



THE COALITION OF LABOR,
AGRICULTURE, AND BUSINESS

COLAB

San Luis Obispo County

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THE COALITION OF LABOR,
AGRICULTURE, AND BUSINESS

COLAB

San Luis Obispo County

NORTH COUNTY MIXER 2014



DISRUPTING THE REGIME

SUPPORTING YOUR MISSION

Wednesday, October 29, 2014

5:30-7:30 p.m.

**Taft Barn
9990 Santa Clara Rd.,
Atascadero**

**(El Camino Real to Santa Clara
Rd. Located at the very end of
Santa Clara Rd., over the bridge)**

**Appetizers and Beverages
will be served.**

RSVPs appreciated by Friday, October 24th.

Email: colabslo@gmail.com or call (805) 548-0340

Guest Speakers



**Debbie
Arnold**



**Andy
Caldwell**

Join us to hear Fifth District Supervisor Debbie Arnold and COLAB Santa Barbara Executive Director Andy Caldwell slice and dice the current schemes to steal the farmers' water, drive the oil industry and jobs out of both SB and SLO Counties, and the latest on the proposed Paso Robles Basin water management district. This will be a fact filled and energizing tag team presentation.

RISE OF THE ENVIRO-SOCIALISTS

By Michael F Brown



20th Century Fox Image

1

Every day and at every level—Federal, state, and local—we are confronted by wave after wave of laws, regulations, taxes, fees, and mandates to change how we live. Get rid of your car; prohibit free-standing homes with yards, privacy and garages; tear out your landscaping and put in gravel and rocks. Ban nuclear, fossil, and hydroelectric energy. Suppress and marginalize those who object.

In plain truth we are witnesses to and the victims of a powerful revolutionary movement, which fuses radical environmentalism with historical socialism.

STATE AND LOCAL POLICIES AS SYMPTOMS

- AB 32 CO₂ TARGETS
- SB 375 LIGHT TRUCK AND CAR CONTROLS
- CARB CAP AND TRADE
- DIESEL ENGINE RULES
- PROP. 30 TAX HIKE
- WATER BOARD AG. RUNOFF RULE.
- COASTAL COMM. GUILTY UNTIL PROVEN INNOCENT STATUTE
- \$ 136 B BONDED DEBT AND MORE PLANNED
- SB 1168 WATER SEIZURE
- CURRENT CONSUMPTION VS. FUTURE INVESTMENT (CAPITAL)
- SB-1 TAX INCREMENT STACK AND PACK
- CLIMATE ACTION PLAN
- PLASTIC BAG BAN
- PASO WATER MORATORIUM
- COG STACK AND PACK PLANS
- HOUSING IN LIEU TAX
- EVENTS ORDINANCE
- APCD GREEN HOUSE GAS THRESHOLDS
- RESILIENT COMMUNITIES
- PROCESSING COSTS AND DELAYS
- MYTH OF WORKFORCE HOUSING
- **MEASURE P**

2

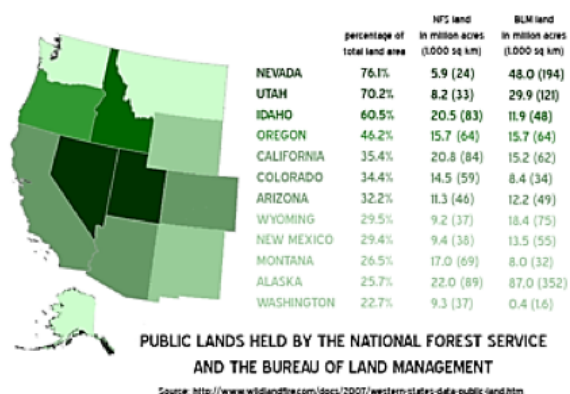
The chart immediately to the left lists some (but by no means all) of the state and local initiatives which we try to deal with in series over time as they are promulgated. Those on the left side of the chart are statewide manifestations and those on the right local (in this case selected from both San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties). While problematic in themselves and disastrous to particular groups in their impact, they are really symptoms of a network of deeper policy and more profound underlying elements.

The laws, taxes, regulations, and administrative processes listed above are imposed a few at a time over the years. But what are the underlying and unifying principles and elements which engender these?

The charts which follow below categorize and show the interrelationship of a number of the key elements which drive the enviro-socialist agenda. We wish they could be displayed on one page, but such a presentation would not fit in readable form as one chart in the computer screen or 8 x 11 printed format.

Population Control has been a core component since the 1950's. It is predicated on the 18th century idea that human population will outgrow the resource capacity of the earth and or/ sub areas. It ignores the empirical history that shows that societies which choose private property, capitalism, rule of law, and freedom naturally evolve improved standards of living and stable birth rates. It also ignores the vast increases in agricultural production and energy stemming from applied science. In effect it rejects progress.

Elimination of Private Property: This, of course, has been at the core of socialist philosophy and practice for 200 years. Modern enviro-socialists disguise their ideology.



Instead of calling for direct government expropriation of property, they seek to abolish it gradually through heavy and diverse taxation, excessive exactions in exchange for land use entitlements, expansion of regulations that devalue private property and/or make it impractical to hold, use of public tax dollars to purchase it and to transfer it to not-for-profit land trusts. Notwithstanding that huge amounts of land are already owned by governments, there is constant pressure for acquisition of more “passive” open space and parkland. They also use environmental designations, including species protection, environmentally sensitive habitats, and other limitations, to devalue it and make it unusable. The chart below illustrates the amount of land owned by two Federal agencies in the west. This does not include land owned by other Federal departments such as the Department of Defense, the National Parks Service, or land owned by the states and their

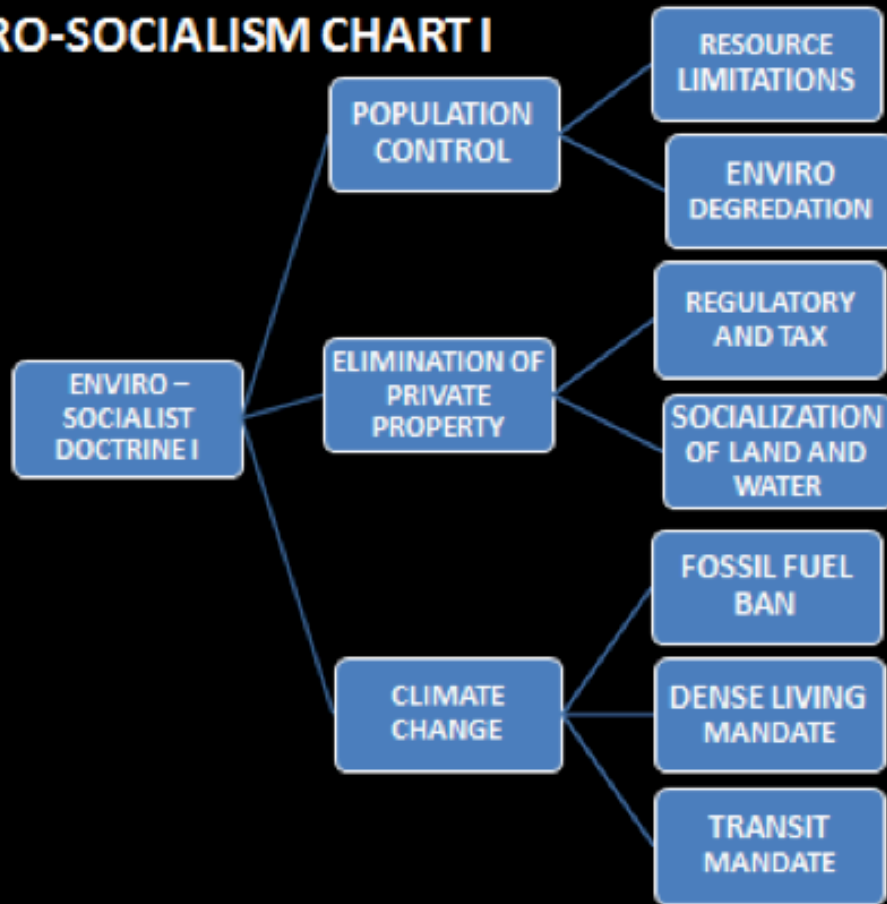
subdivisions. Non-governmental organizations (NGO's) own millions more acres. For example, the Nature Conservancy alone controls 119 million acres worldwide (more than the 101 million acres which comprise the entire area of State of California).

Climate Change/Global Warming: Since the mid 2000's the threat of global warming has become the key organizing mechanism for advancement of the global, national, and local enviro-socialist agenda. There has not been as powerful and pervasive a social and political organizing force since the Christians of the early first millennium (who deliberately abandoned the socialism of the early Essene sect by the 3rd century) and the Muslims of the 7th and 8th centuries revealed the promise of eternal salvation for those who would adhere to the Gospels or the Word of the Prophet¹. Similar to the doctrines of these two world religions (which had very humble beginnings), climate change forecasts a global apocalypse which will destroy civilization and perhaps even the ability for life to survive on the planet unless a radical reorganization of society and individual behavior is either achieved voluntarily or imposed upon humanity. Politicians, much of the scientific establishment, many corporate leaders, religious leaders, the education establishment, mainstream media, Hollywood, and perhaps hundreds of millions of people in the United States and Europe have become true believers.

As indicated in Chart I, three of the main tools for implementing the climate change agenda in the United States are the banning of fossil fuels, forcing future development into existing older cities and densely planned new areas, and

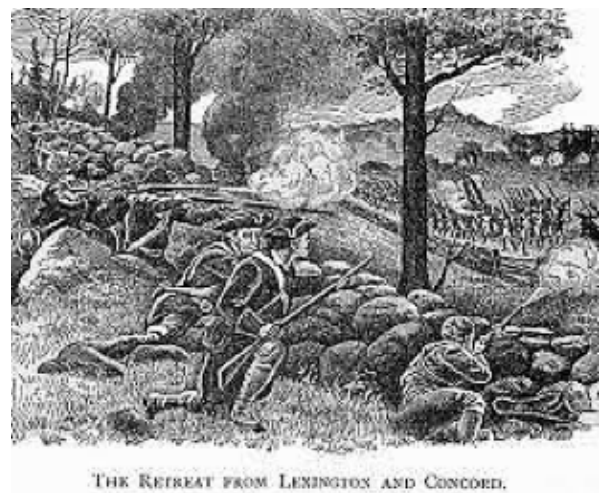
¹ It might be argued that the rise of the most infectious and evil totalitarian socialist movements (Communism, Nazism, and Fascism) in the first half of the 20th Century possessed similar messianic energy. Had it not been for the industrial might (capitalist) intervention of the United States, one or more could have dominated the world. Unlike the 2 religions which promise everlasting life in exchange for faith and adherence to virtuous living, these extreme (and logical) manifestations of socialism only promised death, especially to their own adherents and citizens.

ENVIRO-SOCIALISM CHART I



getting people out their cars and onto mass transit. “Sprawling” suburbs are regarded as inherently negative because they foster commuting in cars and light trucks, which in California generates about 60% of greenhouse gases. As President Obama announced earlier this year, a deeper and more sinister underlying purpose is to force repopulation of older, obsolete, and crime-ridden inner cities from which the middle class has fled over the past 70 years. A middle class who live in thousands of dispersed self-governing semi-independent communities consisting of freestanding homes, businesses, and institutions not under control of big city politicians and not dependent on Federal housing, job, health, welfare, food stamps, child care, and education programs (for those in private or church schools) is a barrier to the ultimate enviro-socialist vision. The very spatial spread and diversity of suburban and semi-rural living are political and financial impediments to controlling the opinions, votes, and behavior of society. This independent and productive class presents a political, economic, and ultimately potentially powerful organized resistance (one reason the left wishes to

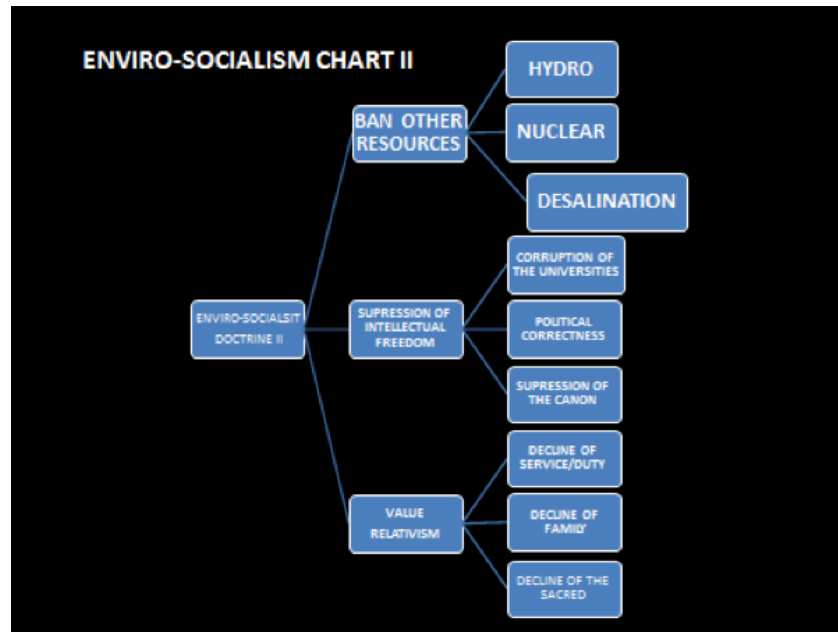
abolish private ownership of firearms) against the ultimate enviro-socialist state.



Clearly the elimination of fossil fuels is important because 1) they generate greenhouse gases, and 2) their reduction, commensurate scarcity, and resulting exponential cost increases will cripple the economy and beckon an economic and social crisis which will be used to justify extreme “emergency”

measures needed to reorganize society along enviro-socialist lines. One can imagine an “extra” constitutional law for “The Preservation of the Nation” which suspends portions of the Bill of Rights and provides command authority for the Executive Branch. Price controls; rationing of water, electricity, and fuel; and limitations on movement (travel) will be invoked. The resulting economic death spiral (especially in agriculture) will be disastrous.

As illustrated in Chart II below, there is another triad of stratagems that run in parallel with those discussed above. These include the banning of other “non-green” energy sources, the suppression of intellectual freedom, and the promotion of value relativism.



Ban Other Non-Fossil Fuel Energy Sources: A major problem for the enviro-socialists is that nuclear power provides a limitless efficient source of renewable electricity. For this reason a vast campaign of hysteria about leaks and natural or manmade accidents has been conjured to prohibit the development of new plants and replacement of old plants. This situation has been aided and abetted by the deliberate Federal failure to establish storage sites for used fuel. Similarly, new hydro-dams (and water storage lakes) are now banned.

The Suppression of Intellectual Freedom: The suppression of intellectual freedom contains many aspects including the corruption of the universities, the imposition of political correctness, and the suppression/abandonment of the educational canon.

Corruption of the Universities: One of the most widespread and disturbing is the political corruption of the universities (especially public universities). The April 2012 report, *A Crisis of Competence: The Corrupting Effect of Political Activism in the University of California*, prepared by the

California Association of Scholars, details the causes and impacts of the problem. The report states in part:

This report is concerned with the corruption of the University of California by activist politics, a condition which, as we shall see, sharply lowers the quality of academic teaching, analysis and research, and results in exactly the troubling deficiencies that are being found in the studies to which we have referred. We shall show that this is an inevitable consequence of any substantial influence of radical politics in academia, because its characteristic interests and modes of thought are the very antithesis of those that should prevail in academic life.

The condition we investigate is now a well-documented pathology of the modern university.

When individual faculty members and sometimes whole departments decide that their aim is to advance social justice as they understand it rather than to teach the subject that they were hired to teach with all the analytical skill they can muster, the quality of teaching and research is compromised. This is an inevitable result because, as we shall show, these two aims are incompatible with each other, so that one must undermine the other.

Suppression of the Canon: In its original meaning a canon was a code of beliefs central to a particular denomination. It also could be a body of rules or a particular rule used to govern churches. Gradually the term has been applied to other types of organizations. In the case of academia the canon generally means that body of knowledge, including philosophy, ethics, science, mathematics, literature, history, religion, and the arts and culture, which gave rise to and which has sustained western civilization. Since the 1990's many breadth requirements for students to receive a broad exposure to these subjects have been removed as being irrelevant to modern conditions, ideas of dead old white men, too Euro-centric, or otherwise prejudicial. Often they have been supplanted with classes on the cinema, sexuality, the history of rock and roll, etc. This has resulted in several generations of university graduates who may be able to do exquisite power point presentations, write computer code, or plan diets for clients, but who in many cases cannot answer a question such as during which war was Franklin Roosevelt President? Or what are the three branches of government contained in the Constitution? Or what did Martin Luther do? Or what is the meaning of the Sermon on the Mount? How are these students to become effective voters, elected officials, teachers, policemen, or parents? With what perspective do they assess important civic questions? What if their perspective is provided by Twitter?

Political Correctness (PC): In 1994 Hilton Kramer who was the art critic for the New York Observer and Editor of the New Criterion wrote an article about political correctness entitled "Confronting the Monolith." A paragraph is quoted below:

The essential thing to remember about the political correctness movement at this point in our history is that in the realm of education, culture, and the arts the champions of PC have already achieved a decisive victory. They have succeeded in changing the way books, ideas, and every intellectual and artistic endeavor are discussed and assessed. In the classroom and in the media, in foundations and government agencies, in arts organizations, critical journals, and public intellectual forums, the consequences of censorship (and the far wider phenomenon of self-censorship) in the service of PC are now so fully established that an entire generation of younger artists, writers, intellectuals, academics, and cultural bureaucrats takes the rhetoric and indeed the philosophical premises of political correctness

for granted and conducts its affairs according to its dictates.

In the 1990's undergraduate students became one of the first groups to raise the warning about the soft totalitarianism of PC and grade/career discrimination against those who deviated. Later on and locally in 2008, when current San Luis Obispo County Supervisor Adam Hill was still a Cal Poly English instructor, some of his students described the problem perfectly on a campus faculty rating site:

The most liberal teacher at Cal Poly, he pushes his views upon his students. You better believe in what he says and write what he says otherwise you will never pass. He will not focus on what is going on in the class he continually wants to bring up politics and force his Far Left Wing Liberal Views upon all he can and try to convince you that he is right and no one else is. Your views mean nothing to him unless there just like his. Luckily for anyone reading this, he is retiring from Cal Poly and gloats about it daily about how he can do whatever and say whatever he wants because he can't get fired he is quitting and working for local government (god forbid that he does anything important). He is one of those extreme teachers you read about in the news for pushing the line in the classroom. HORRIBLE TEACHER AND PEOPLE LIKE HIM MAKE CAL POLY A BAD EXPERIENCE FOR EVERYONE!!!!

AND

*Adam Hill = FAIL. (If only I can use HTML tags...) God help you if your viewpoint does not exactly match his. If you value your sanity, stay far away from this poor excuse of a preacher ... I mean teacher. English classes are designed to teach YOU to think; YOU are to interpret the works, and what YOU get out of them are YOURS and YOURS alone. In class, Hill drones on and on about what HE thinks about the work. Instead of asking questions that foster discussion, he will incessantly expound his views (not just on literature, but on everything from childhood stories to how he thinks you should carry yourself) and vehemently attack those who oppose him. It scares me to think that this extremely opinionated, petty "man" is running for public office. Lastly, if you are a Conservative, Libertarian, or simply value your sanity, stay away from Hill. He is farther left than Cindy Sheehan. He is a bleeding-heart liberal; the only problem is, he isn't the one bleeding, *you* are.*

Nothing has changed here.²

² It should be noted that other students liked Hill and his classes. Some mention the political slant but were not bothered, or of course appreciated the distraction from the substantive analysis and writing.

Fast-forward to today and we see that the enviro-socialists have made it politically incorrect to dispute their orthodoxy. If one questions global warming he is a “denier” – a pejorative term nastily lumping him in with deniers of the Nazi holocaust. If one questions any of the policies stemming from the global warming orthodoxy he is an extremist. Concerns for property rights, choice in housing, financial costs, and new regulatory mechanisms are brushed aside. Those raising them are labeled as uniformed and obstructionist. Worse yet, those who raise questions about the international aspects of the enviro-socialist agenda (such as UN Agenda 21, activities of the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives [ICLEI], and the Rio Accords are labeled as not only uniformed but paranoid and mentally aberrant. From time to time those who raise the issues during governing body public comment periods are actually admonished that they are talking about matters not in the purview of the entity and must therefore be silenced.

Value Relativism: This is the philosophy and cultural syndrome which emerged in the 1960’s and which essentially postulates that there are no absolute standards of behavior, belief, or moral outlook. Daniel Patrick Moynihan in his famous American Scholar essay, “Defining Deviancy Down,” discussed the many problems of criminality, substance abuse, welfare dependence, child abuse, and family decay, which exploded as governments, foundations, churches, and educators bought into this belief. In addition to Moynihan’s analysis, (and recognizing that all the pathologies here relate to the decline of the family), there are two other consequences related to this syndrome that relate to the enviro-socialist assault. These are the decline of the idea of the obligation of service and the decline of the belief in the sacred.

Decline of Service: Military service provides civic education. Notwithstanding its necessarily authoritarian structure, its organizational culture is one of the most egalitarian in American society. Physical courage, mental alertness, personal and group initiative, and moral fortitude are the keys to success. No one cares about your race, religion, or social class. Merit is measured on one’s ability to perform dangerous tasks promptly and accurately. Failure to execute properly can result in retraining, punishment, and dismissal from the service, and in combat, injury and death for oneself and

your comrades. Even small matters such as forgetting to fill one’s canteen may result in serious consequences. Failure to set the flaps on your jet fighter for takeoff properly a hot day or handle a hand grenade properly can be disastrous even in peacetime training. Thus, personal organization, focus, memorization, and quick thinking are all important skills. Service also exposes members to a tremendous variety of people from different parts of the country and different cultures on a personal level. You live with them in the barracks and depend on them, in some cases for your life.

While many soldiers, sailors, and airman grumble during their service, the vast number recall the experience positively later in life. As Oliver Wendell Holmes stated as a veteran who experienced the horrors of the Civil War,

The generation that carried on the war has been set aside by its experience. Through our great good fortune, in our youth our hearts were touched with fire. It was given to us to learn at the outset that life is a profound and passionate thing. While we are permitted to scorn nothing but indifference, and do not pretend to undervalue the worldly rewards of ambition, we have seen with our own eyes, beyond and above the gold fields, the snowy heights of honor, and it is for us to bear the report to those who come after us.

Other valuable aspects include learning teamwork, leadership skills, and patience. One of the most important and penetrating experiences is that of having absolutely no control over your life. This unpleasant realization provides a stark comparison to and deep appreciation with one’s life as a civilian in a free society. Soldiers (I use the word collectively for members of all the services) will often (and especially in combat or stressful training) pine for the most simple and rudimentary pleasures such as a chocolate milkshake. The phrase is often heard, “If I survive this, nothing will ever bother me again in life.”

Other forms of service may contain valuable civic lessons as well. The Peace Corps, inner city teacher assignments, legal aide clinics, and so forth also provide some modicum of service experience. The difference is the intensity and risk. When serving as a community organizer in Chicago, one can enjoy all the chocolate milkshakes he desires. (And sleep in his own bed without the fear of mortar rounds suddenly

falling in the night.)

On a historical basis it is clear that democratic republics during their periods of the ascendancy and dominance rely on citizen soldiers for their success. Usually the soldiers come from all economic and social classes providing broad participation. A sure sign of decline is the use of surrogate federates and mercenaries or domestically imposing the burden of service on the most disadvantaged economic groups.

Decline of the Sacred and Traditional: The expansion of a pervasive cynicism and the absence of enchantment in daily life have accompanied the rise of the enviro-socialist movement since the 1960's. Its tight-jawed apparatchiks detest everything from Christmas crèches to prayers at the start of public meetings. One of our "favorites" is the politically correct semantic change embraced by cities and counties with respect to the disposal of Christmas trees. Nowadays the circulars admonishing residents to place them at the curb by the required deadline refer to them as "holiday trees." So far they don't have the guts to ban the trees themselves. They are sacred.

Last year a church in a local central coast community repaired its computerized bell system, which had been down for several years. The bells (real in this case/not canned), placed in a high tower, ring out a short musical piece prior to each hour and then chime a note for each hour. The bells had been a feature in the community for three decades. Some new neighbors have found this charming, uplifting, and spiritual occurrence to be irritating and discriminatory. Most of the community was baffled, and of course for those who grew up in the community, the bells are a comforting treasured memory of their childhood. They are sacred.

Two years ago the UC Berkeley administration proposed removal of the motto, "Let There Be Light," from the University of California official seal because it is a reference to the word of God from the biblical Book of Genesis, describing the creation of the universe. (What better motto could there be for a University so famous for its work in subatomic particle physics, astrophysics, and exploration of the origins and meaning of the universe?) As John Ellis, President of the California Association of Scholars, pointed out, "Let there be light," reminds students and professors that the university

is about knowledge and understanding, first and foremost. Dumping the motto, Ellis added, "serves those who see the primary purpose of the university to be, rather than educating, inculcating students with a social justice agenda." In this case tens of thousands of Berkeley alumni revolted. Even some of the leftist students complained. They wanted the traditional seal on their diplomas. After years of all the horrible all-nighters; years of grungy student living; and surviving fierce academic competition, deferred gratification, deliberate work overload, parental sacrifice, working jobs while in school, etc., their diploma is testimony to success earned at a great treasure house of knowledge. It's sacred. As a side note, the central physical feature of the Berkeley campus is a very active bell tower called the Campanile (after the one in Venice). No one seems to be complaining in Berkeley or Venice.



Re-Feudalization of Society: One of the operative features of European feudalism during the Middle Ages was a ridged class structure. It included a small hereditary noble upper class, a separate church hierarchy, and a professional military consisting of hereditary knights who held the "right" to use land in exchange for their military service. The large majority of the population consisted of a poor peasantry bound to the land working the estates of the knights, church, and noble class in exchange for a share of the produce. The position of the noble class and knights was justified on the basis that they provided internal order and fought against external enemies. Over the past 50 years public servants (teachers and general public employees

have advanced their economic status and security through collective bargaining and exerting a growing and powerful influence on the elections of city councils, county boards of supervisors, school boards, and state legislatures. In many parts of the country their pay, job security, health benefits, work hours, vacations, days off, and especially pensions are far better than those of the people who pay the taxes and whom they serve.

The New Knights: More strikingly, highway patrol officers, state prison guards, police officers, deputy sheriffs, firefighters, and probation officers (and in some jurisdictions deputy district attorneys, public safety dispatchers, lifeguards, and park rangers) have achieved spectacular salaries, enjoy protective byzantine work rules, benefits, and, especially, pensions that far exceed those of just about any class in society except entrepreneurs, corporate executives, physicians, some lawyers, and technical specialists such as cell phone application developers. Up to five weeks of vacation leave, 12 paid holidays, accumulative sick pay, education bonus pay, uniform allowances, and numerous other premium pay and allowances are routine. In many cases safety professionals in California can retire at age 50 and receive a life pension (for themselves and a surviving spouse) equal to a minimum of 75% of their highest final average salary. Often their health insurance is covered for life (including annual premium increases), and they receive an annual cost of living adjustment.

Through their powerful unions and political action committees these groups use campaign funded political power to resist any reforms. Elected officials often ignore the fact that too much public revenue is being used for current consumption in the form of pay and benefits. This in turn has created a huge unfunded infrastructure deficit. Elected officials have been powerless to bring about real reform. The question arises, if the public servants and particularly the safety officers, who exercise the legitimate monopoly of force and violence in society, control elected officials on matters of the conditions of their service (instead of the other way around),

is it still a democracy? Or have we erected a new class of guardians over ourselves? Are these government officials and employees humble civil servants or a new form of Praetorian Guard? The Roman Praetorian Guard was infamous for making and unmaking its Commander –in–Chief Roman emperors on the basis of pay, periodic bonuses, and other donatives.

Un-Civil Service: Civil service was originally created to separate politics, cronyism, and corruption out of the selection and promotion of professional government employees. The problem is that since its inception (over a century ago), it has become so protective of the employees that its logic has been turned on its head and the systems actually undermine merit and performance. Today most systems require that promotions be reserved for internal candidates and screen out new blood, young up-and-comers, and new ideas. Organizations become self-absorbed, internally mutually supporting “at-work families.” One often hears the phrase, “the county family.” It is especially difficult to remove incompetent, disloyal, lazy, politicized, poor attendance, or otherwise problematic employees. Many systems require that there be 2 or 3 consecutive annual performance reports with “less than satisfactory” in the file before an employee can be demoted or terminated. Most of the employees enjoy double protection because they are guarded by both civil service (the personnel rules) and their union. High lost time (absenteeism) due to sickness and workers compensation characterize many organizations. As one insightful official of Santa Barbara County stated recently: The county government is

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ENVIRO- SOCIALISM CHART III



Rise of the Non- Gov- ernmental Organizations

(NGO's): Many founders of major national and state foundations would be turning in their graves if they knew how successor foundation boards of directors and foundation “professionals” have perverted their original intent. How ironic that the bequests of major capitalists are being used to attack some of the very industries which created the wealth in the first place and even capitalism itself. Along similar lines, a new breed of contemporary foundations pours billions into the enviro-socialist agenda directly and by supporting local not-for-profits and community foundations.

The International Council of Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) and the International Components of the Enviro-Socialist Movement: ICLEI is one of the more prominent organizations operating on an international basis. It states that its purpose is to provide education, advocacy and technical assistance to local governments worldwide to lower greenhouse gas emissions.

At a quick glance ICLEI might seem to be a benign organization designed to assist cities and counties by providing technical assistance and sharing best practices with respect to “sustainability.” Both San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties have adopted its greenhouse gas (GHC) measurement protocols. They have also adopted its basic strategic planning format for their climate action plans. As is stated in Santa Barbara County’s Climate Action Study, “This Study ... provides the first steps towards completing the five milestones to reducing greenhouse gases set by ICLEI, of which the County of Santa Barbara is an active member. The Cities for Climate Protection Milestone Guide developed by ICLEI establishes a five-milestone program that local governments can adapt to work towards reducing GHC emissions.” The report then goes on to detail how the

County is using the guide to implement the various recommended milestones. San Luis Obispo County has incorporated the same milestone structure as its overall Climate Action Planning Process. San Luis Obispo County received technical assistance from ICLEI staffers, Program Officer Jonathan Strunin and Allison Culpin, in developing its Baseline Greenhouse Gas Inventory in 2006. Quoting from that report, “As advised by ICLEI, quantifying recent year emission levels is essential to 1) establish a baseline to measure future emission levels, and 2) an understanding of where the highest levels of emissions are coming from, and, therefore the greatest opportunities for emissions reductions.” The ICLEI Milestones are introduced to San Luis Obispo County in this report. Like Santa Barbara County, and as noted above, San Luis Obispo County used the ICLEI Protocol for its GHG assessment.

Delving a little deeper, one finds that there is more to ICLEI than technical assistance. Its website reports that it was founded in 1990, when 200 local governments held a World Congress for a Sustainable Future at the United Nations.

ICLEI casts itself as a “Movement of Local Governments.” It

states that it supports International Goals, which “link local action to internationally agreed-upon goals and targets such as Agenda 21 and the Rio Conventions, including the UN Framework for Climate Change, The UN Convention on Biological Diversity, and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification.” ICLEI’s Charter states, “The Association’s mission shall be to build and serve a worldwide movement of local governments to achieve tangible improvements in global sustainability with special focus on conditions through cumulative local actions.” The Charter further states:

The Association shall promote, and ask its individual members to adopt, the following Earth Charter Principles to guide local action:

- 1. Respect Earth and life in all its diversity.*
- 2. Care for the Community of life with understanding, compassion and love.*
- 3. Build democratic societies that are just, participatory, and peaceful.*
- 4. Secure Earth’s bounty and beauty for present and future generations.*
- 5. Protect and restore the integrity of Earth’s ecological systems, with special concern for biological diversity and the natural processes that sustain life.*
- 6. Prevent harm as the best method of environmental protection and, when knowledge is limited, apply a precautionary approach.*
- 7. Adopt patterns of production, consumption, and reproduction that safeguard Earth’s regenerative capacities, human rights, and community wellbeing.*
- 8. Advance the study of ecological sustainability and promote the open exchange and wide application of the knowledge acquired.*
- 9. Eradicate poverty as an ethical, social, and environmental imperative.*

- 10. Ensure that economic activities and institutions at all levels promote human development in an equitable and sustainable manner.*
- 11. Affirm gender equality and equity as prerequisites to sustainable development and ensure universal access to education, health care and economic opportunity.*
- 12. Uphold the right of all, without discrimination, to a natural and social environment supportive of human dignity, bodily health, and spiritual well-being, with special attention to the rights of indigenous peoples and minorities.*
- 13. Strengthen democratic institutions at all levels, and provide transparency and accountability in governance, inclusive participation in decision making, and access to justice.*
- 14. Integrate into formal education and life-long learning the knowledge, values, and skills needed for a sustainable way of life.*
- 15. Treat all human beings with respect and consideration.*
- 16. Promote a culture of non-violence and peace.*

This certainly goes far beyond any limited notion of an organization that is providing a forum for technical assistance and sharing best practices. It is nothing less than a manifesto for a particular vision of society which, as it says in the preamble above, its members “should adopt and use to guide local action.” Clearly ICLEI is using the lure of technical assistance and mutual support to distribute propaganda. There is nothing in it about free enterprise, private property rights, limited government, individualism, protected speech, freedom from searches, and other fundamental American values, particularly as they pertain to overall public policy. In fact it is a perfect summary of and could well serve as the manifesto for the entire enviro-socialist movement.



Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Business
San Luis Obispo County
“Your Property – Your Taxes – Our Future”
PO Box 13601 – San Luis Obispo, CA 93406 / Phone: 805.548-0340
Email: colabslo@gmail.com / Website: colabslo.org

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Sustaining Member: \$5,000 + ☐ \$ _____

(Sustaining Membership includes a table of 10 at the Annual Fundraiser Dinner)

General members will receive all COLAB updates and newsletters. Voting privileges are limited to Voting Members and Sustainable Members with one vote per membership.

MEMBER INFORMATION:

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

How Did You Hear About COLAB?

Radio ☐ Internet ☐ Public Hearing ☐ Friend ☐

COLAB Member(s) / Sponsor(s): _____

NON MEMBER DONATION/CONTRIBUTION OPTION:

For those who choose not to join as a member but would like to support COLAB via a contribution/donation.

I would like to contribute \$ _____ to COLAB and my check or credit card information is enclosed/provided.

Donations/Contributions do not require membership though it is encouraged in order to provide updates and information.

Memberships and donation will be kept confidential if that is your preference.

Confidential Donation/Contribution/Membership ☐

PAYMENT METHOD:

Check ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ Amex NOT accepted.

Cardholder Name: _____ Signature: _____

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____

TODAY'S DATE: _____

All applications are subject to review and approval by the COLAB Membership Committee and Board of Directors.
Applications that are not accepted will have the dues or donations promptly refunded.