



Perspectives

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Have we really gotten to the point in our country where no one is responsible for their actions?

It started with bailing out the greedy Wall Street firms that acted as if they were playing with Monopoly money. Then, billions of taxpayer dollars were doled out to giant insurance companies, banks, automakers ... the list keeps growing.

Somehow our leaders in Washington have bought into the concepts that the old rules no longer apply, no one is really responsible for their actions and that America's taxpayers must pay a huge price for failed policies.

What worries me is that this "forgive all wrongdoing" philosophy is going to be the driving force behind the new push for amnesty for the millions of illegal immigrants now in our country.

The news is already filled with stories of illegals who are suffering due to the economic recession. They are being portrayed as "innocent victims" whose only salvation lies in being granted full citizenship so that they "can get on with their lives." Are we expected to totally ignore the fact that these same individuals broke the law to get into our country, stole jobs from Americans, and have gone to great lengths to avoid being caught and deported. Rewarding

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WATER FOR SALE

Americans may have accepted the idea of paying a steep price for bottled water but the future does not bode well for a plentiful supply either in our country or in other areas around the world. In November, *The Wall Street Journal* ran an article that noted how investors have labeled water "the new oil" and "blue gold." The article cited a March 2008 Goldman Sachs report that stated: "Currently, some 1.1 billion people, one-sixth of the world population, lack safe drinking water. Global water consumption is growing at unsustainable rates, doubling every 20 years." In addition, the *Journal* highlighted a study by International Alert, a London-based conflict-resolution group, that listed 46 countries with a combined population of 2.7 billion that have a "high risk" for violent

conflict over water in the next two decades. Bolivia, Argentina, Uruguay, South Africa and Mali were among the nations listed that already face major water challenges. The bottom line on this issue is that corporate ownership of the world's water can only lead to major social problems between the "haves" and the "have-nots." Maude Barlow, a Canadian water activist, is quoted as saying, "You can't have the human right to water if there is no water. Studies show that as we remove water from aquifers, we dry up the land. The rain won't come if there's no vegetation." Population growth and scarcity of water go hand-in-hand. The question must be asked: Should water be treated like any other commodity – bought and sold for a profit?

TAKING THE POPULATION BATTLE TO THE CAMPUS

This past election year saw new levels of political activism on our nation's college and high school campuses that has not been seen in years. Students are waking up to the fact that today's elected leaders are deciding their future and shaping the nation and world they will have to live in. The fact that they want to be part of the decision-making bodes well for NPG. In 2009 we are planning to create a campus outreach program aimed at enlisting more students to help advance our mission and goals. NPG has had great success in reaching students and getting them involved in the fight to rein-in population growth with our Annual

NPG Scholarship Contest and last year's Student Poster Contest. Our new effort will utilize membership drives, targeted advertising, creating online blogs dedicated to population issues, etc. In recent years our message to America's students has been quite simple: "It's Your Future." Finally, they are taking that message to heart!



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN *(Continued)*

such actions will surely make for great politics and produce ballot box victories for pro-amnesty politicians for years to come. However, in the long run, a blanket amnesty bill or "earned citizenship" legislation will be more devastating to our nation than all of the monetary bailouts combined.

A few weeks after November's elections, Mark Cromer of Californians for Population Stabilization wrote an Op-Ed article that looked at the current situation and the dilemma President Obama faces in delivering on all of his promises. He wrote, "...the bad news is that our young president is going to find himself stuck between a country that expects increasingly more from its government and a government that has a rapidly

diminishing ability to deliver on those demands."

In that single statement Mr. Cromer sums up not only today's troubles but the long-term problem that essentially defines our ever-growing population crisis – too many people, too many demands, not enough money!

It's time to draw the line when it comes to bailouts. If ever there was a time for America to make it harder, not easier, for illegals to remain in our country, that time is now.

Winning the amnesty battle is only part of NPG's plans for 2009. We must still work to get Congress to create a U.S. Commission on Population Growth. We must also continue to research and distribute

our Forum Papers, expand our educational opportunities, and build on our status as one of the top organizations the American people turn to for leadership on population issues.

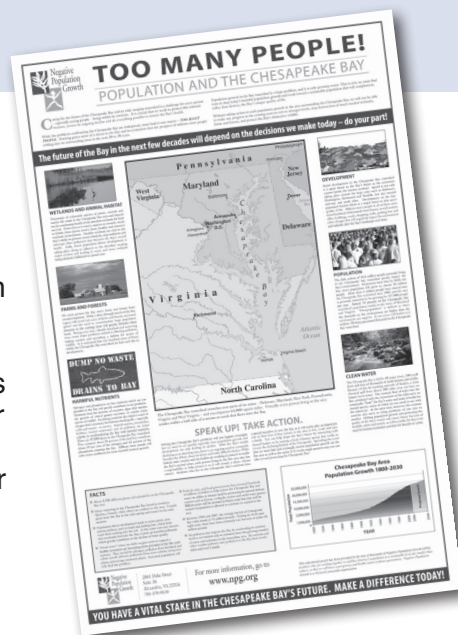
Along with this newsletter I've included NPG's bold 2009 agenda and urge you to review it. As you will see, our plans for the new year are very ambitious and it will take serious money to see them through. Please remember that NPG does not receive any government funds. We very much count on you and other members to make our work a success. If you have yet to renew your 2009 member commitment, please consider returning a contribution today.

NPG's NEW CHESAPEAKE BAY POSTER

Thousands of teachers in the states of Maryland, Virginia, Delaware and the District of Columbia will soon receive copies of NPG's newest educational student poster. Our full-color, fact-filled 18" x 28" Chesapeake Bay poster highlights the critical problems that seriously threaten America's largest estuary. The Bay's watershed encompasses 64,000 square miles and is home to more than 2,700 species of plants and animals. The fast-growing population in the Bay's watershed, which stretches into six states and includes Washington, D.C., greatly inhibits efforts to make any progress in cleaning up the Bay and restoring its health. After 25 years of failed federal and state efforts to get control of harmful runoff of nutrients that are poisoning the Bay's waters, destroying wildlife habitats and negatively impacting

the quality of life throughout the area, pressure is finally being put on officials to stop dawdling on finding solutions to the Bay's decay and to move forward to make the decisions and investment necessary to deliver positive results.

The goal of our new NPG poster is to educate students who live within the Chesapeake's environs about how the Bay's problems are tied to overdevelopment and major increases in population which will only continue unless they speak up to stop growth in the area. NPG members who live in DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, and WV who would like a copy of the poster to pass on to a local school or library can check the appropriate box on the enclosed reply and we will mail you one.



Free Stuff!

As part of NPG's quest to distribute information on population issues, we have a rich treasure of Forum Papers, educational posters, and other informative items which are available free of charge to NPG friends and supporters. Please see the enclosed response form to request any items that interest you!

TAKING CHARGE AT DHS

First Reactions to Governor Janet Napolitano as Secretary of Homeland Security

Because our nation's ballooning population numbers impact almost every aspect of American life, the men and women President Obama has appointed to his Cabinet will be instrumental in deciding how we deal with critical population issues whether they involve transportation, health care, education, energy or the environment.

However, few individuals will have such a major impact on population growth as former Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano who has been tapped to lead the Department of Homeland Security which has oversight of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), and Customs and Border Patrol (CPB).

As governor of a state that shares a border with Mexico, Napolitano is well-versed on immigration and border security problems and has a respectable, if mixed, record when it comes to immigration. On numerous issues – including denying benefits to illegal aliens, proof of citizenship for voters, arresting and detaining suspected illegal aliens and making English the state language – she has backed away from taking a strong stand and has given into pressure from open-border lobbying groups. She was a staunch advocate of Congress passing the Bush-Kennedy amnesty in 2007 and opposes the building of a physical fence along the border. On the plus side, Napolitano was one of the first to call for President Bush to deploy the National Guard to increase border security and she did not hesitate to sign the Legal Arizona Worker Act of 2007 which requires Arizona employers to ensure that all employees are in the U.S. legally.

Ms. Napolitano's selection has been met with both praise and scorn. Perhaps her most vocal critic to date is Texas Congressman Lamar Smith who, as Ranking Republican on the House Judiciary Committee, is quite familiar with the myriad challenges she faces. He noted that he saw the Arizona Governor as a "sheep in wolf's clothing" and that her selection is "an early sign that the Obama Administration intends to weaken enforcement and push for amnesty."

The *Associated Press* reported that others who chimed in with an opinion on the new DHS Secretary include Mark Kirkorian, the Executive Director of the Center for Immigration Studies which pushes for strict immigration laws. He stated: "She has cultivated a hawkish pose on illegal immigration, which is mostly for show but not entirely without foundation." Ali Noorani, who heads up the pro-immigrant National Immigration Forum, praised Napolitano's selection stating that, "she really understands this country's dependence on immigration and would be a powerful advocate for overhauling border policies."

NPG President Don Mann noted that "The title of her department defines Governor Napolitano's job. She is tasked with making our nation more secure and to meet that goal she cannot play politics with our laws. I urge our new Secretary of Homeland Security to listen to the majority of the American people and act swiftly and decisively to deliver the secure borders policy that we expect and have been promised for far too long."

40 YEARS LATER

"How will we educate and employ such large numbers of people? Will our transportation systems move them about as quickly and efficiently as possible? How will we provide adequate health care when our population reaches 300 million?...Perhaps the most dangerous element in the present situation is the fact that so few people are examining these questions from the viewpoint of the whole society..."



The above words were uttered by President Richard Nixon when he asked Congress in 1969 to consider the issue of population growth and Congress responded by creating the Rockefeller Commission just a short time later. The detailed Final Report from the Commission, rich with valuable ideas, was issued in 1972 but sadly its conclusions were buried and ignored due to political considerations of the day. Today, with America's population forecast to reach 438 million by 2050, NPG will be active in the 111th Congress to have it create a brand-new U.S. Commission on Population Growth that will study the population crisis and put us on track to answer the critical questions that still remain unaddressed after 40 years.

AMNESTY UPDATE

As this issue of *Population Perspectives* goes to press there are a number of scenarios developing as to how the Obama Administration and the expanded Democratic majorities in Congress plan to handle the question of amnesty for illegal immigrants. Some feel that President Obama will not risk his popularity and his “honeymoon period” by pushing such a controversial issue so early. He may simply work around the edges of the issue and try to pass incremental measures such as the Development Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act which is essentially a mini-amnesty that deals with students who, as minors,

cannot be held responsible for the illegal acts of their parents. Others feel that President Obama will move fast to reward the large number of Hispanic voters who helped him win key states in November with a broad sweeping piece of legislation. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has sparked such speculation in recent weeks.

NPG stands ready to mobilize our members to fight any and all amnesty proposals no matter how they are labeled or disguised. NPG will keep you informed on this issue and let you know when you should make your opinions known to your Senators and Congressman via phone, e-mail or letter. Most polls

show that the majority of American citizens are on our side on this issue and we must speak with one voice. Remember, the open border advocates have a great deal to win in this battle – and America and all who call it home, have a great deal to lose!



NPG URGES NO CUTS IN CENSUS FUNDING

In an effort to get federal spending under control Barack Obama has promised to go through the federal budget “line by line” to cut funding wherever possible. That’s an admirable goal. However, NPG is being vocal about the fact that one agency that should be spared his knife is the U.S. Census Bureau which is in the final stages of preparing for the decennial count of the nation’s population.

A clear-cut count of how many people live in our county is key to long-term planning for so many parts of the American economy. And final Census numbers are essential in legislative redistricting that is the foundation of our

democratic principle of “equal representation” at the local, state and federal levels. Adding to the need for a true count is the wide disparity in estimates of the number of illegal immigrants who have flooded our nation since 2000.

NPG President Don Mann has already drafted a letter to be sent to incoming Secretary of Commerce Bill Richardson who will oversee the 2010 Census. In the letter he recounts the extensive planning that has gone into Census preparations in recent years and asks Mr. Richardson to “fight for funding levels that will enable an efficient and accurate count that cannot be called into question when it is over.” In addition, Mann

notes: “Population growth is one of the major crises our nation faces. It is absolutely essential that the American people know the real numbers we are dealing with today.”

Don’t be surprised if when the final 2010 Census numbers are released, we find that our nation is growing much faster than expected and that there are already many more people than the 306 million that is recognized as the present population. Such information will only reinforce NPG’s message that we must take action now to halt and reverse America’s future growth.



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Population Perspectives is a quarterly publication by Negative Population Growth, a national non-profit membership organization dedicated to educating Americans about the devastating effects of overpopulation on our environment and quality of life.

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