

MOORE REPUBLICAN WOMEN

August 2007



Chartered February 8, 1981
A member of the North Carolina Federation of Republican Women

PRESIDENT'S GAVEL

Pud Kent

To all of the wonderful Moore Republican Women:

In all my years I do not remember a time when the Republican vote was as important as it is now. Our values and ideals are being attacked by the media, universities and even high schools. It is imperative that we stay united. The future of our country and that of our grandchildren is at stake.

I hope that you all will be with us this year, and bring friends to our luncheons. We will be having candidates and other speakers of interest and their information will benefit us all. Our speaker in September is Justice Robert Orr, who is running for Governor. I believe North Carolina would be much better off with a Republican Governor.

Those of you who have been enjoying the summer hiatus may be interested to know that some of us have not let up on the issues. We have been contacting members our State Legislature to support passage of the complete Jessica's Law bill. We have made progress. It's not over yet but we're hopeful. Nationally we also got involved in stopping the very flawed Immigration Bill. There was a groundswell in the country on this one and we made our contribution. There will be other issues - we can be very sure of that. We are so fortunate to have dynamos doing our newsletter AND our website (www.mrwnc.org.) Read your newsletter and check out the website to see where you can make your opinions known.

We have a huge challenge ahead. Can you imagine any one of the current Democratic Presidential candidates running this country? Can you imagine how thrilled the liberals and the terrorists would be?

So I hope you all will be back with us in September, and again, bring your friends. "United we stand,..." and you know the rest of the saying. See you in September. Make your September 10th luncheon reservation now!

Pud



Trumpeting the News!

We have a new WEBSITE! Check us out at www.mrwnc.org. The site is intended to offer you news, facts you can use, photos of events, and much more. For details about Moore Republican Women please take a look at the website, and let us know what you think at contact@mrwnc.org!
Your hard-working Designing Women,

Dee, Barbara and Norma

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Gavel	1
Website Announcement	1
Opening Luncheon Announcement	1
Justice Orr's Biography	2
Membership	2, 6
Americanism	3-4
Muslim Demands	5
Chaplain's Prayer	5
Debates	6
Convention	6
Chaplain's Corner	6
Fairness Doctrine	7
Quotes from the Left	8
Our National Funk (TownHall)	9
Membership Form	10
Cartoons too good to Miss	11



MRW Calendar

Monthly Luncheon and Meeting
Monday, September 10th
11:30 – Social 12:00 – Lunch/Meeting
The Luncheon Charge is \$16.50

Speaker: Justice Robert Orr,
Republican Candidate for NC Governor
Pinehurst Members Club
Come, and Bring a Friend!

Reservations: Donna Bartrip - 215-5922
Reservation/Cancellation Deadline
Wednesday, September 5th



BIOGRAPHY OF JUDGE BOB ORR - SEPTEMBER MRW SPEAKER

Retired N.C. Supreme Court Justice Bob Orr entered the 2008 race for Governor as the only Republican candidate to have run - and won - a statewide election. In 1988, two years after having been appointed to the N.C. Court of Appeals by Governor Jim Martin, Orr shocked the political establishment by winning election that year. In doing so, he became the first Republican ever to be elected to the Court of Appeals and the first Republican since 1896 to win a statewide appellate judgeship.

In 1992, in an effort to repress Republican efforts to win judicial races, Orr was aggressively challenged for reelection. Still, he won, becoming the first Republican in the history of the state to win two statewide judicial elections.

With no Republicans having won a seat on the N.C. Supreme Court in the 20th century, Orr along with I. Beverly Lake, Jr. successfully won election to our state's highest court in 1994. Orr was easily reelected in 2002, making a total of 4 statewide election victories in his career, second only to retired U.S. Senator Jesse Helms among N.C. Republicans.

After a distinguished 18 year career as an appellate judge, Orr retired in July 2004 to head up the newly formed N.C. Institute for Constitutional Law where he has advocated for adherence to state constitutional principles through litigation and public education.

Orr grew up in Hendersonville, N.C. and received both his undergraduate and law degrees from U.N.C. - Chapel Hill. He also served 3 years in the

U.S. Army. After law school, Orr moved to Asheville, N.C. to practice law. During the eleven year period there he served two years as the District Administrative Assistant for Congressman Bill Hendon; GOP County Chairman; and coordinated the 11th Congressional District Campaign for then Congressman Jim Martin's Gubernatorial Campaign. Governor Martin appointed him to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission in 1985 and then to the Court of Appeals in 1986.

Justice Orr has served over the years on numerous professional boards and commissions including member and chairman of the Secretary of the Interior's National Park System Advisory Board, Vice President of the N.C. Bar Association, Chair of the Southeastern Conference on Genetics in the Courtroom, and as a member of the Governor's Crime Commission and the Chief Justice's Innocence Commission. He has also been involved in many civic activities including the Board of Directors for the Wake County 1st Tee program, the Central YMCA Board of Directors, as a Vestry member of his church, and as a mentor through the public school system.

Over the years, Justice Orr has also taught appellate advocacy and state constitutional law at area law schools. He currently serves on the Board of Visitors at N.C. Central School of Law.

Justice Orr is married with 4 children and 2 grandchildren.

Let's All Get Involved!

We are heading into a year of campaigning like we may never have seen before. Let's hope that our party comes up with super local, state and national candidates. I also hope you will all renew your membership, invite new members and be there to support our candidates. You will find a renewal form and a new member's form in this letter. There's strength in numbers.

Pud Kent

AMERICANISM

Do you know the Preamble for your state? Here are preambles for all states. **Note the important commentary at the end.**

Alabama 1901, Preamble We the people of the State of Alabama, invoking the favor and guidance of Almighty God, do ordain and establish the following Constitution.

Alaska 1956, Preamble We, the people of Alaska, grateful to God and to those who founded our nation and pioneered this great land.

Arizona 1911, Preamble We, the people of the State of Arizona, grateful to Almighty God for our liberties, do ordain this Constitution...

Arkansas 1874, Preamble We, the people of the State of Arkansas, grateful to Almighty God for the privilege of choosing our own form of government...

California 1879, Preamble We, the People of the State of California, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom.

Colorado 1876, Preamble We, the people of Colorado, with profound reverence for the Supreme Ruler of Universe.

Connecticut 1818, Preamble The People of Connecticut, acknowledging with gratitude the good Providence of God in permitting them to enjoy.

Delaware 1897, Preamble Through Divine Goodness all men have, by nature, the rights of worshipping and serving their Creator according to the dictates of their consciences.

Florida 1885, Preamble We, the people of the State of Florida, grateful to Almighty God for our constitutional liberty, establish this Constitution...

Georgia 1777, Preamble We, the people of Georgia, relying upon protection and guidance of Almighty God, do ordain and establish this Constitution...

Hawaii 1959, Preamble We, the people of Hawaii, Grateful for Divine Guidance .. Establish this Constitution.

Idaho 1889, Preamble We, the people of the State of Idaho, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, to secure its blessings.

Illinois 1870, Preamble We, the people of the State of Illinois, grateful to Almighty God for the civil, political and religious liberty which He hath so long permitted us to enjoy and looking to Him for a blessing on our endeavors.

Indiana 1851, Preamble We, the People of the State of Indiana, grateful to Almighty God for the free exercise of the right to choose our form of government.

Iowa 1857, Preamble We, the People of the State of Iowa , grateful to the Supreme Being for the blessings hitherto enjoyed, and feeling our dependence on Him for a continuation of these blessings establish this Constitution.

Kansas 1859, Preamble We, the people of Kansas, grateful to Almighty God for our civil and religious privileges establish this Constitution.

Kentucky 1891, Preamble We, the people of the Commonwealth are grateful to Almighty God for the civil, political and religious liberties...

Louisiana 1921, Preamble We, the people of the State of Louisiana, grateful to Almighty God for the civil, political and religious liberties we enjoy.

Maine 1820, Preamble We the People of Maine acknowledging with grateful hearts the goodness of the Sovereign Ruler of the Universe in affording us an opportunity ... And imploring His aid and direction.

Maryland 1776, Preamble We, the people of the state of Maryland, grateful to Almighty God for our civil and religious liberty...

Massachusetts 1780, Preamble We...the people of Massachusetts, acknowledging with grateful hearts, the goodness of the Great Legislator of the Universe In the course of His Providence, an opportunity and devoutly imploring His direction ..

Michigan 1908, Preamble. We, the people of the State of Michigan, grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of freedom establish this Constitution.

Minnesota, 1857, Preamble . We, the people of the State of Minnesota, grateful to God for our civil and religious liberty, and desiring to perpetuate its blessings:

Mississippi 1890, Preamble We, the people of Mississippi in convention assembled, grateful to Al mighty God, and invoking His blessing on our work.

Missouri 1845, Preamble We, the people of Missouri, with profound reverence for the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, and grateful for His goodness. Establish this Constitution

Montana 1889, Preamble We, the people of Montana, grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of liberty establish this Constitution

Nebraska 1875, Preamble We, the people, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom. Establish this Constitution.

Nevada 1864, Preamble We the people of the State of Nevada, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom establish this Constitution

New Hampshire 1792, Part I. Art. I. Sec. V Every individual has a natural and unalienable right to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience.

New Jersey 1844, Preamble We, the people of the State of New Jersey, grateful to Almighty God for civil and religious liberty which He hath so long permitted us to enjoy, and looking to Him for a blessing on our endeavors.

New Mexico 1911, Preamble We, the People of New Mexico, grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of liberty

New York 1846, Preamble We, the people of the State of New York , grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, in order to secure its blessings.

North Carolina 1868, Preamble We the people of the State of North Carolina, grateful to Almighty God, the Sovereign Ruler of Nations, for our civil, political, and religious liberties, and acknowledging our dependence upon Him for the continuance of those

North Dakota 1889, Preamble We, the people of North Dakota, grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of civil and religious liberty, do ordain...

Ohio 1852, Preamble We the people of the state of Ohio, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, to secure its blessings and to promote our common

Oklahoma 1907, Preamble Invoking the guidance of Almighty God, in order to secure and perpetuate the blessings of liberty ... establish this

Oregon 1857, Bill of Rights, Article I. Section 2 All men shall be secure in the Natural right, to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their consciences..

Pennsylvania 1776, Preamble We, the people of Pennsylvania, grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of civil and religious liberty, and humbly invoking His guidance

Rhode Island 1842, Preamble We the People of the State of Rhode Island grateful to Almighty God for the civil and religious liberty which He hath so long permitted us to enjoy, and looking to Him for a blessing

South Carolina, 1778, Preamble We, the people of he State of South Carolina grateful to God for our liberties, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

South Dakota 1889, Preamble We, the people of South Dakota, grateful to Almighty God for our civil and religious liberties

Tennessee 1796, Art. XI.III. That all men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their conscience...

Texas 1845, Preamble We the People of the Republic of Texas , acknowledging, with gratitude, the grace and beneficence of God.

Utah 1896, Preamble Grateful to Almighty God for life and liberty, we establish this Constitution.

Vermont 1777, Preamble Whereas all government ought to enable the individuals who compose it to enjoy their natural rights, and other blessings which the Author of Existence has bestowed on man

Virginia 1776, Bill of Rights, XVI Religion, or the Duty which we owe our Creator can be directed only by Reason and that it is the mutual duty of all to practice Christian Forbearance, Love and Charity towards each other

Washington 1889, Preamble We the People of the State of Washington, grateful to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe for our liberties, do ordain this Constitution

West Virginia 1872, Preamble Since through Divine Providence we enjoy the blessings of civil, political and religious liberty, we, the people of West Virginia reaffirm our faith in and constant reliance upon God ..

Wisconsin 1848, Preamble We, the people of Wisconsin, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, domestic tranquility

Wyoming 1890, Preamble We, the people of the State of Wyoming, grateful to God for our civil, political, and religious liberties...establish this Constitution.

After reviewing acknowledgments of God from all 50 state constitutions, one is faced with the prospect that *maybe, just maybe*, the ACLU and the out-of-control federal courts are *wrong!* Let us consider how we can encourage readers to use this information!

"Those people who will not be governed by God will be ruled by tyrants." - William Penn

GOD BLESS AMERICA!

"You can preach a better sermon with your life than with your lips."

Oliver Goldsmith

The following excerpts from an article written by Juhdi Jasser are offered to give our readers a sense of what a thinking Muslim in America believes about his fellow Muslims' demands in America.

How many creeping encroachments and accommodations to Muslim habits within the framework of our American way of life - where religious and personal freedom reign supreme - will America allow? Family Security Matters Contributing Editor M. Zuhdi Jasser, himself a Muslim, tells why these demands are flat out wrong.



Accommodation as an Islamist Political Instrument

By M. Zuhdi Jasser

Political Islam's ideological battle fronts are many. They can include the obvious like the liberation of Iraq or the rampant domestic and foreign policy speeches given under the guise of Friday sermons in mosques around America. However, an ideological front which is gaining traction among Islamists is that of religious accommodations (or demands) in our free society. Every week, it seems we are seeing new iterations of the same issue. Soon we must all ask -- at what point do Muslim requests for accommodations to religious practices and beliefs cross the line of the fundamental basis of American liberty and freedom?

First, we heard about a large group of Somali Muslim airport cabbies in Minneapolis refusing to provide service to travelers carrying alcohol or using dogs. At first, the airport moved to accommodate, but then the Somalis lost the battle to impose coercive interpretations of sharia (Islamic law) upon airport travelers. We recently have also seen airports, schools and universities agreeing to install foot-washing stations for Muslim airport cabbies and students at a significant cost to taxpayers in the name of special accommodations for Muslims. In Lincoln Park, Michigan, a few Muslim women insisted that a co-Ed health club to which they signed up provide them a women's-only room for exercise. Fitness USA acquiesced under fears of litigation despite the fact that the Muslim women signed up for no such guarantee with their enrollment contract.

In the past few weeks we've seen the Islamist political agenda in the U.S. Carry itself further bringing the debate to Carver Elementary School in Oak Park, California. A substitute teacher brought forth a complaint to the district's school board that a 15 minute break in classroom teaching was carved out for Muslim prayers. The influx of over 100 Somali Muslim students from another failed school brought with it swift efforts by Carver administration to accommodate to their needs. The issue has since carried far beyond San Diego and simple personal accommodation. The debate centers on the limits to which accommodation can impose changes and obligations upon others and on the entire system. Some argue that religious freedom is secondary to classroom instruction time and the strict separation of religion and state. Others have contrarily taken the opportunity and suggested, in all fairness, that public schools have a more global "daily prayer time policy".

(Ed. Note: For brevity we have omitted several additional paragraphs)

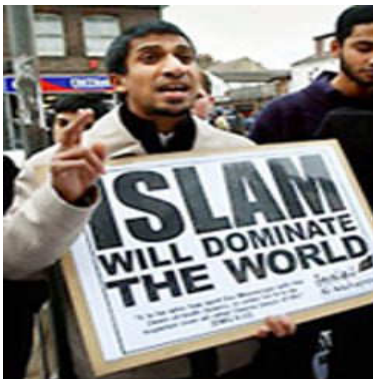
At the end of the day, it's about the philosophical orientation of Muslims. Are we Americans who happen to be Muslim or rather are we Muslims who demand to be American?

There is no greater laboratory of religious liberty and freedom than in the United States. Most of our parents escaped our motherlands in order to practice our personal spirituality more freely here than in so-called Muslim lands. They did not come to exploit and impose. American freedoms and openness to accommodate will be exploited by Islamists seeking a Muslim body politic. This will all continue as long as other non-Islamist and anti-Islamist Muslims stay silent to the exploitation of Islam for the Islamist political agenda.

FamilySecurityMatters.org Contributing Editor M. Zuhdi Jasser is the founder and Chairman of the American Islamic Forum for Democracy based in Phoenix Arizona. He is a former U.S. Navy Lieutenant Commander, a physician in private practice, and a community activist.

He can be reached at Zuhdi@aifdemocracy.org

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TODAY EUROPE...TOMORROW WHERE?

About the Debates...

Pander Yourself™

© PATRIOTPOST.US

"These are not debates, these are auditions. By definition, the psychology of an audition reduces the person auditioning and raises the status, for example, of Chris Matthews...I have no interest in the current political process." Newt Gingrich

"George Washington. Abraham Lincoln. Franklin Roosevelt. John F. Kennedy. Ronald Reagan. Who among these men would answer, with a straight face, a question posed by a snowman?" Ken Connor



**Announcing The 34th Biennial Convention
of the National Federation of Republican Women
September 26 - 30, 2007
Palm Springs Convention Center
Palm Springs, CA
For Information:
www.nfrw.org/programs/convention**

**CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

Mary Wittpenn

Today, I wish you a day of ordinary miracles
Love simply, Love generously
Care deeply, Speak Kindly,
Leave the rest to God.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT**WELCOME BACK ALL MEMBERS!!!**

A new "Club Year" is about to begin! Hope you all are energized after a great summer and are ready to enjoy all the benefits MRW membership conveys.

Also, the Outreach Committee, as well as the full Board of Directors, has been working on various ways and means for everyone to be more involved in making our club bigger and better. Everyone is looking forward to your ideas and contributions!

And, of course, the 2008 election cycle is already underway. Many workers, in many different skill areas, are sorely needed. Each member will be able to contribute as much time as they wish.

Linda Jarrett, Membership

MRW MEETINGS**SAVE THE DATES!**

October 1 Senator Fred Smith, Candidate for NC Governor, and General Meeting

November 8 Mike Adams Returns with his new book - Joint Meeting at CCNC with Men's Republican Club

December Brunch Date, Place and Time to be determined. Installation of new officers.

ABOUT THAT SO-CALLED FAIRNESS DOCTRINE...

Reject Orwellian Calls for Broadcast 'Fairness'

By John Thune

From its birth, our nation has put a high value on independent thought and freedom of speech. Our Founding Fathers themselves saw their lot as conscientious insurrectionists seeking freedoms they believed were inalienable rights. They understood the importance of permitting freedom of conscience whether it be in the religious, political, or social sphere. Today we continue to fight to preserve these freedoms both here at home and in many dark corners around the world.

Unfortunately, some in Washington DC are reviving an old idea that the government can, and should, regulate the reporting of news, information and ideas. If we take them at their word, they are doing it in the name of "fairness." But if we look deeper, we may see motives not nearly so noble.

For over 150 years our nation understood that freedom of speech was best achieved by keeping the government out of the business of regulating "fairness." Eventually though, a few at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) thought they could do a better job than the system set up by the framers of the Constitution and took fairness-promotion into their own hands. In a 1949 report entitled Report of Editorializing by Broadcast Licensees, federal bureaucrats at the FCC set forth the "[Fairness Doctrine](#)" which would govern the use of public airwaves for 30 years. This doctrine, which was promoted by the FCC and never approved by Congress, required broadcast licensees to present "controversial issues" of public importance in an equal and balanced manner.

Rather than promote fairness though, the Fairness Doctrine created a chilling effect among broadcasters when it came to reporting controversial topics. In order to avoid the lash of federal

bureaucrats, many broadcasters opted for silence. In the name of promoting "fairness," the FCC squelched free speech and public debate.

In 1985, President Reagan exposed the true effects of the Fairness Doctrine and argued that it should be repealed. The Reagan administration noted the "explosive growth in the number and types of information sources." In 1987, the FCC finally repealed the Fairness Doctrine. The FCC determined that the policy had the opposite of its intended effect. The FCC concluded that the Fairness Doctrine "restricts the journalistic freedom of broadcasters ... (and) actually inhibits the presentation of controversial issues of public importance to the detriment of the public and the degradation of the editorial prerogative of broadcast journalists."

Since 1987 we have seen even greater growth in how we get news and information including the rise of talk radio, internet news sites, and blogs, yet some critics on the left are calling for the reinstatement of the Fairness Doctrine. The efforts of these critics, who are especially offended by the success of conservative talk radio, should be rejected. Our support for freedom of conscience and freedom of speech means that we must support the rights granted to even those with whom we disagree. Giving power to a few to regulate fairness in the media is a recipe for disaster on the scale that George Orwell so aptly envisioned.

I for one will strongly oppose any efforts to bring back the Fairness Doctrine or other policies similar to it. I have introduced legislation that would prohibit the FCC from reinstating these policies, which is a good first step. I know the hair stands up on the back of my neck when I hear government officials offering to regulate the news media and talk radio to ensure fairness. I think most Americans have the same reaction. That is why I will do my part to ensure speech remains free and that Americans can continue to debate the issues of the day through our diverse forms of media in a free and open manner.

Mr. Thune is a Republican Senator from South Dakota.

QUOTES FROM THE LEFT... ...YOU BE THE JUDGE!



800-Pound Gorilla's Name is ABSTINENCE

The most obvious reason for recent reports on decreases in teen sex is that the abstinence message is getting through ... unless you're the liberal media. For them it's anything but abstinence according to an analysis by MRC's Culture and Media Institute. In fact the A-word doesn't seem to be in their dictionary. Federal agencies report a definite trend to teens having less sex. But the Washington Post, CNN and the AP all said it's because of increased condom use. No mention of abstinence.

-- MRC's Culture and Media Institute, Friday July 13



Bill Moyers Plays Impeachment Card on PBS... Your tax Dollars At Work!

"President Bush still was insisting Congress should stay out of the war. He and Vice President Cheney are holding out for better news from Iraq in September ... What shall we do? Impeachment hearings are one way to go ... In the meantime, those of us in public television have an obligation to make sure viewers like you stay in the loop. ... When we broadcast teach-ins on the Vietnam war, and the Watergate hearings during the trial of Richard Nixon, it was a real public service -- the reason PBS was created. We should keep Iraq in prime time every week -- the fighting and dying, the suffering, the debate, the politics -- the extraordinary costs. It's months until September [sic]. This war is killing us now, body and soul."

-- Excerpt from July 13 Bill Moyers Journal on PBS posted Sunday July 15 by Tim Graham on the MRC's NewsBusters blog and reported Tuesday July 17 in MRC's CyberAlert



AND THERE'S MORE...

A Sampling of Media Bias Highlights from the Media Research Center



...Stop the Presses! Media is Biased, Poll Finds!

If you think the New York Times is the most biased media outlet in the country, you've got plenty of company. A brand new Rasmussen poll reported Monday night by Brit Hume on Fox News and posted on MRC's CyberAlert revealed that while liberals don't think their outlets are biased to the left (no surprise), many Americans overwhelmingly disagree. By margins ranging from two-to-one to four-to-one, the poll showed the American people see ABC, CBS, CNN, NBC, NPR and the New York Times and Washington Post as clearly biased to the left. And the clear winner in that dubious crowd is the New York Times which Americans by four-to-one believe is obviously slanted left.

--MRC's CyberAlert, Tuesday, July 17 and MRC's NewsBusters blog Monday night



Sawyer Learns The Truth Hurts

Recently, Diane Sawyer showed the isolation liberal media types live in. In a personal aside to a story about people who avoid jury duty, she said: "You know, I wanted to sit on a jury once and I was taken off the jury. And the judge said to me, 'Can, you know, can you tell the truth and be fair?' And I said, 'That's what journalists do.' And everybody in the courtroom laughed. It was the most hurtful moment I think I've ever had."

-- MRC's CyberAlert Friday, July 13 and Scott Whitlock on MRC's NewsBusters blog in a posting July 12 with video



Reid's 'Cut-and-Run' Scam Exposed

Would precipitous U.S. withdrawal from Iraq leave the Iraqi people safer or less safe? A reasonable question, ABC's Jack Tapper seemed to think. But on the July 12 edition of World News, a peevish Harry Reid dodged straight questioning about the effects his cut-and-run policies would have. This exchange captured by MRC analysts:

Tapper: "Do you think the Iraqi people will be safer with U.S. troops out?"

Reid: no response.

Tapper: "You didn't answer my question."

Reid: "This isn't a debate. We're answering questions."

Tapper: "Will the Iraqis be safer?"

Reid: "Anyone else have a question?"

-- MRC's CyberAlert Friday, July 13 and MRC's NewsBusters blog in a posting July 12 with video

OUR NATIONAL FUNK

From TownHall.com

Michael Barone

July 30, 2007

Not all is gloom out there. That's the dominant message from the most recent Pew Global Attitudes Project's poll of 47 nations. Pew found that there is rising or constantly high contentment all over the globe with one's quality of life and family income. Satisfaction tends to be highest in the United States and Canada, but not far behind are Western Europe and Latin America. Even in Eastern Europe, Asia and Latin America, about one-third are highly satisfied with their quality of life and income.

As the Pew Global analysts point out, there is a high correlation here with economic growth -- and the world is producing economic growth at rates that may be the highest in history. Between 2002 and 2007, the per-capita gross domestic product increased 11 percent in the United States, 6 percent in Western Europe, and between 17 percent and 36 percent in Eastern Europe, Asia, Latin America and Africa. In that period, contentment has risen roughly in tandem with the economy.

But can money buy you love? Not necessarily. Although majorities in most of the 47 countries think their economies are in good shape, majorities in most say that they are not satisfied with the way things are going in their country. It's not uncommon for people to express more negative feelings about national trends than about their personal lives, and the question invites respondents with any complaint about politics or culture to answer in the negative. And in most of the countries, opinion on the direction of the nation is more positive than it was five years ago.

Most strikingly, only 25 percent of Americans are positive about the direction of the nation, down from 41 percent in 2002. In only a handful of the 47 nations are there declines of similar magnitude -- Uganda, the Czech Republic, France, Canada and Italy. Obviously, one factor here is the decline in the job rating of George W. Bush and of Congress (and the response in other countries to squabbling politicians in Prague, Paris, Ottawa and Rome).

It's partly a partisan response: Almost all Democrats are negative about the nation's future. But when one considers that America has not suffered another Sept. 11, and that it has enjoyed a surging and prosperous economy, it's hard to avoid the conclusion that citizens of this most blessed country are registering a verdict that is in tension with reality.

That's my reaction as well to the finding that by a two-to-one margin Americans say their children will be worse off than we are. There's a similar response in Canada, Britain and Brazil. The even more negative verdicts in Western Europe and Japan can be explained as a cool assessment of the combination of low birthrates and overgenerous welfare states.

But what basis do Americans have to suppose that, for the first time in history, a younger generation will be worse off than their parents? Perhaps it's just a feeling that things cannot possibly get any better. In any case, we seem to be in a pronounced national funk.

We might take some comfort in some of the trends of opinion in the rest of the world. In China and India, large majorities think the next generation will be better off -- a vote of confidence in their surging economies, which are providing cheaper products for us and are growing as markets for American goods and services. In Latin America, most believe that people are better off with free markets. (The highest percentage was in Hugo Chavez's socialist Venezuela!) In Africa, most express great optimism in the future -- a sign that the world's most troubled continent may be at last turning around.

Perhaps most importantly, the Pew Global survey showed sharply reduced numbers of Muslims saying that suicide bombings are often or sometimes justified as compared with 2002. That's still the view of 70 percent in the Palestinian territories. But that percentage has declined from 74 percent to 34 percent in Lebanon, from 43 percent to 23 percent in Jordan, and from 33 percent to 9 percent in Pakistan.

We've been instructed by many sages that the rest of the world hates us and does not want to follow our example. The Pew Global numbers tell us something different. People around the world may oppose American intervention in Iraq, but they also want many of the things we do. Perhaps we should take a cue from the optimism of the developing world and appreciate what we have -- and get out of our national funk.

Michael Barone is a senior writer with U.S. News & World Report and the principal co-author of The Almanac of American Politics, published by National Journal every two years. He is also author of Our Country: The Shaping of America from Roosevelt to Reagan, The New Americans: How the Melting Pot Can Work Again, the just-released Hard America, Soft America: Competition vs. Coddling and the Competition for the Nation's Future.



NEW MEMBERS



Plan to invite a neighbor, a friend or a colleague to the September, October or November Luncheon -- each person who joins during the fall months receives free membership until January 2008, and bringing in five recruits means the MRW 2008 membership will be FREE for you! Linda Jarrett, Membership



MOORE REPUBLICAN WOMEN – NEW MEMBER REGISTRATION

Date _____

Name: _____

Phone _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

E-Mail: _____

Referred by: _____

Your e-mail address will NOT be published in the MRW Directory or shared with any other club or agency without your permission.

Check here to receive e-mail versions of the MRW, NCFRW or National FRW newsletters when available.

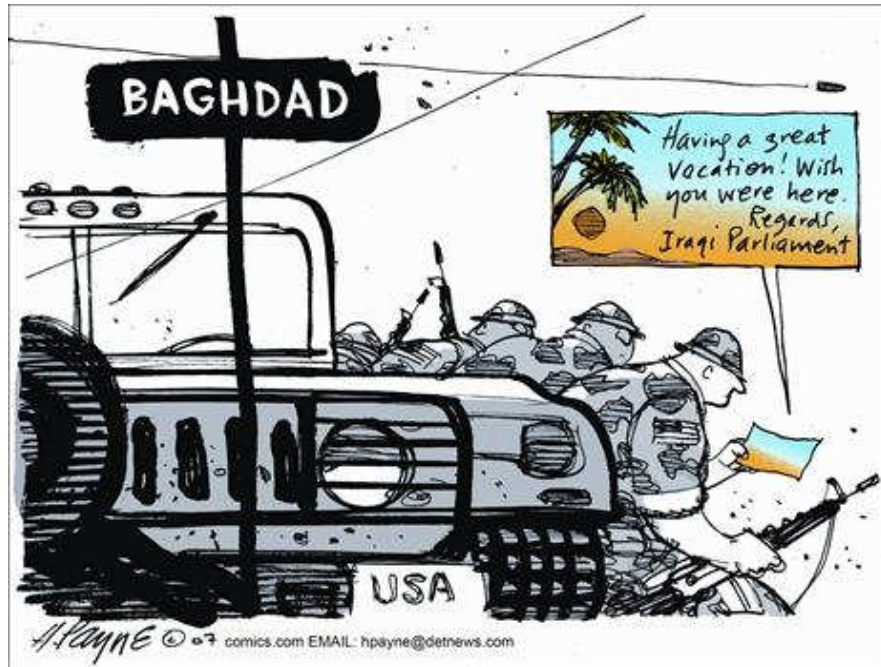
We would be happy for you to get involved in MRW activities. Please indicate below what would be of interest to you:

- Public Education Fund Raising Poll Watcher Campaign Worker
- Website Newsletter
- Member Recruitment Other _____

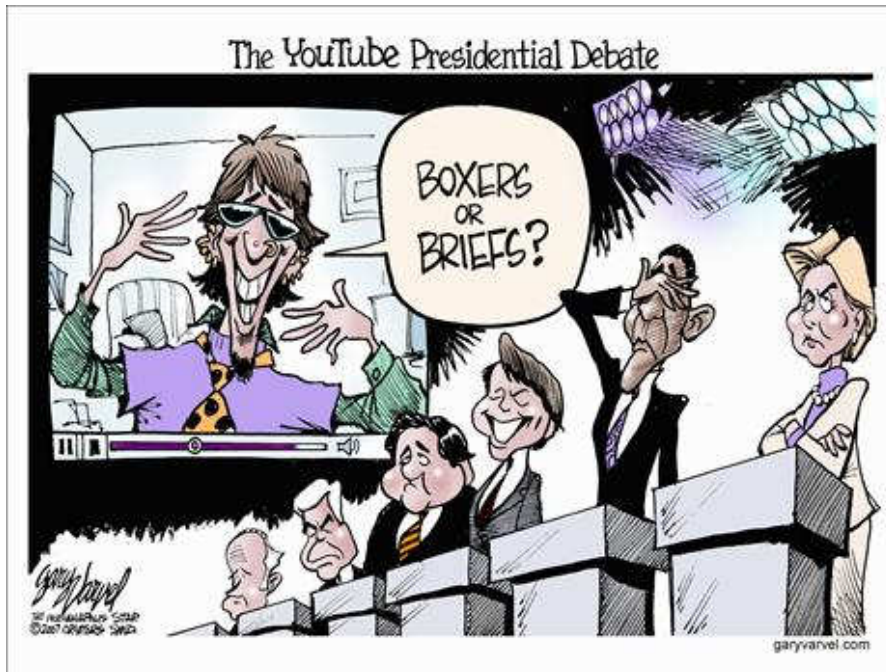
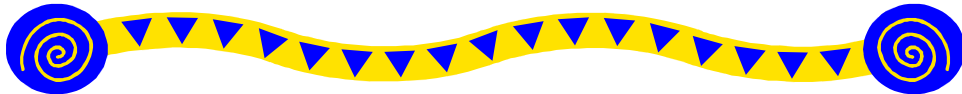
Please bring your check for \$25.00 (made payable to MRW) to the next luncheon or mail to:

**Linda Jarrett
3 Riverside Court
Pinehurst, NC 28374**

Sometimes cartoons say it best!



Don't you wonder about the Iraqis' timing?



Need we say more?

We hope you are having a wonderful summer! See you in September!!

Dee and Barbara

