



## NEWSLETTER

May 2025 ISSUE#: HV015

**Mercer We the People of Hopewell Valley is a steady source of news to heal the accelerating erosion of our fundamental freedoms nationally and locally.**

### Embrace our First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

Source: <https://billofrightsintstitute.org/primary-sources/bill-of-rights>

Kind regards,  
Publius Bonhomme Richard, Publisher & Co-Editors

#### HOW TO CONTACT US:

Email us at: [info@mercervethepeople.com](mailto:info@mercervethepeople.com)

**Please email us to be included for future newsletters.**

**Printed copies of the newsletter will be made available at Rosedale Mills and local library. Any other suggested location(s) please let us know.**

### Call for Contributors!

MercerWe the People of Hopewell Valley is looking for contributors to write articles, especially informing the community about what is happening at local meetings. If you're interested in writing for us about that or any other topic, whether it is monthly or as needed, please reach out to us at [info@mercervethepeople.com](mailto:info@mercervethepeople.com)

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## PILOT

### PILOT Spin and Reality

*By Dufresne*

Those of you who are upset with School District increases should read the following carefully, the fault actually lies with the Hopewell Township Committee. Hence lawsuits from Hopewell Borough and Pennington Borough. Yes, imagine! We are being sued by our neighbors!

**Hopewell Township Committee (HTC) spin:** HTC claim (made often when talking about PILOTs): We had a mandate to build affordable housing.

**The truth:** They are correct about the affordable housing part, but the HTC did not have a mandate to create PILOTs, which are tax breaks for the developers of the affordable housing. The HTC often intimate that they had no choice but to pass PILOTs. To be blunt, PILOTs are NOT mandated.

**HTC spin:** When forced to acknowledge that PILOTs are not mandated, they argue that incentives were required to attract developers.

**The truth:** PILOTs were originally designed to help disadvantaged communities to attract developers. Hopewell Township is quite obviously not in need of such legislation. West Windsor, among many examples, refused to enter into PILOTs and still manages to attract developers to help them meet their affordable housing mandates. Perhaps the HTC were simply poor negotiators?

**HTC spin:** We will forward to the School District every dime to which they are legally entitled.

**The truth:** Under the PILOTs, the HTC is not required to forward a single dime of the new tax revenue to the School District. The new total PILOT revenue is more than \$300 million over 30 years. We may get the exact amount at the next HTC budget meeting. Normally, such tax payments would generate nearly \$180 million for the schools, who now legally get NOTHING. Not one dime. With the PILOT in place, a committee can agree to provide financial support for the schools, but such support cannot legally bind a future committee. There is now one exception: A new state law enables HTC support for a school bond, the only legal mechanism available to bind a future committee.

**HTC spin:** The Schools set their own budget.

**The truth:** The School District is now stressed as a result of all the new school children entering the Schools... and the PILOTs, which bring the schools no new revenue to pay for these new costs. The HTC will brag that their portion of the total tax bill is declining significantly, while the schools, to maintain quality of their programs, are being forced to raise new revenue and to seek large bonds for their facilities. The result: While the municipal portion of your tax bill is decreasing rather significantly, the school portion will continue to increase significantly, well outstripping the municipal decreases.

**HTC spin:** The School District has plenty of space to absorb new children. We heard this one repeatedly when the Township Committee was getting ready to vote for PILOTs. Many observers argued that the new tax revenue, 95% of which under PILOTs would go to the Township, was needed by the School District for all the new school children that would arrive.

**The truth:** This Township Committee claim has already been proven wrong... Many new children have now moved into the Township, adding to the need for physical improvements at Bear Tavern Elementary School (and elsewhere). The Township Committee has retreated, and now promises to finance the entire Bear Tavern cost (\$16.1 million) on condition that the two

Boroughs, who have sued the Township over the PILOTs, dismiss their lawsuit. There is nothing to prevent Hopewell Township from supporting the bond from its other PILOTs or to provide the schools with yearly contributions.

**HTC spin:** The Township long ago promised some financial support for the schools.

**The truth:** In the absence of a PILOT, the School District would get between 55-58% of the tax revenue. Under a PILOT, the Schools get \$nothing unless the township steps in voluntarily to contribute. We are determining to find out how much \$16.1M represents in percentage terms. \$16.1M sounds truly awesome until you compare it to the total PILOT revenue, a staggering total amount, perhaps more than \$300 million from all of the affordable housing PILOTs over 30 years, a number that they refused to reveal at the last meeting. The answer is likely to show that the Township is not contributing 50+% of the PILOT revenue, but closer to 20%, and that just from Lennar, just one of the major PILOTs.

**HTC spin:** Hopewell Township has passed PILOTs before, including by some of the former Mayors who are now criticizing us.

**The truth:** There are former Mayors at the meeting criticizing the PILOTs, but in most cases, their PILOTs involved few or no school-age children! Former Mayors used those PILOTs to incentivize the building of 55+ housing and Project Freedom.

**HTC spin:** Critics of affordable housing and PILOTs are racist.

**The truth:** This charge from the HTC plays out unfortunately in all sorts of ways. The latest line is “Critics are not welcoming” as if we are opposed to affordable housing or expanding housing opportunities to those who need it. Such rhetoric has no place in government or in any civil society. The citizenry has every right to question Township policies, including where the affordable housing and the additional market rate homes will be built, the nature of the developer contracts, and even the design criteria for the new units. PILOTs are completely optional and therefore fair game to questioning and criticism.

## Hopewell Township Commits \$16.1 Million Toward Bear Tavern Expansion

*By Seth Siditsky originally published in MercerMe (April 16 2025)*

The Hopewell Township Committee voted unanimously on April 14 to formally pledge up to \$16.1 million in PILOT (Payment In Lieu of Taxes) funds to support improvements at Bear Tavern Elementary School—potentially clearing the way for the school district to remove the project from a potential referendum being explored for this fall.

The commitment, long discussed but now made official, hinges on one critical condition: the end of ongoing litigation between the Township and the boroughs of Hopewell and Pennington over how PILOT revenues are shared. The funds would be used by the Hopewell Valley Regional School District to construct a 10-classroom addition at Bear Tavern, where enrollment has surged and outdated trailers are still in use.

The proposed project would add ten pre-K and kindergarten classrooms with restrooms, including one replacement room, and dedicated space for small-group instruction and student services like speech and Child Study Team support. The one-story, 19,000-square-foot addition is being designed with infrastructure for a future second floor. The estimated project cost is \$16.1 million.

“From day one, the Township has been clear: PILOT revenues from Hopewell Parc should support Bear Tavern,” said Mayor Courtney Peters-Manning. “We are thrilled to have identified a legal mechanism that would allow us to directly fund these essential improvements.”

Access article: [https://mercerme.com/hopewell-township-commits-16-1-million-toward-bear-tavern-expansion/?utm\\_source=Memberful+Main+List+-+Mercer+Me&utm\\_campaign=bc00883369-RSS\\_EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b51cf3ae42-bc00883369-563818349](https://mercerme.com/hopewell-township-commits-16-1-million-toward-bear-tavern-expansion/?utm_source=Memberful+Main+List+-+Mercer+Me&utm_campaign=bc00883369-RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b51cf3ae42-bc00883369-563818349)

## Township To Pass A \$16 Million Bond For School Spending Without Your Vote

Special Edition: Originally published in Mercer We the People of Hopewell Valley (April 13 2025)

### **RESOLUTION 11A: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL MEMORIALIZING ITS INTENT TO CONDITIONALLY COMMIT PILOT FUNDS FOR A SCHOOL FACILITIES PROJECT.**

HT Committee Regular Meeting Tentative Agenda: <https://mercerwethepeople.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/HT-Tentative-Agenda-Website-Packet-4-14-2025.pdf>

## **They Said There Would Be No Impact**

However Were You Aware Of: COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT FOR A PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT IN HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP MERCER COUNTY NEW JERSEY - DECEMBER 2020

Access the Impact Statement: <https://mercerwethepeople.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/9-45051-Community-Impact-Statement.pdf>

## Summary Of Findings, Proposed Residential Development in Hopewell Township (Page 1)

Applying standard CUPR multipliers to the 861 "market" housing units would yield 2,270 residents, including 279 public school children while the "affordable" demographic multipliers applied to the 216 "affordable" housing units would yield 396 residents and 50 public school children, for a total of 329 public school children. The estimated enrollment, at the current "average" per pupil costs would amount to \$7,471,920 (per year).

### Take A Look At: SCHOOL SYSTEMS IMPACT (Pages 30-31)

#### SCHOOL SYSTEM IMPACT

The number of public school students expected to be generated by a new residential development typically furnishes the statistical basis for this element of the anticipated fiscal impact of a proposed development. Hopewell Township is a member of the Hopewell Valley Regional School District which provides educational services for students from the three member communities in grades K through 12. As previously discussed, and utilizing the updated CUPR demographic multipliers, the 861 "market" housing units would be estimated to generate 279 public school children while the 216 "affordable" housing units, using the applicable (2006 CUPR "affordable" multipliers were estimated to generate 50 public school children, for a total of 329 public school children.

#### Regional School District Costs

The fiscal impact resulting from the addition of the 329 new students to the local school district has been statistically structured under the assumption that all new students were enrolled during 2020 (2020-21 school year). The addition of the new students into the current enrollment is preferable to the extent that it permits a more objective appraisal of the direct impact of the enrollment specific to the new development and also permits an analysis predicated upon known fiscal data and current (2020) dollars. The costs anticipated for the enrollment of 329 students in the local school district have been estimated on the basis of the actual per pupil appropriations for the 2020-21 school year.

During the 2020-21 school year, the Hopewell Valley Regional School District has a total operating budget of \$85,747,525, of which \$77,175,998 (90.00 percent), is funded by local property taxes. Relative to the school district's anticipated resident enrollment, the current (2020-21) school district budget equates to \$25,235 per student, of which \$22,711 per student, is funded by local property taxes. Applying the tax-supported school district cost of \$22,711 to the 329 new students to be enrolled, yields allocated tax-supported local school district costs of \$7,471,920 (329 x \$22,711 = \$7,471,920).

Regional School District Revenues - Although school district revenues are received from several sources, the revenues derived as a result of school district taxes remain the primary source of all school revenues. Within the regional school district budget, revenues received from school district taxes accounted for 90.00 percent of the total school district revenues, while the remaining

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sources of school revenues can be generally grouped into three categories--balance, governmental aid and other.

Added School District Tax Revenues - The proposed residential development is expected to represent \$361,160,102 of assessed valuation to the ratable base of the regional school district. The application of Hopewell Township's current school district tax rate of \$1.740 per \$100 of valuation results in \$6,284,186 in added regional school district tax revenues from the regional school district tax (\$361,060,102 / \$100 X \$1.740 = \$6,284,186).

Regional School District Summary - The regional school district tax revenues anticipated to result from the completion and occupancy of the residential development proposed in Hopewell amount to \$6,284,186 amount to 83.49 percent of the allocated costs yielding a net deficit of \$1,187,734, equal to 1.54 percent of the District's tax revenue of \$77,175,998<sup>3</sup>.

#### Annual Revenues and Allocated Costs Hopewell Valley Regional School District

Added Tax Revenues	\$ 6,284,186
Added Tax-Supported Costs	\$ 7,471,920
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (1,187,734)

<sup>3</sup>In view of the declining enrollment trend in the Hopewell Valley Regional School District, with a loss of 448 students since 2010 and with a decline in the number of students per teacher from 11.6 in 2010 to 9.8 in 2018, it is likely that the added school district costs for the 329 new students will be less than the average per student costs used in this analysis. If only twenty percent of the school costs are determined to be unaffected by changing enrollment levels, with allocated costs per student calculated then at 80.0 percent of current per student costs, the anticipated revenue of \$6,284,186 would exceed allocated marginal costs of \$5,977,536 to yield a surplus of \$306,650. The 20 percent marginal cost reduction is based on the portion of the school budget dedicated to Administrative costs (7.7%) and operations/maintenance of plant (10.3%). This marginal cost approach is further detailed in Table 10.

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## Previous Newsletter Articles About PILOT

December 2024: Local Feature (By Dufresne): **It's So Sad When Hopewell Township Committee Actions Result In Regional Lawsuits:** <https://mercervethepeople.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/1224-MercerWe.pdf>

November 2024: Local Feature (By Dufresne): **We Need a New Approach, Not the Same Old Tired Rhetoric:** <https://mercervethepeople.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/1124-MercerWe.pdf>

October 2024: Local Feature (By Dufresne): **More Referenda are Coming, and the School Board is not to Blame:** <https://mercervethepeople.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/1024-MercerWe-REVISED.pdf>

September 2024: Local Feature (By Dufresne): **Hopewell Township's PILOTs are Staggering Financial Miscalculations:** <https://mercervethepeople.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/0924-MercerWe-REVISED.pdf>

Access the Special Edition (April 13 2025): <https://preview.mailerlite.io/preview/1050881/emails/151514064426632752>



## Mayor's Letter To Taxpayers - Update On Hopewell PILOT Litigation

April 21 2025



30 North Main Street • Pennington, NJ 08534 • 609-737-0276 • Fax: 609-737-9780 • [www.penningtonboro.org](http://www.penningtonboro.org)

Dear Taxpayers of Pennington Borough,

The Hopewell Township Committee recently offered \$16.1 million for an addition to Bear Tavern Elementary School in response to the School District's request for funding to accommodate students from the Lennar/PARC development on Scotch Road. This offer comes with a condition: Pennington and Hopewell Borough must withdraw our lawsuit challenging the Township's 30-year tax exemption and related Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement.

While we appreciate this willingness to fund the school addition and remain ready to discuss the matter further in the proper venue, the offer does not sufficiently address the inequity that Hopewell Township has imposed on the taxpayers of the Boroughs.

Furthermore, the Township's offer inappropriately links the litigation to the Bear Tavern addition. These two issues are linked only in that the need for the addition is related to the increase in students from the Lennar/PARC development. Let me be clear: Pennington Borough's support of our school district and all its facilities is unwavering.

### **The Core Issue: A \$25 Million Tax Shift**

Our lawsuit centers on the tax exemption granted by the Township and subsequent PILOT agreement. Since our Regional School District's formation, our municipalities have shared education costs based on property valuations. Hopewell Township's tax exemption for this development wrongfully removed approximately \$332 million from the base used to calculate their contribution to the school district, shifting a greater school tax burden – approximately \$25-million as calculated by a financial expert (almost two years ago) – over the next 30 years to the Borough's taxpayers.

This PILOT agreement also provides no proportionate contribution from Hopewell Township for ongoing educational expenses – costs you will pay in your annual property tax bills. In addition, the \$16.1 million to fund the Bear Tavern School addition only addresses immediate capital costs. It fails to address the fundamental and lasting inequity created by the PILOT agreement that prompted our litigation.

### **A Question of Equitable Responsibility**

We believe Hopewell Township must address this tax inequity. The Township should pay its fair share of education costs now and in the future. If the PILOT agreement as it stands were to be upheld, the Township will collect approximately \$387 million over 30 years that solely benefits Hopewell Township's municipal government, not the School District. These "unrestricted" funds can be used in any way the Township chooses. At this point, however, they have not offered to provide any equitable share of the ongoing educational cost for the schools from those funds. Our legal action does not challenge the affordable housing component of the development. We only contest the tax exemption agreement and resulting tax burden shift to the Borough's taxpayers. Accepting Hopewell Township's conditional offer without addressing the \$25 million

This PILOT agreement also provides no proportionate contribution from Hopewell Township for on-going educational expenses – costs you will pay in your annual property tax bills. In addition, the \$16.1 million to fund the Bear Tavern School addition only addresses immediate capital costs. It fails to address the fundamental and lasting inequity created by the PILOT agreement that prompted our litigation.

Access the Letter: [https://www.penningtonboro.org/sites/g/files/vyhlf5426/f/news/mayors\\_letter\\_-\\_pilot\\_-\\_april\\_21\\_2025.pdf](https://www.penningtonboro.org/sites/g/files/vyhlf5426/f/news/mayors_letter_-_pilot_-_april_21_2025.pdf)

tax shift would not serve Pennington taxpayers' long-term interests, especially should such a PILOT occur again, elsewhere in the Township.

To be clear, we support the School District and encourage residents to participate in budget discussions and referendum plans. The Borough Council and I remain committed to advocating for your interests and reaching a fair resolution that addresses both immediate and long-term impacts on our community.

Sincerely,

James M. Davy Mayor  
and the Pennington Borough Council

## Is This Misinformation? Hopewell Township Budget Introduced with Slight Tax Rate Drop, Service Expansions

By Seth Siditsky originally publised in MercerMe (April 22 2025)

Hopewell Township residents can expect a slight decrease in the municipal tax rate this year, as the Township Committee introduced its 2025 budget at its April 14 meeting. The proposed municipal tax rate will drop from \$0.443 to \$0.440 per \$100 of assessed value—a 0.7% decrease.

Councilman Kevin Kuchinski, the Township's finance liaison, said the Township is continuing to invest in services while holding the line on taxes. "We are expanding Township services, including an additional Public Works crew and extended seasonal staffing," he said. "This comes on top of investments in our Police Department and Health Department in recent years."

Kuchinski added that the Township is also reducing its debt load, helping to cut future carrying costs. "We'll have more perspective on what this means for the average resident at our public hearing in May," he said.

Access the full article: [https://mercerme.com/hopewell-township-budget-introduced-with-slight-tax-rate-drop-service-expansions/?utm\\_source=Memberful+Main+List+-+Mercer+Me&utm\\_campaign=bc00883369-RSS\\_EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b51cf3ae42-bc00883369-563822781](https://mercerme.com/hopewell-township-budget-introduced-with-slight-tax-rate-drop-service-expansions/?utm_source=Memberful+Main+List+-+Mercer+Me&utm_campaign=bc00883369-RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b51cf3ae42-bc00883369-563822781)

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## Education

### What's Happening In HVRSD Schools? HVRSD Board Of Education Meeting April 28, 2025 At Hopewell Elementary School

By The Wall of Ed

Agenda: <https://go.boarddocs.com/nj/hvrSD/Board.nsf/Public#tab-meetings>

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/live/bTFeD-XBo8s>

#### **Hopewell Valley Board of Education April Meeting Finalizing Budget, Highlighting Facility Needs, and Community Initiatives**

The April meeting of the Hopewell Valley Regional School District (HVRSD) Board of Education was held at Hopewell Elementary School, where community members were invited an hour early for a guided tour of the aging facility. The tour offered firsthand insight into the school's infrastructure issues, aiming to illustrate the urgency behind the district's proposed referendum this November, which includes a tax levy increase.

The evening began on a heartwarming note with a poised and melodious performance by the Hopewell Elementary 5th Grade vocal ensemble. Their presentation served as a reminder of the talent and spirit within the district's schools and community.

#### **Budget Presentation**

Assistant Superintendent for Business and Board Secretary Bob Colavita presented the final budget proposal. He explained that 80% of the district's budget is dedicated to staffing. The district will receive a \$1.8 million healthcare waiver to help alleviate financial pressure, while enrollment growth this year led to a \$250,000 adjustment and state aid increased by \$400,000. However, rising inflation, energy and insurance costs, transportation expenses, and maintenance needs continue to strain the budget. Staff reductions may be necessary to close the gap, and the district is requesting a tax levy increase of over 4%.

Board member Dhruv Kapadia raised concerns about escalating electricity costs. Colavita responded that the district may need to allocate an additional \$300,000 to address utility costs and is exploring cost-saving measures with Facilities Director Tom Quinn, including adjusting building temperature set points and reevaluating delivery schedules.

#### **Public Comments on Budget**

No public comments were made regarding the budget during the initial discussion.

#### **Public Comments**

During the second public comment session, Hopewell Mayor and district parent Ryan Kennedy expressed appreciation for holding board meetings at various schools increasing community accessibility. He praised the Hopewell Elementary color guard and acknowledged Dr. Brettell for leading the successful "Walk and Roll to School" event, which promotes a walkable, bikeable community. Kennedy also thanked local first responders for supporting the initiative.

Another parent emphasized the ecological importance of native plants and praised the district's "Green Week." A third parent highlighted the mental health benefits of nature-based community events like the recent tree ceremony and "Tree Jubilee."

#### **Committee Reports**

Finance & Facilities Committee reiterated the district's pressing infrastructure needs and the importance of the upcoming referendum. The board approved a donation of an enclosed trailer from the Music Theater Parent Association to support the indoor percussion program.

**Personnel Committee** announced the acceptance of four retirement resignations and the hiring of a new STEAM and STEM Supervisor, who will begin in July.

**Education Committee** met with school leaders and the Educational Technology Supervisor to review the district's evolving AI integration strategy. They also discussed communication strategies and their referendum planning meeting under the leadership of Dr. Treece. Mentioned there was a very good turn out for their first meeting.

**Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Committee** celebrated April's events focused on inclusivity and diverse learners. Jacqueline Genovese announced upcoming 90-minute "Nurtured Heart" sessions in May and also a pilot of Tier 2 Character Strong interventions at the elementary level.

**Government Relations Ad-Hoc Committee** submitted the district's first ever legislative funding request, seeking \$125,000 to support the construction of an ADA-compliant playground at Bear Tavern Elementary. Assemblyman Verrelli responded positively, although funding remains uncertain at this early stage. Kapadia encouraged community members to advocate for the initiative by using a letter template he offered to share.

The committee is also working to strengthen relationships with state leaders and has scheduled a meeting with Mercer County Executive Dan Benson to discuss local segregation. Kapadia emphasized the seriousness of the issue, noting that Mercer County is among the most racially and socioeconomically segregated counties in the state.

The committee is exploring legal options to transition from an ad-hoc Government Relations Committee to a standing committee.

Looking ahead, the committee is considering reaffirming its commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) by adopting a formal resolution modeled after one recently passed by East Windsor High School. This proposed resolution comes in response to a recent federal executive order titled “Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing,” signaling the district’s intention to stand by (DEI) despite shifting national policies.

The committee also discussed the potential of supporting voting rights in school board elections for 16- and 17-year-olds—a policy recently enacted in Newark, making it the first municipality in New Jersey to implement such a change. Mr. Kapadia noted that while the board itself does not have the authority to enact this policy locally, it can choose to support, endorse, and advocate for the initiative if it so decides.

Both new proposals will be discussed further in future meetings.

**Policy Committee** reviewed and approved three new policies on postnatal accommodations for staff, students, and general application during a first reading. Additionally, they approved updates to the district’s bilingual education policy following a second reading.

## **Final Public Comment**

A parent closed the meeting by expressing gratitude to Dr. Treece for her continued outreach and commitment to building an inclusive community. They praised her efforts to create a welcoming environment, regardless of political beliefs, religion, or socioeconomic status.

## **The Right Is Winning The Battle Over Higher Education**

**Civil-rights laws have always been a weapon—it’s just that conservatives have finally decided to wield them.**

*By Christopher F. Rufo originally published in City Journal (April 15 2025)*

Several years ago, the author Christopher Caldwell changed the conversation with his book *The Age of Entitlement*. The book argued that the civil-rights regime established in the 1960s marked a fundamental departure from America’s constitutional tradition. Though launched with the noble intention of stopping racial discrimination, Caldwell argued, the Civil Rights Act--and the bureaucracy it spawned--gradually consumed core American freedoms and became a vehicle for entrenching left-wing racist ideology throughout American institutions.

In the decades that followed, the Right’s response was marked by ambivalence. Some libertarians called for repealing the Civil Rights Act, but—like many libertarian proposals—this was never a political possibility, given the Act’s broad public support. The establishment Right, meanwhile, largely suppressed its private misgivings. Republicans repeatedly voted to expand the civil-rights regime, further embedding dubious concepts like disparate-impact theory into law.

Now, all of this has changed. After mounting a successful fight against DEI, the political Right has come to accept that if there must be a civil-rights regime, it should be one of its own making. Rather than continue to defer to left-wing interpretations of civil-rights law, the Right can now advance a framework grounded in colorblind equality, not racist ideology.

The first field of battle is higher education. The Trump administration has set its sights on the Ivy League universities, which have not only advanced the ideologies of left-wing racism but made them administrative policy.

Many Ivy League presidents see themselves as heirs to the civil-rights movement. In fact, they are among the most active practitioners of racial discrimination, stereotyping, and segregation in America today. Shielded by a virtuous public image, elite universities have institutionalized discrimination against disfavored racial groups, implemented DEI policies based on racial rewards and penalties, hired and promoted faculty according to skin color rather than merit, and overseen racially segregated student programs, dormitories, and graduation ceremonies.

The Trump administration has ruptured this illusion. In a series of letters to Ivy League presidents, it has threatened to withhold billions in federal funding, citing violations of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other non-discrimination policies.

The argument is straightforward: racial discrimination is wrong whether it targets whites, Asians, and Jews or blacks and Hispanics. Any institution that continues to discriminate based on race is ineligible for federal support.

Critics have called this approach “weaponizing civil-rights law.” But civil-rights laws have always been a weapon—conservatives have finally decided to wield it.

The Ivy League's presidents are struggling to understand and respond to the moment. Columbia University interim president Katrina Armstrong, caught in the crossfire between the state and the academy, conceded to Trump's demands—and quickly lost her position. Princeton president Christopher Eisgruber, who has presided over one of the most racially discriminatory academic institutions in the country, has tried to cast himself as a hero resisting President Trump.

I've been engaged in an arm's-length debate with Eisgruber through our respective appearances on the New York Times podcast, during which he invoked my name as an enemy and to which I responded in kind. After carefully listening to his position, I've concluded that he understands neither the argument against him nor, frankly, his own. Eisgruber claims to be defending a noble cause—America's civil-rights tradition. In reality, he is defending his university's policies of racist discrimination.

Eisgruber argues that federal intervention is illegitimate, but he has no ground to stand on. Consider the historical precedent: if pressed, I'm sure Eisgruber would concede that President Eisenhower was right to mandate desegregation in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1957—and to deploy the 101st Airborne Division to enforce it. What he fails to grasp is that, in this analogy, Princeton is Little Rock Central High School, and he is Governor Orval Faubus. Princeton has systematically discriminated on the basis of race and has repeatedly violated the principle of colorblind equality—the core ideal of civil-rights law.


Whatever happens in the coming months, the terms of this debate have now changed. The president has ensured that the civil-rights regime will no longer be a one-way lever to discriminate against “oppressor” groups and to embed left-wing ideologies in elite institutions.

The Right now has the winning argument. Americans support a “colorblind society” over a “race-conscious society” by a margin of more than three to one. Even in left-wing states like California and Washington, voters have consistently passed ballot initiatives showing that they reject racial discrimination in college administration. To the extent that we can push this debate forward, the public will increasingly see figures such as Eisgruber as the villains in America's racial story.

The important thing for the Trump administration is not to blink. It should use every tool at its disposal to ensure that America's elite universities adhere to the principle of colorblind equality. If they resist, the president should not hesitate to cut off funding until they comply. Universities are free to operate as independent institutions and reject federal money—but if they choose to accept billions in taxpayer dollars, they must follow the law.

Welcome to the new right-wing civil-rights regime.

Access the article: <https://www.city-journal.org/article/higher-education-ivy-league-universities-funding-trump-civil-rights>



*Are you concerned about what's happening in Hopewell Valley?*

**Overdevelopment • Taxes • Schools • Services**


*Join us for an Action Event to become involved. Here are just a few areas that the HVRA is building on.*

**SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION**  
Taxes  
Curriculum


**ELECTION INTEGRITY**  
Monitoring  
Polling

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**  
Promote Patriotism  
Civic Duties

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT MONITORING**  
Inform public of township committee and board meetings



We are a Republican association united around addressing issues affecting our valley electorate, promoting responsive transparent government, and electing conservative candidates to represent and meet the needs of all Hopewell Valley residents.



**Tuesday, June 3rd at 6:00 pm**  
**Needle Creek Brewery**  
91 Titus Mill Road, Pennington NJ 08534  
For more info, email us at [info@hvrageop.org](mailto:info@hvrageop.org)

**\*\*\* SAVE THE DATE \*\*\***

Paid for by the Hopewell Valley Republican Association, PO Box 332, Titusville, NJ 08560



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## Local News

### Have We Been Lied To By The Hopewell Township Committee Again?

#### Steven Chaykowsky v Township of Hopewell New Jersey; Bristol Myers Squibb Company; Jones Lang LaSalle Americas Inc

By John Galt

Were you aware there was at least one (or more) bid(s) significantly higher than what was ultimately paid for the Bristol Myers Squibb property?

Were you aware the higher bid(s) would not have required a change in Ordinance?

Are you aware of the Complaint recently filed: Steven Chaykowsky v Township of Hopewell New Jersey; Bristol Myers Squibb Company; Jones Lang LaSalle Americas Inc.

Read the Complaint "Nature Of Action" below.

##### NATURE OF ACTION

1. This action arises from a brazen fraud - perpetrated against Plaintiff as well as the residents of Hopewell, New Jersey - in connection with the marketing and

sale of the 433-acre research campus owned by the pharmaceutical firm Bristol Myers Squibb.

2. When BMS placed the Property up for sale, the Plaintiff was among a group of investors who made an offer to purchase the Property for \$25 million - later increasing the offer to \$55 million. Notably, the offer was not contingent on any change in the zoning use of the Property, which under Hopewell Township's land use ordinance was strictly limited to research/office use by a single owner.

3. As will be described below, BMS never received a better offer. Had BMS simply been acting in the best interests of its shareholders, it would have accepted this offer, to Plaintiff's benefit.

4. Yet BMS and its broker ignored the offer. Instead, they misrepresented to the Township of Hopewell that they had received no offers, and that the Township needed to loosen its zoning restrictions on the Property, in order to have any hope of attracting a buyer. It turned out that the supposed marketing of the property for the highest and best offer was a sham; rather, the real aim was to create a fraudulent pretext to change the Township's zoning restrictions, to allow manufacturing and other increased activity on the site that was prohibited by the Township's Master Plan.

5. Shockingly, this fraudulent effort to get the Township to change its laws based on an utter falsehood was successful. The Township proceeded to adopt an Ordinance expanding the permissible uses of the Property to include manufacturing - which violated the intent of its Master Plan. The Ordinance also eliminated the requirement that the Property be owned by a single owner, and now permitted there to be multiple owners of subdivided parcels, and even a "condo-ization" of the site.

6. Local residents, suspicious of the Township's sudden rush to change critical zoning restrictions for one Property, were rightly incensed. The BMS Property was located within an environmentally sensitive watershed, and surrounded by organic farms. A local environmental group pointed to the dangers of now allowing manufacturing, increased trucking traffic, and chemical waste storage on the Property, risking the watershed and the health of residents.

7. Yet when members of the public appeared at Township meetings to question the adoption of the Ordinance, they were told, falsely, that the Ordinance was necessary to attract offers for the Property. The residents were told, falsely, that if the Ordinance were not adopted,

the Township would be left with an abandoned site, with the loss of a significant percentage of its tax ratables.

8. All of this was a sham. At the very moment the Township was adopting the Ordinance, there was already an offer on the table from Plaintiff's group - concealed by BMS and its broker - to purchase the Property 'as is', without requiring any change in the site's zoning restrictions.

9. Once BMS and its broker achieved passage of this sham Ordinance loosening the Township's zoning restrictions (their real aim), they sold the Property to another entity for \$32 million, which was \$23 million less than the \$55 million previously offered by Plaintiff's group - and which required seller financing.

10. As will be seen, the acceptance of such an inferior offer by BMS, contrary to the interests of its shareholders, is evidence that a fraud was being carried out for an unlawful and even criminal purpose. As a result of the fraud, the Property is now the site of precisely the type of environment-damaging manufacturing, chemical storage, trucking traffic, and other increased activity and condo-ization of the site that residents feared when they objected to the pretextual zoning changes.

11. The Plaintiff, who has sustained opportunity losses, lost profits and other damages from this fraud, thus brings the within action, seeking injunctive relief voiding the sham Ordinance as well as monetary damages.

If this is concerning, please voice your concern(s) at the next Township Committee meeting(s): <https://www.hopewelltwp.org/calendar.aspx?CID=32>

Access the full Complaint: <https://mercervethepeople.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Complaint-Steven-Chaykowsky-v-Township-if-Hopewell-NJ-BMS-JLL-2025.pdf>

## **Hundreds Protest in Hopewell as Part of National Wave Against Trump Policies**

*By Diane Carroll originally published in MercerMe (April 7 2025)*

A steady stream of honking car horns mixed with chants and cheers Saturday as hundreds of people lined Route 31 outside the Pennington Quality Market, joining tens of thousands nationwide in a day of coordinated protest against the second-term policies of President Donald Trump and top adviser Elon Musk.

The Pennington and Hopewell rally, stretching four deep from Delaware Avenue past Burger King, was one of more than 20 demonstrations across New Jersey as part of the "Hands Off!" protest movement. Despite gray skies and intermittent rain, demonstrators waved signs, cheered, and shared personal reasons for showing up — citing concerns ranging from reproductive rights and LGBTQ protections to agriculture, immigration, and economic justice.

"I have a family member who risked his life and health to fight for our country, and to see what's happening to our veterans is deplorable," said one marcher. "I'm using this march to make my voice heard."

Others came with umbrellas and years of personal history behind their protest. One young person showed up for their mom, who helped organize the event. Another came to support immigrant laborers, farmers, or LGBTQ workers in their community. "Anything I can do on a daily basis is important, no matter how small," one protester said. And another said, "I've been carrying this pro-choice sign for 25 years."

Access the article: [https://merceme.com/hundreds-protest-in-hopewell-as-part-of-national-wave-against-trump-policies/?utm\\_source=Memberful+Main+List+-+Mercer+Me&utm\\_campaign=def8b70937-RSS\\_EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b51cf3ae42-def8b70937-563818349](https://merceme.com/hundreds-protest-in-hopewell-as-part-of-national-wave-against-trump-policies/?utm_source=Memberful+Main+List+-+Mercer+Me&utm_campaign=def8b70937-RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b51cf3ae42-def8b70937-563818349)

Hundreds Rally Again in Pennington Against Trump Administration, Musk-Led DOGE Service (April 21, 2025): <https://merceme.com/hundreds-rally-again-in-pennington-agai...>

## The Poverty Of The Criticism Of Trump's Agenda

*By Victor Davis Hanson originally published in The Blade of Perseus (April 7 2025)*

Two strange phenomena now characterize the political landscape.

One, opposition to the Trump administration's initiatives has reached a near-unprecedented fever pitch.

The frenzy is manifested in strange ways. At the bottom end, there is an epidemic of street terrorism, including the keying of Teslas, bullying their owners, firebombing dealerships, or vandalizing charging stations.

All that is mostly the logical but dirty reification of those in the media and the Democrats who brand Elon Musk as a foreign-born counterfeit citizen and a disloyal un-American foreigner, thus deserving to be "taken down," in the words of Rep. Jasmine Crockett. Or is he to be ostracized as an "ass-h\*le" in the invective of Sen. Mark Kelly and Minnesota Governor Tim Walz? The latter cheered a downturn in Tesla stock prices, contrary to the interests of his own state's public portfolio.

Sometimes, the impotent Democrat Congress issues kickboxing/ninja videos of its feistier female representatives. At other moments, senators race to the bottom, echoing each other's pottymouth expressions of "sh\*t."

Rep. Al Green could neither disrupt nor end Trump's speech to a joint session of Congress by shaking his cane and screaming epithets. Nor, as he damned Trump on the floor of the Senate for 25 hours in a filibuster to nowhere, could Sen. Cory Booker offer a single word that might offer his supposedly better way to address crushing debt and deficits.

Two, there is a second common denominator to all this frenzy and fury: there is so far no alternate agenda on trade deficits, budget deficits, and debt.

That is, no one on the left—or, for that matter, the libertarian right or the now inert Republican establishment—can outline an alternate pathway to Trump's remedies for America's dire problems. Just as the left used to worship Tesla's breakthrough EV cars and now tries to destroy them, so too it once lectured the country on the merits of tariff-enforced symmetrical trade—until Donald Trump made that his signature issue.

So in lieu of serious counter-proposals, we get from the left vulgarity, the smash-mouth of Rep. Crockett, and street terror against fellow Americans. All this inanity is the natural bookend to the prior four years of lawfare, the efforts to remove Trump from state ballots, the Mar-a-Lago raid, and two assassination attempts.

Most of the organs of Wall Street, the free-market think tanks, and the few liberation university economics departments likewise issue virulent denunciations of tariffs, of even massive DOGE cuts in the federal workforce and budget, and, strangely, of the deportation of Tren de Aragua, a terrorist-designated violent foreign gang whose members entered and now reside illegally in the United States.

So why does the left not simply claim that its prior support of tariffs was wrongheaded? (See the now-ancient denunciations by Nancy Pelosi and Bernie Sanders of Bush-era "free trade," deindustrialization, globalization, and lost jobs.) Now, the left supports... what exactly? Mini-tariffs? No tariffs? Reciprocal tariffs?

Absent is concern about the ticking time bomb of \$3 billion in interest payments on the debt per day, in addition to the monstrous \$37 trillion in debt itself. Did Cory Booker spend a single minute of his 25-hour address to outline ways to reduce our 125% debt to annual GDP?

Per year, the interest cost on the debt is larger than the defense budget; does AOC ever note that? The current Biden vestigial budget is nominally \$1.7 trillion in the red. Is there a Democrat agenda to head us toward balanced budgets?

So, what does the left propose as its financial remedies?

Is it to raise taxes on those who should "pay their fair share?" That is, do they want the top rates to rise from 37% to 40%, 45%, 50%, so that their own constituent "affluent" in blue states like high-tax California, Illinois, and New York should properly and deservedly pay the IRS 50% to 60% of their earnings in income tax alone?

Does the tax-and-spend left prefer instead a value-added tax or some sort of federal sales tax? Or do they think current levels of spending are just fine?

Is there really no waste, fraud, and abuse in the federal budget, but instead too few federal workers?

Or are they modern monetary theorists, who believe money is but a construct, one that the government can do with in whatever manner it wishes? Thus, debt is simply remedied by printing more of the construct, or finding ways to expropriate private wealth, or inflating our way out of debt?

But again, please tell us how the left has a superior agenda to Trump's that will get us more quickly and efficiently to a balanced budget, if not a reduced national debt.

Or is debt itself not supposed to be a problem? Does the left believe interest rates are the real crux? As in the recent past, if interest rates are no more than the rate of inflation, then essentially, the government can borrow all it wants at zero interest—and literally did so at times over the last half century. Is that their remedy?

Can the Republican establishment help out and pause a moment from their napalming of the Trump initiatives? Can it issue briefs that outline how to take us to either a balanced budget and reduced debt or convince us that debt in all manifestations is no big deal?

Then we turn to trade deficit. Again, there is utter silence about solutions from most critics. No counter-proposals, no alternate agenda, just fury and hysteria—or denials that deficits and debt are a problem at all.

So, does the left or right believe that 50 years of continuous trade deficits do not matter? Who cares if we are running a near \$1 trillion annual outflow in the gap between what we export and import?

Please make the argument that the real losers are the recent economies of India, China, or Mexico, which supposedly foolishly tax imports and yet demand tariff-free exports, all to run up surpluses. Are they suicidal and we, the masters of trade deficits, the real geniuses?

Does it matter that almost all of the proposed Trump tariffs are in some way responsive? In that sense, they are calibrated on autopilot, leaving the proverbial ball in the court of those with high tariffs and huge surpluses to set new shared reciprocal rates.

So, if it was wrong for Trump to level reciprocal tariffs, was it right for others to initiate asymmetrical tariffs on us?

Is it more logical to damn those who object to \$1 trillion in annual trade deficits rather than those whose tariffs resulted in their warped surpluses?

Or is it wiser to blame the victim? The U.S. deserves its trade deficit because it is too affluent, too naïve to object, or too profligate to be saved?

Or is the argument one of the Sermon on the Mount: we must turn the other cheek as we have for a half century? Or, as an affluent sort of good Samaritan, can we afford to stay forbearing and take the hit for the global team?

The final problem with the notion of Trump as the 80-day destroyer of America is not just the poverty of economic counterproposals from the left or right. It is also the complete news blackout of what Trump has already accomplished in 10 weeks.

Does anyone notice that, almost overnight, America's southern border is now magically secure, with virtually no illegal immigration—and without the much-ballyhooed need for "comprehensive immigration reform?"

How did we go from 10,000 illegal aliens a day to near zero? What was so bad about identifying hundreds of billions of budgetary dollars in fraud and waste in a mere two months?

Why are we now talking about ways to end the Ukraine war rather than boasting "as long as it takes" to feed the new Stalingrad?

Why are the Houthis now being abandoned by the Iranians, who, in a matter of weeks, no longer seem to be the feared bully of the Middle East? Were not their terrorist tentacles just months ago considered unstoppable and sacrosanct?

Was it wrong finally and dramatically to reflect the wishes of 80 percent of the American people, who do not want biological males to overturn a half-century's worth of hard work to obtain parity for women's sports?

We, as a nation, need to calm down.

Either acknowledge, however reluctantly, the good that has already been done in the first ten weeks. Or, if one feels the border should be open, or the war should be accelerated in Ukraine, or the campuses were just fine until 2025, or women just need to get over losing to transgendered men, then just say so.

Or if one believes huge trade and budget deficits and unsustainable national debt are no big deal, then argue just that.

Or, if the rub is that Trump is addressing these existential and long-neglected crises in the wrong way, then please present alternate plans for quicker and better resolutions or better messaging.

Should he limit tariffs only to those nations with deficits and asymmetrical tariffs? Should he speak more quietly and mention more frequently that he was moved to act only by a half-century of neglect? Could he emphasize more that the \$3-4 trillion in promised foreign investment will ignite job growth within a year?

But if there is no alternate agenda, no constructive criticism, then why would anyone listen to those who either helped to get us into this mess or have no clue about its solutions?

Access the article: <https://victorhanson.com/the-poverty-of-the-criticism-of-trumps-agenda/>



## **INTERVIEW: Sheriffs Awarded For Enforcing Federal Immigration Laws, Resisting Leftist Pressure Groups**

*By Kevin Mooney originally published in Restoration News (April 22 2025)*

### **Conservative Counterweight to ACLU Reaffirms Constitutionality of Federal Partnerships with Local Law Enforcement**

In an exclusive interview, Lt. Col. Allen West tells Restoration News that elected sheriffs who partner with federal agents to enforce immigration laws deserve recognition for upholding their oath to the U.S. Constitution while resisting leftist ideologues. Col. West now serves as the executive director of American Constitutional Rights Union (ACRU), which works as a counterbalance to the extreme leftist ACLU.

At the same time, West said, local officials who do not cooperate with deportation efforts at the expense of public safety deserve to be called out for violating their oaths and elevating the interests of illegal aliens above those of law-abiding legal citizens.

### **The Importance of Aiding ICE**

The ACRU, established in 1999 by Reagan-era officials as a “counterweight” to anti-constitutional pressure groups, does both with the “Defender Initiative,” which provides awards to oath keepers in local law enforcement while highlighting the perfidy of “oath breakers” who prioritize political activism over their sworn responsibilities.

The award focuses attention on the utility and importance of the 287(g) program that authorizes U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) with the ability to delegate specified immigration officer functions to state and local officials under the agency’s direction and oversight. The program was first implemented in the Clinton administration in 1996 and has become a critical component of President Donald Trump’s efforts to enact stricter immigration enforcement measures.

“Sheriffs took an oath to support and defend the U.S. Constitution,” West said. “That’s why they were elected. They did not take an oath to a political party or to an ideology that would seek to undermine the sovereignty of our constitutional republic.” By participating in the 287g program, West explained, sheriffs are protecting America’s national sovereignty, which is very much in line with that they are prescribed to do in Article 4, Section 4 of the Constitution.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) doesn’t see it that way.

The far-left team of progressive attorneys has sent threatening letters to sheriffs aimed at discouraging them from participating in the 287(g) program and raising the specter of potential litigation if they do. In January, for instance, the ACLU joined with other open-borders advocacy groups, to send a letter to Ohio’s 88 county sheriffs describing Trump’s immigration policies as “inhumane” while also making the case that they could be held liable for “Fourth Amendment violations” by participating in the 287g program.

Restoration News obtained a copy of a letter the ACLU sent to Sheriff Chris Kleinberg in Dakota County, Nebraska where the ACLU calls on the sheriff to withdraw his application to participate in the 287g program.

The ACRU has responded with its own effort to ensure sheriffs that they are on firm legal footing by cooperating with ICE officials and that they deserve credit for protecting citizens from dangerous criminals who have entered the country illegally.

### **R vs L: The ACRU Fights Back**

“In many ways we were founded as a counterweight to the ACLU,” Lorie Roman, chairman and CEO of the ACRU and the ACRU Action Fund, said in an interview. “We are telling these sheriffs that participation in the 287g program is not unconstitutional because it is established law, and these sheriffs are just availing themselves of a legal avenue to cooperate with ICE in order to protect their citizens.”

Initially, the ACRU was inclined to send letters of support to sheriffs, but decided that was not sufficient since many sheriffs are willingly going against the grain of groups like the ACLU and other local officials who are not willing to cooperate with ICE.

“We decided we really need to award the sheriffs who are doing everything they can in their environment to protect their citizens,” Roman said. “Many of them are acting quite boldly.”

The first “Defender Award” was delivered in person on April 3 to Sheriff Kevin Rambosk and the Collier County Sheriff’s Office during a ceremony in Naples, Florida. West and Roman joined with Department of Homeland Security Senior Counselor Keith Pearson to present the award to Rambosk. A list of all the sheriffs who have received the award so far is available [here](#). ACRU has also has a link available for users to submit information about sheriffs who are not keeping their oaths.

### **Not Just a Blue State Problem**

The problem citizens have with sheriffs and other local officials who do not want to cooperate with ICE is not just a simple matter of red versus blue states, West explained. That’s because the problem also exists in red states where there is left-leaning government. West points to Dallas County Sheriff Marian Brown as an example of a local law enforcement official who appears

unwilling to partner with ICE in a red state like Texas. Dallas interim Police Chief Michael Igo, who recently announced he is retiring, has also made comments indicating he is unwilling to assist federal agents in their enforcement of immigration laws.

The motivations of open border advocates who continue to jeopardize public safety can be best understood, West said, by revisiting remarks President Barack Obama made in 2008 stating that he was devoted to “fundamentally transforming the United States of America.”

West sees a “formula and a recipe” at work.

“When you look at the results of this last 2024 election, Kamala Harris won all the states that did not have voter ID requirements,” he said. “This is what they are trying to do, they are trying to reshape the United States of America, so they are perpetually in control of this nation.”

Leftists are opposed to the 287g program, West continued, because it undermines their goal of obtaining political power.

“They want to count people who are here illegally and who are not entitled to representation in the halls of Congress in Washington D.C., or locally in state capitals, for the census,” West said. “This is all about the reapportionment of representative districts. This is a big fight.”

## **Only Illegal Aliens have Second Amendment Rights?**

The hypocrisy of left-leaning government officials posturing in favor of dangerous, criminal illegal aliens is difficult to overstate, West observed. He is particularly concerned single, military aged males who have entered the U.S. in the past few years as part of the widely cited 600,000 figure of illegal who have been released into the country since March of 2021. West cites the example of well-armed Venezuelan gangs that have taken over apartment buildings in Aurora, Colorado.

“How does a person illegally in this country legally attain firearms?” West asked. “But yet the left is always worried about legal law-abiding citizens [having firearms] and the left is constantly working to “undermine our constitutional [Second Amendment] rights,” he said.

Putting the statistics in military terms, West said, the 600,000 figure is larger than the active strength of the U.S. Army, which he estimates to be about 425,000, and far larger than the strength of the U.S. Marine Corps, which West puts at about 183,000.

With these facts in mind, it’s difficult to believe there are some law enforcement officials who refuse to work with ICE, West laments.

“This is an upside-down world in which we live,” he said.

While the use of “sanctuary laws” can complicate matters for sheriffs who are willing and able to participate in 287g, West said the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution should carry the day and invalidate such laws.

“There’s no such thing as a sanctuary,” West said. “All it means is you are harboring criminals.”

Roman also made the point that it’s critically important for law enforcement agencies to collect full information on all illegal alien encounters even when those encounters do not result in ICE detention. She is pursuing this matter with the new Florida Immigration Board led by Gov. Ron DeSantis.

ACRU is continuing its search for examples of sheriffs across the country, including those in blue states, who are working tenaciously to assist ICE in the arrest, detention, and deportation of dangerous, criminal illegal aliens.

Read and access the article: <https://restoration-news.com/interview-sheriffs-awarded-for-enforcing-federal-immigration-laws-resisting-leftist-groups>

Kevin Mooney is a Senior Investigative Researcher for Restoration News specializing in energy policy, environmentalist groups, and dark money. He writes regularly for the American Spectator, Washington Examiner, Daily Caller, Daily Signal, and National Review. Kevin is the author of an upcoming book on the climate change movement and American independence.

Email Kevin at [km@restoration-news.com](mailto:km@restoration-news.com)

## **The Inconvenient Truth About The Democratic Party**

*By Carol Swain, PragerU, 5-Minute Videos, May 22 2017*

Did you know that the Democratic Party defended slavery, started the Civil War, founded the KKK, and fought against every major civil rights act in U.S. history? Watch as Carol Swain, professor of political science at Vanderbilt University, shares the inconvenient history of the Democratic Party.

Watch the video: <https://www.prageru.com/video/inconvenient-truth-about-the-democratic-party>

Correction at 3:42: Woodrow Wilson served as president from 1913 to 1921, not from 1912 to 1921.



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## Election 2025

### NJ Is Selecting A New Governor This Year

By Abigail Adams

Your participation in the June primary is critical to ensure we select the right candidate to lead our beautiful state. There are 3 ways to vote in NJ, please make sure you have a plan to cast your ballot. Your voice matters!

#### Are you a registered Independent?

#### You can still vote in the primary!!

If you are on the Vote by Mail list, you must visit the County Clerk's office to declare a party and request a ballot by June 3rd. Click [HERE](#) to visit the Clerk's website and learn more.

If you normally vote in person, you can visit a polling location during In-Person Early Voting or on Election Day to declare a party and vote on the spot.

Click [HERE](#) to find Early Voting, Election Day, and Vote by Mail Secure Drop Box locations. If you are a Mercer County resident, you can visit any Early Voting site in the county, but on election day, you must go to your district polling location. This information can be found on your sample ballot.

The poster is for the Mercer County Republican Committee, titled "NJ IS SELECTING A NEW GOVERNOR WE NEED YOU TO VOTE IN THE PRIMARY". It details three voting methods: In-Person Early Voting (June 3-8, 2025), Election Day (June 10, 2025), and Vote by Mail Ballot (mailed before 8PM on Election Day). It lists the Primary Endorsed Mercer County Regular Organization Republican Candidates for Governor: 1. Bill Spadea, 2. Jack Ciattarelli, and 3. Jon Bramnick. A QR code is provided for more information. The poster also features a map of Mercer County with a star indicating a location, and a "VOTE" button at the bottom right. Social media handles for Mercer County GOP and @realMercerGOP are listed at the bottom.

**Mercer County Republican Committee**

**NJ IS SELECTING A NEW GOVERNOR**

**WE NEED YOU TO VOTE IN THE PRIMARY**

**In-Person Early Voting**  
Tuesday, June 3 to Sunday, June 8, 2025  
10AM to 8PM Monday to Saturday and  
10AM to 6PM on Sunday

**Election Day**  
Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at your polling  
location from 6AM to 8PM

**Vote by Mail Ballot**  
Can be mailed with a postmark before 8PM on  
Election Day or returned to a secure drop box  
location by 8PM on Election Day

**Primary Endorsed Mercer County  
Regular Organization Republican  
Candidates for Governor**

1. Bill Spadea
2. Jack Ciattarelli
3. Jon Bramnick

Visit [mercernjgop.com](http://mercernjgop.com) to learn more about  
the candidates or scan the QR code.

**Together Let's Turn NJ Around!**

*Follow the Mercer County Republican Committee*

Mercer County GOP | @realMercerGOP | @realmercernjgop | [mercernjgop.com](http://mercernjgop.com)

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## Election Integrity

### Empowering Election Oversight: Review Our NJ Poll Challenger Training Session

Citizens for NJ Election Integrity hosted a Poll Challenger Training program this spring, providing essential education to volunteers interested in safeguarding the integrity of the electoral process in New Jersey. Led by attorney Dana Wefer, the session was designed to equip participants with the tools and knowledge needed to responsibly serve as poll challengers during upcoming elections.

### Challengers and their role in elections under Title 19

by Dana Wefer, Esq.

#### Training Overview

The training was held via a virtual webinar on April 23, 2025, from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM.

The session offered a comprehensive overview of the legal and procedural responsibilities of poll challengers in New Jersey. Dana Wefer broke down the role into three critical focus areas:

- **Supporting the Get Out The Vote (GOTV) Effort** – Participants learned how poll challengers can legally and ethically assist in ensuring voter turnout, particularly through observation and reporting of irregularities that may hinder access to the ballot box.
- **Challenging Potentially Ineligible Voters** – Attendees were trained in identifying and appropriately challenging registrations or voters who may not meet eligibility requirements, in accordance with NJ Title 19 election law.
- **Documenting Irregularities During the Voting Process** – Emphasis was placed on thorough, respectful, and lawful observation, including best practices for recording and reporting suspected violations or irregular procedures during early voting and Election Day operations.

The sessions emphasized nonpartisan conduct, respect for voter rights, and the importance of lawful civic engagement. Attendees left with greater clarity on the responsibilities and limitations of their role, including what actions are permitted by New Jersey election law and what crosses the line into interference.

For more information or to inquire about future training sessions, email: [info@citizens4njei.org](mailto:info@citizens4njei.org)

## Dual Registrations And Possible Double Voting Identified In 2024 General Election

### Joint Statement from Citizens for NJ Election Integrity and Project Civica (NY)



New Jersey / New York - April 5, 2025 - Citizens for New Jersey Election Integrity and Project Civica announced a detailed comparative analysis of voter records from New Jersey and New York, revealing significant irregularities involving dual state voter registrations and potential double voting in the November 5, 2024 General Election.

The analysis uncovered 396 individuals who appear to have been recorded as casting ballots in both states in the same election, raising serious concerns about potential violations of both state and federal election laws.

In addition, the groups identified 81,839 individuals who are registered as “Active” voters in both New Jersey and New York, all sharing the same first name, middle name or initial, last name, and exact date of birth, a combination that is statistically rare.

New York and New Jersey have a combined population of approximately 30 million. Based on demographic modeling and name frequency data, only 8 to 10 individuals across the entire region would be expected to share both a full legal name and date of birth — and even fewer would be actively registered to vote in both states. The discovery of more than 81,000 such records defy statistical expectations and strongly suggests the presence of duplicate registrations tied to the same individuals, not mere coincidence.

“This isn’t a fluke of common names. The statistical odds of even a dozen people legitimately sharing a full name and birthdate across two states are almost zero. Yet here we have over eighty-one thousand. These duplicates are not hard to find. Why aren’t the states finding these like we did and fixing them” said Mark Demo, Director and Co-founder of Citizens for NJ Election Integrity.

“When hundreds of these individuals appear to have voted in both states in the same election, this goes beyond a data issue. It points to serious flaws and the potential for fraud within the system,” added Kim Hermance, Co-founder and President of Project Civica.

Notably Monmouth and Ocean Counties appear frequently in the NJ dataset. These counties are home to numerous shore towns popular with second-home owners from New York. This geographic pattern raises the possibility that vacation property ownership could be a contributing factor in some of the double registrations. The five boroughs of NY City appear most frequently in the NY data set. Double voting or simultaneous active registrations are prohibited under both state and federal law.

Both organizations have notified the U.S. Department of Justice and are preparing formal referrals to the appropriate state and county agencies in New Jersey and New York. Each referral will include detailed documentation cross-referencing voter IDs, names, dates of birth, and recent voting history.

The groups are calling on election officials to take immediate corrective action, including:

- A full audit of active voter rolls in both states,
- Push for federal data-sharing access for all states and modernize voter systems using existing industry resources.
- Legislative oversight to identify how these duplicate registrations and potential double votes evaded existing safeguards.

Citizens for NJ Election Integrity and Project Civica remain committed to protecting the public’s trust in our elections and ensuring every legal vote counts — and only once.

Media Contacts: Citizens for NJ Election Integrity - [Mark.Flaherty@citizens4njei.org](mailto:Mark.Flaherty@citizens4njei.org) - 914-473-2038  
Project Civica (NY) - [media@projectcivica.org](mailto:media@projectcivica.org) - [ProjectCIVICA.org](http://ProjectCIVICA.org)

About Citizens for NJ Election Integrity - Citizens for NJ Election Integrity is a non-partisan organization dedicated to ensuring fair and transparent elections in New Jersey. The group advocates for electoral reforms, improved voter verification processes, and public education on election integrity. For more information, please visit <http://www.citizens4njei.org/>.

For further inquiries or to schedule an interview, please contact C4NJEI at the information provided above.



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## Public Corner

### Public Local Meetings

Interested in attending public meetings? Here are a few in your area for this month.

<https://www.mercercounty.org/i-want-to/calendar-meeting-list>

### HVRSD School Board Meeting

May 19, 2025--Timberlane Middle School, tour at 5:30pm followed by meeting at 6:30pm  
51 S Timberlane Dr, Pennington, NJ 08534 or Livestream on YouTube

### Municipal Township Meetings

<https://www.hopewelltp.org/calendar.aspx?CID=32>

Monday, May 5, 2025, 6:30pm

Monday, May 19, 2025, 6:30pm

Meetings are in hybrid format - Township Municipal Building & Zoom

Township meetings will be held at HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL SERVICES BUILDING 201 Washington Crossing - Pennington Road, Titusville, NJ 08560

### Board of Elections Meeting

Tuesday - May 13, 2025 12:00pm Regular

Board of Elections Meetings will be at 930 Spruce St., Lawrence, NJ 08648

### Mercer County Board of County Commissioners

Meeting Schedule -- May 2025

Tuesday May 6, 2025 6:00pm Agenda & Formal (Double Meeting)

Tuesday May 20, 2025 6:00pm Agenda Meeting

Thursday May 22, 2025 6:00pm Formal Meeting

Agenda and Formal Meetings will take place at the Mercer County Administration Building, Room 211, 640 South Broad St., Trenton, NJ unless otherwise stated.

In order to encourage full participation of these meetings, please submit any requests for accommodations of people with disabilities to the Clerk to the Board, Mercer County Administration Building, PO Box 8068, Trenton, NJ 08650, 609-989-6584 {V/TTY} {Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 101-336}

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## TruthBTold



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## At the Movies, Bookstores



### The King Of Kings (2025)

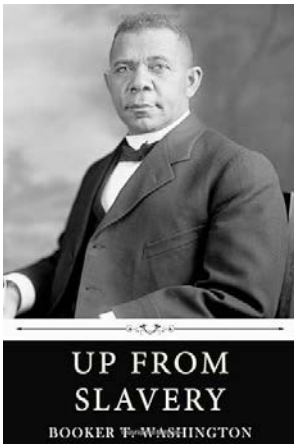
PG, 1 hr 45 min • GENRE: Animated, Family • RELEASE DATE: Friday, April 11, 2025

DIRECTOR: Seong-ho Jang

CAST: Pierce Brosnan, Forest Whitaker, Oscar Isaac, Kenneth Branagh, Uma Thurman, Mark Hamill, Ben Kingsley, Roman Griffin Davis

FILM SYNOPSIS: A father tells his son the greatest story ever told, and what begins as a bedtime tale becomes a life-changing journey. Through vivid imagination, the boy walks alongside Jesus, witnessing His miracles, facing His trials, and understanding His ultimate sacrifice. The King of Kings invites us to rediscover the enduring power of hope, love, and redemption through the eyes of a child.

Watch the trailer, learn more: <https://www.angel.com/movies/king-of-kings>



### Up From Slavery

by Booker T. Washington

Up From Slavery is the 1901 autobiography of American educator Booker T. Washington (1856–1915). The book describes his personal experience of having to work to rise up from the position of a slave child during the Civil War, to the difficulties and obstacles he overcame to get an education at the new Hampton Institute, to his work establishing vocational schools—most notably the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama—to help black people and other disadvantaged minorities learn useful, marketable skills and work to pull themselves, as a race, up by the bootstraps.

He reflects on the generosity of both teachers and philanthropists who helped in educating blacks and Native Americans. He describes his efforts to instill manners, breeding, health and a feeling of dignity to students. His educational philosophy stresses combining academic subjects with learning a trade.

A pdf to download is available: <https://archive.org/details/upfromslaveryan06washgoog>

To purchase: Amazon, Barnes & Noble

Amazon: Customer review by John Jenkins: In the documentary “Uncle Tom,” Lieutenant Colonel and Congressman Allen West recommends that “Up From Slavery,” the autobiography of Booker T. Washington, be mandatory reading – not just in the Black community but all across America. I agree.

This book, written in 1901, lists how Mr. Washington started life as a slave on a Virginia plantation (in the book he guesses that he was born in 1858 or 1859, but other sources show his birth in 1856), was emancipated in 1865, and through hard work and perseverance, worked his way through Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute. Then when he was 25, he became the first leader of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama.

Some people criticize Booker Washington for what he did not do – political accomplishments - but what he did accomplish was amazing. As his book stresses, he was more focused on economic and spiritual progress than in political confrontations. He worked tirelessly to provide thousands of Black students with the tools - occupational skills, work ethic, hygiene, and spiritual orientation – to lead fulfilling and productive lives. All Americans, particularly African Americans, are better off because of this focus. Booker T. Washington delivered many speeches throughout the North and South, plus a few on a trip to Europe in 1899. All the speeches were well received, but the speech he delivered at the Cotton States and International Exposition in Atlanta in 1895 was the most controversial. In this speech (and others), Washington advocated a pragmatic, cooperative approach to race relations. Washington always looked for, wrote about, and spoke of concepts that would bring the races together. He tried to focus on the values that they had in common to bring about cooperation and progress. Of course there were others, including W.E.B DuBois who subsequently labelled this address, the “Atlanta compromise” and argued that BTW’s attitude represented an acceptance of the alleged inferiority of the Negro race.

Although some of the arguments of Dr. DuBois were accurate, it is clear that no white leaders in business or politics saw any inferiority in BTW. He earned the respect and cooperation of President William McKinley, who visited Tuskegee Institute, as well as John D. Rockefeller, Collis P. Huntington, and Andrew Carnegie, all of whom made substantial contributions to Tuskegee Institute.

It should be noted, however, that, among all the famous and accomplished people whom Washington encountered, the one who made the greatest impression on him was General Samuel C. Armstrong. Armstrong was the leader of the Hampton Institute where Washington learned many great lessons, including the “gospel of the toothbrush,” that he fine-tuned and passed on to the students at Tuskegee. And it was also Armstrong who recommended the young Booker T. Washington for the position at Tuskegee. At the time, Washington compared his task to “making bricks without straw;” but, through his example, commitment, resourcefulness, and persuasiveness, he succeeded.



Washington was encouraged by many and tempted to enter politics, but he concluded that he would “be helping in a more substantial way by assisting in the laying of the foundation of the race through a generous education of the hand, head, and heart.” This nation would be better off today if more people had these priorities!

Carol Swain: Up from Slavery by Booker T. Washington (33 minute video): What is the key to racial reconciliation in our nation? Dr. Carol Swain joins Michael Knowles on this month’s episode of The Book Club to examine the life of Booker T. Washington, a former slave turned educator, as seen through the lens of his autobiography Up From Slavery.

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## We the People of Interest

### The Adversity Of Diversity: A Q&A With Dr. Carol Swain

*By Patrice Onwuka originally published in Philanthropy Roundtable (January 9 2024)*

Dr. Carol Swain, born into poverty in rural southwest Virginia, dropped out of high school but went on to earn five university degrees. Swain was tenured at Princeton University and then became a full professor at Vanderbilt University. She went from a high school dropout and teenage mother to a highly accomplished university professor and intellectual.

In addition to three presidential appointments, Swain has also served on the Tennessee Advisory Committee to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the 1776 Commission. Swain has authored or edited 11 published books including her most recent and timely title, “The Adversity of Diversity: How the Supreme Court’s Decision to Remove Race from College Admissions Criteria Will Doom Diversity Programs.”

Recently Patrice Onwuka spoke with Swain about the rising tide of antisemitism on college campuses, her views on DEI and how to achieve True Diversity.

The interview below has been edited for length and clarity.

**Q: We are a few weeks removed from the horrific Hamas attack against innocent Israeli civilians, and we’ve seen Israel’s response. You’ve been a professor, you’ve been on college campuses. Are you surprised by this antisemitic strain we’re seeing? Where did it come from?**

**Swain:** Well Patrice, It’s been there for a long time. The incident that took place with the attack on Israel has allowed what was bubbling—not even below the surface—to come out to the open. Because I can tell you during the years that I was in academia there was a strong pro-Palestinian, anti-Israel sentiment on campuses and many of my Jewish students were anti-Israel.

On college campuses there’ve been so many people who have been indoctrinated to believe that Israel is evil, that they have oppressed the Palestinians and that the Israelis have no right to the land. People really believe this is a civil rights issue.

On college campuses, identity politics, multiculturalism and diversity, equity and inclusion programs feed this misinformation. Campuses have all these identity group centers or little pockets where people identify by cause, by ethnicity, by religion or by sexual orientation. And the college campuses are very fractured. Viewpoint diversity is not valued in DEI teachings and training. Instead of encouraging discussion and debate, individuals who view things differently would go along with the majority viewpoint, which often reflects the most vocal views, out of fear of being punished.

Another thing that I find very troubling is there are so many university professors who don’t make any pretense or effort to be neutral. They are activists, and they encourage the students to be as well.

**Q: Is there any tension between protecting academic freedom and free speech versus really stamping out antisemitism on campus?**

**Swain:** The tension is not about academic freedom anymore. Academic freedom and free speech are not the same as hate speech.

Academic freedom should include the right to disagree. For example, in a healthy academic environment you'd have people on different sides of an issue hosting and sponsoring panels where they would present different views. In the past, you would never have a university-sponsored event that was one-sided. Organizers especially wanted experts who could talk about the historical roots and context of complex issues.

I've seen academia devolve over the past few decades. When I was in graduate school in the 1980s, academia appeared more like a marketplace of ideas. In the 1990s when I was an assistant professor, it was still a place where you had healthy dialogues taking place. That changed by the time we reached the 2000s to the intolerant environment we have today

However, campus should not protect outright hate speech and we've seen outright hate speech that has no academic merit come from the mouths of professors who are very much agenda driven.

**Q: Shouldn't administrations be willing to stand up to antisemitism? Instead, we've seen several universities either be silent or equivocate on the October 7 attack.**

**Swain:** Administrators abdicated their responsibility to be the adults in the room a long time ago. And so, what you saw was students straight out of high school leading causes and being able to challenge professors and the administrators would just defer to the students because it's easier for them than to do their jobs.

The DEI industry, especially after George Floyd's death, is a layer on top of old-fashioned affirmative action. Affirmative action was put in place by executive orders. But the 1964 Civil Rights Act was legislation that was passed to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion and sex, and that's the law of the land. What we have now is a system that encourages discrimination, has racial double standards and recently pushed a resegregation on many college campuses. Minority students often have their own separate graduations. They can have separate dorms. Some colleges and universities have separate course sections.

The expression "the inmates running the prison" applies. Students are running the campuses, and they don't have experience. Nor are the adults teaching them about the Constitution, our freedom of speech, the founding of the nation, American values and principles and how we became the greatest nation in the world.

And as a consequence, I would say the quality of education for every student has gone down. They are not getting value for their dollars and are not getting well educated. America is falling further and further behind in its competition with the rest of the world.

**Q: Your new book "The Adversity of Diversity: How the Supreme Court's Decision to Remove Race from College Admissions Criteria Will Doom Diversity Programs" was released soon after the Supreme Court ended affirmative action on college campuses. Walk us through why you wrote the book and what you think is going to happen next as a result. I think we've heard "gloom and doom" expectations that the number of minority students will drop. Do you see that happening?**

**Swain:** I have had a problem with the diversity programs for a long time. About five years ago, I started working on a book about why diversity training programs are all wrong. I felt the approach we were using was creating so much divisiveness and there was a better way.

After I got involved with the critical race theory discussion and published a book in 2021, "Black Eye for America: How Critical Race Theory is Burning Down the House," I heard stories from parents and saw in corporate America so much racism against Asians, whites, men and Christians that was clearly in violation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. These groups are covered by the Civil Rights Act but were being discriminated against because everything was favoring either women, members of the LGBT community or people of color.

There were situations where men on jobs were denigrated because they were male, and stories of young children coming home crying because some teacher told them their ancestors were responsible for all the evils in the world. It reached the point that the Supreme Court had to act, so when the Supreme Court accepted affirmative action challenges from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and from Harvard, I believed the Court had to strike down affirmative action, and I started the book in earnest.

Some 80% of the book was written before the Supreme Court decision, and I do have a co-author. It was written anticipating the fall of affirmative action. I was very anxious because there was a possibility the Supreme Court would make the wrong decision (to uphold affirmative action). If they did, the book would have to be substantially rewritten.

I don't believe for a moment that institutions will be entirely white because they were not entirely white before race-based affirmative action. Colleges and universities should stop lowering the standards and setting up this two-tier system that's based on racism. It's racist to believe there are no qualified minorities. Anyone who's been in academia knows there are qualified minorities.

My story of coming from nothing, being a high school dropout and going to college is an example. In my undergraduate school, there were courses—huge psychology courses—where I had the highest score. I'm Black. I came from poverty. I worked hard. It's not just me. I've always met minorities and taught minorities that excel. It's not that institutions would be really white. The institutions would not have quotas though, if they actually admit students as individuals rather than as members of distinct groups.



As a professor at Princeton, for example, there were situations where minorities with better pedigrees, because they came from more affluent families with lower scores, were admitted over better-qualified minorities that came from working-class backgrounds. It was assumed that the more affluent person would fit in better. At Ivy League schools, at least during the time I was there in the 1990s, you found a lot of people that had different races and ethnicities. Yet, in many ways, they were the same person because they overwhelmingly came from the same socio-economic and educational backgrounds.

**Q: Will colleges adhere to the Supreme Court decision?**

**Swain:** Many of them have said no, they're not going to adhere to the Supreme Court decision, but they're going to resist and they're going to find proxies. That takes me back to 1954 when the Brown v. Board of Education school segregation decision came down and the Court said to desegregate with "all deliberate speed." An implementation plan was handed down in 1955, but it was 1968 before I attended integrated schools in Bedford, Virginia.

There was massive resistance then, and there will be people who say "We're gonna do it the way we've always done it." It may take a few years before they begin to actually try to expand the pool of qualified students, and I believe that can be done. But it seems as if affirmative action supporters have given up on trying to reform K-12 education so you can have a larger pool of people who are qualified to be admitted to elite institutions. They would rather take the pool that comes every year rather than do the hard work of reaching down and trying to find qualified people.

**Q: Please provide us your definition of what True Diversity means and how can we achieve that as a society.**

**Swain:** True Diversity is diversity that includes a diversity of viewpoints. True Diversity treats people as individuals and any special talent they bring to the table becomes part of the whole. People are contributing to the team not because they're there to represent a particular group, but to represent their experiences, their intellect and the things they know because of their life journey.

I've never quite fit in because I've always wanted to be an individual. When I was in college, I never joined the Black student union. I was not a Black political scientist. I was a political scientist and I find it has been very difficult for people who just want to do that work. They just want to be the best in the field.

There is constant pressure for you to choose your group and stay in your group. Some people don't want you to be outside of your group. I've had minority students come to me saying that they grew up in an environment with white classmates and friends and neighborhoods that were integrated and they've had friends of other races, but when they got to campus they either had to choose their ethnic group or their diverse friends groups. If they chose to keep white friends, that was seen as a rejection of the ethnic groups. It affects every racial ethnic minority who just wants to be the best they can be doing whatever they're doing.

As individuals, we are created in God's image, unique. Ideally, we should have workplaces and learning environments that are not singling out any particular group for ostracism because of that group membership. But instead, it's looking for the talents of individuals and encouraging these individuals to talk to one another and work as a team.

Unfortunately, instead of unity and the possibility for healthy teams, what we have created is an environment that just fosters divisiveness and bitterness. People cannot be their best selves when they're in an environment where divisiveness rules.

Click here to learn more about True Diversity.

Access the article: <https://www.philanthropyroundtable.org/the-adversity-of-diversity-a-qa-with-dr-carol-swain/>

## **Dr. Carol M. Swain – Restoring Hope To The American Dream**

### **Professional Background**

Born into abject poverty in rural southwest Virginia, Dr. Carol Swain, a high school dropout, went on to earn five degrees. Holding a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and an M.S.L. from Yale, she also earned early tenure at Princeton and full professorship at Vanderbilt where she was professor of political science and a professor of law. Today she is a sought-after cable news contributor, a best-selling author, a prominent national speaker, and an entrepreneur.



In addition to having three Presidential appointments, Dr. Swain is a former Distinguished Senior Fellow for Constitutional Studies with the Texas Public Policy Foundation who has also served on the Tennessee Advisory Committee to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the 1776 Commission. In 2025, she received the Frederick Douglass Lifetime Achievement Award for a lifetime of conservative service to the nation. Currently, she is a senior fellow at the Institute for Faith and Culture.

An award-winning political scientist cited three times by the U.S. Supreme Court, Dr. Swain has authored or edited thirteen published books including the bestseller, *Black Eye for America: How Critical Race Theory is Burning Down the House*. Other books include *The Gay Affair: Harvard, Plagiarism, and the Death of Academic Integrity*; *Countercultural Living: What Jesus Has to Say About Life, Marriage, Race, Gender, and Materialism*; *The Adversity of Diversity: How the Supreme Court's Decision to Remove Race from College Admissions Criteria will Doom Diversity Programs*.

She is an expert on American politics, immigration reform, affirmative action and DEI policies, and evangelical politics. Her television appearances include BBC News, ABC's Headline News, CBS, CNN, Fox News, Newsmax and more. In addition, she has published opinion pieces in the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Wall Street Journal, the Epoch Times, the Financial Times, and USA Today.

Dr. Swain is the founder and CEO of Carol Swain Enterprises, REAL Unity Training Solutions, Your Life Story for Descendants, and her non-profit, Be the People. She is a mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother who resides in Nashville, Tennessee.

## **Strong Christian Beliefs**

I am a follower of Jesus Christ who believes that faith in Him should be evidenced by a lifestyle that reveals his influence on our lives. I honor and respect the wisdom of God's Word as revealed through the Scriptures found in the Old and New Testaments of the Judeo-Christian Bible.

I believe our nation has been exceptional throughout the centuries, because of the wisdom and faith of the Founding Fathers who sought to establish an everlasting covenant with the God of Israel. Their wisdom is found in the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. If America is to survive as a nation, we must rediscover our roots and unite as one people. We must recognize that multiculturalism and identity politics fuels division and divisiveness. As Matthew 12: 25-27 suggests, a house divided against itself cannot stand.

Her story (From GED to Ph.D: The Carol Swain Story, 6 minute video): <https://youtu.be/OUI3ibKO38k>

About Carol Swain: <https://carolmswain.com/about/>

## **More Dr. Carol Swain Videos:**

- What I Can Teach You About Racism (5-Minute Videos): Renowned political science professor Carol Swain started out life with every possible disadvantage. She ended up teaching at two of the most prestigious universities in the country. How did she do it? She shares her story and her wisdom in this inspiring video.
- Harvard President Rips off Carol Swain—Dr. Swain Reacts (8 minute video): It was recently discovered that Harvard's President, Claudine Gay, broke Harvard guidelines by stealing ideas from Dr. Carol M. Swain without proper citation. PragerU Personality, CJ Pearson, speaks exclusively with Dr. Swain to get her thoughts.

## **Mercer We the People of Hopewell Valley Newsletters:**

Access previous issues at: <https://hvragop.org/mercero-we-the-people/>

To report a correction or share feedback, please email us at [info@mercero-wethepeople.com](mailto:info@mercero-wethepeople.com)

### **Mercer We the People**

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