

MLR's Campaign to Oust Dr. Barbara Pearlman Succeeded

By Richard Joseph Michael Ibranyi and William George Norris (MLR is Mary's Little Remnant)

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Introduction

The Truth or Consequences Municipal Schools Board of Education, which makes laws for all the public schools in Sierra County, New Mexico, proposed a new school curriculum for Kindergarten to 12th grade which contains the following diabolical things: 1) Homosexuality, Transgenderism, and other sexual perversions (LGBTQ); 2) Critical Race Theory (CRT) , which is anti-Christian and anti-white people because the white races were the main races that brought Christianity to the world; 3) Marxism; 4) Paganism; 5) Witchcraft; 6) Radical feminism, which by default undermines fathers and males: and, 7) The destruction of the traditional family.

Mary's Little Remnant (MLR) opposed this curriculum and called for parents and others to attend the School Board meeting on 5/8/2023 which was going to vote on the curriculum. Many showed up to protest against it. It was a half victory. The K to 5 curriculum was rejected with only one member supporting it, Dr. Barbara Pearlman, an extreme lefty liberal.



Dr. Barbara Pearlman at School Board Meeting 5-8-2023

However, the middle and high school curriculum passed with a 3 to 2 vote. The 3 votes for it came from 2 self-professed liberals and one so-called conservative, Christine LaFont. The 2 against it were two conservatives, at least regarding this vote.



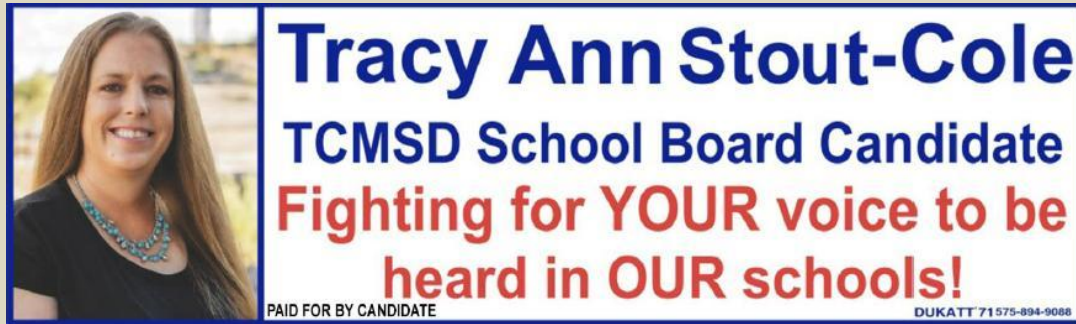
Christine LaFont at School Board Meeting 5-8-2023

William Norris was told by the Republican Party of Sierra County that it would try to get a re-call vote to remove the RINO Christine LaFont. And it said that Dr. Barbara Pearlman was up for election in November and thus would work to get her voted out of office. It did neither. Instead, it removed William Norris from office. No re-call vote for LaFont and no public campaign in the Newspapers against Pearlman before the vote on 11/7/2023. If it were not for the efforts of MLR, Dr. Pearlman would have been re-elected. In short, the Republican Party in Sierra County is liberal in conservative clothing. Hence it either prevents true conservatives from getting elected or removes those who have offices, as it did with William Norris.

For these events, see [Mary's Little Remnant's Political Works](#), and click on the following headings in the Table of Contents.

- How William Norris Was Elected as Member at Large for Sierra County Republican Party (1-2023)
- William Norris' TorC School Board Speech on New Curriculum (3-13-2023)
- William Norris' TorC School Board Speech on New Curriculum (4-26-2023)
- Diabolical Curriculum Proposed by Truth or Consequences Municipal Schools Board of Education (5/8/2023)
- The Republican Party's Stance against LGBT and Abortion Is Betrayed (6-2023)
- The Case of William Norris against New Mexico's Republican Party (6-2023)
- MLR's Campaign to Oust Dr. Barbara Pearlman Succeeded (11-7-2023), this article

The Election for the board members for the Truth or Consequences Municipal School Board was held on 11/7/2023. There are five seats, and two were vacant. Out of the three that hold the office, two are liberal and one conservative. If two conservatives get elected, the majority will swing to the conservatives 3 to 2. The two conservatives that MLR backed are Tracy A. Stout-Cole and Ava Rebecca Bartoo.



A campaign poster for Tracy Ann Stout-Cole. On the left is a portrait of a woman with long brown hair, wearing a black top and a blue necklace. To the right of the portrait, the text reads: "Tracy Ann Stout-Cole" in large blue font, "TCMSD School Board Candidate" in blue font, and "Fighting for YOUR voice to be heard in OUR schools!" in red font. At the bottom left, it says "PAID FOR BY CANDIDATE" and at the bottom right, it says "DUKATT 71 575-894-9088".



A campaign poster for Ava Rebecca Bartoo. On the left is a portrait of a woman with blonde hair, wearing a black top. To the right of the portrait, the text reads: "Vote for" in black font, "Ava Rebecca Bartoo" in large black font, and "TorC School Board" in black font. Below this, it says "Your Vote is Your Voice!" in large yellow font with a black outline. At the bottom left, it says "PAID FOR BY CANDIDATE" and at the bottom right, it says "DUKATT 71 575-894-9088". There is also a small logo in the top right corner that says "TC" with a red and blue design.

Dr. Barbara Pearlman was up for re-election. The main goal of MLR was to get Pearlman voted out of office and get the two conservatives elected. And the campaign succeeded, thanks to the efforts of MLR, and no thanks to the Republican Party in Sierra County and its prominent members. For example, see the page in the Sierra County Sentinel of 10-6-2023 in which William Norris places his first ad opposing Pearlman and you will see an ad from the Sierra County Republican Party that does not, click here ([HDD](#) – [OL](#)).

MLR prays and hopes that Cole and Bartoo will truly promote socially conservative values and thus are not RINOs in this regard. If they do not, then MLR will work to get them removed from or voted out of office. So far, Cole has shown some good will by corresponding with MLR with William Norris. However, Bartoo refused to correspond with MLR or answer any of our questions or concerns. This is how the RINOs treat all true social conservatives.

The word is out by the Republic Party in Sierra County to ignore us in hopes we will just go away. Here is what Joanna Tighe (the former and now again head of the Republican Party in Sierra County) said regarding William Norris and thus regarding MLR:



Joanna Tighe

“Johanna Tighe, a former chair of the local Republican Party, now its secretary, told me “we”re trying to ignore (Norris) . . . trying to get him to go away.”¹

Well, when all is said and done, it is they who will be ignored and go away, not MLR. MLR will be here to the end, to the second coming of Jesus Christ and thus see the downfall of every evildoer in this wicked world.

¹ This is contained in Thomas Sharpe’s article “Article: Two men who believe Jews rule the world, Holocaust, 9-11 were hoaxes and, in a perfect Catholic state, gays would be put to death, help to oust school board veteran, by Tom Sharpe,” p. 22.

10-6, 13-2023 and 11-3-2023: ADs in Sierra County Sentinel

William Norris' warning regarding Dr. Barbara Pearlman

This ad was placed in the Sierra County Sentinel on 10/6/2023, 10/13/2023, and 11/3/2023, four days before the election. For copy of the ad in the 10/6 edition click here ([HDD](#) - [OL](#))

NOTICE: Your Children Are in Danger



By William George Norris

The people of Sierra County must never forget what Barbara Pearlman did at the School Board meeting on May 8th 2023 to pervert the K-5 children of this community. She made a motion to approve a diabolic curriculum that presents LGBT behavior as acceptable and normal behavior. She was the ONLY one who said that this curriculum was OK. We must remove Barbara Pearlman and elect those who represent the values of the majority of the people in this County. On November 7th vote for Tracy A. Stout-Cole and Ava Rebecca Bartoo to the T or C Municipal School Board. For more information, you can contact me at williamgeorgenorris@gmail.com.

10-5-2023 – Emails

The Online edition of the Sierra County Sentinel was posted on 10/5/2023. It is dated 11-6-2023, the day the hard copy is delivered. It contained Will's first ad against Dr. Barbara Pearlman, see above. After it was posted Online on 10-5-2023, William sent these emails to Rebecca Dow and Crystal Diamond. And he got no answer from them.

William Norris to Rebecca Dow

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Rebecca, this is what REAL Social Conservatives do when they are serious about protecting the youth of their local community.

Date:Thu, 5 Oct 2023 13:47:40 -0600

From:William Norris <WilliamGeorgeNorris@gmail.com>

To:Rebecca Dow <rebecca.dow@appletreeeducation.org>, rebecca@gopnm.org

10/5/23

Ss. Placidus & Comp., Mm
Within the Octave

Hello Rebecca,

This is what REAL Social Conservatives do when they are serious about protecting the youth of their local community.

https://www.gpkmedia.com/eedition/page-b05/page_2e7e1f2c-7dcf-533a-898c-4fb413c3432c.html (Scroll to the bottom of the page)

Where is your ad condemning Barbara Pearlman? This makes you 0 for 3. Why don't you tell Julie to put out an ad condemning her for what she stands for? Instead of worrying about your own political career and advancement why don't worry about the children of this county for the next ten years and do something to get rid of Barbara Pearlman so that we will not have a diabolical curriculum approved.

Will

William Norris to Crystal Diamond

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Crystal, this is what REAL Social Conservatives do when they are serious about protecting the youth of their local community.

Date:Thu, 5 Oct 2023 13:28:54 -0600

From:William Norris <WilliamGeorgeNorris@gmail.com>

To:Crystal Diamond <Crystal@DiamondforNM.com>, crystal.diamond@nmlegis.gov

10/5/23

Ss. Placidus & Comp., Mm

Within the Octave

Hello Crystal,

This is what REAL Social Conservatives do when they are serious about protecting the youth of their local community.

https://www.gpkmedia.com/edition/page-b05/page_2e7e1f2c-7dcf-533a-898c-4fb413c3432c.html (Scroll to the bottom of the page)

Where is your ad condemning Barbara Pearlman? Oh yeah that's right I forgot, you guys are Facebook buddies. Next time you speak to her can you please ask her if she's a communist or has a concept of God. I've asked many times but for some reason she won't answer me, lol. Since you are her bubby she may answer you.

Crystal, do you think it's ok to associate with people who are totally godless! A person who wants to pervert the youth of this County for the next ten years with a diabolical curriculum that says LGBTQ behavior is acceptable and normal. And you claim to be a woman of God. Wow! Like I said before, denial is not just a river that runs through Egypt!

Will

10-13-2023: Readers' Letters in the Sierra County Sentinel

This was in response to Barbara Pearlman's statement that LGBT values are the values of Sierra County and the USA.

Does the Sexualization of Children And LGBT Represent the Values of Sierra County?, by William George Norris

What follows is the text. For a copy of the letter in the Newspaper click here ([HDD](#) – [OL](#))

Dr. Barbara Pearlman says, Yes! On May 8, 2023, she approved a school curriculum for K-5 children that presents LGBT as normal and acceptable behavior. In her interview with the Guide last week, Barbara Pearlman said that the Sierra County values were no different than those of this country as a whole. She said, *"I do not believe that there are Sierra County values are different from those of the country as a whole or democratic ideals."* Hence she pretends there are no social conservatives who condemn the sexualization of children and LGBT in Sierra County and in the whole USA. What nation, or should I say planet, is she living in. She is lying to the people again, just as she did when she said the proposed school curriculum did not contain sexual perversion and indoctrination. Well, I don't believe that the majority of the people in this country approve of the sexualization of children and LGBT being taught in public schools.

Pearlman, then, had the audacity to say in the article that *"We need to focus on education and depoliticize how we look at curriculum."* Wait a second, who is the one trying to politicize an agenda? She is promoting a leftist, godless agenda which violates the natural law by allowing children to be taught that LGBTQ behavior is normal and acceptable. And she also promotes CRT, Marxist indoctrination, anti-Christianity, and racism against white people.

She goes on to say that *"Except for explicit sexual content, I am opposed to the banning of books."* In other words it's OK to poison the hearts and minds of the youth of this county by telling them that filthy, unnatural LGBTQ behavior is OK. And by the way, once the majority of the citizens in the county accept this, then explicit sexual content in books will start to come out like they now do in California.

As of September 29, 2023, voter registration in Sierra County is 46.1% Republican and 29.4% Democrat. If social conservatives have a strong showing at the polls than there is no way Pearlman can win and we can work for a school curriculum that truly represents the values of this county.

They say that we have more churches than gas stations here in Sierra County. I would remind the church leaders to truly discern what the Scriptures say about LGBTQ behavior and to remember God will judge you, not only for your actions but also for your inaction, your deadly, cowardly, silence.

Lastly, as of 10/9/2023, the Sierra County Republican Party has not warned the people about Pearlman and told them to vote her out of office. And they have not told the people who to vote for, those who will uphold the social conservative values of this county, which are Tracy A. Stout-Cole and Ava Rebecca Bartoo to the T or C Municipal School Board. If they get elected, I hope they do the right thing and do not cave into the liberals as Rebecca Dow and others have.

William George Norris WilliamGeorgeNorris@Gmail.com

10-18-2023: Article in Sierra County Citizen

The *Sierra County Citizen* is a liberal online news site. The text of the article and some comments are below. For the article and comments as they appear online, click here ([HDD](#) – [OL](#))

Article: Sex in Sierra County, by Max Yeh

10-18-2023

We've recently had a lot of public talk about "values" in the election for the Board of Education of the Truth or Consequences Municipal Schools. That talk has been in the form of personal attacks, anger, and misrepresentation. One wonders if those are values that are being espoused as proper to be taught in schools. The problem with this talk is that it is opinion set against opinion, mine against yours, my group against yours. That simply goes nowhere. Let's look a bit more analytically at education, why we have public education, and what that has to do with values.

There seems to me a fundamental misunderstanding in saying that certain values (family values, Sierra County values, or any other self-identified and distinctive values) should be taught as morally preferable to other values in a public school. Fundamentally, education isn't about values but about people. And fundamentally, public education is about people growing into a public.

The word *education* (and its idea) means to "draw out": a person is drawn out of a small, narrow place into a larger world. It's about learning the realities of that larger world, learning to understand that world, learning how to deal with it and to function in it. The word is Roman. The idea is much older.

But *public* education is something more recent. Largely, in the United States, it comes of age with creation of the republic. We pay for public education because a democracy needs a citizenry trained in the foundational value of the republic, that is, essentially with the value of equality. It's as simple as that: "we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal..." Otherwise, we'd be a monarchy. And, let us remember that that equality generates everyone's equally inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That is simply how we started and where we want to go.

Public education proposes to draw people out of their own individual or familial or group values into the larger value of democratic equality. We teach reading and writing and arithmetic because we want an equality of knowledge and capacities, to equalize the elitism that those abilities used to create. We teach how to think objectively because objectivity is about the world and thus is shareable, which is also an aspect of equality. We teach history not as the deeds of kings, heroes, and men of power to emulate but as the realities of the past impinging on the world of the present. We teach science because that, too, teaches a method of objective and factual thinking and because understanding the physical world informs civic decisions the citizenry must make. We teach, basically, everyone's responsibility to the larger whole because responsibility is the measure of equality.

We have not yet created a society of equality, but public education is our primary tool for its achievement. When it veers from that purpose, it should be criticized and corrected, but to try to turn public education into an indoctrination of some group values attacks the fundamental notion of equality.

So, when you go to the polls to vote on the school board, you might want to think of choosing those who understand that public education is not the same as private education (which does teach sectarian values), not the same as bringing up children in the family, and certainly not indoctrination. There is a reason why candidates for the school board are not identified by party affiliation. Public education is not about partisanship.

Max Yeh

Sierra County Public-Interest Journalism Project's board president Max Yeh is a novelist and writes widely on language, interpretation, history, and culture. He has lived in Hillsboro, New Mexico, for more than 30 years after retiring from an academic career in literature, art history and critical theory.

Comment by Barbara Pearlman

[October 19, 2023 / 7:29 pm Reply](#)

What is happening in Sierra County is occurring across the nation... “Mothers of Liberty” in the name of honoring parent voices have advocated for banning of books, curriculum, and education that welcomes all families and honors diversity. They have organized attacks against teachers and school Boards that are rooted in decrying education that challenges, embraces critical thinking, and prepares students for a global conversation. Our community has become divided over false issues...there is no elementary teacher who would impose their views on LGBTQ or go against parental wishes. We need to provide a safe and welcoming place for all students, respect and trust teachers as professionals, and allow Sierra County values to mirror the values of a democratic society. Public education has never been more important to counter act racism, the complexities of immigration, and all aspects of hatred. I ask for your support and to support Jeanne Feazell for School Board.

Comment by RJMI that was rejected

[However, it was published in the Sierra County Sentinel. (See in this article “Freedom of Speech for Christians Is Under Attack in Public Schools, by Richard Ibranyi [20](#),)]

Should freedom of speech include teaching children that it is good and normal to rape women and children or to steal or to murder? I am sure the vast majority of you would say, No! But then, if you want to be consistent, you would have to say the freedom of speech does not apply to all speech. But the question, then, is how to determine what speech should not be allowed? By what law should certain speech be banned? If you have no such law, then it is a free for all for raping, stealing, murder, etc.

That law is the natural law that God puts in the hearts of all men. And that is why the teaching that LBGT is good and normal must not be taught to children and even to adults, because the natural law condemns it, just as it condemns rape, stealing, and murder. And all these things are also condemned by God’s Ten Commandments.

But even according to your belief that all men should have the right and freedom to believe and do whatever they want, you take that right and freedom away from Christians who do not want their children to learn that LBGT is good and normal but instead want them to learn that it is evil, sinful, and abnormal.

Even though I condemn those who are LBGT, I still truly love them and pray for their conversion. Please see my book, [God Did Not Create Men to be Homosexual](#).

For you only hope of salvation, please visit www.JohnTheBaptist.us website.

Sincerely,

Richard Joseph Michael Ibranyi

10-19-2023: Article in the Sierra County Citizen

Below is the text. For the article and comments as it appears online, click here ([HDD](#) – [OL](#))

Article: Stuff you need to know 10.19.23, by Diana Tittle (Attack against William Norris)

“DOES THE SEXUALIZATION OF CHILDREN AND LGBT REPRESENT THE VALUES OF SIERRA COUNTY?” by William George Norris, Letter to the Editor, Sierra County Sentinel, October 13, 2023

Norris, a far-right Christian fundamentalist who has recently shown up in the opinion pages of the Sierra County Sentinel with letters to the editor denouncing homosexuality, transgenderism and the LBGTQ “grooming” of children, last week aimed his vitriol at a new target: Barbara Pearlman, a retired English and gifted teacher at Hot Springs High School. Dr. Pearlman, whose distinguished and innovative 25-year teaching career with the Truth or Consequences Municipal Schools was perhaps best exemplified by her co-creation of a scholarship program that to date has awarded more than \$100,000 to local high school students, is running for re-election this fall to a seat on the T or C board of education.

Click the above link to read Norris’s allegations about Pearlman’s “leftist, godless” values and agenda as an educator in the limited-access Sentinel.

Dr. Pearlman has refused to dignify Norris’s false and hurtful claims with a public response, but others have risen to the defense of the professionalism, integrity and expertise of this longtime educator, who holds a Ph.D in Language, Literacy and Culture from New Mexico State University.

Click [here](#) and scroll down to see an ad endorsing Pearlman’s candidacy, signed by 65 members of the community, that will be published in the October 20 print edition of the Sentinel.

UPDATE: Also see below Denise Robles’s comment sharing her recent email correspondence back and forth with Sentinel publisher Frances Luna regarding the publisher’s “irresponsible” decision to publish Norris’s hateful letter to the editor.

“SC REPUBLICAN PARTY BETRAYS CONSERVATIVE VALUES”

by William George Norris, Letter to the Editor, Sierra County Sentinel, June 8, 2023

Norris’s views are so extreme that the Sierra County Republican Party, to which he was elected member at large last January, voted to remove him from office six months later.

Click on the above link to read Norris’s airing of his disagreements the local Republican Party in the limited-access Sentinel.

Comment by Denise Robles' threatening lawsuits against Frances Luna, the Owner of the Sierra County Sentinel

Denise Robles

My email to Frances Luna, October 11, 2023

It's come to my attention that you are printing ads paid for by an individual who is making dangerous and inaccurate allegations about a member of our local school board.

The recent award of almost 800 million dollars to Dominion Voting Machines by Fox News should have been a sufficient warning to you that knowingly printing reckless and inaccurate statements can make you liable and subject to a lawsuit.

Please do not ignore this warning or take it lightly. I'm sending copies of this ad to members of the local media all across our state, as well as to a few national outlets, as an example of an irresponsible and reckless local press

DLR

Comment by Frances Luna

Email from Frances Luna, October 12, 2023

Good morning Denise,

Thank you for your email and threat of lawsuit.

I know you are an intelligent individual and familiar with the First Amendment right to free speech. The first amendment is a funny thing, we all want the right to speak what's on our mind, until what someone else says goes against what we believe in. As you can tell, and is noted, Mr. Norris' comments are a paid advertisement and not the opinion of the newspaper, its employees or its owners, as we note each week in our disclaimer statement.

Can you imagine the outcry if we halted his first amendment right to speak his opinion of Ms. Pearlman's vote or his right to support candidates in an upcoming election? That would be the real crime. Allowing him to take out an advertisement that gives him the opportunity to express his views is not printing reckless statements. It is not dangerous in anyway and I'm sorry you feel that. He is not threatening anyone's life or encouraging anyone to do anything but vote.

I do not agree with a lot of things that happen in government meetings, are submitted to the paper, for ads, in letters to the editor, and more, but it is my job as a publisher to support the first amendment and give people the right to speak and report what they say. I do not have to agree with what is in the paper to support someone's right to say it.

For the record, Ms. Pearlman did vote in support of the curriculum that he finds offensive. That is not an inaccurate statement. Furthermore, I have sent some of Mr. Norris' submissions back to

him because they did not pass the liable test. He has toned them down and resubmitted, agreeing that he did not want to find himself in court either.

Our reporter, Jim Shiley, did say that Ms. Pearlman had approached him and said she found Mr. Norris' ad "scary and creepy." I have invited her, and now you, to submit a letter or an ad in rebuttal to Mr. Norris' comments and beliefs. Stand up for what you believe in, but please, don't threaten to sue the one person in Sierra County who defends the most important constitutional right, week after week.

I look forward to your submission in support of Ms. Pearlman, her vote, and the constitution.

Comment by Denise Robles

Happy Thursday

Frances Luna

My response to Frances Luna, October 12, 2023

I reread my letter carefully and failed to find any threat of my personally suing you anywhere. I am sure that attorneys at Fox News had a similar response to Dominion Voting Machines initially.

My concern is that someone may be seriously harmed as a result of one of these ads, and in that case the negative publicity and any potential lawsuit would not come from me. I believe, and correct me if I'm wrong, that the Republican party has already disassociated itself from this individual. Perhaps you should do the same.

DLR

10-20-2023: AD in the Sierra County Sentinel for Pearlman and Letter by the Owner, Frances Luna

AD supporting Pearlman

The following ad was placed in the Sierra County Sentinel by Pearlman supporters. To see the ad in the paper, click here ([HDD](#) – [OL](#))

BARBARA PEARLMAN FOR SCHOOL BOARD

We the undersigned endorse Barbara Pearlman for re-election to the Truth or Consequences Municipal Schools Board of Education. She is eminently qualified and has consistently worked to give students the skills they need to navigate the larger world. Students need Barbara Pearlman's voice on the board.

It is imperative that the people of Sierra County re-elect Barbara Pearlman during the Sierra County November 7, 2023 General Election.

Paula Green	Max Yeh	Catherine Wanek
Steve Green	Anke Ewerbeck	Tom Lander
Roberta Hirschorn	Jagger Gustin	Satomi Lander
Peter Hirschorn	Tom Sharpe	Sharon DiVasto
Suzanne Carlstedt	Susan Lynch	Deb Licol
Susan Christie	Jake Jacobsen	Jan Haley
Bill Brown	Cyrice Smith	Gary Gritzbaugh
Nolan Winkler	Susan Curry	Robin Brodsky
Margot Wilson	David Farrell	Stan Brodsky
Bev Adams	Penny Schiefer	Don Avery
Jeff Barbour	Terry Allen	Mary Cardyn
Donna Catterick	Dan Lorimer	Julie Durham
Linda DeMarino	Diane Lombardo	James Durham
Blair Wyman	Andrew Martinez	Dennis Dunnum
Jeff Dornbush	Ruanna Waldrum	Danny Díaz
Josh Frankel	Donna Monroe	Sid Bryan
Ronda Brittan	Moshe Koenick	Grace Bryan
Jay Ellerbroek	Joey Perry	Susan Moore
Roy Lohr	Pharr	Jesse Jones
	Gina Kelly	Claudia Jeffery
	Rebecca Speakes	Catherine Stein
	George Szigeti	Richard Anderson
	Marilyn Szigeti	Diane Levitt

PAID FOR BY LISTED SUPPORTERS

Letter by Frances Luna regarding free speech and threats of lawsuits

Here is the text of Frances' letter. For the copy in the newspaper, click here ([HDD](#) – [OL](#))

Dear Boss: ...I also received an email from someone last week who was severely upset and in my interpretation of her email threatened us with a lawsuit for upholding the first amendment, the right to freedom of speech.

I'm not a constitutionalist. I don't go carrying around a copy of the constitution with me, like some sheriffs have, and some other elected officials have suggested would be good for me. However, I support the right for people to speak their minds each and every day and week with this publication. I do not have to agree with someone to publish what they submit. In fact, it is with great pride, that we publish lots of letters, ads, etc, that don't align with our beliefs. That's what democracy, America and the right to speak freely are truly about. To make sure the small minded people don't think we only print things we agree with, there is a disclaimer printed weekly further down on this page.

As I told the lady who contacted me, the first ammendment is a funny thing. Everyone wants the right to speak freely, until what someone else is saying offends them. That's not how it works. If you have a right to say what you want, then so do I. Listening to others, actually hearing others, being open minded and open hearted, coming up with solutions together is what has spurred the progress in our country over the years.

Now, later in the week, she did what we encourage and contacted the author of the political ad she was upset with and gave him a piece of her mind. That's actually the reason we require a form of communication from the author of letters to the editor, so those who agree, or disagree, as it maybe can establish that dialogue.

Its important that people talk about the issues and their views on them. It really does make for a better world. For example, these two individuals both know and speak of love and understanding, however, they can't seem to find it for someone who doesn't agree with their perspectives on the world, politics or in this case school board votes over text books.

What the lady's email to me made me realize is that while I'm not toting around the pocket size constitution, I actively support it daily. First with the newspaper, second with the gun store. Pretty cool.

10-27-2023: Readers' Letters in the Sierra County Sentinel

Just before my letter is a letter from Frank Hogg who attacked William Norris' and MLR's stance against LGBT and it being taught in school to children. Providentially, my letter addressed his attack, as I did not know about his letter until the Newspaper was published. What follows is the text of those letters. To see a copy of them in the newspaper, click here ([HDD](#) – [OL](#))

For Secularism, by Frank Hogg

I just saw the screed that William Norris unleashed in this paper a while back, personally attacking Barbara Pearlman for stating the obvious: that most local voters, whether Republican or democrat, are not religious fanatics. Whether Norris wants to believe it or not, our country was established as a secular nation. Our founders made it clear that they had had enough of the rule of "the priests," as they put it.

If Mr. Norris wants to believe that God hates gays, for example, that's his business. But to expect our public schools to promote his odious belief is crazy.

This assault on our established understanding of what education really means is part of a nation wide effort by fanatics to replace democracy with theocracy.

This is faux religion and faux patriotism. As Sinclair Lewis, the American novelist, wrote in the 1930s, "When Fascism comes to America, it will be wrapped in the flag and carrying a cross."

Teachers are resigning from their positions in Florida at an unprecedented rate because they are hampered by laws that limit their ability to teach their facts to children. We don't want it here.

I suppose Mr. Norris also, like Governor DeSantis does not want our children to be exposed to the truths about our history. He wants our kids to grow up ignorant and stunted.

Our young people are not stupid. They can tell when adults demean them by not trusting them with a real education.

Barbara Pearlman has served with distinction on the board for four years. She taught in Sierra County schools for 25 years. She has impeccable credentials. She will continue to work for students, teachers and parents to educate our youth to be well rounded, well educated, discerning individuals.

I invite readers to review the answers to the questionnaire Ms. Pearlman submitted to the Sentinel. I believe that the majority of our fellow citizens would agree with the views she espouses.

Let's prepare our children for the challenging future they face.

Vote for Barbara Pearlman to the Sierra County School Board.

Every vote counts!

s/Frank Hogg fwhogg@gmail.com Hillsboro, NM

Paid Political Letter

Freedom of Speech for Christians Is Under Attack in Public Schools, by Richard Ibranyi

The liberals say they believe in freedom of speech for everyone, but they want to take that freedom away from Christians who do not want their children to learn that LGBT is good and normal but instead want them to learn that it is evil, sinful, and abnormal.

But there is a greater question. Does freedom of speech mean men can say and teach whatever they want? Should freedom of speech include teaching children that it is good and normal to rape women and children, to steal, to murder, or to commit adultery? I am sure the vast majority of you would say, No! But then, if you want to be consistent, you would have to say that freedom of speech does not apply to all speech. But the question, then, is how to determine what speech should not be allowed? By what law should certain speech be banned? If you have no such law, then it is a free for all for raping, stealing, murder, adultery, homosexuality, etc.

That law is the natural law that God puts in the hearts of all men: "For when the Gentiles who have not the law, do by nature those things that are of the law, these having not the law are a law to themselves. Who shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness to them and their thoughts between themselves accusing or also defending one another," (Rom. 2:14-15) And that is why teaching that LBGT is good and normal must not be taught to children and even to adults, because the natural law condemns it, just as it condemns rape, stealing, adultery, and murder. And these things are also condemned by God's Ten Commandments.

Even though I condemn those who are LBGT, I still truly love them and pray for their conversion. Please see my book, God Did Not Create Men to be Homosexuals at http://www.johnthebaptist.us/jbw_english/documents/books/rjmi/br16_not_create_homosexuals.pdf

For you only hope of salvation, please visit www.JohnTheBaptist.us website.

Richard Joseph Michael Ibranyi (IbranyiRichard@Gmail. com) s/William George Norris
WilliamGeorgeNorris@ gmail.com T-or-C, NM

Paid Political Letter

11-6-2023: Comment - The Sierra County Republican Party Did Not Place an AD or Letter in the Newspaper Opposing Pearlman and Backing Cole and Bartoo

The Republican Party of Sierra County and Republican officeholders and other prominent Republicans did not place an ad or letter in the newspaper opposing Pearlman and backing Cole and Bartoo, nor did they have a concerted public campaign regarding these things.

11-6-2023: Comment - Crystal Diamond Did Not Oppose Pearlman nor Back Anyone In the Election

What follows is the text. For the video, click here ([HDD](#) – [OL](#))

“Hi, I am Senator Crystal Diamond Brantley. I just walked out of my local county clerk’s office where I voted, and I am reminding and encouraging you to do the same. Local elections are so important because they directly impact your everyday, Not only will there be local elections including your local municipalities and soil and water conservation district supervisors, but arguably the most important school board elections are happening. Make some phone calls do a little bit of research know who you’re going to cast your ballot for, and don’t wait until the November fourth deadline. Head on in. Early voting is open there are no lines. Head to your local county clerk’s office. Go vote.”

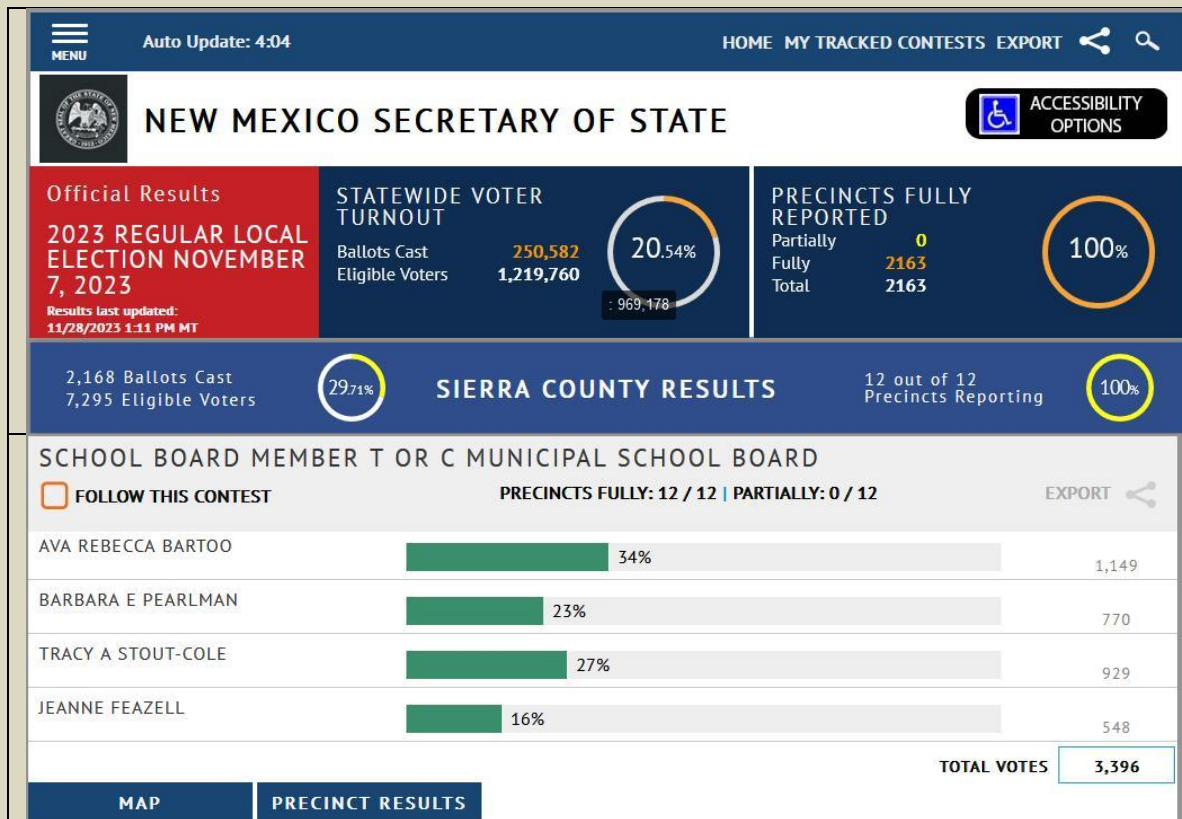
Let it be known that at the school meeting on 5/8/2023, Crystal did not condemn the diabolical curriculum which presents LGBT behavior as normal, undermines the traditional family by teaching it is normal and a valid marriage to have two moms, its CRT, etc. While the vast majority of people at the meeting condemned the curriculum, Crystal Diamond did not. She said the following:

Crystal Diamond, School Board Meeting, 5/8/2023: “I am not here to express my personal opinion about the curriculum, but I am here to set the record straight on what law requires you to do.”

For the video excerpt, click here ([HDD](#) – [OL](#)). And she is supposed to be a conservative Republican. She is a liberal in the guise of a republican, a RINO, when it comes to social issues. If she does not stand against attempts to pervert out children with LGBT with all her might, then better to have a democrat in office than RINO, who is a democrat in disguise regarding social issues. At least there is no hypocrisy. If we keep rewarding these RINOs by re-electing them, nothing will change. A few cycles of them losing to Democrats is the only thing that may cause them to truly defend and promote conservative social issues and thus care about the majority of the people who elected them. As it is now, they are spitting in the face of those who elected them.

11-7-2023: Election Results - Pearlman Is Voted Out of Office and Cole and Bartoo Win

MLR's campaign to oust Dr. Barbra Pearlman succeeded. On 11/7/2023, she was voted out of office, and the two candidates MLR supported were elected (Tracy A. Stout-Cole and Ava Rebecca Bartoo), and no thanks to the Republican Party in Sierra County nor the prominent Republican politicians and leaders of the party.

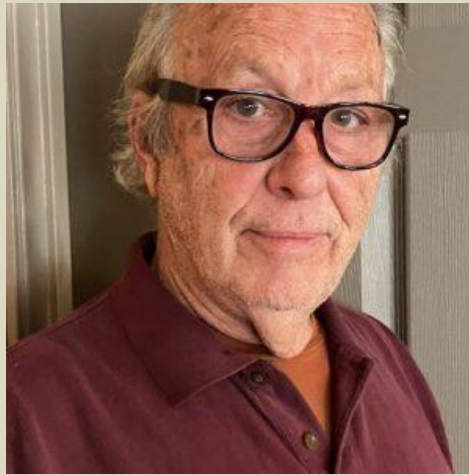


11-9-2023: Article in Sierra County Citizen

Below is the text from the article and comments. For the article and comments as they appear online, click here ([HDD](#) – [OL](#)).

Article: Two men who believe Jews rule the world, Holocaust, 9-11 were hoaxes and, in a perfect Catholic state, gays would be put to death, help to oust school board veteran, by Tom Sharpe

Bio:



Tom Sharpe

Tom Sharpe has been a print journalist for most of his life. He grew up in East Texas, graduated from the University of Texas at Austin and began coming to New Mexico to work as a forest firefighter out of Questa in 1971. He has worked full-time for the Santa Fe New Mexican, the Santa Fe bureau of the Albuquerque Journal and the Santa Fe Reporter, has freelanced extensively for the Denver Post, Engineering News-Record and Agence France- Presse, and was a press aide for New Mexico Gov. Toney Anaya (1983-86).

Sharpe and his wife Stacy Brown, an artist (paintings and drawings available at Snakestone Studios in Truth or Consequences) and master knitter (knitted toys available at Dust), have six children from previous marriages. They began coming to Truth or Consequences for long weekends away from Santa Fe more than 20 years ago, and after retiring from their jobs and selling their Santa Fe home earlier this year, moved to the Truth or Consequences Hot Springs District. Sharpe, who is mostly retired, looks forward to contributing more to the Sierra County Citizen.

Article:

When I opened my copy of the Sierra County Sentinel on May 5, I focused on an ad with a color photo of William George Norris with a baseball cap casting a shadow over his eyes, a long thick beard and a black sweatshirt with three dangling medallions.

“Notice: Your Children Are In Danger,” read the headline. The text warned the public schools were about to adopt a “diabolical curriculum” with ‘homosexuality, transgenderism, other sexual perversions, and CRT.’ People were urged to attend a public hearing on the issue on May 8.

I posted the odd ad on Facebook and got several funny comments. One said Norris is connected to Mary’s Little Remnant, a group of sedevacantists. I had to look up the word. It refers to Roman Catholics who believe the church has been ruled by false popes for nearly 1,000 years, thus the Holy See is vacant. The belief got a boost in the early 1960s after the Vatican II changes that eliminated the Latin mass.

Another acquaintance said Mary’s Little Remnant’s headquarters was behind the city utility yard off Riverside Drive. I drove over to find the dilapidated shack at East Joffre St. — an unpaved road immediately to the south and down a steep embankment from another East Joffre Street that is paved. The two East Joffre streets are not connected and the dirt one does not appear on city maps. A neighbor on the upper East Joffre Street told me he had quarreled with the occupants of the lower street about allowing passersby to camp next door on what is his property.

No one was home. The house needed a lot of work. One of its window screens was torn and a curtain was flapping in the breeze. The metal roof was buckling. The porch floorboards looked unstable. The tarpaper siding was torn. There was a little trailer in the carport and a shrine to Mary in the front yard. What caught my eye was a hand-carved sign that said, “Mary’s Littel House.”

Origins

On May 8, my wife Stacy and I were among nearly 200 people at the school board public hearing — so large it had to be moved to the high school cafeteria. Many who signed up to speak had heard about the hearing only the day before in church. We sat near Truth or Consequences Mayor Amanda Forrister, who passed around Norris’s research, with the title of one textbook “My World” misspelled as “My Word” and other typographical errors.

“Please don’t let this CRT into our schools,” one of the first speakers said as if this obscure academic theory were a child molester. Critical race theory postulates that slavery has shaped and continues to shape modern society. Conservatives popularized the abbreviation which once meant cathode ray tube. A common objection is that CRT makes white children feel guilty for what their ancestors did to people of other ethnicities. Given what we know from history, and what research keeps revealing, what sort of white person would not feel a twinge of guilt? Norris, for one. The main thing I remember him saying at the public hearing was that white people are responsible for spreading Christianity to the world.

But the underlying fear in the room was sexuality. Many speakers feared the curriculum could turn their children gay. Several spoke of “transgenderism” as if it were a belief system.

Among the materials from Mary's Little Remnant was a page labeled "My Word Interactive 2" with a bucolic scene of a family and the headline: "How Are Families Organized?" The second paragraph of the text says: "Some families have one parent, a mom and a dad, two moms, or two dads." This was what had many people riled up. Only, this is not from a textbook, but from a teachers guide to remind teachers some students may have different types of families. The insinuation in the handouts that this is for students is misleading and dishonest. Mary's Little Remnant's written objections also mention Marxism, paganism, witchcraft, radical feminism ("which by default undermines fathers and males") and "destruction of the family." One of the examples is from another teachers guide for fifth graders that suggests assigned readings might include stories about Native American cultures which recognize individuals with both masculine and feminine spirits.

We left the hearing after it became clear it would go late. Later, the board voted to approve the curriculum for high school and middle school by 3-2 votes. Barbara Pearlman, Christine LaFont and Mark Hedge voted yes; Julianna Stroup and Jamie Sweeney voted no. But when Pearlman moved to approve the curriculum for K-5 grades, no one seconded, so the motion died. This means elementary students will continue to use last year's texts. This would seem to be a partial victory for Mary's Little Remnant. But Norris and the group's spiritual leader didn't see it that way.

A few days later, I dropped by lower East Joffre again. This time, when I knocked on the door, a man with the same medals that Norris wore and demeanor of a scoutmaster emerged from the travel trailer. Richard Joseph Michael Ibranyi, 67, was happy to answer my questions. He grew up in Newark, NJ, the son of a physician of Hungarian descent, a Roman Catholic and a Republican. He went to college, became an optician, opened a shop, prospered, got married, began to sin prodigiously and then ran into the devil. "The devil was knocking me around the room," he told me. "I know the devil's real. Things were flying around the room, punching me. I went to God immediately. The priests can't explain it. It ripped the faith out of me."

This led to years of searching. He and his wife divorced. He traveled around and stayed in monasteries, but he kept clashing with traditional Roman Catholicism, and began learning about sedevacantism. He studied a form of it at the Most Holy Family monastery in Fillmore, N.Y., and eventually moved to New Mexico, living in Chimayo for a time and then at the Artesian trailer park in Truth or Consequences.

When I asked Ibranyi if his group was likely to get involved in the Nov. 7 school board race, he said he had been discouraged by the whole experience and wasn't sure what they would do. But he told me I should speak to Norris about his clash with the Sierra County Republican Party leadership, and gave me Norris' number. Before I left, I pointed to the hand-carved sign on the porch and asked him if "Littei" was misspelled for a reason. He looked at it for several seconds, then turned back to me and said, "You're the first person who has ever noticed that."

I spoke to Norris on the phone later that day and made arrangements to meet him at his home on what he calls "Mary's Little Ranch" — about 2 1/2 acres of scrub brush and cactus with gravel roads, about one mile south of Williamsburg off NM-187. The property has a half dozen mobile homes, a large panel of photovoltaic cells, several shrines to Jesus and Mary, and the graves of two deceased members. We sat at a kitchen table inside one of the mobile homes and began to talk.

Norris, 50, grew up on Chicago's south side, in a Roman Catholic, Democratic, union-leaning family. He studied philosophy in college, considered becoming a priest, but became discouraged by mainstream Catholicism. He attended the same sedevacantist monastery where Ibranyi had been years earlier. After Norris left and was living in Pennsylvania, he began to read Ibranyi's writings. Ibranyi was living in Truth or Consequences at the time. Norris called him and they talked for two hours. In October of 2001, Norris headed west to join him. They bought the little house and the ranch, and founded Mary's Little Remnant, but not as a nonprofit like most churches, so they could legally participate partisan politics. Now he and Ibranyi live on salaries from tithing by the tiny congregation. Ibranyi is the spiritual and intellectual leader, while Norris is more like an administrator and caretaker of the properties.

Conflicts with Sierra County Republicans

Last year, Norris was named to the executive committee of the Sierra County Republican Party. His politics generally jibe with mainstream Republicanism — fiscal conservancy, gun rights and stricter limits on immigration, for instance. But he soon found daylight between his beliefs and those of the local party on abortion. Many Republicans want to make abortion illegal all over the country, with exceptions for rape, incest or if carrying the pregnancy to term would damage a woman's health. Mary's Little Remnant, like some other conservatives in Texas and elsewhere, want to eliminate these exceptions and allow abortions only if carrying to term would kill the pregnant woman.

But not even Truth or Consequences' conservative standard bearer and longtime abortion foe, Rebecca Dow, would openly support such a measure that might drag down efforts to ban or limit abortion in Democratic-leaning New Mexico, where abortion was legal even before *Rowe vs. Wade* in 1973. Dow is a former state representative who resigned in 2022 to run for the GOP nomination for governor on a platform that emphasized her opposition to abortion, losing to TV weatherman Mark Ronchetti (58.4% to 15.5% with 13.9% for Gregory Zanetti). Ronchetti, who soft-pedaled his pro-life stance, went on to lose to incumbent Democrat Michelle Lujan Grisham (52% to 45% with 2.4% for Libertarian Karen Bedonie). Dow recently announced her intention to seek the state House seat again.

Norris' reaction to the school board vote turned out to be the final straw for the local GOP. After the May 8 vote, the county Republican executive committee began moving to oust Norris for his public criticism of elected officials — not only Pearlman, a Democrat who voted to approve the textbooks, but also Stroup, chair of the local Republican Party, who voted to disapprove them, but declined to criticize Pearlman afterwards. On June 2, the party ran an ad in the *Sentinel* that said Norris' "behavior and attempts to divide our community are contrary to conservative values." On June 8, they voted to expel him by a vote of 5 to 1 with only him dissenting. On June 18, he fired back with a full page ad in the *Sentinel*, doubling down on Dow, Stroup and others. "Let it be known that Rebecca Dow refused to publically [sic] condemn the sexual perversions in the proposed school curriculum," he wrote.

In my interview with Norris at Mary's Little Ranch, he told me he also objects to Dow's associations with homosexual men. Not only does he oppose equal rights for gays; he believes they should be shunned publicly. Members of his group say that have broken off relationships with family members because they are gay. When I pushed him about what he wants to do with gay people, he told me he is not advocating violence, but that in a "perfect Catholic state," they would be executed.

He singled out what he called “sodomites” with whom Dow works closely. Among them is John Block, an openly gay, conservative Christian and Republican state representative from Alamogordo. Block was elected in 2022, narrowly beating a primary opponent (50.8% to 49.2%), then trouncing the Democrat in the general election (63% to 37%). He founded and edits the Pinon Post, an online conservative political news site. Even Norris admits it is the best place to keep up with New Mexico political news for conservatives. He occasionally comments on articles on the site.

Block didn’t respond to my requests for comment, but Dow emailed me to say she considers Mary’s Little Remnant a cult. “When Mr. Norris explained to me that only six humans in the world are true Christians, I decided to stop engaging with him,” she wrote. “To be clear, I believe life begins at conception.”

Johanna Tighe, a former chair of the local Republican Party, now its secretary, told me “we”re trying to ignore (Norris) . . . trying to get him to go away.” Tighe said she recruited Norris because he seemed bright with lots of enthusiasm for conservative politics, but soon became “way too radical” and began “calling out all kinds of people.” When I mentioned his attempts to “out” gay men, she said that she believes Norris “cherry picks” Bible verses to justify his ideas. She said she knows gay people, has had them to dinner at her home and does not believe anyone has a right to invade their private lives. As a born-again Christian, she said, she knows homosexuality is a sin but she would welcome gays or anyone else to the Church at the Butte where she is a member. It occurred to me as I hung up with Tighe that Mary’s Little Remnant may be one of the few things in Sierra County that Republicans and Democrats can agree on.

My conversations with Norris and Ibranyi continued over the summer and into the fall. I didn’t tell them initially that I am on the executive committee of the Sierra County Democratic Party and a retired journalist, thinking they might clam up. But as I got to know them, I revealed my background. When I began to understand the political implications, I asked Norris what he would think about me writing a story about Mary’s Little Remnant. He didn’t seem surprised, smiled and said he would talk to Ibranyi. After I put my name on an ad in the Sentinel endorsing Pearlman for reelection, it was clear whose side I was on. But they kept talking to me. I even confessed that I became an agnostic around age 12, when a Methodist Sunday school teacher scolded me for doubting the Bible, and that today I believe all religion is superstition. I wanted all the cards on the table. I warned them they might face danger if the full extent of their beliefs were public. They didn’t ☐ inch. Despite our vastly different political leanings, I found myself liking them personally. They are direct, lack pretentiousness and never lapse into bureaucratic gobbledegook. They never asked me to go o☐ the record, backtracked or refused to answer a question.

Then I began to read their website, Johnthebaptist.us, largely the work of Ibranyi. Almost every conspiracy theory I have ever heard of — with the exception of ☐at-earth theory which Ibranyi discounts — is included and most of them are blamed on Jews. For example, “Apostate Jews lie to mankind by spreading the lie that Adam came from a monkey.” According to Ibranyi’s voluminous collection of writings on the website, Jews run the media, the banks, promote sexual immorality and made up the Holocaust as a way to cover up their guilt in killing Christ. It paints Adolf Hitler as an honorable man who exposed the corruption of the Jews in Germany but whose “☐nal solution” was “emigration, not extermination.” “If Hitler wanted to kill all the Jews, he would not starve them to death or burn or gas them (which would take up a lot of time and be a huge expense),” he wrote. “He simply would have a bullet put in their head.” Hitler gets low marks for denying the virgin birth, believing in “theistic evolution” and “glorifying the heretic

Martin Luther.” He got high marks for condemning homosexuality, pedophilia, transgenderism and eēminacy, supporting marriage and opposing abortion and contraception.

One of Ibranyi’s primary sources is “The Protocols of the Elders of Zion.” The book, first published in Russia in 1903, purports to be the minutes of a secret council of Jews plotting world domination. It’s believed to be plagiarized from earlier novels about fictional panels of “illuminati” or others. After Protocols was translated into other languages, it became popular worldwide and promoted the stereotype that Jews are greedy, sneaky and rich. Automotive pioneer Henry Ford printed excerpts of the Protocols in his Dearborn, Mich., newspaper in the 1920s. It was part of public school curriculum in Nazi Germany in the 1930s. About 20 years ago, a dramatization of the story was broadcast on Egyptian television. Ibranyi insists the book is non-fiction and that it predicts the future. When I asked what it predicted, he mentioned 9-11, the latest Israeli-Gaza war and a coming financial catastrophe.

“They are dirty stinking liars,” he said of Israeli Jews. “The Palestinians are evil too, but the Jews are even more evil. . . . Just look at the 9-11 thing. Not every Jew got out. They kill a few Jews as sacrificial lambs. There wasn’t even anybody on those planes. They were controlled by automatic pilot. . . . Next you’re going to have a big financial crisis. Jews are planning this crash.”

Ibranyi bristles at the suggestion he is an antisemite by using a version of the cliched excuse that one has black or Jewish friends. He calls himself a Catholic Jew and says his father’s ancestors were practicing Jews in Hungary and that Ibranyi is a Hungarian Jewish name. He says this means he cannot be antisemitic. Some of his lectures on the website also verge on racism against blacks. For example, Black Lives Matter is a “hateful ideology” that aims to incite race riots. Former President Barack Obama is “the number one Black Lives criminal — the most racist president in American history.”

Sunday Services

In late October, Norris asked me if my wife and I would be interested in attending Sunday services. I said yes and he soon sent me several emails that said Stacy must wear a veil — not a face covering but simply a hair cover like those required in pre-Vatican II days — and a dress that did not show cleavage. We would not be allowed to pray aloud with the congregation, but could pray silently. We agreed and drove out to one of the mobile homes on Mary’s Little Ranch on Oct. 30. There were 11 of us, seven men and four women: Stacy and me, Norris and Ibranyi, Bruce Gott, his wife Laura Gott and their son Ryan Gott, Nicholas Worth and his two sisters Catherine Gusa and Mary Lou Donlin, and Phillip McCabe.

The men, who sat the main room, all had full beards and wore long-sleeved shirts with the three medallions. The three women congregants, with veils and modest dresses with medallions, sat in back. Stacy and I sat in the kitchen. Most of the congregation were in their 60s or 70s; the youngest was 28 — Ryan Gott, a farmer in the Animas valley. His family began worshipping with Ibranyi back in the late 1990s when they lived near Ignacio, CO. He and McCabe monitored a camera and laptops so people from around the world could watch and participate. “TJ” from Dublin, Ireland, chimed in several times to ask questions or make points.

The service, not called a mass because Ibranyi is not a consecrated priest, began similarly to a traditional Catholic, Episcopal or Lutheran ceremony. The first difference I noted was in the prayer asking for blessings of elected officials. Not only did Ibranyi mention President Joe Biden and Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, both Democrats, but also local Republican luminaries

like Rebecca Dow and Frances Luna, publisher of the Sentinel and owner of a gun store for women, “Gunher’s”; national conservative celebrities like Donald Trump, Tucker Carlson, Ted Nugent and Kanye West; authoritarian foreign leaders like Russian president Putin, Turkish president Erdogan and Hungarian prime minister Orban, and for good measure, Stacy, me and Bruce Springsteen.

Ibranyi’s lecture, rather than a sermon, compared the small congregation to times in the Bible when there were only a few righteous humans on earth — three with Adam, Eve and Cain, after Cain killed Abel. Never mind that Cain was a murderer and later managed to find a wife. Everything was in English, rather than Latin, because Ibranyi doesn’t speak Latin. He thinks it would be a good thing for Catholics to go back to Latin so they could understand each other the world over.

As the two-hour service neared its end, the women began heating up a previously prepared a lunch of beef stew, mushrooms, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, biscuits, fresh salad and fresh fruit. The men, including me, sat at portable tables set up in the living room/sanctuary. We served our plates first in the kitchen. The women, including Stacy, sat at the kitchen table and waited until we sat down to fill their own plates. Stacy said the women were polite and open with her, telling her stories about breaking off relations with relatives, either because they were gay or because they kept arguing with them about Mary’s Little Remnant. The men chatted about growing tomatoes and mixed martial arts (MMA) matches.

When we were finished, I scooted close to Ibranyi and asked him if there was an ultimate authority on sedevantism.

“Sure. Rome,” he said. “In the Vatican.”

“There’s an office in the Vatican?” I asked.

“Right now, it’s vacant,” he said. “It’s waiting to be filled. It’s just like when a president gets shot. It’s the same thing.”

I didn’t think he understood my question, but when I suggested he was being misleading, he got angry, shouting “You’re not being honest with me. . . . It’s a stupid question. Next question!”

“Let me put it this way,” I said. “If I have a question about sedevantism, who would I call?”

“Me,” he said. “I’m the ruler of the church in its final days.”

It is worth mentioning in this piece about school textbook controversies that neither Norris nor Ibranyi have children or are currently with their wives. Ibranyi has been divorced for decades. Norris’ wife took up with another man and now lives in Arizona. Norris says she has been excommunicated. Norris and Ibranyi say they are celibate and believe sex is proper only between a married couple, one man and one woman. They do not believe in any kind of birth control because “failed birth control causes abortions.” They believe only God should determine if or when a child is born.

School Board Showdown

Barbara Pearlman, a former teacher who was elected to the school board after she retired, initially said she would not run for reelection due to what she had to endure from Norris, who accused her of promoting the sexualization of children for her votes on textbooks. But at the end of August, she changed her mind and signed up for the Nov. 7 ballot. Others who signed up and did not withdraw later were Jeanne Feazell, Ava Rebecca Bartoo and Tracy Ann Stout- Cole.

School board races in New Mexico are officially nonpartisan, but Pearlman and Feazell were endorsed by the local Democrats, and Bartoo and Stout-Cole by the Republicans as well as Mary's Little Remnant. At an Oct. 13 forum in the cafeteria, Pearlman made it clear she will be an ally of gay students. Feazell said she supports critical thinking skills and has a sister who is gay. Bartoo and Stout-Cole seemed confused by a written question that alluded to "Sierra County values" — a term sometimes used to defend homophobes — and said only that they would not discriminate against anyone.

Norris and Ibranyi kept up a steady stream of ads and letters to the editor, most of them paid, in the Sentinel through September and October. They endorsed Bartoo and Stout-Cole, criticized Pearlman, Republicans and Jews. Pearlman is Jewish. Ibranyi turned up the volume of his usual rhetoric after Oct. 7, when Hamas murdered Israeli civilians and Israel invaded the Gaza Strip. "Christ-denying Jews have no right to Israel on religious grounds," said the headline of his letter to the Sentinel on Oct. 20. Pearlman said she suspects Mary's Little Remnant is funded by Moms for Liberty, a rightwing group that lobbies for parental rights in public schools and has been active in New Mexico textbook controversies. But Norris insisted all the money spent on the Sentinel, "much less" than \$5,000, came from his congregation's tithes.



Here are 15 pages in the Sierra County Sentinel containing since May ads or letters to the editor from Mary's Little Remnant's leaders. They paid for the advertisements and most of the letters to the editor to criticize school board members, local Republicans and others over textbooks they consider improper, rail against Israeli Jews and propound their conspiracy theories. Photograph by Tom Sharpe © 2023

In the end, it was enough — along with support from Sierra County's large Republican influence. Bartoo and Stout, the top two vote getters, will take the two vacancies on the Truth or Consequences Municipal School Board. Unofficial results had Bartoo with 1,149 or 34 percent, Stout-Cole with 929 or 27 percent, Pearlman with 769 or 23 percent and Feazell with 547 or 16 percent.

Pearlman, who was a respected teacher of English and gifted courses at Hot Springs High School for more than a quarter of a century, was not optimistic about her chances when we traded emails a few days before the election. "There is such a level of hate at the moment," she wrote. "I will be sorry to lose not for me necessarily, but because it will say something about the town and schools I have come to love. I can stand up to the hate, I am a grownup and not unfamiliar with antisemitism, but I worry about the young people and what message it might send about them or their families.

Comment by RJMI, 11-10-2023

Richard Ibranyi

NOVEMBER 10, 2023 / 8:38 AM

REPLY

I would like to make a few corrections to the article.

1) In a perfect Catholic State unrepentant homosexuals get the death penalty and thus not those who repent.

2) I did not speak of Adam, Eve, and Cain in my lecture. I spoke of how there were only eight faithful people in Noe's day; only one when God called Abraham; only one at times in the days of Elias and Eliseus; almost none at times in the days of Isaías, Micheas, and King David; there were no good kings in the Northern Kingdom of Israel and only three in the Southern Kingdom of Juda; only six at the beginning of the Machabean revolt against the Seleucids who Hellenized Judaism; there were only a few at first when Jesus began his public ministry, twelve then seventy-two and only one-hundred-and-twenty in the upper room after Jesus ascended into heaven; in the end times, only the two witnesses and the few who follow them until they gain more converts, which also proves that there is no Catholic hierarchy intact or else there would be no need for the two witnesses.

3) Sedevacantism means the Holy See is vacant and thus there is no pope. The man who calls himself pope today is an apostate antipope. The vacant see will be filled by the next true pope. Some believe the Holy See has been vacant since apostate Antipope John XXIII in 1958. But I have discovered that the Holy See has been vacant since 1130, beginning with apostate Antipope Innocent II.

Richard Joseph Michael Ibranyi (RJMI)

Clarification: Abortion when the mother's life is in danger of death is only allowed for unbelieving mothers, as the one who lives has a chance to be saved even though the one who dies will be damned. Either way, one is damned and the other has a chance to be saved. But abortion when the life of a believing mother (a Catholic mother) is in danger the death, abortion is not allowed because the mother can be in the way of salvation but not the infant unless it is born and baptized into the Catholic Church, as it surely will be because the mother is Catholic.

For the lecture I gave when Tom and Stacy were present, see RJMI Catholic Video or Audio Lectures: *At Times Only a Very Few Are Faithful to God*. ([Video](#) – [Audio](#))

Comment by Tom Sharpe

Tom Sharpe

NOVEMBER 10, 2023 / 10:08 AM

12/10/23

Numbers 1 and 3 are not corrections, but expansions on Ibranyi's ideas. As for Number 2, yes, indeed, Ibranyi's lecture used Adam, Eve and Cain as an example of when only a few righteous people were on earth. I suggest he review the videotape. By the way, I sent Norris and Ibranyi a copy of my draft. Both reviewed it and had a few minor corrections, but Ibranyi didn't have any problems with my account of his lecture then. He also uses this angle to expand on his Biblical citations. Ibranyi rarely misses an opportunity to expand.

CORRECTION: Number 2 was a mistake. Ibranyi's lecture compared his small congregation to times when only a few righteous people existed. I remembered him using Adam/Eve as an example. But reviewing my notes and a videotape of the lecture, I see he instead used Noah and his seven family members following the Flood.

For the glory of God; in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Michael, St. Joseph, Ss. Joachim and Anne, St. John the Baptist, the other angels and saints; and for the salvation of men

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