

We have to atone for what happened in Texas. Texas is the only State in the Union to secede twice because of slavery. Texas left Mexico because Mexico said: No more slavery, Texas.

Texas said: Well, if we can't have slavery, we will leave Mexico, and they did. Texas did, and then became a part of the United States.

Texas then left the United States because of slavery.

We have to atone for these things. We have to acknowledge that they occurred.

On August 20, we have to bring to the attention of our country the fact that we will honor those whose lives have been sacrificed, and we should have a department of reconciliation in addition to Slavery Remembrance Day to honor those persons whose lives were sacrificed.

Mr. Speaker, it is always an honor to stand here in the well of the House. I do love my country, but my country has not always loved me.

It is difficult sometimes to love that which does not love you, but I do, and I have, and I will, because, the truth be told, notwithstanding all of the things that have happened and many that have happened to me personally—I have celebrated my 25th birthday for the third time. I am now into my fourth 25th—all of these things, it is my belief that, if something bad has to happen to you now, let it happen to you in the United States of America.

□ 1215

If you have to go through a divorce, if your spouse is going to leave you, let it happen in the United States of America.

If you have to suffer the alienation of affection from your pet, your dog bites you, let your dog bite you in the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, notwithstanding all of the things that have happened, I still believe that the best place to make change and to bring about liberty and justice for all is the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### JOYS AND CONCERNS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GROTHMAN). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ELLZEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, the first job of any government, municipal, State, Federal, is to protect her citizens.

I begin this speech by saying we are not protecting our citizens, particularly on the southern border of which Texas is the front line in a battle to protect our people.

We are losing 200 Americans every day to fentanyl poisoning, the compounds of which are coming from China, manufactured by the cartels, and killing wartime numbers of Americans. In World War II, we lost 305 Americans every day fighting tyranny overseas. Today, we are losing 300 Americans every day to fentanyl poisoning and drug overdose. We must start there.

As many of you know, from time to time, I address the House floor with my version of a speech that my childhood pastor would give every Sunday called "Joys and Concerns".

During this, he would highlight some of the remarkable things that people would accomplish in our district. He would also take this time to bring up prayer requests, and in that moment we, as a congregation, would unite in prayer for community and those in need.

Today, before we discuss some of my district's outstanding accomplishments, I will talk about something that we must unite on as a country and as a people, and I will talk about a very important experience that I had just this last week.

We just returned from a weeklong trip to the Baltics, and during that visit, my colleagues and I met with senior leadership from Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, in the Baltics, to discuss critical security issues and the daily threats that come with being Putin's neighbor. They are the neighbor of Russia and Belarus, a vassal of Russia, and they are Russia's neighbor to the West. They share a front line.

One diplomat said it best: Ukraine isn't just fighting for us; Ukraine is fighting instead of us, because his people understand what life looked like under Russian rule or Soviet rule, which these days looks very much the same.

They understand the brutality, the oppression, and the attempts to wipe away their way of life. While in Lithuania, we visited the Museum of Occupations and Freedom Fights. The museum is housed in the former KGB headquarters and during World War II, the Gestapo of the Nazis.

The basement was the prison and execution room, and it is still perfectly preserved, as if the KGB just got up and left one day. They immediately turned it into a museum. Over 1,000 people were murdered in that very basement with bullet shots to the head. Countless more withstood brutal interrogation and torture, the pictures of which won't be shown here.

I stood in the execution room where blood stains the ground and bullet holes are still visible on the walls. Bodies were discarded up the chute and out the window and hidden in mass graves, and political prisoners were held there as recently as 1987.

This is who we are dealing with, a KGB thug ruling Russia. This is Vladimir Putin.

We know that same playbook is being unleashed on the Ukrainian people right now and that unspeakable atrocities are being committed.

Last year, I visited Bucha, a mass grave, where innocent civilians were killed during the invasion of Ukraine. Just northwest of Kyiv the forces of Vladimir Putin were aimed, intent on erasing Ukraine from the Earth. The rise of Russia under Putin's despotic regime is seeking, once again, to return to the boundaries of the former Soviet Union.

This is a threat not just to Ukraine, but a threat to Europe and to freedom on our shores around the world. As a man who spent 20 years in uniform, the father of a son who wants to spend 20 years in uniform, the last thing I want is American soldiers going overseas to fight again. That is why we must be strong.

We cannot do that if we show weakness. That is why it is so important that we show strength in the way that Reagan did, peace through strength.

We trundled into World War I and World War II by not being strong, by being isolationists. We must be involved in order to prevent that which many fear.

There is no stronger force than the human spirit and steadfast pursuit of freedom. We see this every day in the people of Ukraine. Those who choose freedom and liberty must always prevail, but we will not have a Europe or a world free and at peace until the Kremlin's systematic brutality, oppression, and aspirations of global domination are systemically dismantled and held accountable.

In John 10:10, the Bible says, "the thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy," and the thief is Satan. History has proved this time and time again, and that is exactly what Putin is carrying out in Ukraine.

In just the last 3 months, Russia has conducted targeted attacks on critical energy infrastructure across the country eight different times, attempting to cut off power and heat to communities, hospitals, and schools.

Last year, a massive dam in a Russian-controlled area of southern Ukraine was destroyed, killing hundreds of Ukrainians and destroying thousands of homes. They didn't destroy military bases. The destroyed civilians and homes.

Russia has also targeted farmland and grain silos, attempting to starve Ukrainians into surrendering.

I will add a little something about history here. We know what happened in the Holocaust. In 1931, Joseph Stalin executed the Holodomor. He killed 8 million Ukrainians by starving them of their grain.

Does this sound familiar to today? He is trying to wipe Ukraine off the map. He and his Prime Minister have said Ukraine has never existed nor will it ever exist.

This isn't a war. This is a genocide. By that very definition, over 19,000 up to 100,000, depending on who says it, children have been abducted by Russia since the war began. It is terrifying to imagine where these children are now and the trauma they have experienced, but they are in Russia. They are being "Russia-fied." They have been stolen from their parents. They have been kidnapped to learn Russian and the Russian way of life. By definition, that is a genocide: kill, steal, and destroy.

Russia is attempting to erase Ukraine and its people. Putin's intentions are clear. We saw it in Georgia in 2008. We saw it in Crimea 2014. That was not an annexation of Crimea. That was the invasion. There is no such thing as annexation of an existing country recognized by the U.N. It is an invasion.

The world responded with appeasement just like they did in 1938, just like they did in the Sudetenland. Here, please take this. Take this and be happy. You can have this people, you can have these millions of people, just please don't go any further.

People are hoping Putin's global ambition will melt away, but it won't. History repeats itself. In fact, it usually repeats itself every 80 years. Putin is attempting to redraw borders and erase sovereignty through brute force, and those Baltic countries know who is next.

We must be unapologetic in exposing the Kremlin's global ambitions for what they are. The preservation of Ukraine's sovereignty and existence and the boundaries of the free world are at stake. NATO's eastern flank is the next frontier.

We must be clear-eyed that any friend of Putin is an enemy of freedom. Let me point out who Putin's allies are.

Communist China is bankrolling the Kremlin's imperialism and the largest war in Europe since World War II. Their ability to regenerate their war machine in the last year is solely due to the input and the money from China.

Iran is supplying drones, arms, and ammunition, an essential lifeline to Putin's continued brutality.

Cuba is sending troops to train in Belarus and Russia, while a Russian warship made a port call in Havana just 90 miles from the U.S.

This administration's response: silence.

Just last month, Putin visited Pyongyang, was wined and dined by Kim Jong-un, and together signed a so-called comprehensive strategic partnership pact that promises military and other assistance. These alliances should raise every alarm bell we have.

These are global authoritarian regimes joining together with their fellow dictators and war criminals to further threaten the West and world order. They are not operating alone. They are operating in unison, in three current wars going on right now in the

Middle East, in Ukraine, and technically in North and South Korea, which was not an armistice. It was a cease-fire.

While the debate over the last few years has focused on arming and supporting the Ukrainian people, we also need to speak plainly about the need to defeat Putin's Kremlin.

Some are fearful of this language, fearful it will cause escalation, but you can't participate while worrying about that.

We know one thing of the Kremlin: He only responds to power and strength.

Churchill in 1946 at a university in Missouri, after he had been summarily released from his duties as Prime Minister after winning the war, along with his allies, came over here and said during the Iron Curtain speech that the Russians only understand one thing and that is force.

I wish it weren't true. We all wish it weren't true, but it is true. You can't turn your back. You can't bury your head. You can't act like it is not happening because it is inconvenient to the rest of the world.

This is a 1938 moment. Will we rise to the task? Will we learn the lessons of our history? Or will we allow Russia to topple Ukraine and carry on anywhere it wants to in Europe?

While it may be dissimilar from my usual order, I will start with this "Joys and Concerns" speech by asking that those in the Chamber, silently and to yourself without any extra time, pray for the people of Ukraine; pray for those under threat; pray for the families of the victims of Putin's atrocities; pray for those who are giving their lives so we don't have to; pray that this unprovoked, unprecedented genocide comes to an end; that good will triumph over evil and that the United States and her allies will always stand on the side of good.

□ 1230

With all of this going on overseas, I often get asked how we can still have hope—hope in the world, hope in our country, and hope in man. Folks like those I am about to tell you about are why I have hope. They are dedicated to their communities, to our country, and to doing the right thing, and it is never in the news.

The people behind me in the gallery are good Americans doing their jobs, going to school, learning about their country, and taking pride in their country. Some are celebrating a life of accomplishment, and others are just starting their journey. Others, like my daughter sitting with me here today, are just starting up a life of adulthood.

I love the people in my district. They are remarkable but not the only remarkable people in our country. Our country is filled with remarkable people. Our country is great because of them. We are the most caring, giving, sacrificial, and united country that has existed, and there is nothing we can't achieve when we come together.

There is no binary choice of this or that, border or protection, border or military, border or protecting our allies overseas. We have done it before. We have done it all before, and it is not a could, should, maybe. It is a shall. So let's take some time and talk about some of the things we have achieved.

Jimmy Spradley from Midlothian, congratulations on receiving the Professional Servant Leader Award from Midlothian ISD. Your inspiring leadership has made a significant impact on the students and families of Midlothian ISD, enriching our community. Your dedication as associate principal, coupled with your kindness and patience, is making a lasting impression on our children. Thank you for your unwavering commitment and passion.

Cindy Dolezal from Midlothian, congratulations on earning the Paraprofessional Servant Leader Award for Midlothian ISD. Your dedication has positively impacted the students and families of Midlothian. Our community thrives because of your service and commitment to education. Your role is crucial, and your contributions as a vital team member are deeply valued. Thank you, Cindy.

Carlos Rivera from Midlothian, congratulations on receiving the Servant Leader in Manual Trades Award for Midlothian ISD. Your efforts are making a significant difference in Midlothian and within the school district. Thank you for your dedication and hard work.

Gaya Jefferson from Midlothian, congratulations on being named the new executive director of human resources for Midlothian ISD. Your commitment to our students, educators, and schools is commendable. The experience you bring to this role will benefit the staff at MISD greatly. As our community grows, having seasoned professionals like you at the helm strengthens us all. Thank you for your dedication to improving lives.

Coach Austin Guest from Midlothian, congratulations to you and the Midlothian High School Panthers soccer team for making history with your debut State tournament appearance and becoming the 2024 State UIL 5A State champions. This remarkable achievement is a testament to your hard work and countless hours of practice. The Panthers will cherish the skills, memories, and friendships gained through the soccer program. These experiences provide valuable life lessons and tools for future success.

Zhivonni Cook from Mansfield, congratulations on your retirement from the Mansfield Police Department. The people of Mansfield deeply appreciate your dedication and years of service. It is an honor to recognize you for over two decades of commitment as a public information officer. You will be greatly missed.

Detective Maria Lozano from Ennis, congratulations and thank you. You have received the Lifesaving Award from the Ennis Police Department.

Maria entered a store in Malakoff, which is a small town in our district, on her way home to find that a man was lying on the floor and unconscious. Maria started CPR. During the event, she noticed that the man's pupils were the size of pins.

Maria, through her training, knew this to be a possible poisoning. Maria had a store employee grab her patrol bag, and three rounds of Narcan were administered after 8 minutes of CPR. Medics arrived on the scene, and the man eventually opened his eyes. He was transported to the hospital, and his life was saved, saved from a drug overdose.

This award honors your courageous and selfless acts as a law enforcement officer. Your devotion to duty and keeping our community safe is truly commendable.

Officer Joe Orozco from Hillsboro, congratulations on your retirement from Hillsboro Department of Public Safety. Recognizing your 18 years of dedicated service in law enforcement is an honor. Your outstanding commitment has left a significant impact on our community. The people of Hill County greatly appreciate your dedication, and you will be missed greatly.

Fire Chief Ben Blanton from Red Oak, congratulations to you and the Red Oak Fire Rescue on 75 years of dedicated service. Your vision and leadership are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your commitment to your team and the people of Red Oak. The growth and positive impact of Red Oak Fire Rescue over the years is a testament to its rich history. Many more achievements lie ahead. Serving as your Congressman is an honor. I am committed to supporting your community.

Deputy Roman Johnson from Red Oak, congratulations on graduating from the North Texas Council of Governments Police Academy and starting your career with the Ellis County Sheriff's Office. Our community is fortunate to have you in this role. Thank you for your commitment to protect and serve the people of Ellis County. Your desire to make a difference in the lives of others is truly admirable. Best wishes in your new position.

Madi Mills from Cayuga, congratulations on receiving the Good Citizen Award from the National Daughters of the American Revolution. This award highlights your leadership, dependability, service, and patriotism. Be proud of your accomplishments and know that great things lie ahead as you continue your education.

Natalie Schwind from Waxahachie, congratulations on achieving the Girl Scout Gold Award. This prestigious accomplishment reflects your commitment, tenacity, integrity, and work ethic. As you embark on your next journey, apply the skills and values you have gained through Scouting. Remember, the Girl Scout Promise and Law is a guide to a successful and fulfilling life.

Angelica Stampley from Jacksonville, congratulations on opening your new small business, Neon Moon Boarding. Small businesses are the cornerstone of America, and your commitment to serving our community in Cherokee County is to be commended. Congratulations to all who contributed to opening this wonderful business. Supporting small businesses means supporting dreams. May your pet boarding business prosper for years to come.

Vicki and Stephen Braly from Palestine, congratulations on reaching 100 years in the hardware business. Your legacy of dedicated service to our community is deeply valued. This significant milestone is a testament to your store's positive impact and rich history. May Braly's Ace Hardware continue to prosper for years to come. Supporting small businesses means supporting dreams.

Susan Mann from Hillsboro, congratulations on receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Texas Library Association and, sadly, your retirement from Hillsboro City Library after 41 years of dedicated service. Your vision and leadership have enriched the lives of Hillsboro citizens and children and inspired many in the field of literature. Your passion and dedication to sharing your love of books is a testament to your commitment. This honor reflects the profound impact you have made throughout your career.

Brandy Glasgow from Neches, congratulations on being named Employee of the Year for Neches ISD. Your inspiring work has made a significant impact on the students and families of Neches ISD. Your service and dedication to education have enriched our community. As a reading interventionist, your leadership and daily passion are leaving a lasting impression on our children.

Ryan Vines from Palmer, congratulations on being named Palmer High School Teacher of the Year. Your inspiring teaching has made a difference to the students and families of Palmer ISD. Your service and dedication to education have enriched our community. Your classroom leadership and passion are making a lasting impression on our children.

Roxanne McElhaney from Palmer, congratulations on being named Paraprofessional of the Year for Palmer High School. Your contributions have made a difference to the students and families of Palmer ISD. Your service and dedication to education have enriched our community. As the registrar, your leadership and daily passion are valued and essential to our schools. Thank you for your kindness, patience, and commitment.

Kathy Evans from Palestine, congratulations on your retirement after 50 years of service with the Palestine ISD Transportation Department. Your dedication to the students and families has enriched our community. Your

leadership and daily passion for ensuring students' safe transport and well-maintained buses are greatly appreciated.

Angela Strong from Waxahachie, congratulations on being named the new principal of Clift Elementary School. Your commitment to students and educators is commendable. Your advocacy for education has enriched our community through your years of service. Your leadership and daily passion for ensuring student and faculty success are deeply appreciated.

Dr. Diane Frost from Corsicana, congratulations on your retirement after 14 years of dedicated service as superintendent of Corsicana ISD. Your support for the students, teachers, and families of Corsicana is truly admirable. Your dedication to education and the district has been remarkable. Thank you for your service and devotion to our children, and best wishes for the future.

Next, I want to highlight the young men and women who went through the rigorous process of applying for a nomination to our Nation's service academies. As Members of Congress, we get the distinct privilege of helping pick our next leaders. While not everyone who applies for the nomination will receive an appointment, the discipline and dedication required to get an interview are worthy of recognition.

As a Naval Academy graduate myself, I know how difficult and tiring it is to apply for these academies. It is one of my true pleasures as a Congressman to get to make that choice for the next generation of leaders in public service and military service.

From Midlothian High School: Jack Ashley, Ron Howard, Joshua Ramirez, and Karson Tompkins.

From Great Hearts High School: Gavin Knowlton and Micah Nicholls.

From Mansfield High School: Gracie Speltz and Colton Cox.

From Alvarado High School: Jade Alford.

From Whitney High School: Joannah Andis.

From West High School: Cole Bryant.

From Maypearl High School: Dustin Chautin.

From Ennis High School: Joseph Gutierrez.

From The Highlands High School: Jason Jander.

You will all accomplish great things for our country.

I also want to extend a special recognition to the courageous students from our district who have enlisted in the military. It is an All-Volunteer Force. You have a servant's heart. For you, service for something other than self is a mission and lifelong goal.

My district is home to 30 different high schools. Within those 30 high schools, there were 114 brave young men and women who raised their hands and said: Here am I. Send me.

Within the coming months, they will be joining our Nation's military on the front lines, in harm's way. I want to

take a moment to recognize their sacrifice. Their commitment and bravery exemplify the highest values of service, and we are deeply proud of their dedication to our country.

From Alto High School, enlisting in the Army National Guard, Viviana Aguilar.

From Alvarado High School, enlisting in the Air Force, Lauren Melson; Air National Guard, Aaron McGowen; Army, Mason Cheek and Garret Lowrey; and Marine Corps, Nicholai Sims and Guillermo Martinez.

From Cayuga High School, enlisting in the Navy, Molly White, Christopher Marcus, and Tristin Wilson.

From Corsicana High School, enlisting in the Navy, Johnny Mirafuentes.

From Elkhart High School, enlisting in the Army National Guard, Hayden Moore; and Navy, Alexis Millyard.

From Ferris High School, enlisting in the Army National Guard, Marc-Anthony Calderon, Jr.; Marine Corps—these guys must have gotten together and decided this—Luis Sanchez Correa, Leandro Gonzalez, Arturo Contreras, Jr., and Tanner Eckert; and Navy, Ladamian Blue.

From Grandview High School, enlisting in the Army, Christopher Gonzalez, Jr., and Jaxson Mackey; and Marine Corps, Caleb Quintero.

From Hubbard High School, enlisting in the Marine Corps, Trent Causey.

From Jacksonville High School, enlisting in the Marine Corps, Alvaro de la Luz, Alex Lainez, and Yael Aldama-Vazquez.

From Mansfield High School, enlisting in the Air Force, Kevin McKinley III; and Army, Gary Frazier, Jr., and Jason Randle.

From Mansfield Summit High School, enlisting in the Air Force, Chrishauna Bee and Kennedy Jefferson; Army, Anna Mootoosammy and Beverly Bailey; Army National Guard, Brendan McCollum; Marine Corps, Jayden Porter, Michael Reynolds, and Randy Apodaca; and Navy, Logan Boyd.

From Mansfield Timberview High School, enlisting in the Army, Steven Kirk, Christopher Gallegos, and Oscar Contreras; Army Reserve, Melissa Contreras; and Marine Corps, Christian Wiggins.

From Maypearl High School, enlisting in the National Guard, Emanuel Sanchez.

From Midlothian High School, enlisting in the Navy, Kaleb Borcharding; Army, Payton Brummet; Air Force, Olivia Butterworth and Markale Nienhuis; Coast Guard, Grayson Colvin; Marine Corps, Andrew Duncan-Moore; Texas Air National Guard, Chelsea Jackson; and Army National Guard, Shyanne McBride, Tatum Murray, and Leah Villalobos.

From Mildred High School, enlisting in the National Guard, Brynleigh Perkins.

From Nimitz High School, enlisting in the Marine Corps, Kinnedee Martin, Violeta Montes, and Brian Fernandez;

and Navy, Iris Sosa, Jabaica Tecumseh, Yandel Flores, and Ashley Estrada.

I recognize Andrea Alvarado for receiving a Navy ROTC scholarship and Emma Huckeba for receiving an Army ROTC scholarship.

From Penelope High School, enlisting in the Marine Corps, Miguel Angel Flores.

From Red Oak High School, enlisting in the Army National Guard, Chloe Draper; Marine Corps, Wyatt Fogle and Reese Tiffany; and Navy, Ahmani Cooks.

From Rice High School, enlisting in the Army National Guard, Laura Sanchez; and Marine Corps, Eli Gibson.

From Sam Houston High School, enlisting in the National Guard, Henry Hewton and Regina Balderas; Navy, Erik Quiroz; Army, Alfonso Perez, Jr., Cesar Ramirez, Alexandra Sandoval, Jared Ramirez, Ximena Gonzalez, and Rene Arevalo Mendoza; and Marine Corps, Roland Tuiel and Isaac Nieto.

From Waxahachie Global High School, enlisting in the Army, Hayden White.

From Waxahachie High School, enlisting in the Navy, Logan Ojeda, Jazzmen Roberts, Lizeth Fuentes, and Asia Parrish; Marine Corps, Ernesto Alvarado Mata, Hailey Avellaneda, and Rubi Nieto; National Guard, Mason Contreras, Vincent Sallie, Skyler Howard, and Carolina Suarez; Army, Ella Crow; and Air Force, Thomas Hernandez, Jr., and Mateo Martinez.

From Westwood High School, enlisting in the Marine Corps, Brody Ander Latner and Tristan Alexander Fitzgerald; Navy, Jonathan Alexander Castillo and Christian James Flores; and Army National Guard, Kurtis Michael Brown.

From Wortham High School, enlisting in the Navy, James Rissmiller.

□ 1245

These are just a few examples of some outstanding people living in a place I am blessed to call home.

You need not worry about the future of our country. The 114 young men and women believe in our country so much, they are willing to put their lives on the line.

When you are told that there is no hope for our country by the media, people in this body, that we can't do something, we can do anything we set our minds to because we are the United States of America. We are the lighthouse of the world. We are the bright, shining city on a hill.

There are a lot of good people working in Washington. They get a bad rap, a lot of elected folks up here, a lot of folks sitting up here doing their jobs as clerks here in the House, folks who are working very hard every day to make our lives better. They are working hard on your behalf, and we have the best system in the world.

We have great people in our district. It is a real privilege to serve them as their Congressman. It is my privilege to honor them on the House floor.

Keep all Americans in your prayers. Keep the Israeli hostages in your prayers. Keep joy in your hearts, hope in man, and faith in God.

#### THE BREAKDOWN OF THE FAMILY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POSEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to address some issues that I have addressed from this podium in the past, but I think the American press corps has still not picked up on them. They are issues that ought to be debated in the upcoming elections because I think over time, they have a profound effect on America.

When I talk to people my age and up, they are almost uniformly concerned about where America is going, and they feel America is not particularly as great a country to raise children in as the America that they grew up in in the seventies or sixties or fifties.

When I ask them why, they sometimes have a hard time placing it, but they list different things. One of the things they all talk about is the breakdown of the family.

You have to wonder why this has happened or why they feel the family is not as strong as they used to be, but they are right if you look at the statistics.

If you look at the number of children born without both a mother and a father in the home, around 1960, that was only 5 percent; it was rare.

Then the Lyndon Johnson-led Federal Government began a so-called war on poverty. I call it a war on marriage. Between 1960 and the mid 1990s, that 5-percent figure went up to 40 percent.

Now, you may ask, was this just a coincidence? Did people believe in God less? Was getting married first as important? How did it happen?

The American public should be aware that there are some people who always did want it to happen. Going back to Karl Marx, founder of Marxism, very connected with communism, the scourge of the 20th century, there was a goal to break down the family.

They felt for the government to become preeminent, the family must shrink. The most important factor in raising children was no longer a mother and a father, it was the government.

Beginning in the sixties, a variety of programs were passed, and it is kind of surprising because today we talk about equity which is close to equally. You would think the government would treat all Americans the same, but these programs provided benefits to people who had a certain income level.

If you had a very low-income level, either because you weren't working yourself, or let's just take a woman as an example because there is no husband in the house working, you therefore became eligible for a variety of