

# Progressivism keeps destroying America and its families

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In several articles over the past few weeks, I have been quoting a French jurist who came to America in 1831, Alexis de Tocqueville. He came here to see what made America so successful, and in doing so drew stark contrast with what he knew to be true in Europe.

In W. Cleon Skousen's book *The 5000-Year Leap*, Skousen states his 26th principle of our nation's Founders to be, "The core unit which determines the strength of any society is the family; therefore, the government should foster and protect its integrity".

Skousen quotes de Tocqueville, who said this of the American family:

"There is certainly no country in the world where the tie of marriage is more respected than in America, or where conjugal happiness is more highly or worthily appreciated. In Europe, almost all the disturbances of society arise from the irregularities of domestic life. To despise the natural bonds and legitimate pleasure of home is to contract a taste for excesses, a restlessness of heart, and fluctuating desires. Agitated by the tumultuous passions that frequently disturb his dwelling, the European is galled by the obedience which the legislative powers exact.

"But when the American retires from the turmoil of public life to the bosom of his family, he finds in it the image of order and peace. There his pleasures are simple and natural, his joys are innocent and calm; and as he finds that an orderly life is the surest path to happiness, he accustoms himself easily to moderate his opinions as well as his tastes. While the European endeavors to forget his domestic troubles by agitating society, the American derives from his own home that love or order which he afterwards carries with him into public affairs."

This week the Pope canonized Mother Teresa as a saint. Mother Teresa, though she never had a family of her own, promoted families by promoting adoption and spoke out against one of many acts that destroys families – abortion.

Speaking at the National Prayer Breakfast in 1997, she said (with pro-abortion advocates Bill and Hillary Clinton present), "America needs no words from me to see how your decision in *Roe v. Wade* has deformed a great nation. The so-called right to abortion has pitted mothers against their children and women against men. It has sown violence and discord at the heart of the most intimate human relationships. It has aggravated the derogation of the father's role in an increasingly fatherless society. It has portrayed the greatest of gifts – a child – as a competitor, an intrusion, and an inconvenience...And if we accept that a mother can kill even her own child, how can we tell other people not to kill one another?...Please don't kill the child. I want the child. Please give me the child. I am willing to accept any child who would be aborted, and to give that child to a married couple who will love the child, and be loved by the child. From our children's home in Calcutta alone, we have saved over 3,000 children from abortions."

John Locke, a 17th century philosopher whose work was highly regarded by our Founders, wrote this about the parent's role: "The subjection of the minor places in the father a temporary government which terminates with the minority of the child...The nourishment and education of their children (during their minority) is a charge so incumbent on parents for their children's good, that nothing can absolve them from taking care of it."

How far we as a nation have come, from de Tocqueville's time when America had intact families, and fathers led their family. Today, especially since the advent of President Lyndon Johnson's Great Society, that role has been destroyed by Progressives.

Since 1973 nearly 60 million babies have been aborted in the United States alone, and of those, nearly 18 million were black. The Great Society has decimated families, but what it did to black families – who were traditionally whole families before – is especially a disgrace. A young man of any color who has grown up without a father, is now just as likely to become a criminal as he is to become a productive citizen.

There is a scene in one of the Jason Bourne movies in which a government assassin attempts to kill Bourne, but Bourne turns the tables on the assassin by fatally shooting him. Before the assassin dies, Bourne learns that the assassin was from the same government training program as him. Before he dies, the assassin says, "look what they make us do to each other."

This is indicative of the Progressive way. The destruction of the family must happen for Progressivism to succeed, because the intact family, led by Godly parents, are a vital component of America's success. It is not just that abortion and the breakup of the family are evil; it is how progressives get us to turn against each other.



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