

June 5, 2012

Great summary of the Wisconsin issues and lessons from [John Fund](#).

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If the recall fails, what will be the takeaways from the 17 months of pitched war that Wisconsin has endured since Governor Walker proposed his dramatic reforms of pensions and privileges in the state's public-sector unions?

### **Expect the Left to Blame Obama**

Maureen Dowd of the *New York Times* dismissed Obama on Sunday as someone who "prefers to float above, at a reserve, in grandiose mists." When the likes of Dowd are no longer feeling the love, we shouldn't be surprised that other Democrats are dumping on Obama for not showing up to help Barrett in Wisconsin. "Progressive Pundits Lay Groundwork to Blame Obama if Wisconsin Recall Fails" was the headline of a searing critique by Noah Rothman at Mediaite. He quoted Ed Schultz of MSNBC sarcastically noting that the president was in neighboring Iowa and Minnesota last week and that his campaign office is in nearby Chicago. "It's all around, but is it in?" Schultz asked of the Obama campaign. "[Union members] want him on that line because he talked about being on that line with them back in 2007." Schultz closed his plea for an Obama visit by saying it is the "job of a leader" to motivate his followers.

Liberals view Wisconsin as a state that is "leading the way in reshaping American's view of the role of government," Rothman emphasizes. "President Obama has abandoned that fight, noting correctly that it is not likely to be won," he says. "But progressive pundits . . . are right — this is not just another election. . . . It is a fight with broad implications that President Obama has abandoned. The question now becomes, can they [progressives] forgive this betrayal ahead of a tough election in the fall?"

### **Wisconsin Is Now in Play for November**

The state hasn't voted Republican since Ronald Reagan's reelection effort in 1984, and Obama won it easily by 14 points in 2008. But the state can be competitive. Both Al Gore and John Kerry carried it by only a handful of votes — many of which may have been fraudulent, as a 2007 Milwaukee Police Department report showed. ...

[Buzz Feed](#) attempts to quantify Wisconsin's results.

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**Jennifer Rubin** dreams up excuses for the recall proponents.

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*I will save the excuse-mongers some time. Here is a handy list of rationalizations:*

- 1. Walker didn't win by as much as some thought he would, so the election is a big win for recall advocates.*
- 2. The recall proponents were outspent.*
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**Ms Rubin** posts on the reality that is closing in on America's left.

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*The left dubs Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker's collective bargaining reforms to be an abomination and mounts a recall effort . . . and union membership drops like a stone while a [large majority of voters](#) thinks that those reforms are working just fine?*

*The left insists for three years that massive borrowing, Obamacare, the constant threat of tax hikes, reams of new regulations and refusal to address the drivers of our debt won't hobble the economy and . . . we are at 8.2 percent unemployment and less than 2 percent growth?*

*The left concocts a "war on women" and . . . women voters flock to Romney?*

*The left in revulsion over the Bush "freedom agenda" calls for cordial engagement of North Korea, Russia, Iran and Syria and . . . the Green Revolution is dormant, Iran and North Korea speed ahead with their nuclear weapons programs, Bashar al-Assad is in power and 13,000 Syrians are dead?*

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**Michael Barone** thinks the country looks like Texas, not CA.

*... California is likely to grow more slowly than the nation, for the first time in history, and could even start losing population.*

*Fortunately, governors of some other high-tax states are itching to cut taxes. The shale oil and natural gas boom have job seekers streaming to hitherto unlikely spots like North Dakota and northeast Ohio. Great Plains cities like Omaha, Neb., and Des Moines, Iowa, are looking pretty healthy too.*

*It's not clear whether Atlanta and its smaller kin — Charlotte and Raleigh, N.C., Nashville, Tenn, Jacksonville, Fla. — will resume their robust growth. They've suffered high unemployment lately.*

*But Texas has been doing very well. If you draw a triangle whose points are Houston, Dallas and San Antonio, enclosing Austin, you've just drawn a map of the economic and jobs engine of North America.*

*Texas prospers not just because of oil and gas, but thanks to a diversified and sophisticated economy. It has attracted large numbers of both immigrants and domestic migrants for a quarter-century. One in 12 Americans lives there.*

*America is getting to look a lot more like Texas, and that's one trend that I hope continues.*

Turns out Elizabeth Warren was making a small fortune trading foreclosed and distressed properties in Oklahoma. **Howie Carr** has the details.

*If there's anything Granny Warren hates more than a fake Indian or a plagiarist, it's one of these damn real-estate speculators buying up the hammered middle class' homes and flipping them for big bucks.*

*Unless, of course, Granny is the hypocrite conniving with the banks to do the hammering and the hacking.*

*Granny wrote in 2000 that foreclosure sales "are notorious for fetching low prices." And boy, would she know.*

*Here's a foreclosed property she picked up in Oklahoma City at 2123 NW 14th St. for \$4,000 in 1993. She transferred it to her brother and his wife in March 2004 and they sold it for \$30,000 in February 2006.*

*Those kinds of returns make you a 1 percenter like Granny. That, and cashing in on a racial spoils system you have no business taking advantage of.*

*The prior owners of the \$4,000 house were Richard and Shelley Walter, who had a son who served as a Marine in Iraq. I wonder if they've read Granny's impassioned attacks on foreclosures: "Foreclosure rates are skyrocketing. Is it a civil right to lose that home in a sheriff's auction?" ..*

[The Boston Herald](#) says now Indians are angry at Lie-awatha.

*Native Americans — outraged by Elizabeth Warren’s admission yesterday that she told her Ivy League bosses about her purported tribal roots — accused the embattled Democrat of snubbing them and vowed to protest at tomorrow’s state convention even as she scrambled to placate supporters.*

*“If she really wanted to reach out to our native people and have a discussion about issues that are affecting us, then she needs to talk to our tribal media,” said Rhonda Levando Gayton, president of the Native American Journalists Association.*

*Rob Capriccioso, a reporter with Indian Country Today, said he has reached out to Warren’s campaign several times for an interview since May 15 and has been blown off. Capriccioso said there is a growing skepticism in Native American circles about Warren. ...*

[Corner post](#) on cool bumper stickers.

*Other readers have kept the hits coming. One says, “Last week, while driving around Houston, I saw an F-350 with a sticker that said, ‘I’m not racist — I don’t like Biden either.’”*

*Another reader says, “Here in Wisconsin, we see the following on bumper stickers and yard signs: ‘Recall Santa: I didn’t get what I wanted.’”*

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## [National Review](#)

### [If Walker Wins, What Are the Lessons?](#)

by John Fund

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If the recall fails, what will be the takeaways from the 17 months of pitched war that Wisconsin has endured since Governor Walker proposed his dramatic reforms of pensions and privileges in the state’s public-sector unions?

### **Expect the Left to Blame Obama**

Maureen Dowd of the *New York Times* dismissed Obama on Sunday as someone who “prefers to float above, at a reserve, in grandiose mists.” When the likes of Dowd are no longer feeling the love, we shouldn’t be surprised that other Democrats are dumping on Obama for not showing up to help Barrett in Wisconsin. “Progressive Pundits Lay Groundwork to Blame Obama if Wisconsin Recall Fails” was the headline of a searing critique by Noah Rothman at Mediaite. He quoted Ed Schultz of MSNBC sarcastically noting that the president was in neighboring Iowa and Minnesota last week and that his campaign office is in nearby Chicago.

“It’s all around, but is it in?” Schultz asked of the Obama campaign. “[Union members] want him on that line because he talked about being on that line with them back in 2007.” Schultz closed his plea for an Obama visit by saying it is the “job of a leader” to motivate his followers.

Liberals view Wisconsin as a state that is “leading the way in reshaping American’s view of the role of government,” Rothman emphasizes. “President Obama has abandoned that fight, noting correctly that it is not likely to be won,” he says. “But progressive pundits . . . are right — this is not just another election. . . . It is a fight with broad implications that President Obama has abandoned. The question now becomes, can they [progressives] forgive this betrayal ahead of a tough election in the fall?”

### **Wisconsin Is Now in Play for November**

The state hasn’t voted Republican since Ronald Reagan’s reelection effort in 1984, and Obama won it easily by 14 points in 2008. But the state can be competitive. Both Al Gore and John Kerry carried it by only a handful of votes — many of which may have been fraudulent, as a 2007 Milwaukee Police Department report showed.

By this fall, Wisconsin’s new voting law will probably be in effect. It limits same-day registration abuses and requires voters to show photo ID at the polls; this should reduce the role of last-minute fraudsters such as the infamous Park Avenue heiress who pled guilty to flying to Milwaukee in 2000 and passing out cigarettes to homeless people in exchange for their promise to vote for Al Gore.

The psychological blow of losing yet another recall campaign would surely reduce enthusiasm and turnout on the left, while leaving Romney with an extensive campaign infrastructure in the state: 22 offices set up by Governor Walker, firmly in place only five months before the presidential race.

### **Voters Will See Walker’s Reforms as Working**

The recall effort couldn’t get under way until Walker had been in office a year, and this time lag clearly helped the governor. Walker can claim to have wiped out a \$3.6 billion deficit without raising taxes or seeing service cutbacks. Indeed, property taxes fell statewide by 0.4 percent last year, the first time they’ve fallen since 1998. The average homeowner’s property tax bill would have been about \$700 higher if the previous rate of increase had continued. The state now expects to have a surplus of \$150 million at the end of the current budget cycle.

Voters can see Walker’s reforms working at the grassroots level as well. Brown Deer, a suburb of Milwaukee, is saving \$1 million in pension and health-care costs. More flexible work rules enabled the city to make changes in teacher schedules. “We had many teachers tell us, let’s save everybody’s job,” Brown Deer superintendent Deb Kerr told the *Chicago Tribune*. “We didn’t cut programs. We didn’t raise class sizes. And we maintained our level of staffing.”

At least 52 local school districts are saving an average of \$220 per student because they can now shop around for health insurance for their employees. Before the reforms, unions forced the schools to do business exclusively with WEA Trust, the group run by the state’s largest teachers’ union.

The jobs picture is also improving. Last year, the state added 24,000 new jobs. *Chief Executive* magazine reported in 2010 that Wisconsin ranked 41st out of 50 states in terms of the ease of

doing business. In its new survey, the state has jumped to 20th place, the fastest surge in the history of the magazine's survey. Separately, the Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce survey just found that 62 percent of the members it surveyed plan to create jobs in Wisconsin by year's end. A full 95 percent of CEOs surveyed said the state is headed in the right direction. "The word is out from Main Street to Wall Street that Wisconsin is the place to create jobs and expand," says Kurt Bauer, the president of WMC.

All these positive developments explain why Democrat Barrett is talking about almost every issue except the collective-bargaining reforms that brought thousands of union protesters to the state's capitol last year. Voters have moved on from the union agenda: In a Marquette University poll in May, only 12 percent of Wisconsin voters agreed that "restoring collective bargaining rights" was their priority.

### **Unions Will Have to Take a Long Look in the Mirror**

A Walker victory will expose for all to see the dirty little secret of the power of public-sector unions in America: It depends on having the government collect union dues from every employee's paycheck, and turning the dues over to the unions without the employee's consent. No other private entity in America — no charity, no association, no company — can do that.

Walker's reforms ended that practice. Workers can now decide if they want to pay union dues. Clearly, the answer is no in many cases.

The American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees was founded in Madison in 1936, making the state the launching pad for all public-sector-union organizing in the country. But now AFSCME's Local 24 in Madison, which represented 22,300 Wisconsin state workers last year, has seen its membership shrink by two-thirds, to 7,100. Statewide, AFSCME's membership has dropped by more than half. Similarly, the American Federation of Teachers has lost 6,000 of its 17,000 members. Small wonder. Teachers'-union dues in Wisconsin range from a hefty \$700 a year up to more than \$1,000.

Labor historian Fred Siegel says Walker's changes could provide a model for reshaping American politics. "Ending dues deductions breaks the political cycle in which government collects dues and gives them to the unions, who then use the dues to back their favorite candidates and also lobby for bigger government and more pay and benefits," he told me.

With regard to rights and worker protections, the reduction of union power won't affect most state workers. Governor Walker points out that the employee rights that people care about most fall under civil-service rules that his reforms don't touch. "We have the strongest protections in the country on grievance procedures, merit hiring, and just cause for disciplining and terminating employees," he told me. "All that stays."

### **Watch How Union Members Voted**

Union leaders recognize the stakes of Tuesday's vote. People will interpret defeat "as a sign of weakness and a lack of public sympathy," Gary Chaison, a professor of industrial relations at Clark University, told the *Wall Street Journal*.

Perhaps sympathy for the union cause is waning among union members themselves. Many of the rank-and-file members resent their bosses' large paychecks and alliances with liberal environmentalists and social activists. In 2010, 37 percent of union households supported

Walker in his bid for governor, an election he won with 52 percent of the vote. So far this year, polls ranging from Marquette's to Public Policy Polling (a Democratic firm) show Walker winning 38 percent to 39 percent of union households.

The key to Walker's surprising level of union support is that labor has broken into two camps that have competing interests. Members of public-sector unions represent 55 percent of all union workers in Wisconsin. Their leaders are focused not on economic growth but on securing bigger pay, more benefits, and greater power regardless of the impact on the overall state budget. Public-sector-union households support Barrett over Walker by 66 percent to 31 percent in a recent Marquette University poll. But among the 45 percent of union households that have a member in the private sector, Barrett leads by much less: 49 percent to 45 percent. Among non-union households, Walker has a substantial lead.

Governor Chris Christie, a strong Walker supporter, sees the split within labor as the most underreported story in American politics. "There is a divide between private and public-sector unions that Republicans can benefit from if we convince those whose livelihood depends on economic growth and job creation that we can bring that to them," he told me. The strategy has worked for Christie in New Jersey. "All my key reforms passed with support from Democratic legislators with roots in private-sector unions, while the public-sector unions defended the status quo."

Regardless of who wins in Wisconsin, a final lesson is clear: Voters are paying attention. The state has weathered an outpouring of political activism that few states have ever seen. In 2003, during the media-saturated recall election of Gray Davis in California (which sparked the rise of Arnold Schwarzenegger), only 36 percent of voting-age adults showed up at the polls. The estimate for turnout in Wisconsin on Tuesday is 60 to 65 percent of all adults. In comparison, the average turnout in the last 60 years for a midterm election for governor has been only 47 percent. Marquette University polls have found that this year one in five Wisconsin voters said they had given money to a candidate; more than half said they had personally tried to influence someone else's vote; and two-thirds said they talked politics with family and friends at least once a week.

Whatever the outcome, no one can say that the Wisconsin recall results don't represent an informed choice by an energized and interested electorate.

## **Buzz Feed**

### **[The Number That Will Matter In Wisconsin](#)**

***In the epic showdown between Big Blue and Big Red, Walker's margin may be the number being watched from Chicago and Boston. A Walker blowout means trouble for the president.***

by John Elis

The Wisconsin special gubernatorial recall election next Tuesday is the most important election of the campaign season to date. It will tell us a lot about the 2012 presidential race. And there will be policy repercussions because of it, in states all across the country.

At issue is whether Wisconsin should continue to move away from [the Blue Social Model](#) or not. The names on the ballot are Governor Scott Walker (R) and Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett (D).

But they are basically proxies for a larger policy battle. Simply put: Governor Walker is a vote against and away from Big Blue, Mayor Barrett is an affirmation of it.

The last time Wisconsinites voted on Big Blue was in April of 2011. The "race" back then was a special State Supreme Court Justice election. A vote for the incumbent (the swing vote on the 7-person Wisconsin Supreme Court) meant that Governor Walker's proposed attack on Wisconsin's Blue Social Model — dramatic reductions of the power of public sector labor unions — would go forward. A vote against the incumbent meant that the Walker plans would be stopped dead in their tracks.

The results of that election were exceptionally close. The morning after, in fact, [it appeared that the conservative incumbent had lost by a whisker](#). He later was proclaimed the winner when the votes from the town of Brookfield were properly included in the Waukesha County tabulation. Brookfield had somehow been left out of the original Waukesha count.

You can see just how close this election was by clicking [here](#) (scroll down to Spring 2011 Election Cycle and open up the county-by-county Excel spreadsheet, which has both the first tally and the recount tally). These results will serve as a very useful baseline for this coming Tuesday's count. If Gov. Walker outperforms, consistently, across the county table, that will be read as a decisive defeat for Labor and its allies in the Democratic Party. A Walker "outperform" will also mean that Wisconsin is "in play" in the presidential election. Which in turn will mean that "likely" and "lean" Democratic states like Minnesota and Iowa will no longer be seen as "likely" or "lean" Democratic.

If Gov. Walker under-performs, then it will be a huge win for the Liberal-Labor coalition. The Obama campaign will feel the warm rush of political valium, soothing their November jitters. Everyone expects Gov. Walker to win this election, despite the razor-thin margins of every special election that has been held across Wisconsin since the 2010 general election. The polls say [he will win by 6 percentage points](#), at least. So a Walker defeat on Tuesday would be the biggest story of all.

Is there any chance that Barrett can pull off an upset? Probably not. If he was leading in the polls, President Obama would be campaigning for him this weekend. The fact that the president is not campaigning for him this weekend means two things: (1) Barrett is behind in Team Obama polling by more than the margin of error, and (2) a presidential appearance would not provide enough of a lift for Barrett to make the difference. So, using the Obama test, Mr. Barrett is a goner.

The key to this election, however, is not really whether Governor Walker wins. [More or less everyone expects him to do that](#). The key is *how much he wins by*. The crude calculation is this: Walker defeat equals certain Obama win in November. Walker win by 1-5 percentage points equals very close presidential general election (nationally). A Walker win by 6 points or more equals Mitt Romney is the favorite to win in November.

The entire political world will be running the numbers Tuesday night. Truly important elections don't come along that often. This one matters.



## Right Turn

### Wisconsin recall losers' excuses

by Jennifer Rubin

It seems that Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker (R) is heading for a win in the recall election. It is essential for the left to come up with excuses to avoid the obvious conclusions one would draw from a Walker victory, namely that this recall business was a monumentally dumb idea and that public-employee unions aren't nearly as popular as Democrats believe.

I will save the excuse-mongers some time. Here is a handy list of rationalizations:

1. Walker didn't win by as much as some thought he would, so the election is a big win for recall advocates.
2. The recall proponents were outspent.
3. Did we mention the recall proponents were outspent?
4. Tom Barrett was a weak candidate.
5. Wisconsin is the Alabama of the Midwest.
6. President Obama didn't show up to campaign against Walker.
7. Walker — lucky dog — could show [23,000](#) jobs were added in Wisconsin in 2011. Coincidence!
8. Walker talked a bunch about [Barrett's](#) record as mayor.
9. Barrett didn't have a clear message.
10. Barrett should have talked more about women's rights, health care, the environment, education, taxes, gay marriage and all that other stuff.

Republicans should hope that the Democrats don't notice that some of these excuses are contradictory; Democrats embrace unions even more tightly, and the Obama campaign refuses to believe that Wisconsin is in play for November.

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### The left is shocked, shocked to find reality out there

by Jennifer Rubin

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The left concocts a "war on women" and . . . women voters flock to Romney?

The left in revulsion over the Bush "freedom agenda" calls for cordial engagement of North Korea, Russia, Iran and Syria and . . . the Green Revolution is dormant, Iran and North Korea speed ahead with their nuclear weapons programs, Bashar al-Assad is in power and 13,000 Syrians are dead?

The left is convinced that the Constitution allows Congress to do any purportedly virtuous thing that pops into its collective mind . . . and the Supreme Court is poised to invalidate all or some of the left's crowning legislative achievement?

Hmm. It might just be that many assumptions held by liberal politicians and parroted by the left punditocracy are substantively unsound and at odds with the convictions of large majorities of Americans. Rather than revisit their assumptions or consider if their views are actually representative of the voters' beliefs, liberals concoct excuses. *Republicans are obstructionist. Democrats are outspent in the media wars. Obama is too darn nice and smart for us slobs. We didn't spend **enough** money.*

But the rationalizations are as ineffective as the policies they pushed. And what was thought to be a Republican weakness, namely university and media bias in favor of the left, is in fact a fatal liability for Democrats. They are caught in a feedback loop in which daft ideas and unrealistic assessments of the electorate dominate and critical views are banished. When reality strikes, they are dumbfounded and race for comfort in spurious justifications.

To my conservative friends, I would say this is why the left appears intellectual buffoonish. And to my friends on the left, keep it up! Brook no debate about the soundness of your views or the righteousness of your purpose! It is all a "communications" problem.

## Washington Examiner

### [America looks like Texas, not like California](#)

by Michael Barone

Demographic forecasts generally take the form of predicting more of the same.

Old people have been moving to Florida for the past several years, and old people will move there for the next few years. Immigrants have been streaming in from Mexico, and they will continue to do so. You get the idea.

Most of the time, these forecasts prove right. But sometimes there are inflection points, times when some trends stop and others begin. My read of recent demographic data suggests we may be at such a point right now.

These inflection points are usually not recognized at the time. For 25 years during and after World War II, there was a vast flow of blacks from the South to the big cities of the North. People assumed it would go on and on.

But it stopped, abruptly, in 1965, just after passage of federal civil rights acts and at the beginning of a period of urban ghetto riots in the North. There has been no mass movement of blacks from South to North ever since, but rather a slight net move in the other direction.

Or consider the migration of millions to sunny California that started during World War II and accelerated in the postwar decades. It came to a halt in the middle 1980s, just as President Reagan, former California governor, was opening the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

Since 1990, Americans have been moving out of California to other states in large numbers. The Golden State's population growth in the last two decades has reached the national average only because of Latin and Asian immigration.

That immigration, to California and elsewhere, is one of the two big demographic trends that has reshaped the country over the last 40 years. The other is the movement of vast numbers of people from high-tax states in the Northeast and industrial Midwest to lower-tax and more economically vibrant states elsewhere.

Both these movements have halted, at least temporarily. American mobility is near an all-time low. As in the Depression of the 1930s, people tend to stay put in hard times. You don't want to sell your house if you're underwater on your mortgage.

And immigration has plunged. The Pew Hispanic Center estimates that from 2005 to 2010, more people have moved from the United States to Mexico than the other way around. I suspect reverse migration is still going on.

The question is whether those trends will resume when — if? — good times return.

My prediction is that we won't ever again see the heavy Latin immigration we saw between 1983 and 2007, which averaged 300,000 legal immigrants and perhaps as many illegals annually.

Mexican and other Latin birth rates fell more than two decades ago. And Mexico, the source of 60 percent of Latin immigrants, is now a majority-middle-class country.

Asian immigration may continue, primarily from China and India, especially if we have the good sense to change our laws to let in more high-skilled immigrants.

But the next big immigration source, I think, will be sub-Saharan Africa. We may end up with prominent politicians who actually were born in Kenya. Continued domestic outmigration from high-tax states? Certainly from California, where Gov. Jerry Brown wants to raise taxes even higher. With foreign immigration down, California is likely to grow more slowly than the nation, for the first time in history, and could even start losing population.

Fortunately, governors of some other high-tax states are itching to cut taxes. The shale oil and natural gas boom have job seekers streaming to hitherto unlikely spots like North Dakota and

northeast Ohio. Great Plains cities like Omaha, Neb., and Des Moines, Iowa, are looking pretty healthy too.

It's not clear whether Atlanta and its smaller kin — Charlotte and Raleigh, N.C., Nashville, Tenn, Jacksonville, Fla. — will resume their robust growth. They've suffered high unemployment lately.

But Texas has been doing very well. If you draw a triangle whose points are Houston, Dallas and San Antonio, enclosing Austin, you've just drawn a map of the economic and jobs engine of North America.

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America is getting to look a lot more like Texas, and that's one trend that I hope continues.

## **Boston Herald**

### **Flipping Liz Warren's credibility flops**

by Howie Carr

If there's anything Granny Warren hates more than a fake Indian or a plagiarist, it's one of these damn real-estate speculators buying up the hammered middle class' homes and flipping them for big bucks.

Unless, of course, Granny is the hypocrite conniving with the banks to do the hammering and the hacking.

Granny wrote in 2000 that foreclosure sales "are notorious for fetching low prices." And boy, would she know.



*Democratic senate candidate Elizabeth Warren, inset, bought this foreclosed upon property at 213 NW 14th Street in Oklahoma City for \$4,000 in 1993.*

Here's a foreclosed property she picked up in Oklahoma City at 2123 NW 14th St. for \$4,000 in 1993. She transferred it to her brother and his wife in March 2004 and they sold it for \$30,000 in February 2006.

Those kinds of returns make you a 1 percenter like Granny. That, and cashing in on a racial spoils system you have no business taking advantage of.

The prior owners of the \$4,000 house were Richard and Shelley Walter, who had a son who served as a Marine in Iraq. I wonder if they've read Granny's impassioned attacks on foreclosures: "Foreclosure rates are skyrocketing. Is it a civil right to lose that home in a sheriff's auction?"

It is if Granny Warren's picking up some good stuff cheap, a la Bain Capital. Let's move on to another foreclosure, this one on 500 NW 18th St. in her hometown. She's listed as the mortgagee on a \$55,000 mortgage taken out by her brother John in 1992.

In 1998, John Herring sold the foreclosed house for \$140,000.

The people who lost their home this time to greedy Granny were D.L. and Sue Trent. At least they can take solace in the fact that the former Elizabeth "Red" Herring feels their pain: "Thus foreclosures harm other homeowners both by encouraging additional foreclosures by reducing home sale prices, while decreased property values hurt local businesses and reduce state and local tax revenues."

Lieawatha bragged last fall that she provided the "intellectual foundations" of the national crime wave known as Occupy Wall Street. Everyone assumed she was talking about her turgid prose, not her own wheeling and dealing in the misery of the middle class.

Late last night the campaign issued this statement: "Elizabeth and her husband have worked hard and are fortunate to be in a position where they could help their family members."

In her book "All Your Worth," the 32/32nds white woman says it is a myth that "you can make big money buying houses and flipping them quickly." Really?

The lesson here is, not everything you read is true. For instance, your mother probably told you, "Cheaters never prosper." Your mother never knew Granny Warren.

## **Boston Herald** **[Tribe-ulations for Liz Warren as Cherokees plan protest](#)**

by Hillary Chabot

Native Americans — outraged by Elizabeth Warren's admission yesterday that she told her Ivy League bosses about her purported tribal roots — accused the embattled Democrat of snubbing them and vowed to protest at tomorrow's state convention even as she scrambled to placate supporters.

“If she really wanted to reach out to our native people and have a discussion about issues that are affecting us, then she needs to talk to our tribal media,” said Rhonda Levando Gayton, president of the Native American Journalists Association.

Rob Capriccioso, a reporter with Indian Country Today, said he has reached out to Warren’s campaign several times for an interview since May 15 and has been blown off. Capriccioso said there is a growing skepticism in Native American circles about Warren.

“Her ‘high cheekbones’ recollection, her failed Native networking while in academia and odd explanations of it, the possibility that Harvard promoted her as a Native professor without any documentation ... and the attempts by her campaign to paint Indian concerns as a nonissue have all been problematic,” Capriccioso said.

“If elected a U.S. senator, she would be expected to know a lot about Native American issues that face Congress everyday, as highlighted in the Constitution, so her gaffes have been jarring for many Indians.”

Warren released a detailed email about the controversy to supporters yesterday in an attempt to stop the bleeding. She admitted telling Harvard and University of Pennsylvania officials about her purported Native American heritage, even though she originally had said she didn’t know how the universities found out about her background.

“I let people know about my Native American heritage in a national directory of law school personnel. At some point after they hired me, I also provided that information to the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard,” said Warren, who added she did not get “special breaks because of my background.”

The Harvard Law professor also originally indicated that she hadn’t listed herself as Native American on any job or college applications, but later fessed up to listing herself on a law school directory used to target minority hires.

The ongoing issue has sparked local Cherokees to hold a “peaceful protest” outside the Democratic State Convention in Springfield tomorrow, where Warren and her Democratic rival Marisa DeFranco will push to get on the ballot.

“I think there’s a pattern of deception that is emerging, and she’s showing that she did know and that she did do these things,” said David Cornsilk, a 53-year-old citizen of Cherokee Nation who co-created a group called Cherokees Demand Truth from Elizabeth Warren.

Cornsilk won’t be at the protest, but said,

“I believe we need a presence there. Warren hasn’t recanted her claims or apologized to the Cherokee people.”

## The Corner

### Bards of the Bumper

by Jay Nordlinger

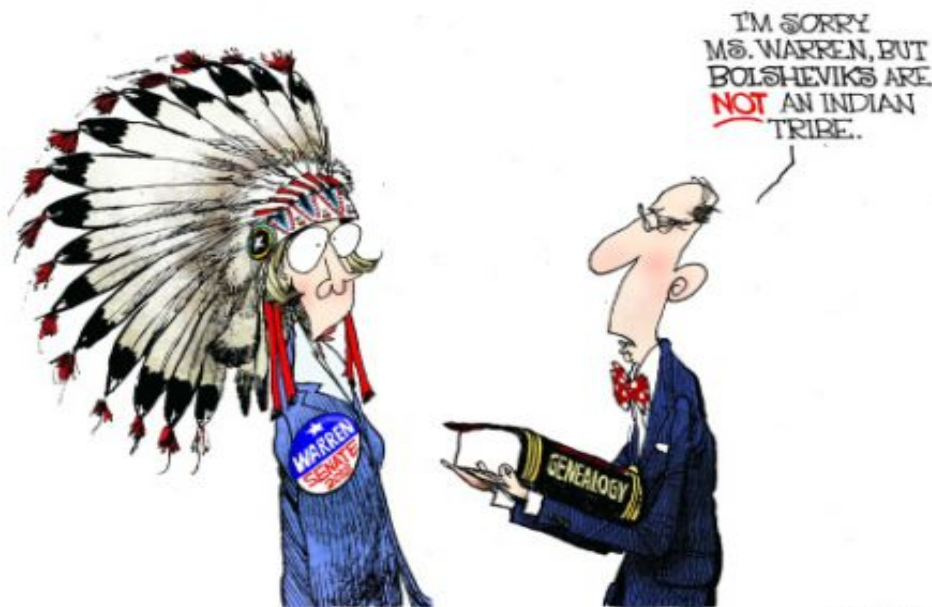
Tucked in [today's Impromptus](#), somewhere, is a [bumper sticker](#) — or rather, a reader e-mail about a bumper sticker. The reader said, “Saw a [bumper](#) sticker this morning that was new to me, and delightful: ‘Visualize Limited Government.’” As you know, this is a twist on “Visualize World Peace” (which has been parodied as “Visualize Whirled Peas”).

Other readers have kept the hits coming. One says, “Last week, while driving around Houston, I saw an F-350 with a sticker that said, ‘I’m not racist — I don’t like Biden either.’”

Another reader says, “Here in Wisconsin, we see the following on bumper stickers and yard signs: ‘Recall Santa: I didn’t get what I wanted.’”

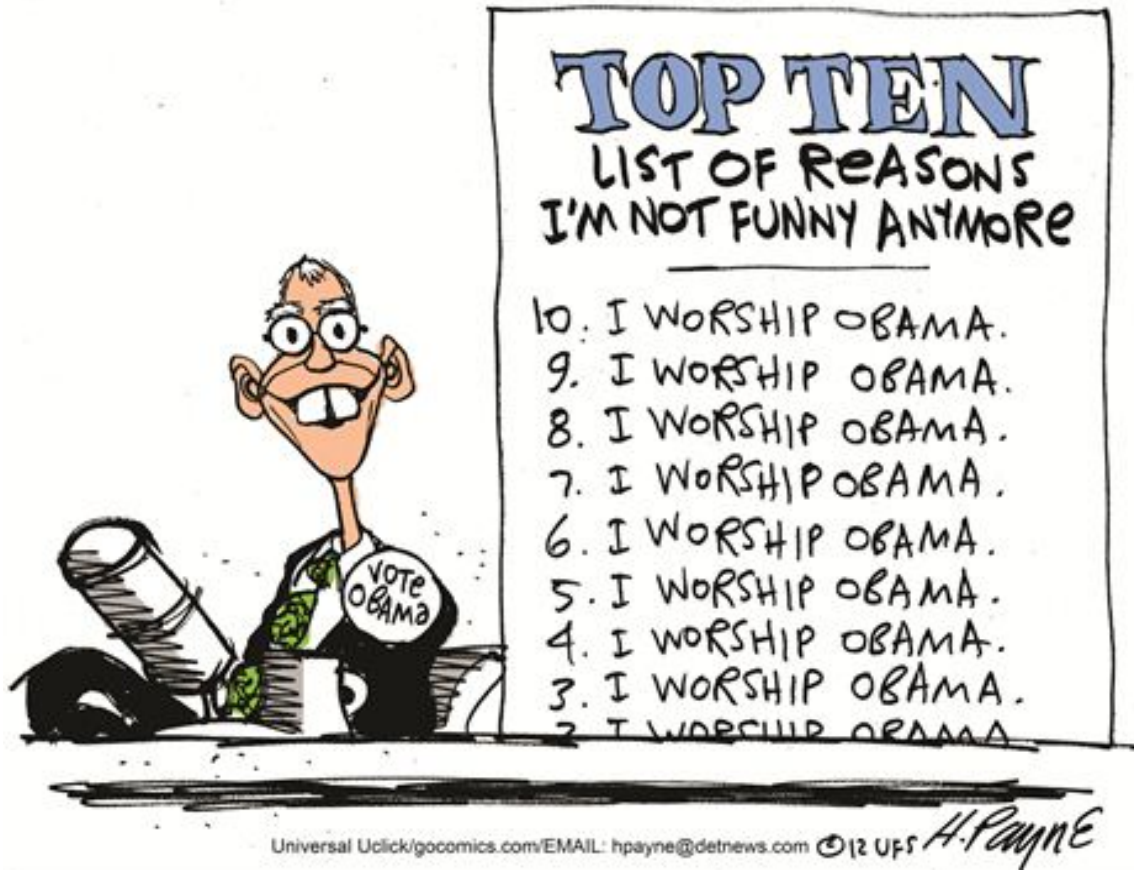
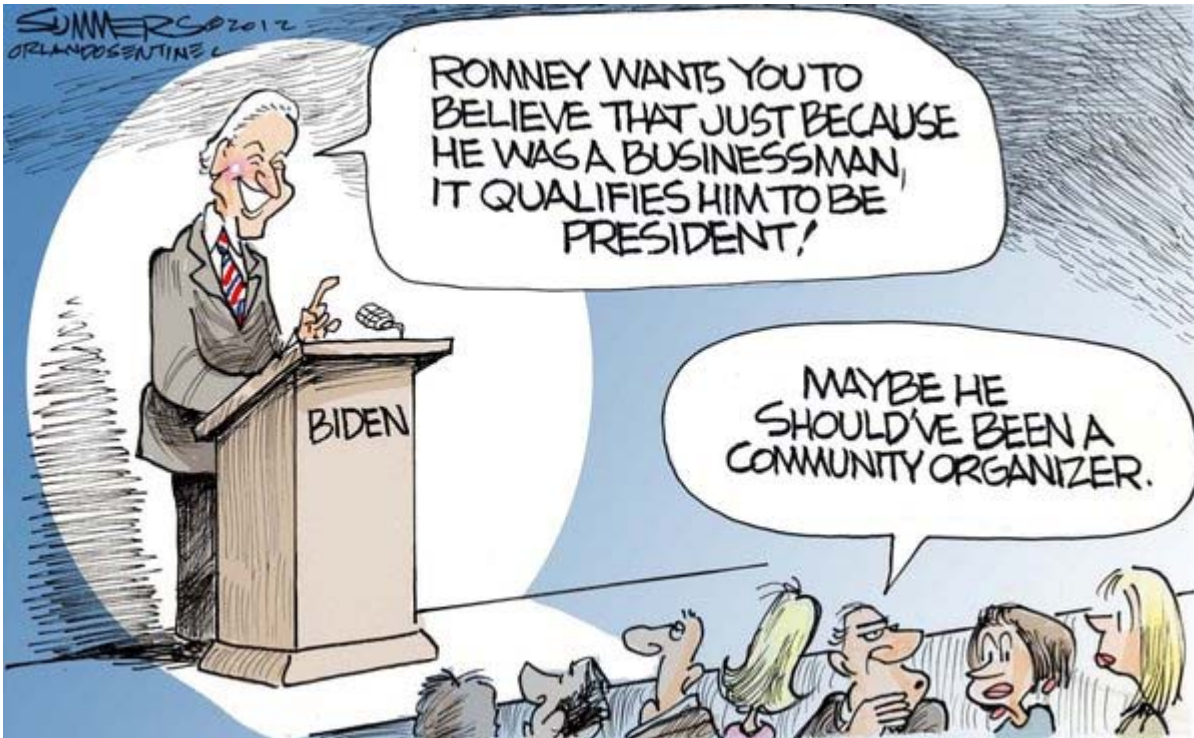
Often, the political bards of this country do their work on bumper stickers. They don’t have very much space in which to operate. Were bumper-sticker writers the original tweeters?

WARREN  
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SUMMERS 2012  
ORLANDO SENTINEL





I DID AN AWFUL,  
AWFUL LOT THAT  
WAS WRONG.



I, JOHN EDWARDS,  
AM RESPONSIBLE.



I DON'T HAVE TO GO  
ANY FURTHER THAN  
THE MIRROR.



IT'S ME AND  
ME ALONE.



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