

**Third Saturday Seminar 2006-2007**

**Humanity at a Crossroads**

**Session 01**

**16 September 2006**

**"The Polarization of America and the World"**

**Curt Gibby**

**ALL Program, Montgomery College, Conroe, Texas**

# Program for the TSS Meeting 16 September 2006

- 9:30 am Introduction
- Current Events (30 Minutes +/-), Curt Gibby
- 10:00 am Video – **Polarization – State of the Union.**
- 10:40 am Break 10 Minutes
- 10:50 am Discussion
- 11:55 am- Closure – Feedback
- 12:00 noon Session ends.
- Next Session October 21, 2006

# **Disclaimer**

**The following presentation consists of material from many sources in addition to my own work and experience. I usually try give appropriate attribution for this material, but may have overlooked some. In many cases an Internet link to the source material is provided in order to allow you to better put these excerpts in context.**

**The inclusion of materials and the facts, opinions and ideas contained within them, does not in any way mean that I personally endorse or disavow any of them in whole or in part; but, that it is of importance to the discussion.**

**If you have any questions please contact me.**

**Curt Gibby <[gcgconsult@n-star.com](mailto:gcgconsult@n-star.com)>**

## **To Any Members of Law Enforcement**

If there are any members of law enforcement here in any sort of official capacity and not in a uniform recognizable as one of law enforcement we ask that you identify yourself or selves, your agency, department or organization and your official reason for being here.

Rest assured that we are engaged in no illegal activity, but we are aware of, value and have faith in our Constitutional rights.

In any case you are welcome to stay and participate as a member or guest of the Third Saturday Seminar. But, if at any time you consider anything you see or hear happening or about to happen is or will be putting any one or all of us in jeopardy of breaking the law as you understand it, we request that you advise us of that situation .

This is consistent with your obligation as a peace officer or agent to protect and serve the people. Anything else will be a betrayal and you will be derelict in your duty. It will result in harm to those you are obligated to protect.

**The donuts are free to law enforcement.**

Human purpose ...

**"That everyone should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all their labor, it is the gift of God"**

(Ecclesiastes 3:13)

If you are part of something, for instance the Universe, then you have something to do with what it does.

# Current Events

June 2006

**Don't***be***Panic***ked!*

## ANN RICHARDS, 1933 - 2006



Richards raises both arms in celebration after being sworn in as governor of Texas on Jan. 15, 1991 in Austin.

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## New Airport Security - Check-in Procedures



Kinda puts the fun back in flying don't it???

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Dev Develer

National Geographic Türkiye, Şubat 2005

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**OPEC: Demand for crude will drop in 2007** Oil cartel says demand for its crude should slip by 800,000 barrels per day next year, cites expected jump in non-OPEC supply. September 15 2006: 12:55 PM EDT

LONDON (Reuters) -- The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries on Friday lowered a forecast for demand for its oil next year, when supply from rival producers is expected to surge.

Demand for OPEC crude, known as the call on OPEC, in 2007 will average 28.1 million barrels per day, 200,000 bpd less than forecast in August, the 11-nation producer group said in its September monthly report.

The outlook follows OPEC's decision this week to keep its oil output near a 25-year high despite a roughly \$15 drop in prices since mid-July. But the group left the door open to a supply cut before the end of the year.

In its communiqué after the group's oil ministers met in Vienna on Monday, OPEC said non-OPEC supply in 2007 would rise at the fastest rate in more than two decades. OPEC pumps more than a third of the world's oil.

"The rebound in non-OPEC supply in 2007 is predicted to be at its highest level since 1984 - and market fundamentals indicate a clear imbalance between supply and demand," OPEC said in the communiqué.

Average demand for OPEC's oil next year will be 800,000 bpd less than the 28.9 million bpd expected in 2006, the report said.

While OPEC expects supply from outside producers to rise by 1.8 million bpd next year, analysts said that the chance it may underperform could increase the burden on OPEC.

## **\$70-a-barrel oil still forecast**

Government says don't expect a big drop in crude prices despite the recent six-day slide. By [Steve Hargreaves](#), CNNMoney.com staff writer September 12 2006: 11:19 AM EDT

NEW YORK (CNNMoney.com) -- Despite a drop of over \$10 in the price of oil over the last few weeks to around \$65 dollars a barrel, the government predicts crude will still average near \$70 for the rest of 2006, according to a report released Tuesday.

In its monthly short-term energy outlook, the Energy Information Administration said 2006 and 2007 spot crude oil prices will average near \$70 a barrel.

EIA expects gasoline prices, which it said fell to \$2.62 a gallon Monday from a near-record high of \$3.04 a gallon on Aug. 7, to average \$2.55 a gallon by January before climbing again next spring.

EIA's bullish price view is based on two things: Rising demand with only a limited increase in supply.

The agency said worldwide petroleum consumption should grow by about 1.2 million barrels a day in 2006 and 1.7 million barrels a day in 2007. In 2005 the world used about 84 million barrels of oil a day.

High prices did cause EIA to reduce the amount it thought consumption would grow by 100,000 barrels a day each year from last month's estimates.

EIA said oil production capacity will increase only slightly in 2007, all of which will come from Saudi Arabia.

**Report: Chevron may avoid \$1B in paymentsIncomplete lease agreements could allow oil giant to avoid paying royalties to federal government on new oil field, newspaper says.**

September 12 2006: 7:47 AM EDT

NEW YORK (Reuters) -- A group of oil companies led by Chevron Corp. that last week announced the discovery of a huge oil field in the Gulf of Mexico could avoid more than \$1 billion in royalty payments to the federal government, *The New York Times* reported Tuesday.

The potential bonus for Chevron and its partners stems from a mistake the Interior Department made in signing offshore leases in the late 1990s for drilling in federal waters, the newspaper said.

Chevron and its partners, [Devon Energy \(Charts\)](#) and Statoil ASA of Norway, have six leases in the Jack oil field about 175 miles off Louisiana, and two of the leases allow the firms to avoid royalties on as much as 87.5 million barrels per lease, the *Times* said.

The benefit, known as royalty relief, was supposed to be halted if the price of oil climbed above \$36 a barrel, but that restriction was omitted on all leases signed in 1998 and 1999, including the two held by Chevron and its partners, the newspaper reported.

The exact value of the potential break will depend on the price of oil and how much of it comes from the two leases, and the savings would disappear if the government insists that none of Chevron's output is coming from the two leases, but from the four that are not eligible for the break, the newspaper said.

[Chevron \(Charts\)](#) shares fell Monday to close at \$62 on the New York Stock Exchange.

[Betting billions on liquefied natural gas](#)

Find this article at:

<http://money.cnn.com/2006/09/12/news/companies/chevron.reut/index.htm>





# South Florida Bird Flu

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Al Gore, when asked about his illegal fundraising activities wherein he and John Huang helped take in more than \$130,000 for the Democratic Party at the Hsi Lai Buddhist temple (where videotape footage shows he was greeted by dozens of Buddhist monks with shaved heads and orange sashes or robes) in Hacienda Heights in southern California on 4/29/96:

***"I didn't realize I was in a Buddhist temple."***

Then, as details of the event started to come out in October, Gore claimed: ***"Number one, we have strictly abided by all of the campaign finance laws, strictly. There've been no violations."*** (Al Gore on NBC's "Meet the Press," 10/13/96)

Well, Janet Reno's Justice Department, concentrating on the smallest fry involved (just to show they really *are* "doing their job"), claims to have prosecuted 21 people and one corporation to date. And so far, as Bill Bradley pointed out, 70 people have taken the fifth, 17 people have fled the country and 13 people have been convicted. ***"No violations," indeed.***



***Okay, so which way is it ???***

*New York Times* headline, Sept. 5, 1997:  
**"Nuns Say Temple Event With Gore Was Not a Fundraiser"**

**vs.**

*Washington Post* headline, same day:  
**"Nuns Tell of Panic About Fundraiser: Documents Destroyed or Altered to Conceal Temple's Role with DNC"**

# Proof of global warming!!!



## RECOGNIZING A STROKE

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke.

Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

- S** \* Ask the individual to **SMILE**.
- T** \* Ask the person to **TALK** to **SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE**  
(Coherently) (i.e. . . It is sunny out today)
- R** \* Ask him or her to **RAISE BOTH ARMS**.

**NOTE:** *Another 'sign' of a stroke is this: Ask the person to 'stick' out their tongue. If the tongue is 'crooked', if it goes to one side or the other that is also an indication of a stroke. If he or she has trouble with ANY ONE of these tasks, call 911 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.*

## Lance Tarrance to Join Straight Talk America

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Craig Goldman

Wednesday, August 2, 2006

703-684-0067

ALEXANDRIA - We are pleased to announce that Lance Tarrance, Jr. will be joining Straight Talk America as senior strategist for the PAC. He will help guide Straight Talk America's efforts to help elect Republican candidates up and down the ballot.

The author and co-author of five published books about electoral behavior, Mr. Tarrance has spent his career providing strategic advice to clients in the fields of public policy, public opinion, and public affairs.

Mr. Tarrance has served as a member of the Gallup Organization's Board of Directors, and as a Managing Director and President of Gallup China in Beijing. As President and founder of Tarrance & Associates, he earned a national reputation as a leading authority on public opinion research. He has also served as a managing director for Burson-Marsteller Public Affairs.

"I am delighted Lance will be lending his considerable talents to Straight Talk America," Senator McCain said. "He has been a longstanding central player in electing Republicans to office, and I am grateful Straight Talk will benefit from the strategic experience of such a distinguished professional."

"I look forward to working with John McCain and his Straight Talk America PAC," Tarrance said. "I appreciate Senator McCain's commitment to maintaining a Republican majority through the 2006 election cycle, and I am glad to be a part of his effort."

###

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[www.straighttalkamerica.com](http://www.straighttalkamerica.com)

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Senator John McCain's Straight Talk America - Mozilla Firefox

http://www.straighttalkamerica.com/

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# SENATOR JOHN McCain's Straight Talk America

### Latest News

**Senator McCain's Active August Takes Him to Six States and the Grand Canyon**  
August 28, 2006

Senator McCain began his August recess by enjoying one of his home state's natural wonders when he spent the week hiking the Grand Canyon

from the South Rim across the canyon floor to the North Rim with his son, Jack. Senator McCain and his son Jack, who just began his Second year at the Naval Academy, spent 3 days and 2 nights hiking the Grand Canyon rim to rim. They hiked down 5000 feet and in total traveled 22 miles.

He then began a whirlwind tour of Iowa, Louisiana, Virginia, South Carolina, Florida and Ohio to campaign for candidates. [Click here to read more about Senator McCain's active August.](#)

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*photographed*  
Get the latest McCain book, Straight Talk T-shirts and more!

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loading for www.straighttalkamerica.com...

thanks very much for your insight I was on the Hill yesterday with him in his office all during this debate and he never waivered on holding the high moral ground we have to sell superior ideas to the world, not superior barbarism downloaded your links to Lakoff the other day so it might be said I still am a student of your class wish I could go on those third Saturdays ! as a strong republican, I still think Geo Soros is the devil but you already knew that ! my best

-----Original Message-----

From: gcgconsult@n-star.com

To: lancetarrancejr@aol.com

Sent: Fri, 15 Sep 2006 3:54 PM

Subject: GTMO etc,

Lance, I understand your friend John McCain finally dug his heels in.

Bravo.

I know he wants to be President, but apparently, he finally found the tipping point where he had to recognize violating our own laws, principles, ideals, and even the Constitution was too high a price.

What does it benefit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his soul?

The administration is so out of touch with reality, If Republicans want to get elected they are going to have to use their own intellects for a change and reconnect with the people they wish to represent.

It has been a long time since our Congress, which is pledged to represent the people, has had the interests of the people at heart.

This is what the people that hate us count on. That our representation and leadership have become so corrupted/seduced by their own power fantasies and their obligations to special interests, that the "America" that we loved and the rest of the world loved and respected, will be destroyed by the very people who should be facilitating our becoming morally stronger, are dismantling us from within, and camouflaging it as security.

Tell Mr McCain "Bravo" and I still remember his dad, the Admiral.

Curt

P.S. The offer stills holds for you to do a session with/for TSS. - GCG

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## **No. 2 in Texas governor's race is still up in air**

**Web Posted: 09/11/2006 12:28 AM CDT**

**R.G. Ratcliffe**

**Express-News Austin Bureau**

AUSTIN — The horse race polls have varied dramatically about who is running second in the Texas governor's race, but those surveys have made one thing perfectly clear: For most of the past year Texans have been unhappy with the job Rick Perry has done as governor. Perry's sagging job approval also is reflected in poll numbers showing support for his re-election has hovered between 35 percent and 41 percent since February.

However, that does not mean the Republican incumbent is in immediate danger of defeat. His four challengers are dividing the discontented voters, and none of them has gained traction so far.

"They're like dogs, running around chasing each other's tails, trying to eat the same piece of the pie," Perry pollster Mike Baselice said. "Perry, meanwhile, is sitting over there with a plurality, and he wins."

Perry's main challengers are after what they call the "anti-Perry vote." But the question remains whether Democrat Chris Bell or independents Kinky Friedman and Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn or Libertarian James Werner can consolidate this vote into a winning coalition.

"There is a bloc of voters out there right now waiting to see which one of the three is most likely to get Perry out," Friedman campaign manager Dean Barkley said. "That is the battle of September, to be the alternative to Perry."

<http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/politics/stories/MYSA091106.01A.govrace.3538d0c.html>  
09/16/2006



**Texas Governor: Perry (R) Dips to 35% Three Other Contenders Now Attract 18% Each August 9, 2006** Three months from the election, the twisty four-way race for Texas Governor continues to keep political junkies on the edge of their seats.

**Republican Governor Rick Perry's support has dropped by five percentage points since our [July poll](#), as Democrat Chris Bell escapes last place to draw even with the two Independents in the race. So now it's Perry 35%, Bell 18%, Carole Keeton Strayhorn (I) 18%, Kinky Friedman (I) 18%.**

Texas law makes those numbers look even better to Perry. There's no general-election runoff in Texas; if a candidate wins only a plurality on Election Day, he gets the job.

Last year, Perry escaped a possibly crippling challenge from U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson (R). Having dodged that bullet and watched his opponents divide the vote, he is now favored to win reelection. But, the incumbent has hardly locked it down.

Equal numbers of Texas voters have "very favorable" and "very unfavorable" views of Governor Perry. That's not a great position for an incumbent. However, it's better than the numbers posted by his competitors. Bell is viewed very favorably by 7% and very unfavorably by 12%, very low numbers for a major party challenger. For Strayhorn, the numbers are 14% very favorable and 18% very unfavorable. Friedman's numbers are 17% and 21% respectively.

Early in the year some observers wondered whether the two Independents might siphon enough votes from the Governor Perry to allow Democrat Bell to grab the prize. As things stand now, there's no certainty that Bell will be the one to benefit if Perry's position deteriorates further. Strayhorn is the only challenger currently competitive with Perry in terms of campaign cash.

The natural reluctance of voters to "waste" their votes on a third-party candidate obviously hasn't stopped the two Independents from making strong showings. Still, party loyalty may well have kept Strayhorn from attracting as much support as she would have as a Republican, or Bell from doing even more poorly.

Twenty-eight percent (28%) of likely voters here say the economy is the most important election issue to them. Eighteen percent (18%) say it's immigration, 16% say national security.

Thirty-eight percent (48%) agree that the political system is "badly broken"; 37% disagree.

<http://www.rasmussenreports.com/2006/State%20Polls/August%202006/texasGovernor.htm>



## **Texas Senate: Hutchison Cruising**

**Hutchison 61%, Radnofsky 31%**

**August 9, 2006 Republican Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison**

**Incumbent Republican Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison leads Democrat Barbara Ann Radnofsky 61% to 31% (see [crosstabs](#)). [Last month](#), the incumbent enjoyed a 27-point advantage.**

The most recent Rasmussen Reports survey of 500 Likely Voters conducted on August 3, 2006 shows Hutchison is viewed very favorably by 43% of the state's voters. Radnofsky, with a much lower level of name recognition, is viewed very favorably by only 8%.

Hutchison recently voted for a bill that would make it illegal to take a pregnant girl across state lines for an abortion without parental knowledge. Though Hutchison supports this bill, Texans are relatively divided on the issue of abortion—44% claim to be pro-choice, 48% pro-life. Proposals for restrictions on abortion, such as increased parental notification, typically attract far more support than the general pro-life position.

Like [Georgia](#), [Alabama](#) and [Virginia](#), the economy ranked as the national issue of greatest importance (see [crosstabs](#)). Immigration, a continuous controversial issue in Texas, ranked as the second most important issue in the Lone Star State at 18%. [Nationally](#), gaining control of the borders continues to be the top priority of American voters.

<http://www.rasmussenreports.com/2006/State%20Polls/August%202006/TexasSenate.htm>

## TX-02

**District Profile:** In the 2003 redistricting, the new 2nd was created by adding parts of the old 8th District in Harris County and the old 9th District in Jefferson County.

**2004 Results:** Ted Poe (R) defeated Nick Lampson (D) by 56-43%

### Ted Poe (R)

Elected in 2004; Seeking second term; Poe was unopposed in the primary.

### Gary Binderim (D)

Binderim, a consultant, ran unopposed in the primary.

## TX-10

**District Profile:** Overall, this is a heavily Republican district -- 62 percent for George W. Bush in 2004.

**2004 Results:** Michael McCaul (R) was not opposed by a Democrat and received 79% of the vote

### Michael McCaul (R)

Elected in 2004; Seeking second term; McCaul was unopposed in the primary.

### Ted Ankrum (D)

Ankrum, an engineer, was nominated with 37% in a four-way primary.

### Michael Badnarik (L)

<http://election.nationaljournal.com/2006/house/tx.htm>  
09/16/2006

## TX-08

**District Profile:** The old 8th voted 78 percent for Bush in 2000, his highest figure in the nation. In the new 8th, in 2004, he won a comparatively modest 72 percent.

**2004 Results:** Kevin Brady (R) defeated James B. Wright (D) by 69-30%

### Kevin Brady (R)

Elected in 1996; Seeking sixth term; Brady was unopposed in the primary.

### James B. Wright (D)

Wright, a retiree, was unopposed in the primary.

## TX-22

**District Profile:** Politically, the 22nd District remains Republican, but not quite as strongly as it was before the 2003 redistricting.

**2004 Results:** Tom DeLay (R) defeated Richard Morrison (D) by 55-41%

Republican Challengers

DeLay was nominated with 62% in a four-way primary before he announced his resignation from Congress. A federal judge set a June 26 hearing for a Democratic Party lawsuit that seeks to keep DeLay on the ballot and prevent Republicans from tapping a replacement candidate.

**Tom Campbell**, lawyer

**John Devine**, former state district judge

**Shelley Sekula-Gibbs**, Houston City councilwoman

**Robert Talton**, state representative

David Wallace, Sugar Land mayor

### Nick Lampson (D)

Lampson, a former congressman, was unopposed in the primary.

*A poll by Forensic Economic Data Consulting, Inc. It was a robocall poll of 500 randomly-selected likely voters in TX 10. The statistical margin of error for this number of responders is 4.4%. Q1. Are you a registered voter who intends to vote in the election? Only "yes" answers continued with the call*

Q2. Michael McCaul is your current Representative in Congress. What are your thoughts on his reelection?

34.7% Would you definitely vote to reelect him

**39.1% Would you consider other candidates**

**26.1% Would you definitely vote to replace him**

Q3. The three Candidates for Congress are Michael McCaul, the Republican, Ted Ankrum, the Democrat, and Michael Badnarik, the Libertarian.

50.8% Would you vote for Michael McCaul, the Republican

**41.6% Would you vote for Ted Ankrum, the Democrat**

7.6% Would you vote for Michael Badnarik, the Libertarian

Q4 In times such as these, should a Representative follow the lead of the President or follow the opinion of voters in their District? In a situation where the two do not agree:

23.2% The Representative should follow the President

**76.8% The Representative should follow the voters**

Q5. What is your opinion of President Bush' job performance on a scale of 1 to 4, where 1 means you strongly approve and 4 means you strongly disapprove?

25.7% Strongly approve

22.8% Somewhat approve

9.4% Some disapproval

**42.0% Strong disapproval**

<http://www.burntorangereport.com/showDiary.do?diaryId=1740>

NY TIMES September 15, 2006 News Analysis

## An Unexpected Collision Over Detainees

By CARL HULSE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14 — President Bush and Congressional Republicans spent the last 10 days laying the foundation for a titanic pre-election struggle over national security, and now they have one. But the fight playing out this week on Capitol Hill is not what they had in mind.

Instead of drawing contrasts with Democrats, the president's call for creating military tribunals to try terror suspects — a key substantive and political component of his fall agenda — has erupted into a remarkably intense clash pitting some of the best-known warriors in the Republican Party against Mr. Bush and the Congressional leadership.

At issue are definitions of what is permissible in trials and interrogations that both sides view as central to the character of the nation, the way the United States is perceived abroad and the rules of the game for what Mr. Bush has said will be a multigenerational battle against Islamic terrorists.

Democrats have so far remained on the sidelines, sidestepping Republican efforts to draw them into a fight over Mr. Bush's leadership on national security heading toward the midterm election. Democrats are rapt spectators, however, shielded by the **stern opposition to the president being expressed by three Republicans with impeccable credentials on military matters: Senators John McCain of Arizona, John W. Warner of Virginia and Lindsey Graham of South Carolina. The three were joined on Thursday by Colin L. Powell**, formerly the secretary of state and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in challenging the administration's approach.

It is one of those rare Congressional moments when the policy is as monumental as the politics.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/09/15/us/politics/15assess.html?th=&emc=th&pagewanted=print>

 [Enlarge This Image](#)



Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images

President Bush, Vice President Cheney and J. Dennis Hastert of Illinois, the House speaker, heading into a meeting with the G.O.P. members of the House.

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH: We do not condone torture. I have never ordered torture. I will never order torture. The values of this country are such that torture is not a part of our soul and our being.

<http://www.democracynow.org/article.pl?sid=06/09/15/1342246>

PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON: "I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Ms Lewinsky."

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/special\\_report/1998/12/98/revuew\\_of\\_98/themes/208715.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/special_report/1998/12/98/revuew_of_98/themes/208715.stm)

Aug. 27, 2006, 12:31AM

## AN OVERPOPULATED EARTH?

### Dr. Doom speaks his mind

#### Even threats don't quiet apocalyptic view of humanity's path

By LISA SANDBERG

**Copyright 2006 Houston Chronicle Austin Bureau** AUSTIN - When classes resume at the University of Texas at Austin this week, 90 impressionable undergrads will file into an ecology class taught by a chatty zoology professor known — not always out of earshot — as Dr. Doom.

His real name is Eric Pianka, and students enrolled in his Ecology, Evolution and Society course will hear a sad synopsis of Earth's vanishing species and habitats — coupled with an apocalyptic warning about humans racing obliviously toward the edge of a high cliff.

If he models his lectures on previous ones, Pianka may remark that the planet would be better off without 90 percent of the humans who now populate it — no offense to anyone in particular.

"We should have done something about our population 25 or 30 years ago," the Denton A. Cooley Centennial Professor of Zoology said during a recent interview at his university office.

"Now we're going to have to go into a collapse. It's going to be very painful. The death rate is going to have to exceed the birth rate, we're going to have famines, civilizations are going to fall apart."

Such views have turned Pianka, a 67-year-old lizard expert, into one of UT's biggest public relations headaches.

#### Terror risk, death threats

It started last spring, when Pianka gave two academic audiences the same doomsday speech he's been delivering for years. Only this time, a reporter happened to be present and turned Pianka's remarks into a story in the Seguin Gazette-Enterprise. News services picked it up, the blog world went crazy, and pretty soon, Pianka was being reported to the FBI as a terror threat. The FBI saw no need to launch a formal investigation, but agents did meet with the professor to discuss the death threats that poured in.

Unflattering op-ed pieces and news stories appeared nationwide. The Boston Globe likened him to a "zealot in scientific garb."

Loved or hated, Pianka is a scientist with stellar credentials who uses his podium to advance ideas that can challenge, enlighten, frighten and offend — sometimes all at once.

This article is: <http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/front/4143416.html>



## THE "ONE PERCENT DOCTRINE"

RON SUSKIND: Right.

It's a -- it's a harrowing moment. It's in the Situation Room. There are folks from CIA and NSC there. And Tenet and others deliver the intelligence to the vice president. In Kandahar, a few weeks before 9/11, bin Laden and Zarqawi, the two key players, met with Pakistani nuclear scientists to talk about what's possible on that front.

It's -- of course, it's our worst shared nightmare. Cheney listens to the briefing. And, you know, he's -- he's quite alarmed by it. Everybody is in the government at this point. It's just two months after 9/11. We're worried about a second-wave attack. And -- and that's where the 1 percent moment, the 1 percent doctrine, emerges, right there in the room.

MARGARET WARNER: Well, it's pretty riveting, the way you describe the 1 percent moment. I wonder if you could just read a little of that for us.

RON SUSKIND: OK.

MARGARET WARNER: Page 62.

RON SUSKIND: OK. Never ask an author to read. They will say yes.

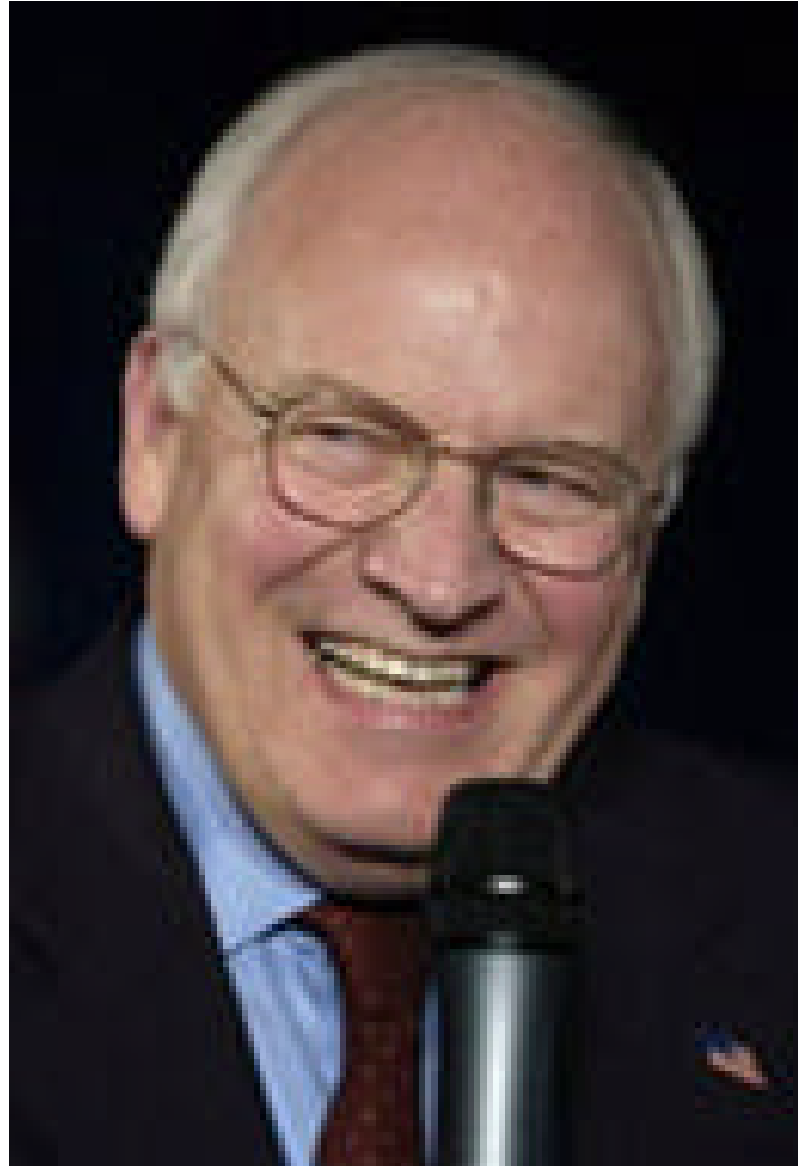
RON SUSKIND: OK. Here we go.

"Cheney listened intently, hard-eyed, clamped down tight. When the briefing finished, he said nothing for a moment. And then he was ready with his different way, a different way of thinking: **'If there's a 1 percent chance that Pakistani scientists are helping al-Qaida build or develop a nuclear weapon, we have to treat it as a certainty, in terms of our response,' Cheney said. He paused to assess his declaration. 'It's not about our analysis or finding a preponderance of evidence,' he added. 'It's about our response.'**

"So, now spoken, it stood, a standard of action that would frame events and responses from the administration for years to come, the Cheney doctrine. Even if there's just a 1 percent chance of the unimaginable coming true, act as if it's a certainty. It's not about our analysis, as Cheney said. It's about our response. The doctrine, the 1 percent solution, divided what has largely been indivisible in the conduct of American foreign policy, analysis and action."

**"Action is inherently good"**

[http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/entertainment/july-dec06/suskind\\_07-04.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/entertainment/july-dec06/suskind_07-04.html)



09/16/2006

Third Saturday Seminar 06-07  
Humanity at a Crossroads Session 9

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## Poll Of The Day

**What is your prediction for the midterm elections?**

Republicans Keep House, Senate



Democrats Win House, Senate



Republicans Keep House, Democrats Win Senate



Democrats Win House, Republicans Keep Senate



Total Votes: 4320

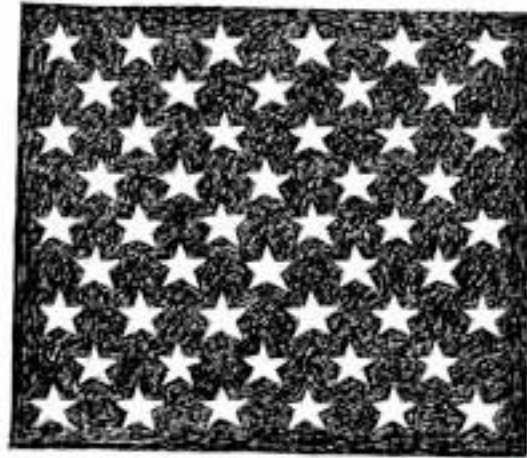
**First they came for the Communists,  
and I didn't speak up,  
because I wasn't a Communist.**

**Then they came for the Jews,  
and I didn't speak up,  
because I wasn't a Jew.**

**Then they came for the Catholics,  
and I didn't speak up,  
because I was a Protestant.**

**Then they came for me,  
and by that time there was no one  
left to speak up for me.**

Martin Neimoller



**WHAT GOOD IS  
ALL THAT FANCY  
RHETORIC ABOUT  
SUPPORTING OUR  
TROOPS FIGHTING FOR FREE-  
DOM AND DEMOCRACY IF YOU  
DON'T EVEN BOTHER TO VOTE?**

**Third Saturday Seminar 2005-2006**

**Humanity at a Crossroads**

**Session 10**

**17 June 2007**

**"The Polarization of America and the World"**

**Curt Gibby**

**ALL Program, Montgomery College, Conroe, Texas**

# Polarization - State of the Nation

<b>time segment</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Segment</b>
00:00	00:00	02:45	Intro
10:11	02:45	12:56	The Big Sort
08:28	12:56	21:24	Going to Extremes
08:25	21:24	29:49	Divide and Conquer
05:55	29:49	35:44	Preaching to the choir
05:15	35:44	40:59	Gridlock

Are we really as diametrically opposed as the video implies?

What are the real issues?

Haves versus have nots?

Social Darwinism – is a person's status in life a sign of his worthiness?

Liberals vs Conservatives?

Judeo-Christians versus Muslims?

Old vs Young?

Reality vs Fantasy? Who's to say?

The Constitution vs the hired hands?

Are people really no damned good?

What are we afraid of?

## **Here we go again! (Come on World take a deep breath!)**

Benedict's remarks came on Tuesday, when he delivered a major address — which some church experts say was a defining speech of his pontificate — saying that the West, and specifically Europe, had become so beholden to reason that it had closed God out of public life, science and academia.

But the pope began this speech at Regensburg University with what he conceded were “brusque” words about Islam: **He quoted a 14th Century Byzantine emperor as saying, “Show me just what Muhammad brought that was new, and there you will find things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached.”**

Benedict also used the word “jihad,” or holy war, saying that violence was contrary to God's nature and to reason. But, at the end of a speech that did not otherwise mention Islam, he also said that reason could be the basis for “that genuine dialogue of cultures and religions so urgently needed today.”

After his address on Tuesday, his spokesman said the pope did not intend to insult Islam. But many experts on Islam warned that Benedict ran the risk of offense in using such strong language, with tensions between religions so high.

And today, criticism began pouring the pope's way. The 79-year-old Benedict has taken a more skeptical, hard-nosed approach to Islam than did his predecessor, John Paul II, who died in April 2005.

**“I don't think the church should point a finger at extremist activities in other religions, Aiman Mazyek, president of the Central Council of Muslims in Germany, told the newspaper Süddeutsche Zeitung, recalling the Crusades, the Spanish Inquisition and the Vatican's relations with Nazi Germany.**

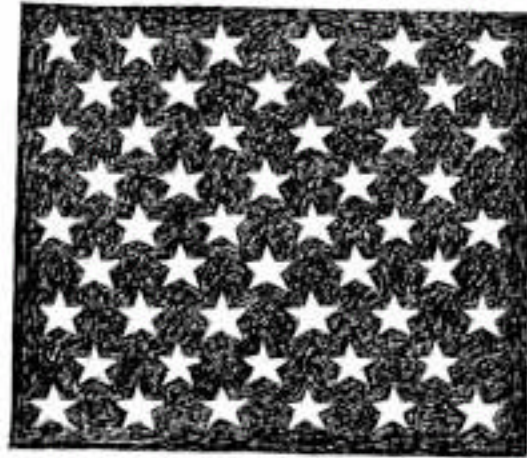
<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/09/14/world/europe/15papalend.html?hp&ex=1158292800&en=9744049177c86564&ei=5094&partner=homepage>

- Whatever happened to, “Sticks and stones will break my bones, but names will never hurt me.”?
- If something is true should it be libel or inflammatory or considered disrespectful?
- Does it seem that everybody is carrying a chip on his or her shoulder?
- Seems to me there is some willful blindness involved here.
- How do you treat a religion that is spread by the sword?
- Does one slight or atrocity always deserve a slight or atrocity in return?  
(Where does it stop?)



**Please consider:**

- **Does everybody have an equal claim to everything on the planet?**
- **If you are a guest in a home or a country, how should you behave?**
- **How much human behavior can you regulate by law?**
- **How do you reconcile your freedoms with the rights of others?**
- **Must all your friends and associates agree with you on almost everything?**
- **At what point do decisions about personal matters become a threat to society?**
- **What is a person entitled to receive from society? (How Much?)**



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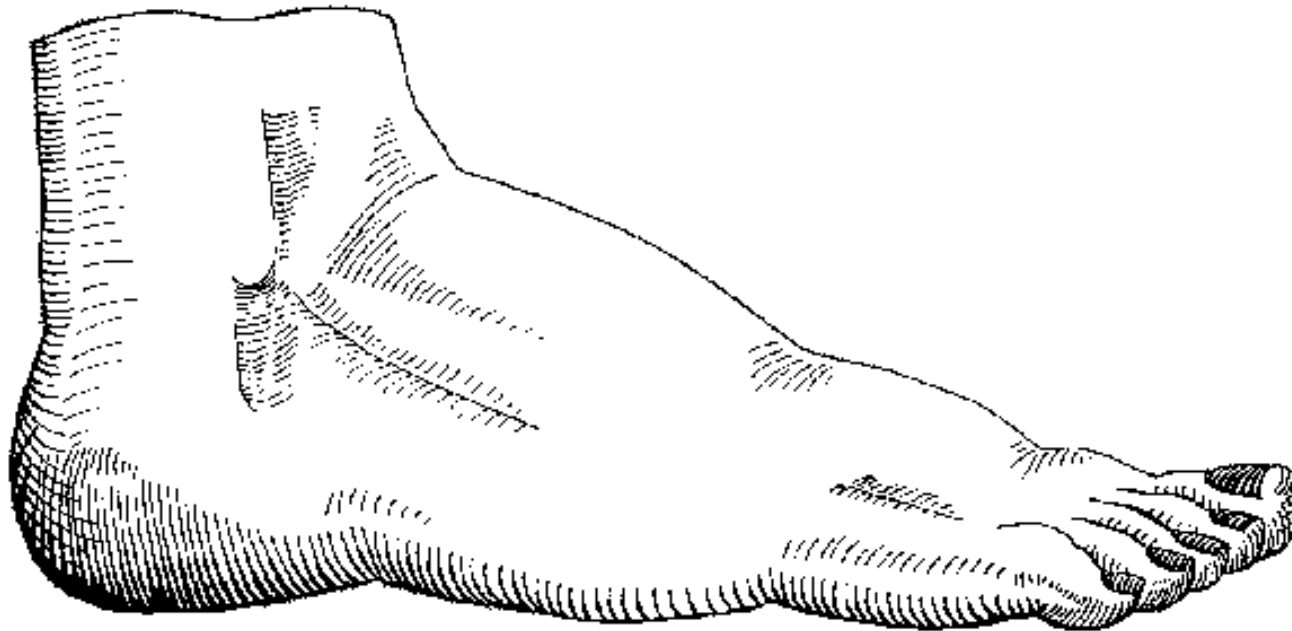
# Don't panic!

## *Don't be Panicked!*

**See You October 21, 2006**

**Remember the mid-term  
election! Be Registered.**

The Monty Python Foot, a convenient way to end something that would seem to go on for ever accomplishing nothing.... (*See deus ex machina*)



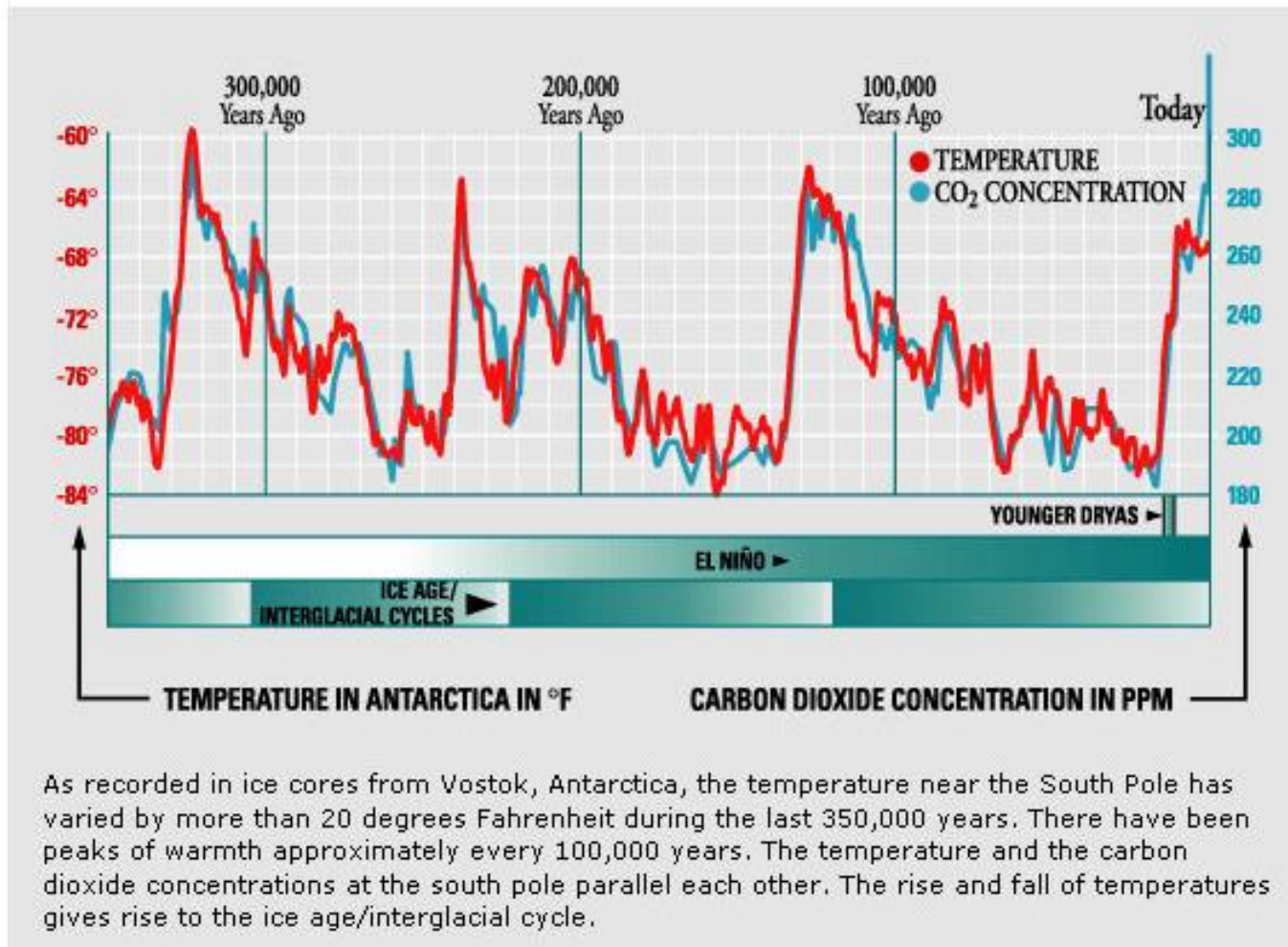
The famous Python Foot can here be seen in its original format in the bottom left corner of "An Allegory of Venus and Cupid" by [Bronzino](#) (~1545)

When Monty Python had no ending for a skit, this foot would appear out of the sky and squash whatever was on screen with a rude noise. Allowing the show to move on.

# Enrichment Material

# Global Warming – Man-Made?

This graph is based on ice cores drilled in Vostok, Antarctica. It shows temperature changes near the South Pole, which were more extreme than in the middle latitudes.



**HISPANIC LEADERS SPEAK OUT!**

**Augustin Cebada, Brown Berets; "Go back to Boston! Go back to Plymouth Rock, Pilgrims! Get out! We are the future. You are old and tired. Go on. We have beaten you. Leave like beaten rats. You old white people. It is your duty to die . . . Through love of having children, we are going to take over.**

~~~~~

**Richard Alatorre, Los Angeles City Council. "They're afraid we're going to take over the governmental institutions and other institutions. They're right. We will take them over . . . We are here to stay."**

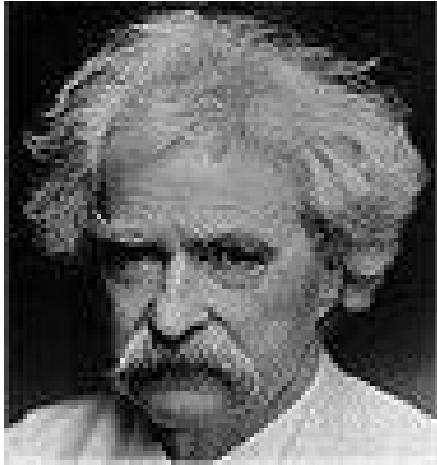
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**Excelsior, the national newspaper of Mexico, "The American Southwest seems to be slowly returning to the jurisdiction of Mexico without firing a single shot."**

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**Professor Jose Angel Gutierrez, University of Texas; "We have an aging white America. They are not making babies. They are dying. The explosion is in our population . . . I love it. They are s-----g in their pants with fear. I love it."**

~~~~~



"History doesn't repeat itself, but it  
does rhyme."

-- **Mark Twain**

<http://www.quotedb.com/quotes/3038>



Trying to fight terrorists  
with military force is like  
trying to play baseball  
with a hockey stick.

The game has a lot action  
but it's difficult to keep  
score.

**About the time our original 13 states adopted their new constitution, in 1787, Alexander Tyler, a Scottish history professor at the University of Edinburgh , had this to say about the fall of the Athenian Republic some 2,000 years prior:**

**"A democracy is always temporary in nature; it simply cannot exist as a permanent form of government. A democracy will continue to exist up until the time that voters discover that they can vote themselves generous gifts from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates who promise the most benefits from the public treasury, with the result that every democracy will finally collapse due to loose fiscal policy, which is always followed by a dictatorship."**

**"The average age of the worlds greatest civilizations from the beginning of history, has been about 200 years. During those 200 years, these nations always progressed through the following sequence:**

- 1. From bondage to spiritual faith;**
- 2. From spiritual faith to great courage;**
- 3. From courage to liberty;**
- 4. From liberty to abundance;**
- 5. From abundance to complacency;**
- 6. From complacency to apathy;**
- 7. From apathy to dependence;**
- 8. From dependence back into bondage "**