

# New Democrats Join The Moral Majority

by Scott Thompson

As the economies of Argentina and Turkey fell into the abyss, perhaps to become the detonators of a major explosion within the ongoing financial crash, 700 so-called “New Democrats” gathered on July 15-17 at the fifth “National Conversation” of the Democratic Leadership Council (DLC) in Indianapolis. There, they heard the New Democratic leadership tell them, that the latest slogan was: “It’s the Culture, Stupid!” And thus, with these New Dems trying to “out-Bush Bush” on such issues as Faith-Based Initiatives, 2004 Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. emerges as the only Democrat of national stature who is addressing the onrushing financial collapse, each phase of which he has forecast.

This is quite a contrast to President Clinton’s successful campaigns — until he was captured in 1996 by the DLC gang, who claim to have triangulated a “third way” between remaining Democrats in the tradition of Roosevelt and Kennedy, and becoming Gingrichite Conservative Revolutionaries. Prior to that, Clinton demonstrated that the real question that American voters want discussed, is the economy. The issue is even more critical now, with stock market collapses that have wiped out \$5 trillion worth of “shareholder value” from Americans’ life savings, IRAs, and 401(k)s, especially through the near-total collapse of the Nasdaq Information Technology mania, which the DLC champions as part of the “New Economy.”

It was Clinton and his adviser James Carville who, in 1992 identified the issue: “It’s the Economy, Stupid!”

## **Lieberman, Sleeping with the Enemy**

Sen. Joe Lieberman (D-Conn.), who was Vice-President Al Gore’s running mate last year, and who, like Gore, is a former DLC chairman, spelled out the insane effort of the Gore Democrats to practically join that icon of conservative politics, the Moral Majority, because that’s the cultural trick they think will win them elections.

Speaking at the DLC’s National Conversation, which drew only 250 Federal, state, and local officials, Lieberman critiqued the Bush Administration for “repeatedly showing over the last half-year it is out of touch with the core values most Americans share. . . . Just as we regained the public confidence during the 1990s on questions of fiscal responsibility and economic growth, in this decade we must earn back the people’s trust on matters of culture, values, and faith.”

DLC founder Al From pointed out that the Clinton Administration had adopted such New Democratic issues as workfare “welfare reform,” the disastrous Balanced Budget Act of 1997, globalization and free trade, the “reinventing” of a leaner government. But this shift from the general welfare of all Americans, to address only issues of concern to the rich and the middle class, created a situation which Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.) warned about as early as 1995, arguing, “We don’t need two Republican Parties.”

With no daylight showing between the New Democrats and the Gingrichites, many in the Democratic Party’s traditional constituencies, associated with the policies of FDR and JFK, including the black voters, farmers, labor, and others, sat out the election in disgust. This is the real legacy of the DLC “New Democrats,” like Vice President Al Gore, Jr., and it is one of the main reasons why an idiot like George Bush won the last election.

## **It’s the Culture, Stupid!**

At the National Conversation, the latest July/August issue of the DLC’s flagship *Blueprint* magazine was distributed, bearing the title, “It’s the Culture, Stupid! — The Fault Lines of American Politics.” Speaker after speaker at the DLC National Conversation addressed the “issues” within this rag.

One article, by Alan Wolfe, titled, “Faith Matters,” noted that 63% of those who attend church once a week voted for President Bush, while only 36% voted for Gore.

Wolfe, who is Director of the Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life at Boston College, writes: “No aspect of the lifestyle divide that marked the 2000 Presidential election is, at first glance, more important than religion. . . . There is no escaping the political reality that if Democrats are to return to power, they will have to do better, much better, among religious voters. There are good reasons to think that they can. . . . To his credit, Sen. Joe Lieberman spoke directly to these issues in the 2000 campaign. . . . As perhaps the most religious person in the Presidential race, Lieberman repudiated the extreme secularism of the Democratic Party. . . . Democrats should strongly support the idea of ‘Faith-Based Initiatives,’ plans to use public funds to support religious charities.”

Another article, “The Marriage Gap,” by Anna Greenberg, suggested that the New Democrats ought to wrap themselves in the flag of “family values” to succeed, since only 44% of married voters supported Gore, compared with 57% of unmarried voters.

Wrote Greenberg, who is Vice President of Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research, Inc. in Washington, D.C.: “The marriage gap is driven, at least in part, by differences between these voters on a range of issues that are properly known as ‘family values,’ in other words, concerns about ‘morals’ in our families, society, and the political arena. . . . There is no reason for progressive Democrats to shy away from addressing these issues—they are not antithetical to a progressive agenda, and they speak to the core values of the majority of the American public.”

Greenberg then suggests that New Democrats, to regain the initiative, should imitate the Christian Right, epitomized by Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell (the founder, at the suggestion of Paul Weyrich, of the Moral Majority).

As recently as July 18, a DLC press release, entitled, "Faith-Based Initiative: Don't Just Say No," endorses President Bush's ludicrous proposal take down Federal social services and hand them over—virtually privatize them—at a time when the U.S. economy is the leading edge of a systemic economic breakdown. (Better the Democratic Party should adopt Lyndon H. LaRouche's New Bretton Woods policies, if it wants to survive.)

This concept of "It's the Culture, Stupid!," rather than the economic blowout, was also endorsed by "Dirty Dick" Morris, the infamously immoral political consultant who was Gore's accomplice in playing Rasputin to President Clinton, so that he would adopt DLC policies. In a recent interview, Morris told this author: "Yes . . . values are much more important than financial or economic issues, even amid the current economic slowdown. This is partly because voters realize that it is the Federal Reserve Board, not the President, that can control the economy. It is also because there are so many problems that an increase in income won't solve that degrade a person's quality of life—crime, drugs, education, environment, health care. These issues have values-based solutions and go well beyond the bread-and-butter issues with which the Democratic Party has been traditionally associated."

Thus, the battle lines are drawn between the FDR/JFK policies of LaRouche and the so-called New Democrats.

## What Is the DLC?

The DLC was founded in 1985 by Al From, after the Democrats suffered a crushing defeat in the 1984 Presidential election. One of the DLC's chairmen was then-Sen. Al Gore, Jr., who was succeeded by Sen. Joe Lieberman. Within the last few months, the chairmanship went to Sen. Evan Bayh (D-Ind.), while Al From has, throughout, retained the title of Founder and Chief Executive Officer.

From had for two years been the Deputy Adviser on Inflation to President Jimmy Carter (1979-80), at a time when Carter's appointed Federal Reserve Chairman, Paul Volcker, raised interest rates to a usurious 20%. The idea was ostensibly to counter inflation, but in fact it advanced what Volcker had earlier called his policy of "controlled disintegration" of America's infrastructure and industry, as demanded by such bastions of the Anglo-American establishment as the New York Council on Foreign Relations.

Instead, as part of their "Third Way" policies, the DLC promotes the "Information Age" or "New Economy," despite the fact that within the past year, the Nasdaq index of high-tech stocks has plunged through the floor. Like their dialogue of the deaf "National Conversation," the DLC's "New Economy" recklessly ignores the fact that 785,000 jobs in the brick-and-mortar manufacturing sector have been lost due to outsourcing and the collapse of the globalized economy.

Not surprisingly, one of the heroes of the DLC is British Prime Minister Tony Blair, who also advocates "Third Way" policies of austerity and looting. In a press release on June 7, entitled, "Tony Does It Again," the DLC exults: "If Tony Blair's first term as Britain's Prime Minister was an overture, his second promises to be a symphony for advocates of Third Way politics—on both sides of the Atlantic."

Yet, had it not been for the incompetence of Blair's Conservative Party rival, William Hague, there is no question that Blair would have lost the election, given the disgust of British subjects at Blair's privatization and de-regulation of transport infrastructure (most notorious for its numerous train wrecks); at the collapse of the British socialized medical system (which has caused untold deaths and has led 20,000 doctors to say that they might quit); and at Blair's psychotic belief in building up "renewable energy" systems based on solar, wind, or water power, while letting Britain's nuclear plants (essential for modern industry) run out without replacement. In reality, if the DLC were to succeed with its latest stunt, the U.S. would become an even bigger rust bucket than Britain is today.

All you can say is, if the DLC is so "smart," how come they lost the House of Representatives and the Presidency? The answer is simple: They adopted the bankrupt and immoral Third Way policies proposed by the New Democrat leadership like Gore and Lieberman. Let's not be fooled again.



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