



Written by [Staff](#) on December 23, 2019

Published in the December 23, 2019 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 35, No. 24

Inside Track

Massachusetts Town Looks to Lower Voting Age to 16



monkeybusinessimages/iStock/GettyImagesPlus

On November 21, the town of Brookline, Massachusetts, voted in a town meeting to seek approval from the state to lower the voting age in town to 16 years old. The town voted 142-71 in favor of the measure.

If approved by the state, the new rule would allow 16- and 17-year-olds to vote in municipal elections and, when registered, to become a town meeting member.

“These elections directly impact these young people,” said board member Raul Fernandez, a proponent of the lowered voting age.

“At the age of 16, they can start working and paying taxes on that work,” Fernandez explained. “There’s no reason why these young people should not have a say in our politics and actually giving them a say in our politics will make us even better.”

The nearby city of Somerville has also approved allowing 16- and 17-year-olds to vote in local elections and is awaiting approval by the state legislature. Other Massachusetts municipalities such as Concord and Northampton have also pursued legislation allowing 16-year-olds to vote. Organizations such as Vote16USA are pressing for younger people to vote, not only in Massachusetts, but all over the country.

In 2013, the City of Takoma Park, Maryland, became the first jurisdiction in the United States to allow citizens as young as 16 to vote in local elections. Hyattsville and Greenbelt, also in Maryland, have joined Takoma Park since then. The city of Berkeley in California also allows teens as young as 16 to vote, but only in school board elections.

The “Youth Suffrage” movement is gaining ground in the United States, with Democratic presidential candidate Andrew Yang even endorsing it. “Squad” member-in-good-standing Ayanna Pressley (D-Mass.) even introduced legislation back in March to lower the voting age at the federal level.

Put simply, Democrats are looking for more votes. High school-aged children can be roused by leftist teachers and school administrators to go out and vote in favor of gun control and climate-change legislation. Polls are often located in those same schools — a ready-made left-wing vote factory.



Written by [Staff](#) on December 23, 2019

Published in the December 23, 2019 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 35, No. 24

By James Murphy

Greta Thunberg: “Climate Crisis Is Not Just About the Environment”



AP Images

Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg, 16, along with fellow activists Luisa Neubauer, 23, and Angela Valenzuela, 25, have penned an op-ed to coincide with the latest series of “climate strikes” and the United Nations COP25 climate-change conference in Madrid. In the op-ed, the climate warriors tacitly admit that the climate-change movement is about much more than the climate.

The piece, published November 29 in Project Syndicate, makes clear what many of us have already known: The climate-hysteria movement is more about far-left politics than it is about fighting an existential climatic threat to mankind.

After giving a laundry list of reasons why we need to be afraid of the coming cataclysm, the columnists admit, “That action must be powerful and wide-ranging. After all, the climate crisis is not just about the environment. It is a crisis of human rights, of justice and of political will. Colonial, racist and patriarchal systems of oppression have created and fueled it. We need to dismantle them all. Our political leaders can no longer shirk their responsibilities.”

Finally someone in the climate-hysteria movement has come right out and said what the end goal of it is — a systemic overhaul of the entire planet’s cultural, governmental, and economic systems.

The newest round of “climate strikes” began on November 29, and will continue until at least December 6, with hundreds of locations worldwide said to be scheduling large-scale protests. It is the fervent hope of climate hysterics that their movement will take wings owing to the voices of the children — most of whom don’t truly understand what they’re protesting about.

But if the protesters are so worried about increased use of fossil fuels, why are they protesting in the United States while China, the worst “climate offender” in the world, is spared the attentions of the young climate warriors?

Perhaps it’s because the People’s Republic of China already has the type of government that young Greta and her cohorts are ultimately calling for: an authoritarian communist dictatorship.



Written by [Staff](#) on December 23, 2019

Published in the December 23, 2019 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 35, No. 24

By James Murphy

“Climate Collapse”? Some Believe Global Warming Needs Rebranding



AP Images ThomasVogel/E+/GettyImagesPlus

The cult of climate change is experiencing yet another identity crisis. Some in the movement believe that the term “climate change” is not frightening enough, and the movement needs a rebranding in order to properly rouse the world’s population to action against the fake calamity.

“As a professional namer, I create names for companies, products and services,” wrote Aaron Hall in a November 27 article on AdAge. “After the global climate strike this past September, I found myself thinking about the terms ‘climate change’ and ‘global warming.’ Are these scientific terms too neutral? Do they do enough to grab attention and inspire people to take action?”

Hall believes the terms “Global Meltdown” or “Global Melting” might be possibilities. “The names signal that ice caps are melting, but also create a more visceral image in the mind — that real feeling of ‘melting’ when it’s too hot outside. A meltdown is a disastrous event that draws from the ultimate terror of a nuclear meltdown, an apt metaphor for nuclear destruction.”

The brand-naming expert also favors the terms “climate collapse” and “climate chaos” as sufficiently terrifying.

It’s not only advertising gurus who believe the term “climate change” isn’t a strong enough term to rouse the public to action. In June, Call It a Crisis, a group of climate NGOs including Greenpeace, Al Gore’s Climate Reality Project, and the Sierra Club, wrote an angry diatribe to all of the major television networks, calling for them to begin calling climate change a crisis.

Nothing says something is a true emergency like having to beg television networks for coverage about it. Nevertheless, the campaign seems to be slowly having an effect. If you listen to mainstream news coverage of climate change, more and more the term “climate crisis” is being peppered into the conversation by reporters and anchormen.

So, perhaps Hall is on to something. Maybe what the climate-change hysterics need is a rebranding to properly frighten the populace into giving up our meat, giving up our automobiles, and giving up our



Written by [Staff](#) on December 23, 2019

Published in the December 23, 2019 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 35, No. 24

freedom.

By James Murphy

Report: YouTube Blocked More Than 300 of Trump's Ads

YouTube is blocking President Trump's paid political advertisements, but the video service won't say which YouTube policies the ads violated.

YouTube has censored hundreds of the Republican president's ads, CBS' *60 Minutes* reported on December 1, news that is hardly surprising given revelations that surfaced over this summer.

As The New American reported in June, Google is reworking its algorithms to help defeat Trump in 2020.

The revelation about the censored Trump ads came in an interview with YouTube CEO Susan Wojcicki.

"President Trump has been advertising a lot on YouTube lately," *60 Minutes* correspondent Lesley Stahl began. "Have you taken down any of President Trump's ads at all?"

Replied Wojcicki, "There are ads ... that were not approved to run on Google or YouTube.... They're available in our transparency report."

"Kind of," Stahl continued, noting that Google does indeed archive censored ads. "We looked at President Trump's ads. Over 300 videos were taken down, mostly over the summer. But the archive doesn't detail what rules they violate. There's no transparency in the transparency report. The ads typically did run for a few days before they were taken down. And Google got paid for them."

Then Stahl asked how Wojcicki and YouTube answer the charge from conservatives that the social-media behemoth — users watch a billion hours of video per day, Stahl reported — censors views from the Right.

Replied the CEO: "There are lots of very successful conservatives, creators on YouTube. Our systems, our algorithms, they don't have any concept of understanding what's a Democrat, what's a Republican. And we do hear this criticism from all sides. We also have people who come from more liberal backgrounds who complain about discrimination. And so I think that no matter who you are, we are trying to enforce our policies in a consistent way for everybody."

Stahl did not report whether YouTube kept the money it was paid for the ads.

By R. Cort Kirkwood



Written by [Staff](#) on December 23, 2019

Published in the December 23, 2019 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 35, No. 24

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.



Subscribe

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.