



# Perspectives

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Perhaps we should just wait our turn.

After all, with global warming, the housing crisis, banking crisis, energy crisis, water crisis, and heaven knows what's next, it shouldn't be long before our elected leaders finally wake up to the fact that population growth is really the source of all of these problems.

But the sad reality is that failure to resolve the population crisis is not going to cost the politicians any votes any time soon – so it constantly gets moved further down on the agenda to be dealt with at a later time.

Where's the logic in all this? Simply put, there isn't any.

It seems that our nation has finally gotten to the point where we have to be just short of panic (or in the case of the banking and housing crisis – financial disaster) before our political leaders decide to act. Forget about heeding any warnings or planning ahead. These days it takes a crisis of full-blown proportions before our shortsighted leaders – in both political parties – take notice.

In a recent issue of our *NPG Journal*, I quoted national columnist David Ignatius who summed up the problem quite succinctly in saying, "But it's one thing to see that a crisis is looming and quite another to mobilize the federal government to do something about it. And these chronic problems were in Washington's 'too hard' file." Ignatius was talking about the mortgage crisis but his words can fit almost any issue – especially population.

Certainly, there is no easy way to solve America's population dilemma

*(continued on page 2)*

## ONE BILLION PEOPLE IN U.S. BY 2100!

Does the number 1,000,000,000 still have any shock value?

When China's population raced past a billion people in the early 1980's, most Americans could not even fathom a country having to deal with such eye-popping numbers of people.

However, when the topic of America's future population came up at a recent gathering of urban and rural planners in Las Vegas, there were any number of people willing to step forth to project that our nation's population could more than triple to one billion people as early as 2100.

Arthur Nelson, co-director of the Metropolitan Institute at Virginia Tech, is among those whose analysis projects such huge numbers in our nation's future. He was quoted in *USA Today* asking the definitive question: "What do we do now to start preparing...?"

We here at NPG don't think this is the right question. A better question is: "How do we stop it from happening?"

The stark reality is that new advances in medicine and technology will most likely ensure that many of our children and grandchildren – especially those under 10 years old today – may still be alive at the turn of the next century. And without question, their children will definitely inhabit a vastly overpopulated country.

Current projections forecast a population of 438 million people in the U.S. by 2050 – with more than 80% of growth in the next 42 years driven by immigration. If our nation fails to adequately secure our borders against more illegal immigration in the next few years – and does not act to severely limit legal immigration – we may actually see our population zoom past 450 million by mid-century.

Here at NPG we've worked for more than 36 years to educate the American public about the dire future we all face living in an overpopulated nation. All of the facts we've gathered in our decades of research point to the vital need to dramatically change today's out-of-control population and immigration policies that have put our country on track to disaster.

Today, NPG continues to lead the way to find realistic solutions to halt and even reverse today's population explosion. Our ongoing challenge is to get Congress to create a National Commission on U.S. Population Growth that will put some of the nation's smartest minds to work to forge a consensus as to how we can best avert future population mayhem. If that effort fails, we must work even harder to find new ways to focus the American public on this long-term challenge. We will definitely go wrong if we follow the thinking of one urban planner who stated, "No one plans for 100 years from now except to preserve a national park."

## A CHANGING NATION...

The U.S. Census Bureau revealed new statistics recently showing that Hispanics, the nation's largest and fastest-growing minority group, now account for about 25% of children younger than 5 in the United States. Hispanics account for more than 50% of children younger than 5 in both New Mexico and California, and about 33% in Texas, Arizona, Nevada and Colorado.

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN (Continued)

but we will definitely not get there with a bunch of legislators who are more willing to bury their heads in the sand rather than take charge of creating a better future for all of us. Instead of leading and making constructive decisions today, our Congressional leaders too readily want to pass the buck. Their selfish efforts to protect their own political futures rather

than look out for the best interests of our nation mean that future generations will have to pay the price for their folly.

Congress' attempts to resolve the immigration crisis two years ago has only led to extended debate on Capitol Hill and allowed the open-border lobby to acquire more political power and gain more political favors. And the mere mention

of possibly having a serious debate on population policy sends many politicians running for the exits.

The question must be asked: Has it gotten to the point where it is now "too hard" for Congress to address the most serious issues of the day?

Sadly, that may very well be the case.

## VOTE WITH CARE!

The national media decided long ago that the economy, energy and the war in Iraq will be the top issues in the 2008 elections. In making the decision to ignore immigration as a top issue they let many politicians off the hook and enabled them to drop it as a prime topic to be fully addressed before the voters cast their ballots.

But what the press elites don't seem to understand is that millions of voters are very concerned about where presidential candidates John McCain and Barack Obama stand on the immigration issue. Voters are also attuned to how their U.S. Senate and U.S. House candidates, state officeholders and even local candidates feel about how our nation will address this ever-growing problem.

Here at NPG, we mail our *National U.S. Voter Public Opinion Survey* to hundreds of thousands of citizens annually. The tens of thousands of responses returned to us consistently reaffirm how immigration ranks high on the list of issues where voters want action, not inaction, so it is only natural that they will carry their concerns into the voting booth. The tabulation of these responses is forwarded to our nation's elected leaders and policymakers.

As a non-profit organization, NPG cannot endorse candidates. However, as an educational group we can point our members in the right direction when it comes to assessing candidates' immigration-related voting records. One of the most thorough resources we've seen in this area is available from *Americans for Better Immigration*. They have done an exemplary job of rating the presidential and other federal candidates



and giving us a good insight into whether they have built their immigration stances on polling, posturing or principle.

We urge you to find the time between now and November 4th to go to [www.betterimmigration.com](http://www.betterimmigration.com) to do some research before you cast your ballot. For state and local candidates, we urge you to do your homework and monitor where they stand on immigration.

Remember, the only way we are ever going to win the battle to halt today's population explosion is to elect more leaders with the courage to stand firm against both legal and illegal immigration that continually drive our population to unsupportable numbers.

## SAVE E-VERIFY!

Here at NPG we feel very strongly that the government must put more pressure on employers to make sure they don't hire illegal workers. Such action will prevent illegal immigrants from securing jobs and force many to go home.

In recent years the national E-Verify system has been widely hailed as an effective tool that helps employers ensure a legal workforce. It works by confirming employees' legal status by electronically checking their identities against Social Security records and other government databases. With Immigration and Customs Enforcement now more aggressively acting against employers who willingly skirt the law, E-Verify has become a very active program. The program works so well that President Bush issued an Executive Order requiring government contractors to use E-Verify as a condition of doing business with the federal government.

Today, the program's very existence is in peril as powerful open-border lobbyists seek to derail the legislative reauthorization of the E-Verify program. As this newsletter went to press, the U.S. House of Representatives has voted to extend it for only 5 years instead of the full 10 years. Efforts are still underway to put language in the current legislation working its way through the U.S. Senate that would open the doors to de-fund the program in the future and limit its extension to only two years, when it again could be undermined. The program will die at the end of November 2008 if Congress does not act to reauthorize it. This is a critical issue to watch. NPG encourages all members and supporters to contact their Congressional Representatives and demand they reauthorize the E-Verify program.

# THE NEXT GENERATION – NPG'S GREATEST ALLY

## Scholarship and Poster Contests Get Teens Thinking

As NPG fights to create a livable world with sustainable population levels, there is one group which is fast becoming a rich source of valuable partners – the generation that will have to live with today's decisions on immigration and population growth.

Just as America's young people have been the catalyst for action on the environmental front and helped bring the issue of global warming to national prominence in such a short time, today's young people are beginning to take note of other rapid changes coming in the next few decades that will very much impact their lives – and population is right near the top of the list.

### STUDENT POSTER CONTEST

In May, NPG awarded \$19,500 to twelve very talented students who addressed our Student Poster Contest theme of "Too Many People" in very creative ways.

We liked their artwork so much we've already reproduced the winning entries on small 5 ½" x 8 ½" postcards and distributed them nationally. In addition, we've printed thousands of 12" x 15" full-color posters and are sending some of the most powerful images to classrooms across America.

In the coming months we will continue to incorporate the best posters into our national media ads, complete with the names of NPG members who have already signed up to lend their names to helping us get our message out.

If you are interested in helping us get these new posters into a local school or library in your area, please check the appropriate box on the accompanying reply.

*"I was actually about \$3,000 short of being able to afford freshman year of college. Now, thanks to NPG, an incredible art teacher, a generous principal, and you, I am attending the first year of my dream school with NO WORRIES! My family and I are ever grateful."*

— Tiffany Everett, Auburn High School, Auburn, IL  
Student Poster Contest Grand Prize Winner

Teenagers today can quickly grasp that forecasts for a U.S. population of 438 million people by 2050 – 134 million more people than today – will radically change the world as they know it. They can also understand that it will be their children who will potentially live in a nation of one billion people by 2100 if the wrong population decisions are made today.

The more NPG can get young people involved in the population battle, the better our chances to build a new army of activists who will work to advance our issues on the local, state and national level, and help us reach our goals.

### NPG COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Also, just last month, we notified six exceptional students that they had been selected to receive the top honors in our NPG Student Scholarship Contest. Having presented the question "Do you agree that Congress should create a National Population Policy," to students nationwide last February, the winners used their exceptional flair for words to outline serious positions and arguments that rival some of the best writing we've seen on this issue. Making the final selections in the scholarship contest is always a challenge because the essays stand as a treasure trove of brilliant thinking and writing.

*"This overpopulation issue can be repaired, but it will not fix itself, it will require swift action and great dedication to safeguard the United States from a population overload."*

— Adam Wright – University of Wisconsin  
NPG Scholarship Grand Prize Winner

Can today's generation save America and our planet from the perils of population growth? The good news is that millions of today's young people are ready to try. Today, it is crucial that we continue to work together to make sure NPG has a greater presence in America's schools and can become an even larger organization that can give the next generation the resources it needs to help win the population and immigration battle! *We urge you to review both the winning posters and read the winning essays at [www.npg.org](http://www.npg.org).*

### STUDENT POSTER CONTEST WINNERS:

#### Grand Prize Winners – \$3,500 Each:

Tiffany Everett, Auburn High School,  
Grade 12, Auburn AL

Haley Angus, Prairie Middle School,  
Grade 8, Cottonwood, ID

Jennifer Wong, Kapolei Middle School,  
Grade 7, Kapolei, HI

#### Honorable Mention Awards – \$1,000 Each:

Carolyn Carter, Sonora High School,  
Grade 12, Sonora, CA

Tiffany Young, Paulsboro High School,  
Grade 12, Paulsboro, NJ

Mario Gregg, The High School of  
Graphic Communication Art, Grade 12,  
New York, NY

Melana Salisbury, Centralia High School,  
Grade 10, Centralia, MO

Jessica Piechocki, Pickerington  
High School North, Grade 10,  
Pickerington, OH

Teal Gordon, Forest Glen Middle  
School, Grade 8, Coral Springs, FL

Erika Robbins, Albert Leonard Middle  
School, Grade 6, New Rochelle, NY

Lily Schenk, Albert Leonard Middle  
School, Grade 6, New Rochelle, NY

Lin Zhang, Suzanne Middle School,  
Grade 6, Walnut, CA

### SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS:

Adam Wright, University of Wisconsin,  
Madison – \$2,000

Molly Simmons, University of  
Tennessee, Chattanooga – \$1,000

Christian Aulbach, John Jay College  
of Criminal Justice – \$500

Helen Ho, Duke University – \$500

Kristin Schultes, University  
of Michigan – \$500

Michelle Ziperstein, University  
of Florida – \$500

## THE “NEW” POPULATION PROBLEM: EVERYTHING’S INTERLINKED

When Paul Ehrlich published *The Population Bomb* 40 years ago, many people derided its findings. However, it soared to the top of the nation’s best-seller list and is credited by many to be one of the seminal books that sparked the environmental movement. Today, Ehrlich serves as a distinguished professor at Stanford University and, along with his wife Anne, has produced a new book titled *The Dominant Animal*.

In their latest publication, the Ehrlichs seek to explain how man’s rapid rise to dominance of our planet has spawned

a series of interlinked woes that mirror today’s headlines: skyrocketing demand for energy, agricultural crises, and of course, environmental degradation. As can be expected, they argue that no single action can serve as a remedy to solve such intertwined problems. Asked in a recent *Newsweek* interview about whether our energy supply is adequate, Ehrlich proved he is still very much on top of the issue with the single sentence: “We’re not running out of fossil fuel, we’re running out of environment.” The Ehrlichs’ book is available in bookstores and at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

## WHO SHOULD BE COUNTED IN THE 2010 CENSUS?

The question has been raised before but with the countless millions of illegal immigrants who have flooded into our country in recent years, it is surely going to be a hot topic in the months leading up to the 2010 Census. Simply put: Should illegal immigrants be counted in the Census and their numbers count towards the apportionment of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives? Also at stake is the number of votes each state gets in the Electoral College, the distribution of federal aid to states, and the proportional representation in state legislatures.

Advocates for including illegal immigrants in the count say it is impossible to distinguish between legal and illegal citizens when counting heads – those who are illegal are not about to tell census takers that they are not here legitimately. Opponents fear that counting illegal citizens will result in a further disproportionate shift of political power

to states in the South and West. It must be remembered that estimates on how many illegal aliens are presently in our country range from 11 million all the way up to 30 million, so we are talking about quite a few House seats being shifted all over the map.

This issue has been debated before and after the 2000 census with some states such as Michigan (which lost a House seat after 2000 and will probably lose another after 2010) finding a court challenge to be unsuccessful. Congresswoman Candice Miller of Michigan went so far as to propose a constitutional amendment to limit the reapportionment count to citizens.

How will this question be resolved? Look for the U.S. Census Bureau to claim that planning for the 2010 census is already too far along and that it is too late to change plans to count all individuals. Then again, since this topic involves distribution of political power, anything could happen.

## POPULATION AND THE DEMAND FOR OIL

Is increased offshore drilling the answer to reducing our dependence on foreign oil? President Bush recently called on Congress to authorize offshore drilling for the vast oil resources believed to be contained in deposits under the outer continental shelf in the Atlantic. How vast are they? Some estimates claim that these deposits contain between 42 and 86 billion barrels of oil.

The assumption seems to be that if those estimates are accurate and the oil is eventually recoverable, we would have enough oil to last almost indefinitely. It is extremely curious that it is rarely, if ever, mentioned how long a given oil supply would last at our current level of consumption. We consume the almost unimaginable quantity of 20 million barrels of oil each day, or some seven billion barrels of oil a year! The enormous quantity of 86 billion barrels of oil would supply our needs, therefore, for a mere 12 years, at our present level of consumption. But, because of the growth of our population (driven by immigration, both legal and illegal), our demand for energy is constantly growing, and that would serve to shorten that time period substantially.

Is there a solution to the problem? There is, but it is almost universally ignored. Quoting from Lindsey Grant’s NPG Forum Paper, *Twilight or Dawn?* “Above all, seek the solution on the demand side. The United States must stop and reverse its population growth so as to match the decline of conventional energy with declining demand, and to free more resources for the investments that lie ahead in converting to renewable energy.”



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