

## Yankee Steve's Column

for the Week of December 4, 2008

*Dear valued reader,*

Talk show host Oprah Winfrey has published her Christmas book list. Permit me to do the same for my readers and friends.

This is not to suggest that I go along with everything that is written in the books I am recommending. It does suggest however, that they lean in the right direction, which is to the right. Any one of them would make a good gift. If you are what you eat, then eat properly, and if you are what you read then read and give these kinds of books. I like what Groucho Marx quipped, **“I find television to be very educating. Every time somebody turns on the set, I go in the other room and read a book”**.

We will defeat Liberalism by out-reading its proponents because it thrives on misinformation. Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels always played fast and loose with facts.

My book list is divided into two sections: books recently published and which may stand the test of time and become classics, and the classics which will always be read as long as Americans enjoy a free press. If the classics are not as popular as they once were it is because the Liberal establishment has marginalized all things conservative. As you might have guessed by now, Liberals for the most part are ILLiberal.

I will start with the classics. If we read the classics we will know what Liberals have not been reading. Some of these classics, you will note, were written during the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**Comment:** I am of the opinion that no Liberal should be allowed to blog on the Internet who has not read these classics. After all we have read some or all of the works of Karl Marx, Vladimir Lenin, Eduard Bernstein, Marvin Lasky, Reinhold Niebuhr, and of course Plato, while they have never even heard of Adam Smith, Friedrich Hayek, or Milton Friedman.

### Classics

*The Federalist Papers* by Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison

This is highest on my list of books. Someone has said that children should be nurtured on the Bible and Aesop's Fables. That sounds good to me. At the same time I would add that concerned parents, who believe in liberty, should at some point make a gift of the *Federalist Papers* to their children and grandchildren. A good hard back copy is only about \$15.

**[Please read the next week's column on federalism.]**

***Democracy in America*** by Alexis Tocqueville

The author extols the virtues of the American race while showing his admiration of our form of government. His common sense is the equal of his eloquence. Every page has something worth quoting.

Tocqueville does not fail to realize that if the American whom he interprets as a good person (because of his or her Judeo-Christian heritage) undergoes a change, democracy will disappear from these shores. He is fully aware of the fact that the Constitution was not written for an amoral people, and that democracy does not work if and when people opt for an open society which he knows is not the same as a free society.

Tocqueville experienced Communism firsthand when they seized power in Paris, the Paris Commune of 1848, which further soured him on Socialism.

***Bradford's History of the Plymouth Plantation 1606-1646 edited*** by W.T. Davis

[I just read this. It is a factual journal written in old English which I found delightful.]

The journal is accompanied by scholarly footnotes. It fully vindicates the position of those who believe that our political and religious ancestors were among the best and the brightest that Britain had to offer. It proves that not everyone mistreated the Indians. Revisionists and those politically correct, who thrive on misinformation, who use the Indian question to make Christians appear malevolent, will not find William Bradford's journal to their liking. Those who believe that Christianity does not lean in the direction of democracy will also want to avoid this book.

***Reflections on the Revolution in France*** by Edmund Burke

This British parliamentarian and friend of America was at one time required reading in American schools. He allows Conservatives to stand tall. If Burke appeared in Congress at this time in history he would tower over the pygmies we have sent to Washington.

***The Wealth of Nations*** by Adam Smith

This is a "must read." After its publication in 1776 in Britain it had an appreciable effect on the plight of the common man. Socialists hate this book. They pretend it doesn't exist, and that it is not worth pursuing. That means you should own both volumes. Ben Franklin had a hand in it.

***The Road to Serfdom*** by Friedrich Hayek

Hayek wrote what became an instant classic. In this marvelous book, Hayek, a refugee from war torn Europe, traces the rise of Socialism and the way in which it always deprives people of their liberties. Hayek proves that the road to serfdom may be paved with good intentions, but still and all it always leads to absolutism.

***Human Action: A Treatise on Economics*** by Ludwig von Mises

This is a response to Karl Marx's tome *Das Kapital*. Von Mises is the greater of the two and by far and a way a much better human being.

***The Conservative Mind: From Burke to Eliot*** by Russell Kirk

Among American Conservatives Professor Kirk [1918-94] may be the most distinguished. He demonstrates that the Conservative tradition is the American tradition. His ideas are unimpeachable.

***1984*** and also ***Animal Farm*** both by George Orwell

Orwell was an eyewitness to the way in which a powerful government had systematically robbed its people of their rights. *1984* was prophetic; its fulfillment is all around us.

***The Gulag Archipelago 1918-1956*** by Alexander Solzhenitsyn

This work must not be neglected. It demonstrates what happened when the Soviets were in power. The book shows how naïve FDR was; unlike Churchill he never really understood that Stalin and the Soviets were criminals. Also, and this is a big “also,” *Gulag* shows that Socialists have to at some point rely on slave labor. Socialist thinker Marvin Lasky of the London School of Economics and of Harvard admitted as much.

#### **Recent contributions that are not yet classics**

Some of those listed even though fairly recent may be out-of-print; however they can be obtained through <https://www.amazon.com/> and other on-line services.

#### A. Newly Published

***The Revolution: A Manifesto*** by Ron Paul

This book is highly praised by readers. I would sleep better if Ron Paul were president.

#### **Slouching towards Gomorrah: Modern Liberalism and American Decline**

by Justice Robert H. Bork

The author is a distinguished jurist who should have sat on our highest court. Instead we have people like David Souter taking up space. Justice Bork is a voice crying in the wilderness; let us hope that his message does not fall on deaf ears.

***Barbarians Inside the Gates: And Other Controversial Essays*** by Thomas Sowell

Mr. Sowell is an American treasure, an accomplished scholar and economist. We are fortunate to have him on the side of the Conservatives.

***The Deniers: The World Renown Scientists Who Stood Up Against Global Warming Hysteria, Political Persecution, and Fraud, And those who are too fearful to do so***

by Lawrence Solomon

The title says it all. This is an outstanding work of non-fiction which overshadows the fictional writings of Al Gore whose ideas represent what has been called soft-Marxism, or an attempt to use environmental concerns as an excuse to control industry, raise taxes, and promote collectivism.

***The Political Ideas of Leo Strauss*** by Shadia B. Drury

Ms. Drury is an accomplished writer and researcher bent on showing us that Neoconservatives are using democracy as a **cover** for global expansion and economic gain. In doing so, they are following the example laid out for them by the German philosopher and transplant to America, Leo Strauss.

***The Making of Modern Economics: The Lives and Ideas of the Great Thinkers***

by Mark Skousen

This is an excellent introduction to economics. It reads like a gossip column. This would make a good gift to a college student whose teachers are Socialists.

***America Alone: The End of the World as We Know It*** by Mark Steyn

*America Alone* is a thought-provoking attack on the machinations of Islamic fundamentalists, multiculturalists, and the politically correct.

***Liberal Fascism: The Secret History of the American Left, From Mussolini to the Politics of Meaning*** by Jonah Goldberg

This is a well thought-out book by a poplar columnist, and eye-opener for those who consider Hitler on the Right when in fact he was on the Left, or that the roots of American Liberalism do not go back to the Fascists of Europe. Goldberg is never boring.

***Men in Black: How the Supreme Court is Destroying America*** by Mark Levin

The author holds a doctorate in law, and he proves to my satisfaction and others that the Supreme Court has over-stepped its powers because Liberals harbor a disdain for the U.S. Constitution or Constitutionalism itself.

***Blacklisted by History: The Untold Story of Senator Joe McCarthy and His Fight Against America's Enemies*** by M. Stanton Evans

Liberals hate this book because it is well-documented. It means therefore that the subversives who control the media have been able to paint a picture of anti-communist sentiment as unnecessary and extreme. This is the so-called Red Scare. Liberals have always believed that broadcaster Edward R. Murrow, who waged war on McCarthy, was a freedom lover. He was in fact a member of a Communist front organization. Though not as obviously red as his contemporary Howard K. Smith, Murrow was no freedom fighter.

Hollywood adores Murrow which only goes to show that by and large it is either stupid or unpatriotic. I would guess that this is why tinsel town glorifies the Communist Che Guevara.

***My Grandfather's Son*** by Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas

This is an autobiography. The author does not have to prove to us that he is a credit to the Conservative movement and to his race. We have always known it.

***Liberalism is a Mental Disorder: Savage Solutions***, by Michael Savage

Savage shows us that Liberalism is self-defeating and illogical. If we are to preserve the America we cherish we must protect our borders, language, and culture. I think that Savage

would want us to take the phrase, "Liberalism is a Mental Disorder" and use it as a phylactery - why not?

B. Less Recently Published

***The Fabian Freeway: The High Road to Socialism in the U.S.A.*** by Rose L. Martin

This is an outstanding work which should have become an instant classic. It is a carefully prepared, well-written study. Martin traces American progressivism to a society in England that has always relied on deception. I particularly liked the way she exposed the treachery of Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter, an FDR appointee from Harvard.

***The Conscience of a Conservative*** by Barry Goldwater

This a ghost-written book is a to-the-point gem which lays it all out for those who think that big government is a danger to freedom.

***Intellectuals*** by Paul M. Johnson

I highly recommend Johnson's book because it reveals the way in which utopians, who are always telling others about the plans they have for society, cannot even manage their own lives. In most cases they stumble through life with no observable ethics. Truly, this book is an eye-opener. Johnson unlocks the closets in which Liberal utopians keep their skeletons. Its not a pretty sight.

***None Dare Call It Treason*** by John A. Stormer

This well-written, lucid book has experienced phenomenal sales. Mr. Stormer knows who the enemy is! I truly loved it.

***Why Government is the Problem (Essays in Public Policy)*** by Milton Friedman

Friedman is quite possibly the greatest economist since Adam Smith. Again, the title says it all.

Remember the Jewish saying, "Don't buy a ball; buy a book!"

Ever yours,

Steve Cakouros  
oldlineconservative.com