

O P I N I O N



Letters to the Editor...

The Nugget welcomes contributions from its readers, which must include the writer's name, address and phone number. Letters to the Editor is an open forum for the community and contains unsolicited opinions not necessarily shared by the Editor. The Nugget reserves the right to edit, omit, respond or ask for a response to letters submitted to the Editor. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. Unpublished items are not acknowledged or returned. The deadline for all letters is noon Monday.

To the Editor:

Last week there was a glowing reference to the Australian gun confiscation which was portrayed as a buy-back. There was also the ongoing attempt to attach the evil of the Sandy Hook creature to millions of decent law-abiding gun-owners. Governments have massacred tens of millions of people and they have used bullets that can penetrate walls, car doors and human skulls. But Terry could have an ammunition buy-back. If the serfs could be totally disarmed, it would be such a wonderful thing for the government party.

Larry Benson

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To the Editor:

Thank you, Andrew Gorayeb.

I really appreciate what you did for the City of Sisters during your three years as city manager. We have lived here since 1961, part-time, and you did more in three years for Sisters than any other city manager in a similar period.

First of all, the city looks better than ever, with flowers, new street work, the Fir Street Park (on the site of the old City Hall) and a City-sponsored program to subsidize the upgrading and painting of all the businesses on the main drag. That has translated into

civic pride, good retail business, and growth in Sisters.

Secondly, the City finances have never been in better shape, with your assistance. That is especially true of the debt refinancing, where you saved the City over \$800,000 in interest expense over time ... Well done!

Thirdly, on the matter of severance, you received what your predecessor Elaine Stein received, one year's pay. While some complain about that, the reality is every one of us who has ever been fired or forced to resign, or quietly retired, has tried to get the best deal we can on our way out the door. So did you...

Finally, regarding the "Gorayeb Report," I am scratching my head after reading the articles in *The Nugget* and *Bulletin* (similar). The investigator, Ashley Driscoll, said there was "no cause" for termination, but that a "negative environment" was present at times. Given your outstanding results it is too bad that all of this could not have been resolved "at home," inside City Hall, rather than raised to the State level. Looking back, that seems like a bad decision and we all lost a good city manager as a result.

Bruce Rognlien

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Sisters Weather Forecast

Courtesy of the National Weather Service, Pendleton, Oregon

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Sunny 80/47	Mostly sunny 77/46	Sunny 83/49	Sunny 89/53	Sunny 92/53	Mostly sunny 82/na

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Rachel Marsden

American Voices

PARIS — The leftists who came of age in the counterculture revolutionary movements of the '60s and '70s are now in charge in both Europe and the U.S., and facing a populist backlash. They failed to learn the lessons of their own experiences, and it's time for them to be dropkicked into the waste bin of history.

In the wake of World War II and the defeat of Nazi Germany, there was a massive movement in Western nations against anything that smacked of authority. At first it was more social than political.

In the U.S, the hippie movement promoted the idea of "free love" in the shadow of the Vietnam War and the civil rights movement. On the other side of the Atlantic, in May 1968, French communists and socialists staged protests that brought the country to a standstill under the guise of denouncing the traditional social values exemplified by President Charles de Gaulle, who had led France through World War II.

The killing of Che Guevara by troops in Bolivia added political jet fuel to vague social unrest. Intent on fomenting revolution across Latin America, Che was faithful to a brand of radicalism that espoused the sort of guerrilla warfare promoted by China's Mao Zedong. This alarmed even Marxists like Cuba's Fidel Castro and the Soviet Union's Nikita Khrushchev, who considered themselves reasonable by comparison.

Radical Western terrorist groups adopted Che and Mao's tactics. Germany's Baader-Meinhof Gang, France's Action Directe and America's Weather Underground ran amok until their members were captured or killed. Why is all of this important now? Because the same pattern is about to repeat itself.

Today's establishment elite in Western democracies consists of members of the May 1968 generation. Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton cut her teeth on civil rights activism, as did President Barack Obama as a community organizer. French

President Francois Hollande has said of that generation: "Their utopia was that of a fraternal society that would respect humans and nature, and refuses to make material prosperity the measure of all things."

The May 1968 generation created a climate of insecurity by replacing actual authority with feel-good emotional fluff. They were so determined to erase any trace of authority that they allowed left-wing terrorist groups to proliferate. In the U.S., there was no authority figure to control the classroom until President Ronald Reagan was elected in 1980. In France, there was a crack-down on terrorism following the 1981 election of Socialist President Francois Mitterrand, but not before the country was jolted by 114 terrorist attacks over a two-month span in 1982.

The "free love" generation still believes in pursuing its failed utopia of weird values and leftist social engineering, conveniently forgetting the terrorist horrors they unleashed through their own unrest. They're still convinced that social integration just magically happens despite their insistence on radical diversity. Barely a week goes by now in France when there isn't a major protest involving police cars being burned and violence against authorities.

That's the social movement part of the equation. Now, here comes the terrorism — except this time it's not domestic radicals who are serving as the military handmaidens of the leftists, but rather jihadists.

Lax immigration policies perpetrated by leftist politicians have led to an influx of migrants from terror-ridden countries, even while authorities struggle to keep up with homegrown terrorists, who have perpetrated recent major attacks.

The May 1968 generation is on the verge of being shoved through history's exit door, and not a moment too soon. The only question is whether the power-wielding members of the "free love" generation have rigged the system in ways that will further delay their peaceful, democratic removal.

Opinions expressed in this column are solely those of the writer and are not necessarily shared by the Editor or The Nugget Newspaper.