

P.J. O'Rourke

1992 New Enemies List

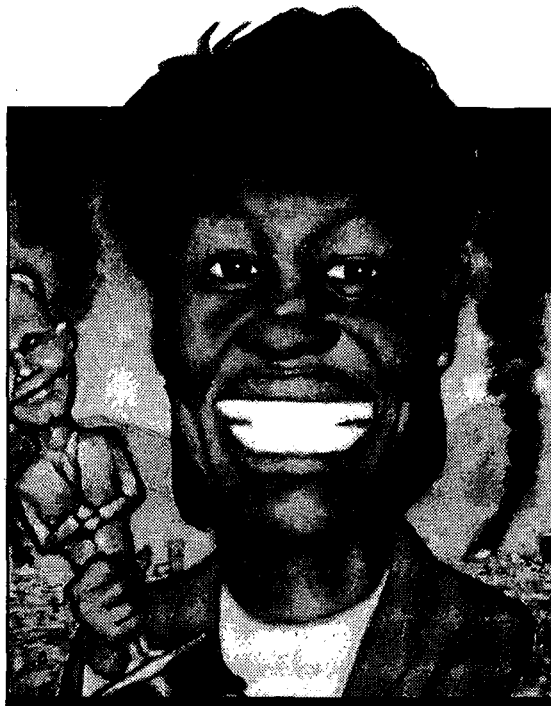
Third Annual Readers' Update

This year: dirty-money groups and individuals who fund neo-, proto-, crypto-, demi-, semi-, and plain Ben & Jerry's vanilla Communism in the United States—plus the special "Peter Ueberroth Gold Medal for 100-Meter-Dash-Carrying-a-VCR" awards to those who did the most to provide L.A. murderers and thieves with moral, political, and philosophic justification for all the fun they had.

Let us commence without preamble what that unmourned sixties radical Danny the (Now Better Than) Red called "The Long March Through the Institutions."

We have two Supercontributors this year. First, there is the lovely (ah, the joys of being a middle-aged Republican and thus allowed to compliment the ladies with a clear conscience and, even, a twinkling eye) Kimberly O. Dennis. Ms. Dennis is the executive director of the Philanthropy Roundtable, an organization that promotes the astonishing idea that charity ought to help people (320 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46204, in case you'd like to make a donation). Ms. Dennis directs our attention to the Philadelphia-based **Pew Charitable Trusts**. Founded by the owners of Sun Oil and once a model group of charities giving money to churches, schools, museums, homes for the retarded, and other such worthy causes, the Pew Trusts have come down with Ford Foundation Syndrome. A diseased itch for social engineering has

P.J. O'Rourke's most recent books are Parliament of Whores (Atlantic Monthly Press/Vintage) and Give War a Chance (Atlantic Monthly Press).



replaced a healthy instinct for social service. According to the April 26, 1992, edition of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*:

Instead of continuing to fund neighborhood centers to help poor people with their heating bills, Pew gave \$5 million in a joint effort with three other big foundations to set up an Energy Foundation to provide grants to promote energy efficiency.

Instead of expanding local child-welfare programs, Pew gave \$2.5 million to a New York research corporation to develop a demonstration project "to improve the earnings of absent fathers, the effectiveness of

the child-support enforcement system and the financial well-being of poor children."

You get the picture.

Foundation News, one of the hand-out industry's professional journals, crowed that the Pew Charitable Trusts "eliminated almost all of their right-wing grantmaking and embraced a broad range of projects, including some that manifestly oppose the business interests the old Pews held inviolable." In other words, the Pew trustees haven't actually killed the golden goose but they are chasing it around the yard with an axe. →

Of course, no one suffers from Ford Foundation Syndrome like the **Ford Foundation**, which has in the past done the nation such favors as underwriting public television, creating pilot programs for LBJ's "War on Poverty," and providing post-assassination grants to Robert F. Kennedy's staff to help them overcome their grief.

Ms. Dennis sends us a package of information on the Ford Foundation's current activities. Ford is paying to create "advocacy centers" for children in Nigeria—not giving them food or health care, mind you, but giving them a place to make complaints about the lack thereof. Ford is "explor[ing] the obstacles to settling the Palestinian-Israeli conflict"—expecting a few New York double domes to accomplish with one study grant what God Himself has not been able to do in 5,000 years. And Ford is testing Norplant birth-control devices on Bangladeshi women. Which sounds not only genocidal but also counterproductive—what's the Ford Foundation going to do with itself if it doesn't have lots of impoverished Third Worlders to pester and bully?

Ms. Dennis also re-alerts us to the activities of the damnable **MacArthur Foundation** (vivisected by our own Joshua Muravchik in the January 1992 *TAS*). There's been another Big Mac Attack, with so-called genius grants being punted to the likes of:

Janet Benshoof, 45, New York, president of the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy and a litigator and educator in the areas of abortion rights and contraception, awarded \$280,000.

Evelyn Fox Keller, professor at University of California, Berkeley, [who] analyzed the social construction of science and the role of sex in how science is conducted, \$335,000.

Paula Marshall, 63, Richmond, Va., professor at Virginia Commonwealth University, writer whose fiction explores healing divided selves, divided cultures and a divided world, \$369,000.

John Terborgh, 56, Durham, N.C., director of Duke University Center for Tropical Conservation, biologist working in ecology, biogeography, biological conservation and training Peruvian conservation biologists, \$335,000.

Training them to duck, we hope.

And, finally, Ms. Dennis sends us an issue of the Roundtable's quarterly publication, *Philanthropy*, in which the United Way scandal is analyzed and the abuses of its former president William Aramony are shown to be "simply the most visible manifestation of the organization's growing immoderation and ambition." The article's author, chairman of the Philanthropy Roundtable Michael S. Joyce, goes on to say:

United Way of America . . . provides staff training and development, promotes United Way nationally, and lobbies federal and state lawmakers to support public policy initiatives on literacy, homelessness, drug abuse, and other social issues. [Donors may wonder why their contributions are being used to lobby government to supply the services United Way is meant to render.]

To the extent United Way controls the flow of multitudinous individual donations, groups are forced to meet the agency's specifications in order to maintain their funding. If United Way says it will only support the Boy Scouts if it allows girls or homosexuals or atheists to be members, the Boy Scouts either have to comply or lose access to the masses of donations that are channeled through the agency.

Our second Enemies List mega-source is Willa Ann Johnson, founder and chairman of the Capital Research Center (1612 K St., NW, Suite 704, Washington, D.C. 20006). This fine organization, in Ms. Johnson's own words,

was formed to provide positive new alternatives to the hitherto-dominant culture of philanthropy in America. By challenging the progressive ideology of the public interest culture, Capital Research is helping the philanthropic community rediscover the bedrock principles of individual initiative and responsibility in a free society.

Ms. Johnson writes us a letter saying:

I have learned from John Von Kannon that you have begun work on your new "Enemies List." . . . I am emboldened to submit the following organizations: The Council on Foundations; Campaign for Human Development; National Organization for Women; Alliance for Justice; AARP; League of Women Voters; Center for Science in the Public Interest; Children's Defense Fund; and Greenpeace.

She encloses a massive package of research material. Herewith, some extracts.

Of the **Council on Foundations**, Capital Research Center senior fellow Marvin Olasky writes:

To the Chicago Hilton on April 22 [1991] came 2,000 foundation executives and staff members for the 42nd annual conference of the Council on Foundations. . . . I have been following the Council on Foundations, and tracking the \$3,600,000 in annual giving its 1,200 members control, since 1985.

Mr. Olasky then details conference sessions and panels on such topics as:

"Task Force on Inclusiveness"—to help COF members adapt to "the new pluralism"

"Reproductive Rights Breakfast Roundtable" [Yum, say the editors]

"Civil Rights in the 1990s"

"Civil Disobedience in the Civil Society"—with one panelist saying, "We live in a time of terrible somnolence and anesthesia . . ."

"Marketing Our Good Work"—"proactively going after media attention"

"Working Group on Funding Lesbian and Gay Issues"

"Culture and Community Empowerment"—led by one Jane Sapp, director of the Center for Cultural Community Development at Springfield College in Massachusetts, who said: "I wish I could have had this conversation back in 1492. . . . If we had sat down in 1492 and said, 'How do we begin to find a way for all of us to talk together about who we are,' we

would not have had today's problems. . . . The word is domination. . . . You took away the music . . . you took away self-esteem . . . you made me a consumer."

Poor Mr. Olasky also attends the conference's film festival, where he views such artistic triumphs as:

Berkeley in the Sixties

Global Dumping Ground—"America's dirty secret . . . export of toxic waste"

Borderline Medicine—praising Canada's national health insurance

H-2 Worker—substandard living and working conditions in the sugar cane industry

Streetlife: The Invisible Family

Amazonia: Voices From the Rainforest and Chemical Valley—set in West Virginia and funded by the Ford Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, etc., and containing such memorable lines as "They killed the Indians, now they're killing the hillbillies."

The **Campaign for Human Development** is one of the Catholic Church's largest charitable programs. It's run by the U.S. Catholic Conference under the auspices of the National Conference of Bishops. In 1990 CHD raised \$9.82 million. Here's what some of that money goes for:

Expanding Communications to Empower Indian People of Fort Bethold (\$33,000); . . . Amnesty Farmworkers Organizing Project (\$25,000); . . . Build Homes Not Bombs (\$20,000); Virginia Association Against the Death Penalty (\$30,000); Organizing and Educating for Legislative Advocacy on Welfare Issues (\$30,000); . . . Parents United for Child Care (\$40,000); Campaign for Accessible Health Care (\$40,000); . . . and the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN), a product of 1960s radical activism that engages in community organizing to "win the maximum amount of political power possible to be exercised by our constituency and their organization." The goal: "for low- to moderate-income people to take back what's rightfully ours," which, to ACORN, means "everything." Between 1978 and 1989 CHD funnelled better than \$1,000,000 to ACORN projects across the United States.

The **Alliance for Justice** is headed by Nan Aron, formerly of the horrible ACLU. Says the Capital Research Center:

Alliance . . . is an amalgam of groups that took a leadership role in lobbying against confirmation of Robert Bork and

Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court. It also opposed confirmation of Justice David Souter, spearheaded the successful fight against Judge Kenneth Ryskamp's nomination to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, and was critical of the nomination of Kenneth Starr to be Solicitor General because of his allegedly "restrictive views on the role of the courts" and presumed "insensitivity to the rights of minorities." . . . According to the *New York Times*, it was officials of the Alliance for Justice who first brought Anita Hill to the Senate Judiciary Committee's attention.

The **League of Women Voters** is about as nonpartisan as the House of Representatives. Capital Research Center notes that the League:

supports increased welfare spending . . . while opposing increases in the defense budget. . . . The League says it "will be working

to ensure that the federal government has overall responsibility for financing basic income-assistance programs." . . . The League opposed "enactment [in 1985] of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act" . . . and also opposes both the so-called "line-item veto" (at the federal level) and "a proposed constitutional amendment mandating a balanced budget." . . .

[The League opposed] "efforts to substitute private programs for social security." The League also "opposes any initiatives that would reduce social security benefits to achieve deficit reductions."

. . . The League supports "clean-air" legislation that would "institute a tough acid-rain control program." . . .

The League of Women Voters is listed in the "peace"

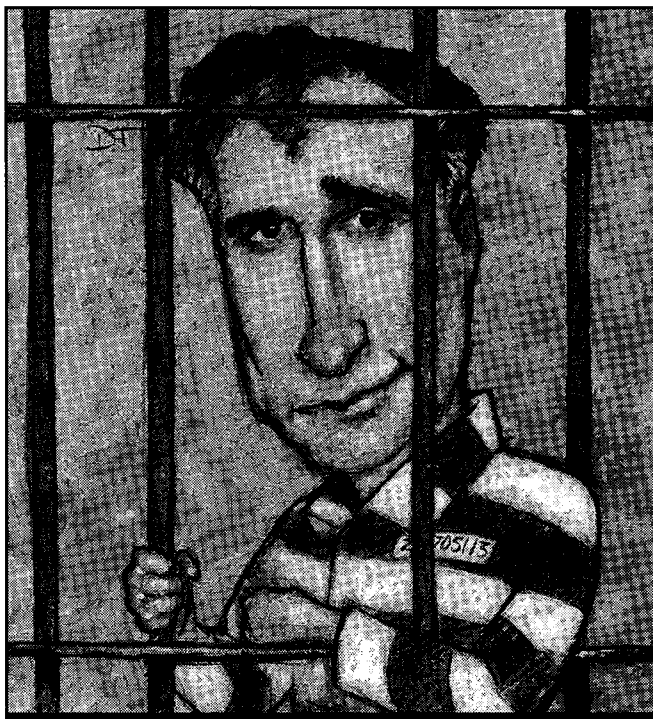
movement-oriented *Peace Resource Book: A Comprehensive Guide to Issues, Groups, and Literature 1986*, which describes the League as a women's "Activist Group" which "lobbies against the MX [missile], Star Wars, and increased military spending." . . .

A statement of the League's position on U.S. relations with developing countries announced . . . that "U.S. policies toward developing countries should not be based on maintaining U.S. preeminence for fighting communism."

And—E-Listers take note—"the League condemns the so-called 'witchhunt' period of the early fifties."

The **Center for Science in the Public Interest** is a Naderite front group. Capital Research points out that CSPI is:

pro-government, pro-tax, pro-regulation, and anti-business. . . . It wants the Department of Agriculture's labeling regulations



for meat and poultry, as well as its policy on health claims, to conform to those of the Food and Drug Administration. . . . CSPI's promotion of tougher labeling laws . . . is part of a much larger campaign against the very notion of marketing.

The federal government, says CSPI director of legal affairs Bruce Silverglade, must "put a stop to this marketplace free-for-all." Funding for these nasty little fascists of the supermarket aisles comes from:

S.H. Cowell Foundation (\$37,500)
C.S. Fund (\$30,000)
Glen Eagles Foundation (\$20,000)
George Gund Foundation (\$20,000)
Ruth Mott Fund (\$50,000)
Wallace Genetic Foundation (\$15,000)

The **Children's Defense Fund** is another lovely charity, dear to the heart of Hillary Clinton, no doubt. CDF cares, cares, cares about kids—though not enough to defend them in a war. The Capital Research Center tells us:

At least since the Vietnam War, there has been a growing emphasis within the political left on so-called "economic conversion": taking tax dollars traditionally allocated to national defense and using them instead to underwrite expanded federal involvement in such domestic areas as the environment, health care, and welfare. The Children's Defense Fund, widely perceived simply as a Washington-based children's advocacy group, is a significant part of this movement.

CRC further notes that the 1986 *Peace Resource Book* "describes CDF as a 'Lobby Group' focused on 'Military Spending.'" Among the self-described altruists sponsoring this nonsense:

Ford Foundation (total of \$1,000,000)
General Mills Foundation (\$10,000)
Prudential Foundation (\$10,000)
Rockefeller Foundation (\$500,000)
Helena Rubenstein Foundation (total of \$55,000)

We have no room here to do justice to the Capital Research Center's work on **Greenpeace**. Let us simply quote from a Greenpeace brochure—"Humanity is not the center of life on the planet. Ecology has taught us that the whole earth is part of our 'body'"—and leave it to the imagination what part of that body Greenpeace has its head up.

Ms. Johnson also sends us a book, *Patterns of Corporate Philanthropy*, by the afore-cited Marvin Olasky with the assistance of Daniel T. Oliver and Robert V. Pambianco. *Patterns* is a detailed account of U.S. corporate charity, and in its pages we find the **Dayton Hudson Corporation** giving money to the Ms. Foundation for Women and the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund; **General Mills** giving to the Gray Panthers Project Fund, the American Friends Service Committee, and the Minnesota Civil Liberties Union Foundation; **American Express** giving to the Children's Defense Fund and the Women's Action

Alliance; and **J.P. Morgan and Company**, of all people, giving to the ACLU. Lenin believed that capitalists would sell him the rope they'd be hanged with. Wrong. They want to give it away free.

Besides the white knights at the Capital Research Center and the Philanthropy Roundtable, countless other readers have been responding to our call to "Arms Not Alms." We can mention only a few score of these patriots.

An anonymous (and, let us hope, unincarcerated) correspondent sends us a note saying: "The **Edna McConnell Clark Foundation** is the most active foundation in Prison Reform. Only their reforms—not!" He or she encloses a Clark Foundation brochure containing such gems as: "Fear of crime, rather than crime itself, seems to be fueling the nation's rising incarceration rates."

Frank J. O'Neill of Dunlap, California, writes:

If you have the nerve to join me I would like to nominate one of America's most sacred cows—the **American Association of Retired Persons**. This organization has an operating budget of over \$300 million a year, and its policies and lobbying positions go virtually unchallenged by anyone. I submit that there are millions of Americans (many or most of them elderly) that are being subjected to the liberal line of propaganda through *Modern Maturity* magazine and the *AARP Bulletin*.

He sends along a copy of the July/August 1992 *AARP Bulletin*, with a lead article showing how well pink and gray go together:

No sooner did Lovola Burgess take over as AARP's new president than she vigorously defended older Americans against charges they are diverting resources away from children in need.

"To think, as some people do, that programs like Social Security and Medicare are the cause of the growing rate of poverty among children is wrong," Burgess said. "Utterly wrong."

"The issue isn't old versus young," she added. "It's the 'haves' versus the 'have nots' in our society."

Mark A. Siefert of Muskego, Wisconsin, says what he'd like to do to comsymps is nail their bleeding hearts to the door of every college building in the U.S. "But, since we have laws, religion, and morality, we have to make do with the *TAS* New Enemies List." He proposes for effigy portal-spiking:

Esprit de Corps, for its "What would you do to change the world ads," which glorify gun control, abortion, and afrocen-trism.

Levi-Strauss, for cutting donations to the Boy Scouts because the scouts will not let homosexuals, atheists, and (strangely enough) girls join.

MTV, for three reasons: (1) For not letting Rush H. Limbaugh III be a VJ on their music network because he's a conservative; (2) for letting Bill Clinton on their other, and more popular, music network because he's not a conservative;

(3) for letting PETA, Greenpeace, and Magic Johnson on their children's network, Nickelodeon, to make sure that children don't become conservatives.

Time-Warner, for distributing Ice-T's CD, "Cop Killer."

McDonald's, for its new environmental policy on fast-food containers.

Turner Broadcasting, for the disgusting and hypocritical union of monopolistic company owner Ted Turner and known Communist Jane Fonda, and for the conception and birth of their loathsome bastard offspring, *Captain Planet and the Planeteers*.

Orion Pictures, for creating *Wayne's World* and the *Bill and Ted* movies.

Any motion picture company that makes movies, TV shows, etc. about two teenagers with their own cable TV show. Or, about two teenagers who go joy-riding through time, screwing up history, with the help of hippie comedians from the future.

The New York School System, for doling out condoms to kids.

Fox Television, for doling out condoms to kids (on "Beverly Hills, 91202484249457969715465")

The Christic Institute, for investigating President Bush and his family at the request of Ross Perot. (The Christic Institute has appeared in past E-lists. This should disprove the myth that Ross Perot is a conservative.)

Planned Parenthood, for out-Hitlering Hitler, out-Stalining Stalin, and accepting contributions from Ross Perot.

"You asked for groups?" Mr. Siefert continues. "I'll give you groups (rock, that is)":

Nirvana, for putting child pornography on their CD covers.

Red Hot Chili Peppers, for trying to put ordinary pornography on their CD covers.

Guns N' Roses, for putting vocal pornography in their CDs.

Marky Mark and the Funky Bunch, for flag-burning and Bush-bashing.

Paxton Helms of Atlanta, Georgia, writes from Europe to condemn:

Any company that takes out a full-page ad in the *European Times* to announce that it "[lends] only to companies we believe to be as sound ethically as they are financially." The ethics, of course, are things like testing cosmetics on dummy rabbits.

And he sends us an example from some hapless Lancaster, England, financial institution called **The Co-operative Bank**, which probably doesn't have anything but moldy carrots to lend anyway.

Rich Hardcastle of Terre Haute, Indiana, rails against:

The Eugene V. Debs Foundation, for giving out awards to further the work of leftist "visionaries" such as Ed Asner, Jesse Jackson, and Peter, Paul and Mary. The foundation is dedicated to keeping socialism on the respirator long enough to revive it when capitalism is discredited.

The Indiana State University Student Government, for funding Native-American pow-wows and other such guilt trips.

ISU's Housing Now! chapter, for funding marches against Desert Storm.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, for actually calling a student government vice-presidential candidate a "murderer" because he joked about his love of red meat.

Patrick Mathias of Manville, New Jersey, takes umbrage at:



Linda Bloodworth-Thomason and Harry Thomason: executive producers of the politically correct "Designing Women" CBS television show. The Thomasons are vocal supporters of Bill Clinton [N.B. And produced his sickening "bad stepfather" home movie for the Democratic convention—Ed.] and have his brother on their payroll as a production assistant (*Spy*, July-August 1992).

Following the Clarence Thomas hearings, the Thomasons rushed into production an episode of "Designing Women" that may rank as the crudest piece of agitprop since the last PBS documentary about ACT-UP. Linda Bloodworth-Thomason subsequently called the "Larry

King" show on CNN to denounce the revelations about Clinton's sex life as nothing more than Republican smear tactics. According to former cast member (and, perhaps not coincidentally, a Republican) Delta Burke, the Thomasons also sent strongly worded letters to their cast and crew asking for donations to Clinton's campaign.

Another O'Neill, one N.J. of Tracy, California, tells us: "Imagine my surprise when I found this marvelous collection of enemies (with the possible exception of the Pediatric AIDS Foundation) on the back of the latest B-52s CD. I therefore nominate the **B-52s** to serve on the Enemies List for their support of these organizations." The jacket text reads, in part:

STOP! READ BEFORE OPENING

The B-52's support these organizations, which are among the many working to make the quality of life better on this planet.

The B-52's encourage you to check out these worthwhile organizations as well as your local direct action

groups, since we all need to participate to bring about positive change. We have tried to eliminate the use of the long box, but where that was not possible, we have added this useful clip and save.

CLIP AND SAVE

Amnesty International

Common Cause

Greenpeace

National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL)

National Audubon Society

National Organization for Women (NOW)

Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

The Nature Conservancy

Pediatric AIDS Foundation

People For The American Way

People For The Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)

Public Citizen

Rigpe Dorje Foundation

Save The Manatees

Sierra Club

We've spared you the phone numbers of these "organizations," which are listed alongside.

Getting slightly off the eleemosynary track, Irving L. Jacobs of San Diego, California, gleefully roasts:

The San Diego Union-Tribune, ostensibly a conservative daily newspaper, for turning over its Arts & Entertainment departments to the liberal-left. A red star goes to book editor Arthur Salm, who damned *Give War a Chance* for its "fascist sentiments," bashed *The Conservative Crack-Up* as the work of a has-been, but who just did an adoring, worshipful interview with Molly Ivins, who "gleefully roasts right-wingers."

Ronald D. Crockett of Wollaston, Massachusetts, wrote to the United States Office of Personnel Management to complain about the inclusion of the idiotic People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals in the **Combined Federal Campaign**, a United Way-type program that solicits charitable donations in government workplaces. This is from the reply he got:

In December 1987, Congress passed the first permanent legislation on the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). In that legislation OPM was mandated to make the CFC more inclusive rather than exclusive. As a result, many new and different types of voluntary agencies have been found eligible. . . . Next year's CFC list of eligible charities will probably increase again. Furthermore, in conformance with the mandate of Congress, it is reasonable to expect that this list will contain groups that some employees may find objectionable. Nevertheless, I expect the past trend to continue and the CFC will have another record year for total contributions.

Sincerely,

Dennis A. Matteotti
CFC Operations

Hope you never need a baboon liver, Dennis.

Marguerite Snow of Stockton, California, admits:

I've lived in California all of my life and I know it's a big state and I know we have more than our share of flakes, but even I was amazed to see how many groups could crawl out from under the woodwork to oppose the liberation of my children from our loathsome teachers' union. And they claim it's only a "partial" list.

She attaches a California Teachers Association/National Education Association advertisement:

On Record against 'Choice/Vouchers'
Groups Agreeing with CTA's Position

American Assn of University Women
Americans United for Separation of Church and State
Anti-Defamation League
Black American Political Assn of CA
CA Council of United Auto Workers Retirees
CA Democratic Party
CA Legislative Council for Older Americans
CA National Organization for Women
CA State P.T.A.
CA State Police Assn
Chicano Federation
Coalition of CA Welfare Organizations
Coalition of Medical Providers
Committee to Protect the Political Rights of Minorities
Jewish Community Relations Committee, Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles
Legislative Black Caucus
Natl Assn for the Advancement of Colored People, Region 1
Older Women's League, San Francisco
The Rainbow Coalition
A. Philip Randolph Institute
Raza Administrators and Counselors of Higher Education
Thai Assn of Southern CA
Unified Vietnamese Community Council

The above is a partial listing of their partial listing.

Adrian H. Krieg of Woodbridge, Connecticut, forwards a wonderful article from the September 17, 1990, issue of *Forbes*, describing some thirty-five interlocking and largely tax-free Ralph Nader organizations. Says *Forbes*: "Like all good empire builders, Ralph Nader has created a highly effective organization, the elements of which are tied together by financial and personal relationships." Some of the most egregious Nader metastases, as described by *Forbes*:

Center for Auto Safety—major grants from State Farm and Allstate foundations. Sells litigation kits to lawyers involved in auto litigation.

Occupational Safety and Health Law Center—specializing in defending workers' rights and employee suits.

Center for Science in the Public Interest—petitions and lobbies for regulation of the food and pesticide industry.

Citizen Utility Boards—funding; membership; "intervenor fees" utilities are legally obliged to pay CUB activists.

Public Citizen, Inc.—Nader's longtime flagship lobbying litigation group.

Public Interest Research Groups—twenty-five state chap-

ters on 90 college campuses. Funding: through mandatory or "negative checkoff" student fees.

Trial Lawyers for Public Justice Foundation—activities: class action, precedent-setting suits; litigation clearinghouse.

Council for Responsible Genetics—works to restrict recombinant DNA research.

Institute for Injury Reduction—funding: plaintiff attorneys. Finances product liability research and media events.

Consumers Union—cofounded Center for Auto Safety with Nader. Collaborates with Public Citizen to fight against tort reforms.

National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy—lobbies foundations, corporations to give to "progressive" groups.

Fund for Constitutional Government—funded in part by General Motors heir Stuart Mott. Its Government Accountability Project works closely with Public Citizen, filing joint amicus briefs against the government.

As if on cue, Matthew G. Mirmak writes from Minneapolis, Minnesota:

I suggest that you nominate **Augsburg College**, their student senate, and the Naderite chapter of MPIRG (Minnesota Public Interest Research Group) for conspiring to force the student body of Augsburg to pay an additional mandatory fee of \$3.75, which is tacked on to our tuition bill, to MPIRG, in order to fund their leftist and downright pinko activities.

Eric T. Fritz of Mauston, Wisconsin, is, like Mr. Mirmak, angry with his Midwestern institution of higher learning:

\$47 of my \$1,957 student bill at the **University of Wisconsin-Whitewater** goes to the Segregated University Fee Allocation Committee, which in turn goes to groups like the Gay Lesbian Student Union, the Environmental Federation, and RISE, or Resistance to Intervention, Suppression, and Exploitation, a bunch of sixties dropouts and crybabies just to the left of Pol Pot.

Mark Peña of Austin, Texas, sends us the schedule of the University of Texas's "1992 English Department Graduate Colloquium: Pedagogy and Values." Among the various panels offered the lucky participants:

Feminism, Marxism, and Cultural Activism in the University
Rethinking Pedagogy in Light of Postmodernism
Desire in the Classroom: A Pedagogical Rubric
Coming Out Professionally: The Responsibility of Gay and Straight Faculty
Gender and Trauma in the Classroom
Teaching Writing and the Lesbian Subject
Writing, Power, and Homophobia in the Computer-Mediated Classroom

Learning Composition and Literature From Women of Color
Teaching Reading and Writing as a History of Competition Between Social Discourses

The Cultural Trope of Literacy and the Rhetoric of Grammar
The Shifting Subject(s) of Literary Study; or, How Do You Spell 'Hegemony'?

We need hardly say that Mr. Peña would like the **U.T. English Department** added to the Enemies List.

J. Lloyd Simms of Barnegat, New Jersey, detests:

Warner Bros., for funding Spike Lee's Malcolm X movie when they could've used that money toward *Batman 3*.

Network executives, for giving millions of dollars worth of free publicity to "Sister Souljah" by booking her on such shows as "Larry King," "Today," etc., etc.

Robert P. Fairchild of Arlington, Virginia, gives a Bronx cheer to:

Michael Wood, PBS personality and putative archaeologist, described as "writer and presenter" of "Legacy," whose final installment ("The Barbarian West") concludes with One World platitudes and ravings in the genre of apocalyptic environmentalism.

And points out that **Maryland Public Television**, **NHK** (Enterprises?), **MFS** (Mutual Fund Services?), and the **Corporation for Public Broadcasting** were all listed in the credits as sources of funding for "Legacy."

Dr. Tom Bohr of Redlands, California, would have us spin the dial on:

KPFK, a Los Angeles area station located somewhere near Tom Hayden's haunt of Berkeley-South, Santa Monica. It is part of the "Radio Pacifica" (Pacifistica?) network.

Besides promoting the rantings of Nuclear Winter nutcake and pseudoscientist Helen Caldicott, they were proud to offer air time to Louis Farrakhan henchman Steve Cokely of Chicago. Cokely insinuated that federal officials set some of the L.A. riot fires. He is better known for accusing Jewish doctors of injecting blacks with AIDS.

Paul Pakala of Appleton, Wisconsin, vents his spleen upon the **New York State Arts Council**: "I feel they deserve an evening in a burned-out theater, sitting in urine, listening to lesbian rap singers, and wearing tie-dyed T-shirts."

John Doughty of Monrovia, California, mails us the **National Chicano Moratorium Committee's** "wanted" poster of Christopher Columbus. The great mis-placer of India is accused of "grand theft, genocide, racism, initiating



the destruction of a culture, rape, torture and maiming of indigenous people."

Scott Forrest of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, is a consumer-activist consumer of *Consumer Reports*. He suggests they be recalled for "their constant sermonizing about the homeless, the 'environment,' and socialized medicine. I wish they would spare me the lectures and just tell me which VCR to buy."

Eric J. Paddon of Devon, Pennsylvania, avers:

My nominee for the Enemies List is **Comedy Central**, an irritating cable TV channel which on the average serves up two hours of decent programming (Jack Benny, Steve Allen) and twenty-two hours of pinko propaganda. [Eric, are you *sure* about Steve?—Ed.] In addition to the usual group of talentless stand-up comics who think they can get a laugh by uttering the name "Ronald Reagan" in a sarcastic manner, the worst abuser is a series known as "Mystery Science Theater 3000."

The premise of the series isn't too bad. A naive geek and his two robots are stranded in space and forced to watch bad movies that they talk back to. However, their forays into political satire always end up on the pink side.

Case in point: While talking back to a bad science fiction movie in which aliens brainwash earthlings to do their bidding, the stupefied human begins to walk about in a daze and offers up this bit of sarcasm: "Now I understand, Ronald Reagan was a great President."

Kevin J. Hritz—what is it with the middle initial "J." among us incredibly talented and sensitive people?—of St. Mary's, Pennsylvania, proscribes:

General Electric, for those saccharine multicultural ads on "This Week With David Brinkley."

One World Ted's little outfit in Atlanta, [CNN, for the] disgusting "The People Bomb" series shown during May of 1992. I hope he takes the advice of the series and decides to forgo the creation of his progeny with Miss Hanoi 1972.

Pennsylvania State University, for creating the Office of the Vice Provost of Underrepresented Groups.

Any group or corporation that actually pays to sponsor a \$10,000 Anita Hill speech. You know who you are.

The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. I never thought it would happen, but in the latest issue of its house publication *Spectrum*, the cover story, "Diversity in the Engineering Workplace," discusses sexual orientation. I suppose I will now have to show that my designs contain 10 percent gay/lesbian/bisexual engineering content before I can land accounts with really big corporations.

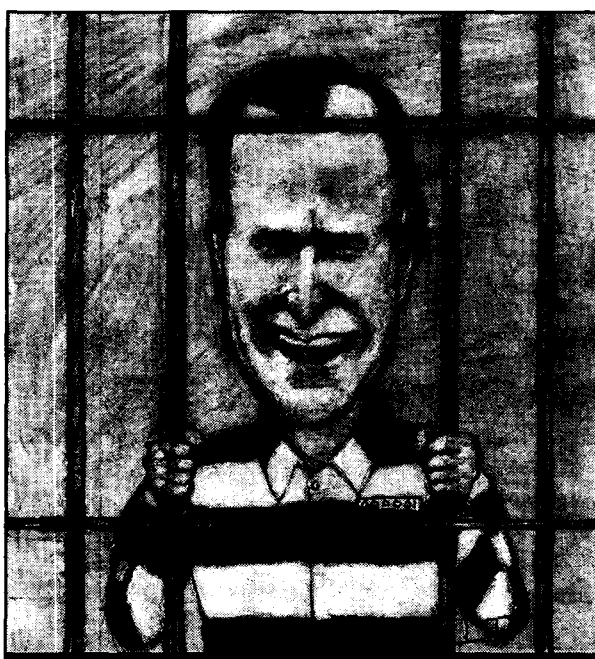
The Rev. James H. Fladland of Richmond, Virginia, is a professional in the field of sin and knows an enemy of God and man when he sees one:

Much as it pains me to do so, I must nominate the denomination of which I am an ordained clergyman for this year's Enemies List. **The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America** has proved itself to be the most PC church body in the U.S., not just for the usual stuff (e.g., Columbus bashing and *New Masses*-sounding "socio-economic analyses") but by enconcing in its very constitution the hideous principle of racial, sexual, and linguistic quotas.

Timothy C. Reiner of Worchester, Massachusetts, will rent some John Wayne videos and eschew:

WGBH (Channel 2) and **WGBX** (Channel 44)—for hectoring the good people of eastern Massachusetts with left-wing PBS propaganda, much of it at their own expense, and for scheduling Bill Buckley's "Firing Line" at eleven o'clock on Sunday nights.

The Presidency of the United States is, technically, an institution and Charles E. Strothman of Fort Walton Beach, Florida, is ready to condemn it:



The Number One Pinko is **!@#\$\$%&* George Bush**, for his exemplary demonstration of commie appeasement in the true fashion of Harry Truman and the selling out of the United States in a way that, until now, only Franklin Roosevelt, Dean Acheson, and Jeemy Carter knew how to do. Particularly selling out to the Number One Enemy—the **United States Congress**.

Dr. Edward B. Elmer of Pleasanton, Texas, decries:

The Nature Conservancy ("Fifth Amendment—what Fifth Amendment?")

CBS "News" (lovers of Leonard "I Wuz Framed Peltier")

MTV when it gets into politics

Any and all teachers' unions

The AMA (the newest gun control lobby)

The Boston Globe

The Boston Globe

The Boston Globe

Carl L. Rowley, Jeffrey E. Asbed, and Jon M. Moyers of St. Louis, Missouri, being lawyers all, bring a bill of attainder against:

The **Peace Corps**, because its name contains the word "peace," and because it arrogantly and mistakenly implies that the Corps' "mission" could conceivably prevent war, or even an argument between pygmies over who cooks the cat tonight. (And for doing so with money that was not its until it took it from us.)

The **National Education Association**, because its non-merit-based-pay, six-hour-per-day, nine-month-per-year mem-

bers refuse to take competency examinations, purportedly for reasons other than their own incompetence. And because most of them are Communists.

Sean Smith of Weehawken, New Jersey, goes right to the top when he's mad. He has it in for:

Matthew, who misquoted Jesus in 19:23. The actual quote was "It is *easier* for a rich man to enter the gates of Heaven than for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle," not the other way around. If Old Matty hadn't screwed that up we wouldn't have Liberation Theology, Vatican II, or the Christic Institute.

Neither rain nor snow nor Victoria's Secret catalogues stop mailman Art Vasterling once he gets going:

I want to see all non-profit mailing discontinued with the exception of material for the blind. I know this makes me a heretic in both the union and the post office by insisting that we rid ourselves of every person and/or function that does not move mail. But our body politic is riddled with those who use the U.S. Mail for fund-raising to attack my life-style and culture. The latest lousebag lobby is the **Native American Rights Fund**, which appeared last fall. They are soliciting donations for protest and bail bonds to be utilized in the spoilage and ruination of every Columbian Celebration within their reach.

Art, by the way, did not provide us with a return address. J. J. Rose of Boston, Massachusetts, says:

The Brother Can You Spare a Billion medal is pinned to the derrière of the **stockholders of American car companies**. These patsies dole out tens of millions in salaries and perks to their executives, who then become globetrotting mendicants asking for protection against Japan. There was a time when the "protection" against foreign competition was a good product, not congressional action. But, hey, why do it the hard way if Uncle Sap will foot the bill?

Joe A-something, whose last name is illegible but who identifies himself as "the only sagebrush Republican male nurse in America," has put down the bedpan and picked up the gun:

Stand back! I don't want you to get hit with any shrapnel:

The African National Congress

The World Wildlife Fund

The Children's Defense Fund

The National Conference of Mayors

The ACLU (too obvious, huh?)

The Albuquerque Chapter of the NAACP (for the Bobby Knight flap)

The Staff at the Oregonian (a nest of pathological liars posing as a newspaper)

Lawrence Walsh's gang of thugs

The Oregon Peace Institute (what does their "I believe you, Anita" bumpersticker have to do with World Peace?)

People for the American Way

Time Magazine (Watch out, *U.S. News & World Report*. You're heading down the same path.)

Physicians for Social Responsibility (a bunch of bell-bottomed, finger-pointers who feel guilty about their Adjusted Gross Incomes)

The World Health Organization (for inviting Liz Taylor to lecture on matters of personal hygiene)

The National Commission on AIDS (for promulgating the biggest fraud since "Camelot")

And, finally (*Pull! . . . Kaboom!*), the **Republican Party** (for piddling away the greatest intellectual revolution since $E=MC^2$).

Tod Davis of Kentwood, Michigan, excommunicates:

All the churches whose leaders apparently live by this revised version of the Ten Commandments:

I. You shall have no other gods before the Federal Government of the United States.

II. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything on the earth, but worship the earth itself.

III. Do not take Jesse Jackson's name in vain.

IV. Remember the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* and keep it holy.

V. Honor your mother, your mother's boyfriend, your father's boyfriend, etc.

VI. You may not kill criminals who have been convicted of heinous crimes, but feel free to kill human fetuses of all ages.

VII. You may not commit adultery—without a condom.

VIII. You may not steal—except from the rich or during a riot.

IX. You may not give false testimony—except when attempting to keep Clarence Thomas off the Supreme Court.

X. You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor—except for the purpose of redistributing the wealth.

Jennifer L. Durham of (and this must cause some confusion for Mr. Vasterling and his fellow post officers) Raleigh, North Carolina, inveighs against:

The assortment of ridiculous government agencies easily found in any phone book. Here's a sampling from the Raleigh listings:

The Disabilities Governor's Advocacy Council

Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office

The Adult Health Division's Divisions of Refugee Health and Migrant Health

The Plant Industry Division's Bee Program

The Inmate Grievance Commission

The Division of Environmental Health's Shellfish Sanitation Branch

The Facility Services Division of Bingo Licensing

Felony Diversion Program (is this a new euphemism for prison?)

Parent to Parent (?)

The Labor Department's Health and Safety

Department's Elevator and Amusement Device Division (whew!)

The Barber Examiners Licensing Board

NC Center for International Understanding

And she adds:

The following stupid items and regulations funded and/or enforced with taxpayer money:

Abnormally low speed limits (which includes most of them)

A new law in North Carolina (and probably other places) requiring motorists to turn on their headlights if it's raining hard enough to use the windshield wipers. →

A new regulation in some states prohibiting one to return to a salad bar with a dirty plate.

Robert L. Hamilton of Edmonton, Alberta, can't help himself:

I know this list is only supposed to contain institutions, associations, etc., but I can't help myself. I have to nominate the **boneheads in our Province of Ontario** for electing a socialist government just when the rest of the world is turfing the silly buggers out of their legislatures. (P.S. If you must have an institution, I nominate the **Canadian Broadcasting Corporation**.)

Vincent Frattaruolo of Palm Beach, Florida, whose critical sense is a lot sharper than his handwriting, scribbles a reproof of:

The International Commission on English in the Liturgy, the organization responsible for the introduction of gender-neutral language in the Catholic Mass.

Matt Stuart of Altoona, Iowa, rebukes:

The Creators of TV's "Star Trek—Next Generation," for trying to make the future politically correct.

Lawrence D. Skutch of Westport, Connecticut, spotted this howler:

Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, who gave this year's "Profiles in Courage" award to Lowell Weicker because he raised taxes rather than taking the more difficult and courageous route by cutting spending.

Dr. Dennis J. (there it is again) Doolin of Tokyo, Japan, doesn't have any nominations to the Enemies List. Perhaps still reeling after President Bush's visit last winter, he writes to ask a simple question: "I've been in Tokyo for the past fifteen years. Is some diabolical group lacing our nation's reservoirs with mind-altering substances?"

The short answer, Dr. Doolin, is yes.

And, on this year's E-List, we give the last word to Warren Wetmore of Hazel Crest, Illinois:

Who subventions the Sinistrals? We could round up the usual suspects—the Ford Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation (whose conservative founders continue to redline their tachometers, spinning in their graves). Fools contributing to knaves is strictly dog-bites-man. However, if we really want to de-fund the left, we must hold an emergency competency hearing on the biggest spastic, drooling, brain-dead Daddy Dumbbucks of them all: **THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**.

(Editors' Note: We are very disappointed that no one mentioned Benetton. We don't know how much money this corporation gives to Commies, but it certainly gives a lot of bad ideas to kids in shopping malls: "Hey, Muffy, look, a picture of starving people! Way cool! Makes me totally want to buy a sweater!")

THE PETER UEBERROTH GOLD MEDAL FOR 100-METER-DASH- CARRYING-A-VCR

Now for the second part of our mission, wherein laurels are awarded to public figures who praised, encouraged, downplayed, excused, or called for "understanding of" the L. A. riots:

Helen H. Bergman of New York, New York, sends us a copy of the June 12, 1992, *Public Employee Press*, the newspaper of New York's District Council 37 of the AFL-CIO American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (there's nothing like the U.S. labor movement for windy monikers, now that the Kremlin is gone). In this august publication, **Stanley Hill**, executive director of District Council 37, is quoted addressing the annual convention of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists:

"CBTU's theme—bringing our communities together—was made even more relevant by the damage caused by dreams deferred," Hill said, when delegates toured L. A., seeing the devastation first-hand.

Steven Carter, who lives in L. A. and was "seeing the devastation first-hand" big time, mails us a brochure from the **Liberty Hill Foundation**. What they mean by "Hill" is probably Beverly, possibly Anita. What they mean by "Liberty" we shudder to think:

The Liberty Hill Foundation announces the "Fund for a New L.A." to assist organizations working for racial equality, democratic planning and community economic development in the aftermath of the Rodney King verdict and Los Angeles uprising. . . . Through a generous donation from Comic Relief, the Liberty Hill Foundation has created a special fund to help community organizations respond to the challenges posed by the recent riots in Los Angeles.

The goal of the "Fund for a New L.A." is to enable community organizations to promote institutional change to solve the injustices which helped to create the Los Angeles upheaval: poverty, racial tensions, police brutality and urban violence.

Edward Flynn of Garland, Texas, states:

My nominees for the "Ubie," whose primary distinguishing features seemed to be opening every monologue with "there is no excuse for this kind of behavior" and then going on for ten minutes excusing it, are **Maxine Waters** and **Bryant Gumbel**.

John C. Morrison of Windsor, Connecticut, makes three awards:

Boy Clinton, as quoted in the *New York Times* on May 2: "To them, it sort of stands for all the neglect, all the economic decline, all the insecurity in the streets, and not being able to walk safely on the streets." Well now, what better way to make the streets safe? If one is afraid to stroll, start a riot!

A walking miracle named **Lourdes Baird**, U.S. attorney in L.A., said there was no racial element in the beating near to death delivered to Mr. Reginald Denny. This gem was quoted straight-faced in the *New York Times* on May 14. She is pursuing racial bias charges against the police in the King case.

The *New York Times*, for absolute and total unmitigated nonsense in every word they saw fit to print.

And Mr. Morrison further notes that no one "will admit that 'Checkday,' May 2, had most to do with stopping the riots, when the Post Office refused to deliver. People had to line up for blocks to get their checks!"

Robert Kord of Cutler, Maine, proposes a shared medal in a "bulsh conglomerate category":

Paul Wellstone
Jane Fonda and mouth-
mate
Patricia Schroeder
M. Kinsley and M.
Gorbachev
Patti Davis

Ed Busca of Chicago, Illinois, hands the palm to L.A. mayor **Tom Bradley** for inflammatory remarks after the King trial decision and notes that "if Hizzoner Mayor Daley I or II had said anything resembling Honorable Tom's blast, he would have been burned at the stake."

Rich Hardcastle of Terre Haute, Indiana, who has already done some fine work on our Enemies List above, returns to confer honors upon:

kristina marie korobov, who, as the first female Student Government President at Indiana State University, not only forgot how to capitalize her name but also called a public forum of "understanding," which resulted in near-fistfights and similar versions of harmony in the wake of the L.A. riots.

Dan Buksa of Munster, Indiana, yearns to suitably reward:

Sister Souljah, who "raps" that "blacks should take a week off from work to kill whites."

Roy O'Grady of Goose Creek, South Carolina, gives the prize to **Arsenio Hall**:

He was useless in stopping the riots once they had started, and he gave the gang members of L.A. a forum for their beliefs without ever questioning the sincerity of these drug-dealing, murderous thugs.

Barbara Morgan of Hot Springs, Arkansas, tells us:

During the CNN coverage, I was amazed to see a tall, nattily dressed black man identified only as the "**Mayor of Compton**" invite the local Koreans to "leave town." This was replayed numerous times, but nary a word against this type of racial invective was heard from any commentator.

John P. Doremus of Tallahassee, Florida, proposes Gold, Silver, Bronze, Cement, and Mud medals to:



"Donahue"/ABC
Donahue's guest **Al Sharpton**
Maxine Waters (please!)
Mayor Tom Bradley
"The Today Show"/NBC

As Mr. Doremus explains, "All of the above loudly condemned in a public forum the King verdict hours after it was announced and thus aided, furthered, and encouraged the riots that followed."

Jeffrey D. Van Schaick, of parts unknown, alerts us to a scathing criticism of the *Los Angeles Times*'s riot coverage, which appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*. The article, written by Scott Shuger, states: "In the face of all that video

and the *Times*'s own extensive accounts of unprovoked assaults and widespread looting and arson, the paper did what it could do to fuzz up the issue of personal responsibility for those actions." And goes on to prove it. Mr. Van Schaick says: "On behalf of Mr. Shuger, I nominate the *Los Angeles Times*."

Stephanie Gutmann of New York, New York, believes another garland should go to the *L.A. Times*'s East Coast evil twin:

Okay, a newspaper isn't an individual or a public figure, but don't you think the *New York Times*'s editorial board deserves the Peter Ueberroth Gold Medal for declaring, in its lead editorial, on May 3, while the rubble in L.A. was still smouldering, that "America consigns great numbers of young black men to lawless lives"?

Patrick Mathias, who also contributed to this year's E-

List, returns to present a couple of blue ribbons (tied in a noose) to:

Luke Perry, "star of Beverly Hills, 90210," quoted in the July *Vanity Fair*: "It's symbolic; we're living in a society that's getting out of control. I don't think it's a race issue. . . . I saw white people down there screaming last night. I saw Hispanics. I saw Asians. I saw blacks. There were gays. There were straights. If nothing else, I see some beauty in what's happening. You've got people you would ordinarily never see together . . ."

Ronald Walters, chairman of the political science department of Howard University, in a bylined article that appeared in a number of newspapers, including the June 23 *News Tribune* in Woodbridge, New Jersey: "The depth and power of Sister Souljah's art may make some people anxious, but her voice represents an authentic expression of sentiment among a substantial segment of black youth and black people. . . . Sister Souljah . . . has gone beyond merely rapping to use her considerable intelligence as a community organizer for productive causes in the black community . . ."

We really can't give this medal too often to our cover girl, **Maxine Waters**. As James Gidwitz of Chicago, Illinois, puts it:

My nominee for the "Peter Ueberroth Medal" removes the notion of contest from this award. That is, of course, the Honorable (*Hello?*) Maxine Waters, local Congressperson. While her unfortunate presence on the television coverage initially added a welcome counterpoint of comedy to the mayhem and looting, she quickly became a nauseating apologist for criminal behavior and demanded that new federal subsidies be created to somehow reward it. This must have been a blow to her many law-abiding constituents—especially those of Korean descent whom she unilaterally disenfranchised.

Buzz Brockway of Lawrenceville, Georgia, slings a wreath at:

Clark-Atlanta University, whose students felt such compassion for Rodney King that they looted Macy's and lots of liquor stores.

And Mr. Brockway bids farewell to police chief **Daryl Gates**, who is handed a Uebie "for being a spineless wonder and allowing the riots to simmer unchecked for days."

Lastly, Steven Segers of Victorville, California, would present our coveted prize to the whole and entire city of "Lost" Angeles:

From the first images of watching the police run from dangerous criminals because they weren't allowed to use the necessary force to control the situation, to the subsequent scenes of police treating looters with a how-may-I-help-you-service-with-a-smile mentality, Los Angeles is a typical example of liberalism run amok: soft on crime, hard on the police, and blame it all on Ronald Reagan.

MISCELLANEOUS NEW ENEMIES LIST HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS

We take this opportunity to give our special thanks to the following "Friends of the Enemies List":

To Henry Beard and Chris Cerf, for their hilarious (and painstakingly documented) compendium, *The Official Politically Correct Dictionary and Handbook*, the footnotes to which are a whole New Enemies List in themselves. *TOPCDH* is available in a handsome paperback edition from Villard Books, a division of Random House, and is priced so as to be affordable to the oppressed. Read it and weep tears of simultaneous laughter and rage in a non-hieretical modality of deconstructivist post-modernism.

To the NRA, which published an excellent article about the L. A. riots in the July issues of both its *American Hunter* and *American Rifleman* magazines. The eye- (and peep sight-) witness account was written by James Jay Baker and appropriately titled, "Second Amendment Message in Los Angeles." As we NRA members like to say, "Join or die."

To Betty Friedan, for putting the McCarthy Era ur-Enemies List into perspective. She was interviewed by *People* magazine at a party celebrating the new HBO movie *Citizen Cohn*, which is about Tailgunner Joe's old pal Roy Cohn. Betty says the movie "will teach a whole generation about one of the most evil men who ever lived." Stand aside, Hitler and Pol Pot.

And extra special thanks to Woody Allen—just in case there was anybody out there who still believed in psychoanalysis or thought East Coast intellectuals weren't living piles of slime.

Well, so long for now. We'll see all of you, we trust, next year, same time, same place. Until then, we'll leave you with this edifying tale from the October 11, 1991, *Boston Herald*:

The night of May 13, 1984, David Freeman, a Duxbury firefighter, crept into the room where his wife was sleeping and beat her so severely with a club that her injuries are lifelong.

Concern over Freeman's mental stability prompted the Board of Selectmen to remove him from his job.

Last month, the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination—noting Freeman was found innocent of assault by reason of temporary insanity—cited the town for "handicap discrimination."

The MCAD restored the 52-year-old Freeman to his job and awarded him \$200,000 for back pay and emotional distress plus 12 percent interest. □

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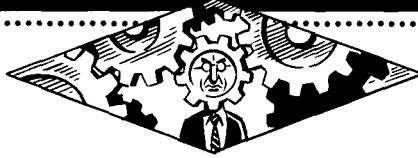
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Clinton's Funny-Number Factory *by Edward McFadden*

In the Fall 1991 issue of the *American Prospect*, Democratic pollster Stanley Greenberg laid out what his party must do to regain the White House. For twelve years, Greenberg wrote, the Republicans had run against the Carter presidency, "a period that embodies what was bad about Democrats and this country—weakness before our enemies, things out of control, bad economic times for average Americans." The goal for the Democrats in 1992 was to redefine the past decade: "Democrats need . . . to create an imagery of Reagan-Bush America that supersedes the Carter years and impeaches the credibility of conservative governance for middle America."

As it happens, top Democrats were already hard at work, using a sophisticated research squad fully financed by the American taxpayer. Set up in 1974, in the wake of Watergate, it is called the Congressional Budget Office. In 1987, unable to run against the economic success of the Reagan years, Democratic leaders had decided to throw "fairness" at Republican proposals. Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell asked the CBO to generate the requisite family income statistics, quietly informing allies in the CBO (according to Senate sources) that he wanted the information to reflect as badly as possible on Reaganomics. Today, thanks in large part to CBO-generated numbers, every Democrat from Bill Clinton, Al Gore, George Mitchell, and Richard Gephardt on down claims that the 1980s saw the rich get richer, the poor get poorer, and the middle class get screwed.

CBO Director Robert Reischauer oversees a staff of more than 200 and a

budget of \$23 million. CBO statistics and analyses are officially incorporated in just about every bill dealing with taxes, revenue expenditures, and economic plans, and the agency's influence has grown since the 1990 budget agreement, because new proposals that affect the budget deficit must now be cleared by the CBO before coming to a Senate or House vote.

The CBO director is selected and appointed by the Democratic leadership in Congress. Republicans are informed



but not consulted, and there is no formal confirmation procedure. Democratic control of the CBO is such that no one in the know was surprised when the Democratic National Committee selected a former CBO staffer, Dan Carol, to direct its opposition research team for the 1992 campaign. MIT economist and top Clinton adviser Paul Krugman has used faulty CBO statistics proficiently in the past to beat Republican economic policies about the head and shoulders.

Krugman could well be named Clinton's chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors. Clinton is also backed by the unions funding the Center for Tax Justice, which uses CBO statistics to support its radical policy recommendations.

Rep. Dick Armey (R-Texas), who holds a Ph.D. in economics, has been waging war on the CBO for the past four years. He regularly skewers inaccurate or false CBO research and has been so successful at it that the agency no longer allows its family income data and numerical tables to be published in the Ways and Means Committee Green Book—which guides legislation on such issues as taxation, health care, education, and welfare. Secrecy is central to the CBO's operations. CBO methodologies are not available for viewing even to economists such as Armey or Sen. Phil Gramm (R-Texas), or to tax staffers on committees.

CBO obfuscation has damaged its credibility within Ways and Means. Privately, committee staffers say CBO reports and statistics are no longer considered valid or accurate. But using bad numbers to perpetuate bad policy apparently works well for Democrats. We'll see just how well in November.

The CBO's funny numbers have become the cornerstone of Bill Clinton's economic policies. "While the rich cashed in," Clinton writes, "the forgotten middle class—the people who work hard and play by the rules—took it on the chin." To buttress his statement, Clinton cites an often-quoted CBO statistic to claim that the richest 1 percent of American families received 70 percent of the income gains during the Reagan and Bush administrations. He neglects to show what even the CBO data show—that the richest 1 per-

Edward McFadden is a reporter in Washington, D.C.