

## SHINING CITIES OR LOOMING PROBLEMS?

A recent IBM ad reporting on their "Conversations for a Smarter Planet" project noted that: "If someone could have observed the Earth from space two centuries ago, he or she would have seen the light from just two concentrations of a million or more people – London and Beijing. Today there are 450 such shining cities."

What is important to note is that based on 2006 population estimates there are 50 Metropolitan Areas in the U.S. alone that total more than 1 million people – almost all of them expanding as a result of our nation having the highest population growth of all industrial nations.

Such startling numbers are sure to greatly expand if we fail to rein in immigration and population and end up with a projected 450 million U.S. residents by 2050 – just 40 years from now!



## FEEDING THE PROBLEM...

A recent poll by Zogby International for the Center for Immigration Studies found that:

- ... 56% of people in Mexico thought that granting legal status to illegal immigrants in the U.S. would make it more likely that people they know would go the United States illegally
- ...36% of Mexicans (39 million people) said they would move to the U.S. if they could
- ...An overwhelming majority – 69% – thought that the primary loyalty of Mexican-Americans (Mexico- and U.S.-born) should be to Mexico.



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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.



# Perspectives

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Weeks ago it was discovered through e-mails of scientists at the University of East Anglia Climate Research Unit in England that they had purposely manipulated data to advance their arguments about global warming. Since then, those who have been trying for years to debunk concerns about the earth's rising temperatures as a "phantom threat" have been having a field day. They now stupidly condemn the entire climate change movement as an outrageous "hoax." And though the disputed e-mails are only a small fraction of the total research in this area, they are ready to write off any and all other rational arguments and scientific study.

I focus on this issue because the skeptics, who wring their hands with glee at the potential for "Climategate" to defer major decisions on global warming, are the same ones who have for years dismissed concerns about our ever-ballooning population numbers and the negative consequences of population growth.

Since NPG was founded almost four decades ago, we've always had to deal with narrow-minded individuals who refuse to accept the fact that we cannot leave America's demographic future to chance. They won't accept that there is a definite need for the government to get involved and play some sort of guiding role in creating a national population policy that will bring forth a livable future.

The big difference in arguing climate and population issues is

(Continued on page 2)

## ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS AND THE CENSUS

Should illegal immigrants be counted in the 2010 Census?

Only months before the U.S. Census Bureau starts mailing out both the long and short forms of the 2010 Census, the question of how to deal with the status of millions of illegal immigrants residing within our borders remains a hot topic for debate.

The answer to the above question has actually already been resolved – they are going to be counted. It is too late to change much in the way of how the nationwide count will be conducted even though Senator David Vitter failed in a last ditch attempt to include a question asking if the respondent is a U.S. citizen.

That's an important question that really should be asked. It is especially important when you realize that the total population that will be reported by the Census Bureau in 2011 will determine how many Congressmen end up representing each state and the Electoral College vote each state commands for the next 10 years. The numbers also play a huge factor in drawing federal, state and local political districts; are the basis for allocating distribution of hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funds; and are used to plan for the future (hospitals, homes, highways, schools, sewers, etc.) in states, cities and other localities across the U.S.

There are many people who contend that simply counting everyone who resides in a certain area without determining who is and isn't a citizen is 100% wrong. They are right when they say that such a count skews taxpayer representation in Washington, D.C.

States with large numbers of illegals will gain additional Congressional seats – and much more political clout – to the detriment of states which have few.

Weighing in for the broad count are those who contend that we must count all the people in an area because trying to come up with a formula to peg the Census count to separate citizens from non-citizens does little to resolve the fact that the people are still there and need basic resources.

Complicating the whole matter is a rift within the Latino community where some leaders are ready to use the Census as a weapon to hold politicians accountable. They are threatening to tell illegal immigrants not to cooperate in the Census until the politicians deliver on the promises they've made for immigration reform, i.e. citizenship. The politicians who thrive on the support of the illegal community will surely be pushing hard to appease these leaders – or at least reassure them that they will get everything they demand in the long run as long as they encourage their followers to come out of the shadows, be counted in the Census, and help boost the numbers for a certain state, city or district.

And so, the Census will go on. The final numbers will be questioned. Court battles will ensue. And America will once again discover how the failed immigration policies of the last few decades, combined with today's disastrous push for amnesty/citizenship for millions of illegal immigrants now in our country, continue to radically change our nation and undermine our future in countless ways.

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN *(Continued from page 1)*

that climate change data will always be open to dispute. You can consistently find "respected" experts – including eminent scientists – ready to poke holes in the concept of global warming. That's not the case with population growth. Every day there are more people in the U.S. and they cannot be ignored or dismissed. America grows by an estimated 3 million people per year and there is no denying that as tens of millions more people compete for our nation's limited resources in future decades we are going to confront major social, economic and environmental problems that will be far more pressing than they are today.

Without foresight and concern at the highest levels of government over how we will provide basic services to ever-growing numbers of people, we may well be doomed to accept population levels that will greatly increase the competition for ever-dwindling resources in the coming decades. If the naysayers get their way and we continue to do nothing to halt and reverse today's dangerous population growth they will win the battle – and future generations will pay a huge price. Our children and grandchildren will be left with a ravaged, overpopulated

nation few of us would ever want to inhabit.

NPG has worked hard for 38 years to advance our mission to educate America's leaders and citizens to the dangers of population growth and the vital need to prepare for the future. Throughout the decades we have produced volumes of important research that stands up to scrutiny, because it is based on fact. And while it surely would have been better for all of us if our nation moved to address population growth years ago and put us on a more sustainable population path, it is crucial that we continue to push forward in 2010 with our research, educational programs and grassroots activism.

This will be an important year for NPG. We must go head-to-head with the Obama administration's efforts to grant amnesty/citizenship to the 12 to 20 million illegal immigrants now living here and we must continue to push hard to get Congress to create a U.S. Commission on Population Growth. Our members have been – and remain – NPG's greatest source of strength and support. Please continue to stand with us against the naysayers and skeptics.

## JOBS AND IMMIGRATION

### *NPG Takes Secretary Napolitano to Task*

Cutting America's unemployment rate from today's record high is a giant challenge to the Obama administration. It is exacerbated by the entry of 1.2 million or more legal immigrants into our country each year and a policy that annually issues hundreds of thousands of legal work permits to foreigners. You can add to those numbers the incalculable number of illegal immigrants that add to the problem.

Jobs was only one of many critical problems NPG President Don Mann highlighted in a recent letter to Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano. Mann decried how Napolitano, in admitting that the Obama administration's goal is to accommodate – rather than remove – the estimated 12 million illegal immigrants "suggests that the essential link between existing immigration policy and the national interest has ceased to exist."

In his letter Mann put forth that "NPG has specific, practical solutions



to the mushrooming immigration... completely halting all illegal immigration, and drastically cutting legal immigration from the current 1.2 million per year to no more than 200,000, including relatives, refugees and asylees." He noted that, as the former governor of a border state (AZ) that has been ravaged by huge costs and social problems triggered by years of massive illegal immigration, Napolitano should understand these issues better than anyone.

Mann also condemned American employers who have created a powerful political force in favor of

importing huge numbers of new immigrants to keep wages down and who are pushing for amnesty/citizenship for the current 12 to 20 million illegal immigrants now in our country. He chided Napolitano stating that: "to simply accede to their demands... would send a fateful invitation abroad and seriously undermine our present laws – and future quality of life."

## A NEWSWORTHY TOPIC...

Within hours of NPG putting out our press release on President Don Mann's letter to Secretary Napolitano, dozens of major publications – including a huge number of local business magazines and journals across the country – picked up the story. Other key news outlets that helped give it widespread distribution included *Reuters*, *U.S. Politics Today* and *Yahoo News*.

## A SCHOLARSHIP FOR CREATIVE MINDS!

### *NPG Reconfigures Scholarship Contest for 2010*

Do you know a high school senior or an undergraduate college student who has a creative mind and who is interested in competing for a \$1,000 scholarship? If so, have them check out our 2010 Scholarship Contest at [www.npg.org](http://www.npg.org). After four years of asking students to write essays on population growth, and last year challenging them to make the case to their Congressman on why our nation needs a U.S. Commission on Population Growth, we are opening the door to a new aspect of student talent this year.

In this year's contest, students are being asked to craft a print ad that would persuade the general public to support programs that are designed to slow, halt and eventually reverse

population growth. Ads must be at least 100 words but no more than 200. Text should be original and entirely the student's work. Key issues to be addressed are population size and growth, the birth rate, immigration (legal and illegal), amnesty programs, environmental destruction, natural resource depletion, birth-right citizenship, overcrowded cities, schools, or other issues related to the efforts of Negative Population Growth.

Six final prizes, ranging from \$1,000 to \$500, will be awarded. Entries are due by April 23, 2010 and scholarships will be awarded by August 20, 2010. Winning ads will appear in at least one national



publication. Please go to our website at [www.npg.org](http://www.npg.org) to review the complete set of rules for this contest.

## NEW TEACHERS' PACKETS

Teachers are the key to introducing young students to the population issue. And while population is definitely one of the principal forces driving so many of the problems throughout the world and across our nation, it too often gets scant mention in discussions about the environmental movement and rarely gets the individual focus it deserves.

To correct that problem, NPG has created a new Teacher's Packet that's rich with information about population's impact. The packet contains a letter reinforcing the need to address population growth as a major issue, a brochure that can serve as the outline for a lesson plan, a listing of key NPG Forum papers that can provide essential data and debate topics and an order form for teachers to request NPG population-related posters, books or other important material for their class.

If you know of a teacher or home school parent who would benefit from receiving an NPG Teacher's Packet, please have them contact [bfish@npg.org](mailto:bfish@npg.org).

## MAIL THOSE POSTCARDS...

We have had great success thus far with our postcard campaign whereby NPG members are signing and sending pre-stamped postcards to their U.S. Senators and Representative asking them to support a U.S. Commission on Population Growth. The cards are being mailed to NPG members in cycles to keep an even flow arriving on Capitol Hill and we're receiving confirmations from NPG members that they are participating in this project at a rate that rivals any major project we've launched in recent years. Thankfully, many members are

including a generous donation to help fund this project as well so it does not divert critical resources from our other important programs.

If you have signed and returned your cards, thank you. If you've yet to receive yours, please be on the lookout for them and act immediately to sign them and put them in the mailbox so we can continue to build momentum on this important issue. Of course, if you can also send along a check or credit card contribution with your confirmation that would greatly help us reach thousands more supporters!

## SHARE YOUR RESPONSE FROM ELECTED LEADERS

As more and more NPG members contact their U.S. Senators and Congressmen and other state and local elected officials on population-related issues they often receive letters in return which outline a set position on key population or immigration issues. If possible, please share a copy of these responses with us via

fax, e-mail or postal mail. It is important that we know what factors are driving decision-making in this area so we can concentrate our efforts accordingly. Quite often, a legislator or elected leader may be misinformed or need additional information on a subject to win him or her to our side.