



Straight Talk

By Muriel Sluyter

When Too Much Money Isn't Enough

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Greetings, Gentle Reader,

'Tis the season for pouring ever-increasing sums of money into government programs. Most do little good, many do harm but get more money, anyway.

For instance: The Colorado requirement increasing public school funding every year. If something isn't done, it soon will consume every penny taxpaying Coloradoans send to Denver.

Common sense says it should be rescinded, but its supporters prefer to change Tabor, the law keeping lawmakers from raising taxes without our permission. Though it needs tweaking, that law is an exceptionally good one. It stands firmly in the way of both politicians who want to buy votes and legislators who think they know how to spend our money better than we do.

Many laws originally intended by proponents to make wise use of tax monies actually work aggressively toward killing the host on which they feed, the beleaguered taxpayer.

Americans are unusually willing to fund anything good, which is one of our great strengths, but we are not immune to abuses devised by calculating, unscrupulous, or simply foolish, recipients of funds.

Few taxpayers willingly fund a display that is pornographic, socially repulsive, or religiously offensive to a hefty segment of our society, yet our elected representatives do it regularly.

Few Americans favor text books that distort our history and ignore the men who fought and died to establish this country. Yet Americans overwhelmingly believe the Civil War was fought to abolish slavery. It wasn't. Though the largest segment of the people despised slavery, and worked diligently to abolish it, that wasn't the reason the war was fought. How many college graduates know that? Yet, those are the text books our schools and colleges buy.

Ward Churchill, the nut-case, America-hating, tenured professor who says he's an Indian (but isn't) is an example of universities' betrayal of American taxpayers. He teaches bald-faced lies to credulous students who don't know he is a liar. And he is well paid to do it.

Should he be allowed free speech rights? Absolutely! Should I have to pay him to indoctrinate naive young

Coloradoans? Absolutely not! When kids are sent to school by hard working parents, they should be educated, not indoctrinated. They should be taught true history, not conned by half-educated professors, nor blatantly lied to by anti-Americans with the malicious intent and integrity of a Mafioso.

Why should universities have to teach students to read and do grammar school arithmetic? Equally ridiculous, I have struggled to read many an application for employment written in some language, but it couldn't possibly have been English.

Who's at fault? Schools are not blameless, but even our best teachers and administrators struggle with kids who do nothing but sit in front of a TV; kids with uninvolved parents; boys with no father, just a messed-up, predatory boyfriend in the house. These kids are programmed to fail.

20th century feminists worked tirelessly to destroy America's homes, proclaiming they institutionalized slavery of women. Now, we, our children, and our schools are reaping the consequences of their depraved campaign.

For decades teachers have implemented faddish theories purported to teach reading. Most of them stink. Successful schools teach tried and true phonics and lots of practice. This is one reason so many home schooled kids wipe the floor with public schooled kids in competitions. Their parents have taught them how to read; not only *to* read, but *how* to read. It's not politically correct, it just works.

Perennially pouring money into worthless programs isn't the answer. It's time we kicked our money habit, got on the wagon, and funded only systems that have worked throughout human history. Unfortunately, history is no longer seen as a source of wisdom, so we spend our time and money mindlessly re-inventing the wheel.

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