



The Journal



COVID 19: Why farmers dump food and crops while grocery stores run dry and Americans struggle



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As the coronavirus pandemic continues to wage a silent war across the country, American farmers are being forced to pour out milk, crush eggs, toss fresh fruits and vegetables, euthanize livestock and plow under perfectly robust crops. Meanwhile, financially beleaguered Americans are lining up at food banks in unprecedented numbers, humanitarian leaders fear a global starvation pandemic is burgeoning, and grocery store shelves are sparsely filled. So what has gone wrong?

A dramatic dip in demand, weak links in the highly consolidated supply chain, and decades of industry

monopolization, experts say. “A large portion of our food is now produced for restaurants, hotels, schools, and institutional users, about 50 percent. Those markets have effectively closed up, and there is not enough demand for home use now,” Dan Glickman, Executive Director of the Aspen Institute and former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, told Fox News. “Nor is the supply chain set up for this rapid transformation.”

From his purview, the supply chain has become very centralized, especially in meat and poultry. “This move towards concentration of food processing has been a general trend for many years and has been done for efficiency and cost-cutting purposes. But we now see how it is impacted by a single event like COVID-19, where workers have been so impacted,” Glickman continued. “Four companies control about 70 percent of meat production. We no longer have a decentralized food production process, at least not to the extent of 30 years ago.”

COVID 19 the invisible enemy: Conservative Hypocrisy? Or Just More Progressive Ignorance?

By Travis Rowley; Spoiler alert: The answer is “more progressive ignorance.”

One of the more annoying progressive jabs aimed at conservatives across social media for the past several weeks has been this: “Enjoy your democratic socialist stimulus check” – a reference to the \$1200 federal payments sent to millions of middle-class Americans last month.

One popular online commentary being passed around echoes the sentiment, instructing right-wingers to “return their relief checks to the federal government,” considering it “hypocritical for conservatives and Republicans to accept help from the federal government when they constantly oppose social programs which help the middle and lower classes who truly need it. They look down their noses at these people, and now they are in their shoes.”

Have you experienced this yet – progressives actually mocking conservatives for taking government funds after a government-ordered shutdown of their livelihoods?

As if Bernie Sanders – the godfather of democratic socialism – has somehow been vindicated.

As if the entire nation isn’t searching for an escape from the current conditions – that is, a measly one-off payment in exchange for your pursuit of prosperity.

If progressives are going to boast over the stimulus checks, then they should own the conditions that necessitate them. Is this really the world in which democratic socialists (read: socialist Democrats) wish to stake their flag?

Competing Philosophies

Okay, let’s unpack all of this even further.



Even if we accept the left's accusation that COVID-19's presence in the United States can be pinned on President Trump, doesn't it still remain a failure of government?

Again, government.

Oh, that's right. If Democrats sat upon the throne, astounding levels of competence would permeate state offices.

Don't laugh. That's really what they think.

And this cognitive dissonance is the intellectual prerequisite of all devout Democrats. In a constant state of upheaval over government abuses by government figures – cops, corruption, elected Republicans, corporate welfare, wars for oil, institutional racism and sexism, slavery, segregation, and civil rights violations committed by the intelligence community – progressives somehow misinterpret their own righteous objections and remain steadfast in their pursuit to augment the power of the institution that enables it all.

Government is scary, but only until Democrats commandeer it.

That's not a principle. That's an elitist contradiction.

Among many honorable traits discovered within the writings of America's Founders is their humility. Thomas Jefferson once included himself in a warning of widespread apathy among the citizenry. "If once [The People] become inattentive to the public affairs, you and I, and Congress, and Assemblies, Judges, and Governors, shall all become wolves."

Don't bother searching for such wisdom or governmental discipline inside DNC offices. After all, this is the party of Governor Phil Murphy of New Jersey who – responding to questions regarding controversial lockdown measures in his state – admitted that he "wasn't thinking of the Bill of Rights when we did this" and that the US Constitution is "above my pay grade."

Nevermind the fact that Murphy swore an oath to uphold the document he so glibly dismissed.

Oh, and literally gets paid to do so.

Prisoners or Hypocrites?

Back to the socialists' insistence that it amounts to "hypocrisy" for conservatives to accept government relief money – whether it's rebated, printed, redistributed, transferred, or otherwise.

First, let's acknowledge for a moment the absolute unwillingness of progressives to imagine any sort of sincere doctrine that

instructs conservatives to resist big-government socialism. Why can't progressives acknowledge that Republicans exist throughout "the middle and lower classes" right alongside Democrats?

The writer of the commentary mentioned above had to perform some impressive mental gymnastics in order to simultaneously accuse conservatives of "look[ing] down their noses" at working class people while qualifying for the middle-class relief payments themselves. "Now they are in their shoes," this progressive decides.

But, truly, that's how much effort most leftists offer when it comes to trying to comprehend their political rivals. It's just easier to smear all conservatives as out-of-touch aristocrats.

If Democrats weren't so addicted to class warfare, perhaps they might enhance their understanding and become the true liberals they always claim to be. It's hardly hypocritical to consider oneself in opposition to a thieving and wasteful government – or, say, to embrace the idea of a political landscape made up of productive taxpayers and leaches of redistribution – while having no qualms with taking cash back from a government that has been robbing you for years.

The famously libertarian Ron Paul once defended budget earmarks for his congressional district on similar grounds. "I vote for all tax credits, no matter how silly they might seem. If I can give you any of your money back, I vote for it. So, If I can give my district any money back, I encourage that ... I don't think the federal government should be doing it. But, if they're going to allot the money, I have a responsibility to represent my people ... If you don't earmark something, then somebody else spends it."

No, there hasn't been a grassroots conservative movement to send millions of stimulus checks back to the IRS after the government stripped people of their freedom to pursue prosperity. But in order to consider that hypocritical, progressives would also have to argue that the communist-resisting peasants of the Soviet Union were hypocrites as well – you know, for accepting life's basic necessities from the Politburo.

Tax-paying conservatives who utilize the public school system, even as they openly lament its poor educational output and the fact that they can't afford private schools for their children, aren't hypocrites either.

Neither are inmates – eager for their release – who eat the slop served to them inside prison cafeterias.



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