## If everything is about 'me,' our Republic is in jeopardy

by Randy Bright <a href="http://www.tulsabeacon.com/?p=4651">http://www.tulsabeacon.com/?p=4651</a>

After a long day at work I'm driving home, and my last few miles are on a stretch of highway that is all a no-passing zone. In the distance ahead of me, I see her. I dread seeing her, as I'm sure many of my neighbors do, not because she's a bad driver or a menace on the highway, it's just that she's so darned discourteous.

Her car is not unlike others, but everyone recognizes her, because she refuses to drive any faster than fifteen miles under the speed limit. I've never met the lady, and I know we are not supposed to judge people, but it's difficult not to imagine that she must have a controlling personality, especially with a bumper sticker that says, "IT'S ALL ABOUT ME."

We all complain about the politicians that are ruining this country with bad policy and economics, myself included. I've been very outspoken in this column about my objection to big government, liberalism and any number of other policies that couldn't possibly pass constitutional scrutiny. Many of our country's problems definitely come from the top down, but they also come from the bottom up. Americans have become spoiled. Not all of them, of course, but the thoughts and expectations of many have been shaped by politicians and ideologues who have nurtured a growing brood of people who fit the category of being intellectually lazy.

Here's an example of what I am talking about.

During the presidential elections, I got into a discussion with a young man, a youth pastor, about Obama. He had fallen for Obama's hope and change rhetoric, and had emphatically stated that he was going to vote for him. So I began to ask him questions to see what he knew about Obama's beliefs and I started with the subject of abortion. He insisted that Obama was pro-life. I couldn't believe my ears. To my knowledge, Obama had never attempted to conceal his pro-abortion views. It was even obvious during his televised interview with Rick Warren.

I asked him if he had heard of the nurse from the Chicago hospital who had testified to the Illinois Senate about the practice of allowing babies who had survived an abortion to die and how Obama had basically dismissed her with a "so-what" attitude. The youth pastor claimed that the story wasn't true. He wanted his candidate to win even at the cost of his own intellect. But he wasn't alone. We have too many people in this country who have become intellectually lazy and so it should surprise no one that our government has been taken over by liberals who want to enlarge the entitlement class to a critical mass that can keep them in office permanently.

More people are on unemployment and welfare than in any time in history. The ranks of government employees are growing. Illegal aliens will soon be handed their citizenship and right to vote, and truth be known, many of them already are voting. The government has begun protecting and providing funding for private industry union pension plans. Private property can

now be seized for virtually any reason, taken from one individual and given to another under the guise of the "public good."

We are perilously close to losing our republic forever.

The predictions are coming hard and fast about how many incumbent Democrats are going to lose their seats to republicans, and if the recent win by Christine O'Donnell over an entrenched RINO is an indicator, this is encouraging. Lobbyists predict that this will be a bad election year for anyone with a "D" after their name and political pundits are sure that John Boehner will be our next Speaker of the House. These are encouraging as well.

But I'm not so sure it will actually turn out that way.

Obama is already making overtures to the intellectually lazy among us, promising to cut taxes on the middle class and to raise the taxes on the rich. But it's all just semantics, intended to deceive voters once again.

If we do not sweep both Houses with conservatives, there is little hope that we can avert a financial and political meltdown in this country.

We have little left of our Constitution, except the right to vote. From the bottom up, we can still vote for people who will restore our nation and repair the damage that Obama and his administration has done. Conservatives must get more involved in formation of policy and law than ever before, but that can only be done at the ballot box by an honestly informed electorate.

The stakes are very high. If we fail, we'll end up with a politically elite class of citizens permanently embedded in an overbearing government who will tax and regulate us into oblivion while proudly saying, "IT'S ALL ABOUT ME."

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