

Book Reviews

The Empire of Eunuchs: How the Republican Party Betrayed America, by Richard Moss, M.D., 567 pp, soft cover, \$21.99, ISBN 13: 979-899026690, GGV Publishing, 2024.

Richard Moss, M.D., who is an independent ear, nose, and throat surgeon from Jasper, Indiana, calls on Republicans to stand by their stated principles. He argues that for all practical purposes we have a one-party system. The Republican party has raised funds on ending Obamacare, reducing the size of government, balancing the budget, and controlling the border. But in terms of voting, spending, and handling of the pandemic, its actions are no different from those of the radical Marxists who have taken over the Democratic Party. In the face of threats to the nation, Western Civilization, and the world, he refers to Republicans as “eunuchs” who do nothing. He asks, “Do you really want to live with people intent on killing babies, mutilating children, masking and injecting us with a Chinese bioweapon, opening our borders, defacing churches, and letting rapists and murderers roam our streets?”

He sees the founding of this nation as unique in world history, and he wants to do what he can to restore the republic. If we fail, we may face a thousand years of darkness that will inevitably follow.

The Democrats are remarkably successful. Democrats are very disciplined, with both leaders and the activist base moving in lock step. Meanwhile, the Republicans “get on their hind legs, beg and wait for a doggie treat from their Democrat overlords.”

He catalogues how the Republicans have surrendered “without a whimper” on many issues. In 2015 the Supreme Court redefined marriage by accepting gay marriage. The Republicans have by and large endorsed Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), which, until the Trump administration, was ensconced in nearly every institution in the country. He says it

should be easy to confront the Left given its “record of poverty, unemployment, scarcity, starvation, prison camps, aka gulags, torture, slavery, mass executions, and not infrequently genocide.”

Dr. Moss first thought of running for elected office in 2010. He recounts how he started attending Republican events and became friendly with various Hoosier politicians. He details how an incumbent candidate that he considered running against went “full RINO.” In this Congressman’s speeches he was all about limited government and balancing the budget, but in D.C. he forgot everything he claimed to stand for.

Dr. Moss became acquainted with Mike Pence. He painstakingly detailed Pence’s failures, especially on Jan 6, 2021, when Pence did not defend Trump’s and everyone else’s right to question the outcome of an election. He concludes that Pence “betrayed his country and the God and savior he claims to follow.”

One of the best chapters contains the “Red State Manifesto” written during the height of the COVID epidemic. He starts out by saying that the government medical agencies, in particular the NIH, CDC, and FDA, are hopelessly corrupt. They are bought and paid for by the drug companies. The Republicans failed to “defend the rule of law, our constitutional system, and our pre-political God-given inalienable rights.”

There are 28 states where Republicans control the state legislatures, and especially in these red states Republicans must take action. When confronted with a tyrannical governor the state legislatures should call themselves into session at will. The Republicans in these states should limit emergency powers and school closures to 10 days. Any extensions should require legislative approval. The states should scrutinize all executive orders and those orders that are deemed to be unconstitutional, such as mask mandates, vaccine mandates, school closures, business closures, and the right to freely assemble, should be

declared null and void. Each state should declare itself to be a sanctuary state for the Constitution, particularly the first and second amendments. States should take the initiative to refuse the resettlement of illegal aliens.

The states should end the teaching of racist theories such as critical race theory and the “1619 Project.” States should defund schools, colleges, and libraries that indoctrinate students in leftist, Marxist, race, gender, and queer ideology or encourage hatred of a particular race, hatred of America, the founding of America, or our founding principles. This defunding should include initiatives that undermine the biological reality of two sexes. The states should outlaw all gender transitioning of children. The states should support the right of parents to be involved in the education of their children and to interact with teachers, school administrators, and be active at school board meetings. The states should support the reinstitution of school prayer, the teaching of the Bible, and should promote wholesome classical education of children and the pursuit of truth, goodness, and beauty. The states should support a color-blind meritocracy.

The states should restore the integrity of election laws, should eliminate mail-in ballots, return to hand-counted paper ballots, and require proof of citizenship to vote. The states should consider banning companies that maintain commercial relationships with the slave empire of China. Attorneys general of red states should litigate against “big tech” and other corporations that enforce speech codes or censorship of conservatives, or that cancel individuals who espouse traditional or conservative beliefs.

The states should pass “Right to Try” legislation that would allow patients to try investigational or off-label therapies that are not yet approved by the FDA, especially if they are suffering from a life-threatening condition. Red states should defund and legislate against so called green, global warming, or climate

change agendas, and oppose subsidies for electric vehicles, windmills, and “other bogus and...ineffective technologies.” Essentially, it is time for the red states to act where the federal government has been remiss.

In a chapter entitled “Who Assassinated America,” Dr. Moss starts out with near poetic language about our great country, but at the end of the chapter takes a harsh tone with regard to the Republicans who have deceived us. These Republicans he refers to as the “Left/Satan.” He says, “They are the serpent out of Eden. They are the most evil of all.” He says at least the Democrats “were open in their cruel designs.”

Later in the book Dr. Moss relates that in his youth he was socialist leaning. Many of the famous conservatives had a similar awakening later in life. This includes the late David Horowitz, whom we have greatly admired and who spoke at one of our AAPS Annual Meetings.

The book provides a historical perspective and comprehensively covers many of the political challenges we have faced.

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The Mind Has Mountains: Reflections on Society and Psychiatry, ed 1, by Paul R. McHugh, M.D., 272 pages, hardcover, \$13.44, ISBN-10: 0801882494, Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006.

Paul Rodney McHugh, M.D., is the Renaissance man of neuropsychiatry. After Harvard undergraduate and medical school, Dr. McHugh turned to neurology and neuropathology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Then he moved to London to study at the Institute of Psychiatry, and next to the Division of Neuropsychiatry at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. He served as chief of psychiatry at Johns Hopkins Medical School.

This book is a sampling of his essays on important subjects in social/psychological/psychiatric/philosophical matters that appeared when he became a prominent voice of conservative and Western Civilization-based medical professionalism. His positions evoke dismay in socialist advocates of utilitarian ethics that opened the door to euthanasia and other medical practices condemned

by the traditional Oaths of Hippocrates and Maimonides.

Tom Wolfe, author of *The Bonfire of the Vanities* and *The Right Stuff* writes: “Paul McHugh of Johns Hopkins is the man who rescued modern psychiatry from a coven of flaming nut cases...such lunatic notions as ‘recovered memory,’ ‘sexual reassignment,’ ‘multiple personality disorder,’ ‘physician-assisted suicide,’ ‘Vietnam-specific post-traumatic stress syndrome’...and in the process gives us a realistic picture and philosophy of the human condition.”

Dr. McHugh identifies two themes that reveal the magnitude and the cause of the misdirection:

The first theme is my instinctive antipathy toward what can be called the “Gnostic” presumption...that psychiatrists know deep secrets...that tend to turn on sexual and rest upon unconscious drives and conflicts (think Freud) and usually carry both a criticism of traditional morals and a sense that psychotherapy can offer a salvational conversion from the dominance of a depriving puritanical culture.

The second theme is that “psychotherapists have a natural tendency to give themselves over to the softer virtues...at the expense of sterner virtues of truth, responsibility and justice,” thus nurturing acceptance of deviance and immaturity.

In the introduction to the book, Dr. McHugh declares his commitment to “an intellectual stance of constructive realism.” In his textbook *Perspectives of Psychiatry* (ed 2, 1998), which he co-authored with Dr. Phillip Slavney, he advocates evidence-based psychiatry that has support from genetics, epidemiology, neurology, behavioral psychology, psychotherapy, and social science. He states that Freud and Freudian psychiatry are unscientific and unreliable, and that *The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) of Mental Disorders* skips the hard work of good psychiatric care.

On specific current issues, he debunks the life-destroying theory of recovered memories of childhood sex abuse invented by therapists. He warns against multiple personality disorder and other mass hysteria epidemics that are

amplified by noisy professional advocates and the media. He describes homosexual orientation as a choice based on desires and influenced by the environment, based on his studies of motivated behaviors. He asserts that gender dysmorphism/confusion are mental health disorders, not a person stuck in the wrong body. He had written on the negative outcomes of gender transition treatment long before Dr. Hilary Cass did her recent study for the UK National Health Service condemning aggressive, particularly child and adolescent gender transitioning in the UK. Dr. McHugh condemned and always has condemned surgical mutilation for mental illness. He condemns euthanasia as one example in medicine of nihilistic utilitarianism and departure from professional ethics to support for a political socialist agenda, like that which was on display in medical practice under the Nazi dictatorship.

Dr. McHugh is a moral and ethical man, and he insists that, in medicine, the rule should always be *primum non nocere* (first do no harm). Along with Leon Kass, M.D., chairman of the Bush Presidential Council on Bioethics, Dr. McHugh argued that there is a problem of medicalization in America, including even medically provided performance enhancement.

Medical professionals with a “do something” mandate sometimes jump in with poorly chosen interventions or solutions because professionals sometimes forget the key issue: What is the problem, and do we have an efficacious and safe solution? Alternatively, will our intervention make things worse or create a new problem? Professionals are too often fixed on being in charge and declaring their priorities and their advice. Humility is the foundation for good scientific and professional conduct, judgment, and behavior, but professionals and “experts” often have too little of all four.

On a second reading of the book with many years and a lot of societal events and political and social disturbances in between, I found Dr. McHugh’s book even more important, full of wisdom and humane manners. Especially delightful is his chapter on Shakespeare’s dramas. “Genius” is an inadequate word.

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