

Short Takes by George McClellan

Education Boondoggle

There is an old axiom we all know: "Those that can, do; those that can't, teach!" Well, we know too, that there is enough truth in old axioms to give them some air of believability. This axiom certainly doesn't apply to all teachers but, judging by what is being turned out of America's schools today, it certainly gives one pause!

The Obama administration recently budgeted \$210 Billion of taxpayer dollars to Education and then asked for an additional \$26 Billion dollars to help defray the costs of teachers' salaries (think unions) in those in school districts throughout the nation facing RIF's due to declining government tax revenues. Many are coming to believe that schools are not so sacrosanct that they shouldn't suffer with the rest of us in this socialist imposed economic downturn. Perhaps teachers can find employment driving taxi cabs, in adult beverage emporium's or serving french fries in fast food establishments to help defray the cost of their daily existence.

For years teachers, especially at the college and university level, worked toward one goal, achieving steady employment without fear of being turned out into the street. This program is called 'tenure' and a good, qualified teacher or professor, could expect to be voted tenure by his peers. Sometimes it took years but, when it came, it was like becoming a Federal Judge. Expectation of a teachers future were based upon his proven past accomplishments.

In time, the socialists, like camels noses under an Arab's tent, slowly worked their way completely into the tent where, protected by tenure, they achieved such numbers that they demand political tests for teachers. Such is the case, for example, in the University of Minnesota where a socialist group calling themselves The Race, Culture, Class and Gender Task Group, working within the University's teacher education program, demand that teacher's heed to their philosophy and teach that all the world's problems are the direct result of white privilege and white oppression. These people are well organized. They even demand that the university use its power to require all teacher novitiates to conform to their political litmus test through such devices as ideological screening of applicants and required remedial training (brainwashing) for those applicants who fall into the borderline category. Their goal is to achieve "Cultural Competence," by their definition, and any teacher who fails to demonstrate sufficient acumen in the Cultural Competence category, by failing a student for example, is a doomed teacher indeed.

Teacher who fails in one of their classes is required to criticize and blame themselves for failing to recognize that racism and latent racist values was the reason for their failure. I seem to recall such sessions were held in China with obedient citizens sitting around a room holding their little Red Book of the Thoughts of Chairman Mao and condemning one another for failure to obey the thoughts of The Chairman. Likewise, the Minnesota group brooks no deviation from their intended plan and short of public stoning or imprisonment in a gulag camp somewhere, the failing teacher will never keep a job in Minnesota.

I suspect that the Alinsky besotted professors of The RCC and G Task Group are all tenured. No! We need to spend no more tax money on schools. Like all government entities, schools waste great quantities of funds on salaries for just such people as those in Minnesota University system. Tenure and Unions are as destructive to education as multiculturalism and diversity is to our American culture. Let's go get 'em!