

*The February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMP DAY!*

*Page 1 of 40*

Welcome to the February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMP DAY!

Things changed for the better this week. Nothing happened and I love it. I have to admit that I don't enjoy the Chinese Curse, "May you live in interesting times!" A bit of normalcy goes a long way in making me happy. About the only two things I have to look forward to be First, Karen Boyd is coming to visit us next weekend when she Hucksters at ConNooga here in the Big Nooga. And Second, next Sunday Alexander the Grape and Beth, Destroyer of Worlds, will be confirmed at St. Jude Catholic Church. For those of you who don't know, Confirmation is a sacred sacrament that is a right of Passage in our church and shows that our children are growing up in the light of God. At least, that is the way it was explained to me many years ago. SHE WHO MUST BE OBEYED and Jason, The Deposed Emperor, will serve as the munchkin's sponsors during the ceremony. So, the whole family will be involved in the event.

The weather, here in the Big Nooga has been a little strange in the past few weeks. It has been going from cold to warm on a three day cycle here. Now don't get me wrong, I have enjoyed the mild winter this year. But having 70 degree highs every few days plays hell with the immune systems of all of us living here. Luckily I have been staying healthy and haven't contracted the flu this year. But I can't say this for my kids and grand kids. It definitely has been an unusual year.

I am looking forward to Wednesday this week. Derek, the Crowned Prince, will be coming over and installing my new computer. I bought a Recertified Acer Quad Core 5I computer with 8GB of DDR and well tricked out from Newegg.com. Also I have purchase a Recertified Samsung 24" curved monitor when a saw a great deal pop up on Woot.com. This new system should serve me well over the next few years surfing the internet and publishing the Revenge of Hump Day. This new system is just too slow for any intense gaming according to Alex. But Beth is looking forward to using it to look up all of her cosmetics needs and viewing her YouTube Picks. I looks like I can't make all of my grandchildren happy with my picks. But Aunt Jamie is happy because she gets my old 21" Acer Monitor for her new system at home. Hand me downs have always been a way of life in my family. What can you say, my parent were raised during the great Depression and taught me to be frugal.

So on that "introspective note", why don't y'all sit back and relax because here's the best in gossip, jokes and science for your reading pleasure!

*Uncle Timmy*

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**BOOK TOUR FOR LARRY CORREIA**

From Andy Porter [Aporter55@gmail.com](mailto:Aporter55@gmail.com) The Southern Fandom Classic Yahoo Users Group

Baen Books announce that Larry Correia, author of the bestselling Monster Hunter International series, as well as the award-winning epic fantasy novel The Son of the Black Sword (for which he toured Europe last year), will be on tour in the U.S. July 28 - August 10 in support of Monster Hunter Siege, sixth novel in the Monster Hunter series.

Friday, July 28, 2017 - Tampa/St. Petersburg - Books at Park Place, 6-7:00PM

*The February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMPH DAY!*

*Page 2 of 40*

**Saturday, July 29, 2017 - Tampa Bay Comic Con - Tampa Bay Comic Con**

**Monday, July 31, 2017 - New Orleans - Garden District Books, 6-7:30PM**

**Tuesday, August 1, 2017 - San Antonio - Twig, 6-8:00PM**

**Wednesday, August 2, 2017 - Austin - Half Price Books, 7-8:00PM**

**Thursday, August 3, 2017 - Dallas - Half Price Books, 7-8:00PM**

**Friday, August 4, 2017 - Minneapolis, Uncle Hugo, 5-7:00PM**

**Saturday, August 5, 2017 - Seattle - University Books, 6-7:00PM**

**Monday, August 7, 2017 - Portland - Powell's, time Pending**

**Tuesday, August 8, 2017 - San Diego - Mysterious Galaxy, 7:30-8:30PM**

**Wednesday, August 9, 2017 - Phoenix - Poisoned Pen, 7-8:00PM**

**Thursday, August 10, 2017 - Salt Lake City-Layton - Barnes & Noble, 7-8:00PM**

For more information, or to check upcoming appearances from other Baen authors, see the calendar at: <http://www.baen.com/calendar>

For more information e-mail [info@baen.com](mailto:info@baen.com), or call 1-800-488-2236.

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From: "Ray Beloate" [beerman@rittermail.com](mailto:beerman@rittermail.com)



*The February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMPHDAY!*

*Page 3 of 40*

After a two year loan to the United States, Michelangelo's David is being returned to Italy.



His Proud Sponsors were:



THIS WAS TOO FUNNY NOT TO SHARE!

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**6 BUSINESSES RUINED BY VANS WITH SLIDING DOORS**



**A bit of cultural news for a welcome change, David Is To Be Returned To Italy.**

*The February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMPH DAY!*

*Page 5 of 40*

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From: "Mike Waldrip" [waldripk@gmail.com](mailto:waldripk@gmail.com)



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### THE DRUGGIST

Upon arriving home, a husband was met at the door by his sobbing wife. Tearfully she explained, "It's the druggist. He insulted me terribly this morning on the phone. I had to call multiple times before he would even answer the phone."

Immediately, the husband drove downtown to confront the druggist and demand an apology. Before he could say more than a word or two, the druggist told him, "Now, just a minute, listen to my side of it. This morning the alarm failed to go off, so I was late getting up. I went without breakfast and hurried out to the car, just to realize that I'd locked the house with both house and car keys inside and had to break a window to get my keys.

"Then, driving a little too fast, I got a speeding ticket. Later, when I was about three blocks from the store, I had a flat tire. When I finally got to the store a bunch of people were waiting for me to open up. I got the store opened and started waiting on these people, all the time the darn phone was ringing off the hook."

He continued, "Then I had to break a roll of nickels against the cash register drawer to make change, and they spilled all over the floor. I had to get down on my hands and knees to pick up the nickels and the phone was still ringing. When I came up I cracked my head on the open cash drawer, which made me stagger back against a showcase with a bunch of perfume bottles on it. Half of them hit the floor and broke."

"Meanwhile, the phone is still ringing with no let up, and I finally got back to answer it. It was your wife. She wanted to know how to use a Rectal thermometer.

And believe me mister, as God is my witness, all I did was tell her."

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Everyone seems to be in such a hurry to scream 'prejudice' these days.....

### **POLISH SAUSAGE**

A customer asked, "In what aisle can I find the Polish sausage?"

The clerk asks, "Are you Polish?"

The guy, clearly offended, says, "Yes I am. But let me ask you something. If I had asked for Italian sausage, would you ask me if I was Italian?

Or if I had asked for German Bratwurst, would you ask me if I was German?

Or if I asked for a kosher hot dog would you ask me if I was Jewish?

Or if I had asked for a Taco, would you ask if I was Mexican?

Or if I asked for some Whiskey, would you ask if I was Irish?"

The clerk says, "No, I probably wouldn't."

The guy says, "Well then, because I asked for Polish sausage, why did you ask me if I'm Polish?"

The clerk replied, "Because you're in Ace Hardware."

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From: "Frank Brayman" [afranklin3@gmail.com](mailto:afranklin3@gmail.com)

**: Dakota Pipeline Tour**

US and Canadian officials toured the Dakota Pipeline route yesterday. Government spokespersons said all went well.



FB: He-he-he!

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**YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!**

From: "Tim Bolgeo" [tbolgeo@epbfi.com](mailto:tbolgeo@epbfi.com)

**SEN. JEFF FLAKE'S LIST OF WASTEFUL GOVERNMENT'S RESEARCH STUDIES**

<http://www.foxnews.com/on-air/fox-and-friends/blog/2016/05/10/sen-jeff-flakes-list-wasteful-govt-research-studies#comments>

Where exactly do your tax dollars go? Sen. Jeff Flake joined FOX & Friends with his report on government spending that's sure to leave you 'scratching your head.'

The federal government actually spent money to answer these questions...

\* Where does it hurt most to be stung by a bee? – \$1 million from National Science Foundation and DOD

*The February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMPH DAY!*

*Page 9 of 40*

- \* Do drunk birds slur when they sing? – \$5 million from National Institutes of Health budget
- \* Why does the face of Jesus appear on toast? – \$3.5 million from National Institutes of Health budget
- \* Are cheerleaders more attractive in a squad? – \$1.1 million from National Science Foundation and DOD
- \* Who will be America's next top model? – \$2.9 million from National Science Foundation and DOD
- \* What makes goldfish feel sexy? – \$3.9 million from National Science Foundation and DOD
- \* Alligator on a treadmill - can you outrun a dinosaur? – \$1.9 million from National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation
- \* Why is yawning contagious? – \$1 million from National Institutes of Health budget
- \* How many shakes does it take for a wet dog to dry off? – \$390 thousand from National Science Foundation

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**YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!**

From: "Christina Cowan" [cowan1028@earthlink.net](mailto:cowan1028@earthlink.net)

CC: From The Military Times (1) and a USA Today subsidiary (2) With regards to that article, I am terribly pleased to have Tim Kaine as my senator - and Ben Cardin is a "neighbor" in Maryland..

UT: And Senators Alexander and Corker are the Tennessee Senators.

**SOLDIER, A WWII POW WHO SAVED HUNDREDS BY DEFYING NAZIS, NOMINATED FOR CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL**

By: The Associated Press, February 15, 2017 (Photo Credit: Susan Walsh/AP)

[http://www.militarytimes.com/articles/soldier-who-defied-nazis-nominated-for-congressional-gold-medal?utm\\_source=Sailthru&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=EBB%202.16.17&utm\\_term=Editorial%20-%20Military%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief](http://www.militarytimes.com/articles/soldier-who-defied-nazis-nominated-for-congressional-gold-medal?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%202.16.17&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Military%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief)

WASHINGTON — Tennessee's two U.S. senators are hoping to get the federal government to honor a Knoxville soldier who is credited with saving the lives of more than 200 Jewish Americans during World War II.

Sens. Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker filed legislation Monday to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Master Sgt. Roddie Edmonds, news outlets reported. The two Republicans were joined on the legislation by two Democrats: Sens. Tim Kaine of Virginia and Ben Cardin of Maryland.

Edmonds was the highest-ranking noncommissioned officer at a German prisoner-of-war camp in January 1945 when he rejected a Nazi order to single out Jewish prisoners.

Edmonds ordered more than 1,000 Americans captives to step forward with him and brazenly pronounced: "We are all Jews here."

The Nazi officer pressed his pistol to Edmonds' head, but he didn't waver, and his captors eventually backed down after Edmonds warned they would be prosecuted for war crimes.

"Even when faced with death himself, Master Sgt. Edmonds and the men under his command stood united to protect their fellow soldiers," Corker said. "His moral fortitude and humility serve as an example for us all."

Edmonds, who died in 1985, has never been formally recognized by the U.S. government. Last year Israel awarded him the Righteous Among Nations award, the highest honor that Israel bestows upon non-Jews. At the awards ceremony, held at the Embassy of Israel in Washington, then-President Barack Obama praised Edmonds for going "above and beyond the call of duty."

Edmonds' son, Chris Edmonds of Maryville, told The Commercial Appeal that the family is thrilled he is being considered for the Congressional Gold Medal.

"The lives he saved — I know those families, and to see their smiles and to know their contributions to the world, that's our greatest reward," he said.

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YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

From: "Jim Woosley" [Jimwoosley@aol.com](mailto:Jimwoosley@aol.com)

To Protect Rhinos, This National Park Just Shoots People (50 Poachers Killed So Far)

February 14, 2017 by? Elizabeth

<http://www.boredpanda.com/national-park-shoots-people-protects-rhinos-kaziranga/>

Kaziranga National Park is a story of success when it comes to conservation of rhinos – but what they've done to achieve it is allowing its workers to shoot and even kill potential poachers. So far, the park has killed 50 people.

Rhinos are safe there – a century ago, there was only a handful of Indian one-horned rhinoceros. Now, the park hosts more than 2,400, which is two-thirds of the world's population. However, little is talked about the fact that in 2015, more people were shot dead by park guards than the number of rhinos killed by poachers.

These people all went after rhino horn, as they could be sold for as much as \$6,000 for 100g and are considerably more expensive than gold. They are mostly marketed as a miracle cure for everything from cancer to erectile dysfunction.

So yes, rhinos do need protection, but this has gone too far. National park's workers can kill a person and get away with impunity. The question is, could this kind of punishment ever be justified? And how many innocent people were killed?



Kaziranga National Park is a story of success when it comes to conservation of rhinos – but they kill poachers

SOUNDS LIKE EVOLUTION IN ACTION TO ME. UT

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YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

From: "Mike Waldrip" [waldripk@gmail.com](mailto:waldripk@gmail.com)

26 REAL PLACES THAT LOOK LIKE THEY'VE BEEN TAKEN OUT OF FAIRY TALES

If you love fairy tales and have a serious case of wanderlust, this bucket list was made for you. Travel suggestions via this Quorathread.

[https://www.buzzfeed.com/ariellecalderon/real-places-that-look-like-fairytales?utm\\_term=.af4JRXD81N#.1xOB2PON1K](https://www.buzzfeed.com/ariellecalderon/real-places-that-look-like-fairytales?utm_term=.af4JRXD81N#.1xOB2PON1K)

1. Neuschwanstein Castle, Germany

*The February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMP DAY!*

*Page 12 of 40*



Sean Pavone / shutterstock.com



mironov / shutterstock.com

As a way to seek refuge and withdraw from public life, Ludwig II of Bavaria built this extravagant castle in 1868. Seven weeks after his death in 1886, the structure was opened to the paying public and has since become one of the most visited castles in Europe. Neuschwanstein is also the inspiration for the Sleeping Beauty castle in Disneyland, so it's clearly magical!

<SNIP>

GO AND CHECK OUT THE REST OF THE ARTICLE. IT IS WELL WORTH IT AND PROVES HOW BLESSED WE ARE TO LIVE ON THIS PLANET OF WONDERS. UT

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From: "Tim Bolgeo" [tbolgeo@epbfi.com](mailto:tbolgeo@epbfi.com)

**FIX ANYTHING WITH THE REPAIR WRAP THAT'S 100X STRONGER THAN DUCT TAPE**

<http://newatlas.com/fiberfix-repair-wrap/47920/>



For decades, duct tape has been the default fix for broken things. Until now, because FiberFix Repair Wrap is one hundred times stronger than tape, and it sticks to virtually any surface. Through New Atlas Deals, you can currently pay just \$12.99 for a three-roll bundle (a regular \$18.99 value).

The wrap is made from waterproof resin that hardens when dry. To apply the wrap, you simply put on some gloves, let the wrap soak in water, and apply it to whatever needs fixing. After 10 minutes, it sets as hard as steel — literally.

While it can fix weight-bearing joints and manual tools, FiberFix has many other uses. The wrap is completely watertight, so you can fix plumbing leaks...plus, it can also withstand freezing temperatures, and holds firm right up to 300° F.

Order now for \$12.99 to get this FiberFix three-pack, marked down from \$18.99 for a limited time only.

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**IRON AGE POTTERS CAREFULLY RECORDED EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD — BY ACCIDENT**

**RAE ELLEN BICHELL, February 14, 2017 11:00 AM ET**

<http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2017/02/14/515032512/iron-age-potters-carefully-recorded-earths-magnetic-field-by-accident>



**Ancient jar handles like this one, stamped with a royal seal, provide a detailed timeline of the Earth's magnetic field thousands of years ago. Image courtesy of Oded Lipschits**

**About 3,000 years ago, a potter near Jerusalem made a big jar. It was meant to hold olive oil or wine or something else valuable enough to send to the king as a tax payment. The jar's handles were stamped with a royal seal, and the pot went into the kiln.**

Over the next 600 years, despite wars destructive enough to raze cities, potters in the area kept making ceramic tax jars, each one stamped with whatever seal represented the ruler du jour.

They didn't know it, but in the process, the ancient potters were not just upholding centuries of tax bureaucracy.

As a group of archaeologists and geophysicists wrote Monday in the journal PNAS, they were also creating a long-lasting record of activity some 2,000 miles beneath their feet. And that record is now yielding clues to a big mystery about this planet: how its magnetic field has changed over time.

It's known that iron in the Earth's outer core generates the magnetic field as it moves around the core with the Earth's rotation. But it's still largely unknown how the magnetic field got started and why it changes.

"Albert Einstein defined this problem as one of the five most enigmatic issues in modern physics, and it still is, because the mechanism that creates the magnetic field is not well understood," says Erez Ben-Yosef, an archaeologist at Tel Aviv University in Israel and an author of the paper.

Since the invention about 180 years ago of the magnetometer, a device that can measure the strength of a magnetic field, scientists have noticed something confusing and a little worrisome over the years.

"We are losing the magnetic field," Ben-Yosef says. "We already lost more than 10 percent of its strength, so people are concerned that we might lose the magnetic field entirely."

That's concerning, he says, because the magnetic field protects the Earth from high levels of radiation coming from space.

But fear not, Ben-Yosef says. The jars hold hope.

All those years ago, as potters continued to throw clay, the molten iron that was rotating deep below them tugged at tiny bits of magnetic minerals embedded in the potters' clay. As the jars were heated in the kiln and then subsequently cooled, those minerals swiveled and froze into place like tiny compasses, responding to the direction and strength of the Earth's magnetic field at that very moment.

"It's kind of like a tape recorder," Ben-Yosef says.

Political instability provided another handy recording, because the royal seals stamped onto the jars changed often enough to allow the researchers to narrow down the timing of those magnetic records to windows of about 30 years.

"Instability — or even better, wars and destruction — are the best for us," says Ben-Yosef. (Peaceful transitions are nearly impossible to spot in sedimentary layers, but something like a burned city makes a clearly visible dark line. And the Assyrians had a knack for destroying cities.)



**Tiny minerals in the clay of this jar hold information about the strength of the Earth's magnetic field at the time the jar was fired, thousands of years ago. Image courtesy of Oded Lipschits**

**So, for example, archaeologists know that the Assyrians destroyed Judah, also known as Judea, in 701 B.C. and subsequently replaced the tax jar seal.**

**"So, we know what happened to the magnetic field between 730 B.C.E. to 700 B.C.E. by the year," says Ben-Yosef.**

**When Ben-Yosef and his colleagues studied 67 jar handles spanning from the late 8th century B.C. to the late 2nd century B.C., they found that the Earth's magnetic activity has been a lot choppier than people expected.**

**For example, the jars indicate that in the late 8th century B.C., the core went a little crazy. The intensity of the magnetic field spiked to about double what it is today.**

**"It was the strongest it's been, at least in the last 100,000 years, but maybe ever. We call this phenomenon the Iron Age spike," Ben-Yosef says.**

**Then, it weakened quickly after 732 B.C.E., losing about 30 percent of its intensity in just 30 years.**

**It's counterintuitive, but massive fluctuations like the Iron Age spike, Ben-Yosef says, indicate there's nothing to worry about when it comes to today's weakening magnetic fields. Fluctuation, he says, must be the norm for our planet's magnetic field, not a harbinger of apocalypse.**

A jar handle stamped with concentric circles, excavated from a site in Jerusalem called Ramat Rahel.

Image courtesy of Oded Lipschits

The jars provide an unprecedented look at the planet's magnetic field over those six centuries, one that's much harder to get from rocks.

Geologist Steven Forman of Baylor University has also found evidence of a magnetic spike about 3,000 years ago, based on his study of Hall's Cave in Texas.

"But we didn't have the type of time resolution that the study in PNAS has," he says, because it's a lot harder to pinpoint rocks on a timeline than it is to pinpoint man-made objects. "That's what so cool about what they did. They pulled this out of heated ceramics."

He says the jar record shows the magnetic field is likely a lot more dynamic and nimble than researchers thought it would be.

Scientists knew the Earth could undergo big changes in magnetic intensity — the poles are thought to reverse about every 200,000 to 300,000 years. But in between those times, Forman says, people assumed there wasn't much going on. This study shows magnetic fields going about a quarter of the way toward reversal, and boomeranging back, all within just a few decades.

"When dealing with such large-scale phenomena, we don't usually think it can occur within a few decades. We usually think it would take thousands or tens of thousands of years," Forman says.

The finding, he adds, "opens up a big can of worms" because researchers just don't know how or why that would happen.

So there's something missing about scientists' concept of goings on in the Earth's core.

And scientists can thank political instability, war, relentless tax bureaucracy and all those potters for the hint.

Benjamin Franklin was right: "In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes." And maybe also ancient potters.

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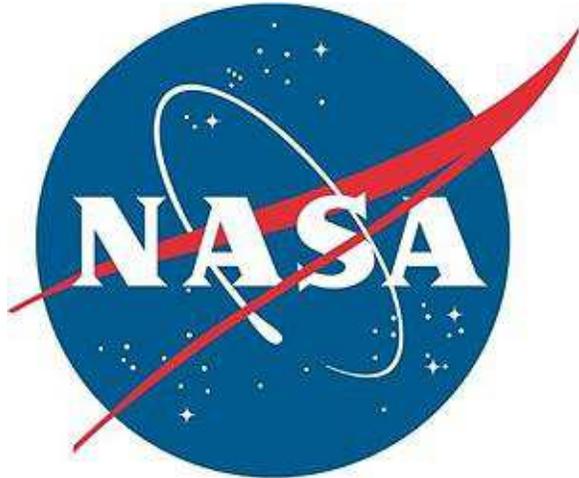
## **NASA TO DEVELOP OXYGEN RECOVERY TECHNOLOGIES FOR FUTURE DEEP SPACE MISSIONS**

by Staff Writers, mpton VA (SPX) Feb 15, 2017

[http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/NASA\\_to\\_develop\\_oxygen\\_recovery\\_technologies\\_for\\_future\\_deep\\_space\\_missions\\_999.html](http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/NASA_to_develop_oxygen_recovery_technologies_for_future_deep_space_missions_999.html)

NASA has selected two proposals for the development of oxygen recovery technologies that could help astronauts breathe a little easier on deep space, long-duration missions.

The agency will invest as much as \$2 million and 24 months for the development of each proposal into a complete and integrated system for NASA testing.



File image.

"The development of advanced life support technologies will allow NASA to establish improved capabilities for future deep space, long-duration, human exploration missions," said Steve Jurczyk, associate administrator of NASA's Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD) in Washington.

"The selected proposals represent the best value to the agency and strong investments for STMD."

The selected proposals are:

- + Phase II Methane Pyrolysis System for High-Yield Soot-Free Recovery of Oxygen from Carbon Dioxide - Honeywell Aerospace in Phoenix
- + Continuous Bosch Reactor - UMPQUA Research Co. in Myrtle Creek, Oregon

The state-of-the-art system currently used on the International Space Station recovers about 50 percent of the oxygen from exhaled carbon dioxide. The remaining oxygen required for crew respiration is transported to the station from Earth. For long-duration missions beyond low-Earth orbit, resupply of oxygen becomes economically and logistically prohibitive.

To mitigate these challenges, NASA's Next Generation Life Support Spacecraft Oxygen Recovery project element is targeting development of technology to increase the recovery of oxygen to 75 percent or more, thereby reducing the total oxygen resupply required for future missions.

These awards are managed by the Game Changing Development (GCD) program within STMD. NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia, manages the GCD program.

The GCD program is funded by STMD, which is responsible for developing the cross-cutting, pioneering, new technologies and capabilities needed by the agency to achieve its current and future missions.

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**PRIVATE ASTRONAUT TAXIS BY SPACEX, BOEING MAY NOT BE READY BY 2019: REPORT**

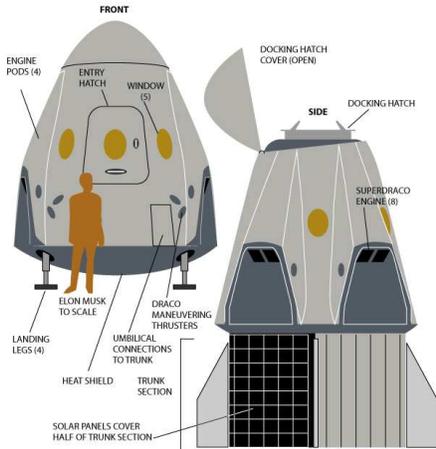
By Calla Cofield, Space.com Staff Writer | February 17, 2017 06:30am ET

<http://www.space.com/35739-spacex-boeing-astronaut-taxis-2019-delay.html>



## DRAGON VERSION 2

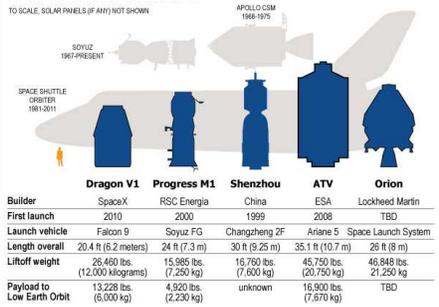
Revealed on May 29, 2014, SpaceX's Dragon version 2 capsule can carry a crew of seven astronauts to the International Space Station. The reusable Dragon is expected to last for up to 10 flights before needing significant refurbishment. The capsule lands on the ground using its 16,000-pound thrust SuperDraco rocket engines and landing legs, with parachutes also on board as a backup.



ABOVE, LEFT: DRAGON V2 OPENS ITS NOSE CONE TO DOCK WITH ISS. ABOVE, RIGHT: ELON MUSK IN THE PILOT SEAT OF A DRAGON MOCKUP CAPSULE. A STEERING JOYSTICK AND PHYSICAL BUTTONS FOR CRITICAL FUNCTIONS OCCUPY THE CENTER SECTION OF THE CONTROL PANEL. BELOW, LEFT: INTERIOR SEATING FOR 7 ASTRONAUTS. THE CONTROL PANEL IS FOLDED OUT OF THE WAY UNTIL NEEDED. BELOW, RIGHT: SIMULATION OF DRAGON LANDING USING ITS SUPERDRACO ROCKET ENGINES.



### SPACE CAPSULES COMPARED



SOURCE: SPACEX, NASA, DIMITRI GERONIMIDAKIS KARL TATE / © Space.com



The SpaceX crewed Dragon spacecraft is being designed to carry humans to the International Space Station and beyond. A new report from the Government Accountability Office warns that both SpaceX and Boeing may not be able to make their first crew launches by 2019. Credit: SpaceX

NASA intends to put a backup plan in place in the event that SpaceX and Boeing are not ready to fly humans to space in 2019, according to a new report from the Government Accountability Office (GAO).

SpaceX's Dragon Version 2 spacecraft is a manned space capsule designed to fly seven astronauts to and from low-Earth orbit. Credit: by Karl Tate, Infographics Artist

SpaceX and Boeing are both building crew transportation systems for NASA, as part of the agency's Commercial Crew Program (CCP). Those multibillion-dollar contracts were awarded in 2014, and initial estimates suggested the companies could be flying astronauts to and from the International Space Station (ISS) as early as 2017.

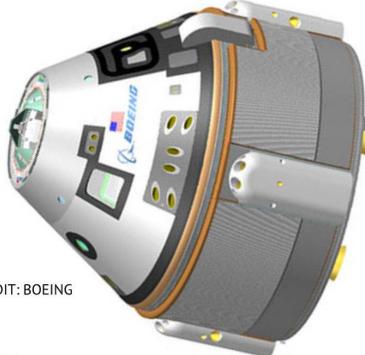
Right now, SpaceX and Boeing are both scheduled to have their crew transportation systems undergo a safety certification process in the latter half of 2018. But the GAO report, released Thursday (Feb. 16), outlined numerous reasons why the two companies may not be able to meet that current schedule. The report goes on to recommend that NASA take steps to have an alternative means of transporting humans to the ISS in 2019, which the agency has agreed to.

Since the retirement of the space shuttle, NASA has relied on Russia's Soyuz spacecraft to get astronauts to and from the space station, at about \$70 million per seat. In an effort to bring human spaceflight capabilities back to the U.S., the agency started the CCP, awarding its first round of contracts in 2014, and a second round in 2015.

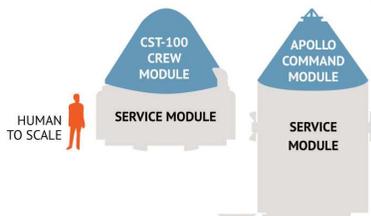
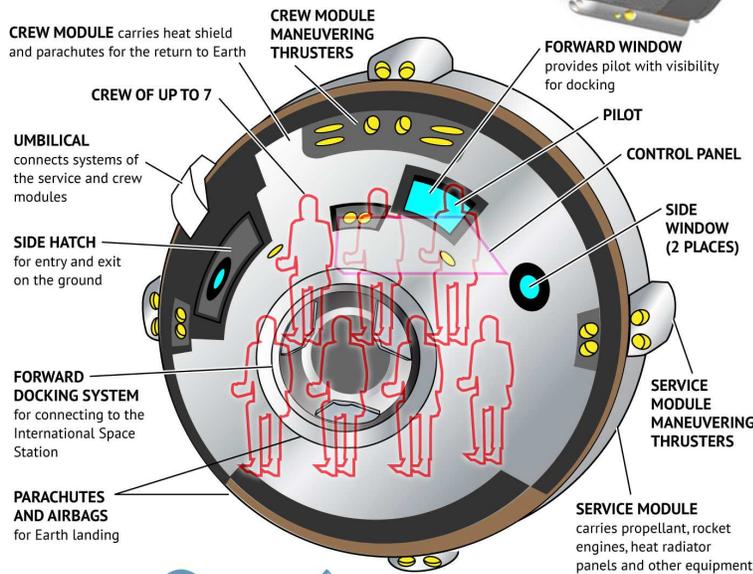
COMMERCIAL SPACECRAFT

# STARLINER

The Boeing CST-100 "Starliner" capsule is designed to carry a combination of crew and cargo to the International Space Station, orbiting 240 miles (390 kilometers) above Earth. Each capsule can remain in orbit for six months, and can be re-used up to ten times.



CREDIT: BOEING



Boeing's CST-100 crew capsule is slightly larger than the Apollo Command Module

	CST-100	Apollo
<b>Builder</b>	Boeing	Rockwell Int'l.
<b>First crewed flight</b>	to be determined	1968
<b>Crew</b>	up to 7	3
<b>Launch vehicle</b>	Atlas 5	Saturn IB or V
<b>Height overall</b>	16.5 ft (5.03 m)	36 ft (11 m)
<b>Capsule diameter</b>	15 ft (4.56 m)	12.8 ft (3.9 m)



The pressurized cabin of the CST-100 provides a comfortable shirt-sleeve environment for the crew (CREDIT: BOEING)

NASA's current contract with Russia runs out in 2019, which means if no commercial crew transportation systems are ready to fly by then, the agency will have to extend its contract with Russia.

Boeing is developing the CST-100 capsule for use ferrying astronauts to Earth orbit and to the International Space Station. Credit: Karl Tate, SPACE.com Contributor

"If NASA needs to purchase additional seats from Russia, the contracting process typically takes 3 years," GAO officials wrote in the report summary. "Without a viable contingency option for ensuring uninterrupted access to the ISS in the event of further Commercial Crew delays, NASA risks not being able to maximize the return on its multibillion dollar investment in the space station."

For its crew transportation system, SpaceX plans to use its Falcon 9 rocket and a version of the company's Dragon spacecraft updated to support human passengers. SpaceX was initially scheduled to undergo a certification review in the second quarter of 2017; this step is now slated to occur in the third quarter of 2018, according to the GAO report.

Boeing will send humans to

SOURCES: BOEING, NASA



KARL TATE / © SPACE.com

space inside its CST-100 spacecraft, launched atop an Atlas V rocket (built by United Launch Alliance). Boeing's crew transport system was scheduled to undergo a safety certification review in the third quarter of 2017, but that review is now scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2018.

If the companies meet those current deadlines, they could begin test flights in 2018 and be ready to fly NASA astronauts to the station in 2019.

"Both of the Commercial Crew Program's contractors have made progress developing their crew transportation systems, but both also have aggressive development schedules that are increasingly under pressure," GAO officials wrote in the report summary. The report goes on to outline specific obstacles that could lead to delays in the two crew transport systems achieving certification in 2018.

"Given the delays in the Commercial Crew Program, GAO recommends that NASA develop and report to Congress on its contingency plans for maintaining a U.S. presence on the ISS beyond 2018," according to the summary. "NASA concurred with the recommendation and intends to develop a contingency plan."

You can read the full GAO report here:<http://www.gao.gov/assets/690/682859.pdf>

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## SPACEX DELAYS NEXT IRIDIUM LAUNCH TWO MONTHS

by Caleb Henry — February 15, 2017

<http://spacenews.com/spacex-delays-next-iridium-launch-two-months/>



A SpaceX Falcon 9 lifts off from Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, carrying 10 Iridium Next satellites. Credit: SpaceX

**WASHINGTON — Iridium Communications says SpaceX has pushed back the launch of its second batch of next-generation satellites from mid-April to mid-June, a move that shifts the expected completion date for Iridium Next to the middle of 2018.**

**In a Feb. 15 statement, Iridium said the two-monthly launch delay is “due to a backlog in SpaceX’s launch manifest as a result of last year’s September 1st anomaly.”**

**Iridium’s satellites are launching 10 at a time on Falcon 9 rockets lifting off from from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California — part of what Iridium Chief Executive Matthew Desch described last June as a “separate queue” from SpaceX missions launching from the more frequently used Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida.**

**However, that was before a Falcon 9 exploded on the Cape’s Pad 40 during a routine pre-flight test. The accident halted SpaceX launches for four-and-half months. Falcon 9 returned to flight Jan. 14 delivering the first 10 Iridium Next satellites to orbit.**

**SpaceX launched only eight of the 18 missions it had targeted for 2016, shifting 10 missions onto an already-crowded 2017 manifest. The combination of SpaceX’s tightly packed manifest and limited launch range availability has put pressure on Iridium Next despite its preferred status at Vandenberg.**

**Iridium expects SpaceX to launch a fresh batch of Iridium satellites every two months starting with the mid-June launch. Iridium has seven more launches to complete: six with 10 satellites each and one with five that will be shared with a pair of U.S.-German science satellites dubbed the Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment Follow-on mission (GRACE-FO).**

**“After such a successful first launch, we are eager to maintain the momentum until our network is completed,” Desch said in a prepared statement. “Even with this eight-week shift, SpaceX’s targeted schedule completes our constellation in mid-2018.”**

**Though launches have been delayed, Iridium said in-orbit testing of the first 10 Iridium Next satellites launched Jan. 14 are ahead of schedule and should start service in the coming days.**

**“Since their perfect orbit injection and deployment by SpaceX, our satellite testing process has progressed ahead of schedule, a testament to the rigorous development program they’ve undergone on the ground,” said Scott Smith, chief operating officer at Iridium.**

**Iridium has stitched the new satellites into its existing constellation where they will interoperate until the first-generation satellites are deorbited. The satellite operator’s current plan is to launch 75 out of 81 Iridium Next satellites, with 66 working operationally and nine as on-orbit spares. Iridium spokeswoman Diane Hockenberry told SpaceNews Feb. 15 that the remaining six spares will stay on the ground.**

**Previously Iridium planned to have only six in-orbit spares — one for each plane of satellites — but increased the number when the GRACE-FO shared launch opportunity became available.**

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## **LIFE'S BUILDING BLOCKS FOUND ON DWARF PLANET CERES**

**By Mike Wall Space.com Senior Writer, Published February 20, 2017**

<http://www.foxnews.com/science/2017/02/20/lifes-building-blocks-found-on-dwarf-planet-ceres.html>



**NASA's Dawn spacecraft has detected organic molecules in two different locations on the dwarf planet Ceres. (NASA/JPL-Caltech/UCLA/MPS/DLR/IDA)**

**The dwarf planet Ceres keeps looking better and better as a possible home for alien life.**

**NASA's Dawn spacecraft has spotted organic molecules — the carbon-containing building blocks of life as we know it — on Ceres for the first time, a study published Feb. 16 in the journal Science reports.**

**And these organics appear to be native, likely forming on Ceres rather than arriving via asteroid or comet strikes, study team members said**

**"Because Ceres is a dwarf planet that may still preserve internal heat from its formation period and may even contain a subsurface ocean, this opens the possibility that primitive life could have developed on Ceres itself," Michael Küppers, a planetary scientist based at the European Space Astronomy Centre just outside Madrid, said in an accompanying "News and Views" article in the same issue of Science.**

**"It joins Mars and several satellites of the giant planets in the list of locations in the solar system that may harbor life," added Küppers, who was not involved in the organics discovery.**

**CERES FINDS KEEP ROLLING IN**

The \$467 million Dawn mission launched in September 2007 to study Vesta and Ceres, the two largest objects in the main asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.

Dawn circled the 330-mile-wide Vesta from July 2011 through September 2012, when it departed for Ceres, which is 590 miles across. Dawn arrived at the dwarf planet in March 2015, becoming the first spacecraft ever to orbit two different bodies beyond the Earth-moon system.

During its time at Ceres, Dawn has found bizarre bright spots on crater floors, discovered a likely ice volcano 2.5 miles tall and helped scientists determine that water ice is common just beneath the surface, especially near the dwarf planet's poles.

The newly announced organics discovery adds to this list of achievements. The carbon-containing molecules — which Dawn spotted using its visible and infrared mapping spectrometer instrument — are concentrated in a 385-square-mile area near Ceres' 33-mile-wide Ernutet crater, though there's also a much smaller patch about 250 miles away, in a crater called Inamahari.

And there could be more such areas; the team surveyed only Ceres' middle latitudes, between 60 degrees north and 60 degrees south.

"We cannot exclude that there are other locations rich in organics not sampled by the survey, or below the detection limit," study lead author Maria Cristina De Sanctis, of the Institute for Space Astrophysics and Space Planetology in Rome, told Space.com via email.

Dawn's measurements aren't precise enough to nail down exactly what the newfound organics are, but their signatures are consistent with tar-like substances such as kerite and asphaltite, study team members said.

#### **Organics probably native**

"The organic-rich areas include carbonate and ammoniated species, which are clearly Ceres' endogenous material, making it unlikely that the organics arrived via an external impactor," co-author Simone Marchi, a senior research scientist at the Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, Colorado, said in a statement.

In addition, the intense heat generated by an asteroid or comet strike likely would have destroyed the organics, further suggesting that the molecules are native to Ceres, study team members said.

The organics might have formed via reactions involving hot water, De Sanctis and her colleagues said. Indeed, "Ceres shows clear signatures of pervasive hydrothermal activity and aqueous alteration," they wrote in the new study.

Such activity likely would have taken place underground. Dawn mission scientists aren't sure yet how organics generated in the interior could make it up to the surface and leave the signatures observed by the spacecraft.

"The geological and morphological settings of Ernutet are still under investigation with the high-resolution data acquired in the last months, and we do not have a definitive answer for why Ernutet is so special," De Sanctis said.

It's already clear, however, that Ceres is a complex and intriguing world — one that astrobiologists are getting more and more excited about.

"In some ways, it is very similar to Europa and Enceladus," De Sanctis said, referring to ocean-harboring moons of Jupiter and Saturn, respectively.

"We see compounds on the surface of Ceres like the ones detected in the plume of Enceladus," she added. "Ceres' surface can be considered warmer with respect to the Saturnian and Jovian satellites, due to [its] distance from the sun. However, we do not have evidence of a subsurface ocean now on Ceres, but there are hints of subsurface recent fluids."

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## ELECTRIFIED FIBERS HELP PULL URANIUM OUT OF SEAWATER

[Michael Irving](#), February 20th, 2017

<http://newatlas.com/stanford-harvest-uranium-seawater/47998/>



Stanford researchers have developed an electrified material that can help harvest uranium from seawater (Credit: [TTstudio/Despositphotos](#))

Controversial as it is, nuclear power remains a viable source of energy as we transition away from fossil fuels toward methods with far smaller carbon footprints. Underground uranium reserves may be on the decline, but the oceans contain billions of tons of the

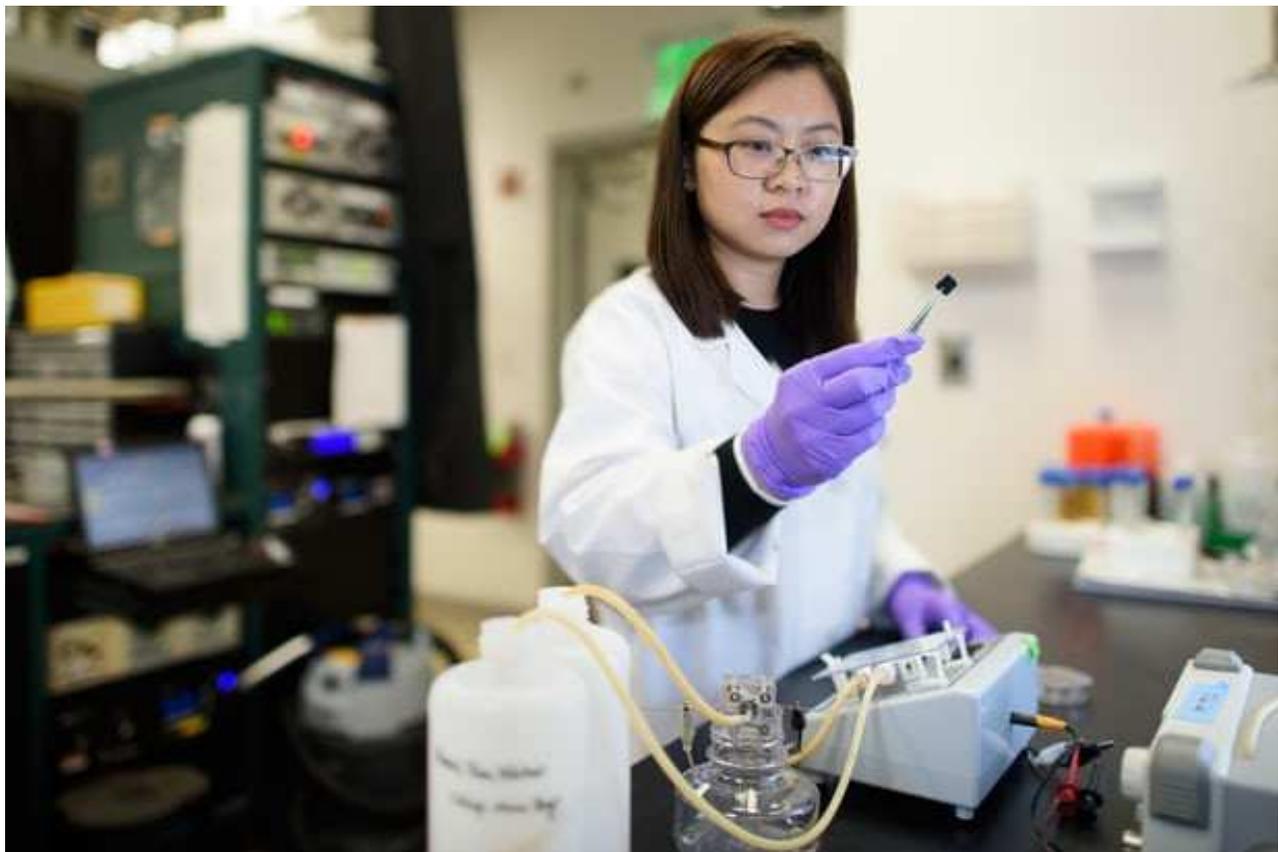
metal, just waiting for us to find a practical way to extract it. To that end, a Stanford team has developed a technique that improves the capacity, rate and reusability of materials that harvest uranium from seawater.

Despite the ongoing issues of [radioactive waste disposal](#) and the occasional [Fukushima-scale disaster](#), nuclear energy can be more efficient and relatively cleaner than fossil fuel sources.

"For much of this century, some fraction of our electricity will need to come from sources that we can turn on and off," says Steven Chu, co-author of the study. "I believe nuclear power should be part of that mix, and assuring access to uranium is part of the solution to carbon-free energy."

Australia, Canada and Kazakhstan together account for about 70 percent of the world's uranium production, but for countries that aren't perched atop a rich mine, extracting it from the sea could be an alternative. Unfortunately, the concentrations are far too small to be viable, but the Stanford team is working on improving that.

"Concentrations are tiny, on the order of a single grain of salt dissolved in a liter of water," says Yi Cui, co-author of the study. "But the oceans are so vast that if we can extract these trace amounts cost effectively, the supply would be endless."



Chong Liu, one of the researchers on the study, with a carbon-amidoxime electrode, used for electrifying the material to improve its efficiency at capturing uranium from seawater(Credit:L.A. Cicero)

In the past, Oak Ridge researchers [demonstrated a material](#) that could pull uranium, in the form of uranyl ions, out of the water like a sponge. It did so with the help of plastic fibers coated in a chemical compound called amidoxime, which attracts the ions and holds them to the surface of the fiber. Once the fiber is saturated, the uranyl can be released by chemically treating the plastic, and then refined for use in reactors.

Using a similar system, the Stanford researchers created their own conductive fiber made of carbon and amidoxime, which allowed them to send jolts of electricity through the material to attract more uranyl to each strand. The method improved on the previous system in three key areas: the capacity for how much uranyl the fibers can hold, the speed of ion capture, and how many times each strand can be reused.

During side-by-side tests, in the time it took the existing fibers to become fully saturated, the new conductive material had already captured nine times as much uranyl, and still had room for more. Over an 11 hour period, Stanford's new fibers managed to soak up three times as much uranyl as the previous fibers, and were three times as reusable.

While it's still a long way from making the process practical on a commercial scale, the researchers say this marks a big step forward for that possible future.

"We need nuclear power as a bridge toward a post-fossil-fuel future," says Chu. "Seawater extraction gives countries that don't have land-based uranium the security that comes from knowing they'll have the raw material to meet their energy needs."

The research was published in the journal [Nature Energy](#).

Source: [Stanford University](#)

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From: "Mike Waldrip" [waldripk@gmail.com](mailto:waldripk@gmail.com)

## **MULTIVITAMINS A WASTE OF MONEY AND JUST CREATE 'VERY EXPENSIVE URINE'**

Australian Medical Association president says there is a lack of evidence showing multivitamins work

Australian Associated Press, Monday 13 February 2017

<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2017/feb/14/multivitamins-a-waste-of-money-and-just-create-very-expensive-urine>

Vitamins are useful for treating specific deficiencies but most people who use multivitamins just have very expensive urine, the Australian Medical Association president, Michael Gannon, says.

Seven out of every 10 Australians take some form of vitamin or supplement but experts have questioned their efficacy and the shelf space they dominate in pharmacies.

Adjunct Associate Professor Ken Harvey from the department of epidemiology and preventive medicine at Monash University told the ABC's Four Corners program there's little evidence to suggest multivitamins actually work.



**Seven out of 10 Australians take some form of vitamin or supplement. Photograph: Alamy**

**Unproven alternative medicines recommended by third of Australian pharmacists**

**Buying multivitamins benefits the companies that manufacture them by boosting profits, but for the average Australian multivitamins provide “no benefit”.**

**“What you need is a good diet, you’re pissing the money down the toilet for no benefit,” he told the program.**

**However, the Australian Self Medication Industry says complementary medicines are useful because many Australians have poor diets.**

**“Vitamin and mineral supplements can play an important role for the 52% of Australian adults who do not eat the recommended intake of fruit or the 92% who do not eat the recommended intake of vegetables each day,” the ASMI said in a statement.**

**A recent investigation by consumer group Choice found one in three Australian pharmacists recommended alternative medicines to treat stress.**

**Nearly half, 46%, recommended products containing a mixture of B vitamins and possibly other vitamins, minerals and herbs.**

**See More**

**Twenty-six percent recommended Bach flower remedies to treat stress and about 8% recommended magnesium supplements.**

The AMA is concerned that many products, such as Bach flower, are given legitimacy, despite a lack of evidence showing they work, simply because they are sold in a pharmacy.

It's known folate plays an important role during pregnancy and iron supplements are prescribed for those who are anaemic, but most doctors consider multivitamins a waste of money.

"What a lot of Australians have is very expensive urine," Gannon said.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration is pushing for reform which would create a new class of evidence-based complementary medicines. This would mean products would carry some form of indication that the product had been tested for safety and efficacy.

"The new reforms will support Australian consumers make informed choices about the use of complementary medicines and help protect consumers from potentially misleading therapeutic claims," the TGA said in a statement.

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**ABSOLUTELY & TOTALLY POLITICALLY INCORRECT & AS FAR TO THE RIGHT AS YOU CAN GO!**

From: "Jim Woosley" [Jimwoosley@aol.com](mailto:Jimwoosley@aol.com)

**THE LEFT'S ALL-OUT WAR ON TRUMP & AMERICA'S SILENT MAJORITY**

David Limbaugh, Posted on February 17, 2017 by David Limbaugh  
<http://www.ammoland.com/2017/02/lefts-war-trump-americas-silent-majority/#ixzz4Z90tM8MN>

USA – -(Ammoland.com)- Please don't tell us conservatives that we need to find common ground with the left during this era of Trump.

That would only advance liberals' cause, because they have no intention of working with President Trump. They are conducting an all-out war against him and his administration, and appeasement efforts wouldn't change that.

What the naive among us need to understand is that the left plays hardball. Liberals subscribe to an end-justifies-the-means philosophy. They are not fair. They don't intend to be fair.

They believe they are entitled to advance their America-transforming agenda whether in or out of power, and no amount of wishful thinking can alter that reality.

They will say and do practically anything to further their vision for America, and it doesn't matter if they did the opposite yesterday. A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little conservative minds.

The leftist machine purports to be opposed to Trump for his allegedly dastardly actions, but he has barely had time to get started (though he deserves great credit for what he has

done so far). Truth be told, liberals' opposition springs not from what he's done — other than the travel ban — but from who he is and the threat he represents to their agenda.

They told us he would be a tyrannical autocrat, and just four weeks into his term, they claim to have him dead to rights on the charge. Yet Trump has not engaged in any illegal conduct or committed any lawless overreaches.

President Obama, on the other hand, was habitually lawless, and the left, far from being concerned, reveled in it. Ends and means.

Understand this: The left has no evidence that Trump colluded with Russia to affect our election. It is absurd that we are even forced to talk about this. Smear with innuendo and slander — that's liberals' MO.

Professional malcontents have organized throughout the nation, with more than a little help from the community organizer in ex-chief, Barack Obama.

In case you haven't noticed, these professional malcontents have organized throughout the nation, with more than a little help from the community organizer in ex-chief, Barack Obama. They have placed themselves throughout the nation to make mischief — not the kind you smile at but the kind designed to bring down a duly elected president.

With remarkable foresight and patience, progressives have conspired for decades to plant themselves in America's important institutions, from the universities to the halls of government in secure civil service jobs. Many of these people are working overtime inside and outside government to undermine, scandalize, sabotage and ultimately bring down the Trump administration in its incipency.

That tactic is a lot easier than trying to block his desperately needed reform agenda on the merits.

I strongly suspect that leftists within our intelligence agencies criminally leaked classified information to corroborate their claim that Trump colluded with Russia to interfere with the presidential election.

They thought they'd hit pay dirt with reports that before Trump took office, his national security adviser, Michael Flynn, had conversations with Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak allegedly about reviewing the recent sanctions Obama had imposed on Russia.

Can you imagine the salivating? Here's the smoking gun. Flynn talked to Russia. Trump likes Russian President Vladimir Putin. Russia hacked the United States. Trump won the election. Therefore, Trump colluded with Putin to engineer his election victory over Hillary Clinton. That is one convoluted syllogism, isn't it?

The left doesn't care about the truth of the matter. Once liberals obtained what they considered a colorable morsel of damning evidence, they insisted their fears about Trump were already vindicated. He was guilty as charged. Except that he wasn't.

Trump is undeterred and undistracted, and pressing forward with his agenda. The left, in turn, probably now understands that it has unleashed a tiger...

Flynn has stated that his conversation didn't touch on sanctions. The New York Times, in its story reporting that Trump campaign aides had repeated contacts with Russian intelligence agents, admitted it had seen no evidence of cooperation or collusion between the Trump team and the Russians regarding the election. That little tidbit has not found its way into any headline in the mainstream media.

Liberals hate Trump, and they hate that they lost the election, and they are not going to tolerate it. I hope the rest of America understands that.

They are not only disgracefully pretending they have hard evidence of misconduct leading directly to Trump but also ignoring the egregious misconduct of the leakers and the real threat that poses to national security.

Trump got off to an incredibly impressive start, but liberals have now delivered a blow to his momentum, and they are poised to finish the job. They are strategically placed in our cultural institutions and throughout our vast bureaucracy and are coordinating in every state to stage planned protests that look spontaneous. Richly funded by George Soros and other like-minded America haters, they are inspired by the shadow leadership of former President Obama and his activist organization formed for this very purpose.

I will not defend misconduct on the part of elected officials and their appointees — if it actually occurs — just because they are Republicans.

But I am not going to sit by silently as the left continues to smear and sabotage this newly inaugurated president based on shards of facts that don't prove their allegations.

I realize that nothing we do will stop the left or dampen its single-minded determination to destroy Trump and preserve Obama's radical agenda, but we can prevent the left from succeeding if we fight back with equal energy and commitment. But that will be impossible unless we fully recognize what's going on — the tactics of the left and liberals' ruthlessness. We are, in effect, in a war that we didn't start.

So please keep your eyes open and prepare to fight back.

In the meantime, let's pray that President Trump will not be unduly distracted by these efforts and can focus on advancing an agenda that will restore economic growth and shore up America's national security. His news conference on Thursday gives me great confidence that President Trump fully understands what the left is doing. He is undeterred and undistracted — and pressing forward with his agenda. The left, in turn, probably now understands that it has unleashed a tiger.

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**ABSOLUTELY & TOTALLY POLITICALLY INCORRECT & AS FAR TO THE CENTER AS YOU CAN GO!**

From: "Tim Bolgeo" [tbolgeo@epbfi.com](mailto:tbolgeo@epbfi.com)

On a 'day without immigrants,' President Trump puts thousands of AMERICAN coal miners back to work

February 17, 2017 | Scott Morefield

<http://www.bizpacreview.com/2017/02/17/day-without-immigrants-president-trump-puts-thousands-american-coal-miners-back-work-449432>

Talk about two Americas.

February 16 marked an interesting juxtaposition of two competing worldviews in the country these days. On the one hand, illegal immigrants and their supporters eschewed work to stage a “day without immigrants” in an effort to show how the country would apparently grind to a halt if they were deported. On the other, President Trump signed a key, much-needed piece of legislation designed to put thousands of coal miners back to work.

But with the crippling regulations imposed by the Obama Administration in December that had been years in the making, upwards of 70,000 American workers would have been without jobs and 80 percent of our coal reserves would have been virtually out of reach.

Flanked by coal miners, corporate officials, and key legislators like Senators Joe Manchin, Mitch McConnell and Rand Paul, Trump signed HG Resolution 38, a bill to end an Obama administration coal mining regulation, called the Office of Surface Mining’s Stream Protection Rule, which was supposedly designed to protect streams and rivers from mining waste but would have virtually ended coal mining as an industry in states like Kentucky and West Virginia.

Much sooner than anticipated but just in the nick of time for many, Trump kept his long-standing promise to coal miners by ending what the president called “another terrible job killing rule.”

“This is a major threat to your jobs and we’re going to get rid of this threat,” Trump said. “We’re going to fight for you.”

Trump jokingly asked if the miners had ever been invited to the White House before, then insisted they take a tour after the signing.

Regardless of what the liberal media, beltway elites, and even illegal immigrants decide to do, if President Trump keeps keeping his promises to working-class Americans, their approval is the only approval he’ll need

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From: "Jim Woosley" [Jimwoosley@aol.com](mailto:Jimwoosley@aol.com)

FRED ON EVERYTHING

Scurrilous Commentary by Fred Reed

Posted on February 16, 2017 by Fred Reed

<http://fredoneverything.org/internal-secession-and-the-road-to-ruin-two-countries/>

Trump did not cause the deep division in the country. It caused him. There are two very different Americas. I suspect that the half of the country that voted for Trump, that voted with wild enthusiasm, that roared at huge rallies, was not so much voting for Trump as against the other America. It was just that they had never had a chance before. The two countries have little in common and do not belong on the same geography.

Whether Trump proves to be the catastrophic buffoon he apparently aspires to be, the current protests illuminate a stark difference between his supporters and Hillary's. The chasm is far deeper than just politics, embracing culture, taste, manners and morals. The groups are distinct and incompatible .

The difference begins with manners. Throughout the campaign Trump's partisans forgathered in huge rallies, applauded, calmly went home, and later voted. At the same time we saw on Clinton's behalf mobs of ill-bred, worse mannered, loutish, perennial adolescents blocking highways, shutting down rallies, engaging in vandalism and physically attacking supporters of Trump. Cars were destroyed, fires set, ATMs smashed. Black Lives Matter, always ghetto predators, were worst, but low-grade college students and their equally dismal professors joined in. They were obscene, infantile.

And naive: They apparently believe that they harm Trump though of course their behavior drives people in the other direction. I am no fan of Donald , but I look the foregoing and think Anything else.

The desire to shock of the eternally pubescent. Smirk, smirk, look at me, smirk, smirk.

We saw Ashley Judd, apparently an actress, addressing the "Women's March."

"I am not as nasty as racism, fraud, conflict of interest, homophobia, sexual assault, transphobia, white supremacy, misogyny, ignorance, white privilege. I'm not as nasty as using little girls like Pokemon before their bodies have even developed. I am not as nasty as your own daughter being your favorite sex symbol, like your wet dreams infused with your own genes."



The astonishing thing is not that some foul-mouthed twit came up with such cloacal gush, but that the "Women's March" sponsored her, did not eject or even censure her.

Can you imagine any of Trump's middle-American supporters accusing Obama of lusting for incest with his daughters? The two camps are different peoples. Half of the country seems culturally dominated from the ghetto. The other half embodies standards of behavior

that have usually been thought congruent with civil society. While Trump himself is crass, making menstrual jibes on the air at Megyn Kelly for example, his supporters are not.

Any number of arguments can be adduced against Trump but so much of the outpouring of hostility, even from the intelligent, lacks thought. Thisaphobe, thataphobe, Nazi, misogynist. Putin's Bitch. Most seem not to know what the words mean, or care.

Wild thought: We may be seeing Darwinian regression. The intellectual nanoparticles waving placards, the sobbing talking headesses may represent the return of the procaryote IQ. They give us a living paleontological record of what life looked like before it evolved. Think "Cambrian Implosion." I imagine Rachel Maddow with twelve body segments and compound eyes.

Different peoples. I would like to see a comparative poll: How many women who voted for Trump would allow themselves to be associated with Ms. Judd's remarks? None, I suspect. How many women voting for Trump would parade around in "pussy hats"? How many fathers voting for Trump would allow their daughters, have raised their daughters, to behave as the "Women's Marchers"? Their children to copy Black Lives Matter?

Different civilizations. Virtually no overlap.

The media are decidedly of the Clinton America. In Washington at least some journalists donned pussy hats and jointed the demonstrators. Trashy behavior has seeped into many in the professional classes. Trump recently sued a journalist and the London Daily Mail for describing Melania as "a high-end escort"—i.e., a take-out call girl, a prostitute. Can you imagine a conservative paper—say, the Washington Times, The American Conservative, National Review—describing Michelle Obama as a whore? Or Trump's fans wearing scrotal hats?

There is a brattyness in the apparent belief of the Clinton Americans that they are entitled to the electoral result of their choice. When they don't get it, they act like spoiled two-year-olds. Poor widdle fings! It is embarrassing. If Hillary had won, would disappointed Trumpists be squalling and posing in genital headgear or looting and burning? Whatever the merits of the politics of either side, the two have little in common culturally.

The divide is far deeper and more general than the heat of the election. The sprawling class from which the protesters come, not just in Washington or just recently, opposes the bedrock of our approximation of democracy. It is not an economic divide. On American campuses almost everywhere "students," most of whom do not have the intelligence for college, use the tactics of Brown Shirts to shut down speeches by anyone who does not agree with them. They have no conception of reasoned debate, toleration of disagreement, or respect for law.

Rather than promote assimilation to the American norm, or what was the American norm, the only hope to keep the country from devolving into warring tribes, they promote identity politics. They do not, for example, disavow the depredations of Black Lives Matter. Any behavior is acceptable, even admirable, if engaged in by their side.

Decorum and its lack are recurrent themes. I have no hard evidence, but suspect that the Other America believes that men should behave as gentlemen and women, ladies; that sex should be a private matter and in particular that children should not be too early exposed to

it. Clinton's America leans more to the view that sexual language is authentic and natural. Hemorrhagic tuberculosis is natural, but perhaps not to be encouraged. And so from a mainstream performer, Beyonce, the lyrics:

"Can you lick my Skittles, it's the sweetest in the middle/ Pink is the flavor, solve the riddle"

Painfully cute. Can you imagine Billie Holiday singing this? Ella Fitzgerald? From rappers there is far more explicit, scatological, and sadomasochistic "music." Whether you think this is people's art, the authentic expression of an oppressed race, or something that should be scrawled on the wall of a public toilet, tracks with who you voted for. Again, two countries.

"Protests that erupted at UC Berkeley ahead of a planned Wednesday appearance by right-wing commentator Milo Yiannopoulos caused \$100,000 worth of damage to the campus, the school said Thursday."

These vandals are the storm troopers of the Clinton America. I cannot imagine the Other America behaving thusly because of the scheduling of any speaker whatever.

For whatever reason, those who regard themselves as liberals are far more given to demonstrating and rioting than conservatives, and far more vulgar. I say "regard themselves as liberals." Their behavior is opposite to classical liberalism. Vulgarity is not liberalism. Neither is arson. Neither is suppression of free speech. All of these are now the norm on campuses, in the media, among both students and professors. And among the protesters.

Another country.

Protests as such give little to deplore. Demonstrations are both legal and constitutionally protected if well behaved, and the women in Washington were. It is the values they represent that marks them as another country. The self-satisfaction appalls, the belief that they represent the universe. Coming together in vast shared tantrums, endlessly reaffirming each other on Facebook, may give them an exaggerated impression of their numbers. Thus the frequent use of the phrase "we the people." Actually they are "we, quite a large number of the people." As I write Trump's approval stands at 52%. My guess is that the man's unending truculence will lower his numbers, but it hasn't yet. And a complete failure of his presidency will not change the fact that half of the country is thoroughly sick of the other half.

Where does this lead?

IF YOU INSIST ON MAKING ME TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR EVERYTHING MY SIDE DOES, THEN IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL THE WRONGS THAT YOUR SIDE DOES. TIM BOLGEO

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From Uncle Bobby's Facebook Page

WE ASKED 20 IMMIGRANTS FROM NATIONS AROUND THE WORLD IF THE US SHOULD HAVE BORDER LAWS...

**BY JUSTEN CHARTERS, February 17, 2017**

[http://ijr.com/2017/02/803397-20-immigrants-answer-the-question/?utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=owned&utm\\_campaign=ods&utm\\_term=ijamerica&utm\\_content=politics](http://ijr.com/2017/02/803397-20-immigrants-answer-the-question/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=owned&utm_campaign=ods&utm_term=ijamerica&utm_content=politics)

**Illegal immigration is a hot-button issue in America. It's currently getting a lot of time in the spotlight following President Trump's controversial executive orders.**

**Trump, who has stated his intention to build a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border, appears to be taking a stricter stance on immigration law enforcement, while adding new, tougher provisions.**

**So, how do legal immigrants feel about illegal immigration and U.S. border laws? Independent Journal Review asked 20 immigrants who've come to the United States in the last 1-50 years what they think about the U.S.'s border laws and the issue of illegal immigration.**

**1. MIRIAM AMSELEM, a 51-year-old personal trainer, emigrated from Israel in 1974:**

**"My parents immigrated to the U.S. with three kids in 1974 after the Yom Kippur War in Israel. It took a one-year process to get visas and green cards. My parents were naturalized exactly five years later and with pride!**

**My brother and I were under 18 so we were automatically naturalized, thanks to our parents. My entire family believes in secure and tight borders (most likely because of living in Israel and knowing the necessity). Additionally, we support legal immigration only."**

**2. WAQQAS KHAN, a 35-year-old physician, emigrated from Pakistan in 2010:**

**"Both me and my wife moved to the U.S. almost 10 years ago. We worked extremely hard and had to go through tremendous hardships to change our visa status from working visa to permanent residency. We served this country with our skills and compassion and owe a lot to America.**

**I just had the great honor and privilege of becoming a U.S. citizen on February 10, 2017. Being a legal immigrant to the U.S., I believe that immigration laws are of extreme importance for the sovereignty of a nation.**

**I find elements defending and promoting illegal immigration utterly outrageous, offensive and racist toward hardworking, legal immigrants like myself and others of various colors, ethnicities, and backgrounds."**

**3. JOJO REYES, a 57-year-old corporate pilot, emigrated from the Philippines in 1973:**

**"I came here legally as a student in 1973, as my father wanted us to have a better life, and to escape the dictatorship rule of then-President Ferdinand Marcos.**

**I'm a corporate pilot and have traveled to countries that bring back memories of corruption, poverty, bribes, and crime. The last one being Nigeria. There are places there that you wouldn't want to get caught walking alone due to kidnappings and terrorist threats from groups like Boko Haram.**

**We should consider ourselves lucky to live in such a great country, far from the problems of these other third world countries, whose open borders continue to plague their communities with illegal and criminal immigrants."**

**4. NICKI KALANTARI, a 30-year-old chemical engineer, emigrated from Iran in 2000:**

**"My family and I got our green card back in 2000 after almost waiting for 10-13 years due to Iran not having a diplomatic relationship with the U.S.**

**We spent thousands of dollars paying for attorneys to follow up our case and our financial sponsors — who were my uncle and his wife at the time — had to put down an astronomical amount of money and collateral on file for us in the U.S., despite the fact that my dad was a very successful architect in Iran and we were financially very stable.**

**I do believe there should be laws put in place to prevent not only illegal immigration, but also careful vetting for lawful immigration just like what we had. We worked so hard to earn our U.S. citizenship, and that's why we honor it very much. Why shouldn't everybody else?"**

**5. HAMODY JASIM, a 31-year-old terrorism expert and former asset for U.S. intelligence, emigrated from Iraq in 2010:**

**"In Iraq, we had Al-Qaeda coming into our country because our border wasn't secure at all. If your borders aren't secure, it makes it a lot easier for your enemy to come in and take advantage of that. In Iraq, we are bordered by Syria and other nations that create so much chaos.**

**Mexico is already not difficult to come through. Everyone wants to come to the U.S: we need to make sure they are able to do that, but be safe at the same time. We are the number-one target in the world."**

**6. ALY TAYLOR, a 29-year-old corporate sales manager, emigrated from Mexico in 1998:**

**"The U.S. has more illegal immigrants than any other country in the world. There is a better way to handle migration and encourage respect for the laws of the land and maintain great diversity.**

**The U.S. should embrace a talent-based migration system where we find ways to encourage and enable legal migration to those who can bring high talent and skills.**

**At the same time, the U.S. should tighten up borders as every other nation has in order to protect its citizens and keep illegal immigrants out."**

**7. BRAD TONKIN, a 32-year-old counterterrorism SME and intelligence and security consultant, emigrated from Australia in 2012:**

**"Firstly, after living in Mexico for the better part of a year, I absolutely understand — nor blame them — for wanting to improve their families' lives by any means necessary. But the big picture is, that it is still wrong.**

As someone who came here legally, I was put in a position of having to wait two years from paperwork being submitted to legal status change because of immigration backlog due to illegals being processed.

But even if this wasn't the case — with the legitimate and serious threats from different factions around the world — having open borders is a sure way to invite these threats into our backyard and it increases the risk of attack on home soil considerably. The attacks in France, Germany, and Belgium reflect the risks of undocumented immigration."

8. VIKA MUKHA, a 24-year-old legal assistant, emigrated from Belarus in 1992:

"First off, for the sake of order in a country, a nation and its tax paying citizens can only host and welcome so many people at a time.

I immigrated on March 25, 1992. I was eight months old when we moved here. My aunt and uncle just moved to the States last May, nine years after they applied to be reunited with their parents in America. So, it's unfortunate that people who do it legally have to wait even longer and get less support upon arrival than the illegals."

9. MICHAEL SCHEELE, a 45-year-old technology industry marketer, emigrated from Japan in 1972:

"I led the class of newly-naturalized citizens in the Pledge of Allegiance after we all took the Oath of Allegiance in 1978. The United States is the only nation founded on a good idea — that individuals are free and the government is limited.

Anyone willing to adopt that ideal can become an American. To protect that ideal requires limitations on entry. People willing to respect their new home is a must."

10. PAULINA CHANG, a 52-year-old former pediatrician, emigrated from China in 1982:

"Borders are a good thing. Immigrants should be admitted only on the basis of how they will benefit the U.S. Those who immigrate need to learn English. It upsets me when people come and take advantage of the U.S. and want America to be accommodating to their cultures."

11. IZABELLA TASHLITSKAYA, a 61-year-old language teacher, emigrated from Ukraine (the former Soviet Union) in 1989:

"I emigrated in 1989 from Ukraine, which was a part of the USSR. First, we needed to get papers from the Ukrainian government. We went through screening and were interviewed in Austria, were sent to Italy, waited there, and were screened and interviewed again.

We are U.S. citizens and very proud. We need to have immigration law and check who is coming and why — what are their intentions? It was hard to get permission from the U.S. to get here. Many people were waiting in Italy for a year to get permission to enter the country."

12. FUNSHO ADELABU, a 37-year-old inventory clerk, emigrated from Nigeria in 1997:

"I do agree on certain border laws: if you are an immigrant legally or illegally. Illegals can also get asylum if they do everything needed to done to become legal.

It is not right for the working person to struggle and do everything by the book while others are here getting all the benefits, but not contributing like everyone else."

13. Thuy Wise, a 47-year-old travel agent, emigrated from Vietnam in 1975:

"I came over on Operation Babylift at the fall of Saigon. I was adopted here in the U.S., and I still had to go through the process to become a citizen when I was 18 years old. I think if you want to be here, you do it legally.

I know this world isn't fair, but if someone who came here and was adopted had to go through the process, then everyone should. It shouldn't be different standards for different people. If you are here illegally, then you shouldn't be here at all. Not trying to be harsh, but the entirety of the word 'illegal' means not legal."

14. SERGIO SIXTO, a 62-year-old retired professional and once a political prisoner of the Castros, emigrated from Cuba in 1992:

"Every country has border laws. It's the same thing in every country. Border laws are similar to the privacy rights every individual has. You can't go into someone's home without asking for permission from them. You can't go into another country without mutual consent."

15. MAIA WILSON, a 49-year-old club manager, emigrated from Canada in 1968:

"Border laws? Yes. Criteria for immigrants? Yes. However, I am blessed by education and looking 'normal.'

Also, the INS was very thorough. I've been a Permanent Resident Alien since 1968. They vetted me thoroughly when I finally applied for citizenship in 2010. I think we have bigger problems with visa overstays, though."

16. DAWN DONNELLY, a 45-year-old resource service coordinator, emigrated from Colombia in 1975:

"I absolutely believe in border laws. I think if you come legally it isn't an issue, but if you are sneaking over, absolutely not!

I was adopted at the age of four from Bogotá, Colombia, and taught the importance of our country's laws and stance on our freedoms, I wouldn't trade it for the world! I am a proud American citizen. I came here in 1975."

17. CINDY MCCOY, a 31-year-old business analyst, emigrated from Guatemala in 1988:

"We immigrated here on July 2, 1988. I became a citizen in 2001.

My parents waited almost ten years to get their papers. They waited and did it the legal way, and everyone else should, too. It is sad that other countries have serious issues, but it's not the U.S.'s job to take care of everyone's problems. The U.S. needs to take care of their people first."

18. DOMINIKA OSSOWSKA, a 34-year-old financial counselor, emigrated from Poland in 1992:

"I do believe we should have border laws. There needs to be a revamping of our immigration policies and available resources to our border patrol. However, I don't think we should tear families apart who are already here and call this place home.

I came here on a legal visitor visa to join my father who came under political asylum from communism, but I stayed here past the visa expiration, so I was here illegally for a time. So I see both sides of the argument for legal/illegal immigration."

19. HUGH SOUVENIR SR., a 63-year-old retired member of the U.S. Air Force, emigrated from Guyana in 1968:

"Every country has a right to protect their borders and let in who they believe will be an asset to the country. Being here illegally does not give you the right to be here.

My mother was a nurse in Guyana, but had to repeat school then sponsor my siblings and me through the embassy. This is a nation of immigrants, but it is also a nation of laws. And if you're here illegally, you have broken the law and should pay the consequences for whatever laws you break."

20. MEAGAN MOZNETTE, a 30-year-old benefit broker, emigrated from India in 1988:

"I was adopted when I was 16 months old, I am the youngest of six kids in my family. We're all adopted: two of us from India, one from Vietnam, three from the U.S.

My parents were born in the States: Dad is from Georgia, my mom is from California. When they adopted us kids from other countries, they had to go through all sorts of background checks to make sure they were good people, financially secure, and not looking to the government for assistance.

And my whole life growing up, I've been around people who have also adopted, and married someone from another country, and have to go through the whole process to become a citizen. My parents had to go through the whole process that immigrants should be going through. It's not fun, and it's not easy.

Though I do believe people should want more for their lives and want something better, I do feel that they should work for it.

The reason I feel our laws are valuable is because there are people that come here and take advantage of the system somewhat. As taxpayers, we're paying for these people that aren't contributing, but are living off our services. We should be taking care of our own first."

These immigrants' insights offer a unique and powerful perspective into one of America's most controversial political issues.

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