



## Inside Track

### Census Bureau Forecasts Older Americans Will Outnumber Children

The U.S. Census Bureau released data from its 2017 National Population Projections on March 13 revealing an important demographic turning point in U.S. history. The report noted that by 2030, all Baby Boomers will be older than age 65. This will increase the size of the older population such that one in every five U.S. residents will be of retirement age.

“The aging of Baby Boomers means that within just a couple decades, older people are projected to outnumber children for the first time in U.S. history,” the release said, quoting Jonathan Vespa, a demographer with the U.S. Census Bureau. “By 2035, there will be 78.0 million people 65 years and older compared to 76.4 million under the age of 18.”

The Census Bureau’s projections indicated that the 2030s will be a “transformative” decade for the U.S. population in several respects. Notably, the population is expected to grow at a slower pace, age considerably, and become more racially and ethnically diverse.

The major source of population growth is also expected to shift. What the bureau describes as net international migration (as a result of immigration) is projected to overtake natural increase in 2030 as the primary source of population growth in the United States. The report said this is another demographic first for the United States.

A predictable outcome of having several generations with high birth rates followed by succeeding generations with low birth rates is that, eventually, there will be smaller numbers of workers paying into the Social Security system, just as the number of retirees is very high.

If one conclusion can be made from this latest census study, it is that the influential abortion and contraception lobby that has contributed to America’s declining birth rate for the past 55 years will inevitably change the demographic makeup of our nation in the future. Much has been written about the morality of the contraceptive culture, but that culture will have economic consequences, as well.

### Chinese Communist Party Influence on U.S. College Campuses

In true communist fashion, the Chinese government is using dishonest and underhanded tactics — and lots of money — to influence both perception and public policy in the United States. One of China’s favorite tactics is using Chinese student groups known as Chinese Students and Scholars Associations (CSSAs) to do the bidding of the communist government.

In a March 7 report, *Foreign Policy* exposed the ways the Chinese government funds student groups and directs their actions. It cites several examples, based on messages and records reviewed by *Foreign Policy*, as well as interviews with Chinese students, who “requested anonymity for fear of potential reprisals.”

One of the examples cited in the article is of Chinese President Xi Jinping’s September 24, 2015 visit to the United States. Xi visited business and tech leaders in and around Seattle, Washington, before heading to a state dinner with President Obama at the White House. But those were not the only honors shown to Xi during his visit. As the article explains, “When Chinese President Xi Jinping visited



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Washington on Sept. 24, 2015 on a state visit, hundreds of Chinese students lined the streets for hours, carrying banners and flags to welcome him.” Each of those students was paid \$20 for lining the streets, waiving prepared banners and flags, and praising the communist leader.

This practice is widespread and routine. The article says that “CSSAs regularly accept funds from their local consulates and many officially describe themselves as under the ‘guidance’ or ‘leadership’ of the embassy.”

A good example of that can be seen in what happens when a Chinese student refuses to praise the communist government. In May 2017, Shuping Yang, a graduating student at the University of Maryland, gave a commencement speech using the comparison between the air quality in the United States to that in China as a metaphor for the difference between freedom and tyranny. Yang was immediately attacked by the local CSSA, which accused her of spreading “false statements and rumor.” When the video of her speech went viral, they posted their own video denouncing Yang.

## **Wyoming Law Removes Penalty For Using Gold and Silver**

The Wyoming state legislature has passed by large majorities a bill that will remove tax penalties from people who choose to use gold and silver specie as a currency of exchange.

The Wyoming Legal Tender Act restores sound money in Wyoming, and on March 14, the bill became law without Governor Matt Mead’s signature.

Campaign for Liberty Chairman Ron Paul and Wyoming Campaign for Liberty State Coordinator Cathy Ide issued the following statements regarding the Wyoming Legislature’s passage of HB 103:

“Many thanks go to our bill sponsor, Representative Roy Edwards. His hard work on HB 103 and that of our dedicated grassroots supporters, led to an astounding 55-5 favorable House vote and 25-5 Senate vote,” said Ide. “As a result, Wyoming citizens will no longer be punished with any taxes simply for choosing to use gold as money, as laid out by the U.S. Constitution.”

“Passage of the Wyoming Legal Tender Act is the latest sign that dissatisfaction with the Federal Reserve’s money monopoly — and the movement to change our fiat currency system led by my Campaign for Liberty — is alive and growing,” Paul wrote in a press release announcing the official enactment of the measure.

In plain English, this provides a way for men and women of Wyoming to buy and sell gold and silver without having to treat it as a capital gain, thus reducing the reach of the Federal Reserve inside the state of Wyoming.

Before passage of the Wyoming Legal Tender Act, the laws of that state required that all debts be paid in Federal Reserve notes or in coins issued by the government of the United States. This is in direct contradiction to Article I, Section 10 of the U.S. Constitution, which reads, “No State shall ... make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts.”

Wyoming is headed in the right direction with the enactment of its Legal Tender Act. Other states, Ron Paul believes, will soon follow.



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## **Anti-gun Hollywood Turning Off Americans**

A poll conducted by Zogby Analytics during the last week of February showed how the combination of hypocrisy and real-world facts are negating Hollywood's anti-gun message. When 869 likely voters were asked by Zogby, "When Hollywood actors and actresses speak out about gun control, does that make you want to support or oppose our constitutional right to bear arms (the 2nd Amendment to the Constitution)?", the response across every class, age group, and political party affiliation indicated that Hollywood's anti-gun message is being increasingly rejected. Taken altogether, 56 percent of those polled said Hollywood's anti-gun rants make them want either to "somewhat" support or "strongly support" the Second Amendment. Just 28 percent reflect the bias pitched by Hollywood, with 16 percent "strongly opposed" to the right guaranteed by the Second Amendment in the Constitution's Bill of Rights, and 12 percent "somewhat opposed."

Surprisingly, support for the Second Amendment was strongest among millennials: "Among all age groups surveyed, supporting the Second Amendment was strongest among Millennials age 18-29 (65% support). A majority of all other age groups were also more likely to support the Second Amendment rather than oppose it when Hollywood talks about gun control."

When it came to political party, equal percentages of Democrats and Independents (47 percent) support the Second Amendment, while Republicans were nearly off the charts at 86-percent support.

This could be especially dicey for Democrats in November: "As we approach the November midterms, gun control will be a hot button issue but, according to [our] data, Hollywood interjecting itself into the debate makes even the Democratic base want to bear arms."

The more the Left pushes its anti-gun, anti-Second Amendment meme, the more Americans are waking up to the fact that they are being played for fools. As the National Rifle Association's Institute for Legislative Action expressed it: "According to the Zogby poll ... all these efforts have actually done a great service to the Second Amendment.... Hooray for Hollywood lecturing the rest of the country on the evils of firearms!"

## **Social Media Purges of Conservatives and Christians Spark Outcry**

With social-media giants becoming increasingly hostile to anyone who disagrees with statist and globalist ideology, a growing chorus of voices is sounding the alarm. Christians, conservatives, libertarians, patriots, and more have all been purged from key platforms. On Capitol Hill and across America, outrage over the politically motivated "censorship" is escalating. Now, with lawsuits flying and calls for regulation getting louder, a number of legal issues confront the Internet behemoths — Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Google, and more — that could lead to dramatic changes in the years ahead.

Some critics of the social-media purges are hoping government will step in. Noting that the feds have been intimately involved in the development of social media from the start, more than a few prominent voices want Congress to approve an "Internet Bill of Rights." The measure would basically extend protections enshrined in the First and Fourth amendments to the online world. Other critics are hoping the federal government will use anti-trust statutes to crack down on Internet "monopolies," potentially



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breaking them up and introducing more competition.

Social-media companies involved in the effort to cleanse the Internet of “thought crimes” have tried to downplay concerns, pretending that it has nothing to do with politics. Twitter, for instance, released a statement claiming its censorship regime is not political. “We enforce our rules without political bias,” the company claimed, even as a growing barrage of lawsuits claims otherwise. Based on recent developments, Twitter’s claim rings hollow, purge victims say. YouTube has even partnered with the far-left Southern Poverty Law Center, widely described as an anti-Christian hate group, to censor video content.

The unprecedented crackdown on conservative and Christian speech has ensnared some of the most powerful and influential voices in American media, including conservative talk-radio titan Alex Jones and his Infowars media empire. Other targets of the recent purges include “Health Ranger” Mike Adams of Natural News, an enormously influential service focusing on natural health. Also caught up has been Prager University, a nonprofit education service that has attracted a massive following. A number of popular YouTube channels were taken down for allegedly promoting “conspiracy theories.” Facebook even censored popular Christian evangelist Julio Severo for posting a well-known Bible verse, which the company deemed “hate speech” before reversing its decision in the wake of an international outcry.

In response to the purges, a number of prominent voices are calling for an all-hands-on-deck effort to fight back. And some top lawmakers are taking note. At a January 17 Senate hearing, Senator Ted Cruz (R-Texas) began by asking representatives of the Internet giants — Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube — whether they consider themselves to be “neutral” in providing a forum for public discussion. All of them answered yes.

“The pattern of political censorship we are seeing across the technology companies is highly concerning,” Senator Cruz said in his closing remarks. “And the opening question I asked of whether you are a neutral public forum — if you are a neutral public forum, that does not allow for political editorializing and censorship. And if you are not a neutral public forum, the entire predicate for liability immunity under the CDA [Communications Decency Act] is claiming to be a neutral public forum, so you cannot have it both ways.”

According to various sources, Infowars is preparing to unveil an alternative to YouTube very soon. The goal is to make the establishment-controlled video platform obsolete. At the same time, with Facebook facing a crisis as users spend less and less time on the manipulative platform, a number of new social-media firms are popping up, hoping to become an alternative to the establishment-run giants that received government backing and continue to partner with government.

Some of the lawsuits and regulatory efforts targeting the purges by Internet giants may succeed. But as the establishment’s propaganda becomes increasingly obvious and outlandish, truth-seeking people will continue seeking out the facts that the establishment wants hidden. Already, the election of Trump has exposed the establishment media as fringe, and far-less powerful than commonly believed. If the social-media companies keep it up, they, too, may end up destroying their own businesses. Preserving the free market and the First Amendment will be key. Regardless of what happens, though, the growing hunger for truth is not going away — and as long as a market for truth exists, the truth will be supplied.



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