

# Opinions

## Conservative is not label for Nixon

By Richard A. Viguier  
 "...I am a conservative -- and also, curiously enough, a conservative who is not an isolationist, who is not a reactionary, who is for progress, who is an internationalist..."

The media people, there's no question that most of them don't particularly care for me because I'm a conservative and they're liberals."

That's how Richard Nixon described himself during his recent television interview with Frank Gannon.

Is Richard Nixon a conservative? Remember, it was Nixon who imposed wage and price controls...negotiated the SALT I treaty that gave the Soviets a three-to-two advantage in ICBMs...arranged the "sweetheart" deal with the Soviets that gave them American grain at a lower price than Americans had to pay...and, instead of repealing many of Lyndon Johnson's Great Society programs, raised taxes to pay for them and greatly expanded them.

It was Nixon who proposed the greatest welfare scheme in history, the so-called Family Assistance Plan. He took the U.S. off the gold standard. Declaring that "We are all Keynesians now," he began an unprecedented string of budget deficits and touched off the most inflationary decade of the century.

The father of "detente" (which legitimized the communist enslavement of 1.6 billion people), he remained quiet while the Soviets turned Cuba into a nuclear fortress. He sought a negotiated settlement, not victory, in the Vietnam war -- a no-win strategy that led to the communist conquest of South Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. During his tenure, the U.S. lost its military superiority over the Soviet Union and began a decline that continued through the 1970s.

Under Nixon, the Commerce Department approved the sale of ball bearing grinders to the Soviets (machines they use to build their missiles). He increased U.S./Soviet trade by 600 percent and ended the ban on the export of



## Population is shifting in nation's big cities

By Cliff Blue  
 The shift of population in this country is clearly demonstrated by the latest figures released by the Census Bureau on the nation's largest cities.

Chicago and Philadelphia slipped a notch, from number two and number four. New York, of course, is still the largest U.S. City by far, with over 7 million residents. Los Angeles, with over 3 million is second. Chicago is now third.

Houston is fourth, ahead of Philadelphia. Half a million people down the ladder from Philadelphia, Detroit, with 1.1 million, ranks sixth. Dallas is 7th, San Diego eighth, Phoenix ninth and San Antonio 10th.

Thus Texas, into which Mexicans are flooding, has three cities in the nation's top ten. Honolulu, Baltimore, Indianapolis, San Francisco, San Jose, Memphis, Washington, Milwaukee, Columbus, New Orleans, Boston, Cleveland, Jacksonville, Denver and Seattle follow in that order.

RENTAL VEHICLES ... Reading the newspapers you will come to the conclusion that rental car rates are almost totally illogical. In one area a company offers weekly rates at less than fifty dollars. In

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another, the same company charges that much for a car for one or two days.

Recently cars were being offered by the major companies in Miami for \$39 a week. No comparable offer was available in most other communities.

The airlines have followed similar discriminatory pricing for years. One could almost invariably fly from New York to Miami for less than a hundred dollars, both in season and out.

To fly half that distance one-way to the midwest or South would often cost more.

No laws are violated in either case. But transportation is almost a public service industry, and there's a moral obligation to provide the public roughly equal treatment, without discrimination by section or region.

LAND IN U.S.A....There are slightly more than a billion acres of farmland in the United States. That sounds like a lot, but when you divide it up by the population, it comes out to an average of four and one half acres per person.

Only two of those four and one

half acres are suitable for the production of food and fiber. And if people attempted to grow their food and fiber needs on those two acres, they might well starve to death and have no clothes.

Your two acres are dwindling in size. Fifty years ago, you had about five acres for food and fiber. With less land, we have to hope that U.S. farmers get even more efficient than they are now. The biggest concern should be the dwindling number of farmers and the dwindling profits from farming.

Using today's figures, most farmers can get a better return on their money by putting it in the bank than they can get by using it to farm. That's something for all of us two-acre absentee farmers to worry about.

POLITICIANS...We read in the *Wall Street Journal* that: "Politicians slip in public esteem. A Roper poll finds confidence in U.S. Political leaders has dropped nine percentage points, to 65% since early 1981. More Americans now see top politicians as self-seeking not very competent, even ruthless. Fewer people view them as very intelligent, socially responsible or of high moral caliber."

## Television is not all bad

By Lucien Coleman  
 "You oughta turn off that boob-tube and read yourself a good book for a change!"

How many youthful paragons of the TV generation have heard unsettling words like that from Mom, just as their favorite slum-dunk artists were getting on a real roll.

Though televisions almost outnumber people today, the medium has never lived down its bad reputation as a purveyor of mindless inanity. And little wonder, what with all the toilet

### Things That Matter

tissue squeezing, panty girdle snapping, and yelling auto salesman TV commercials.

But maybe the myth that "books are better" ought not to be accepted uncritically. Let me tell you, for example, about my recent tour through a mail-order bookseller's catalog.

What will it be, Mom? A book showing off "a breath-taking collection of silky, saucy, sexy, lingerie," or an instruction manual

on *How to Regain Your Virginity?* Or maybe a more scientific work on *How to Hypnotize Yourself and Others?*

For more morbid minds, we have *101 Uses for a Dead Cat*. And, for history buffs, *Whatever Became of Beaver Cleaver & 149 Other Super Celebrities*.

Serious students of the fine arts will no doubt be edified by *Leg Art, The Complete Book of Erotic Art, How to Draw Dirty Pictures, and Cheeks*, a "saucy, sexy behind-the-scenes photographic look at men and their posteriors."

high technology to the Soviet Union.

He appointed mostly moderates and liberals like Elliot Richardson, Henry Kissinger, George Romney, William Ruckelshaus, and Daniel Patrick Moynihan to high positions in the U.S. government. He signed the laws creating the Legal Services Corporation, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) -- one of the top

boondoggles of the decade -- and the revenue sharing program were proposed by Nixon.

He doubled and then tripled the budgets of the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities and he increased spending for public broadcasting by 500 percent. As a concession to the communist Chinese, he acknowledged Taiwan as a part of mainland China and laid the groundwork for the expulsion of Taiwan from the United Nations. He instituted racial quotas in hiring by federal contractors.

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