

# The Charlotte Post

The Voice of the Black Community

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## OPINION

# Are illegal alien foes racist?

It is disquieting to hear arguments on turning a blind eye to illegal immigration because these illegal immigrants are doing jobs that Americans will not do. Does this suggest that America clamors for yesterday's cheap labor providing a legitimate business rationale for the reincarnation of a modern day version of America's slavery epoch?

A reformed Pennsylvania Yellow Dog Democrat chap (who in the past would have voted for Democratic candidates even if they ran a yellow dog) offered a compassionate look at illegal immigration. He is a Caucasian college professor, in his middle sixties, who expresses strong feelings on America's Civil Rights Era. This reformed Yellow Dog Democrat argued that it is okay for illegal immigrants to break American laws because they are coming to this country seeking a better life for their families. He then said that his grandparents were immigrants and he wouldn't be here if they did not get the chance to come to America.



SHERMAN MILLER

I challenged his assertion on cherry-picking American laws on immigration. He argued that some laws are good laws and some are bad laws, so he felt that illegal immigration laws were bad and he did not feel they deserved felonious status. This professor argued that the plight of today's illegal immigrants is comparable to African Americans' yesterday civil rights struggle. He contended that the movement of illegal immigrants today hiding from the law was comparable to yesterday's black slaves escaping on the Underground Railroad.

As I listened to this chap make the case on illegal immigrants doing jobs that Americans will not do, I retorted that black Americans did many of these jobs before the illegal immigrants came. Today the exploiters are faced with black Americans having mainstream legitimacy, so blacks will have to be paid the fair market value for their labor. I argued that American labor has watched many of yesterday's good jobs be exported to low wage countries; however, there are a host of jobs that must be done at home such as domestic work, landscaping, and so on. Hence, 12 million illegal immigrants offer a way to depress wages for many Americans through their willingness to work at Third World rates, which is incinerating a new chattel class.

The professor shared that a chap showed up at his house with some workers who appeared to be Hispanic and offered to cut his grass weekly for \$30. He agreed. I retorted asking what the fair market value of doing that job is. The professor said somewhere between \$30 and \$80.

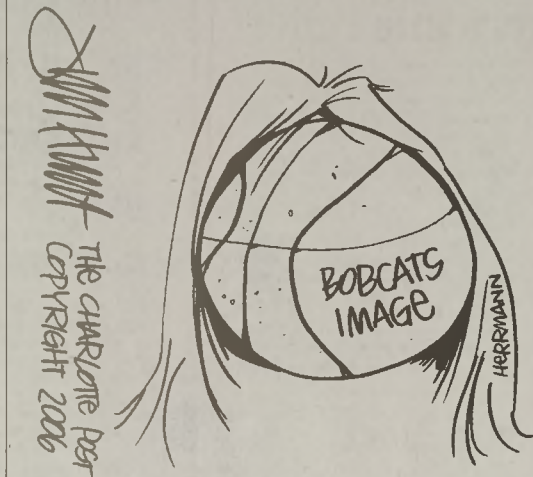
However, the professor said if he had to pay 80 dollars he would probably cut the grass himself.

We then turned our attention to the long-term political impact on the United States of America. Since the nonwhite children of the illegal immigrants born in the US will be citizens, this tanning of America means a redefinition of who will get to be President. The professor pointed out that whites are not having a lot of children and the illegal immigrants are having many children, so one might expect a long-term shift in political clout in this nation. He also argued that this shift in political clout to descendants of illegal immigrants is not solely a US problem because in Europe illegal aliens are supplying many of the European new births.

As I pondered the professor's compassion for the illegal immigrants, I wondered who cares about the many young black native born citizens that I see standing on the street corners in the hoods across America with no hope of a better tomorrow? Is it okay to offer hopes of a better tomorrow to illegal immigrants while seeing recidivism underpin marrying aged Black American males becoming one of today's endangered species? What is very disquieting is that in this age of political correctness it is easy to taunt opponents of illegal immigration as racists in the media.

However, the real concern for our political leadership presently who are burying their heads in the sand on the illegal immigration issue, is that massive consternation over illegal immigration growing across the nation could evolve into riots against illegal aliens comparable to what happened to Black Americans in the early portion of the Twentieth Century. Wikipedia (on line encyclopedia) reports, "Labor conflict was also used to justify the racially motivated 1917 massacre of hundreds of black residents of East St. Louis - many of whom were women and children, at the hands of white workers who resented living amongst and competing for jobs with black people." Will history repeat itself in the 21st century?

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THEY MIGHT LOSE.  
BUT THEY'LL LOOK  
GOOD DOING IT...

## Election Day should be 'Hammer Time'

After Benjamin L. Cardin, a White Congressman, defeated Kweisi Mfume, the former president of the NAACP and ex-chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, African-American politicians in Maryland almost stumbled over one another in a mad rush to endorse Cardin.

Sen. Barack Obama, everyone's flavor of the month, even parachuted in to endorse Cardin. He appeared



GEORGE E. CURRY

on the scene so quickly that it was more like they loaded him in a cannon and aimed him toward the Baltimore Harbor. The sight of grinning black elected officials rushing to endorse a white Democrat is a familiar scene. What made this bum-rush so noteworthy was that after Mfume filed to fill an open Senate seat, the party went out and recruited Cardin to run against him. With limited resources and lacking the support of party bosses, Mfume still came within 9 percentage points of defeating Cardin. If he had won, Maryland's Senate race would have featured two African-Americans, guaranteeing that one would be elected to office.

I know for a fact that at one point during the primary, Mfume was so disappointed

with the professional Democrats that he contemplated endorsing Steele in the event he lost the primary. When he was chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, he demonstrated that kind of courage and boldness. I suspect that because Cardin is a friend and former colleague, Mfume decided not to bolt his Party this time.

Still, it's the same old sorry story: Blacks get mistreated and after complaining about being taken for granted, they dutifully line up to pick cotton. Or, in this case, black votes. I don't know what gets into black leaders between the time they complain and the time the party selects its white nominee. As someone said about one prominent black leader, "He's like a terrorist - all he wants is money and a plane."

It's time for a change and clearly that change is not going to come from black elected officials who are forever wedded to their Democratic overseers. The change, if it's to occur, must come from those not seeking the favor of either party.

If we are truly tired of being taken for granted by one major party and just plain taken by the other, then it's time to take a stand. Here's my modest proposal for my fellow black Marylanders - teach both parties a lesson by voting for the black Republican, Lt. Gov. Michael

Steele. On the issue of affirmative action, Michael Steele is no Clarence Thomas. I disagree with Steele on most public policy issues. He is a Republican in every sense of the word.

But like the voting in New Orleans, this is not about one person. It's larger than that. This is about demanding respect. And I can think of no better way to get the attention of both parties than, in this one instance, voting Republican to make a point. Some party leaders may not be able to read and write but they can count. If we do this, everyone will have to do some different kind of figuring. Republicans will have an incentive to court the Black votes and Democrats will have to work in earnest to earn the respect of African-Americans.

Blacks make up 29 percent of Maryland's population. That's the fifth-highest percentage in the country. Among registered voters, about one in five Maryland voters is an African-American. That, combined with an expected lower turnout in this non-presidential election, means that African-Americans can determine who wins or loses. That's why we can't waste this golden opportunity.

It's hammer time. It's time to lower the boom on white and black Democrats who think that it's okay to disre-

spect black voters and then expect them to go to the polls in significant numbers on Election Day simply to support the Democratic slate.

Let's be clear. I am not advocating supporting all black Republicans running this year - some of them are far worse than the white Democratic alternative. The GOP, in general, has to provide more than compassionate rhetoric; Republicans need to compile a compassionate record on social issues. And they are a long way from that.

The most recent NAACP Civil Rights Report Card, issued in February for the 108th Congress, showed that 98 percent of all Republicans in the U.S. House and Senate earned an F. By contrast, only 2 percent of Democrats failed to support civil rights issues.

Voting for Michael Steele would send shock waves through both major parties.

And that's exactly what we need. Otherwise, two years from now, we'll still be complaining about Democrats taking us for granted and Republicans just taking us

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## Made in China, at America's expense

By Harry C. Alford  
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

In his 2002 State of the Union message, President Bush declared that North Korea, Iran and Iraq constituted an "axis of evil" because they were arming to threaten world peace. Later, the Bush administration added Cuba, Libya and Syria to that "axis," but not China.

Why not? It is China that gives those countries the technology and courage to do what they do. Yet, we won't approach China about its sinister actions.

Here at home, illegal immigration is on the front burner. We debate the issue, accuse and threaten all sorts of reactions to the illegal entry into this nation. Everything is focused on the U.S.-Mexico border. However, the most savage form of illegal immigration is the sex slavery sponsored by China. These slaves are being smuggled into the ports of Seattle, Los Angeles, Baltimore, New York and elsewhere.

It is barbaric to cram innocent lives into shipping containers, all with the oversight and approval of the Chinese government. Yet, we don't scream about this like we should. It is happening daily but the official anti-immigration action centers around

the Mexican border.

We have trade debates and confrontations with various nations throughout the world. The recent trade talks at Doha collapsed in total failure. The U.S. courts China and wants to consider it for "most favored nation for trade." The reality is that China is a master pirate and trade thief. No country on this earth condones patent theft and the violation of intellectual property rights like the military regime of China. From watches to Buicks, you can find U.S. products being "knocked off" in China and distributed around the world. Even from the legitimate trade we have more than a \$200 billion trade deficit with China. There have been many wars started in this world over less than a trade imbalance.

And it gets worse. In addition to the dirty trading, China falsely props up its money value. The yen is a mystery because this rogue nation uses "smoke and mirrors" to assess its currency value. It is very misleading and can corrupt our money markets around the world. Furthermore, China is buying up our debt. It owns 15 percent of the U.S. national debt (U.S. Treasury bonds). This makes them our single largest creditor. They own a

piece of our "mortgage" and that is very scary. Why are they doing this if not for leverage and advantage and/or blackmail?

When you think of an oil crisis, think - and thank - China. Sixty percent of all the new oil being produced goes to meet the demand of China. This is reflected at our pump. While environmentalists resist our drilling in the Gulf of Mexico, China has begun to do it. They have begun pulling natural gas off the coast of our Florida Keys. Also, they have launched a joint venture with Cuba to begin building oil rigs to pump out the vast reserves off our shorelines. This is bold as you can get. Yet, you don't hear a "purr" from the US.

The media went ballistic when a small Arab nation was about to take over the management of the Port of Baltimore. Still, nothing has been said about China taking over the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. This is even more devastating is that China now manages the Panama Canal, which once belonged to us. They are there watching our merchant ships as well as our entire navy. This is a serious breach in national security. Again, there are no shouts coming from Congress or the White

House.

The Africa is also busy exploiting Africa. For some reason, we are assisting them in that exploitation.

The Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGO) is suppose to promote trade and agri-business between the United States and African nations. However, there is a loophole as big as the Grand Canyon that allows China to substitute its cotton products in place of African cotton products. This has delivered a terrible blow to the farmers and textile industry of Africa. What is even more sickening is that the Congressional Black Caucus has supported this action to the benefit of China and detriment of Africa. Even today, members of the CBC are running around Capitol Hill trying to make this action permanent for the benefit of China. This is insane.

China has its mojo working on us and it is a very sad state of affairs. A communist, militarily-run empire with a sordid human rights record and undemocratic system that is totally deplorable. They are the real threat - that's evil, whether on an axis or not.

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