

Sun City Democrats

www.suncitydems.org

October 2010



General Meeting:

The General Meeting is typically on the first Saturday of each month. The meetings are free and open to the public. For additional information on the Sun City Democrats, please contact President **Roe Mackey** at 864-7948 or Communications Chair **Betty Dougherty** at 864-1582.

Saturday, October 2, 2010

9:30 AM Coffee, 10:00 Speaker

Place: Sun City Activity Center Atrium

Program: **Walt Herbert**

T. Walter Herbert received a BA in English from Harvard College in 1960 (Magna, Phi Beta Kappa), and in 1963 received an M.Div from Union Theological Seminary in New York City, specializing in Hebrew Bible. From 1963-66 he served as Director of an Experimental Ministry to Graduate Students & Faculty at the University of California, Berkeley, a project funded by the Glide Foundation of San Francisco. In 1969 he received a PhD in English from Princeton University, and took a position at the University of Kentucky, from which he departed in 1975 to accept the Herman Brown Chair in English at Southwestern University. In 1981 he was appointed University Scholar at Southwestern; and in 2006 he retired from the active faculty at Southwestern, and was named Professor of English Emeritus.

In 1979, Herbert helped create the **Brown Symposium**, which brings distinguished scholars to Southwestern University.

Herbert's work also has earned him several awards including the NEH Younger Humanist Fellowship, a Guggenheim Fellowship, a residency at the Rockefeller Foundation Study Center in Bellagio, Italy, and the William C. Finch Distinguished Professorship at Southwestern. In 1990, Herbert was appointed the Beckman Visiting Professor in the English Department at the University of California in Berkeley.

Herbert's most recent book is ***Faith Based War: From 9/11 to Catastrophic Success in Iraq***, Equinox Press (2009).

SUN CITY DEMOCRATS 2010 OFFICERS

President: **Roe Mackey** 864-7948

(NOTE: See Roe's Message on Page 3.)

Vice-President: **Duane Florschuetz** 868-2621

Secretary: **Bonnie Boorman** 863-2387

Treasurer: **Margaret Donaldson** 818-1594

Past President: **Jodi Salyers** 864-2812

Communication: **Betty Dougherty** 864-1582

(NOTE: See Betty's Note on Page 2.)

Website Editor: **Jodi Salyers** 864-2812

Newsletter Editor: **Jodi Salyers** 864-2812

Hospitality: **Fred Becker** 864-0704

Meeting Setup: This position is vacant.

Coffee: **George Wagner** 864-0641

Meeting Food: **Bettie Horn Bendewald** 931-0981

IMPACT: **Don Lelong** 869-1714

Membership: **Larry Hilliard** 541-221-3015

Meeting Sign-In: This position is vacant.

New Homeowners: This position is vacant.

Database: **Frank Wentworth** 864-3385

Programs: **Craig Whitney** 869-2690

Special Events: This position is vacant.

Decorations: This position is vacant.





Please SUPPORT the Sun City Democrats

The **Sun City Democrats** provide many activities and services for members. We have educational meetings, provide speakers, social events, maintain a website, and a monthly newsletter. We exist only because of loyal volunteers.

Sun City Democrats' annual dues are **\$12** per member. You may pay at the sign-in table at the meetings or mail a check made out to **Sun City Democrats to: Sun City Democrats; 1530 Sun City Blvd, Suite 120; PMB #432; Georgetown TX 78633.**

NOTE: Any dues paid now will make your membership valid through **2011**. What a bargain! Applications are available online:

[Sun City Democrats Membership Application](#)

Please SUPPORT the Sun City Democrats Political Action Committee ~ IMPACT:

Our PAC is known as **IMPACT: Informed Members Political Action Committee of Texas**. **IMPACT** is the only legal way that the Sun City Democrats may contribute to candidates. Send donations to **IMPACT Treasurer, Don Lelong, 101 Crosby Street, Georgetown TX 78633.**

IMPACT's 10 Grand By 2010 program was a great success and has contributed to the following candidates:

Diana Maldonado , State Rep District 52	\$2,300
Judy Jennings , State Board of Edu, Dist 10	1,500
Jim Stauber , County Commissioner, Prec 2	1,500
Bill White , Governor	1,500
Kurt Kuhn , 3 rd Dist Court of Appeals, Place 4	1,000
Keith Hampton , Crt of Criminal Appeals, Place 6	500
Jeff Maurice , County Commissioner, Prec 4	500
Chet Edwards , US Congressman, Dist 17	500
Pati Jacobs , State Rep, Dist 17	500

The following candidates were assigned token allocations of \$150 each to express our appreciation and encouragement of their candidacies: **Linda Chavez-Thompson; Barbara Ann Radnofsky; Hector Uribe; Hank Gilbert; Jeff Weems; Jim Sharp; Bill Moody; Blake Bailey:** 1,200

TOTAL **\$11,000**

Texas Democratic Party

Boyd Richie, Chairman

Email: yellowdog@txdemocrats.org

Website: <http://www.txdemocrats.org/>

Williamson County Democratic Party

Greg Windham, Chairman

656-7368 gregry17@gmail.com

<http://www.wilcodemocrats.org>

Williamson County Democratic Party Office

704 South Austin (Upstairs Chupa Rosa), Georgetown

Precinct 381

~**Kay Walker**, Precinct Chair

864-2874 kaywalker@suddenlink.net

(NOTE: See Kay's Newsletter on Page 3.)

Precinct 394

~**Dwayne Boydston**, Precinct Chair

431-4412 dwayne.boydstun@gmail.com

Precinct 396

~**Billie Reaney**, Precinct Chair

868-0098 billie_reaney@msn.com

Precinct 399

~**Bill Blair**, Precinct Chair

868-9180 billblair3@verizon.net



Pride, Patriotism, & Politickin' Party

~ **Betty Dougherty**

A great big **THANK YOU** to all committee heads and volunteers who helped make our **September 11 'Pride, Patriotism, & Politickin'** meeting a big success. I'm not listing names because I don't want to accidentally leave someone out, but you all know who you are! Your initiative, ideas, and hard work are appreciated more than I can say.



Precinct 381 Democrats Newsletter

~ Kay Walker, Precinct 381 Democrat Chairperson

No state in the union has more non-voters than Texas, according to **Bob Moser**, editor of The **Texas Observer**.

We should take this as challenge to each of us to check out all our children, grandchildren, siblings, nieces and nephews and tell them you can count the ways it would behoove them to vote this coming November. But first make sure they are registered, or if not that they get themselves registered by **October 4**.

Then there is that group which is registered but just can't get excited or interested enough to go vote. Maybe they would be interested if they knew that the **Texas Water Development Board** and **River Authority Boards** are appointed by the governor, thus making who is governor all the more important. Or they might worry about **Governor Perry's** proposed education cuts that include reduction in funding for textbooks, bus seat belts, science labs, after school programs, mentors, teacher training, dropout prevention and physical fitness.

The Dreaded Midterm Elections

Yes, it is true that we will likely lose seats in the US House. Since **Abraham Lincoln**, all but four presidents lost seats in the midterm elections. The DCCC is sending relief money to the campaigns of **Chet Edwards** and other Democrat candidates designated as possible losses. The Texas House has a division of approximately 73 Democrats and 77 Republicans, so that two change-overs could alter which party controls the House. Governor candidate **Bill White** needs volunteers to help get out his message. E-mail houseman@billwhitefortexas.com to volunteer.

Gloom and Doom ?

No. It is time to roll up our shirt sleeves and go to work. **The Election is less than 2 months away!**

October 4 - last day to register to vote in the November 2010 Election. I have these applications.

October 18 - 29 - Early Voting at the CA - or you can vote early at any voting site in Williamson County. The hours are the usual 8-6 the first week and 7-6 the second week. It will be open Saturday all day and Sunday in the afternoon of the weekend between the two weeks of Early Voting.

November 2 - Election Day. If you wait to vote on Election Day, then you must vote in the site specified for your precinct.

Today - Time to put up a **Bill White** yard sign! I have these signs and also bumper stickers.

(NOTE: **Bill White Yard Signs are also available on Jane Yendell's front porch, 211 Scurry Pass.**)

Kay Walker, Precinct 381 Democrat Chairperson

864-2874

kaywalker@suddenlink.net

President's Message

~ Roe Mackey

What a political year this has been and we still have weeks before the November election. Even after being involved in politics for 50 years it is still difficult for me to understand the political picture of today. Why do so many still believe that **President Obama** was not born in the United States, and he is a Muslim, a communist, a socialist? Why will no Republican Senator vote for any bill proposed by the Democrats? Why the Tea Party? Who is the most important Republican? **Sara Palin!** Why is the only way to solve our problems, from the Republican point of view, to cut taxes and spend less?

I believed the Presidential election in 2008 was vital and so important for our future as individuals and as a country. Will everything that we won in 2008 be lost in 2010? What can we do - I believe there are two major areas in which you can help these last few weeks.

- **One** - there are some great candidates- some of them are - **Bill White** for Governor, **Diana Maldonado** for State Rep, **Judy Jennings** for State School Board and **Kurt Kuhn** 3rd District Court of Appeals - check their web site and see if you can help - volunteer.
- **Two** - all candidates will need more money - if you have not already donated, do so.

Now to politics in **Sun City Democrats**: our club will soon be selecting officers for 2011-12. We have had many volunteers, but we need more in some specific areas: Treasurer, Special Events Chair (Social and other events), and Website Manager. If you would be willing to help, contact our nomination committee - **Jane Yendell** - 864-1715.



Time For a Change

Houston Chronicle endorses former Houston Mayor Bill White for Texas Governor

HOUSTON CHRONICLE Editorial | September 18, 2010

Texas faces an unprecedented budget deficit estimated at \$21 billion, faltering health care and public education systems, and demands for new energy sources and transportation funding. For nearly a decade, **Rick Perry** — the longest-serving governor in Lone Star history — has been at the helm of an increasingly wayward ship.

Texas can't afford four more years of Perry's leadership. The governor has shown a distaste for dealing with budget details, fobbing them off on the Legislature and even suggesting in a recent news conference that Comptroller **Susan Combs** had better uses of her time than issuing deficit projections.

Fortunately, voters have the opportunity to replace Republican Perry with former Houston Mayor **Bill White**, a Democrat with credentials as a successful lawyer, corporate CEO and public servant who demonstrated his management capabilities and hard-work ethic during a six-year tenure at City Hall.

As he did in Houston, White can bring innovative financial solutions, a passion for environmental protection, and a strong bipartisan and ethical commitment to a governor's office tarnished by charges of cronyism, partisanship and catering to contributors at the expense of constituents.

"Today our state is being run like a political machine to perpetuate Rick Perry in office," said White during his screening with the Chronicle editorial board. Gov. Perry has declined to meet with Texas newspaper editorial boards.

"People want a governor who can bring people together to get things done," White continued. "Leadership is not dividing the state into red teams and blue teams, playing people off against each other. Leadership is not having citizens and journalists have to pry information out of the government when it's funded by the taxpayers."

Texans need a governor committed to transparency and willing to discuss the issues of the day with citizens and media. Perry has ducked debates with White, using the dodge of demanding that the Democrat release his tax returns not only for his mayoral tenure but years before. Meanwhile, he has shrouded his own financial dealings that have made him a millionaire in a blind trust.

White promises to expand the governor's role in planning the state budget and making state agencies more efficient in their financial planning. He points to the Texas Department of Transportation's budget mismanagement as symptomatic of the problems that have created the looming deficit.

"DOT was so preoccupied with the corrupt land grab known as the **Trans-Texas Corridor** that it lost sight of basic management and getting people from where they live to where they work," said White. "In 2008 for an extended period of time they did not know where their budget was within \$1.1 billion." According to the candidate, that miscalculation resulted in numerous roadway construction projects across the state being canceled.

As mayor, White fought hard to force the **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality** to strengthen monitoring of air quality around industrial facilities. If he wins the governorship, White said he would quickly defuse the confrontation with the federal **Environmental Protection Agency** that threatens to take away the state's ability to set air quality standards. He contends the conflict was concocted by Perry to burnish his image as a states-rights proponent.

White would make improving public education one of his highest priorities as governor. He points to statistics showing the state to be next to last in the nation in the percentage of adults with high school diplomas and 45th in SAT scores. He wants to expand pre-kindergarten programs and boost career and technical training for high school students.

"This state is not doing a good job of training people for high-wage jobs," said White. "God made us with different talents, and the job market requires different skills."

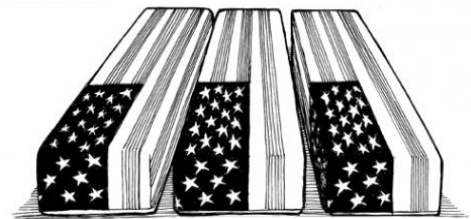
When he was mayor, White and his wife Andrea participated in campaigns to encourage students to return to school by visiting young people at their homes. If elected governor, White would work with local school districts to set up job banks with local employers to hire students who must work to generate family income.

With state college tuition skyrocketing by 93 percent since 2003, White pledges to advocate for more affordable two- and four-year programs, and for measures to cut the cost of class textbooks by using free open-source and on-line materials where possible.

During his municipal tenure, White reduced lobbyist influence at City Hall, while a revolving door spun between Perry's top staff and the Austin lobby. At the same time, the correlation between the governor's appointments to state boards and the large amounts those individuals contributed to his campaigns afterward has been well documented.

White has proposed a number of needed ethics reforms, including limiting the amount individuals can contribute to the governor after being appointed to a position. Under White's plan, senior staff of the governor and state agencies would be prohibited from working on issues related to previous employers for two years, and banned from lobbying the governor's office or their agencies for two years after leaving public service.

We've watched **Bill White** run the mayor's office, appointing both Democrats and Republicans and building bridges across ethnic and ideological divides. We believe he'll do the same at the state capitol, and we urge Texans to give him that opportunity.



WHICH IS THE GAY ONE ?

How Democrats and Republicans Compare

~ The Silver Buzz Café <http://silverbuzzcafe.com/?p=13594>

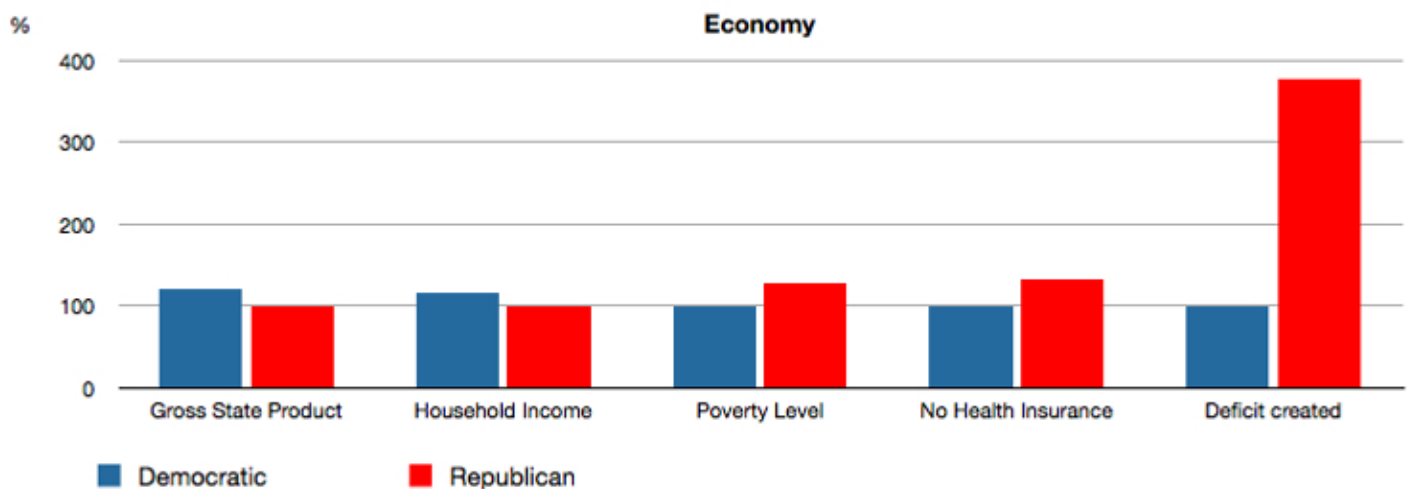


The **San Francisco Chronicle** recently published ¹ a very interesting analysis by an engineer named **Yagil Hertzberg** who lives in Sunnyvale, CA. He had tried, unsuccessfully, to persuade people to change their minds about the party that they should vote for. He tried to quantify the outcomes of periods where each party governed. He split his observations into two groups – the economy and family values.

He found that, in almost all respects, a Democratic president or state government produced better results. The sole exception in his statistics is the incidence of robberies, which is higher in states run by Democrats, most probably because those states have higher household incomes and the rich don't tend to physically rob the poor. His first observation, which he didn't quantify, but is born out by a quick check of the statistics, is that **since 1960 Democratic Party administrations have delivered higher job creation rates than any of the Republican Party administrations**. The other observations are all quantified and I've split them into four groups for easier assimilation: the economy; family values; crime and education.

The Economy

The chart below shows the various statistics about state economies and the Federal deficit that Hertzberg included in his analysis.

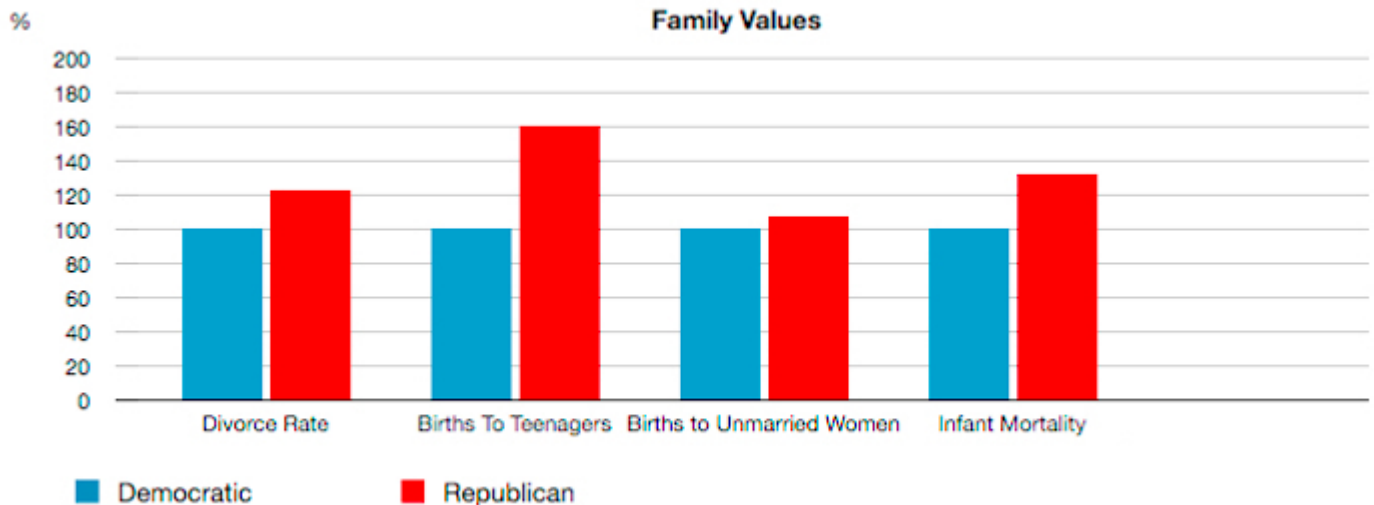


What the statistics show:

- **Productivity:** The gross state product of the 20 states that elected a Democratic Party candidate at least 5 times out of the last 8 elections is 15% higher than the other states that elected a Republican.
- **Household income:** The median household income in the Democratic Party states is 16% higher than in the Republican Party states.
- **Poverty:** The percentage of persons living below the poverty level is 27% higher in the states run by Republicans.
- **Health insurance:** The percentage of people without health insurance is 33% higher in the states run by Republicans.
- **Deficit:** Since 1960, the Federal deficit that each of the Democratic Party administrations has passed to its successor was lower than the one it inherited, while each of the Republican Party administrations has increased the deficit. The average yearly deficit under the Republican Party administrations was 277% higher than (3.77 times as big as) the average deficit under the Democratic Party administrations.

Family Values

The next chart summarizes what Hertzberg discovered about family values that can be quantified at the state level.

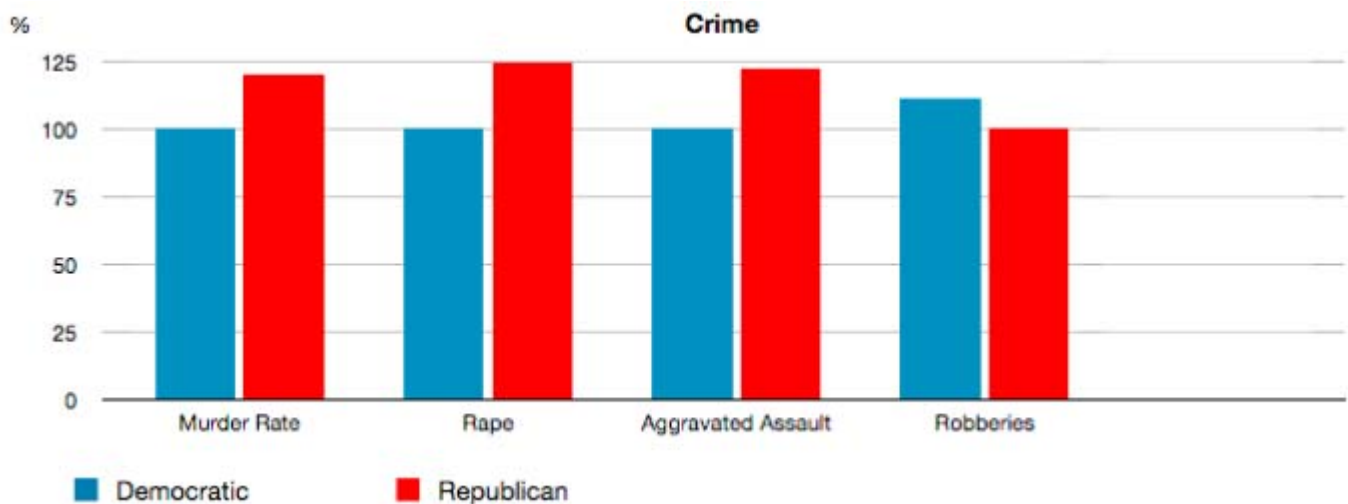


What the statistics show:

- **Divorce:** The divorce rate of the 20 states who voted for the Republican candidate at least 5 times out of the of last 8 elections is 23% higher than the ones who voted for a Democratic candidate.
- **Births to teenagers:** The teenage birth rate in the Republican states is 61% higher than in the Democratic states.
- **Births to unmarried women:** The unmarried women birth rate in the Republican states is 8% higher than in the Democratic states.
- **Infant mortality:** Children born in Republican states are 32% more likely to die before their first birthday than children in Democratic states.

Crime

The next chart summarizes what Hertzberg discovered about state-level crime rates.

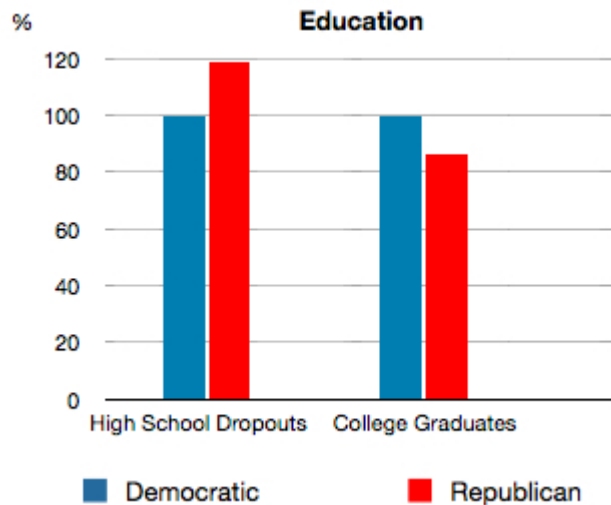


What the statistics show:

- **Murder:** The murder rate in the Republican states is 20% higher than in the Democratic states.
- **Rape:** The forcible rape rate in the Republican states is 25% higher than in the Democratic states.
- **Aggravated assault:** The aggravated assault rate in the Republican states is 25% higher than in the Democratic states.
- **Robbery:** The robbery rate in the Democratic states is 10 percent higher than in the Republican states – the only negative statistic for the Democrats in the whole analysis.

Education

The next chart summarizes what Hertzberg discovered about state-level educational achievement rates.



What the statistics show:

- **High school dropouts:** The dropout rate in the Republican states is 19% higher than in the Democratic states.
- **College:** The college graduation rate in the Republican states is 14% lower than in the Democratic states.

Summary

There's a well known saying that "statistics can prove anything." However, if you consider the above factors important, there's a very clear lesson here. Republicans are worse than Democrats at handling our economy and health care systems, don't stick to the family values that they insist are essential, are worse at controlling crime and do a bad job of running education systems.

Bearing those facts in mind, think about the threats that the Republicans are making in the event that they win control in November. Republicans want to:

- Go back to the principles that ran our economy into the ground.
- Add \$4 trillion to the deficit by continuing tax breaks for the richest 3% of our population.
- Hand control of Social Security to the institutions in Wall Street that brought our economy to its knees.
- Abolish Medicare and hand it over to the private health insurers that have delivered inferior health care at twice the cost of any other developed nation.
- Move control of our currency from the Federal Reserve to politicians, allowing them to print as much money as they need for their hare-brained schemes.
- Revoke the consumer protections and additional benefits that the new health care reform bills provide.
- Revoke Roe v Wade, even though Republicans don't actually appear to uphold essential family values themselves.
- Forget their love for the Constitution by changing the Fourteenth Amendment to try to extend the dominance of the white, Christian majority.
- Extend the war in Iraq and start a new war in Iran.
- Abolish the Department of the Environment and the Department of Education.

It seems to me that history speaks for itself. We try to present both sides of an argument here on Silver Buzz Cafe, but it's clear that it's time to take a stand to protect our freedoms and lifestyle. If we don't, the Republicans will help the corporations, many of them foreign-owned, to complete their takeover of our government.

¹ "[How Democrats and Republicans Compare](#)" – **Yagil Hertzberg** – *San Francisco Chronicle* – September 12, 2010.

Note: References for above article were posted by: **Lois Kazakoff** – *San Francisco Chronicle* – September 16, 2010.

8.28.10

www.CelebrateTheDream.org



Celebrate the
Dream

Reject the
Nightmare



On August 28th, the anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have A Dream," speech, Glenn Beck is holding an "apolitical" rally on the steps of the Lincoln memorial, featuring keynote speaker Sarah Palin. The Other 98% salutes both of their accomplishments.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Age 15, enters Morehouse College after skipping the 9th and 12th grades.



25, becomes pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama.



27, leads Montgomery Bus Boycott, despite his arrest and the fire-bombing of his house.



← Rosa Parks

28, helps to found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a civil rights organization which he leads until his death.



29, narrowly misses death after being stabbed in the chest at a book signing.



34, writes his "Letter from Birmingham Jail" while incarcerated there.



34, delivers "I Have A Dream" speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial.



28-38, receives 20 honorary doctorates from universities around the world.



35, becomes youngest ever recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize.

39, assassinated on April 4th 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee



Glenn Beck

Age 19, skips college to host "Morning Zoo" radio show, creates "wacky alter-ego" Clydie Clyde.



23, takes over Phoenix's Y95 Morning Zoo show, featuring mascot Zippy the Chimp.



23, is arrested during a radio prank involving the attempted theft of Christmas decorations from the city of Scottsdale.



24, hires Jessica Hahn, former mistress of televangelist Jim Bakker, as his show's "prize and weather bunny."



26, terrifies a bank teller by putting a gerbil down the deposit tube in an on-air prank.



28, is arrested for speeding in his DeLorean with one of the doors open.



30, cuts off his ponytail.

killer new look!



32, enrolls part time at Yale, takes one class, drops out.

34, makes first foray into talk radio, mispronounces "Osama bin Laden."



41, ponders personally killing Michael Moore, on-air.

