

A New America?

In the sense of a populous, to marginalize is to treat a person or group of persons as insignificant or peripheral to the mainstream of the population of which they are an integral part. The ones doing the marginalizing are persons or groups of persons who have issues to which they are dedicated but the resolution of which may impact the entire population. The marginalizers, progressives for the most part, deem themselves most significant and correctly positioned to address those issues. Because of their professed superior insight to the issues, they believe it is their right, and theirs alone, to provide resolutions to them. Those who disagree with resolutions offered to them must be marginalized. The marginalized ones frequently are conservatives or constitutional originalists. The thought process driving marginalization was eloquently described by Journalist Bari Weiss in a resignation letter to the New York Times on 14 July 2020 in which she wrote, - "...truth isn't a process of collective discovery, but an orthodoxy already known to an enlightened few whose job is to inform everyone else." The progressives are the enlightened few!

All citizens of the US are impacted by events that occur in the social, economic, and political arenas of the country. And it is toward these spheres of activity that progressives have been focusing their efforts on an apparent attempt to replace the existing capitalist economic system with a socialist one. Conservatives have raised strong objections to a fundamental change in the political and economic systems of the country. To counter those objections, the marginalizers have offered rebuttals based on science and when the science is weak (it usually is) have resorted to personal insults to discredit the marginalized ones and to maximize their advantage. The insults include terms that suggest at best highly inappropriate or undesirable intentions or at worst, evil ones. Of the names dredged up by the marginalizers, bigot, racist, homophobe, and denier come immediately to mind. Inasmuch as Algonquin tribe members participate in the politics and economy of the US, they register as a component of the marginalized group.

Marginalizing efforts of social, economic, and political significance are difficult to isolate as they have some obvious cause-effect relationships, the cause often of a political nature, or so it seems. Some ongoing U.S. government policies point out these relationships. First, the Biden Administration's cancelling of the Keystone XL pipeline was an overt political move, apparently the initial thrust in a plan to kill the fossil fuel industry and move the country rapidly to alternative energy sources in the name of ameliorating global climate change. One effect of the move was to cause several thousand highly paid pipeline professional workers to become unemployed; that is an economic effect. Many of the unemployed were forced to relocate to other parts of the country; that is a social effect. Clearly, the unemployed workers have been marginalized by a government intent on bringing about a transformation of the energy system of the country upon which many of its citizens rely for their livelihood and well-being.

Global climate change is a central element of the Biden administrations program to transform the country. The cry that climate change is the biggest threat to national security and the proposal for a multi-trillion-dollar Green New Deal to attack the problem are measures of its relative importance to the administration. There is a general belief among the non-science citizens of the US that there is an exceptionally large scientific consensus that climate change is occurring (of course it is) and that man's use of fossil fuels is a major contributor to that change. First, the

scientific consensus for man's contribution to climate change is much smaller than politicians claim and second according to Michael Crichton, a scientific writer and movie maker, there is no such thing as consensus science. "If it's consensus, it isn't science. If it's science, it isn't consensus. Period."

Some of the Progressive's proposals have some undesirable impacts on the education of young Americans, the future leaders of the country. The major problem in most of these efforts is that the children are not being educated, they are being indoctrinated. And of course, they are being acclimated to what the Progressives hope will be a socialist United States when the young ones come of age. We will examine some of these programs later.

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