

“It is an affront to treat falsehood with complacency.” Thomas Paine

CAMPUS REPORT

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RULERS FOR RADICALS

By: Malcolm A. Kline

Accuracy in Academia has found that one-quarter of the membership in the national council of the SDS has either worked in academia, guest lectured there or written textbooks.



Truly the major media have only scratched the surface, when they have even felt the itch, of the influence of radical left-wing groups in academia. Moreover, these are not “all we are saying is give peace a chance” types.

The Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) have a history of demonstrations that were, well, demonstrative, as did their even more violent spinoff, the Weathermen. That’s what brought both to the attention of the FBI and made them an enduring object of fascination for law enforcement officials.

“The fingerprints of [Mark] Rudd, [Bernardine] Dohrn, [Howard] Machtinger and [Billy] Ayers were found at the scene of the Weather Underground ‘Pine Street Bomb Factory’ in March of 1971, according to declassified FBI documents,” Accuracy in Academia staff writer Bethany Stotts has reported.

“Inspection of the apartment yielded an amount of explosives and bomb making paraphernalia,” the Weather Organization Underground (WUO) FBI file states on page 384. WUO bombs usually contained metal fence staples, Cliff Kincaid, Accuracy in Media editor, noted. “This was an anti-personnel weapon designed to maim and kill people,” Kincaid argued.

Yet and still, it is not just the ethos of these organizations that passed into the faculty lounge but the original members themselves. Accuracy in Academia has found that one-quarter of the membership in the national council of the SDS has either worked in academia, guest lectured there or written textbooks.

Some are there to this day. In other words, yesterday’s persons of interest have become today’s persons of influence. The only thing that hasn’t changed is their outlook.

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RULERS FOR RADICALS

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Take, for example, Cathlyn P. Wilkerson, who became a high school math teacher. “In her book, Wilkerson is apologetic for Weatherman’s tactics, but not for her radical politics: She is still a radical, but one who prizes the right to vote, which she regained several years ago,” National Public Radio reported in 2007. “As for her Weatherman years, Wilkerson describes a time when optimism turned to fear and anger — and when she surrendered curiosity to the need to know and independent thinking to orders from the top.”

“I was a leader in the UCLA chapter of SDS in the late 1960s but never on the national council,” Michael Balter told us. “I was a member before the national organization splintered into several factions.”

“Looking back, I think that SDS’s opposition to the war in Vietnam and to racism in the United States was absolutely correct, and that its methods of militant campus protest were justified by the circumstances of the time.”

“I did not approve of the splinter group Weatherman and its bombing campaigns, however.”

The most famous alumni of both SDS and the Weathermen are probably the husband and wife team of Bill Ayers and his wife Bernardine Dohrn but they are not the only tenured radicals in the bunch. They are not the only married couple to emerge from the SDS either. (By the way, in addition to their many other accomplishments, Ayers and Dohrn have edited a little volume called *Zero Tolerance: resisting the drive for punishment in our schools.*)

Michael Klonsky, general secretary of the SDS married Sue Eanet, a writer at New Left Notes, the SDS publication. Klonsky, an advisor to the Obama campaign in 2008, heads the Small Schools Workshop, conveniently based in Chicago, which, like Ayers’ outfit, benefited from the largesse of the community organization Barack Obama served. Klonsky’s brother Fred, also a graduate of SDS, is a public school teacher in Wisconsin.

What follows is a list of SDS alumni who went on to work in education or wrote textbooks. The asterisks denote those still in academia or active in education:

1. Bill Ayers—University of Illinois*
2. Michael S. Balter—NYU *
3. Eric Chester—San Francisco State University
4. Bernardine Dohrn—Northwestern*
5. Sue Eanet (Klonsky)—wife of Michael, Small Schools Workshop*
6. Richard Flacks—sociologist (emeritus) University of California at Santa Barbara
7. Howard Bruce Franklin—Rutgers
8. Todd Gitlin—Columbia*
9. Michael Golash—employee of D. C. metro, husband of AU department chair
9. Mike Goldfield—Wayne State
10. Sheila Hammannaka—children’s books
11. Tom Hayden—Pitzer College, Occidental College, and Harvard Institute of Politics*
12. Jeff Jones—Apollo Alliance
12. Michael Kazin—Georgetown*
13. Devereaux Kennedy—Grand Valley State University, course on Modern Western Thought *
14. Mark A. Kleiman—UCLA
15. Michael Klonsky—Small Schools Workshop (Chicago) *
16. Fred Klonsky—brother of Michael, public school teacher*
17. Howard Machtinger—Carolina Teaching Fellows, UNC-Chapel Hill
18. Joy A. Magezis—*Teach Yourself Women’s Studies*, textbook
19. Carol McEldowney—RIP, contributor, *Our Bodies, Ourselves*
20. Carl Oglesby—MIT, Dartmouth
21. Dick Reavis—North Carolina State University
22. Mark Rudd—Central New Mexico Community College*
23. Cathlyn P. Wilkerson—high school math teacher

(Incidentally, another SDS national council member, Jeff Jones, belongs to the same Apollo Alliance that begat another Jones—Van, no relation—who served in, then exited, the Obama Administration.)

RULERS FOR RADICALS

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Fellow SDSer Mark Rudd remembers that he and his buds had sharp political disagreements with Michael Klonsky. Rudd and company were Maoists while Klonsky was a Stalinist.

In other words, Rudd and his compatriots felt more of a kinship with Mao Tse Tung who ruled Communist China for nearly 30 years and killed 60 million people while Klonsky found himself more simpatico with Josef Stalin, master of the Soviet Union, who lorded over the U. S. S. R. while 40 million people perished under his policies.

In a category all his own is Michael Golash. “The Columbia strike changed my life for the good,” he blogged. “I meet [sic] my wife and developed a revolutionary outlook.”

“I came to understand that imperialism with its racist and sexist practices had to be destroyed, not reformed, and replaced with a communist society. Forty years ago I thought the process would move along a little quicker than it has.”

Golash went to work for the Washington, D. C. metro-rail system but his wife landed some influential jobs.

“In the early nineties, Deirdre got a job teaching at American University,” Golash writes.”

“Today she is the chair of the Law, Justice and Society Department at AU. She also wrote a philosophy book called *The Case Against Punishment*.”

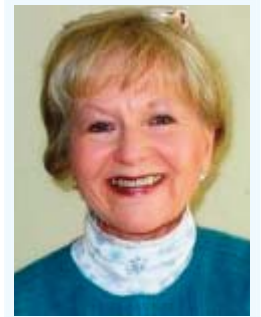
“I am still working at Metro.”



STUDENT LOAN BUBBLE

Deborah Lambert

For years, America has bought into the idea that college degrees are not only badges of honor but must-have tickets that miraculously open doors for the recipients and practically guarantee lucrative careers.



Of course, they were told, you’ll have to pay off your student loans, but consider this as “good” debt—investment debt that creates value—as opposed to “bad” debt,” i.e. those car payments or travel expenses.

If that’s true, then we’re on the verge of suffocating from good debt these days.

“From where I’m sitting, the buildup of the national student loan balance looks like a massive betrayal of trust,” noted Anya Kamenetz in the Huffington Post. “People have been told for decades that this is ‘good’ debt. In fact it’s really bad debt,” she explained.

Latest figures show the “total balance of all outstanding U.S. student loans . . . is now estimated by Mark Kantrowitz of Finaid.org at more like \$830 billion—\$605.6 billion in federally guaranteed student loans . . . and a further \$167.8 billion in private student loans, with interest rates that hover around 18-20 percent.”

This is the first time that student loan debt has surpassed credit card debt. And while a person can opt out of extreme credit card debt through bankruptcy, the only recourse with unmanageable student loans is default, which means the government can seize “tax refunds, Social Security and disability payments until your dying day.”

Kamenetz and the HuffPo apparently believe that since the debt burden has increasingly fallen on the “nontraditional” adult, working class students attend-

STUDENT LOAN BUBBLE

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ing for-profit colleges, this situation looks more and more like another mortgage bubble. “What was first depicted as an expansion of opportunity now starts to look like a massive scam perpetrated on the socially disadvantaged.”

And here’s the kicker: Apparently, the “same online sales geniuses who used to work for mortgage brokers are now employed by for-profit colleges. Their business is the same: fill out the forms, get the money, consequences be damned.”

Stay tuned.

Whether or not higher education’s bloated budgets and massive student loan debt will trigger a mortgage-like meltdown is yet to be seen. But another aspect of this story lies just under the radar—the fact that Congressional Dems and the Obama administration appear to be targeting for-profit colleges, according to John Ray in blogspot.com

“We should quickly stipulate that for-profit colleges are hardly delicate flowers of free enterprise,” wrote Andrew Ferguson in *The Weekly Standard*, adding that “they are creatures of government subsidies without which they would become unrecognizable. And they are happy to meet the government on its own terms.”

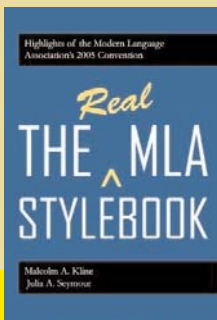
But Ferguson explained that articles in liberal-left publications like the *Huffington Post* described a Government Accountability Office report that “detailed how for-profit recruiters often promise potential students unobtainable jobs and high salaries, and tell them to lie to procure more federal financial aid.”

Sen. Tom Harkin (D-Iowa) then used the report to argue at a recent Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee meeting hearing that “abuses in for-profit recruiting are not limited to a few rogue recruiters or even a few schools with lax oversight.”

In tarnishing for-profit schools with a broad brush, the implication is that the noose of federal regulation needs to be tightened on the entire for-profit sector. To Ferguson, this is part of an entirely predictable process. It begins when the Obama administration takes an interest in a particular industry: “If the administration gets its way and the regulatory regime continues to tighten, the for-profit education industry won’t cease to exist. More likely, it will regress into a form of state capitalism, as kind of a government utility: utterly dependent on government subsidy, hence utterly submissive to government authority, which can set prices and profit margins. The health care industry, with the passage of health care reform, is halfway there already.”



Mortgage Banks & Colleges: Separated at birth?



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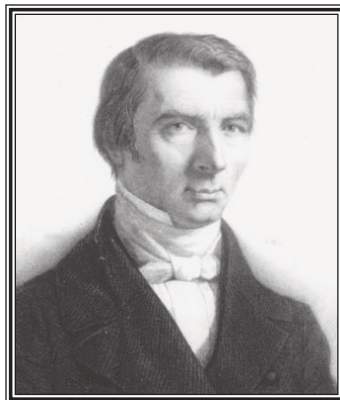
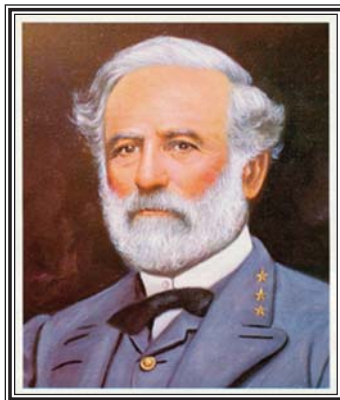
SLAVERY'S HISTORY PARTIALLY RESTORED

by Malcolm A. Kline

One of the points of contention in recent textbook battles in Texas is the issue of slavery and how it will be explored in classrooms. Those opposed to revision argue that it will be white-washed.

Actually, if the complete history of slavery were explored, those purists might be surprised at what they find. For one thing, few texts even mention the enslavement of Christians by Muslims. "The Barbary pirates, using what would now be called a fundamentalist interpretation of Islam as their pretext, regularly kidnapped Christian livestock from Italy, Malta, Sicily, Sardinia and Corsica and from the ships of all nations sailing the Mediterranean," historian Paul Johnson wrote in *The Birth of the Modern: World Society 1815-1830*. "In the 17th Century their corsairs had cruised in the waters of Northern Europe as well and at one time Algiers had held as many as 25,000 white Christians as slaves."

"In late August 1816, a combined British and Dutch fleet under the command of Lord Exmouth (formerly Sir Edward Pellew) followed the example of Commodore Stephen Decatur, forcing a peace at the mouth of a cannon," historian Joshua E. London writes in *Victory in Tripoli: How America's War with the Barbary Pirates Established the U. S. Navy and Shaped a Nation*. "This armada unleashed hell upon Algiers, de-



Two who opposed slavery:
Robert E. Lee and Frederic Bastiat

stroying most of the coastal side of the city, as well as most of its navy and marina."

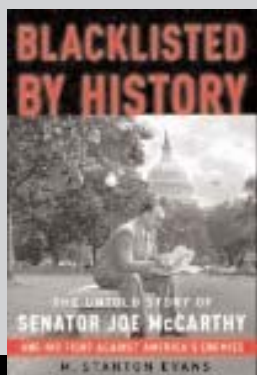
"The dey accepted all of Lord Exmouth's demands." The deys were potentates who ran Algiers. "More than eleven hundred Christian captives were released from slavery, and the dey agreed to abolish Christian slavery in Algiers

forever," London reports.

One thing that the enslavement of whites had in common with the more widespread bondage of blacks: the general merchant class that captured and sold the slaves. Unfortunately, African tribal chiefs were too frequently complicit in the slave trade.

"Large-scale slave trading by highly organized Arab bands led a growing number of native kings to go to war in pursuit of slaves," Johnson wrote. "The influence of Arab predation was felt as far south as the Cape, where the generic term for blacks was kaffir, the Arab-Islamic expression for 'unbeliever.'"

Johnson claimed that the British tried to discourage this practice. "You will endeavor by every means in your power to impress on [the ruler's] mind the very great advantages he will derive by putting a total stop to the sale of slaves...[which] will cause him to be ranked among the benefactors of mankind," Lord



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SLAVERY'S HISTORY PARTIALLY RESTORED

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Bathurst of the Colonial Office instructed Henry Clapperton, who was setting out on an expedition on July 30, 1825.

Opposition to slavery was more widespread than we have been lead to believe as well. "There are few, I believe, in this enlightened age, who will not acknowledge that slavery as an institution is a moral and political evil," Robert E. Lee wrote in 1856, before the Civil War even began.

"Slavery is a violation, by law, of liberty," French philosopher Frederic Bastiat wrote in the mid-Nineteenth Century. "The protective tariff is a violation, by law, of property."

"It is a most remarkable fact that this double *legal crime* — a sorrowful inheritance from the Old World — should be the only issue which can, and perhaps will, lead to the ruin of the Union. It is indeed impossible to imagine, at the very heart of a society, a more astounding fact than this: *The law has come to be an instrument of injustice.* And if this fact brings terrible consequences to the United States — where the proper purpose of the law has been perverted only in the instances of slavery and tariffs — what must be the consequences in Europe, where the perversion of the law is a principle; a system?"

Cheat Sheet on Academia

This summer, the FBI director scratched his head trying to figure out how many agents cheated on their agency exams. All of us might ponder where this drive to take what was once deemed an unacceptable shortcut comes from.

"Eighty percent of high school students admit to cheating," Caroline Crocker of the American Institute

for Technology and Science Education said at a Capitol Hill press conference on July 28, 2010. Another study found that "70 percent of students at Duke cheated," Dr. Crocker said at the news briefing, which was sponsored by the Traditional Values Coalition.

A cell biologist by training, Dr. Crocker has seen this deterioration in standards up close and personal at universities she has been affiliated with. "I found that cheating by pre-med students was being winked at at George Mason University [GMU] and Creighton and now I see it when I tutor," she said.

Nor is the practice confined to one side of the podium in lecture halls. "I've seen medical slides in medical school that come from Wikipedia," she averred.

She personally will not stand for it, a policy that has cost her professionally. A student she caught cheating at GMU accused her of teaching creationism.

Although Dr. Crocker can produce students to rebut the claim, guess who got asked to leave GMU's Fairfax, Virginia campus. For posing "questions about evolution" at George Mason, she was "banned from lecturing."

"She has two letters from the provost complimenting her for the high student ratings she received before the Darwin lecture," we noted in 2007." She has a few letters and e-mails from students who heard the lecture on Darwin and attested to her fairness in presenting the often-times contentious material."

"They switched my 3-year contract to a one-year contract," she stated in her recent appearance in the Capitol. When she took legal action, the school hired away the law firm that her attorney worked for.

Dr. Crocker the author of *Free To Think: Why Scientific Integrity Matters*, will speak at the AIA author's night in November.—MAK

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER



By Malcolm A. Kline

September, 2010

Dear Reader,

Well, the moment that public relations offices in universities everywhere anticipate arrived last summer. U. S. News & World Report delivered its annual rankings of the Top 20 American colleges and universities.

We don't share their recommendations because we have written about most of them. In fact, some of the veterans of the far-left Students for a Democratic Society who we profile in our cover story work at a few of them.

Although we try to avoid contempt prior to investigation, it is difficult, when the facts are in, to not have a reaction somewhere between concern and consternation. Nevertheless, even when we go back to do yet another story on a specific institution of higher learning which we have covered before, we try to wipe the slate clean and inquire with open minds.

Since universities change their policies about as often as leopards change their spots, this approach often leaves us feeling like Charlie Brown kicking the football at Lucy's invitation right before she withholds the ball just as he is about to make contact with said pigskin.

Still and all, like Charlie, we keep kicking. Thanks to your support, we are alive and kicking.

All the best,



Mal Kline
Executive Director

Voodoo Anyone?

How to Understand Economics Without Really Trying



by

Christopher T. Warden

Forewords by M. Stanton Evans & Malcolm A. Kline



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