, and technology, we bring you an unparalleled array of topics that matter most.



What's Included?

- 24 Issues Per Year
- Optional Print Edition
- Digital Edition Access
- Exclusive Subscriber Content
- Audio provided for all articles
- Unlimited access to past issues
- Coming Soon! Ad FREE
- 60-Day money back guarantee!
- Cancel anytime.

Subscribe