
The inspiration for *Born Again Republican* is quite personal for Liz Matory. Matory grew up inside the Beltway with many elites in government and business, most of whom were Democrats.

Attending Sidwell Friends School, the alma mater of the Obama daughters, she saw the attitudes and academic bias towards conservatives and conservative ideas. Later, she went on to attend Columbia University, exactly one year behind Chelsea Clinton, another Sidwell alum. At Columbia, she fell into the cycle of adhering to progressive ideals without much thought and consideration, supporting progressive policies and Democratic candidates. She would go on to attend Howard University School of Law and begin to pursue a career as a consultant working with the late Christopher Barry, son of the late former mayor of Washington, D.C..

It was this experience and her running for Congress that changed her from a liberal Democrat to a conservative Republican. Through telling her story, she concluded that her story of being “born again” as a Republican was one that many people like her—child of an immigrant, black, and a female—shared.

“I want the Democratic Party to stop taking the black female vote for granted,” said Matory. She is highly critical of identity politics and the methods of movements such as Black Lives Matter that refuse to “embrace the citizenry of this country before their racial makeup.” For example, recent social movements such as the call for black Americans to no longer celebrate the Fourth of July irk her.

Matory’s book is on sale at Amazon.com. She has announced plans to launch a media company soon and is currently working on a second book to be released in the coming months.

This event was part of The Frank A. Fusco Conservative University Lecture Series this year, made possible by a generous grant from *The Frank A. Fusco and Nelly Goletti Fusco Foundation*.
Dear Reader,

When I had the opportunity to introduce our last author’s night speaker—Liz Matory, author of *Born Again Republican*—I noted that she has been exposed to academic bias for about as long as I have been covering it. Moreover, she has been recovering from it for about the last year and a half, and in Maryland!

That she has been able to do so while living and working in D. C. suburbs is indeed cheerful news. Really, for all their talk about “critical thinking,” academics are not that elated when students actually do think critically.

One would think they would regard it as a teachable moment. Speaking of which, a law school dean took issue with one of our previous issues—the one on how law schools look at, or look down on, property rights. “At all periods of the history of the Anglo-American law of real property, it has been assumed that the absolute ownership of all lands was originally in the Sovereign, whether called ‘crown’ or ‘state’; that is, the Sovereign possessed the largest bundle of rights, powers, privileges and immunities, unburdened by any duties, liabilities or disabilities, that can conceivably be enjoyed with respect to lands,” Steven Shephard of the St. Mary’s University School of Law in San Antonio, Texas, wrote.

Really? Is that why a British monarch felt compelled to sign the Magna Carta? And what about those Americans of British descent who later, literally, declared their independence?

We ask such questions because questioning authority is what we do;>)

All the best,

Mal Kline,
Executive Director
AIA AUTHOR'S NIGHT

Photos by Brendan Cassell
Evans' 5 Simple Rules for Vibrant Economy

By Malcolm A Kline

Last month, a dear friend of Accuracy in Academia, author M. Stanton Evans (1934-2015), would have turned 83. Although he focused most of his energies in his later years on researching and writing about the history of espionage and internal security in the United States, he had quite a background in economics as well, much to the benefit of his readers over the course of his career.

Indeed, he studied under the noted Austrian economist Ludwig von Mises. On at least half a dozen occasions, I heard him outline what he saw as five essentials for a functioning economy.

They are worth repeating here, particularly given our economic lives and times of late:

1.) Competitive entry
2.) Competitive pricing
3.) A stable currency
4.) Rule of law
5.) No more than half of the Gross Domestic Product devoted to government at all levels.

We must note that property rights, which arguably undergird all of the above, were, in Evans’ view, key to a functioning economy and society.

If you are doing a mental checklist on these, you might conclude, with some evidence, that we are failing this five-part test. Nevertheless, Evans was fond of occasionally using the example of the great novel *A Tree Grows In Brooklyn* wherein just a little bit of sunlight and rain allowed the object in the title to grow.

Yet and still, naysayers might object that the checklist is biased toward the right. Nonetheless, I heard Evans himself note at least once that in such a system there is room for a welfare state.

Arguably, for much of America’s history, there has been. Incidentally, I never heard him use the term capitalism. He always used the phrase free market.

Perhaps we should do the same, especially since that is what it is.

*Malcolm A. Kline is the Executive Director of Accuracy in Academia. If you would like to comment on this article, e-mail mal.kline@academia.org.*