

The Last Word™

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Freedom of disinformation

A month ago, after our previous issue was published, I did a cool thing. I made a freedom-of-information request for my FBI file.

It was a long shot. I didn't expect the FBI to admit they had a file on me. Not surprisingly, they didn't admit it. In their reply—which came in convenient PDF form—the bureau claimed to be “unable to identify records” pertaining to me, yeah, me.

Sure they were. Like we're supposed to believe a single word that comes out of their pieholes lately. If they did send me my file, I'd be pretty confident that most of it would have been full of shit anyway. They don't live in the reality-based community. They create “facts” that are not real.

This is certainly the case under Kash Patel and Pam Bondi. A few weeks ago, the agency actually claimed with a straight face that Jeffrey Epstein wasn't involved in sex trafficking. The FBI said Epstein's financial records revealed no connection to criminal behavior. But Epstein's many victims beg to differ.

Over the past year, the FBI has covered up for Epstein's conspirators, and we're supposed to believe them about anything else? The FBI has built its own fantasy world. They deny the existence of real people and events, while making up people and narratives that do not exist. They're like the kid in school who claimed he jumped off the top of the Empire State Building and survived uninjured, or who kept saying a unicycle with no rider stole the neighbors' mail.

Everyone also remembers the kid who, before telling any amazing story, would always say, “Don't believe anything I say.” That's what the FBI should say before saying anything else.

Sadly, we don't live in America anymore.

Spectrum plays on the phone like a baby

How does Spectrum act if you cancel service and switch to one of their very few competitors?

They go, “Wah wah wah waaaaaaah!” like the big crybabies they are.

Instead of taking it like grownups, they lash out against you, me, and all else that is good. They opt to make unsolicited phone calls months after you cancel service, but instead of saying anything to try to win back your business, they resort to baby antics. Recently, they called me and left a voicemail where they didn't say anything at all. Someone else reported that they merely “left a voicemail of a person coughing.”

How old are they? Three?

They're like the WellCare of telecom—probably worse.

Because victims of this immaturity probably use a phone company that offers services that compete with Spectrum, the security departments at these companies have got to be chomping at the bit to hear about this.

Other people who have tried to cancel Spectrum service have not only been subjected to sales pitches after repeatedly declining them, but Spectrum hung up on them during subsequent calls. This prevented them from canceling. Some customers said Spectrum didn't properly respond until they



complained to the Better Business Bureau or the police. Another said that Spectrum did not send them their final bill and instead sent it to a collection agency.

One person said Spectrum kept sending them bills months after they canceled. This customer called Spectrum and was told the account was canceled and the bills would stop. But the bills continued. Another call to Spectrum revealed that the company neglected to cancel the account when it was supposed to be canceled, but that they couldn't do anything about it now, and that the charges would go to collections.

Just don't look for new stories like this on Reddit, because Reddit has now begun to delete all threads that criticize Spectrum.

As we've mentioned, Spectrum finally has a competitor here for Internet, but one article says the situation in Los Angeles is at least as bad as it is here. According to that piece, L.A. residents have to use whatever service is available in their neighborhood—which often means Spectrum. It's probably because of political corruption.

It was also reported that Spectrum's overpriced cable TV service recently went out locally for over an hour during the Super Bowl. Fortunately, the Super Bowl was on an over-the-air station, so you could ostensibly still watch it using an antenna. Unfortunately, TV is digital now, so don't bet on a reliable signal more than 30 feet from the station's tower. The digital transition was a flat earth moment like the 2-year-long school closures were.

On February 25, Spectrum left me another voicemail, this one full of gasping noises.

Will the babyish phone calls from Spectrum continue? If poo. The number Spectrum called me from is blocked, but my phone carrier's blocking feature doesn't block voicemails. So what's a mere mortal to do? Stink?

Maybe we need a "panel of experts" to decide what's allowed.



Telcom secret exposed

Here's a little secret from the telcom world. (Ooh, a secret!)

According to numerous online posts, the major cellphone carriers that also offer Internet service actually do have Internet in places where they claim not to have it yet. We've had a couple different cellphone carriers, and we had to wait *years* before they openly offered Internet at our address. But, according to said posts, if you have phone coverage, you can also get Internet regardless of what the company says.

Thus, if you want Internet from your cellphone provider, and they claim it's not available at your address, you can actually give them a family member's address instead—just as long as you don't fraudulently have someone else billed. It's 100% legal. It involves no fraud at all. If you have Internet at an address where it's explicitly offered, and you relocate to a place where it isn't, your Internet should actually still work as long as you still have phone coverage.

This comes in handy for people who live in an apartment complex or town that has illegally awarded a monopoly to another Internet provider. But it's a mystery why companies don't openly offer Internet in other places where it technically works. It's actually costing them business.

However, an article from a couple years ago said T-Mobile was starting to "enforce" eligibility by tracking customers' location. This would be illegal for T-Mobile to do, as it is a utility. The piece also says T-Mobile could cancel offenders' accounts, but that too would be illegal. Traditional landline phone companies weren't allowed to permanently ban people from having phones if they gave them the wrong address.

Somebody also posted that they tried signing up for T-Mobile's Internet again after they had dropped it once before, but T-Mobile said it was no longer available at their address. How is it possible for an Internet provider to backslide like this?

The "trick" I'm describing above to get Internet where it's supposedly not available isn't much of a "trick" at all. It's perfectly legal, and it doesn't take much brain power to figure out. You just have to know it *exists*. It's not cheating the system, as long as you're honestly paying the bill. If telcoms for some reason don't want people doing this, they can fix it by openly selling Internet service in these

areas. Simple.

After all, why should working-class areas have to wait *years* longer than rich areas do for Internet service? This is a matter of economic equality. You can't accuse someone of fraud when they're just trying to buy a service that the rest of the region already has.

All of this said, T-Mobile's apparent attempt to track customers is a clarion call for new laws to make it more unequivocal that telcoms can't use this form of tracking. Admittedly, this would be another "This time we mean it" law, but this time we mean it.

Dronin' on about feces detecting drone

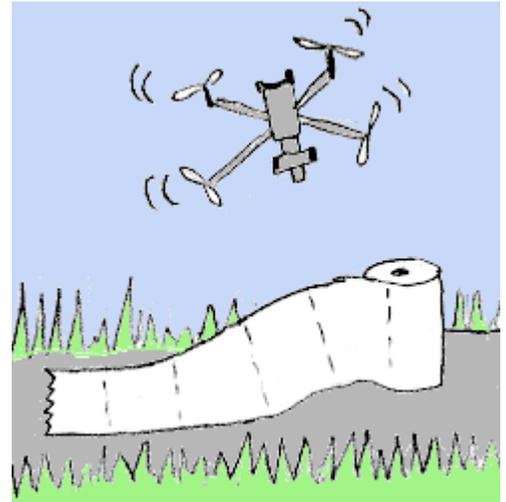
When they begin (wokka!) the pee and the poo... (wokka!)...Quiero sentir (wokka!) las cosas de siempre...(wokka!)

It's been a winter to remember in Stoughton, Wisconsin. A few weeks ago, police there reported receiving dozens of complaints about feces and used toilet paper being found along the walking path of a local park. "When we first learned of it, we thought it was going to be isolated," a police official told the media. But when the complaints continued, "I realized that it wasn't going away."

He thought the feces and toilet paper were going to grow legs and just walk away?

But Columbo was on the case! Police figured out that the culprit was defecating in the early morning hours. Cops unleashed a drone to catch the suspect, who turned out to be a 46-year-old woman.

When they end (wokka!) the pee and the poo... (wokka!)...Quiero sentir (wokka!) las cosas de siempre...(wokka!)



Ruined suitcases bring more baggage

Because the moon is not a marshmallow pie, we've found more fodder for exposing airlines. However, this is a topic we should use sparingly, because most people of normal means don't regularly fly. It's the same reason we don't run 50 articles per month on cosmetic dentistry or boutique summer camps.

Not long ago, someone posted on Reddit that Delta broke their brand new suitcase and kept sending them AI-generated responses to avoid paying for it. This post was accompanied by a photo of the suitcase with a wheel broken off.

Somebody replied saying Southwest—an airline that always seems eager to humiliate itself, as shown by the old *Airline* TV series and recent policy changes—broke their brand new luggage. Southwest replaced the suitcase, but it took almost 2 weeks. Another person said Southwest broke the extendable handle of a brand new suitcase. Southwest refused to replace it, pointing to the fine print on the ticket saying Southwest is not responsible for damage like this. Then who is? Did the suitcase just grow arms and break itself?

In response to airlines' negligence, somebody actually suggested putting a suitcase inside a suitcase for extra protection. This still might not do much good, as somebody said an airline shredded through several layers of protection, ruining their suitcase, a polyester bag protector, a backpack inside of it, and hiking boots that were inside of that.

Another commenter said American Airlines "absolutely demolished" a brand new suitcase on a return trip from Scotland. The airline offered only \$40 to replace it, even though it was worth much more than that. Meanwhile, the ruined suitcase had to be wrapped in tape to keep it from bursting open.

Someone said it's not just U.S.-based airlines. It's a problem in other countries too. They said they were traveling in Asia, and an airline cut a big hole in their suitcase.

On the other hand, there were also some fairly smug replies to this thread. Somebody said damage to wheels and handles are not covered by any airline, because that's considered ordinary wear and tear—even if the baggage is brand new. The airlines better damn well cover it. You break, you buy.

An online post said Delta's baggage office in Savannah, Georgia, dismissed a complaint about a destroyed suitcase. The woman there reportedly said, "Oh yeah, that's normal damage, nothing we can

do.” Someone said this violated Department of Transportation policy. Somebody else replied saying that *all* of their bags were damaged on 3 flights in a row. Delta then said it was the passenger’s fault for not buying better bags – even though they were actually some of the toughest bags you could buy.

A thread from back in 2021 – when hardly anyone traveled by air at all – says an unspecified airline “ruined my bag and everything inside it.” Photos were provided of the partially burned green travel bag and the items that were in it, most of which are completely unrecognizable. One reply said American Airlines lost a \$3,000 guitar and had to replace it. This wouldn’t have happened except that the airline wouldn’t allow the guitar as a carry-on. One respondent said that during a childhood vacation, they saw a baggage handler throw their dad’s suitcase so hard that it burst open and ejected his clothes all over the filthy tarmac. The airline gave him only a small reimbursement for the grease-covered clothes.

Somebody posted that Delta completely destroyed their luggage, and Delta said a lithium battery must have exploded in it – even though there was no lithium battery in it. Despite a photo of the damage, Delta accused this passenger of making up the whole thing. Somebody replied saying an airline allowed “some asshat” to ship shrimp from New Orleans to Las Vegas in just a styrofoam container. It leaked, which “ruined my brother’s very expensive vintage leather jacket.”

Suitcases got roodledy-doodledy.



Don’t bet on keeping your lottery winnings

This is a blast from the past – and unfortunately present – that again shows the hypocrisy of those who allow products to be advertised to the public and then complain when the public buys these products.

Since 1995, New York state has had a law that no other state has. Under this law, anyone who wins the state lottery and has previously received public assistance will have their winnings immediately seized by the state to pay for *past* assistance they’ve already received. This is said to include only “cash public assistance”, but the state has a weird idea of what that means. Under the state’s definition, it includes not only things like SNAP, but also benefits like Medicaid that aren’t welfare at all. Their definition of “cash public assistance” even includes being housed at a homeless shelter.

This policy began under far-right Gov. George Pataki. It was part of the war on the poor that had gained height back then, a war that was directly inspired by Nazi ideology.

One of the biggest problems with this law is its hypocrisy. The state allows its lottery to be advertised 24/7. The whole point of advertising is to sell a product. So they have no business complaining when people buy the product – whether they’re on welfare or not. If you don’t want people to play the lottery, stop advertising it. It’s that simple. A lot of countries are banning cereal ads now, so why should a lottery still run ads?

When is the state going to seize lottery winnings from people who made money on the stock market?

Maybe instead of playing the lottery, you should do all your gambling by buying stocks or expensive insurance policies. You’d pay less in taxes on capital gains from the stock market than you’d pay for most other things.

New York is the only state that confiscates lottery winnings to cover past public assistance payments, but other states have had policies that are remotely similar and had the same aim of punishing the poor. Until recently, Connecticut made you pay back prior public benefits – even medical assistance – if you received an inheritance. In many states, if you use Medicaid to pay for a nursing home stay, the state will bill your family for your past Medicaid expenses after you die. Some states also go after Medicaid expenses for things other than nursing home stays. Even houses have been seized. What’s the point of getting Medicaid if your family just ends up losing their shirts anyway?

By confiscating what belongs to families of Medicaid beneficiaries, the burden of these recovery efforts falls on poor and working-class Americans. No state seizes property to cover medical bills of the rich when they die.

The state of Kansas seized a \$90,000 house to cover Medicaid payments of less than \$8,000.

If you have a loved one who passes away, and they wanted you to take their belongings after their passing, be sure to get these items before the state can confiscate them. Get everything you can, so it stays in the right hands.

It's been argued that lotteries are actually a tax on the poor. If so, poor people who win the lottery ought to be allowed to keep as much of their winnings as any other winner. What's the logic in discriminating? And what about the other confiscations against America's poor? Over 30 years ago, America's political class made attacking the poor the hill they wanted to die on, and it's not entirely clear why. It's not only wrong, but it's also a losing political issue in any community with normal values. Another mystery though is why the public even tolerates this campaign in the realm of discourse. Those who say the poor have it too easy should be treated as pariahs and not have their opinions catered to—let alone be able to put their ideas into force.

That this campaign has been tolerated is why we have so many policies today that are maliciously designed to harm the poor, like New Jersey's ban on electric bicycles. The chattering class knew what they could get away with once they were allowed to get a foot in the door.

The FDA approved poison (a blast from the past)

Our proprietors have been hostile to science for at least 30 years. I just came across an old story I planned to process in 1996, but everything else was getting so extreme that it was put on the backburner.

At the time, the FDA was on a binge in which they kept approving artificial food additives even after they were proven to cause health problems, including cancer and heart disease. The FDA even acknowledged these issues—but approved these products anyway. One press account said this campaign won both support and opposition from people in “the scientific community.” But the only support specifically cited in that piece came from “a pro-business group.”

Uh, business isn't “science.” It's about as much “science” as *The View* having Terrence Howard on to give his goofy views on rational numbers. If you crumpled some used tissues and put them in a pitcher in the sun to see if you could make Lipton Sun Boogers, it would have more scientific value than that.

In the past 45 years, America has hardly advanced an inch toward civilization, fairness, or science.

I'm so sorry, you have just reached my answering machine...



For decades, I've had a folder on my computer titled “Baddies.” It contains mugshots and other photos of a few people I've had negative dealings with. It's allowed. Look at the Constitution.

It also has a couple documents listing harassing phone calls I received between 2004 and 2010, when I got rid of my landline. Some of the real meat of our investigation into the far right is here.

Also, I had to change my phone number at least once during that time, and the calls still didn't stop.

This probe includes a host of calls that were traced to private individuals locally. They resided in Cold Spring, Alexandria, Wilder, Ludlow, Covington, Bellevue, Florence, Burlington, Fort Wright, Independence, Newport, Taylor Mill, Petersburg, Hebron, Union, Lakeside Park, and Green Township. Some were traced to individuals in other places in Kentucky, such as Midway and Waco. So we know who was responsible for these calls, and some of the names sound vaguely familiar. Some had the same last name as some of the others. But I can't figure out where I knew these people before. It's like in how in high school when someone said, “Oh, you know so-and-so,” and it was probably somebody you'd seen but just didn't know their name.

As I mentioned last month, one call was traced to Little Miami Local School District. One was traced to what was apparently a background check company in Covington. Another came from what evidently was an advertising agency in Louisiana. Another was from what appears to have been a media consulting firm in Iowa.

I got harassing calls from the *Cincinnati Enquirer* and Cincinnati Bell's Zoomtown. Another was traced to a Cincinnati jewelry store. Others came back to a Firestone auto care shop in Covington. Still others were traced to a local VA clinic and what was then known as St. Luke Hospital East. Others came back to a Florence hotel, State Farm, and a local travel agency.

Several harassing calls were traced to AT&T Credit Management Center. Even if the content of the call wasn't like the rest (which it was), this department had no reason calling me, as I didn't owe anything to AT&T. I remember raising a stink around that time about AT&T trying to bill me for services I never purchased, but the calls constituted harassment even if they were about that—and not about the garbage that was living rent-free in my adversaries' heads since 1984.

Then there were calls that were from more explicitly right-wing organizations. (AT&T should count among them, as it was the biggest Republican donor at the time. AT&T also paid no federal taxes in 2018 and 2021, so our money is funding big corporations that gave to the GOP and made harassing calls.) As I touched on last month, there were at least 5 from Faith & Family/Citizens United—the civic vandals who laughably argued before the Supreme Court that campaign spending is “speech.” These continued even after I changed my phone number. Also as I mentioned last month, other culprits include the Senate campaign of John Spencer in New York state and the New Jersey Republican State Committee. I was also harassed by a Michigan-based organization that advocated for “faith-based” and “family-friendly” films.

All of the aforementioned calls (including those from AT&T) were pretty much the same, which shows it was a fairly well-organized harassment campaign. Some people were living in the past. They were fighting such old battles that I wouldn't have been shocked to see them take a position on the Naval Act of 1794 or Vermont statehood. When they started, *The A-Team* and *Magnum, P.I.* were among the top-rated TV shows in the land. To give you an idea of how long ago this was, it was during the final season of *The Jeffersons*.

At some point, a different genre of harassing phone call became much more common. These calls were from Wells Fargo and its many front companies, which appeared to be searching for a customer who allegedly owed them. This customer was a complete stranger to me. As with the other calls, these calls continued even after I changed my number. Some of the answering machine messages left by these firms consisted only of someone saying, “Hello? Hello?” They provided no reason for calling. Other voicemails only yelled out the first name of the allegedly delinquent client. I had to get the Kentucky Attorney General's office involved—and the calls *still* continued.

By then, it had long since been established that I had no connection with the customer Wells Fargo was looking for. I didn't even know him, and never heard of him before these calls started. So Wells Fargo had no business calling *me*. Period. Full stop. This client probably didn't even owe Wells Fargo anything. If Wells Fargo makes harassing calls to completely disinterested parties, why wouldn't it also make up debts from real customers?

But the other calls are more astonishing, considering how long they went on. I'm sour about it. Because of this type of fascism, I didn't get to finish school, and I suffered permanent injury. My future was completely stolen. Fighting it has also sapped every last bit of energy out of me.

Is it too late to demand justice? Nobody has ever been punished for this campaign. There's never even been an official investigation. Justice delayed is justice denied. Punishment being delayed for so long has only encouraged later atrocities by others to go unpunished.

More Pokémon cards got ru

I predate the Pokémon era, and it's hard to type that name on an English-language keyboard, because you have to cut and paste it from a website, as it includes an accent mark. Kids in my day collected baseball cards (often to get the bubble gum), but sometime later, kids began collecting Pokémon cards.

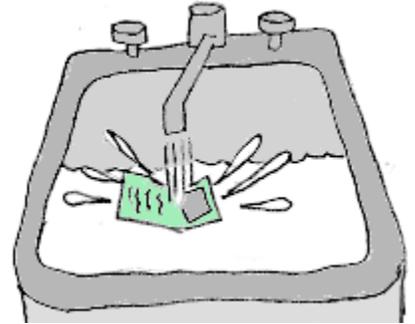
And they get ru. We've found more stories on the public Internet of Pokémon cards getting destructamundo.



Some folks regret selling their collection too cheaply, but the shock kicks in when you see the ways people have actually ruined the cards. One person said they collected the cards since childhood and made a point of not discarding them when they “grew out of Pokémon.” After 20 years of being stored properly, this commenter said they accidentally spilled their dog’s water bowl on all their first-edition cards. There are several stories of parents throwing away whole collections because they thought they were junk. Some of these collections were also full of first-edition cards. Other peeps say their collections were destroyed in assorted disasters.

One person said they had to do 6 months in prison, and when they got out, they found that their mom had given all their cards to a nephew, and he traded them all for a used computer. Another person said their mom thought they were playing with their cards instead of doing homework, so she took the cards away and gave them to a cousin. Later, the cousin misbehaved, and the cards were thrown away. One commenter said their cards were all stolen from them when they were 13. The thief then threw all the cards in a storm sewer because he was afraid of getting caught.

A person said they gave away all their cards to their cousins, who ate them or vomited on them. Another said they ruined their cards by placing a wet towel on the binder. Another said they once had a very valuable card which they “crumpled up for the hell of it.” Another said they spilled tea all over a collection. This commenter also said a friend ruined all his cards—which were worth thousands of dollars—by spilling water on them. One person said their sister got mad at them once, grabbed one of their best cards, and ran it under the sink. Another commenter said a 7-Eleven Big Gulp soda leaked all over his near-mint cards. One feller made a YouTube video saying that 11 of his cards were spoiled by a company that grades cards. He also said the grader left a pubic hair in the sleeve for one of the cards.



Several other people talked about rare Pokémon cards they ordered being lost in the mail for good. One collector said that when their package arrived, it had already been opened, and the cards were missing. One post disclosed that a package with \$200 worth of rare cards was lost in the mail. The Postal Service eventually sent a letter admitting that “we must reluctantly conclude that the package is irretrievably lost.” Although the Postal Service lost the cards, the letter said “the Postal Service cannot honor your claim for reimbursement.” Some people replied actually blaming the seller.

One seller said an \$850 mint-condition card disappeared in the mail. But this very card was later found for sale online, which means it was stolen in transit. Somebody replied to that thread saying some of their cards were lost in the mail, and the Postal Service claimed they were stolen out of the mail truck. Somebody else said items they shipped were lost in the mail, and they later found the items being sold on a website run by someone who purchased “undeliverable” mail from the Postal Service at auctions.

A 2019 article said a \$60,000 Pokémon card—one of the rarest ever printed—got lost in the mail. This loss completely upended the collecting world, and a \$1,000 bounty was placed on information on the card’s whereabouts.

A bunch of Pokémon cards are rooned.

Will Kentucky flock against Flock?

Don’t look now, but there’s actually a few bills in the Kentucky legislature to limit the fascism of the likes of Flock Safety.

And—to the surprise of many—they were introduced by Republicans.

You read that right. Kentucky Republicans—we repeat, *Kentucky Republicans*—have actually introduced bills to protect constitutional liberties. It’s a miracle! But each bill has attracted one or more Democratic cosponsors, so the bills’ bipartisanship is unattackable.

One bill—H.B. 58—will attempt to limit the retention of data from cameras like those erected by Flock. This was prompted by the blatant privacy violations and other misuse of this data. It appears as if the same bill was approved by the Kentucky House in other recent sessions, but was somehow bottled up after that.

If this bill becomes law, it will place a 90-day limit on retaining this data, and it would limit where the data can be shared. This comes as Louisville police have turned the city into a Flock police

state. The DeFlock website shows hundreds of such cameras in Louisville. Yet city residents say they don't feel any safer with the cameras around.

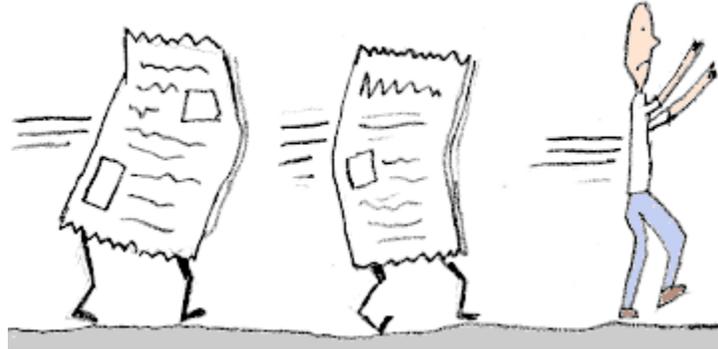
An amendment to H.B. 58 would require police agencies to publicize the locations of each of these cameras.

Apparently, the bill – but without that amendment – has just passed the Kentucky House 89-9.

Wait! There's more! There's another bill – H.B. 375 – that goes much further. This bill would completely ban the use of automated license plate readers like Flock. The ban would apply to police departments as well as private entities. Using these cameras would be a felony carrying a \$10,000 fine. Best all, violators would also be subject to civil penalties.

In a legislative session full of bad bills that need to be watched like a hawk, it's refreshing to finally see some good bills for a change.

Gannett gizzard gums



Let us introduce you to two different opposing concepts: Dillon's Rule and the Cooley Doctrine, which were named for two American jurists, John Forrest Dillon and Thomas M. Cooley, respectively.

Under Dillon's Rule, it is held that cities and towns only have powers that the state specifically gives them. By contrast, the Cooley Doctrine says that cities and towns have home rule and are not bound by these limits.

You occasionally hear someone boasting about how such-and-such state is a "Dillon's Rule state", so the state can preempt the city's rightful powers. But there are not supposed to be pure "Dillon's Rule states" or "Cooley Doctrine states." If a city had no power, there would be no point in incorporating – because if it did, all it would do is charge taxes and not do anything with it. Fact is, every state is supposed to be a "Cooley Doctrine state" *unless* the city does something unconstitutional or otherwise out of bounds.

However, in the past few years, our rulers have gotten it completely backwards. They seem to think no city can exercise self-rule *except* when it does something unconstitutional. They're always gloating about how cities can't do this and can't do that. But they suddenly fall silent when a city tramples liberties that are protected even under the most elementary understanding of the Constitution.

A perfect example is the COVID-19 town criers who backed authoritarian measures that turned out to be useless. The lockdowns are now like what the Iraq War was before then in that everyone now knows they were a failure, yet there's a few pundits who still insist they were successful. Everyone knows deep down it was a disaster – even if they continue to smugly defend it. Just as Lindsey Graham still defends the Iraq War, *Cincinnati Enquirer*-backed blunderbuss Amy Acton still arrogantly defends lockdowns, but there's no possible way Graham or Acton truly believes what they say.

To illustrate the selective use of Dillon's Rule and the Cooley Doctrine, this story takes us to East Lansing, Michigan. East Lansing is one of these places where the school district put out a Kimilsungist missive that banned Halloween. East Lansing was also one of these reactionary cities that stood well above its peers in its degree of Branch Covidianism.

In October 2020, months after Michigan's statewide lockdown had expired, East Lansing limited even *outdoor* gatherings to 25 people – or 10 people in much of the city. Violations were treated as a criminal offense punishable by 6 months in prison – in addition to a \$500 civil fine. The city manager – rather, city mangler – complained that there were "far too many large off-campus gatherings without masks and physical distancing." Well, yeah. That's because it wasn't Halloween yet. What did he

expect? A bank robbers' convention?

East Lansing got away with having COVID orders that were much stricter than what the state had. Where was the precious Dillon's Rule then? Also, the gathering limit was issued by an unelected health director. It wasn't voted on by elected leaders.

It gets worse.

The media is supposed to be an independent watchdog with informational and investigative roles regarding government acts. Yet the *Lansing State Journal* gave out a phone number to report gatherings to police if they exceeded the limit of 10 or 25 people. Naturally, the *Lansing Snitch Urinal* is owned by the right-wing USA Today Co.—formerly Gannett. This is the same elitist syndicate that owns the *Cincinnati Enquirer*.

Far from playing an independent role, the Lansing paper served as an arm of government in an effort to run roughshod over constitutional rights that were previously considered unassailable. The *State Journal* also isn't the only offending media outlet in this regard. It was reported that another outlet even alerted Google Drive to remove files that disagreed with the official COVID narrative.

So much of what went on during COVID was obviously stupid. Everyone knows it now. Even for us, it's clearer now than it was in 2020. It was as bad as how festivals recently started banning Chap Stick because they think someone might smuggle drugs inside it. The fascism of the COVID era has also had lingering effects on culture and society. Every activity that used to be about freedom is now a corporate cash grab that micromanages behavior. Festivals are no longer festivals, but consumption events with a police state vibe.

Scooby-Dooby-Do, where are you? You've got some glue to eat now...

Our stash of stories we collected from the public Internet of strange school behavior still isn't depleted, even in an era when depletion is the norm. So let's look at all the poo-poo in flight!

One commenter said the class dissected frogs in middle school biology class, and some girl kept her frog's skin in her purse for weeks and would occasionally show it around. Another person said that in 3rd grade, there was a boy who kept an open packet of tuna in his desk for days, which stunk up the room. This commenter also said that in 6th grade, a student poked a hole in the screen of a window in a second-floor restroom and peed out of it. At another school, someone blew up a toilet with a cherry bomb, and a teacher jokingly asked a random student if he did it. A few days later, that student rode a dirt bike up and down the hallway. It turned out that it actually was him who blew up the toilet.

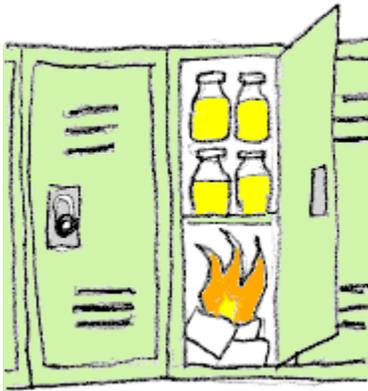
Another commenter said a weird girl stole their eyeglasses and flushed them down the toilet. It wasn't known that the glasses were flushed until they were found in the sewer pipe 4 months later. One person said that in high school, there was a girl who would somehow get drunk throughout the course of the day. It turned out she was injecting vodka. It also led to extreme flatulence and loss of bowel control during class. Another commenter said a classmate swallowed an entire brand new pencil during class. During the next class, he vomited, and half the pencil emerged. One student smuggled a whole slice of pizza into the library in his pocket, as food wasn't allowed. Another vomited in a Gatorade bottle and threw it at the ceiling in the cafeteria, causing it to burst. An elementary schooler peed in his desk during art class.

Another student would pour Elmer's glue all over wrestling action figures and lick it off. Another invented a "glue sandwich"—which he ate. It used 2 pieces of paper as the bun, and glue mixed with pieces of erasers as the patty. At another school, a 5th grader kept shitting in the urinals so much that the teachers had to accompany him to the restroom. Another commenter said someone set off a bottle rocket in the hallway, which whistled all the way down the hall. The culprit was never caught. Another student got sent to the hallway during class, so he punched a hole in the classroom door, stuck his head through the door, laughed, and in a funny voice said, "Hellooooo!" He also set the lawn on fire. Still another student ate a chocolate milk carton after drinking the milk.



Another pupil saved all his urine in jars in a locker and then set a bunch of pages of textbooks

on fire in the locker. The science teacher ripped the locker open to spray it with a fire extinguisher, and all the jars of urine fell out and shattered. Another student ate paper towels in a restroom. Another school had an experiment where you could bring swimwear and get in a density tank to measure the water level. Everyone looked forward to this annual event. But one year, a student claimed to have peed in the tank, and the event was discontinued.



One student deliberately shit his pants and threw the feces at schoolmates who had stolen pants from him that he had allegedly shit in before, photocopied them, and handed out the copies with his name and phone number on them. A 6th grader broke off a loose piece of floor tile during English class, crushed it, and snorted it—causing a nosebleed. An elementary school child kept eating gravel during class. Another student would crap his pants during class, stand up, and loudly announce it. A high school student smeared shit all over the wall in the stairwell on the last day of school.

An 8th grader stuffed a trumpet full of potatoes and let it sit in his locker for weeks, which stunk up the whole school. Another student left a banana in his locker to let it rot, “just so he could show it off later.”

One particular student burst a large exercise ball with a pencil, which created so much noise that the class was terrified. He also once led a substitute teacher on a rapid chase up and down the halls that was likened to scenes from *Scooby-Doo* in which characters are seen through a doorway chasing each other back and forth. On other occasions, he pulled the fire alarm. A 7th grader shit in a hallway, sat in the mess, and scooted down the hall, spreading feces for 25 feet. A high school senior got expelled 3 days before graduation for spraying pepper spray for no apparent reason. What a loser. A 1st grader would always carry around a Barney doll and drool on it, saying “it changed color.” Another 1st grader ate tissue paper to try to prove he was actually a sheep.

One commenter said a teacher told them about a former student who kept suffering grotesque injuries in various accidents at school. He also once lost a textbook, and it was missing for weeks. Finally, he got a call saying it was found in a restroom of a Denny’s restaurant in another state.

One student ate Band-Aids. Another shit on the principal’s desk. Another superglued all the drinking fountains. Another kept eating cardboard Lunchables boxes. Another bit holes in a slice of bologna and wore it like a ski mask. Others drank Liquid Paper. Another was expelled for trying to eat a bench. Another stole video cameras from the audiovisual room and tried to sell them online under an alias. When some of the teachers tried to buy these cameras, he got scared and tried to secretly return the cameras to the school. But he was caught because the school had set up cameras to catch the thief.

One commenter said an 8th grader played with himself on a school trip to see a play at a Texas college. This commenter later moved to Oklahoma, and some girl at school there was known for the fact that her grandpa was the county sheriff and a drug dealer. This girl would show up at school “blasted out of her mind” on drugs. The commenter returned to Texas in high school, and a schoolmate tore out the wall of the local post office, took the safe, stole a metal cutter from school, and cut open the safe. All he found was a few coins and stamps, but he went to federal prison.

Richard Scarry’s Counting Book it is not.

Nazi ideology influenced disability cuts

It’s tired, it’s miswired, it’s Nazi-inspired.

We’re talking about our political class’s regressive approach to disability. Our rulers’ approaches to poverty and taxation—which hurt working-class and poor people—are bad enough. Although we wouldn’t expect a person to receive *limitless* welfare if they can’t show they need it, that doesn’t justify cutting welfare from those who should qualify for it. And our proprietors’ obsession with shifting to “consumption-based” taxes that place a greater burden on the poor and working class was directly inspired by Nazi Germany. But the fixation on cutting off support for the disabled is one of the clearest examples of how Nazi ideology has shaped later policies.

I actually detected this pattern a long time ago—even before most of this effort went mainstream in America. There was a neo-Nazi element present on the ground that sported ableist sayings and actions, and we saw almost in real time how they seamlessly glommed onto major political candidates. This was as more and more of these politicians began openly supporting ableist policies.

The disabled were actually among the first victims of the Holocaust. The Nazis described them as “useless eaters” and lamented using tax dollars to support disabled people who were unable to work or whose work options were limited. The Nazis also painted the disabled as lazy and sent them to institutions where they were forced to perform labor that killed them. Disabled children were also not allowed to attend school unless it was in an institutional setting.

These policies influenced the views that the modern political class has regarding disability. For decades, talk radio and websites have been flooded with comments—often from sockpuppet accounts and hired trolls—accusing the disabled of malingering just so they can receive Social Security. Any time someone says that people on disability are actually just lazy people who refuse to work, that’s Nazi propaganda. This is significant because these views have been translated into policy.

The fact that it’s been made harder to collect disability is a direct attempt to accommodate Nazi views. Nazi ideology directly influenced changes to the disability program that have taken place in America in recent years.

The dominant social media culture wants to relitigate rulings that were made years ago by cutting off benefits from people who have already been found to be disabled. It doesn’t matter what the disability is. Nobody except the claimant and the examiners are entitled to know that. If a disability isn’t visible to some loudmouth who hides behind a keyboard and has a degree they got from a cereal box, that’s too bad.

Leave people alone. We’re not doctors, so if someone is receiving disability benefits, it’s wise for us to take their word that they’re experiencing some sort of health condition that limits their livelihood. Even if they’ve suffered from it for only a short time, what matters is that they suffer from it *now*. We can feel pretty confident in saying there are zero adults in the entire country who currently get benefits because they “acted up in school.” The Social Security Administration follows a “listing of impairments”, and “acting up in school” is not found anywhere on it. If it was, half of Campbell County would be on disability.

Nazi views have also influenced a plan in Salt Lake City to nab homeless people—disabled or not—and forcibly take them to a “homeless campus” being proposed in a remote part of town. The plan is backed by state and city officials but has been called a concentration camp by others. The camp would cost millions of dollars, but some have proposed paying for it by having homeless people work off the cost while being involuntarily confined there.

The Nazis barring disabled children from school was the inspiration for congressional efforts to repeal IDEA in the 1990s.

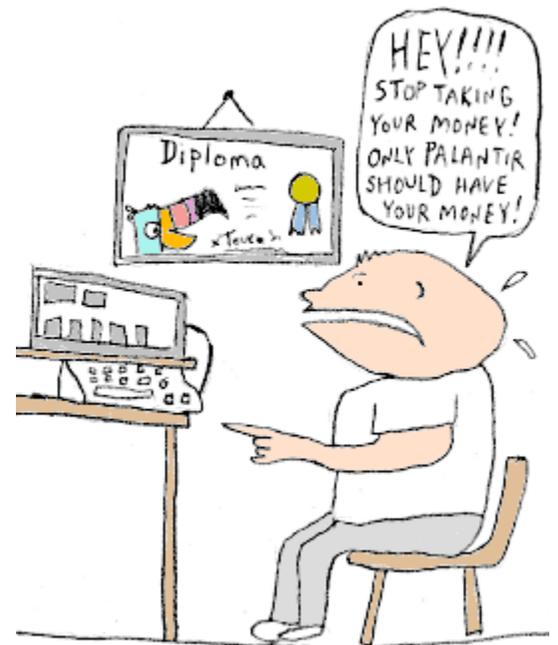
A recent article that listed Social Security cuts that have taken place discussed several that applied primarily to disability benefits. The Reagan regime eliminated a benefit that had existed since the 1950s. Before this benefit was cut, children of a disabled parent could get benefits after they turned 18 if they were still in school. The government cut this off, saying they should just get student loans instead.

Another cut took place in the 1990s when Congress began denying disability benefits to those who are addicted to drugs, including alcohol. Many of these individuals have an underlying disability that led to their addiction. Over 120,000 disabled Americans were kicked off Social Security. This cut was egged on the media, which in turn had stovepiped a debunked congressional report about benefits getting squandered on drugs.

The aforementioned recent article didn’t touch on another cut that took place: The Reagan autocracy launched an arbitrary review of about 1.2 million disability cases and terminated benefits for almost half of them. Some people committed suicide because they lost their benefits. Some were wounded war veterans. Make no mistake, this policy was a crime against humanity. It only stopped when a new law took effect establishing a unified standard for disability reviews.

In the 2020s, there have been several serious attempts at disability cuts. These included a proposal to make disability reviews much more frequent, and another to remove or tighten the rule that makes it easier to qualify based on age. These proposals were also inspired by Nazi convention.

Just recently, it was revealed that the Social Security Administration has been training customer



service representatives to encourage beneficiaries to commit suicide.

How do we reverse the shabby policies outlined in this piece? Maybe the first thing our rulers should do is stop catering to folks who are *literally* Nazis who spread ableist lies. They spread lies because they can. They are bullies and sociopaths. I've had enough dealings with them to see how they've grown from inconsiderate children into petulant adults, and how their selfishness and meanness have translated into practical politics. What's more is that they've been stuck on the same themes almost their whole lives. Kicking qualified people off disability when their condition hasn't improved is not a serious adult stance. It shouldn't even be seriously debated by an elementary school class. It's straight-up Nazi crap – full stop.

A person did a Wright brothers and it ruined their mittens

(This article is reprinted from our September 2019 issue.)

I just remembered something I had completely forgotten about for 30 years. Here's the most shocking part: It has to do with bubble gum. Can you imagine that? It also has to do with Brossart. Can you imagine that? You can??? How?????

Anybip, the expression "doing a Wright brothers" means to reach out and pop somebody else's bubble. This is also known as "Bazookacidal tendencies." This technique was once employed on an outing conducted by Bishop Brossart High School, a far-right Catholic school in Alexandria. I'm guessing I was maybe a sophomore.

Odds are that it wasn't a real field trip. As I've said, it doesn't count as a field trip if it was one of the school's nonsensical "retoolings." (Yes, they did call them "retoolings.") Field trips should be both educational and fun. The "retoolings" were neither. These events had very limited appeal and did absolutely nothing for me. I don't even know what they were supposed to do.

One of the most frustrating things is that these outings took away class time that I could have used to develop my talents. Then again, very little at Brossart developed my talents, so that wasn't a big loss.

As for the outing in this story, we were on the bus going to our destination, when a student bubbled (although the school strictly prohibited gumming of any sort). A girl in my class reached over and did a Wright brothers. Best all, she was wearing fuzzy mittens. I seem to recall the mittens were tan or beige with a slight green tint. When she pulled her hand away, a huge strand of gum was draped across the mitten. It appeared as if she had a webbed hand.

Her mittens were ru.

Another student who saw this declared, "Eeewww!"

I will swear up and down that this occurred. I'm an eyewitness to this act. It happened, and there's no point in arguing. I don't know why I forgot about it for 30 years or what reminded me of it now. Then again, I can't be expected to remember every last detail of something that happened 30 years ago – no matter how uproarious.

What's the appeal of doing a Wright brothers? Most people I know don't go around randomly bursting other people's bubbles in their faces. Maybe Brossart was different, as it was in a lot of ways. Around here, if you meet someone new like a family friend at a cookout, one of the first things they ask you is where you went to high school. It's as if it's supposed to define you. Even when I attended Brossart, I felt so alienated from the school's "community" that I avoided being defined as a Brossart student. I never wanted to go to Brossart in the first place, but I was forced to, because reasons. These days, kids are always being encouraged to "show their school spirit" by buying notebooks and folders in their school colors. Kids in these ads look like a bunch of geeks. But when I went to Brossart, I tried to avoid buying anything whose color was green.

