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From the Committee Chair...

### *Is Now the Time for Term Limits?*

*Term limits have been tossed around again and again for quite some time. Many of our political associates do not believe term limits are a great idea. Some would say that term limits would only cause confusion and produce candidates that are too inexperienced with the way Washington works. My thoughts reflect to the comments of President Washington who said, "Politics should never be a career move by anyone who enters". So with the recent debacles in Washington, including events such as the stimulus package, the bail out banks and auto manufacturers, corporate bonuses, housing market bubble and now possibly the health care reform package, many Americans are finding descent with their elected representatives. With so many people speaking out and protesting what is happening in America, do we bring the issue up the issue of term limits and move forward? I am sure that there will be those that say it is not a good idea. However, we have term limits in Arkansas... and the President also has term limits... So why do we not have term limits for the House of Representatives and the Senate? Further, ask yourself this question... How many years have you tuned into C-Span and watched the same people going on about what the government needs to do for the American people but have yet to get anything done in the 20 or 40 yrs that they have been there? How is it they end up right back in office again and again? We have many that are in both the Senate and the House of Representatives that have been there for years and we just keep putting the same people back in office only to hear ourselves complain about what is wrong in America. If we want change bad enough we would not keep putting the same people in office! I am not just talking about Republicans, there are also Democrats that have been there for quite some time as well. Now is the time for the Republican Party to start talking about ballot initiative for term limits. With term limits we can make a difference! We must begin getting some fresh ideas and more conservative values back in government. If we were to have a poll on this issue I wonder what the results would be? Could we get the two-thirds majority to make it happen at this time?*

*Mike Sevak*

*RPBC Chairman*



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*In Their Eyes...* by Chris Nogy

I have come to hold this thought as central in my ideals about politics and public office. It has become so easy for the world to attribute all kinds of larceny, villainy, and just plain evil to politicians today, but I don't believe that most of them deserve this. Sure, some do (but throughout time there have always been politicians and public figures that were just plain evil) but for the most part I attribute the current state of things to people with great intentions who first don't look two inches in front of their nose and second don't know how to say no to themselves when a helpful notion pops into their heads.

Let's face it. People don't enter the public arena to do nothing, because they aspire to merely watch over something, to allow the status quo to remain. People enter politics to be active, to change things, to make things better. More's the pity. Because if our political offices were designed to be simply guardians of the public trust, defenders against encroachment, and the protectors of the public against good intentions, we wouldn't be where we are today.

I can, and likely will in days to follow, carry this premise through several of our most pressing current societal problems, but I would like to start with education. You see, for as long as there has been a society anywhere that taught it's young, there have been those who have been taught, those who have not, those who could not, and those who would not be taught. But in all actuality, each person was taught as need presented it to do the things they needed to do. Farming communities taught basic skills, but focused mostly on agriculture in educating their kids. Mining communities, fishing communities, glasswork and metalwork cities, all these taught the skills needed to promote their trades. And few people were left out, and few people did not learn enough to be productive.

There were institutions of higher learning, where you could go if you had an interest and an aptitude for something, and you could learn beyond your community focus. Not everyone made use of these institutions, and that was OK. Those who did were not slowed down, nor was the focus of the teachers diverted from them. Those who would and could and wanted to achieve education above their community's basics had the greatest possibility of success, and we produced greatness with this method.

Now enter people, helpful people, with wonderful intentions and the power to implement their agendas. A few of these got together and started to believe that people who did not have the education that these greatest of the great minds had were victims – and you cannot have a victim in America. They did not think that not everyone is created or brought up equal, and they did not think that the system actually did work for almost everyone who wanted to avail himself or herself of it. No, they believed that the people who weren't achieving the highest level of education **IN THEIR EYES** were the most horrendous kind of victims, victims that weren't aware of their victimization. And this, they demanded, had to stop.

The key phrase in this series of events is "IN THEIR EYES". Because every social group, every region, every community has a different set of expectations and priorities in education, but these

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helpful people simply projected their expectations, and lo and behold, almost nowhere met their standards. And thus, wielding the power they appointed to themselves, they set out to fix this, to make sure everyone met their expectations of education – everyone. And they set Minimum Standards, which is government speak for the only thing they can impose because every national agenda is only capable of meeting the lowest common denominator. And thus schools began to be tracked and quantified, and where once was greatness there was only mediocrity. And the helpful people began to demand that everyone be brought up to the standards, no matter how much attention was diverted from those who would do well. And thus the overall status slipped in two ways – first, the kids were no longer being taught their local priorities and skills because of the national curriculum, and second, the kids who would succeed were being held back because of the focus on those who wouldn't. Nobody took into account human nature, the nature of any group of people. There are some who are strong, some who are fast, some who are smart, some who are charismatic, there are strong traits and weak traits in each individual, and we are not all equal in capacity. But now in our desire to help save people from their 'victimization', we lowered standards and destroyed communities, and we still didn't end up with assuring that everyone attained academic excellence, which was the goal of the original helpful people who knew that the problem was with those of us holding folks down, not simply a part of human nature.

And teachers became less competent, not because they lacked desire or lacked spirit or compassion, but because they lacked training – there were simply less educated people educating them. And that leads us to the current condition, where more people are having to spend more time than ever before educating their own children outside school time in things that schools used to handle well. Teachers promote political ideology because they want to make positive change and they see their ideals as positive – but that is not the place or the role of teachers, they are here to improve the human condition by helping each mind achieve the most it can achieve, not by hoisting up those who can't to try to make them reach something they never really will. Home schooling and extra-curricular teaching by parents is the only way those who still have an idea of what can be achieved can ever expect their children to achieve it. It is the only way for us to give our children a chance at more than we had, because the education system as designed by helpful people with power and good intentions has only assured that we give our children slightly less than the generation before.

So as you go about your day, if you are in politics or public office, remember that sometimes it is better to simply do no harm than to do what you perceive as helpful. Sometimes it is better to look a foot, a year, a mile in front of your nose before you go off half-cocked and muck things up. Sometimes it is better that you simply protect what naturally evolves instead of artificially enhancing it. And for those not in politics, remind your representatives that in lots of cases it is absolutely fine to simply band together under a simple statement – "This thing doesn't need done, this help doesn't need given, and thus we will not only not cooperate in helping, but we will insist that our united response be one of 'We Legitimately Do Nothing'." Only in this way do we avert the current and future train wrecks that our helpful politicians and public officials keep getting us into.

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### *GOP Allied Club Notes...*

**Bella Vista Republican Women (BVRW)** - Possible candidate for US Senate, Fred Ramey will be our Guest Speaker. October 26, 2009 at Concordia Retirement Village, 1 Concordia Drive, Bella Vista, 9 a.m. Social, 9:30 a.m. business meeting. Visit our website: <http://www.bvrepublicanwomen.org/>

**Benton County Republican Women (BCRW)** - Meeting being held October 20th at 12 p.m. at the Apple Blossom Retirement Villiage Meeting Hall, located in separate building on north side of property. Guest Speaker: Tricia Greene, President, Arkansas Federation of Republican Women. Please bring a guest. Buffet lunch will be catered, \$8 per person. Visit our website: <http://www.bentoncountyrepublicanwomen.org/>

**Republican Men of Benton County (RMBC)** - The next meeting will be Friday, October 23rd at Metfield Club, 1 Euston Rd. in Bella Vista, at 12 p.m. Contact: Sen. Kim Hendren, Club President, Ph. 479-790-5600, [kimhendren@cox.net](mailto:kimhendren@cox.net)

**Republican Women of Bentonville (BVRW)** - the next meeting will be November 12th at 6:30 at Bentonville Puble Library.  
Visit our website: <http://republicanwomenofbentonville.org/>

**Siloam Springs Republican Women (SSRW)**- will meet October 26th, coffee at 6:30 p.m. and program is at 7 p.m. The Republican Women leaders of our area will be honored and will give their personal mission statements.

#### Save the Date:

NFRW Spring Board Meeting, Thu Mar 11 – Sat Mar 13, 2010 at the Renaissance Convention Center Hotel, Oklahoma City, OK

#### Holiday Help:

Please check out these Armed Services Projects for ways you can help during the holidays:

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

[www.fisherhouse.org](http://www.fisherhouse.org)

[www.sewmuchcomfort.org](http://www.sewmuchcomfort.org)

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

[www.nfrwoperationwecare.org](http://www.nfrwoperationwecare.org)

[www.bluestarmothers.org](http://www.bluestarmothers.org)

[www.qovf.org](http://www.qovf.org)

[www.nmfa.org](http://www.nmfa.org)

[www.va.gov/homeless/page.cfm?pg=6](http://www.va.gov/homeless/page.cfm?pg=6)

[www.toysfortots.org/](http://www.toysfortots.org/)

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### *Meetings / Further Information...*

#### **Next Republican Party of Benton County Meeting:**

will be October 27th at the Benton County Public Services Building on Hwy 102 West of Bentonville at 6 p.m. We will be having a chili supper fundraiser. Cost is \$5 per person. If you would like to help, please call Sue Scott at 636-6665. Please join us and bring a guest!!! Our guest speaker will be Alex Martinez from ePolitica Group speaking about blogging and achieving more growth online using Social media outlets.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

**Christmas Luncheon and White Elephant Auction, 11:30 p.m. on Dec. 1st at the Clarion Hotel and Convention Center, 211 E. Walton Blvd., Bentonville**

#### **From the website developer, Alex Martinez:**

We are excited to announce that we can now be found at Facebook and Twitter. For those that are on Facebook and Twitter please begin to follow us today. You can find our links on our website: [www.bentoncountygop.org](http://www.bentoncountygop.org) under "Follow Us" or you can go directly to: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Rogers-AR/Benton-County-Republican-Committee/82034112295> or <http://twitter.com/bcgop1>

#### **Submissions to the newsletter:**

Please submit articles, associated club news, meetings, fundraiser announcements, etc. by the 9th day of the month to Barbara Tillman, Secretary RPBC, [Secretary@bentoncountygop.org](mailto:Secretary@bentoncountygop.org)

#### **Contact Information:**

**Mike Sevak, Chairman, [chairman@bentoncountygop.org](mailto:chairman@bentoncountygop.org)**

Permanent Mailing Address:  
Republican Party of Benton County  
Attn: County Committee  
P.O. Box 1678  
Bentonville, AR 72712-1678

**"Heaven protect me from helpful men with the power to do the good they think they need to." ~Chris Nogy**

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