



Written by [John F. McManus](#) on January 6, 2014

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QuickQuotes

Some Call It “Positive Discrimination,” but Affirmative Action Is Still Wrong



Erick Erickson

(Photo credit: AP Images)

“We do know that those negatively affected by positive discrimination will be bitter and those who benefit from it will always be under a lingering doubt that they were chosen as tokens, not on merit.”

*Political commentator **Erick Erickson** debated “positive discrimination” at an Oxford Union forum. His side opposed the practice, and they were victorious.*

Group Calls for Legal Person Status for a Chimpanzee

“This petition asks this court to issue a writ recognizing that Tommy [the Chimp] is not a legal thing to be possessed by respondents, but rather is a cognitively complex autonomous legal person with the fundamental right not to be imprisoned.”

*In a suit filed in the Supreme Court at Fulton County, New York, **Stephen M. Wise** of the Nonhuman Rights Project is seeking to apply habeas corpus rights of humans to animals.*

China’s Policing of the Internet Grows

“They have always been able to control newspapers, radios, and TV stations, but there have been some holes in the Internet, and the microblogging was the last hole. They have achieved their goal.”

*According to Beijing-based political analyst **Chen Ziming**, the growth of social media in China caught the attention of government officials, who proceeded to establish control over this form of free speech in the country.*

Rising College Tuition Leading to Lower Student Numbers

“We’re all kind of holding our breath. The really big question is: Where is all of this heading?”



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*President **James Edwards** of Anderson University, a private Christian school that experienced a seven-percent drop in attendance, says his institution is one of many with a shrinking student population blamed by many on exorbitant tuition costs.*

Member of Congress Blames Her Lung Cancer on Asbestos



Carolyn McCarthy

(Photo credit: AP Images)

"My asbestos-related condition has disrupted my life, limiting me in everyday activities, and interfering with a normal life."

*A cigarette smoker during most of her adult life, 69-year-old Representative **Carolyn McCarthy** (D-N.Y.) discovered in early 2013 that she was suffering from lung cancer. She is one of a growing number of cigarette smokers trying to blame their cancer on asbestos.*

Democrat Voters Abandoning Their Party's Incumbents

"I told him I felt he's listening to the Democratic Party, which has left us. It swung to the Left and Mark [Pryor] went with them."

*Little Rock businessman **Porter Briggs** is a lifelong Democrat who was once a strong supporter of Senator Mark Pryor (D-Ark). But Pryor's support of ObamaCare has led Briggs now to support 2014's Republican challenger, Tom Cotton.*

Coins Left Behind at Airport Screening Process Add Up



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Jeff Miller

(Photo credit: AP Images)

“What may seem like a small amount of change ... amounts to hundreds of thousands of dollars each year and can make a significant difference if used wisely.”

*After TSA reported collecting over \$500,000 in loose change left at airports in 2012, Rep. **Jeff Miller** (R-Fla.) introduced a measure to have the money donated to groups such as the USO for use in easing the travels of service personnel and their families.*



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