

# The Last Word™

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## No Kings protests are a royal disappointment

The No Kings rallies are congruent to the protests against hated COVID lockdowns. We've fought against Donald Trump, and we've fought against lockdowns, yet the biggest protests against each are partisan recruitment schemes—but for different parties. Whenever either one of these parties gains power, they don't do a damn thing about the problems they claimed to oppose.

Our view is in the majority. Most people of normal means who you meet on the ground are also against both Trump and lockdowns, but are mashed to dust as long as the uniparty stays in power. No Kings and many of the anti-lockdown events are largely crowds of partisans who mistakenly think their team will do something about the problem at hand. The parties are essentially recruiting from people who already follow them and creating a feedback loop that encourages the same mistakes to be made in perpetuity. This is why we haven't attended any of these protests.

We will fight lockdowns, and we will fight the Trump regime. But—unlike No Kings—we will do it effectively.

As No Kings is on the march, who is bankrolling these events?

Over 200 organizations have signed on as No Kings sponsors, and many of them give us serious pause. Among them are the MoveOn hustlers who sold our e-mail address to right-wing mailing lists. Home of the Brave—a group of right-wing extremists consisting of corporate lobbyists and Bill Kristol—gave \$1 million to No Kings to help steer it to pro-war policies. Another backer is the American Federation of Teachers—a company union that helped keep schools closed for years following the COVID-19 onslaught and has connived with the cryptofascist World Economic Forum to develop a curriculum.

For a series of demonstrations called No Kings, there sure are lots of links with undemocratic actions. No Kings has partnered with a group that demanded that a county appoint its sheriffs rather than electing them, because the county's Democratic sheriff rightly refused to enforce COVID mandates. Woven throughout the No Kings cobweb are entities that supported unelected health officials barking down orders for entire states and communities. That's something that a king or even a military dictator would do.

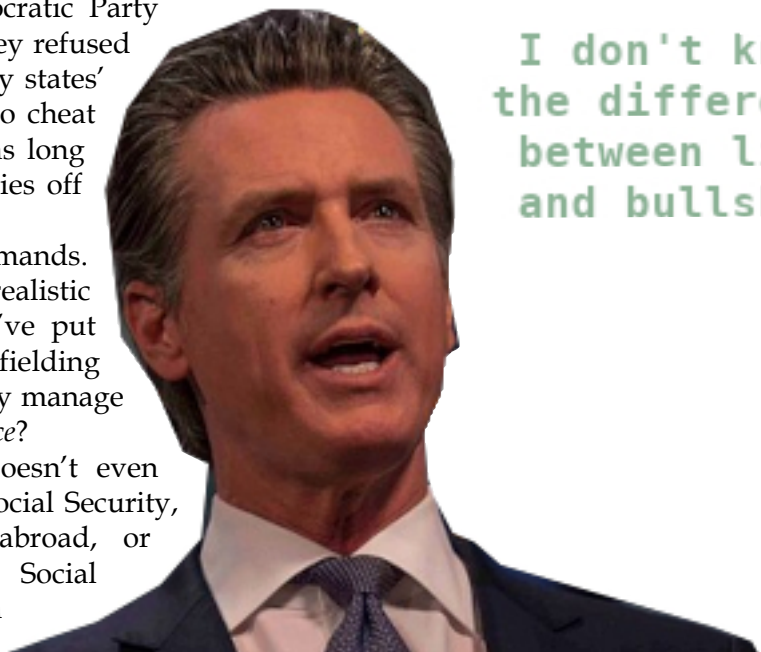
You can't trust organizations to fight against Trump's authoritarianism after they've been involved

with the most authoritarian series of actions the country has seen in the lifetimes of anyone living today.

The No Kings' precious Democratic Party also engaged in kingy behavior when they refused to hold a primary in 2024, canceled many states' primaries in 2020, used superdelegates to cheat in 2016, and even held a joke primary as long ago as 1996. They also kicked third parties off the ballot.

No Kings also has no clear demands. Protesting without demands or realistic solutions is what sore losers do. They've put more effort into complaining than into fielding good candidates. How does a major party manage to lose to Donald Trump of all people *twice*?

The messaging by No Kings doesn't even include universal healthcare, restoring Social Security, opposition to U.S.-backed genocide abroad, or fighting against income inequality. Social Security in particular they don't give a damn about. No Kings is also so



I don't know  
the difference  
between lies  
and bullshit

corrupted by Home of the Brave that the Philadelphia installment of No Kings flatly refused to have an anti-genocide speaker. MSNBC – the No Kings channel of record – has even endorsed a regime change war against Venezuela of all places.

An attendee of the New York event said No Kings refused to give people the time and location of the rally unless they registered in a database. This was so party operatives could bombard them with fundraising e-mails.

Instead of funneling the public back into the Democrats after the party abandoned them, it's time for a people's revolution. Recently, a group of students tried to build such a movement, but business moguls, college presidents, and Democratic politicians conspired to suppress it. This is why we can't have nice things.

## Breaking the law, breaking the law...and breaking some wind!

Even a pirate radio station that devotes its entire broadcast to flatulence is better than the garbage that fills the rest of the dial these days. Now some of these farting stations have become legendary.

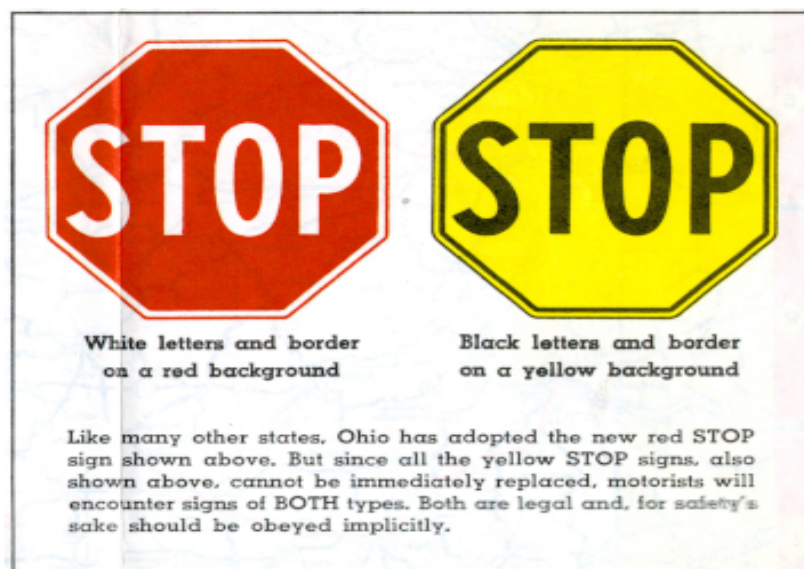
Years ago, not long after the Internet first became popular, someone posted about a pirate station in Milwaukee whose proprietor didn't broadcast anything except the sound of himself passing gas, laughing uncontrollably about it, going to the bathroom, and flushing the toilet. In the past few years, the magic has continued elsewhere.

A 2020 thread discussed a shortwave pirate that consisted of a man talking with "farting sound effects being played over the spoken word." This enlightening broadcast was heard in Winnipeg and Pennsylvania. A log of the station's broadcast day revealed that it then aired a loop of fart sounds, European dance music with farts laid over it, "fart noises again", and "techno mixed with farts."

A 2021 post on Reddit was titled "Shortwave Pirate Radio Station Playing Farts and Judas Priest?" The post included audio of flatulence over a Judas Priest tune recorded off this station.

In response to an article on how to modify a miniature computer to become a pirate FM station, someone announced their intent to drive around with it and broadcast themselves farting. Somebody said they were caught in traffic behind someone who was using this device to transmit his investment scam.

RBI's are ruining baseball.



## Family life is hard

The fanfare that played when the baker fell down the steps on *Sesame Street* is being heard again. It's the sound that always plays in our heads whenever something valuable gets ruined.

We've found a list of items that got ruined when they were brand new that was posted last year on a parenting website. The thread is mostly moms taking about things their husbands carelessly destroyed. You'd think it would be their kids who ruined all these things, but instead it was usually

grown men who should have known better. Also, most of these items were very expensive and posh to begin with. It's not a blog for working-class people like us that talks about digging record albums out of dumpsters to play on a 30-year-old stereo. Rather, most of the folks on that site like to take things up a notch.

A commenter said her husband bought a brand new, very expensive custom-made kitchen splashback. As he was bringing it in, he accidentally hit it on the counter and shattered it. Another commenter said she purchased a new ceiling fan and spent hours installing it. After only 2 days, her husband broke off one of the blades while opening the closet.

Another person said she knocked a hot iron onto her brand new carpet and burned an iron-shaped hole in it. Another said she had just moved into a newly built house when the movers tracked mud all over the carpets, broke 2 doors, knocked a chunk out of the kitchen counter, broke numerous items that were packed up, and scratched the wall beyond reclamation. The movers refused to pay for it, saying it was "a normal amount of damage." Another said she had just remodeled her bathroom, and her husband placed the tip of his cigarette on the window sill and left a permanent stain. Another saw her new stone bathroom floor was pulverized when a plasterer knocked a whole bottle of toilet cleaner all over it. Another said that a half-hour after she installed a new bathroom suite, her husband dropped the cabinet, which bounced off the sink, and hit the toilet. The toilet, sink, and cabinet—all of them brand new—were all completely destroyed. The cabinet also included speakers, which were also in shambles.

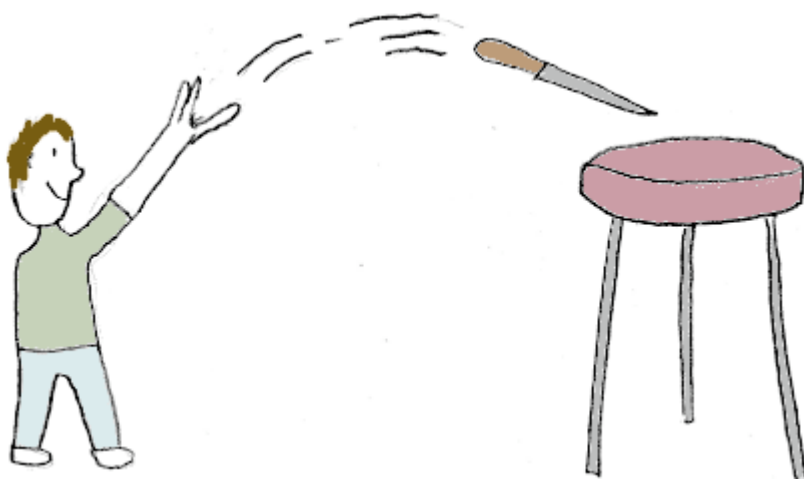
A commenter said her "lovely new sofa" was ruined within days when her cat peed all over it. Another found that the glass pitcher for her brand new coffee maker had mysteriously vanished. After asking around the house, the sad truth eventually emerged: "It got broken." Another poster said she spilled an entire can of white paint on a brand new blue carpet. Another said she had saved up to remodel her kitchen, and on the day it was finished, her mom visited and put a hot skillet on the wooden counter, which ruined it. Another said that when she first got married, she bought a very expensive dinner set on an installment plan and received one piece per month. Just as she got the teapot, it fell off the window sill. Sometime later, her mom gave her a replacement as a present, and her husband broke it after an hour. Decades after that, she tried to replace it again, but the item had been discontinued, so she found a used replacement on eBay. Her hubby accidentally broke it right away. Another commenter lamented, "Every single thing we own gets ruined within minutes."

One person said she spilled red wine all over her carpet on the day she moved into her new place. Another said her matching herbal tea mugs from her wedding "lasted about a month." Another said her brand new designer shoes were chewed up by her puppy. Another was arguing with her kid about schoolwork and accidentally plowed her car into her husband's brand new BMW. One, two, three...Aaaaaaaaawwwwwww!!!! Another got her son very expensive soccer boots, but the dog chewed them up before he even wore them. Another ordered a plush living room suite. On the day it arrived, her husband's drunken pal ruined the couch by shitting all over it. Another said a fancy new floor lamp was broken by a partner while unpacking it.

One commenter gave an entire litany of roodledy-doodledies. Among them, 2 TV's each got broken within their first 2 weeks. Four new bar stools were destroyed by her kiddo using them as target practice with a brand new knife set. Her kids used her brand new dinner knives to dig up weeds.

One parent said her 14-year-old daughter threw a tantrum and spilled a beverage all over a brand new sofa. Another had just moved into a new home when her husband tried lugging a full wine rack down the steps. The resulting breakage wasted several bottles of premium 30-year-old wine that had been saved for a special occasion and left red wine stains all over the beige carpet. Another said her kid spilled a whole mug of hot chocolate on a new carpet. Another said her young son vomited blueberries all over a freshly painted wall.

Somebody posted they just had new carpeting put in when a workman tracked dog shit all over





it. Another said she had just gotten new curtains, and her husband insisted on ironing them—despite many pleas not to. He burned an iron-shaped hole in the curtains. Another poster said she bought a big-screen smart TV, and her toddler knocked it over and smashed it after only 3 days. Another burned a brand new TV by getting a candle too close to it and spilled beer on a new couch. Another had a faux snakeskin coat that someone burned a hole in with a cigarette. It was only the second time she wore it. Another dropped a brand new, very expensive bottle of fine perfume in the sink—shattering it.

Wait! There's more! Another commenter dropped a hot dog covered with ketchup on a sofa on the day it was delivered. Another person said a new carpet got ruined when a friend tried to light a cigarette using a coal from the fireplace and dropped the coal. Another said that a workman ruined a brand new polished steel sink by placing the mixing stick for some cement onto it—leaving the stick permanently stuck to the sink. Another commenter had been given a fine crystal wine decanter by her workplace that had just made her “redundant” in a round of Christmas firings. When her husband was showing it off to Christmas guests, he shattered it by dropping the stopper on it. Another commenter spilled marinade sauce all over a brand new designer handbag: “The bag was ruined inside and out.” Another said she and her husband had a set of fine wine glasses that they only used once, because her husband managed to somehow chip each of them while washing them.

Another scratched a new coffee table by placing a coaster on it that had a piece of gravel stuck to the bottom. Another said her daughter accidentally knocked a designer soap dispenser into the bathtub and smashed it. Another commenter knitted some Christmas stockings and placed one of them over an electric heater to dry: “Managed to burn a charred, massive hole right over Santa's face in one of them, ruined.” Another said that as her brand new sofa was being delivered, it was demolished by her mom spilling milk, a whole pitcher of coffee, and other treats on it: “By the time I arrived home, it was already totally ruined.” Another said her stepson tracked tar all over a “gorgeous” new carpet.

Not all of these stories took place when the commenter was an adult. Some took place when they were teenagers, just as they were entering the “real world.” We put “real world” in quotes, as it's a catchphrase parents always use when their teenage kids first get a job (and discover George H.W. Bush vetoed their wage increase). You mean there's also a “fake world”? A commenter said that when she was a teen, her sister borrowed her new designer sandals without permission and dragged the ankle straps through mud, ruining them. Another poster bought designer jeans, but after she wore them only once, her mom just decided to cut 3 inches off the bottom. Another purchased expensive red suede shoes, but she spilled raw egg on them the day she got them.

Let me repeat: The anecdotes in this article describe *brand new* items getting destructaroony. They weren't just new but also very expensive. And they were in complete tatters almost instantaneously.



## Equator makes gum the funniest on the globe

Let's talk about one of the funniest looking pieces of bubble gum ever to roam the planet. At least I *think* it was bubble gum. You can't always be sure. Even bubble gum connoisseurs say they don't remember this beegie.

When I was in high school—at the hated Brossart, no less—there was one day when the cafeteria sold bubble gum lollipops, causing a student to famously chew bubble gum in history class and get skeeped at by the teacher for bubbling as obnoxiously as possible. But then, for some time thereafter, something similar would occasionally take place.

Once in a while, the lunchroom would sell what appeared to be bubble gum on a stick. It looked like a bubble gum lollipop, only with no lollipop surrounding the gum. The piece of gum looked particularly strange. It wasn't a perfect sphere or cube. It was like an oval that was flattened sort of like a football. It had what I call an equator around the middle. The shape of this gumball was a bit like a hamburger, with the equator where the patty would be sticking out of the bun. The gumball's color was split along the equator: Half of the piece of gum was pink, and the other bright green. I think some variants had yellow or orange.

I remember it resting on students' bare trays as they were eating lunch. They must have been planning to go to town with it and probably blow a mean bub or two.

I didn't buy any of this item to inspect whether it was indeed gum. I also didn't ask anyone whether it was gum. I made no comment on it whatsoever. I just let the poo-poo plop where it may.

I also didn't see anyone walking around later blowing bubbles that were half pink and half green.

People were so worked up about bubble gum in those days that you'd think there would have been a big nationwide product reveal and ad campaign involving this gum. But I never saw it advertised.

## School life is hard

I have good news and bad news. The good news is that I'm not in school anymore. The bad news is that I'm not in school anymore. Why is this bad? Because I won't have any more of my own uproarious stories like the "Look at this dummy" incident or the oaptag reprimand. But we still have hundreds of pages of stories we found on the public Internet to sift through, and you're gonna read 'em and peep!

One online commenter said someone at school shit on some newspapers that were being used for papier-mâché and heated the newspapers in the pottery kiln. Another said a schoolmate fermented a mixture of water, salt, ink, yogurt, pencil shavings, carrots, cucumbers, and mucus in a plastic bottle in his desk. He kept it there for months and opened it, creating a stench that "was like the worst fart ever." One weird student created a fake Facebook profile of a model who he claimed was his girlfriend and posted photos of cars from Grand Theft Auto and claimed they were his cars.

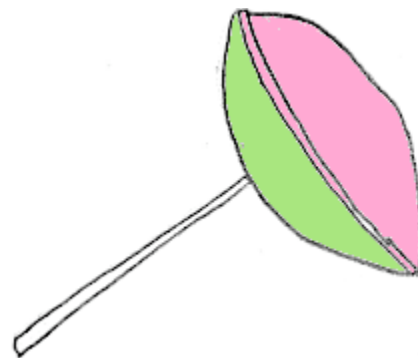
A high school freshman brang a porn DVD to school with a very lewd picture on it and passed it around. When he was doing so, it somehow slid under the door of a locked classroom. For the next 10 minutes, everyone tried to retrieve it using a ruler. The look on the teacher's face upon seeing the DVD on the floor was priceless. One commenter said their school had a picture day when the whole student body would have a photo taken together. So one student decided to bring in a 2-liter Coke bottle containing a mix of libations from his parents' liquor cabinet. At least 10 students drank from it, and "all kinds of mayhem ensued." One wet her pants in front of the principal, and others wandered away from school. Best all, one student displayed two middle fingers in the school photo.

One student invented something called the "chocolate ronie." That's when you wipe your ass with your hands and smear it all over the door handle to the restroom. During an "important" standardized test, a 6<sup>th</sup> grader pried an old wad of gum off the bottom of his desk, played with it, chewed it, and spit it onto the floor. A high school junior dumped a full wastebasket out of a 3<sup>rd</sup> story window. Another high schooler used to bring beer to school, climb the trees, and get completely drunk. A student who failed a math exam was told by the teacher that he had to take it home for his parents to sign. So he promptly ate the exam paper in front of the teacher and the class.

Someone posted that the "bad kid" in 4<sup>th</sup> grade suddenly shit his pants during class. Nobody else noticed until he stood up and "turds just fell out and there was poop smeared all over his seat." At another school, a kid got up and shit in the wastebasket when the teacher left the room. Unfortunately for him, he was still in the middle of this task when the teacher came back. A high school student tried cutting his desk in half with a hacksaw during math class. When the teacher sent him to the hallway, he sawed the doorknob off the classroom door. Another commenter admitted to finding an old pair of pants in a locker in middle school, tying it in a knot, shitting in it, and letting it stink up the locker room over Christmas break. One student used to pull out his own hair and put it on his pizza.

A middle schooler tried playing a prank by leaving a milk carton in a pal's locker over a weekend so it would stink. But he forgot it was there for 2 months. When the spoiled milk carton was found, he placed it on the floor in the hallway. Then someone came along and kicked it and stunk up the whole school. Another commenter said someone shit in class and "it stinked" so everyone got sent home. Another student would defecate in plastic bags and stockpile them inside the restroom ceiling. He "also shit in one of the fancy encyclopedias that was proudly displayed on a podium." He was never caught. A high school sophomore set his binder on fire in math class. Another student would glue pickles to the underside of her desk.

A student brang 2 bottles of beer to school. He gave one to a friend. He drank the other right there in class and spilled most of it. But he was only caught because he put the bottle in the toilet. He once smoked in class too. A 5<sup>th</sup> grader shit on the floor outside a classroom and was caught when he



tried to discard his underpants in a trash can in class.

One commenter was sent to a class for other kids who got bad grades, and things got interesting there. One student there set fire to a can of paint thinner in class. Somebody stole sodium from a lab and threw it into the school pool. A bunch of kids in that class urinated in a shopping bag because the restroom was in a different building. They later threw the pee-filled bag on the basketball court.

Another student would bring in a Ziploc bag full of vegetable soup, dump it in class, and pretend to be vomiting. Another used Krazy Glue to glue the piano keys together in the music room—ruining the piano. Another let an armadillo loose in the hall, and when he was sent to the office, he rearranged all the furniture, including the principal's desk.

A group of 5<sup>th</sup> graders devised a “game” in which they mixed leftover food items together at lunch. It might consist of orange juice, chewed-up carrots, ketchup, and crushed-up cookies. Then they would dare the other kids to drink it. Another commenter said he lived in a dorm in college, and someone kept pulling the fire alarm and smearing shit all over walls in the middle of the night. One commenter said that when they were in school, a student received a discipline slip, so he crumpled it up and put it in his mouth. He chewed it for several minutes, but when it didn't dissolve like he thought it would, the teacher made a big show of making him spit it out. A high schooler stole potassium from the chemistry supply closet and flushed it down the toilet, making the whole second floor shake. Another shit on a piece of paper during science class.

At another school, a student left a chocolate cake full of laxatives in the teachers' lounge. Unluckily for the instructors, the restrooms were locked so they had to run outside and use the bushes. The offending student then went into the principal's office and declared over the intercom, “Cleanup on aisle teacher!”

A high school senior went around bragging that he got accepted into Harvard and made a fake acceptance letter to show to everyone. Schoolmates thought he was such a genius that they paid him for tutoring. This hoax fell apart when people realized Harvard doesn't offer early acceptance. At another high school, someone set off fireworks in the basement and caught the ceiling panels on fire. A student borrowed a videocassette from his history teacher under the guise that he was genuinely interested in the topic, and taped over most of it with porn. The teacher discovered it when he was showing the tape to another class. The fun began about 10 minutes in.

A class went to see a live *Hansel And Gretel* performance at a theater. When the class got ready to leave, one student was missing. He was found behind the curtains on the stage eating the candy that was made out of paper and used as a prop.

A high school student bopped into the cafeteria and microwaved his geometry book. The oven burned a hole in the book, and the fire alarm went off, forcing the entire school to be evacuated. He was then suspended, and was required to use the ruined book for the rest of the semester.

An elementary school girl mixed shampoo with bubble bath and told everyone it was a bomb. At another elementary school, a boy kept pebble poops in his pencil box and would flick them around the classroom. Another commenter said someone shit on the floor during indoor recess. Another student ate a stick of deodorant. Another tried to shit in a plastic baggie during homeroom, but he missed and it landed on the floor: “It was horrible.” A middle schooler kept staring at people because he thought he could make them burst into flames. At one high school, a student ate an entire page of his practice SAT during the test. At another school, someone put the chalk in the toilet.

*Powerhouse* it is not.



## Social Security disenchanted voyage

If you demand raising the Social Security retirement age again because of a supposed increase in average life expectancy, well, you might be a fascist.

We're sick and tired of the right-wing trope about how we need to raise the retirement age because people are living longer. Not only has overall life expectancy *dropped* in the past 5 years, but people who need Social Security the most have almost certainly seen their lives get shorter for the past

40 years. You never hear that part, because life expectancy graphs aren't broken down by economic level, as those who hoard more detailed statistics like this don't want people to know how bad it is.

If we were to index the retirement age based on how long most people of normal means live, the retirement age would be getting lower, not higher. People who were only in high school during Bill Clinton's second term would already be approaching retirement.

Like the COVID lockdowns, plans to cut Social Security are inspired in part by eugenics, as well as a desire to impose selective austerity measures that privatize gains and socialize losses while killing off victims.

Dominionist whackadoo Russell Vought—when he isn't whining about being subjected to a "religious test" because of his disqualifying policy stances—wants to remove age as a factor for qualifying for disability benefits. His plan would make it harder for people who are at least 50 to collect benefits that they already worked for and paid for with their taxes. He tries to make it sound like chronic diseases *improve* as you get older.

This story is worse than sad. It is worse than frustrating. It makes me downright angry. I can name so many people I grew up with who have already passed away. Some of them died in their twenties, and they continue to pass away just after 50. They never saw a penny of what they paid into Social Security. I dare you—I *double dog dare you*—to go up to one of their close family members and brag that the average life expectancy has increased.

Go ahead. See what happens.

Some of those who died young were my friends. You don't get to harp about how great things are when so many people are dying so young. The *average* life expectancy of my former classmates—at least among those of normal means—probably isn't even above 50.

Almost every public policy these days goes against working people—regardless of which party is associated with it. The few things that don't are inevitably relitigated. The fact that everything goes *completely wrong* is proof of a deliberate effort to harm people. Likewise, some want to relitigate Social Security for those who have already been approved for it. A doctor, a Social Security office, and an administrative law judge have already approved each case, but some folks in government and the media want to relitigate these cases because they went in the people's favor. They want a "do over" because they didn't get their way. Why don't we redo Super Bowl XVI while we're at it? That's about what this is like. They live in the past.

Raising the retirement age is like relitigating a person's age. Kings Island couldn't have done a better job by raising its "Must be this tall to ride" signs a little bit every summer. We have a new nickname for Russell Vought: Quick Draw McGraw. We call him that because Kings Island used to have Hanna-Barbera characters (like the one in pink whose identity is now forgotten or perhaps Yogi Bear) on its signs.

Incidentally, federal statute says an applicant's age must be considered when they seek Social Security disability benefits. But we all know that many recent presidential administrations think they're above the law.

It burns me up inside that America's wealth is plundered over and over in a decades-long cycle of betrayal in which promises to our seniors, workers, and disabled are repeatedly shattered. Worse, those who committed this grand larceny spread lies and propaganda so they can justify stealing even more. For over 40 years, the "third rail" that "nobody wants to cut" has always been the first thing cut.

Meanwhile, Americans who are now in their fifties first joined the workforce right when Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush were replacing pensions with 401(k)s, so they'll have a lot less money than their parents did when they retired, despite having to work longer before retiring. The next generation will have even less.





# Schools committed educational neglect and thought it was funny

Here's how badly the deck is stacked against America's working people: A person will spend their childhood being wrongly labeled as disabled and barred from their own school system because of it. The person is barred from regular schools despite federal laws giving disabled students the right to attend regular schools. Then—many years later—after the person *actually* becomes disabled because of this neglect and abuse, the person applies for Social Security disability benefits and is told they're not disabled. This takes place after the person works and pays Social Security taxes.

In other words, a person is considered disabled only when it can be used as a cudgel to discriminate. When they actually become disabled later in life, which should entitle them to benefits, they're suddenly declared perfectly healthy.

Guess what? Much of this happened to me, and it can happen to you or your children. In fact, I've been luckier than some—*so far*.

In recent months, I've published a lot of rundowns of stories I found online of strange things that happened at school. Yet many years ago, something even weirder took place: A child started school and actually tried to learn. That child was me. But I was only in kindergarten when the real trouble began. One day, we were in the cafeteria at school, and we weren't allowed to use the restroom because kids kept playing with the knob on the radiator. So I urinated on the table. This should have been expected. The school shouldn't have expected a room full of 5-year-olds to hold it in for that long without either wetting their pants or letting it rip.

School officials were quite angry about this, and they started keeping a special eye on me. So, before I moved on to 1<sup>st</sup> grade, I faced a battery of tests. I performed absurdly high on an IQ test. But performing well on intelligence tests doesn't mean you're talented across the board. When I read a book, I paid attention to details like the layout of the page, yet I didn't always grasp the book's plot or message. After these tests, the school system labeled me with attention deficit disorder.

When that happens, you're done. Cooked. Finished. It will then be assumed there is something wrong with you. For the rest of your life.

Because I supposedly had ADD, the Campbell County Schools said I was too disabled to attend their schools. This is despite the fact that IDEA was already law of the land, and it was illegal for them to exclude me. So, as some of you know, I then attended Guardian Angel School, a tiny Catholic school in Fort Mitchell, through 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

This wasn't the worst school I attended. At least they weren't real big on dress codes. But the fact that the Campbell County Schools wouldn't do their job is discrimination and educational neglect. Period.

When I was about 8, I realized I was getting the shaft. This realization emerged in weird ways, such as the "The man is dead! Time to bury him!" document. I also got mad at the TV over what should have been considered positive occasions. (That's not what broke the TV though.) I felt I was being brushed aside so badly by the system that I couldn't do anything except fend for myself.

One of the biggest forms of neglect I suffered throughout school was that I wasn't allowed to focus on my best subjects. This was true in public and private schools alike. Most of our public schools were bad, but some of our private schools were even worse. Imagine having a free product that's so bad that families spend thousands of dollars on a competitor instead, only to discover it's worse.

I think I was 11 when I first started to be drugged heavily for ADD. At first, I was given Cylert, which was later discontinued because it causes permanent liver and eye damage. Later, I was given Ritalin—that infamous standby.

I kept getting harassed at school, and later, it was dragged into the larger community, which normalized it. The perpetrators were spoiled and had a lot of clout with authorities. A good ass-kicking could be counted on every time I left the house, so my family usually had to go all the way across town to somewhere like Beechmont Mall to do our shopping. Quite frankly, it's a mystery to me why it got so out of control.

Here's where it gets *really* weird. I was victimized again because I reported what happened. The official story became that I made the whole thing up completely. But there are perhaps *thousands* of





people still around today who witnessed it all and would beg to differ. Nobody never explained *why* I would have made it up. Fighting back incurred unprecedented retaliation. First, I was injected with an unknown substance, and I passed out. Then I was force-fed Trilafon—a very powerful antipsychotic. In other words, it's something you're only supposed to give to people who display psychotic behavior. It's not something you're supposed to give to 17-year-olds for disagreeing with a school principal—especially when the recipient of these drugs is telling the truth all along.

I wasn't the one pooping my pants at school. That was one of the usual suspects. Any objective observer could see who was psychotic, and who wasn't. I know we don't live in a society where everyone is scientifically literate, but even the dumbest among us should be able to process what's in plain sight.

It was then that I started suffering disabling health problems. We were required to play baseball, and I didn't even have the energy to stand upright in the outfield. Now I know that it was because of a heart condition caused by years of Ritalin.

Perhaps most significantly, during my junior year of high school, I started experiencing flashbacks and nightmares about what had occurred during the few years prior. This is a classic sign of post-traumatic stress disorder, and it was aggravated by the fact that I was actually *punished* for being a victim. When the PTSD began, I put on a game face and—out of shame—I didn't tell *anyone* about it. But I felt like I was falling apart.

And the educational neglect continued. I was now safe from the worst schools, but the Campbell County Schools again refused to admit me. They again insisted—actually *argued* at a meeting—that I was too disabled by ADD to attend their schools. By then, I didn't *want* to attend their schools anyway because of past experiences there, but they had a responsibility to make sure I got to attend a regular school for more than just an hour each morning. Now they weren't just disobeying IDEA but also the Americans with Disabilities Act, which had just passed. They were breaking state laws too. They practiced illegal discrimination and got away with it. Meanwhile, I knew damn well that if the Gulf War had gone on much longer, I would have been among the first people drafted. I knew this from the way I had been harassed for years by the schools.

After junior year, I began working at the local public library. This was a real job that paid an actual wage—and I happily paid Social Security taxes on it, because that's part of living in society. But I was completely exhausted by the end of each day, because of the health problems I was suffering.

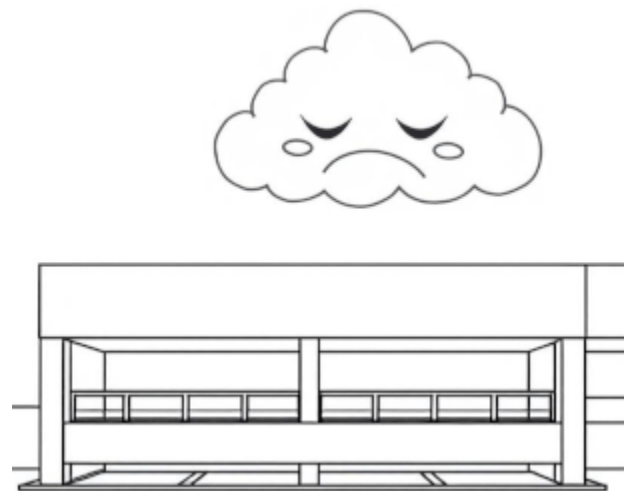
I reeled from years of the educational neglect of not being allowed to attend public schools in my own district—much as I staggered from the harassment that took place in addition to that. I attended what were essentially alternative classes for several years. I went to regular classes at Holmes High School—a regular public school—for part of the day when I was a senior, and that's where I graduated from. But the rest of junior and senior years weren't even in a regular classroom setting. It was just a daycare for teenagers. School officials acted like there was something wrong with us.

The many years after that were like getting out of prison and having to readjust to the outside world. This is *literally* true. I was subjected to what I call an *actual* prison for months just before junior year, which was part of the retaliation that I suffered for daring to report the harassment. Our school districts, public officials, and insurance companies were conspiring to traffic young people in retaliation or for profit.

My life has been completely destroyed by what took place.

It takes decades to readjust to normal life after being abused so severely, and it was made worse by the fact that the worst punishment was a result of having already been victimized. And then I was called a liar to my face again when I dared to complain about *that*. Again, there has to be thousands of people who witnessed at least some of what occurred, but most were not in positions of authority back then. All of this is in addition to Ritalin-induced heart damage, which got worse in 2020 because we again had to fear our own political “leaders”, and it led to heart surgery early this year. Their promises that they would end martial law while continuously extending it was exactly like my experience just before junior year. That's what abusive narcissists do. It's disqualifying for public office.

That I was less gifted in certain subjects is something I worked around by focusing on things I



was good at—nonstop. I buried my nozzle in projects morning, noon, and night. I worked very hard on them. I could have become the world's biggest beggar, but I don't like to beg. I actually Made Money from some of my projects and built up a fortune of a few hundred dollars.

How have I been luckier than others in a like situation? I haven't been subjected to the final stage of our proprietors' procedure yet. That jackboot is sure to drop sooner or later. I have gallons of medical paperwork to submit to Social Security documenting multiple major health problems, but the rules as to whether one is considered disabled enough to receive benefits have gotten tighter and tighter. As I said, people are considered disabled only if it gives the system an excuse to discriminate—not if they truly need benefits like Social Security that they previously paid for from their paycheck.

I've also been lucky in that somehow I've always managed to survive every obstacle placed in my path over the years. If you knew how bad things were, you'd see that this is truly a feat to behold.

There are no words sufficient to describe the pain, hurt, and distress I suffer every single day. The problem is that I can't prove just how bad it is. Nobody with even a single brain cell denies that I suffered severe educational neglect, but that alone isn't a medical condition.

Thus, I must assume that I will not qualify for any disability benefits for any extended period of time in the future. Adjudicators are likely to consider me to be 100% healthy from then until my time is up. But we also know damn well that these same VIP's will be singing a new tune if it suits their purpose. Dictator Trump infamously signed an executive order to try to have people institutionalized for being homeless or displaying the "wrong" opinions. Under these auspices, one might be considered too disabled to not be locked up, but not disabled enough to get Social Security.

And it's coming. Given our rulers' history, I would *bet the farm* on it. But I will fight them.

George Orwell warned us about doublethink. The term applies perfectly to our overlords' contradictory arguments. To make it worse, it applies now because of circumstances that they themselves had created earlier!

## How to add new states the cool people way

America is a dying empire, but if it must admit a 51<sup>st</sup> state, it should be done the way cool people—like you and I—would do it.

In brief, states shouldn't be admitted if it appears that their government would serve the oligarchy even more than the states we already have do. If that's all you need to know, you may skip the body of this article. Otherwise, here's details, my friends, details.

How would the U.S. and A. admit new states in accordance with cooler principles?

In recent years, the most obvious candidates to become new states are the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Although we once would have supported statehood for these places under their current boundaries if they wanted it, the political leadership of these jurisdictions has unfortunately forfeited this privilege via a buildup of various unconstitutional or extremist policies over the past few years.

The Bill of Rights is not negotiable. We have to ask ourselves what's happened to America when some of the government actions we've seen in this decade are even remotely tolerated.

D.C. has just decided to weaken housing protections in order to appease developers and boost gentrification. Officials in Puerto Rico have defended unconstitutional laws by claiming constitutional rights don't apply there since it's not a state. They knew they couldn't defend these laws on their substance and essentially admitted they would be unconstitutional. The island territory also passed a new millionaire tax break that attracted tax evaders from the mainland U.S., who built exclusive gated communities and hired private security to illegally search and harass locals who use public beaches. The island's poorest residents were left holding the bag. Both D.C. and Puerto Rico had horrifying records on COVID tyranny—even if we grade on a curve. In fact, Puerto Rico was probably worse than all 50 states. D.C.'s recent youth curfew also



applied as early as 8 PM in selected neighborhoods.

These jurisdictions have become awash in fascism. The Trump regime unleashed the National Guard in D.C. ostensibly to fight crime, but nothing has been done about the fascism of some its public officials—one of the biggest crimes of all. The National Guard *should* be used to go after officials who refuse to follow the Constitution. But it never is.

These territories at present are not progressive. Yet adherence to COVID totalitarianism is the policy that guides today's Democrats—who are also not progressive. The party's entire identity is built on it. Whether they'd approve adding a new state hinges wholly on the territory's COVID record. If the Faroe Islands wanted to join the U.S. as the 51<sup>st</sup> state, the Democrats would reject it out of hand because the archipelago didn't completely lose its shit during the pandemic. Notice also that they haven't pushed for statehood for the Northern Mariana Islands, even though it's a U.S. territory.

Now, pay attention to what we said above about admitting new states under these places' *current boundaries*. This gives us a way to support making D.C. a state—under new boundaries. Here's the issue: In recent years, rich right-wing suburbs have encroached on many American cities. This is represented by gentrification. The cities no longer stand for what made cities so great. Instead, they've attracted an authoritarian suburban mentality. For example, there are 2 huge counties in Maryland made up of very rich D.C. suburbs, and they had among the worst COVID records of any American locale. Their COVID tyranny is why the Democrats sacrificed several of their most effective senators just to pool resources into electing the leader of one of these counties—Prince George's County—to the Senate. That was also after she accepted hefty donations from powerful real estate developers, falsely accused campaign finance laws of being racist, and illegally collapsed the number of polling places in her county. The policies of wealthy suburbs such as those in southwestern Maryland have grown inward into the cities. It's like what the Silicon Valley is to the Bay Area.

Most rich suburbs were Republican even into the George W. Bush era, and many still are. It's hard to say whether southwestern Maryland is worse than parts of northern Virginia, but at least Virginia gave us a hilarious scare film about maxing out credit cards in which a brand new velvet designer jacket got ruined by a milkshake. We see this brand of gentrification in Bellevue too as the city's Flock scandal mimics the kind of official retaliation that was once more suburban in character. Cincinnati's right-wing war against bike sharing programs is another example.

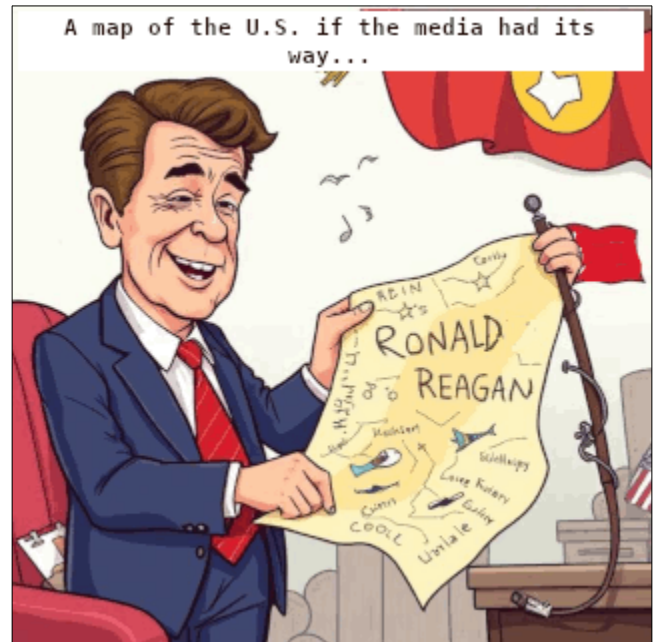
Gentrification plagues some parts of D.C. more than others. If we can exclude gentrified areas, we may be able to cobble together a D.C. that acts the way a democracy should act. That's how we cool people do things.

Opponents of D.C. statehood have long insisted that a constitutional amendment would be required to make D.C. a state. This argument doesn't hold up. But we can solve it by keeping the rich areas as a federal district while granting statehood to poor and working-class areas.

Gentrificationist and authoritarian administrations are already overrepresented in government. The people need a voice. Instead of giving more representation to those who can afford second homes and priced out everyone else when they purchased them, we need to add representation for hard-working people who have real bread-and-butter concerns like healthcare, jobs, and schools and who won't stand for elitist public officials trampling their civil liberties.

Our plan would expand the voice that poor and working-class people in D.C. have in their own community. Right now, they have very little. The city is run by corporate hacks who sell out to developers and media hype.

There's no rule that we can't carve states out of other territories using this same method. There is a rule that its leaders have to follow the Bill of Rights, and that's why we should not admit new states where recent events show this is unlikely to occur. Many of the 50 states that we already have are bad enough on many public policies, so why add to the stack of worries?





## Why not the Northern Marianas?

The Northern Mariana Islands is a U.S. unincorporated territory that has a delegate in Congress. As with some other unincorporated territories, people born in the Northern Marianas are American citizens in addition to being citizens of the territory. Statehood for the territory is occasionally discussed, but not all residents favor it, for fear it could weaken local autonomy. Yet a recent article urged statehood, as it would give the Northern Marianas a voice in presidential elections and a voting congressperson.

The Democratic establishment does not want that, and the biggest reason is that the territory didn't lock down hard enough during COVID. The Northern Marianas also reportedly did not have a mask mandate—an issue that party big shots use to divide people into “good” and “bad.” This is the main reason you never hear the party advocating for statehood for the Northern Mariana Islands.

Again, not everybody in the Northern Marianas supports statehood. But the Democrats don't even have the offer on the table, because of the party's lockdown litmus test. We are 100% convinced that the Democrats would try to work out a deal with Australia to trade Montana with Victoria just so America could gain a state that had more extreme COVID rules. At least we'd get Men At Work too.

The ogres who rule my once-great Democratic Party have a one-track mind. They are mired in an elitist, totalitarian cult of antiscience, and its most important tenet is COVID ideology. They won't lift a finger to restore Social Security or establish universal healthcare. This isn't the party it was in 1991. They're like Russell Vought in different packaging.

## It's all downhill in Montreal's war against cyclists

Our friends north of the border aren't safe from the expanding command state that we've suffered. Shockingly, social media totalitarians cheer it on.

Along with elite university campuses—which these days includes *most* university campuses, since they've shut out the mainstream public—the major social media sites are among the few places where people organize protests demanding *less* freedom. It's as if they're saying, “Spank me harder, Mommy!”

Not long ago, a cyclist riding an electric bicycle in Montreal made an online post about being ticketed by police for not wearing a helmet. Somebody replied saying that while this regulation does not apply to regular bikes, it does apply to electric bikes—even though the only difference is that one has a motor. Even with a motor, you still have to pedal it. It's not a motorcycle.

Ticketing a bicyclist for not wearing a helmet is like ticketing someone for driving a car without a helmet. We wouldn't go near a motorcycle or even a skateboard without a helmet. A bicycle though is different. Fast-forward to :22 in this commercial...



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=taaC8S-LiWk>

If that harmless, inoffensive ad was filmed in the presence of Montreal police, the woman on the bike would have been cited.

In my day, bicycles were given to little kids, and they were expected to ride it. It's not like a car, which you had to be a certain age to drive.

You might think respondents to the aforementioned post would be all over the Montreal police department for carrying out this war against cyclists, but instead, many actually *defended* this effort. We can't write dumber fiction than this. We can barely even write dumber *nonfiction* than this, even after living through 8 years of George W. Bush. Somebody actually replied, “You're really awful, maybe an Ethics class or 2 at McGill/Concordia could help?”

They're questioning a person's ethics because they didn't wear a bike helmet? There are certain things that are unsafe enough that we'd question a person's *wisdom*—but their *ethics*? The social media thought police isn't about safety but about judging ethics and morals, wrongly portraying dissenters as not misguided but *evil*, and driving them out of society on that basis.

Another respondent simply replied, “Suck it up, buttercup.” Seriously? That’s their response? They’re not using this statement affectionately. Instead, they’re using it as an insult like “snowflake”, which originated when the Nazis used it to describe the ashes of people they murdered. It’s like a mash-up of that and the “you knew the rules” trope used by narcissists.

One commenter correctly noted that the helmet requirement was “a bit stupid” because bikes travel slower than cars, and that the rule was “just another way to siphon tickets out of cyclists in this ‘bike-friendly’ city.” Montreal’s claims to be bike-friendly are now resting in (keek!) ruins. It’s like how groups that claim to support national parks demand the parks’ closure every time the U.S. government shuts down (i.e., often).

Bike helmet laws create a false impression that bicycling is more dangerous than other transportation forms. It’s also classist—and ableist. This isn’t like the laptop underpants crowd falsely accusing people of being ableist because they didn’t stay locked at home for 5 years over COVID. Bike helmet laws actually *are* ableist.

In most other cities, most police won’t stop you just for not wearing a bike helmet. Or at least most real cops won’t. A long time ago, we covered cases in which people impersonating police officers tried enforcing laws like this—some of which weren’t even laws at all—but our fight raveled because of the neglect we suffered at the time. I begged, I pleaded, I implored—and was brushed off.

Letting vigilantes enforce invalid laws was a bad precedent. Some people don’t understand the difference between law and pseudolaw. Here’s an analogy: It’s like when a guy accused a bunch of kids of destroying police equipment just because they didn’t know how to use a police radio scanner they had at home. Yet the scanner wasn’t actually department equipment. It was a piece of home electronics that you could buy somewhere like Kmart or Hooper’s Store. Unlike that, however, the trend toward vigilantism has serious consequences in the real world.

One set of laws that unfortunately is not enforced is antitrust laws (the cool laws). We must enforce antitrust laws to break up social media monopolies so that diverse voices can be heard.

## More social media totalitarianism

Most revolutions replace old, stale ideas with new, forward-thinking ideas. But the social media revolution has done the opposite. It has replaced the progress of a decade ago with Cold War-era “law and order” themes and prehistoric views on family life and sexuality. You’re not gonna believe this, but some of it is wrapped in progressive branding. We’re not fooled though.

The far right is on the warpath in Marin County, California. In addition to bringing about the closure of the only bike crossing over the bay within miles, this rich Bay Area enclave recently erected Flock spy cameras every where you turn. Someone made a post on Reddit assailing this scourge, but the responses were shockingly pro-Flock. Somebody claiming to be an attorney defended Flock by noting that you have no right to privacy on public rights-of-way—but that misses the point.

What makes Flock so bad isn’t that it merely photographs license plates, but that it photographs *every* plate, car, and person, and shares the information with police without probable cause. Yet the people defending Flock are the same folks who bawl holy hell out of First Amendment auditors. Plus, laws that would seem to limit Flock abuses are violated in plain sight. San Francisco police even let Georgia and Texas cops search Flock data on behalf of ICE.

Somebody even compared Flock cameras with the congestion charge cameras found in London—even though they actually have very little in common.

In a different thread, numerous people actually defended the closure of the aforementioned bike crossing. They falsely claimed that only 12 cyclists used it per day, when it actually had heavy bike traffic. Bragging of the forthcoming closure, one said, “The madness ends next week.” If you point out how classist all of this is, you get shouted down for actually having common sense.

In still another thread, someone said doctors and nurses who fail to wear masks in situations where it’s unnecessary “are BAD PEOPLE” who “need to feel some guilt.” Believe it or don’t, that was posted just a few days ago, not in 2020.

Social media sure loves their masks. In late 2021—after a vast majority of Americans had already been vaccinated against COVID—a Maryland county enacted a brand new mask mandate for no apparent reason. Here’s a hint: It’s wealthy Prince George’s County. Notice that about 99% of stories like this nationwide are from only about 3 counties. As the right-wing Tegna media empire gave a bullhorn to the ferocious race-baiting of the pro-lockdown town criers, Reddit users also praised the

new mandate. One self-styled Internet Tough Person said anyone who opposed the new mandate was “a sissy.” That loudmouth probably hadn’t left their home in almost 2 years, yet everyone else was “a sissy”?

In the 1940s, so many young Americans—some only in their late teens—bravely put their lives at stake to fight in an overseas war. But in the 2020s, many healthy young men and women have been horrified just to leave their home, and when they do, they jump into the street when they get within 30 feet of another pedestrian. Also, by the time that article appeared, most of us—myself included—had done our job in the fight against COVID by getting vaccinated, yet new mandates were still being imposed.

That thread was full of much of the same deliberate disinformation that fueled COVID fabulism far and wide that was promulgated to provide a rationale for harsher mandates.

A guy on Twitter—possibly a fake account or paid troll—whined that he knows a feller whose car was recently damaged in a bike lane. How about not driving a car in a bike lane?

Not long ago, the Florida Panthers’ arena began banning spectators from bringing in bags that are bigger than 4 by 6 *inches*, even if the bag is clear. The venue doesn’t even offer a locker for bags that are too big. Someone recently exposed this on Twitter, noting that about half of all attendees at an event were turned away. People could bring in huge signs, but not tiny bags. It was also noted that someone was denied entry to the Buffalo Bills’ stadium over *a wallet* being too big. Several replies actually attacked the original poster for starting this thread. One even blamed the poster by saying “that’s on you for being uninformed.”

The punishment bureaucracy can be loved only by toilet-brained incels who spend all day playing on their computer in their underpants (which they poop in). One has to wonder how many of the accounts that defend the unchecked rise of authoritarianism are even real, and how many are actually sockpuppets or people being paid off.

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