

**January  
2009**



**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2009**



**A YEAR OF PROMISED CHANGES**  
**be careful what you wish for!**



## IN THIS ISSUE

- 3**     **President's Message**—2008 was another growth year for The Conservative Forum.....and Forum speakers for Spring, 2009.

*Pages 4 through 8 represent opinion/editorials of some of our members. They are the opinions of the authors, and are not necessarily the opinions of The Conservative Forum of Silicon Valley.*

- 4**     **Congress's Plan to Reinstate Censorship**     *by Jack Ward*—Former Democrat icon Daniel Patrick Moynihan said, “The liberal left can be as rigid and destructive as any force in American life.” Moynihan was right and we are about to see that destructive force manifest itself upon the American people.

- 5**     **Reflections on 2008** *by Keith De Filippis*—The year started out with the longest primary and general election in history. Because of egos and me first attitudes the primaries started fifteen months ahead of elections. This changed the mechanics and dynamics of the election.

- 6**     **Stewing in a Moral Cesspool** *by Sylvia Thompson* —.When I think back on the state-sanctioned killing of Terri Schiavo, a handicapped woman, at the behest of an adulterous husband in a relationship with another woman who had already borne him children, something visceral grips me and I feel this overwhelming sense of disgust at being human.

- 7**     **Senate Bill 9 as reported by Michelle Malkin**

- 8**     **The Painful Truth You'll Never Hear From The “Lame stream” Media** *by Mary Washington* - The vile hate-speech of the followers of Allah around the globe now includes a group of ‘followers’ in the U.S.A.: The America Left., protected by the media..

## OFFICERS

**Richard Geno**  
President and CEO

**Jack Mallory**  
VP – Programs

**Bill May,**  
Treasurer and COO

**Eleanor Traeg,**  
Secretary

## BOARD MEMBERS

**Don Wolfe**  
Fundraising

**Bob Nytrom**  
Marketing

**Ken Prodger**  
Membership

**Pamela Stone**  
Public Relations

**Dick Blanding**

**Tony Earle**

**Jack Ward**

*Mary Washington,*

*Newsletter Editor*

## President's Message

2008 was another growth year for The Conservative Forum. Once again, we had eight very successful and well-attended regular monthly meetings. Our average attendance for our general meetings is now approximately 100 people. We had three extremely successful big events with John Lott, Daniel Pipes and a global warming debate. The average attendance for these three events was about 350.

We added two special events during the year - a tour of Hoover Institution on the Stanford University campus and a wonderful luncheon with Edwin Feulner, the founder and president of Heritage Foundation. Both of these functions pretty much had maximum attendance; and a great time was had by all who attended.

2009 promises to be every bit as strong. Jack Mallory, our Program Chairman, has the knack of attracting outstanding speakers who are not necessarily well known.

## Forum Speakers for the Spring 2009

The Conservative Forum speakers for February through May of 2009 have been confirmed. They are:

**February 3** - Brian Kennedy, President of *Claremont Institute*, a conservative non-profit foundation dedicated to restoring the principles of the America's founding.

**March 3** - Aryeh Green, former advisor to *Israel Minister* Natan Sharansky and high tech executive and business consultant. Aryeh spoke to The Conservative Forum in February, 2007, and we had an attendance of 225 people. He is currently the CEO of *Media-Central* for the country of Israel.

**April 7** - Terry Moe, *Hoover Institute* Senior Fellow and Professor of Political Science. Expert in education policy with concerns for school choice and public bureaucracy.

**May 5** - Melanie Morgan, Chairperson *Move America Forward*, a non-partisan, not-for-profit charitable organization supporting America's efforts to defeat terrorism and supporting the brave men and women of our Armed Forces.

*Jack Mallory, our program chair, would like to have some Forum members volunteer to help or advise with the speakers committee. If you are interested, please contact Jack Mallory at [Mallory58@aol.com](mailto:Mallory58@aol.com), or call 408-252-7447.*

*In the meantime, mark your calendars for the first Tuesday of every month for some great conservative speakers. Wishing you and your family a healthy and prosperous 2009.*

Richard Geno

President

The Conservative Forum of Silicon Valley

## Congress's Plan to Reinstate Censorship by Jack Ward

Former Democrat icon Daniel Patrick Moynihan said, "The liberal left can be as rigid and destructive as any force in American life." Moynihan was right and we are about to see that destructive force manifest itself upon the American people.

Under the guise of 'Fairness', our Congress Critters are considering forcing radio and TV stations to 'balance' their hourly lineups across the ideological spectrum. One hour of conservative programming followed by one hour of liberal programming would be an example of 'fairness' and 'balance'. That is as lame as dictating one hour of opera and balancing it with one hour of country and western. The dial and on/off switch would no longer be necessary with the federal government protecting us from speech and thoughts that they think would contaminate our minds.

The First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution says in part, "Congress shall make no law... abridging the freedom of speech,..." Yet our Congress Critters are considering abridging freedom of speech. Last year Speaker Pelosi (D-Ca) blocked an attempt that would have prevented the government from resurrecting the practice of controlling ideological speech on the broadcast media. Senator Schumer (D-NY) suggested that regulating political content was the same as regulating pornography. I guess that is one way of dismissing contrary thoughts. Senators Dick Durbin (D-II), John Kerry (D-Ma), Barbara Boxer (D-Ca), Dianne Feinstein (D-Ca), and Representative Louise Slaughter (D-NY) are a few in the Democratic leadership that believes that the federal government should control ideological speech.

But Representative Anna Eshoo (D-Ca) goes even further. She said she planned to introduce legislation to control speech on broadcast stations (AM and FM) in addition to cable TV and satellite radio. Eshoo said, "It should, and will, affect everyone." Once the federal government heads down the path of censoring speech where will it end? FCC Commissioner Robert McDowell said that the speech limits may even extend to the Internet. McDowell also warned when you

have the federal government dictating content you have a First Amendment problem. "Then, whoever is in charge of government is going to determine what is fair..." Even Jon Sinton the founding president of the liberal Air America Radio network is opposed to Eshoo's government control of the media. He wrote that it is "... anachronistic policy that, with the abundance of choices on radio today, is entirely unnecessary." At least he understands the importance of allowing people the freedom of choice. Be very afraid when the federal government wants to mandate fairness. Censorship is the modus operandi of a totalitarian government.

These Congress Critters have an Orwellian belief that the liberal left is morally superior because it is diverse, tolerant, and free-thinking; when it is exactly the opposite. In liberal left orthodoxy diversity of thought is forbidden, tolerance of other viewpoints is frowned upon, and there is no such thing as free-thinking. A free speech media threatens the vacuous liberal left ideology and destroys the myth of liberal left superiority.

When the federal government quit meddling in broadcast content in 1980's, the number of radio talk shows exploded from less than 100 to over 1500. Today there is no lack of opinions being discussed daily. People from all political ideologies can find a show that interests them. But that is what scares politicians that want to stifle ideological thought that differs from theirs. That is why Senator Schumer equates contrary opinions to pornography.

Notice that all the Congress Critters that want the government to control speech are liberal left Democrats. I have yet to hear any of these Congress Critters demanding that the federal government balance the propaganda mills of K-12 public schools, the halls of academia, and the monopoly of the liberal print media. The Democrats that want to control speech should heed the words of former Democrat icon Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

**Reflections on 2008** by *Keith De Filippis*

The year started out with the longest primary and general election in history. Because of egos and me first attitudes the primaries started fifteen months ahead of elections. This changed the mechanics and dynamics of the election. Almost all of the pundits were wrong in their predictions. In the end we wound up with the two least likely candidates. The choice was Democrat light or Democrat. The people chose Democrat. We now have a president elect that no one knows.

The “October Surprise” turned out to be the Sub Prime loan crises. The desire to put low income people into home ownership created the problem. People who could not afford to own were encouraged to buy. As long as housing prices continued to skyrocket everyone was happy. As with all business cycles, real estate slowed down. Prices dropped and people started defaulting. A number of banks failed and panic set in. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson assured us that \$700 billion will solve the problem. The rationale for the \$700 billion was to provide funding for the banks damaged by the “toxic loans.” Immediately the rules changed Bear Stearns (a bank) was allowed to fail and AIG (an insurance company) was bailed out. “AIG was too big to let fail.”

As soon as the \$700 billion was approved the hogs started lining up at the trough. The Big Three automakers insist they need \$25 billion to stay afloat. The state of California asked for \$8 billion and the city of San Jose asked for \$14 billion. There are 251 cities over 100,000 in population. There are 50 states and 3,141 counties in this country. As of last count 29 states are in financial trouble. No one knows how many cities or counties are in trouble.

The financial institutions are victims of “toxic loans.” The big three automakers and many municipalities are victims of unsustainable labor contracts. These are purely mismanagement problems. Giving money to these people is like “giving liquor and car keys to teenagers.<sup>[1]</sup>” They will squander it and come back for more. The problem has been passed on to the Obama administration. It is called “kicking the can down the road.”

The senate seats vacated by both Senator Obama and Senator Clinton have become issues. The Obama seat has become a scandal involving the Governor and solicited bribes. The Clinton seat is being sought by Princess Caroline Kennedy. Caroline’s major qualification is that she and “John John” played hide and seek in the Oval office. She makes up for her lack of qualifications by her ability to over use the phrase “you know.”

The California situation continues to worsen. We are predicted to be out of money by March 2009. Everyone is banking on the federal government to bail us out. As I stated above there is not enough money to bail out everybody. The Democrats want to increase taxes. The Republicans want to cut spending. Arnold doesn’t know what he wants.

The year 2009 is certainly going to be interesting.

## Stewing in a Moral Cesspool *by Sylvia Thompson*

When I think back on the state-sanctioned killing of Terri Schiavo, a handicapped woman, at the behest of an adulterous husband in a relationship with another woman who had already borne him children, something visceral grips me and I feel this overwhelming sense of disgust at being human.

I experience a similar disgust at the fact that activist homosexuals representing a condition that afflicts maybe 3 to 4 percent of the human populace can force acceptance of that and similar disordered lifestyles upon an entire nation. Likewise, that feeling overwhelms me at the thought that certain human beings, such as developing fetuses and viable human embryos, have been deemed less than human and as such also fit for state-sanctioned destruction.

How can a society whose founding principles are steeped in Judeo-Christianity become so vacuous and amoral? Even inhuman. I've asked myself that question often. Such a society surely deserves destruction and rebuilding.

In *National Review* magazine a while back, I encountered an explanation in a book review. My interest peaked, I purchased the book and found it incredible. It provided a superb argument for just why American society and human society in general is so morally corrupt. The book is titled *The Last Superstition: A Refutation of the New Atheism*, by Edward Feser, a philosophy instructor in Pasadena, California. *National Review* hails Mr. Feser as one of the best contemporary writers on philosophy in the country.

Feser attributes our decline to the modern philosophical movement's total abandonment of classical philosophy—the tradition and thought deriving from Plato and Aristotle and whose primary representatives in Christianity are Augustine and Thomas Aquinas. The new atheists in the persons of people like Sam Harris, Daniel Dennett, Richard Dawkins, and Christopher Hitchens have little grasp of the content of mainstream Western religious tradition. Their view that the natural, material world is all that exists and that empirical science is the only rational source of knowledge was not the view of the vast majority of great philosophers and scientists in the history of Western civilization.

He goes into great detail as to why the modern philosophical view, and particularly the God-less view of the new atheists, is hollow and has no rational foundation. The book is not coffee-table reading but even for the novice in philosophy and metaphysics, its premise is clear. Human society is in the fix that we are in, because modern philosophy attempts to explain existence without God. And in comparing the modern naturalistic view to the classical tradition, which is theistic and supernaturalism, one can see how powerful are the rational foundations of Western religious tradition.

In making the reasoned case that God indeed does exist and denial of this existence erodes human morality, Feser comments on one of the travesties of our time, same-sex marriage. He states that the most important thing to know about same-sex marriage is not that it has been lawlessly imposed against the will of a vast majority of citizens (a majority for now), but rather that the very idea is a "metaphysical absurdity" and a "moral abomination." He works the reader through a rational explanation of his position on this subject and more.

Of the many quotable statements in the book, this one is worth sharing:

"It is no more up to the courts or 'the people' to 'define' marriage or to decide whether religion is a good thing than it is up to them to 'define' whether the Pythagorean Theorem is true of right triangles, or whether water has the chemical structure H<sub>2</sub>O. In each case, what is at issue is a matter of objective fact that it is the business of reason to discover rather than democratic procedure to stipulate."

If more people grasped these truths, maybe our society will be pulled from the brink.

## **Senate Bill S9—*Amnesty Bill***

### **as reported by Michelle Malkin**

-<http://reid.senate.gov> JANUARY 12: UPDATE Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid's new senate *amnesty bill*

S 9: as of January 12th: no new senator signatures/cosponsors of Harry Reid's S 9 *amnesty bill*: there are still 13 senators cosponsoring the amnesty bill.

Below are the 13 senators cosponsoring Harry Reid's amnesty bill S 9

**ALL THESE 13 COSPONSORS OF Harry Reid's S 9:** <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/D?d111:1:/temp/~bd5PQm:@@P/bss/111search.html> S 9 COSPONSORS(13), ALPHABETICAL

Sen Begich, Mark [AK] - 1/6/2009 Sen Bingaman, Jeff [NM] - 1/6/2009, Sen Boxer, Barbara [CA] - 1/6/2009 Sen Brown, Sherrod [OH] - 1/7/2009, Sen Durbin, Richard [IL] - 1/6/2009 Sen Kennedy, Edward M. [MA] - 1/6/2009, Sen Kerry, John F. [MA] - 1/6/2009 Sen Klobuchar, Amy [MN] - 1/6/2009, Sen Leahy, Patrick J. [VT] - 1/6/2009 Sen Levin, Carl [MI] - 1/6/2009, Sen Lieberman, Joseph I. [CT] - 1/6/2009 Sen McCaskill, Claire [MO] - 1/6/2009, Sen Schumer, Charles E. [NY] - 1/6/2009

Analysis of Harry Reid's legislation S 9. According to Michele Malkin: "Harry Reid has filed S. 9, the Democrats' new shamnesty bill."

Harry Reid's *shamnesty* stand: Senate Bill 9 will tear down the border "wall" By Michelle Malkin • January 8, 2009 11:08 PM

<http://michellemalkin.com/2009/01/08/harry-reids-shamnesty-stand-senate-bill-9-will-tear-down-the-border-wall/>

Harry Reid has filed S. 9, the Democrats' new *shamnesty* bill. Not much difference in principle between Reid's bill and McCain-Kennedy-Bush. Disingenuous lip service to immigration enforcement? Check. Path to legalization? Check.

There are a few new nuggets — most notably, open hostility to the Fence in Name Only on our southern border. **Quoting from the bill:**

And I believe we would be wise to reconsider the effectiveness and cost of a wall along our southern border, which has adversely affected the fragile environment and vibrant cross-border culture of an entire region. Such a wall stands as a symbol of fear and intolerance. This is not what America is about and we can do better.

"Vibrant cross-border culture?" Like the hellish, head-chopping, [kidnapping and lawlessness](#) striking fear on both sides of the border? "Fragile environment?" He's more concerned about some desert plant than he is about the MS-13 gang members and drug runners traipsing across the "region."

That's not all. Also prominently featured in Reid's bill:

We must also live up to the goal of family reunification in our immigration policy and join at least 19 other nations that provide immigration equality to same-sex partners of different nationalities.

These are his top immigration concerns? God help us.

Oh, by the way: McCain Hispanic outreach advisor and anti-"wall" activist Juan Hernandez approves!

Posted in: Harry Reid, Immigration

## The Painful Truth You'll Never Hear From The "lame stream" Media

by Mary Washington, with editing assistance from Carolyn

The vile hate-speech of the followers of Allah around the globe now includes a group of 'followers' in the U.S.A. The America Left, protected by the media..

Though American citizens watched Islamofascism's violence on September 11, 2001 and witnessed its hate and destruction, the depth and the vastness of Islamofascism still remains a mystery to most American citizens thanks in large part to the media's refusal to tell the truth. As a result, the extent of the atrocities still being committed against helpless men, women and children is unknown – atrocities which are perpetuated by the Islamofascists as they follow the demands of Allah as outlined in the words, actions and personal examples of the Prophet Mohammed.

The most recent atrocity is – vastly ignored by the media – is the recent horror in Mumbai ( Bombay ) India where [Islamofascists tortured hostages](#) by sexually mutilating while the victims were still alive. The victims included a pregnant woman whose two year old son was present and witnessed the entire horror. Before both his parents were murdered, they both were tortured so horrifically that when physicians later witnessed the corpses, the sight of the **horrifically mutilated bodies** gave the physicians nightmares! The media, however, obviously did not share in the horror. In a deliberate decision almost universally observed by all media outlets, pictures of the horrors of Mumbai were not broadcast to the world. Thus, the media has created a situation where the world at large remains almost totally ignorant of the true horrors of Islamofascism.

Ironically, this ignorance includes the very supporters of Islamofascism. When Israel was forced to enter Gaza in order to stop Hamas that Hamas terrorist cells (funded by International A.N.S.W.E.R., CAIR, etc.) have paid for these demonstrations, supplied the transportation for them, the funds, organized, led them, even printed out the signs for the chanting screaming protestors to wave in the media's face.

As a result of the media's lack of integrity and any claim whatsoever to fairness, the public does *not* see videos of Hamas firing rockets from residential rooftops in Gaza. The American public does not see Israel sending ambulances into Gaza to assist wounded civilians – and Hamas flatly refusing to allow those ambulances to enter, preferring instead to allow Palestinian children to die so that their deaths can be used in Hamas' propaganda war. Because of the media, America does not see the tunnels which Hamas has dug from Gaza to Egypt which enable weapons to be smuggled into Gaza during a "hudna" (cease fire/truce). And the media does not broadcast the anti-Semitic hatred of pro-Palestinian demonstrations in America – such as the one January 10<sup>th</sup> in San Francisco's Civic Center where Palestinian supporters screamed through microphones at Israeli supporters, "***We want you to watch us blow your children's brains out!***", "***We want you to watch us as we kill your children, covering them in their own blood.***"

from killing thousands of Israelis by indiscriminate bombing, the media made two decisions – both deadly. The media's first decision was to refuse to broadcast the pictures of the horror and destruction, the murder and maiming of thousands of Israeli victims whose suffering had forced Israel to occupy Gaza. The media's second decision was to flood the world with pictures of the innocent Palestinian 'victims' of Israel's 'aggression'. And those pictures themselves were grossly distorted – though the media showed pictures of Palestinian 'victims', it did NOT show pictures that would have revealed Israel had given those same Palestinians ample warning of the attacks which would have allowed the Palestinians to vacate the areas. Instead of leaving, however, the Palestinians had stayed their ground – and suffered the consequences. The pictures also did not show that Hamas had forced the Israelis to target civilian sites because Hamas had deliberately and willfully hidden its munitions factories and arsenals inside mosques, hospitals and schools – a clear violation of the UN Charter of Human Rights. In other words, the '1000 words' of each picture published by the media were words that supported only one side – and it wasn't Israel's. This one-sided view of the media extends to all aspects of Jihad. For instance, the media has consistently refused to show support

## The Painful Truth You'll Never Hear From The "lame stream" Media

by Mary Washington, with editing assistance from Carolyn

for Israel's actions – demonstrations on behalf of Israel are routinely ignored. Demonstrations for Hamas, however, are splashed on the front cover of every newspaper and trumpeted in the evening broadcasts of the media. For the last two weeks, the media has bombarded American citizens with pictures of mass demonstrations on behalf the Palestinians – while simultaneously refusing to reveal Two weeks earlier, during the Muslim riots in San Francisco of December 30<sup>th</sup>, the pro-Palestinian supporters showed further hatred when they not only blocked traffic and threw objects at cars that attempted to pass but also attacked the police. In New York City, groups of Islamic supporters descended upon Israeli supporters, screaming vile obscenities and spitting on them and then finally physically attacking both women and men who did not respond to the Islamist's threats. In Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, Muslim women screamed "*Jews go back to the ovens!*" Yet none of this Islamic hate speech or atrocities reached the media.

The motto of the New York Times – which stands as the unofficial motto of the American media – is 'All the news that's fit to print'. However, the 'news' which the media now judges as to print isn't fit for human consumption. And it isn't news. Instead of news, the media is instead publishing propaganda. As a result, the media has now destroyed any integrity or claim to fairness that it once had.

It is bitter satisfaction to note that as a direct result of its lies which have repulsed subscribers who now are deserting the media in droves, the media is now suffering a financial meltdown that is seeing newspapers across America close down right and left. Even the once right and powerful New York Times is now teetering on the edge of bankruptcy.

It remains to be seen, however, whether the collapse of mainstream media will come before the collapse of Israel – and the collapse of all those people on this earth who oppose Islamofascism and the Jihad it propagates.

**Does Netanyahu know more about Obama's Plans than we do? from Netanyahu Bloggers Conference Call - Former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu briefed American and international bloggers yesterday, on a 25-minute conference call hosted by One Jerusalem.**

The greatest danger that we face in the world is not merely the forward positions of Hamastan in Gaza and Hezbollahstan in Lebanon, or the fomenting of terror or violence elsewhere. The biggest danger we face at the beginning of the 21st century -- all of us face -- is the joining of a militant Islamic regime with nuclear weapons.

This may happen in Pakistan, if nuclear weapons meet a militant Islamic regime, or it may happen in Iran, where a militant Islamic regime may join up with nuclear weapons. Either way this would be a pivot of history -- a very bad pivot of history -- in which the present problems that we face will grow by a thousand-fold, when the terrorists of Hamas and Hezbollah and militant Islamic terrorists elsewhere enjoy a nuclear umbrella, when Iran has the ability to actually work out its evil design of trying to annihilate the State of Israel – it openly says it seeks to do that – when it can threaten other countries with a nuclear weapon, or when it can provide these weapons to terrorist groups – that is a nightmare. Either one of them is a nightmare scenario.

As we pay attention to what is happening in Gaza, with all its importance, we shouldn't lose sight of the larger problem here. The larger problem is to prevent militant Islam -- and in this case Iran -- from acquiring atomic bombs. This is the biggest challenge facing our world, it's the biggest challenge facing the United States, it's the biggest challenge facing the incoming president, and I believe he understands that.

**The final phrase in the last sentence is interesting, since Netanyahu and Obama met in Jerusalem on July 23, 2008.**

The final phrase in the last sentence is interesting, since Netanyahu and Obama met in Jerusalem on July 23, 2008.

The final phrase in the last sentence is interesting, since Netanyahu and Obama met in Jerusalem on July 23, 2008.