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SMEAR JOB

- Plutocrats ramp up efforts against Rep. Ron Paul
- Launch media smear campaign in New York Times

By Michael Collins Piper

MERICAN FREE PRESS got frontline mention as the very first words in the first paragraph of a muddled smear of Republican presidential hopeful Ron Paul published as a lengthy hit piece beginning on the front page of *The New York Times* on Dec. 26. That article was followed up by a lead editorial by the *Times* in its Dec. 28 issue denouncing what it called "Mr. Paul's Discredited Campaign," citing its own article as the evidence. The *Times* article was clearly a sustained effort to undermine Paul, making no pretense otherwise.

Constituting no less than 80 full column inches, the articled zeroed in on AFP at the get-go and focused on the fact that AFP has promoted the book *The Ron Paul Revolution*, presenting an overview of Paul's speeches and writings over the last two decades.*

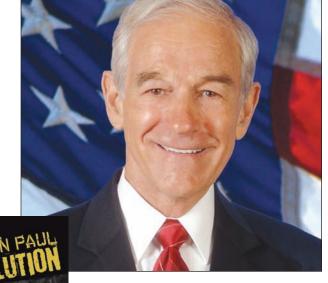
The *Times* ranked AFP as its lead "evidence" that—in its view—unseemly groups and individuals

endorse Paul's efforts. The *Times* said a variety of "white nationalists," "far right groups," "white supremacists, survivalists and anti-Zionists"—and other villains—are rallying behind Paul.

Although the *Times* never categorized AFP per se, it described this paper by reporting that AFP "markets books like *The Invention of the Jewish People* and *March of the Titans: A History of the White Race.*"

Obviously seeking to impute "anti-Semitism" to AFP by referencing the book *The Invention of the Jewish People*, what the *Times* didn't mention is that the book was written by an Israeli Jewish academic, first published in Hebrew in Israel where it was a national bestseller. Most people would not know that, and that's what the *Times* counted on.

And while the *Times* was horrified AFP would carry an advertisement from another publisher on the history of the white race—proof somehow that AFP was



DR. RON PAUL Targeted by *New York Times*.

"racist"—it never occurred to the *Times* that a book about the white race would seem no more shocking to the average American than books, for example, about the history of Africans, Chinese or Indians,

which are in every library and bookstore.

The *Times*' smear is an obvious effort to force Paul to denounce those who have united behind him and to divide Paul's diverse groups of supporters and set them at odds with one another.

 * Call 1-888-699-6397 toll free to charge your copy of *The Ron Paul Revolution* (softcover, 286 pages, \$20 plus \$5 S&H or five copies for \$70 plus \$10 S&H inside the U.S.) by calling AFP toll free at 1-888-699-6397 and charge your subscription to a major credit card. See AFP's website at www.americanfreepress.net.

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Whistleblowers pay price for exposing U.S. atrocities against Iraqi civilians.

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Incarceration Nation

Why are so many Americans getting arrested?

By Dave Gahary

study published in the December issue of *Pediatrics* by four university professors reveals a shocking new statistic: More than a third of Americans will be arrested by the age of 23, a sharp increase from a similar study done in the 1960s. As the new study states: "Since the last nationally defensible estimate based on data from 1965, the cumulative prevalence of arrest for American youth has increased substantially."

The rising figure is in stark contrast to the rest of the world, where rates are significantly lower.

The U.S. has the highest incarceration rate in the world. At the end of 2007, the last year records are available, the U.S. had less than 5 percent of the world's population and about 25 percent of the world's prison population. Within the prison population, approximately 40 percent of inmates are black, 35 percent white, and 20 percent Hispanic. While whites are significantly underrepresented in the prison population relative to their population percentage of the U.S., and Hispanics account for about 16 percent of the U.S. population, blacks are about 12 percent of the U.S. population but 40 percent of the prison population.

In order to get a clearer picture of these startling

findings, on Dec. 22 AFP conducted an exclusive interview with one of the authors of the study, Dr. Michael G. Turner, an associate professor of criminal justice and criminology at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. The lead author of the study teaches at the same school in Charlotte, and the others are from the University of Maryland at College Park and the State University of New York at Albany.

The study used self-reported arrest history data collected between 1997 and 2008 by the Bureau of Labor Statistics National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997. Respondents were between the ages of eight and 23. In the survey, 7,335 youths were asked whether they had ever been arrested or taken into custody for illegal or delinquent offenses. The study excluded stops for minor traffic violations.

The increase in arrests can be attributed to three major factors: the "war on drugs," tougher enforcement in schools and delaying of the institution of marriage. Turner elaborated: "It could reflect a number of things. Part of it could be that we're just getting tougher on certain types of crimes. When you look back on the 1960s compared to now, I think law enforcement is probably a little bit more aggressive on drug-related activities and violence-related activities.

"There's also the issue with what's going on in schools that have instituted zero-tolerance policies 66

A shocking new statistic from the research of four professors reveals that one-third of Americans will be arrested by the age of 23.

and things of those sorts.

"So whereas a fight years ago may have been broken up in the school, and kids were suspended or sent on their way, now they're being referred to the police."

Turner said that marriage is also a factor in incarceration rates.

"If you look at the age in which individuals get married, the age at which they first start giving birth to children, the age at which they get their first job, or the job after school, those are occurring later and later in life," he said. "What we are suspecting is that, because these are occurring later in life, individuals are free to engage in more risky activities for a longer period of time."

In the crumbling U.S. economy, all this spells trouble, especially for those with an arrest on their records. "Most job applications ask either 'have you ever been arrested?' or 'have you ever been convicted?' or both," said Turner. "Now up to the age of 23 one-third of the population is having to check that box, when jobs are tight and the competition for employment is relatively fierce."

The study began in 1997, when the respondents were between the age of 12 and 16 and allows the academics to follow them into their 30s and 40s. ★

Landlord Looks to Outsmart Smart Meters

By Mark Anderson

n owner of southern California apartments says digital "smart meters" for monitoring utilities were forcibly reinstalled by police and utility personnel on two of her apartment complexes after she had removed these meters amid serious concerns that smart meters expand the surveillance state while emitting an energy field that may cause health problems for occupants. AFP first addressed this issue in its Aug. 1, 2011 edition. Since then, these meters have been proliferating around the country.

Deborah Tavares told American Free Press that her situation took place after she removed 19 of these new meters at her expense in order to put normal, analog meters back on her apartments—affecting 12 living units in Covina, and five units in nearby San Gabriel.

Ms. Tavares is challenging a widespread national effort to usher in these smart meters. People familiar with these meters see them as a major step to form a

seamless grid, wherein minute details of one's energy usage and associated lifestyle can be remotely logged.

Meter readers are no longer needed for visiting properties because the new meters allow for remote access of energy-usage data. In addition, according to

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Many people are working to stop the forced installation of "smart meters" on homes across the nation. Are the meters a health & privacy hazard?

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presentations given by engineers such as Rob States, speaking before the San Francisco Tesla Society, the meters carry secret software that can recognize the electric signature of different appliances, making it possible to record precisely when consumers use computers, hair dryers or anything else.

Ms. Tavares recalled in a Dec. 26 interview with AFP

that she went back to using analog meters on her apartments by the fall of 2011 because several of her tenants began to complain of bad headaches, nausea, insomnia, lethargy and other ailments, and the electromagnetic field emitted by the new smart meters was thought to be the cause. She also put protective metal cages around the analog meters she installed.

Not to be denied their monopoly, some 15 employees from the Southern California Edison utility, backed up by five police officers, showed up at 9 a.m. Dec. 12 and used cutting tools to remove Ms. Tavares's cages and analog meters and reinstall the smart meters. "The tenants were horrified," said Ms. Tavares.

Ms. Tavares has set up the website RefuseSmart-Meters.com that offers legal information and other practical means for getting rid of smart meters, and how to stop their installation on one's home or business.

Mark Anderson is a longtime newsman now working as the roving editor for AFP. He and his wife Angie provide photographs and video of the events they cover for AFP. Listen to Mark's radio show at republicbroadcasting.org, weekdays at 8 p.m. central. Email him at at truthhound2@yahoo.com.