Commencement speeches at colleges across the United States this spring provided yet another reminder of the insolence, arrogance, and ignorance being taught on American college campuses.

**Pence upholds American freedoms and traditions**

A band of campus leftists staged a walkout during Vice President Mike Pence’s commencement address at the University of Notre Dame, drawing jeers from the majority in attendance.

As the Vice President said in his remarks to students and their families that day:

“Far too many campuses across America have become characterized by speech codes, safe zones, tone-policing, administration-sanctioned political correctness, all of which amounts to nothing less than suppression of the freedom of speech.

“These all-too-common practices are destructive of learning and the pursuit of knowledge, and they are wholly outside the American tradition.

“As you, our youth, are the future, and universities the bellwether of thought and culture, I would submit that the increasing intolerance and suppression of the time-honored tradition of free expression on our campuses jeopardizes the liberties of every American. This should not, and must not be met with silence.”

**As go our campuses, so goes our nation**

Parents continue to pay thousands of dollars for the “privilege” of having their children educated — or rather, indoctrinated — at these elitist enclaves that support “free speech” only when it is a vehicle for their leftist views.

Thanks to generous donors, the Leadership Institute provides hope and equips students against the liberal indoctrination that confronts conservative students on college campuses. The Institute sends out field representatives across the country every fall semester to train students to fight back.

Once identified and organized, young conservative students learn how to defend their conservative beliefs, join with like-minded students to spread conservative ideas on campus, and become effective youth leaders for conservative candidates and causes of their choice.

Cordially,

Morton C. Blackwell
President, Leadership Institute
My friend,

You made the Leadership Institute’s CampusReform.org America’s #1 campus news website. So far this year, our reporters and stories have appeared on national television 114 times — exposing leftist bias, abuses, and indoctrination on America’s college campuses.

Our coverage has netted 107 high-profile victories and policy changes at colleges in the last three-and-a-half years — a big help for conservative students.

Thank you for your help to build the Institute’s CampusReform.org into a powerful weapon to hold liberal professors and administrators accountable for their abuses and bias.

Morton
Reporting for duty, sir!

Youth coordinator mobilizes support, propels Air Force Brigadier General to Congressional victory

Dear Leadership Institute donor,

“Pack your bags, Sara. We’re getting on a plane in 24 hours to make you the new Youth Director for the campaign.”

It took a second for those words from my colleague at the Don Bacon for Congress campaign to sink in. Even now, I still can’t believe it sometimes.

Let me tell you about the journey you put me on — that helped a committed conservative and retired Air Force Brigadier General win election in a battleground district.

God had a different plan

When someone asked me why I would ever want to get involved in politics, my first answer was shocking. I didn’t want to go into politics. I actually wanted to become a labor and delivery nurse, but obviously God had a different plan for me.

As my freshman year at Creighton University in Nebraska came to a close, the former youth director on now-Congressman Don Bacon’s campaign invited me to join the team. Intrigued, I told myself I would get my feet wet in campaigning, but nothing more.

In a few weeks I was knee-deep in campaigning!

LI’s Youth Leadership School opens new doors

Shortly after joining the Bacon campaign, the Leadership Institute’s “boot camp of politics” — their Youth Leadership School — came to town in Omaha. At the school, I gained an abundance of knowledge I could use both on college campuses and on the campaign trail.

After the two-day, intensive training session, the campaign asked me to fly to Arlington, Virginia to receive further training and become the new youth director on Don Bacon’s campaign.

In Nebraska’s 2nd Congressional District, the race was neck-and-neck with a Democrat incumbent congressman, Brad Ashford.

Armed with Leadership Institute training, another youth coordinator and I quickly canvassed every major college campus in Nebraska’s second district and organized students to volunteer and vote for Don Bacon.

More than 150 students regularly volunteered on Don Bacon’s campaign! Hundreds more pledged to vote for him. The Youth for Bacon groups we organized worked 11,300 man-hours for the campaign and knocked on more than 125,000 doors. The Congressman himself credits the Leadership Institute’s practical, tried-and-true training with his victory.

From youth coordinator to Institute intern — and beyond

Following the Bacon victory, I received an invitation to intern at the Leadership Institute. After my amazing previous experience with LI, I knew this was an opportunity I could not turn down. As an LI intern, I grew leaps and bounds in both my career and personal life. I had the opportunity to rub elbows with the most influential leaders in the conservative movement.

I worked as a true member of the Institute team, not just someone who makes copies and gets coffee. Through numerous networking and career opportunities, I landed my current job at the National Right to Work Committee, where I lobby for federal Right to Work legislation.

Life-changing opportunities abound at the Leadership Institute

The Leadership Institute changed my life. Without the LI training my colleagues and I brought to the campaign, Congressman Don Bacon would not have defeated a Democrat with a 60 percent favorability rating. Without LI, I would not be on a path to advance conservative principles nationwide. Without LI, I truly believe the left would have taken the majority in the House and the Senate.

I know that I have found success by dint of my commitment and hard work, but I also know that were it not for the Leadership Institute, none of the opportunities I’ve had would’ve been possible.

I’m so grateful to Morton Blackwell, to the Leadership Institute — and especially to donors like you whose support helps make this country great.

In liberty,

Sara Wajda

Youth for Bacon volunteers knocked on more than 125,000 doors around Omaha.
The boot camp of politics
LI’s Youth Leadership School trains youth campaigners to gain high-profile media coverage

The Leadership Institute's Youth Leadership School (YLS) is a two-day, comprehensive activism training that equips conservatives to become effective youth leaders for candidates and causes. That pretty much describes Sara Wajda of Nebraska to a “T.”

At the Institute's Youth Leadership School, Sara, who had already signed on to the campaign of political newcomer but committed conservative Brigadier General Don Bacon, learned to:

- Organize large numbers of volunteers and voters
- Increase the size and effectiveness of their group
- Motivate volunteers with exciting projects
- Host successful speaker events
- Develop eye-catching signs and literature
- Earn favorable media coverage

Don Bacon's campaign for U.S. Congress was one of the most competitive of the crucial 2016 elections, and the YLS gave her the tools to push Don Bacon's campaign to the finish line.

Hillary Clinton visited Don Bacon’s district, because she assumed Omaha would remain a traditional stronghold for liberals. Clinton certainly did not expect what happened next.

Bacon's young activists organized a massive student protest to greet Hillary's motorcade. They held up signs that said, “Hillary lied, four men died” and “Lock her up.” As the Bacon students waved their signs, they sang the National Anthem and the hometown favorite, “I’m Proud To Be An American.”

Trained, clever conservatives shape the media narrative

All major televised news stations in Omaha published the Bacon students’ protest. Headlines read, “Liberty, not Hillary,” and the

Students for Bacon were praised for their “peaceful” and “patriotic” protest. Later in the campaign, the youth volunteers conducted another special project to earn good media.

A voter at a local parade asked the Democrat incumbent Brad Ashford if he was a Republican. Congressman Ashford answered, “I’m whatever you want me to be.”

Big mistake. His reply was caught on video.

Congressman Ashford’s quote gave Sara and the Bacon campaign excellent ammunition. Quickly, the Bacon campaign put together a YouTube video advertising a new Halloween costume for $39.99 — “Flip Flop Ashford.” The ad announced, “Now you can have your very own politician who is so flexible, he is anything you want!”

In the Leadership Institute classrooms, Youth Leadership School students receive intensive training to take on the liberals and win.

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In the Leadership Institute classrooms, Youth Leadership School students receive intensive training to take on the liberals and win.
LI’s Conservatism 101 balances the curriculum

Your choices are: liberalism, socialism, communism, or Marxism

A college student picks up a course catalog and almost always finds an abundance of choices in liberalism, socialism, communism, and Marxism — but nothing on conservatism. Or worse, professors may teach conservatism — to assault those principles. But now, not only can conservative students across the country take a course on conservative philosophy, they also can learn from faculty who praise and defend conservatism. A course that promotes free enterprise, individual rights, and American exceptionalism.

LI’s Conservatism 101 on campus for college credit

The Leadership Institute’s Conservatism 101 project establishes for-credit courses to balance the overwhelmingly liberal college curriculum. LI’s Conservatism 101 teaches the history and philosophy of modern American political conservatism. The course starts with the foundations of conservatism — the founding fathers and the Constitution — and looks at numerous aspects of conservative philosophy, including limited government, individual liberty, national defense, traditional values, and more.

Thanks to Leadership Institute donors, the list of schools where students have enrolled in Conservatism 101 grows each year, including:

- University of Virginia (VA)
- Brown University (RI)
- American University (DC)
- University of Texas at Austin (TX)
- Clemson University (SC)
- East Carolina University (NC)
- Saint Cloud State University (MN)
- Snow College (UT)
- Lock Haven College (PA)

Donor support gets classes approved

Thanks to donor support, the Leadership Institute helps conservative students fight to get Conservatism 101 on their campuses. Though the Leadership Institute has succeeded in getting Conservatism 101 approved as a for-credit class on several college campuses, it’s an uphill battle. Conservatives must battle college administrators or student governments to get a course approved. It takes even more work to keep it as a permanently-offered course. However, for students whose colleges refuse to offer a for-credit course, they now have access to Conservatism 101 online.

Mark Levin and others teach LI’s course online

In partnership with Free Think University, LI’s Conservatism 101 course launched online at FreeThinkU.com. Open to all at no charge, students can learn conservative history and philosophy, and earn scholarships for completing the course. Fourteen instructors teach the online course, including:

- Wall Street Journal columnist Stephen Moore
- Grove City College professor Paul Kengor
- Author and radio talk show host Mark Levin
- U.S. Senator Ted Cruz
- Leadership Institute president Morton Blackwell

Thanks to generous Leadership Institute supporters, conservative students learn the foundations of conservatism to defend and advance their conservative principles — and fight back against rampant leftism on college campuses.

Top-notch conservative leaders teach LI’s Conservatism 101 online lectures

STEVEN MOORE
Weekly columnist and economics writer

PAUL KEN GOR
New York Times best-selling author and Grove City College professor

MARK LEVIN
Nationally syndicated radio talk show host

TED CRUZ
United States Senator

MORTON BLACKWELL
President and Founder, Leadership Institute

Visit www.Conservatism101.org to take the free course.
COMING FULL CIRCLE

Jason Turner invests in young conservatives as previous generations invested in him

It was almost morning in America, and Jason Turner of Milwaukee, Wisconsin sensed something big on the horizon. The problem was, he didn’t know the way there.

“I was a frustrated conservative in the early part of my career, looking for a way to get involved in politics and to act on the conservative passion I felt,” Mr. Turner recalls. Like so many of the 186,270 young people who have gone through LI training since 1979, he had a goal — to reform America’s welfare system — but he didn’t know how to go about achieving it.

A letter that changed his life

“Into my mailbox came a letter from Morton Blackwell and the Leadership Institute,” said Jason, inviting him to engage with the work of restoring the conservative principles that make America prosperous. After attending a three-day youth training in Detroit, Michigan in 1980, Mr. Turner learned how to get involved. “In Morton’s campaign classes, he explains to his students how working with a candidate can lead to a job after,” Mr. Turner explains.

After his Leadership Institute training, Jason landed a position as a youth coordinator with then-newcomer Frank Wolf, who was challenging a Democrat incumbent in Northern Virginia. Thanks to Jason’s work, conservative challenger Frank Wolf won and went on to have an illustrious thirty-six-year career in Congress.

Soon after the 1980 election, Morton invited Mr. Turner to work in the Reagan administration, which launched Mr. Turner into his dream career. “When you place a conservative into a junior position, you are planting a seed that can last a lifetime,” says Jason.

In 1989, he was appointed to a high-level position at the Department of Health & Human Services with responsibilities for the national welfare program, Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). The timing was perfect. A new reform of AFDC had been enacted by Congress, and Mr. Turner helped to implement the legislation.

Mayor Guiliani turned to an aide and said, “Get this guy to work for us.”

In 1992 Mr. Turner returned to Wisconsin to help Governor Tommy Thompson reform the state’s welfare system. Thompson’s bold reforms drew national attention. In August 1997, New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani read an article about welfare reforms in Wisconsin and saw Mr. Turner’s photo. He turned to an aide and said, “Get this guy to work for us.” Mr. Turner left Wisconsin to help reform welfare in the Big Apple.

When conservatives ended 40 years of Democratic rule of the U.S. Congress with a stunning victory in the 1994 midterm elections, handing Congressman Newt Gingrich the Speaker’s gavel, Mr. Turner knew that his vision was at hand. The day in 1996 when President Bill Clinton signed welfare reform legislation into law is one Mr. Turner will never forget.

Consolidated his charitable giving to the Leadership Institute

Mr. Turner credits the majority of his success to Morton Blackwell and the Leadership Institute. “I was in a position to be influential because I had had extensive prior experience in Washington and Wisconsin, going all the way back to 1981 and the first job Morton had helped me obtain.”

“From my viewpoint, investing in young conservatives pays off better than any other combination of giving to conservative causes. That’s why I think it is worth consolidating one’s giving to Morton Blackwell’s Leadership Institute. One can maximize his or her impact while alive and while leaving a legacy for the future.”

— by Oressa Boelk and Kasey Bolyard

SCHEDULE YOUR TOUR!

Visit the halls where you train young conservatives with your donations.
Call (703) 247-2000 to schedule a tour of LI’s Arlington, Virginia headquarters today.
No one is immune from the abuse of campus liberals anymore. Longtime friend of Morton Blackwell, Vice President Mike Pence, experienced the disdain of leftists who organized a small walkout during his commencement address at the University of Notre Dame.

But as Mike Pence has said, "The timing couldn’t be better for the Leadership Institute’s efforts to organize campus conservatives — when America faces the greatest threats ever to our Constitutional principles."

When you look at college campuses today — dominated by restrictive “safe spaces,” “free speech zones,” “trigger warnings,” “speech codes,” as well as mass walkouts and even violent protests — Morton Blackwell’s vision of an independent conservative student organization on every college campus is not a luxury. It’s a necessity. Conservative students must have a place where they know they can find one another and where their parents and grandparents know that their children and their conservative principles will be welcomed, supported, and protected.

Thanks to the Leadership Institute’s Campus Leadership Program, 206 new student groups have joined LI’s unique national network this spring, and campus conservative leaders trained by LI have newly identified 56,235 conservative students on college campuses. Perhaps one of them could be a child who is dear to you. New conservative groups form on college campuses continually (see list on bottom left.)

If you have a child or grandchild in college and would like him or her to join a conservative campus group — or start a new one to fight the left — please call the Leadership Institute at (703) 247-2000 today.

The timing couldn’t be better for the Leadership Institute’s efforts to organize campus conservatives — when America faces the greatest threats ever to our Constitutional principles.” • Vice President Mike Pence