

A Note from the Editor Does the GOP Have a Death Wish?

We recently posed a question to our contributors: Might George W. Bush be the last Republican president? And if he were, would it really matter to those of us interested in reforming immigration, environmental, and economic policies? In this issue, we include responses from David Simcox, Samuel Francis, E. Christian Kopff, Miles Wolpin, and William Catton.

Among those most likely to vote Republican, immigration reform is highly popular. So is environmental protection to as many as 92.8% of probable Republican primary voters, according to a 1999 Zogby International poll. And there is a too often obscured or unspoken immigration dimension to the “family values” issues that concern 93.4% of Republican voters. Current immigration policies contribute to increased poverty, crime, drug use, out of wedlock births [the National Center for Health Statistics reported on April 17, 2001, that unwed birth rates were twice as high among Hispanics than for non-Hispanic whites, at 42.2% to 22.1%. The black unwed birth rates remain the highest, at 69.1%], poor schools, etc.

Since well before the turn of the last century, the

Democratic Party has depended on a (sometimes uneasy) coalition of labor, non-white, and new immigrant voters for their electoral success. As Samuel Lubell pointed out in his study, *The Future of American Politics*, a “cultural chasm” developed between the two major political parties, with the Republicans being more “sensitive to the aspirations of the ‘old’ immigrant elements” Lubell went on to note that the “new” immigrants and their descendants formed the core of support for Roosevelt’s New Deal. The portion of the white vote Democrats hold today largely descends from this element. Had immigration patterns not shifted by the turn of the last century, the Republicans may well have remained the majority party, virtually without interruption, from the end of the Civil War on.

If Republican “leaders” fail to champion the collection of popular immigration-related issues that could increase their success in the voting booths, they will deserve the political extinction they have courted. New vehicles for public policy change will have to be created by those concerned about our future.

WAYNE LUTTON, Ph.D.

Letters to the Editor

EDITOR:

In regards to your recent issue on changing British Culture, changing American Culture, and Canada (*The Social Contract*, Vol. XI, No. 2, Winter 2001), in the Jan./Feb. 2001 issue of *Popline*, published by the Population Institute, was an article on female genital mutilation. The article stated that Britain has “300,000 female immigrants from cultures that practice FGM, the largest number of any country in the European Union.” Incredulously, the article also states that Europe is not in the “business of preaching and imposing its culture on other countries.” (“EU Commissioner lashes out against genital mutilation,” p.4)

One of the themes of your Winter 2001 issue was an obligation to speak out against the importation of cultural values inconsistent with those of your nation. Judging other cultures is a fundamental right of any other nation or culture and its citizens. And despite the multiculturalist zealots, to speak out is more than appropriate, it is almost mandatory.

Even if said inadvertently, it's nice to hear an

acknowledgment of a European Culture — and by implication an American culture. It's sad, however, that *Popline* would not offer an obvious solution to these unnecessary cultural wars: implement a more selective immigration policy or, the best solution, eliminate immigration, including the much-abused refugee programs. Hail Britannia!

DELL ERICKSON

Minneapolis, Minnesota

EDITOR:

Relax with the “invasion” mumbo jumbo (*The Social Contract*, Vol. XI, No.1, Fall 2000). You guys need to loosen up a little. You should be glad that good-looking guys like myself are in this country. The reason that so many people are in this country illegally is because white people keep giving them jobs. Do you really believe that the waves of poor people crossing the border are thinking of taking back Aztlan? Duh! They're here to make a couple of bucks and they are hired because white criminals want to pay them less than minimum wage as well as cheat on their taxes.

HECTOR "The Invader" AVITIA

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