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#### **Inside Track**

### Michael Moore: "Tragedy of Major Proportions" if Trump Wins

On his Facebook page, liberal filmmaker Michael Moore told his 2.3 million followers on August 29 that unless something drastic happens between now and November 3, a Trump victory is certain: "Are you ready for a Trump victory? Are you mentally prepared to be outsmarted by Trump again? Do you find comfort in your certainty that there is no way Trump can win? Are you content with the trust you've placed in the DNC to pull this off?"

Each of these questions was rhetorical. Moore expanded: "Someone needs to pull the political fire alarm NOW. Where are the stories about Trump gaining on Biden?... We are risking a tragedy of major proportions.... Trump's base is hateful, excited and they can't wait to vote. Where's the excitement for Biden?"

The betting odds have closed dramatically. On July 31, Las Vegas was giving Biden a 24-point margin over Trump. On August 30, the gap had closed to just 1.5 points favoring Biden.

In battleground states Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Florida, and Arizona, RealClearPolitics showed Biden ahead of Trump by an average of 6.3 points on July 28. On August 30, Biden's advantage had shrunk to 2.7 points.

The same showed up in a Democracy Institute (DI) poll published on August 30 by the British newspaper *Sunday Express*. According to its latest poll, President Trump "has 48 percent of the popular vote over former Vice President Biden's 45 percent." And in key swing states, "the gap is even bigger, with 49 percent for Trump to 41 percent for Biden, giving the incumbent U.S. President an almost unassailable seven point lead."

In the Electoral College, the DI poll gives Trump 319 votes to Biden's 219. And in its "enthusiasm gap," DI reported that 82 percent of Trump voters "are strongly or very enthusiastic" about their candidate, compared to just 40 percent of Biden's supporters.

And in the general election, 57 percent of those polled think Trump will be reelected, compared to just 43 percent who don't think so.

## Over 350 "Faith Leaders" Endorse Abortion Advocate Joe Biden

More than 350 faith leaders endorsed presidential candidate Joe Biden in late August, saying the Democrat will provide "moral clarity" and help "restore the soul of this nation."

On its website, the coalition Faith 2020 said it is "raising awareness, mobilizing faith-rooted voters to get out the vote and doing our part to restore the soul of the nation."

"We're a group of progressives, independents and conservatives seeking change," the group declared.

Faith 2020 has been endorsed by faith leaders from various religions, including Christians, Jews, Sikhs, and Muslims.





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Faith 2020 member Nadia Bolz-Weber, a Lutheran minister who founded the LGBTQ-friendly House for All Sinners and Saints in Denver, asserted that Christians such as her who are not part of the religious Right are becoming a powerful force. "I think progressive Christianity is a sleeping giant," she said.

President Trump has taken aim at the alleged godlessness of Joe Biden, a Roman Catholic. "He's against the Bible, essentially against religion. But against the Bible and he's against the Second Amendment," the president said in an interview with Fox News' Geraldo Rivera.

"That may be a little harsh, him being against the Bible," Rivera responded.

"Well, the people that control him totally are. I mean, it may be a little harsh for him, but he's going to have no control," President Trump said.

In October of last year, Biden was denied communion at a Catholic church in South Carolina due to his support for abortion.

Should he make it to the White House, Biden won't tolerate pro-life policy from state governments. "As president, Biden will work to codify *Roe v. Wade*, and his Justice Department will do everything in its power to stop the rash of state laws that so blatantly violate the constitutional right to an abortion, such as so-called TRAP laws, parental notification requirements, mandatory waiting periods, and ultrasound requirements," his campaign website affirms.

# **Chinese Air Defenses Could Soon Neutralize U.S. Stealth Fighters**

In simulated war games against China, the United States "gets its a\*\* handed to it," said a military analyst last year. True or not, there's now another troubling development on this front: Advances in Chinese air defenses could soon render American air power ineffective, according to one expert.

As the National Interest reported August 27:

While the West has been focusing on the power of advanced Russian anti-aircraft missiles such as the S-400, it should have been watching China.

China is pulling ahead of Russia, especially in terms of sophisticated radars and sensors, according to a British expert.

"I'd say we should have been paying more attention to Chinese systems alongside the Russian ones," Justin Bronk, a researcher at Britain's Royal United Services Institute, told the *National Interest*. "Not because the latter aren't still superior, but because of the threat trajectory of the former. China will eventually catch up to and then surpass Russian missile and sensor technologies; and with a much more capable air force and economy than Russia."

Bronk believes that U.S. airpower will soon be inhibited by improvements in China's air defenses, which will extend across coastal surface-to-air missile sites on the Chinese mainland, missile batteries on artificial islands in the South China Sea, and better anti-aircraft weapons on Chinese warships. "Coupled with the rapid modernization and professionalization of the PLAAF [People's Liberation Army Air Force], the ability for the U.S. and its allies to project airpower within 1,000 kilometers [621 miles] of China's mainland shore in a conflict will shrink dramatically on current trends through the 2020s."







#### Could Five Million New Gun Owners Swing the Election?

The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) reported August 24 that from January through July, more than 12 million background checks for the purchase of firearms were processed, an increase of 71 percent from the same period a year earlier. "That equates," said the group, "to nearly 5 million first-time gun owners in the first seven months of 2020."

An analysis of those background checks by the NSSF further revealed that almost 60 percent of those purchases "were among African-American men and women, the largest increase of any demographic group. Women comprised 40 percent of first-time gun purchasers."

The NSSF opined that it was the combination of mayors and governors emptying prisons of violent felons in response to the COVID threat, the "peaceful protests" being taken over by radicals such as Antifa and BLM, and the resulting looting, burning, and riots that were followed by calls to defund the police that "continued to spur sales."

Further encouraging sales, said the NSSF, was the fact that "Democratic candidates Joe Biden and U.S. Sen. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.) are calling for stringent gun control measures, including forcible confiscation, banning entire classes of firearms from lawful possession, licensing schemes and repealing the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Firearms Act which would expose the firearm industry to frivolous and harassing lawsuits."

The NRA welcomed the new owners, tweeting that "New Gun Owners Could Sway Future Elections," adding hopefully that "voters who recently bought guns for self-defense will join other 2A voters and be an even more formidable voting bloc. They know anti-gun politicians are the biggest threat to their fundamental right to self-defense."

Will all, or even a significant majority, of those new gun owners automatically vote for Trump in November? Probably not. Most of them are acting out of fear, not ideology. It's only the well-informed who are likely to turn out in significant numbers for the president on election day. And that's the challenge of groups such as the NSSF and the NRA: converting those new owners into pro-Trump voters.

### CDC: Fewer Than 10,000 Americans Have Died From COVID-19 Alone

Only six percent of Americans who have died with COVID-19 died strictly from the virus and not from other causes, according to new numbers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The CDC's latest COVID-19 provisional counts, covering February 1 through August 22, say that 164,280 Americans have suffered deaths "involving COVID-19."

That, of course, can mean anything from having had a recent positive COVID-19 test (which may or may not have been accurate) to having tested positive months earlier to simply having been declared positive based on symptoms (with hospitals facing strong financial incentives to claim COVID-19 deaths).

For the sake of argument, however, let us assume that the CDC's numbers are valid. Out of those 164,280 deaths, the CDC calculates that just six percent of them, or 9,857, were caused solely by





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COVID-19. "For deaths with conditions or causes in addition to COVID-19, on average, there were 2.6 additional conditions or causes per death," the agency says. In other words, 94 percent of those who died with COVID-19 already had two or more other serious health issues such as hypertension or diabetes.

On top of that, age was a major contributing factor. Ninety-two percent of deaths involving COVID-19 occurred among individuals aged 55 and older. Persons 75 and older accounted for 58 percent of such deaths.

Hence, it is hardly surprising that 22 percent of COVID-19 deaths occurred in nursing homes and long-term care facilities, where most residents are both aged and infirm. That number is considerably higher in states that ordered these facilities to accept COVID-19 patients, and would be higher still in New York if that state had not changed its counting method to disguise the order's deadly results.

LewRockwell.com blogger Michael Rozeff observed August 30:

It is quite hard to shake loose of the idea that if it had not been for COVID-19, these otherwise seriously ill and elderly people ... would still be alive. But there is no way to blame COVID-19 solely when several other co-morbidities are present. The other ailments are present and contributory. I know this sounds terrible to say, but clear thought demands it. These people already had one leg in the grave. We can imagine this, which is true in most instances, that a person who is healthy and has no other ailments shakes off the virus-induced illness. However, what if that person is the victim during that bout of illness of several more severe health issues? Then he or she may perish. What's to blame, the initial COVID-19 which could have been survived, or the subsequent co-morbidities like heart disease or emphysema? It is impossible to single out a sole cause when several are present together.

Despite the deaths, the CDC's statistics should be considered good news. According to the CDC, COVID-19 has thus far played a role in the deaths of just 0.05 percent of the U.S. population and was the sole factor in the deaths of a mere 0.003 percent.

This is not the picture one gets from the mainstream media, which thrives on coronavirus panic. In fact, their hysterical reporting of "cases" and other meaningless statistics has led Americans to believe that COVID-19 has wiped out nine percent of the U.S. population. That's 180 times the number of people the CDC claims have died *with* COVID-19 and 3,000 times the number the agency says have died *from* COVID-19.

It's also not the impression one gets from most government officials, who are currently enjoying power trips courtesy of the fear they have instilled in their citizens. If those citizens were to become aware of the CDC's latest statistics and other relevant facts, they might well come to the same conclusions as Rozeff: "It means that existing draconian measures should all be shelved immediately! They are not just neutral in their effects. They are known to be harmful in many ways, including causing deaths that otherwise would not have occurred. It means that the crash-push for vaccines should be abandoned. There is no dire need to rush an untested vaccine into production and inoculate large numbers of people."

There is, however, a dire need to put an end to the COVID-19 police state once and for all.







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