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CHAMPIONS OF FREEDOM AND SELF RELIANCE

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The Source for Freedom and Self-Reliant Information¹

Thomas Jefferson defined *rightful liberty* as “unobstructed action according to our will within limits drawn around us by the equal rights of others—I do not add ‘within the limits of the law,’ because law is often but the tyrant’s will, and always so when it violates the right of an individual.”

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The Biden Administration – Economic Ignoramuses

The Biden Administration, along with most Democrats, seem to believe that more government spending, the continuation of the war on fossil fuels, more regulation, and increasing taxes on corporations and the wealthy will get us out of the mess they created on day one of Biden's presidency, with the signing of 17 executive orders.

Whatever Biden and the Democrats say or want to do, the exact opposite will produce the results most Americans would want to have happen in their lives. The solution to our day-to-day problems is easy: (1) STOP the war on fossil fuels and open drilling off the coasts, federal lands, and Alaska; (2) reduce regulations significantly, to include permits for drilling, pipelines, refineries, and nuclear plants; (3) reduce wasteful government spending and programs, encouraging everyone on welfare to work and get off government assistance; and (4) cut taxes across the board on corporations, small businesses, and individuals. Unfortunately, none of this will happen unless, and until, the Democrats are decimated in November 2022 and again in November 2024.

Furthermore, if we want to reduce crime and the destruction of some of our current and past great cities (e.g., Chicago, Detroit, Baltimore, St. Louis, San Francisco, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Newark, Philadelphia, Milwaukee, New York City, ad infinitum), the Democrats must lose big-time in the local elections!

Don't get me wrong, the Republicans have also contributed big-time to this mess... some more than others! When you go to vote in 2022 and 2024, hold your nose and vote for the lessor of the two evils; otherwise, we will be much closer to the next bloody revolution like the American Revolutionary War of 1776 or, more likely, the American Civil War (1861-1865).

Let's look at what the Democrats and the mainstream media ALWAYS say about "*Trickle Down*" Theory and "*Tax Cuts for the Rich*" by Thomas Sowell (["Trickle Down" Theory and "Tax Cuts for the Rich" \(hoover.org\)](#)), a theory which has nothing to do with facts or reality.

As Dr. Sowell pointed out, "the actual arguments advocated by Secretary Mellon had nothing to do with a 'trickle-down theory' . . . under the high income tax rates at the end of the Woodrow Wilson administration in 1921, vast sums of money had been put into tax shelters such as tax-exempt municipal bonds, instead of being invested in the private economy, where this money would create more output, incomes, and jobs. It was an argument that would be made at various times over the years by others—and repeatedly evaded by attacks on a 'trickle-down' theory found only in the rhetoric of opponents. **What actually followed the cuts in tax rates in the 1920s were rising output, rising employment to produce that output, rising incomes as a**

result and rising tax revenues for the government because of the rising incomes, even though the tax rates had been lowered. Another consequence was that people in higher income brackets not only paid a larger total amount of taxes, but a higher percentage of all taxes, after what had been called ‘tax cuts for the rich’.”

The actual results which occurred with the lowering of tax rates in the 1920s also happened during the Kennedy, Reagan, and George W. Bush administrations despite “the rhetoric of opponents” to such tax cuts, who ALWAYS argue, without foundation, that the “tax cuts [were] for the rich.”

“In 1962, Democratic President John F. Kennedy . . . pointed out that ‘it is a paradoxical truth that tax rates are too high today and tax revenues are too low and the soundest way to raise the revenues in the long run is to cut the rates now.’ This was because investors ‘efforts to avoid tax liabilities’ make ‘certain types of less productive activity more profitable than other more valuable undertakings’ and ‘this inhibits our growth and efficiency.’ Therefore the ‘purpose of cutting taxes’ is ‘to achieve the more prosperous, expanding economy’.”

As Dr. Sowell summarized, “neither these earlier nor later arguments for cuts in tax rates had anything to do with making some people more prosperous, so that their prosperity might ‘trickle down’ to others. But empirical evidence on what was actually said and done, as well as the actual consequences of tax cuts in four different administrations over a span of more than eighty years have also been largely ignored by those opposed to what they call ‘tax cuts for the rich’.”

“To the extent that the American economy has changed since the time of Andrew Mellon [1920s],” concluded Dr. Sowell, “it has changed in ways that make it even easier for wealthy investors to escape high tax rates. A globalized economy makes overseas investments a readily available alternative to buying tax-exempt bonds domestically. . . . Meanwhile, unemployed workers cannot nearly so readily relocate to other countries to take the jobs created there by American investments fleeing higher tax rates at home.”

Any politician, primarily Democrats, who propose raising taxes on anyone, including corporations, which DO NOT PAY TAXES—i.e., they are inanimate objects and efficient tax collectors of the taxes assessed on them paid by the poor and low & middle-classes—ought to be voted out of office.

Even without tax legislation, the inflation brought about by the Biden Administration and Democratic policies is a hideous tax imposed on the poor, lower and middle-class Americans.

Substack.com Kickoff

Since June 13, 2022, I have published the following four articles on Substack.com:

- The Problem with the Supreme Court... How to Fix It and Save the Republic; subtitle, Take Politics Out of the Supreme Court and Restore Freedom
- Choose Freedom NOT Democracy; subtitle, American Founding Fathers Feared and Loathed Democracy
- Central Planning – The Real Cause of Inflation
- Why Should AR-15 Type Weapons Be Available to the General Public; subtitle, The Unalienable Right to Self-defense Cannot Be Denied by any Legitimate Government

Please go to <https://robertgbeardjrcajdllm.substack.com> and sign up to receive FREE future articles. In addition, please forward any of these articles to friends, family, and associates.

Thank you in advance for your support.

The Best Kept Secret to Financial Freedom

[The Best Kept Secret to Financial Freedom: Beard Jr., Robert G.: 9781483475615: Amazon.com: Books](#)

On June 6, 2022, I received a glowing 5-Star Rating on Amazon.com: The Secret is out! A must-read book!!! The individual who wrote the review, despite the turbulent stock market, was up 5.4% after just six weeks of following the advice in my book!

In our last newsletter, Issue 37-2022, dated April 30, 2022, we identified 20 DRIP stocks out of the 44 we monitor, that met our requirements for purchase. Had you purchased 100 shares of each of those 20 DRIP stocks back then, it would have cost you \$147,000. At the close of the market on Friday, July 22, 2022, we added one more for a total of 21 DRIP stocks with a total cost of \$148,000.

As you can see, over half the stocks we follow are still over-priced even as the stock market has been in decline. HOWEVER, I want to make sure everyone understands that with respect to the forty-four (44) Great Businesses (DRIP Stocks) that we monitor AND invest in, if a stock market crash like 2008 occurs, these DRIP stocks will also decline in value. BUT, this is a good thing for several reasons: (1) Our dividends that are reinvested purchase additional shares at lower prices (higher dividend yields); (2) even though the stock prices decline, the dividends stay the same and increase annually, on average, between 5% and 10% or more during the stock market

downturn; (3) other DRIP stocks that have been over-priced meet our parameters and become current buys; and (4) the decline in value is short-lived, compared to most other stocks.

On December 31, 2007, The Coca-Cola Company (KO) was priced at \$30.68 per share. When the market crashed, KO was trading at \$22.64 per share on December 31, 2008; a decline of 26.21%. Two years later, on December 31, 2010, KO was back up to \$32.88 or a 7.17% increase over its share price (\$30.68) on December 31, 2007. More importantly, during those two years, KO continued to pay and raise its dividends.

Today, even though KO is part of our Basic Portfolio, it is trading at \$61.59 per share (101% increase over 12/31/2007 share price), with a dividend yield of only 2.87%. We are hoping for a stock market decline that brings KO's share price much lower so that the dividend yield is between 3% and 5%, preferably higher!

Real wealth or financial freedom has nothing to do with the value of your assets or stock portfolio. Financial freedom only occurs when your passive income (e.g., DRIP stock dividends) exceeds your expenses necessary to maintain your lifestyle.

As explained in my book, only three things are needed to become and stay financially independent and none of them have anything to do with the actual value of your assets or stock portfolio; and you do not need a financial advisor or money manager to obtain financial freedom.

Ops, there are four things you must do. The first, "READ [MY] BOOK!" Purchase a copy for your children and grandchildren and get them started early. You could even donate a few copies to your local junior and high schools...

Great Businesses to Buy Now

To become and STAY financially independent, you only need to do three things: (1) Pay yourself first; (2) live below your means; and (3) invest in DRIPs using *Einstein's Theory of Compound Interest*. Even if you became a multi-millionaire speculating in crypto-currencies and other speculative ventures like "blue gas" technology, statistically, you would be bankrupt within 5-years, if you did not follow the three principles outlined above. For further details, please read *The Best Kept Secret to Financial Freedom* and *Unlock The 4-Doors to Financial Independence*; both are available through our website, www.jeffersoniangroup.com and Amazon.com. **For all of you who purchased our books, we thank you; and would appreciate a review!**

In January 2016 we identified twelve Great Businesses (DRIP Stocks) that should be in everyone's portfolio; with the release of *The Best Kept Secret to Financial Freedom* in 2017, we increased our recommendations to twenty-six (26) Great Businesses. Today, we are monitoring a total of 44 Great Businesses (DRIP Stocks), deleting one, adding one, and considering an addition of 7 more; down from 9 in our previous newsletter.

In our last newsletter Issue 37-2022, dated April 30, 2022, we identified 20 DRIP's that met our acquisition requirements and were current buys. With this newsletter, almost 3 months later, we added only one DRIP to our current buys. Even with the declining stock market, 8 of the DRIPs we consider current buys increased in price; 9 declined in value; another declined in value and became a current buy, and 3 stayed the same, i.e., within pennies from the last evaluation. **This proves that each newsletter we issue, even 2-to-4 months apart, stays relevant, i.e., you do not have to wait until the next newsletter comes out to start or continue to invest.** In addition, you can also look up the Dividend Champions, Contenders, and Challengers yourself, which is now available and updated every Friday afternoon at Dividend Radar, <https://www.portfolio-insight.com/dividend-radar>.²

Of the 12 Great Businesses that we believe should be in everyone's portfolio, the following *U.S. Dividend Champion/Aristocrat* (paid and raised dividends for at least 25-years) and *Challenger* meet our parameters and are a current buy:

- Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM) - \$87.08, yield = 4.01%, Paid & Raised Dividends for 38-years
- Intel Corporation (INTC) - \$39.20, yield = 3.60%, Paid Dividends for 28-years; Increased Annual Dividends for 8-years

In our March 6, 2022 Newsletter, The Coca-Cola Company (KO) increased in price resulting in a dividend yield of less than 3% and the Intel Corporation (INTC) dropped in price, resulting in a dividend yield greater than 3%, replacing KO as a current buy. However, as of this writing, the current yield for KO is 2.87% and getting closer to becoming a current buy!

The following additional *U.S. Dividend Champions* are also good buys right now:

1. Weyco Group Inc (WEYS) - \$25.81, yield = 3.72%, Paid & Raised Dividends 39-years
2. Kimberly-Clark Corp (KMB) - \$132.40, yield = 3.55%, Paid & Raised Dividends 49-years
3. **Enbridge, Inc (ENB)** - \$42.91, **yield = 6.33%**, Paid & Raised Dividends 25-years
4. Walgreen Boots Alliance (WBA) - \$38.66, yield = 4.99%, Paid & Raised 45-years

² The spreadsheet for the Dividend Champions was created in 2008 by Dave Fish who passed away in 2018; it used to be available at The Dividend Investing Resource Center; if you go to <https://www.dripinvesting.org/tools/tools.asp>, which is the source in my book, make sure you click-on Dividend Radar, NOT Dividend Champions Excel Spreadsheet, which is from September 2021.

5. **International Business Machines (IBM)** - \$128.25, yield = 5.19%, **Paid & Raised 25-years**
6. **3M Company (MMM)** - \$134.12, yield = 4.45%, **Paid & Raised 62-years**
7. VF Corp (VFC) - \$47.46, yield = 4.23%, Paid & Raised 48-years
8. Clorox Company (CLX) - \$147.85, yield = 3.19%, Paid & Raised 43-years
9. **Computer Services Inc (CSVI)** - \$38.00, yield = 3.05%, Paid & Raised 49-years

Since our last newsletter, CSVI (#9) just became a current buy with a 3.05% dividend yield; over the past decade, it has averaged a 15.1% average annual increase in its dividend!

Enbridge, Inc. (ENB) was just added to our list in June 2021. Over the past 10-years, ENB has increased its annual dividend, on average, by 11.3%.

We first recommended IBM in 2017 when it was a *Contender* and had paid & raised its dividend for 21-years. It continued to pay & raise its dividend throughout 2020 during COVID-19 and became a *U.S. Dividend Champion!*

3M Company (MMM) has been overpriced for a while but became a good buy with our past newsletter, dated March 6, 2022. It has paid and raised its dividend for 62-years; for the past 3-years, the average increase has been 20.2%.

Contenders are companies that have paid and raised their dividends for 10-to-24 years. The following *Contenders* are priced right for acquisition:

1. Omega Healthcare Investors (OHI) - \$30.68, yield = 8.82%, Paid & Raised 18-years
2. Enterprise Products Partners (EPD) - \$25.57, yield = 7.39%, Paid & Raised 24-years
3. Cardinal Health Inc (CAH) - \$56.99, yield = 3.53%, Paid & Raised 24-years
4. Lazard Limited (LAZ) - \$35.11, yield = 5.34%, Paid & Raised 13-years
5. ONEOK Inc (OKE) - \$57.99, yield = 6.40%, Paid & Raised 18-years
6. Prudential Financial Inc (PRU) - \$95.51, yield = 5.00%, Paid & Raised 12-years
7. Main Street Capital Corp (MAIN) - \$42.39, yield = 6.00%, Paid & Raised 10-years
8. Cisco Systems Inc (CSCO) - \$44.46, yield = 3.41%, Paid & Raised 10-years

MAIN became a *Contender*, continuing to pay & raise dividends for 10-years throughout 2020 during the China Virus/COVID-19 lockdowns, as did ALL the other *Contenders* listed above.

The *Contender* list of eight has stayed the same for the past several newsletters.

The next category of dividend payers are *Challengers*, which have paid and raised their dividends for 5-to-9 years. In today's market, we like the following companies:

- AbbVie Inc (ABBV) - \$148.47, yield = 3.82%, Paid & Raised 9-years on average 15.5%
- NextEra Energy Partners (NEP) - \$77.22, yield = 3.98%, Paid & Raised 8-years; 5-yrs on average 60%; last 3-yrs on average 14.9% per year

Both ABBV and NEP increased in value since our last newsletter but, they are still great buys with yields close to 4%!

ABBV is a spinoff of another company that paid dividends for over 25-years and has continued to pay & raise its dividend since spinoff, now 9-years. **ABBV is still a current buy, however, 8 ½ months ago the dividend yield was 4.8%!**

Another important criterion used to select our stocks is the average annual increase in the dividends paid each year, i.e., it is not enough that a Dividend Aristocrat—an S&P 500 Company that has paid and raised its dividend for at least 25-years—has consistently paid and raised its annual dividend, ideally, **it should also have raised it by 8%-to-10% or more per year**. For example, if a Dividend Champion/Aristocrat is paying a current dividend of over 5% but, its average annual increase has only been about 4%, rather than 8%-to-10% or more, we would most likely not recommend the DRIP stock.

Here's why: In 25-years, a stock that yields 3% and increases its dividend by 10% per year, will have an annual dividend greater than the original investment of approximately 350%, whereas a DRIP stock acquired with a yield of 5.42%, which increases by just 4% per year, would only have a dividend payable of much less than the original investment equal to about 21%.

To take full advantage of *Einstein's Theory of Compound Interest* and become financially independent in 10-to-15 years, you must acquire DRIPs that raise their annual dividends by 8%-to-10% or more per year. Our portfolio of DRIPs, on average, increase their annual dividends by more than 10% each year.

How to Implement This Program

Our recommended portfolio now includes over 40 DRIP stocks. As of today, only 21 meet our criteria, i.e., 3% or greater yield when acquired. If you have investment capital of \$200,000 or more, it would be appropriate to purchase 100 shares of each of these 21 stocks which would cost about \$148,000.

If you have at least 100 shares of the 38-to-44 DRIP stocks recommended prior to this newsletter, you can add any or all the 21 stocks listed above that you may like.

By the time you get this newsletter, the prices will have changed but, you should buy the companies you desire, assuming the dividend yield at the time of your purchase is 3.00% or greater.

Some of you may already own many of these stocks; feel free to add to them. First purchase the stocks you own less of. Some of you may not own any of these great businesses. Some of you may have \$100,000 to invest while others may only have \$1,000. Using a discount broker (e.g., E*TRADE, Schwab, TD Ameritrade, Fidelity, etc.), whether you buy 10 shares or 1,000 shares, the brokerage fees will be less than ten dollars! In addition, **once you acquire any of these DRIPs, you should instruct your discount broker to automatically reinvest the dividends.** The reinvested dividends should be done with no additional cost.

If you are just starting this investment program, focus on the *U.S. Dividend Champions* listed above. The order of our listing has nothing to do with one company being better than the others; they are all great businesses! If you have enough investment capital to purchase 20-to-100 shares of several companies, then you should consider doing so. Your goal might be to acquire 100 shares of each *U.S. Dividend Champion* before moving on to any of the other recommendations.

If, for example, you only have \$1,000 to invest, buy 15-to-40 shares of either The Coca-Cola Company (KO)—yes, I still recommend KO³ even with a yield of 2.87% when you are just starting out—or Weyco Group Inc (WEYS) or Walgreen Boots Alliance Inc (WBA); then buy more shares the next month until you have at least 100 shares. Then look at another U.S. Dividend Champion/Aristocrat like Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM), McDonald's Corp (MCD), Johnson & Johnson (JNJ).

Another option for younger first-time investors might be to invest \$100 per week or \$400 per month. There is nothing wrong with just buying 5-to-10 shares of several stocks per week. Also, if you can only afford \$50 per week, invest the accumulated amount of \$200 every 4-weeks.

Start investing in these great businesses... NOW!

Remember, the only way to become financially independent—assuming you do not win the lottery or strike it rich speculating in crypto-currencies or blue gas technology—is to acquire assets (e.g., DRIPs) that pay you enough passive income to cover and exceed your lifestyle expenses. Even if you are lucky and become a multi-millionaire overnight, you will need to invest in DRIPs to maintain your financial independence.

³ If you buy my book, *The Best Kept Secret to Financial Freedom*, you can see how well KO did when it was acquired with a dividend yield of only 1.53%, pages 21-22.

When you buy a DRIP, you are buying it for life. At some point in the future, you will no longer reinvest ALL the dividends; you will live off the dividends.

The Crypto Corner

Please go to our website, <https://jeffersoniangroup.com> and access our free newsletter, Issue 35-2021, dated November 24, 2021, for detailed information about our approach to this speculative market.

The market has drastically declined, and we would not buy Bitcoin (BTC) and never have. However, crypto/blockchain is here to stay. One commentator identified nine (9) “Real-World Use Cases for Crypto” and stated “crypto/blockchain [will] become an evolution of both money and the internet.” I couldn’t agree more!

If you visit CoinMarketCap (<https://coinmarketcap.com/>), there are over 20,000 cryptocurrencies, which continues to increase almost daily. A great majority of these coins/tokens can be purchased for less than One Dollar (\$1.00) per coin/token. So, **for \$200-to-\$1,000, an average person can participate in an opportunity that may come around but once in a lifetime.** Such opportunities are normally reserved for accredited investors who are willing to fund such speculative ventures with \$10,000-to-\$100,000 or more; and, once the accredited investors put up the money, they no longer have any control over it, unlike the cryptocurrency market.

With over 20,000 coins/tokens, which ones should you consider? Most of the coins/tokens we have acquired are included in the top 300 out of over 20,000 monitored by CoinMarketCap and, most cost less than \$10.00. Maybe consider coins/tokens costing less than \$10 and included in the top 100 or 200 or 300 out of 20,000?

If you have not already done so, we would encourage everyone to take advantage of one of the greatest opportunities that has come around in our lifetime, which can be done with as little as \$200-to-\$1,000 by opening an account with Coinbase (www.coinbase.com). Although not as easy as opening an online brokerage account, it has become much easier to open and fund a cryptocurrency account; just follow the instructions.

Please understand that a purchase of one or more cryptocurrencies is not an investment; it is pure speculation. Therefore, you should only pursue this opportunity with funds that you are willing to lose. However, nothing ventured, nothing gained...

COVID Update

As you all know, President Joe Biden, double jabbed and double-boosted, has come down with COVID. The party-line is still the same, if he was not vaccinated/boosted, he would most likely be hospitalized and possibly die. Therefore, EVERYONE should be vaccinated and boosted, since there are ABSOLUTELY no negative side-effects from the COVID vaccine. At least that is what the Biden Administration, the TV Doctors, and the mainstream media are saying; all supported by pharmaceutical money and advertising.

They are lying! Data from the Dutch government shows that after 7 months, the COVID vaccines increase the chances of hospitalization and intensive care. Contrary to popular opinion, this is not a problem of the unvaccinated, it is a problem created by the leaky vaccines. [The vaccines have failed - by Alex Berenson \(substack.com\)](#) and [No, mRNA Covid vaccines do not offer long-term protection from serious illness \(substack.com\)](#)

On September 27, 2022, Dr. Robert W. Malone's book will be published, *Lies My Gov't Told Me: And the Better Future Coming*; it is available for pre-order on Amazon.com, Kindle edition for \$2.99.

Attorney, Jeff Childers, publishes a free daily newsletter called, Coffee & Covid with Jeff Childers. Go to <https://www.coffeeandcovid.com> to sign up for his newsletter, which is not only up-to-date and informative, but also entertaining!

Here's some information straight from Coffee & Covid with Jeff Childers: "The greatest long-term risk we are now aware of is the vaccine's potential ability to damage, or 'suppress,' the body's immune system. A suppressed immune system leaves the body vulnerable to all kinds of random nasty outcomes like breakthroughs, repeat covid infections, cancer, and increased susceptibility to common bugs like shingles, HPV, and measles. In the words of one recent study, elevated post-vaccine risks include neurodegenerative disease, myocarditis, immune thrombocytopenia, liver disease, impaired adaptive immunity, impaired DNA damage response and tumorigenesis. A suppressed immune system has the same effect produced by the AIDS virus, which is why you see a lot of chatter about 'VAIDS,' or vaccine-induced acquired immune deficiency syndrome."

Jeff Childers continued: "The public health establishment has a duty to produce evidence that the jabs are safe and effective, as they claim. Exactly how long does the enhanced mRNA stay in

the body making spike protein? Exactly where can the LNPs go?⁴ Do the jabs damage the body's immune response? If so, to what extent? And for exactly how long?"

Jeff Childers concluded: "The good news is, the more we understand about HOW the vaccines cause injury, the easier it will be to treat or even reverse these types of injuries. So, we're making progress, and I expect this trend will only accelerate. But the best news is that the secret embargo on vaccine-injury studies appears to have now been lifted, so we can at least talk about it and the researchers can learn from each other."

What about masks? "For all of modern medicine, it's been known that surgical masks do not block viruses. That's not why they're used. They're used during surgery and other medical procedures to prevent the transfer of bacteria-laden saliva to vulnerable patients and open wounds." Respiratory viruses, like COVID, "are airborne and so tiny they flow through most barriers. If you can breathe, the virus will slip through."

Study after study have shown that "mask mandates have no discernible benefit," which makes sense because the China COVID VIRUS is just that, a virus!

In a recent study, both fungi and bacteria on face masks were found in 99% of the samples; and "while the bacteria tended to die off after the masks were removed, the fungi continued to grow and accumulate with usage." The Researchers opined, ". . . masks can be a direct source of infection to the respiratory tract, digestive tract, and skin . . ." Do we really want our children masked-up!?!

We need to remember what it was like in 2018-2019 and get back to normal... no more masks, no more lockdowns, no more mandatory jabs, and no more vaccine passports to work or travel or enter a business or government building! Let's take back our freedom!

Globalism or Americanism – Here's the Real Problem

There are those who believe that the real problem we face today is a "conflict between Globalism and Americanism." Unfortunately, if you were to ask ten different individuals to explain what Globalism, and especially what Americanism means, you would most likely get ten different answers.

⁴ LNPs are lipid nanoparticles, teeny-tiny globs of artificial fat that help stabilize and hold the mRNA, and help the mRNA get into your cells so it can start making spike protein. Originally, Pfizer and Moderna said that the LNPs would stay in the shoulder at the injection site and would NOT migrate into other places in the body. But Dr. Urso, who has a background in drug design and has previously worked with LNPs in other drugs, said it was well-known that LNPs "go everywhere" in the body. Coffee & Covid, Monday, May 2, 2022, HARMS ROUNDUP

“Here is the [real] problem:” (1) Human nature; (2) Government-controlled compulsory schooling/indoctrination; and (3) the Supreme Court. Regardless of the meaningless rhetoric or “esoteric hermeneutics,” both Democrats and Republicans are responsible for the demise of the great experiment in individual freedom started by our Founders in 1776. The Democrats, beginning with Barrack Hussein Obama in 2008, and Joe Biden’s questionable election in 2020, have significantly accelerated the downfall of the Empire of the United States of America. The Supreme Court may be our last hope but, not if they continue to issue 6-to-3 opinions like *Bruen* (gun rights), *Dobbs* (abortion rights), and *West Virginia* (administrative regulation of CO2).

According to Dr. Will Durant, “. . . known history shows little alteration in the conduct of mankind. The Greeks of Plato’s time behaved very much like the French of modern centuries; and, the Romans behaved like the English. Means and instrumentalities changed, motives and ends remain the same. Since we have admitted no substantial change in man’s nature during historic times, all technological advances will have to be written off as merely means of achieving old ends—the acquisition of goods, the pursuit of one sex by another (or by the same), the overcoming of competition, the fighting of wars. One of the discouraging discoveries of our disillusioning century is that science is neutral; it will kill for us as readily as it will heal, and will destroy for us more readily than it can build. . . Sometimes we feel that the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, which stressed mythology and art rather than science and power, may have been wiser than we, who repeatedly enlarge our instrumentalities without improving our purposes.”

Dr. Rufus Fears elaborates on the fundamental lessons of history and human nature:

- 1) We do not learn from history.
- 2) Science and technology do not make us immune to the laws of history.
- 3) Freedom is not a universal value.
- 4) Power is the universal value.
- 5) The Middle East is the crucible of conflict and the graveyard of empires.
- 6) The United States shares the destinies of the great democracies, the republics, and the superpowers of the past.
- 7) Along with the lust for power, religion and spirituality are the most profound motivators in human history.
- 8) Great nations rise and fall because of human decisions made by individual leaders.

The Founders recognized the “fallibility of man” (Federalist No. 10), which continues to exist today. We failed to heed Jefferson’s warning that a revolution was needed about every twenty years to keep the power-elites that control government in check: “The tree of liberty must be

refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants.” Ben Franklin warned that American public service should always attract men of public virtue and repel scoundrels scrambling for a cushy and profitable job. George Washington did not receive any compensation as the Commander of the Continental Army and did not take his annual salary as President for eight years (by the way, President Trump donated his \$400,000 annual salary each year); and there were no retirement benefits or security provided once you left office. In failing to heed the Founder’s warnings, it is no wonder why Congress, the Executive Branch, and the Administrative State (e.g., EPA, FDA, CDC, SEC, FBI, IRS, ad infinitum) are filled with scoundrels “who lust for power” and control at the expense of individual freedom.

Compulsory schooling was first required in Massachusetts in 1852 and by 1917, Mississippi was the last State in the Union at that time, to require compulsory schooling. John Dewey (1858-1952) was instrumental in promoting the usage of American schools for social change and reform. In the early 1900s, the Socialists began infiltrating the American education system and the radicals of the 1960s and 1970s accelerated this anti-American socialist indoctrination, e.g., Bill Ayers, who co-founded the Weather Underground to overthrow American imperialism, is now a retired professor in the College of Education at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Under Bill Ayers leadership, the Weather Underground bombed police stations, the United States Capital, and the Pentagon in response to the U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. Ayers was a fugitive for several years until charges were dropped because of illegal actions by the FBI in pursuit of Ayers and others.

With respect to many Law Schools, the text used for Constitutional Law does not include The Declaration of Independence. Without a proper understanding of the Declaration, students will not be able to properly interpret the U.S. Constitution. Furthermore, many texts are written by Law Professors who despise the Founders, do not want to be bound by the Constitution, and do not believe in unalienable rights; they believe that all rights come from Government. For example, Harvard Professor Laurence H. Tribe believes the Constitution to be “. . . imperfect, and . . . highly objectionable” and referred to the Founders as a “highly limited constituency of white property owners . . . with whom most [Americans] have only the most limited link (if any at all), [who decided] to limit our future freedom to exercise power.” Do you see what Tribe did? He used the word “freedom” rather than “ability” i.e., the Founders decided “to limit our future [ability] to exercise power.” They sure did or, at least they tried...

We failed to heed the Founder’s warnings regarding human nature. Scoundrels were allowed to infiltrate Government, which in turn established Government-controlled compulsory schooling. This resulted in the indoctrination of several generations of Americans, who desire to tear this country apart and institute socialism, which has resulted in compulsion, slavery, and poverty

throughout the Old World. Unfortunately, these lost Americans have no real knowledge of the failure of socialism throughout the ages, going as far back as Plato.

As Dr. Will Durant discovered, “On one point all are agreed: civilizations begin, flourish, decline, and disappear—or linger on as stagnant pools left by once life-giving streams.” John B. Glubb appears to agree, “the rise and fall of great nations are due to internal reasons alone,” and, that it takes ten generations (25-years per generation) or 250 years for “human beings to transform the hardy and enterprising pioneer into the captious citizen of the welfare state [which exists today].”

If we continue our decline like all past empires, the United States Government may implode as 2026 fast approaches. We are at a crossroad. To avert another revolution, or at least delay it, the Supreme Court need only implement three simple rule changes and exercise its powers under Article III of the Constitution. But, before proceeding with these three simple rule changes, it is important to understand why the Supreme Court has been part of the problem which we are currently facing today.

What is the job of the Supreme Court? According to Chief Justice John Roberts, “my job is to call balls and strikes.” No, it’s not! NOT in a Free Republic! Justice Joseph P. Bradley (1813-1892), who served on the Supreme Court for 22 years, understood, “It is the duty of courts to be watchful for the constitutional rights of the citizens, and against any stealthy encroachments [by Congress and Government.]”

About 122 years ago (1900-to-1932), the Supreme Court began turning its’ back on “the constitutional rights of the citizens.” By 1937 the Supreme Court reversed course completely and stopped protecting economic rights. Then in 1938 they removed the impediment to an omnipotent government by inventing the concept of “fundamental” and “non-fundamental” rights. If a right was deemed fundamental, like voting or speech, the Court would apply “strict scrutiny” and find the law unconstitutional but, with respect to a “non-fundamental” right, e.g., property, contract or any of the rights exercised in ordinary commercial relations, the Court would side with Government, if there was some “rational basis” for the law.

The Supreme Court’s distinction between “fundamental” and “non-fundamental” rights defies logic. Most Americans speak of freedom of speech, freedom of the press, religious freedom, and economic freedom, ad infinitum, as if they are different things. But, as Herbert Spencer stated, “the distinction is quite arbitrary. They are parts of the same whole and cannot philosophically be separated.” In 1789, Thomas Jefferson wrote, “There are rights which it is

useless to surrender to the government, and which governments have yet always been found to invade.” These include “the right of free commerce; [and] the right of personal freedom.”

Freedom or “rightful liberty” was explained by Jefferson: “. . . rightful liberty is unobstructed action according to our will within limits drawn around us by the equal rights of others. I do not add ‘within the limits of the law,’ because law is often the tyrant’s will, and always so when it violates the right of an individual.” The Supreme Court has sided with the tyrants or power-elites that control government and has failed to protect the constitutional rights of ALL Americans.

The *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association (Bruen)* decision is one of the most recent examples of the Supreme Court’s failure to protect the constitutional rights of ALL Americans, changing nothing since it’s dismal performance in *Heller* 14 years ago. On the surface, it looks promising, “We . . . now hold, consistent with *Heller* and *McDonald*, that the Second and Fourteenth Amendments protect an individual’s right to carry a handgun for self-defense outside the home.”

Unfortunately, buried in the 135-pages of verbiage are details as to how the States and local municipalities may continue to deny the rights of citizens “to keep and bear Arms.” For example, “laws forbidding the carrying of firearms in sensitive places such as schools and government buildings.” “. . . we are also aware of no disputes regarding the lawfulness of such prohibitions. . . modern regulations prohibiting the carry of firearms in *new* and analogous sensitive places are constitutionally permissible. . . the right to bear commonly used arms in public [is] subject to certain reasonable, well-defined restrictions.”

Justice Thomas delivered the majority opinion; Alito, Kavanaugh and Barrett filed concurring opinions; and Breyer filed a dissenting opinion, joined by Sotomayor and Kagan. Although I applaud Justice Alito’s concurring opinion in response to the dissent—i.e., “the real thrust of today’s dissent is that guns are bad and that States and local jurisdictions should be free to restrict them essentially as they see fit”—he mucks up the waters by writing, “Our holding decides nothing about who may lawfully possess a firearm or the requirements that must be met to buy a gun. Nor does it decide anything about the kinds of weapons that people may possess. . . Nor have we disturbed anything . . . about restrictions that may be imposed on the possession or carrying of guns.”

Justice Kavanaugh also continued to provide a roadmap for States and local municipalities to interfere with an individual’s right to keep and bear arms, e.g., “the Court’s decision does not

prohibit States from imposing licensing requirements for carrying a handgun for self-defense [and] regimes may require a license applicant to undergo fingerprinting, a background check, a mental health records check, and training in firearms handling and in laws regarding the use of force, among other possible requirements.” Kavanaugh further wrote, “laws forbidding the carrying of firearms in sensitive places such as schools and government buildings, or laws imposing conditions and qualifications on the commercial sale of arms” are acceptable.

The ink has yet to dry on the *New York (Bruen)* decision, and according to the Crime Prevention Research Center (CPRC), “. . . states are putting all sorts of roadblocks to people getting concealed handgun permits. For example, New York is proposing asking for access to people’s social media accounts to determine if they can be trusted with guns . . . they have a very long list of prohibited places [where you cannot carry a firearm] and 18 hours of training.”

It has been 14 years since *Heller*, and nothing has changed. The Supreme Court has provided a roadmap for State and local municipalities to effectively make the “right to bear arms in public for self-defense . . . ‘a second-class right, subject to an entirely different body of rules than the other Bill of Rights guarantees’.”

The Second Amendment states, “A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.” The Supreme Court conveniently ignored four words or the “plain text” i.e., “shall not be infringed!” Not only did they ignore these four words, but the Supreme Court also explained exactly what laws would be acceptable to infringe on “the right of the people to keep and bear Arms.”

As has been the case for at least the past 85 years, the Supreme Court has called “balls and strikes” favoring government power and control at the expense of individual freedom, leaving Americans “with a constitutional carcass.” Many important opinions have been 5-to-4 split decisions. In this most recent gun rights case, 6-to-3 with five separate opinions. If nine of the best legal experts in the country cannot agree on what a statute or regulation means, how are average Americans to understand the law!?!

A Short-Term Solution Until We Separate Education from State

We are at a critical juncture. To avert another revolution, it is imperative to change the rules of the Supreme Court through a measured transformation to restore individual freedom. The following rules should be promulgated by the Supreme Court:

1. Unanimity is required, otherwise the legislation or regulations are deemed void-for-vagueness and unconstitutional.
2. All justices must use the same method of constitutional interpretation using the Doctrine of Freedom or “Rightful Liberty” or the “presumption of liberty.”
3. The Supreme Court must be required to review ALL cases that concern constitutional issues that suggest an infringement upon “unalienable Rights” to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness or property, to include the right to earn a living, contract disputes with government, and the right to self-defense of persons and property.

A detailed explanation and support for the rule changes can be found in *Take Politics Out of the Supreme Court and Restore Freedom*.

Packing the Supreme Court Can Be Turned into a Benefit

As for packing the Supreme Court, by changing its own rules, 13 Justices could be divided into three 4-member Courts, with one roving member to break ties if unanimity is not adopted. This would enable the Court to hear three times as many cases each year. In other words, the Supreme Court, under Article III, can make and change its own rules, just like the House and the Senate, i.e., it can decide how current and future justices are to be assigned cases.

The Supreme Court may be our last hope. As Dr. Will Durant stated, the great experiment in individual freedom, which only began in 1776, “may yet be defeated by the high birth rate of unwilling or indoctrinated ignorance.”

Will the Supreme Court step up and exercise its’ constitutional authority under Article III to protect the individual rights of all Americans against encroachments by Congress, the President, and all agencies of the federal and State governments? It might if the Court Packing Scheme moves forward, and they are forced to read *Take Politics Out of the Supreme Court and Restore Freedom*, [Take Politics Out of the Supreme Court and Restore Freedom: Beard Jr., Robert G.: 9781090304582: Amazon.com: Books](#). Purchase a copy, read it, then send it to a member of the Supreme Court; encourage family, friends, neighbors, and associates to do the same.

Dum Spiro Spero—While I breathe, I hope.

Slainte mhath,

Robert G. (Mike) Beard Jr., C.P.A., C.G.M.A., J.D., LL.M.