

# Exclusive: Grand Inquisitor Endorses Obama Health Plan

by Thaddeus G. McCotter

**W**ASHINGTON, D.C.—Breaking his half-a-millennium media silence from eternal damnation, Fyodor Dostoevsky's Grand Inquisitor joined a chorus of presumed conservatives to endorse President Obama's health care reforms.

Resplendently stooped beneath a banner reading "Enslave, But Feed Us!" the Grand Inquisitor commenced with a veiled shot at former President Bush: "The present fate of men may be summed up in three words: unrest, confusion, and misery! The bulk of humanity could never be happy under the old system, it is not for them."

Inspired that Obama has made government capable of "saving mankind a millennium of useless suffering on earth," the Grand Inquisitor averred that "only now has it become possible to us, for the first time, to give a serious thought to human happiness."

Not renowned as an expert in wellness, the Grand Inquisitor is best remembered for last appearing as the heavy in *The Brothers Karamazov* and for fighting food insecurity with his "Bread for Souls" program. He was compelled to endorse the Obama plan because it matches his core principles for social justice: "There are three Powers upon earth, capable of conquering the conscience of these weak rebels—men—for their own good; and these forces are Miracle, Mystery, and Authority."

Legendary as a master of abstruse statutory interpretation, the Grand Inquisitor praised the Obama plan's specifics. "Receiving their bread from us, they will clearly see that we take the bread from them, the bread made by their own hands, but to give it back to them in equal shares. They will be only too glad to have it so."

Regarding the dicey issue of patients' choices, the Grand Inquisitor was dismissive. "Oh, never, never, will they learn to feed themselves without our help! No science will ever give them bread so long as they remain free, so long as they refuse to lay that freedom at our feet." The goal, he said, was to find a universal health care plan "all others will believe in, and consent to bow down to in a mass."

He said he empathized with the burden Obama selflessly carries upon his strapping shoulders. He

urged critics to find common ground, but the grizzled visage lashed out at a Fox News reporter: "You have no right to add one syllable to that which was already uttered before!" The wizened wag then subtly positioned Republicans as the party of "no" in the health care debate by deriding its plans for patient-centered health care: "They have saved but themselves while we have saved all."

Impishly, he turned to the assembled press corps and posed a Jesuitical query: "Would you go into the world empty-handed? Would you venture thither with [the GOP's] vague and undefined promise of freedom?" Those assembled erupted in laughter and agreement.

Acknowledging that Republicans were being publicly smeared on the health care issue, the polished proselytizer outlined the left's political strategy with refreshing honesty: "We will deceive them once more and lie to them once again...for we must lie eternally, and never cease to lie!"

Pressed on the morality of such an approach, the Grand Inquisitor launched a volley of verbal pyrotechnics: "Who can rule mankind better than those who have possessed themselves of man's conscience, and hold in their hand man's daily bread? Did we not show our great love for humanity, by realizing in such a humble spirit its helplessness, by so mercifully lightening its great burden?"

Ultimately, the anile prelate proclaimed the left would bring "reform" to Americans' health care: "Know then, that now, and only now, people feel fully sure and satisfied of their freedom; and that only since they have themselves, and of their own free will, delivered that freedom unto our hands by placing it submissively at our feet."

Ever the cool, detached problem solver, the Grand Inquisitor ended on a note of hope: "Our work is but in its incipient stage, but it is nevertheless started. We may have long to wait until its culmination, and mankind have to suffer much, but we shall reach the goal some day, and become sole Caesars." ❧

**U.S. Representative Thaddeus G. McCotter (R-MI)**  
is chair of the Republican House Policy Committee.

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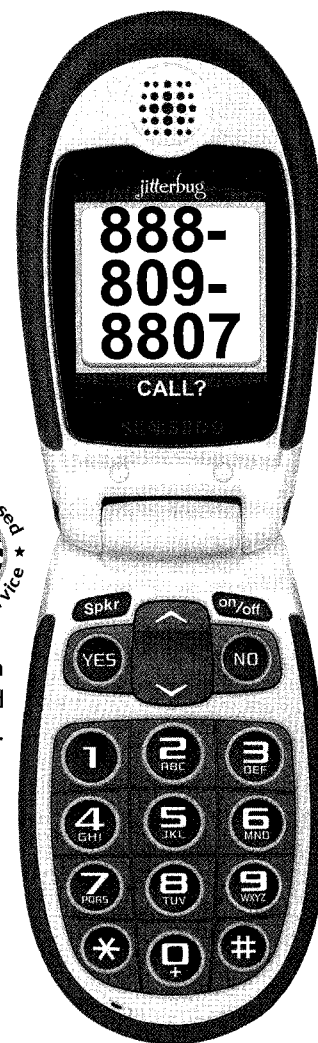
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# THE CONTINUING CRISIS

R. Emmett Tyrrell, Jr.



**And so ends the month of May**, the fourth full month of the Obama Dizziness. In a Memorial Day weekend interview on C-SPAN, the 44th president, having burned through \$4 trillion, announced laconically: "We are out of money." Then he vowed to pass into law the most ambitious and expensive health care revision in American history, perhaps to be paid for with Mongolian money. The Chinese are visibly apprehensive about him. Thus goes the mad presidency of Barack H. Obama or Kcarab H. Amabo. It all depends on the way one looks at him, front to back or back to front. He calls himself Barack Obama, but he could just as easily be Kcarab Amabo. Either way, his incoherent policies will end with the same oncoming train wreck. He claims he hails from Chicago, but he could just as easily come from Ogacihc. Where the hell is Ogacihc, you ask? Perhaps it is somewhere in Kazakhstan or Kyrgyzstan. Again, it just depends on the way one looks at it. After four months of this bizarre dervish in the White House he looks like President Amabo from Ogacihc to us at *AmSpec*, and we shall not be surprised if he trades in his presidential limousine for a magic carpet with government-mandated airbags.

**In May the Amabo government** added Chrysler and General Motors to its portfolio of bad investments. Also it reversed itself on candidate Amabo's promise to release pictures of American military personnel goofing off with prisoners in Iraq and Afghanistan. Yet the government held fast on its plan to close Gitmo, despite having no plausible idea of how to process its disagreeable detainees. On a positive note, President Amabo nominated Judge Sonia Sotomayor to the Supreme Court, boasting of her "empathy." In Guangzhou, China, Mr. Lai Jiansheng, 66, gave the world an insight into empathy. After waiting with motorists and fellow pedestrians for five hours at historic Haizhu bridge while counselors tried to placate a man contemplating suicide, Mr. Lai walked up to the distressed man, shook his hand,

and gave him a hearty shove off the bridge. Who doubts our president and his Supreme Court nominee are equally empathetic? At the end of the month, Judge Sotomayor was being called a racist for her 2001 asseveration that "I would hope that a wise Latina woman with the richness of her experiences would more often than not reach a better conclusion than a white male who hasn't lived that life." Well, if she is not a racist, she is at least a supremacist. Maybe she will be favorable to Second Amendment rights and to UFOs.

**Britain's Prince Harry**, 24, has again attracted unwanted headlines. According to the UK's authoritative *Sun*, the prince was overheard in the Tally-Ho pub confiding to a friend (male) that "It's been two years since I washed my hair." The cryptic remark sent the entire kingdom abuzz and brought back memories among the historically minded of Prince Metternich's witticism occasioned by the 1838 death of Talleyrand. Quipped the prince: "I wonder what he meant by that?" Two years without a proper shampoo? What about a change of linen, or a dry pair of socks? The monarchy is again shaken. Also from the UK comes word that there is still no consensus in the 13th-century village of Lunt over whether to change its historic name to Launt or just face the tiresome task of repainting village signs after sexual deviants in the dark of night change the "Ls" to "Cs," creating a crude anatomical term that cannot be used in polite company unless one is an illiterate and confused over the past tense of "can't." No such dithering characterizes the citizens of Conisbrough, South Yorkshire, with address on the ancient, albeit unfortunately named, Butt Hole Road. Weary of the jokes that assail them even from deliverymen, they are changing the street's name to Archer Way. Particularly annoying was the incidence of tourists, many from the United States, who, bending over by the street signs, expose their naked arses while their wives snap pictures. One tourist,