



COLAB
San Luis Obispo County

The Coalition of Labor Agriculture and Business

**WEEKLY UPDATE
MARCH 12-18, 2023**

**COLAB'S 14TH ANNUAL DINNER AND AUCTION
THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2023- MADONNA EXPO, 5 PM**



COLAB – YOUR GOVERNMENT WATCH DOG

**YOUR SUPPORT ALLOWS THE COALITION OF
LABOR, AGRICULTURE, AND BUSINESS TO
FIGHT FOR OUR ECONOMY, COMMUNITY, AND
HERITAGE EVERY DAY**

COLAB
San Luis Obispo County



14th Annual Dinner & Fundraiser

**THURSDAY,
MARCH 30, 2023
MADONNA EXPO CENTER**

Get the close up dual update on what's happening, what's next, and what you can do about it, direct from San Luis Obispo County Board Chairman John Peschong and Supervisor Debbie Arnold.

Rally to their long haul perspective to sustain family, freedom, and heritage.



5:00 pm Social Hour & Open Bar
6:15 pm Filet Mignon Dinner & Wine
Auction will be held after dinner
(Auctioneer Todd Ventura)

\$125/person
\$1,250/table (seats 10)

For tickets:

On-Line Reservations & Payment can be made at www.colabslo.org/events.asp
or

Mail your check to
COLAB SLO County, PO Box 13601, SLO, CA 93406
Cocktail Attire Optional

More info at (805) 548-0340 or colabslo@gmail.com



BLAZE 'N BEAR
INSURANCE SERVICES, INC.

ALERT

**CENTRAL COAST COMPULSORY ENERGY
3CE**

**CONTRACT TO SOCIALIZE THE ELECTRICAL ENERGY DISTRIBUTED IN THE
UNINCORPORATED COUNTY, SUBSIDIZE ELECTRIC VEHICLES AT PUBLIC
EXPENSE, BAN GAS APPLIANCES, PROMOTE SO-CALLED GREEN ENERGY, AND
DOLE OUT FINANCIAL PATRONAGE - ALL IN THE NAME OF TEMPORARILY
LOWER RATES**

BE READY TO FIGHT BACK ON MARCH 21ST

THIS WEEK

**A LIGHT WEEK
SLO COUNTY ENJOYS A SLIGHT BREAK**

NO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

**LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
CANCELLED**

LAST WEEK

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

SOCIALIZED ENERGY SCAM SET FOR MARCH 21ST MEETING

2ND QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT – SOME PROBLEMS

\$745 MILLION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN SUBMITTED

REDISTRICTING LAWSUIT SETTLEMENT STILL PENDING

**IWMA INDOCTRINATION CONTRACT
APPROVED**

PLANNING COMMISSION LIGHT

**CENTRAL COAST ENERGY AUTHORITY
RESISTS SUPPLY REGULATIONS**

EMERGENT ISSUES

**CALIFORNIA WEIGHS \$360,000 IN REPARATIONS TO
ELIGIBLE BLACK RESIDENTS**

**JOB KILLER BILLS SEEK MASSIVE TAX INCREASE -
ONCE AGAIN, PENDING LEGISLATION SEEKS TO IMPOSE A
MASSIVE TAX INCREASE UPON ALL FORMS OF PERSONAL
PROPERTY OR WEALTH DESPITE CALIFORNIA HAVING THE
HIGHEST INCOME TAX RATE IN THE COUNTRY**

**COLAB IN DEPTH
SEE PAGE 11**

LIFE AMONG THE RUINS

*THE FEW SOWED THE WIND, AND THE MANY REAPED THEIR
WHIRLWIND*

BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

ALL MEETINGS ARE AT 9:00 AM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

No Board of Supervisors Meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 (Not Scheduled)

Local Agency Formation Commission of Thursday, March 16, 2023 (Cancelled)

Proposed Remaining 2023 Meeting Dates: May 17 (first budget meeting), June 28 (budget adoption), September 27, and November 15, 2023. This seems strange. Are they attempting to avoid issues or public scrutiny?

LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, March 7, 2023 (Completed)

Item 1 - Introduction of an ordinance authorizing the implementation of a community choice aggregation program in the unincorporated areas of San Luis Obispo County through the County organization's participation in Central Coast Community Energy's (3CE) community choice aggregation program. Hearing date set for March 21, 2023. The Board set the hearing for Tuesday, March 8, 2023. The Chairman of the 3CE Board made a short pitch as a public commenter. Supervisor Gibson gloated as COLAB objected. The 3CE claims its rates to customers are 20 to 40 percent lower, depending on rate class (residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural,) than those of PG&E.

COLAB has been warning about the problems of the community choice energy scam for years. We will update our information in the Weekly Update for the March 21st meeting. In the meantime please read the County's own report, which advised not joining at the link:

<https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/file/getfile/150034>

**THIRD-PARTY REVIEW: COMMUNITY CHOICE
AGGREGATION FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**



Item 5 - Submittal of the FY 2022-23 Second Quarter Financial Status Report and request to approve various financial actions as detailed in Section 4 of Attachment 1 - FY 2022-23 Second Quarter Financial Report (one or more actions require 4/5 votes). The report was received on the consent calendar with little comment by the Board. Some impending trouble is building up.

Background: The report indicated that should current trends continue, there could be some substantial problems by the end of the fiscal year. Higher than budgeted expenditures and lower than budgeted departmental revenues combine to generate a potential \$9.4 million problem.

Table 2: Summary of Notable Issues Included in the Attached Report

Table 2 Summary of Notable Issues Included in the Attached Report		
Department	Issue	Potential GF Impact
Public Protection		
132 District Attorney	Issue: Projecting to be \$236,475 over its budgeted level of General Fund support due primarily to a revenue shortfall from fines, forfeitures, and penalties	\$236,475
136 Sheriff-Coroner	Issue: Projecting to be \$4.7 million over its budgeted level of General Fund support due to unbudgeted salary and benefit expenses, services and supplies being over budgeted levels, and a projected \$720,000 revenue shortfall	\$4.7M
140 County Fire	Issue: Projecting to exceed current CalFire contract by 3.1M	\$3.1M
143 Court Operations	Issue: Projecting \$168,408 revenue shortfall due to decreased revenue received for recording fees and a decreased revenue for fines, forfeitures, and penalties	\$24,855
Health and Human Services		
182 Social Services CalWORKS	Issue: Projecting to be \$67,110 over its budgeted level of General Fund support due to revenue shortfall as a result of Public Health Emergency Deferred Collections	\$67,110
185 Social Services General Assistance	Issue: Projecting to be \$385,574 over its budgeted level of General Fund support due to revenue shortfall as a result of Public Health Emergency Waivers	\$385,574
375 Health Agency Driving Under the Influence	Issue: Projected expenditures are estimated to exceed revenue by \$340,377 due to a shortfall of revenue in service fees. This fund may need a transfer from General Fund in future quarters	\$340,377
Community Services		
222 Parks and Recreation Community Parks	Issue: Projecting to be \$136,359 over its budgeted level of General Fund support due recreational programs revenue shortfall and forecast over expenditure for services and supplies	\$136,359
305 Parks and Recreation Regional Parks	Issue: Projecting unfavorable operating variance of \$442,254 due to revenue shortfall of 5.8% and increased expenditure levels	None
Support to County Departments		
114 Information Technology	Issue: Projecting to exceed General Fund support at year end by \$444,054 primarily due to unbudgeted negotiated salary and benefit unanticipated travel and consulting expenses	\$444,054
Fiscal and Administrative		
110 Clerk-Recorder	Issue: Projecting to exceed General Fund support level by \$72,767 at year-end due to shortfall in recording revenue	\$72,767

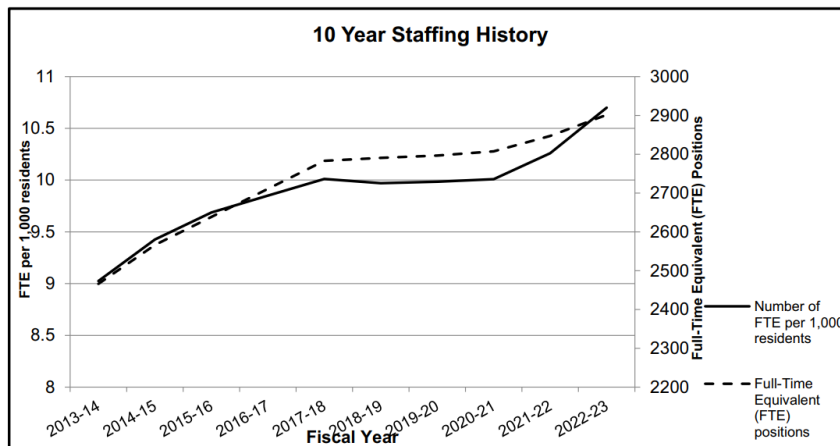
Data is not provided for departments that are projected to incur higher than budgeted revenues and lower than budgeted expenditures, which might offset this problem. Similarly, there are no projections for the major general fund revenues, such as property tax, TOT, and sales tax with respect to their status on June 20, 2023. Higher than budgeted revenues could help offset the problems projected here.

The County has healthy fund balances at this time.

Adding positions over the years is ultimate death.

SUMMARY OF POSITION ALLOCATION CHANGES

FY 2021-22	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Quarter Start	2,932.00	2,958.25		
FTE Additions	53.00	27.00		
FTE Deletions	26.75	20.00		
Quarter End	2,958.25	2,965.25		
Net Change	26.25	7.00		
% Change	.90%	.24%		

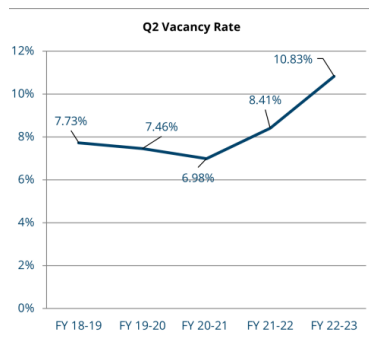


County of San Luis Obispo

66

Fiscal Year 2022-23 Recommended Budget

High vacancy rates continue to plague the County. Interestingly, and as reported in performance measures each year, the vacancy rate does not seem to have negative impacts on the service provision. Instead, the County uses the salary savings to offset unbudgeted salary and benefit increased cost. The vacancies do drive up overtime costs, particularly in public safety departments.



EMPLOYEE TURNOVER RATE:

This is another problem that is strange. The County jobs are great with regular high pay, defined benefit pension, health and dental insurance, 12 paid holidays, vacation up to 5 weeks, overtime, special pays, and training. Just about anyone who is sane and shows up regularly can get promotions. The jobs are secure, as the County has no layoff and no mandatory time off policies

during economic downturns. Many of the jobs are indoors with heat and air conditioning, free parking, and/or now working from home. Many employees are not required to wear suits, ties, or dresses to work. It's not like working at Chase Manhattan Bank in New York or an LA law firm. The climate is great, and although the housing is expensive, the employees and their union have open access to colleagues who are responsible for doing something about the housing costs. One would think they would get them in a room and say, "how about it."

The County turnover rate at the end of the second quarter was 16.00%. This equates to 428.00 employee separations. By comparison, the turnover rate for the second quarter during the prior year was 11.35%. This represents an increase of 4.65 percentage points in turnover for the County overall. In the FY 2021-22 second and third quarter reports Human Resources projected that this number could reach 14.56% by 2023. Due to significant changes in the labor market and workforce priorities, we have seen an accelerated increase in our turnover and have exceed our projected rate more quickly than expected. Unfortunately, labor trends are indicating that it is likely this momentum will continue into coming months

Item 18 - Submittal of the Facilities and Infrastructure Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The Plan was approved. Final adoption will occur in June as a component of overall Budget adoption.

Background: The CIP covers the years 23-24, 24-25, 25-26, 26-27, and 27-28. It includes both facilities and infrastructure projects. The presentation is excellent, as it is comprehensive and proceeds from the general overall picture to the detail.

- Facilities

- Airports
- Community Services
- General Government
- Golf Courses
- Health and Social Services
- Library
- Parks
- Public Safety

- Infrastructure

- Flood Control
- Road Capacity
- Road Preservation
- Road Safety
- Transportation Betterments
- Transportation Structures
- Wastewater Systems
- Water Systems

Item 20 - Conference with legal counsel - pending litigation - (3) SLO County Citizens for Good Government, Inc., Gomez, Maruska, Villa v. County of Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors, San Luis Obispo County Superior Court, Case No. 22CVP-0007. Again, this week, and after the closed session, the County Counsel emerged and stated that the Board took no reportable action.

Background: Two weeks ago, the item, although listed on the Agenda, was not scheduled for discussion. It may be that the terms of settlement proffered by the leftist so-called "Citizens" for Good Government are too onerous for even the Democratic Board members. A big payout to the "Citizens" and their lawyers would be death for the Supervisors who vote for it when election time comes around again.

Background: Once again, discussion of the lawsuit against the redistricting plan was on the agenda. It was expected that after this session or a future session, County Counsel would emerge to announce a settlement. The settlement is likely to contain a restricting map that comports with versions supported by the left progressive Democrats.

Another potential settlement would be to leave the current map in place but agree to the establishment of an independent redistricting Commission for the 2030 census.

It is rumored that the plaintiff Citizens for Good Government are seeking a substantial financial settlement in addition, to cover their legal costs. This seems to be a bloated claim, since the legal work involved on their part was originally a short complaint containing 4 causes of action and the setting aside of the map that was adopted by the then Board majority in 2021. Later, in February 2022, the plaintiffs attempted have the court issue an injunction to prohibit the map from taking effect. This pleading was only about 10 pages and was denied. The Board should demand copies of the so-called Citizens legal bills to ascertain the costs and whether the so-called Citizens were overcharged, or whether they are seeking to punish the former Board majority.

SLO Integrated Waste Management Authority Board Meeting (IWMA) Meeting of Wednesday; March 8, 2023 (Scheduled) 1:30 PM.

Item 12 - Proposal Selection for Waste and Recycling Education Programs. The Board approved a \$100,000 contract with the SLO County based firm, Science Discovery, to conduct child and adult education on the importance of recycling.

QUALIFICATIONS OF FIRM AND PERSONNEL

Science Discovery was founded in 1996 by Michael di Milo. The business is a sole proprietorship and operates from a 2,500-square-foot facility in San Luis Obispo, California. The Science Discovery site has an office, broadcast studio, and workshop sections dedicated to the needs of its clients. Our company's principal focus is to provide professional school and public education outreach services to jurisdictions that require assistance in recycling education, solid waste education, and sustainability. The company tagline, Connecting People with Their Environment, encapsulates the overall spirit of what we do.

The program focuses on visits to elementary school classrooms to brainwash the children to believe that recycling is crucial. Presumably, the children will badger their parents to recycle. Of course, everyone in the County is ripped about the huge refuse collection bill increases engendered by the State's new food waste and green waste recycling mandate. Meanwhile, landfills constitute only an infinitesimal proportion of California land use.

Much of the recycled material ends up in landfills regardless, because the markets for recycled materials have dried up since the materials are not worth the processing costs. The alleged environmental benefits are insignificant, and solid waste disposal costs rise inexorably. Once the voters wise up, mass public refusal to recycle will be a perfect tool to use in the revolt, as there will be nothing that governments can actually do to punish the public.

Central Coast Community Energy Authority Operations Board Meeting of Wednesday, March 9, 2023 (Completed)

Item 5 - CEO's Report. The report, which covers a variety of subjects, has been focused lately on the regulatory environment, which threatens 3CE's ability to maintain lower rates than the investor-owned utilities such as PG&E and SCE. One area of concern is that the State Public Utilities Commission and the California Independent System Operator (which regulates the grid) are demanding that the community choice aggregators acquire more reserve energy capacity, known as resource adequacy or RA.

Continuously evolving Commission decisions, a failed central procurement effort, and a proposed new RA market design are each creating significant market uncertainty. Further, the Commission's rulings have significantly increased the demand for RA while diminishing the available supply. As a result, RA prices have increased four hundred percent.

Investor-Owned Utility 2023 Electric Generation Rates. PG&E's costs for energy have risen and the company has been granted rate increases. This has provided a competitive advantage for 3CE, at least for now.

- *Significant increases in wholesale electric rates are pushing IOU rates significantly higher*
- *CCCE rates now 20%-40% under IOU PG&E rate*

Planning Commission Meeting of Thursday, March 9, 2023 (Completed)

The meeting had a light 2-item agenda. The matters pertained to an extension to construct a small project and some architectural changes to a small commercial project.

EMERGENT ISSUES

Here is a new valuable resource, which is posted each Friday by Mike Stoker. Sign up below.

Mike Stoker & Associates

A Government Relations, Public Policy & Public Affairs Consulting Firm

1012 Palmetto Way, # C

Carpinteria, CA 93013

(805) 708-9100

MikeStoker@aol.com

Mike Stoker is an attorney whose law practice emphasized environmental, land use, agricultural, and business law. He has also served on the Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors, served as the Chairman of the CA Agricultural Labor Relations Board, served as CA Deputy Secretary of State, and most recently served, having been appointed by the President, as the Southwest Administrator of the US EPA serving 75 million people spanning 8 time zones from Navajo Nation in New Mexico in the east to the Mariana Islands in the west with Guam, America Samoa, Hawaii, California, Arizona, and Nevada in between.)

Item 1- California Weighs \$360,000 in Reparations to Eligible Black Residents. Will Others Follow? -- California is moving closer to determining what eligible Black residents are owed for generations of discriminatory practices, a key step toward potentially becoming the largest US jurisdiction to pay out billions of dollars in reparations. Karen Breslau and Kelsey Butler Bloomberg. (*Just crazy with or without a budget deficit. But even crazier given our state's budget deficit.*)

Item 2 - Job Killer Bills Seek Massive Tax Increase - Once again, pending legislation seeks to impose a massive tax increase upon all forms of personal property or wealth, despite California having the highest income tax rate in the country. (*California is currently rated #2 in state taxes nationwide. This legislation, if passed, will make us #1. And not #1 in a good way.*)

. Copyright © 2023 Year, All rights reserved.
You are being contacted because of your relationship with Mike Stoker

[Add us to your address book](#)

COLAB IN DEPTH

IN FIGHTING THE TROUBLESOME, LOCAL DAY-TO-DAY ASSAULTS ON OUR FREEDOM AND PROPERTY, IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN MIND THE LARGER UNDERLYING IDEOLOGICAL, POLITICAL, AND ECONOMIC CAUSES



LIFE AMONG THE RUINS

THE FEW SOWED THE WIND, AND THE MANY REAPED THEIR WHIRLWIND

BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

American society is facing three existential crises not unlike those that overcame the late Roman, and a millennium later, terminal Byzantine, empires.

Premodern Barbarism

We are suffering an epidemic of premodern barbarism. The signs unfortunately appear everywhere. Over half a million homeless people crowd our big-city downtowns.

Most know the result of such Medieval street living is unhealthy, violent, and lethal for all concerned. Yet no one knows—or even seems to worry about—how to stop it.

So public defecation, urination, fornication, and injection continue unabated. Progressive urban pedestrians pass by holding their noses, averting their gazes, and accelerating the pace of their walking. The greenest generation in history allows its sidewalks to become pre-civilizational sewers. In a very brief time, we all but have destroyed the downtowns of our major cities—which will increasingly become vacant in a manner like the 6th-century A.D. Roman forum.

All accept that defunding the police, no-cash bail, Soros-funded district attorneys, and radical changes in jurisprudence have destroyed deterrence. The only dividend is the unleashing of a criminal class to smash-and-grab, carjack, steal, burglarize, execute, and assault—with *de facto* immunity. Instead we are sometimes lectured that looting is not a crime, but lengthy incarceration *is* criminally immoral.

We have redefined felonies as misdemeanors warranting no punishment. Misdemeanors are now infractions that are not criminal. Infractions we treat as lifestyle choices. Normality, not criminality, is deemed criminal. We all know this will not work, but still wonder why it continues.

Many among the middle classes of our cities who can flee or move, do so—like 5th-century equestrians who left Rome for rural fortified farms before the onslaught of the Ostrogoths and Visigoths. For most of our lives we were lectured that the old southern states—Florida, Tennessee, Texas—were backward and uninviting. Now even liberals often flee to them, leaving behind supposedly cosmopolitan Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Chicago, Baltimore, and New York. The more people leave the blue states, the more those states praise themselves as utopian.

The less well-off, without the means to leave, hope that their environs have hit bottom so things can only improve. The elite who caused this premodern catastrophe assumes they will always have the money and wherewithal to ensure that themselves and their own can navigate around or even profit from the barbarism they unleashed. For them the critic, not the target of criticism, is the greater threat.

The hard urban work of the 1990s and early 2000s—cleaner, safer subways, secure nightlife downtown, clean sidewalks, low vacancy rates, little vagrancy, and litter-free streets—so often has been undone, deliberately so. We are descending to the late 1960s and 1970s wild streets—if we are lucky the mayhem does not devolve even further.

A mere 10 years ago, if an American learned that a man was arrested for clubbing, robbing, or shooting innocents, and yet would be released from custody that day of his crime, he would have thought it an obscenity. Now he fears that often the criminal will not even be arrested.

A once secure border no longer exists. Joe Biden and Alejandro Mayorkas simply demolished it and allowed 6-7 million foreign nationals to cross illegally into the United States without audits—to the delight of their apparent constituent, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador.

What would shame a Biden or Mayorkas? What would change their minds? Billions of dollars spent on social services for the lawbreaking at the expense of the American poor?

Would 100,000 annual lethal overdoses—12 times more than those who died over 20 years in Iraq and Afghanistan combined—from drugs that flow across the open border sway them? Or would it take 200,000, or 300,000 deaths before Joe Biden relented and ceased his chuckling?

What does a people do when its highest officials simply renounce their oaths of office and refuse to enforce laws they don't like? Everyone knows the border will eventually have to become secure, but none have any idea whether it will take another 20, 30, or 50 million illegal entrants and 1 million more fentanyl deaths to close it.

Polls show race relations have hit historic lows. Much of the ecumenicalism of the post-Civil Rights movement seems squandered—almost deliberately so.

The Left now rarely mentions Martin Luther King, Jr. or even the historic Civil Rights Act of 1964. Perhaps it knows it has violated the spirit and legacy of both.

Today, our identity politics leaders believe that the color of our skin, not the content of our character, certainly matters more. The practitioners of the new tribalism in some sense fear outlawing segregation and discrimination by race. They know to do so would end racially restricted houses and safe spaces, racially exclusive graduations, and race-based admissions, hiring, and promotion on campus.

Read Professor Ibram X. Kendi and his message is implicit. For him, the problem with a Jim Crow-like system was not segregation or racial chauvinism *per se*, but merely who was doing the victimizing and who were the victims: so the original racism was bad; but racism in reverse is good.

We abhor violence, racism, and misogyny—in the abstract. Yet the entire hip-hop industry would find no audience—or so we are told by its appeasers—if rappers refrained from “ho” misogyny, brags of violence against law enforcement, and self-described proprietary use of the N-word.

Most know that young black males under 30 commit violent crimes at well over 10 times their 3-4 percent demographic of the population—so often victimizing the nonwhite. All know that reality must remain unmentionable even as its causes need to be debated and discussed if lives are to be saved. Yet the greater crime seems not the crime itself, but even mentioning crime.

Postmodern Abyss

Postmodernism in our age is deadlier even than premodernism. Sexually explicit drag shows that allow the attendance of children 20 years ago would have been outlawed—by liberals worried over the trauma of the young watching performance-art simulated sex.

Now the children come last and the performers first—as ratified by the same liberals. But to fathom the new transitioning, simply learn from ancient transitioning and gender dysphoria, an unhappy classical theme from Catullus' Attis poem (*stimulatus ibi furenti rabie, vagus/ devolsit ili acuto sibi pondera silice/ itaque ut relictas sensit sibi membra sine viro*) to Giton in Petronius' Satyricon.

Current “science” is now synonymous with ideology, religion, or superstition. Lockdowns, mRNA vaccinations, masking, transgenderism, “climate change,” and green power brook no dissent. They are declared scientifically correct in the manner that the sun used to revolve around the earth, and any dissenting Galileo or Copernicus is cancel-cultured, doxxed, and deplatformed.

It is now verboten to cite the causes of the current upswing. We must remain silent about the classical exegeses that cults, pornography, and constructed sexual identities, when not biological, were the manifestations of a bored culture's affluence (luxus), leisure (otium), and decadence (licentia/dissolutio).

The classical analyses of an elite collapse focus on a falling birth rate, a scarce labor force, ubiquitous abortion, an undermanned military, and a shrinking population. We suffer all that and perhaps more still.

Millions of young men are detached and ensconced in solitude, their indebted 20s too often consumed with video-gaming, internet surfing, or consumption of porn. Many suffer from prolonged adolescence. Many assume that they are immune from criticism, given that the alternative of getting married, having children, finding a full-time job, and buying a house is society's new abnormal.

Rarely has an elite society become so Victorian and yet so raunchy. A slip with an anachronistic “Gal” or “Honey” can get one fired. Meanwhile, grabbing one's genitals while pregnant on stage before 120 million viewers is considered a successful Super Bowl extravaganza.

Our army is short of its annual recruitment by 25 percent. We all suspect but do not say out loud the cause. The stereotyping of poor and middle-class white males as both raging and biased, and yet expected yet to fight and die in misadventures in Afghanistan and Iraq, has finally convinced the parents of these 18-year-olds to say, “no more.”

Need we say anything about the lack of efficacy or morality of the Department of Justice, FBI, or CIA?

Or rather is there anything the FBI will not do?

Doctor court evidence? Hire Twitter to suppress the news? Monitor parents at school board meetings? Allow directors to lie under oath or “misremember” before Congress?

Swiping clean subpoenaed phones? Hiring fakers to compile dirt on a presidential candidate—and then using that known smear to hoodwink a judge to allow spying on Americans?

Suppressing evidence on a laptop to warp an election? Raiding an ex-president’s home with a SWAT-like team? Spying on Catholics in mass? Storming a home full of children of a man accused of a politically incorrect misdemeanor?

The more the military has been stalemated in Iraq, humiliated in Afghanistan, and dreading what China will soon do or what Iran will even sooner let off, the more it insists our priorities should be diversity, equity, and inclusion. Will that escapism ensure more lethal pilots, tank commanders, and Marine company commanders?

The mindsets of too many of our new generations of command are twofold: first to be promoted by virtue signaling woke policies that they must know eventually will hamper combat readiness, and then in the future to rotate at retirement into multimillionaire status by leveraging past expertise for defense contractors. Keep that in mind and almost every publicly uttered nonsense from our highest in the Pentagon makes perfect sense.

Them

There is a third challenge. Our enemies—illiberal, deadly, and vengeful—have concluded we are more effective critics of ourselves than are they. They enjoy our divided nation, torn apart by racial incivility, dysfunctional cities, and **woke madness**. (Notice how even the communists long ago dropped deadly Maoist **wokeism**, or how the Russians viewed the Soviet commissariat as antithetical to their military and economic agendas.)

Iran believes that this present generation of Americans would likely allow it to nuke Israel rather than stop its proliferation. China assumes that Taiwan is theirs and the only rub is how to destroy or absorb it without losing too many global markets and income. Russia conjectures that the more we trumpet its impending defeat, the more it will destroy Eastern Ukraine and call such a desert peace.

Our “friends” can be as dangerous as our enemies.

A visitor from another world might conclude Mexico has done more damage to America than North Korea, Iran, and Russia combined. It has, by intent, flooded our border with 20 million illegal aliens. It has allowed cartels with Chinese help to conduct multibillion-dollar profiteering

by killing 100,000 Americans per year (did the Kremlin ever match that tally in a half century of the Cold War?).

Mexico drains \$60 billion from its expatriates on the expectation that American subsidies will free up their cash to be sent home. The more the cartels run wild, the more money trickles down—while their top drug enforcement official Genaro García Luna was found guilty in a New York courtroom for collusion with the cartels.

How did all of this so quickly erode our great country? Our crisis was not the next generation of foreign Hitlers and Stalins. It was not earthquakes, floods, or even pandemics. It was not endemic poverty and want. It was not a meager inheritance from past generations of incompetents. Nor was it a dearth of natural resources or bounty.

Instead our catastrophe arose from our most highly educated, the wealthiest and most privileged in American history with the greatest sense of self-esteem and **sanctimoniousness**. Sometime around the millennium, they felt their genius could change human nature and bring an end to history—if only they had enough power to force *hoi polloi* to follow their abstract and bankrupt theories that they had no intention of abiding by themselves.

And then the few sowed the wind, and so the many now reap their whirlwind.

Victor Davis Hanson is a distinguished fellow of the Center for American Greatness and the Martin and Illie Anderson Senior Fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution. He is an American military historian, columnist, a former classics professor, and scholar of ancient warfare. He has been a visiting professor at Hillsdale College since 2004. Hanson was awarded the National Humanities Medal in 2007 by President George W. Bush. Hanson is also a farmer (growing raisin grapes on a family farm in Selma, California) and a critic of social trends related to farming and agrarianism. He is the author most recently of The Second World Wars: How the First Global Conflict Was Fought and Won, The Case for Trump and the newly released The Dying Citizen. American Greatness march

ANNOUNCEMENTS



ANDY CALDWELL SHOWNOW LOCAL IN SLO

COUNTY

Now you can listen to THE ANDY CALDWELL SHOW
in *Santa Barbara, Santa Maria & San Luis Obispo Counties!*

We are pleased to announce that The Andy Caldwell Show is now
broadcasting out of San Luis Obispo County on FM 98.5 in addition to AM
1290/96.9 Santa Barbara and AM 1240/99.5 Santa Maria



The show now covers the broadcast area from Ventura to Templeton -
THE only show of its kind on the Central Coast covering local, state,
national and international issues!

3:00 – 5:00 PM WEEKDAYS You can also listen to The
Andy Caldwell Show LIVE on the [Tune In Radio App](#) and previously aired
shows at: 3:00 – 5:00 PM WEEKDAYS You can also listen to The Andy
Caldwell Show LIVE on the [Tune In Radio App](#) and
Previously aired shows at:

COUNTY UPDATES OCCUR MONDAYS AT 4:30 PM
MIKE BROWN IS THE REGULAR MONDAY GUEST AT 4:30!

A Voice for Reason
3:00 PM to 5:00 PM Monday thru Friday
- Ventura to San Luis Obispo -
Listen to The Andy Caldwell Show "LIVE"

KSMA RADIO
NEWS • TALK
1240 99.5
1240ksma.com

KZSB RADIO
SANTA BARBARA
1290 96.9
am1290kzsb.com

K-NEWS
98.5
The Power of Information
knews985.com

The Only Talk Radio Show to Cover
Santa Barbara, Santa Maria & San Luis Obispo!

SUPPORT COLAB



MIKE BROWN ADVOCATES BEFORE THE BOS



VICTOR DAVIS HANSON ADDRESSES A COLAB FORUM



DAN WALTERS EXPLAINS SACTO MACHINATIONS AT A COLAB FORUM



**AUTHOR & NATIONALLY SYNDICATED COMMENTATOR BEN SHAPIRO
APPEARED AT A COLAB ANNUAL DINNER**



NATIONAL RADIO AND TV COMMENTATOR HIGH HEWITT AT COLAB DINNER



MIKE BROWN RALLIES THE FORCES OUTDOORS DURING COVID LOCKDOWN

JOIN OR CONTRIBUTE TO COLAB ON THE NEXT PAGE
Join COLAB or contribute by control clicking at: [COLAB San Luis Obispo County \(colabslo.org\)](https://colabslo.org) or use the form below:

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

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS:

General Member: \$100 - \$249 \$ _____ Voting Member: \$250 - \$5,000 \$ _____

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: _____ Exp Date: ___/___ Billing Zip Code: _____ CVV: _____

TODAY'S DATE: _____