

# The Belo Herald

Newsletter of the Col. A. H. Belo Camp #49

And Journal of Unreconstructed Confederate Thought

**July 2015 – Follow-up edition**

Second issue with the latest reports around the Confederation on the attacks on our culture and heritage.



The Belo Herald is an interactive newsletter. Click on the links to take you directly to additional internet resources.

## Col. A. H. Belo Camp #49

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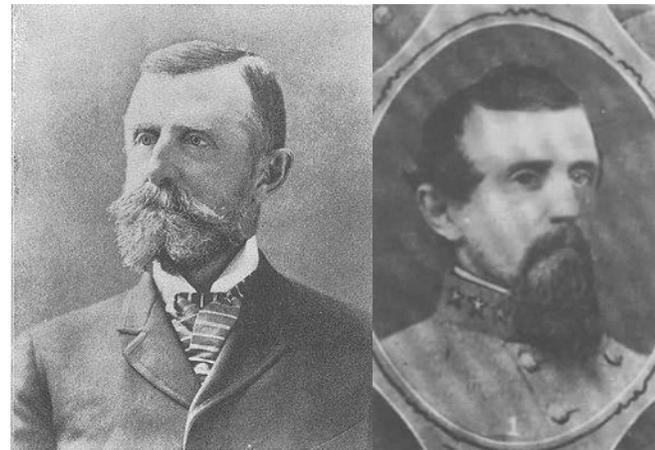
<http://www.youtube.com/user/SCVORG>

Commander in Chief Barrow on **Twitter** at [CiC@CiCSCV](https://twitter.com/CiC@CiCSCV)

Our Next Meeting:

**Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>: 7:00 pm**

All meetings are open to the public and guests are welcome.



**Have you paid your dues??**

Come early (6:30pm), **eat**, fellowship with other members, learn your history!



**"Everyone should do all in his power to collect and disseminate the truth, in the hope that it may find a place in history and descend to posterity." Gen. Robert E. Lee, CSA Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1865**



# NO COMPROMISE!

**SCV** Telegraph

4 July, 2015

News for SCV members

[SCV HQ](#) [SCV Blog](#) [CV Blog](#)

[Recruiting Website](#) [Sesquicentennial Society](#) [The Confederate Museum](#)

The South Carolina Division Executive Council has voted NOT to compromise on the removal of the Confederate Battle Flag and continues to support flying the flag on the grounds of the South Carolina Statehouse. The National Sons of Confederate Veterans fully supports the South Carolina Division's decision. Any rumors of a compromise are false and should not be given the attention that the media would like them to get.

Please help the South Carolina SCV by calling and emailing all South Carolina state officials on Monday as they begin the debate about the Confederate Battle Flags fate.

Charles Kelly Barrow

Commander-in-Chief  
Sons of Confederate Veterans  
@scvcic

[www.scv.org](http://www.scv.org)

# **Compatriots and Supporters of Southern Heritage,**

**Just a quick note as we go into the Independence Day weekend, a time when America celebrates its secession from Great Britain.**

**It is imperative that we all stand strong and united as we insist the South Carolina legislature preserve the dignified and appropriate display of the Confederate Battleflag beside the Confederate Soldier's Monument on the Statehouse grounds.**

**It has always been the position of the Sons of Confederate Veterans that there is nothing inappropriate about the public display of the Confederate flag.**

**We must never conceded the precious symbols of our proud Southern heritage to hatemongers or radical left who want to redefine it as something evil.**

**I urge you to take a few minutes out of your busy weekend to call these legislators and tell them in the strongest possible terms that the Confederate flag must stay right where it is: no compromise, no surrender.**

**God bless you.**

**Kelly Barrow,  
Commander-in-Chief**

**You can find information on all Heritage efforts at [scvheritagedefense.org](http://scvheritagedefense.org)**



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

## Sons of Confederate Veterans

"Historic Elm Springs"

1 July 2015

The Sons of Confederate Veterans has learned that a North Carolina Chapter of the Ku Klux Klan has been granted a permit for a protest rally, scheduled for July 18, 2015 on the South Carolina Statehouse grounds. The 30,000 members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans vehemently oppose and denounce this hateful and divisive event.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans has a strictly enforced "hate" policy. Anyone with ties to any racist organization or hate group is denied membership. Any member developing ties to these organizations will be immediately expelled. Prohibited organizations include the Ku Klux Klan, American Nazi Party, the National Alliance, or any organization expressing racist ideals or violent overthrow of the United States government.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans is an historic heritage organization, founded in 1896. Our duty is to protect and preserve the history and heritage of the Confederate soldier, of many ethnicities. This duty was given to us by the Confederate Veterans themselves, and was given to no other group. We are the direct descendants of those men.

Our ancestor's Battle Flag makes no distinction about race, creed or religious affiliation. We stand unequivocally against hate groups for their desecration of those symbols that reflect the best in us: our Christian Cross, our United States Flag, and our beloved Saint Andrew's Cross, the flags of our courageous ancestors.

Recent actions by opportunistic special interests have compounded the horrific actions of these hate groups by further dividing black and white Southerners of good will and long standing brotherhood. We stand with all good-hearted Americans in strongly condemning "race haters" of any ilk.

Commander in Chief  
Sons of Confederate Veterans



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

## *Sons of Confederate Veterans*

*"Historic Elm Springs"*

29 June 2015

The Sons of Confederate Veterans is very concerned with the stories of recent burnings of Christian churches in our beloved South. We strongly condemn any acts of violence or vandalism against houses of worship and their parishioners. That the recent acts of violence seem to be targeting churches with large black memberships, and occurring in the South, is deeply disturbing to us. We join all Americans in condemning any acts of arson or other acts of violence against all churches and their members and any message of intimidation that such actions might imply.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans is a heritage preservation organization dedicated to preserving the memories and heritage of our Confederate ancestors who fought and, in many cases, died during the War Between the States. We condemn all acts of racial violence.

We stand with our Christian brethren of all races when their houses of worship are attacked and assaulted. If local law enforcement and fire marshal investigations determine that any of these churches were intentionally burned or damaged by arson or other malicious acts, we will stand with our Christian brethren and fellow Americans and support wherever we can the efforts of local law enforcement to catch and punish the culprits.

*Charles Kelly Banon*

Commander in Chief  
Sons of Confederate Veterans

## (something we've known about all along at the Herald)

6/29/15

Charles Kelly Barrow Scv

**Disgusted!!!**

Commander,

I have just received a call from Mary Valentino, Executive Secretary at UDC Headquarters, who told me that she was sorry to report that she had **been directed by the President General to inform me that our signed and fully paid contract to rent their Great Hall for our upcoming Memorial Service has been cancelled and our \$350 check would be returned.** I have had nothing but very pleasant dealings with Ms Valentino, so when I registered my displeasure, I did so in a most civil manner, as she is just the messenger. I said "This is most inappropriate. Your organization is committing organizational suicide." She went on to say that their whole building was being closed that week to everyone, including UDC members.

I have been trying to take various steps to rebuild some of the bridges that have been destroyed between our two organizations, but there has been NO cooperation from the UDC to any overtures.

I have one remaining alternative to pursue regarding an appropriate venue for the Memorial Service. I will work on it quickly and let you know as soon as I have something solid to report.

Sincerely,

Edwin Ray

Chairman

2015 Reunion Planning Committee

6/30/15

Charles Kelly Barrow Scv

As many of y'all may or may not know, my wife is involved in the UDC and my children are involved in the CofC. My son, who is 5 years old is Life Member of the SCV and has been a member of the CofC since birth and my daughter, who is 7 years old has been a member since birth as well. I like to refer to my family as the "Confederate Family" It has been decades since the Commander-in-Chief of the SCV has had a wife who was active in the UDC and his children active in the CofC all at the same time. I support my wife and children as a Christian husband should in their activities.

I was invited (as in the past) to bring greetings to the CofC Convention and this year I was looking forward as CIC to bring greetings again and be there for my children. Today I received an email being uninvited and I was saddened. No matter what, I will continue to support the CofC, it is a great organization. See the email below.

**Good Morning Sir, It is with a heavy heart that I'm having to write to you, but with all that is happening with Virginia and across our Nation, the UDC has decided that our greetings for the Children's Convention will be from within the Daughters. I am truly sorry but I have also had to send the same to the Governor of Virginia. Thank you again for being willing to drive to Lynchburg**

[Charles Kelly Barrow Scv](#)

June 30 at 11:04pm ·

Friends,

I was contacted tonight by the Director General of the CofC stating that there was some sort of misunderstanding and protocol issue that caused the email that was sent this afternoon. I have been asked again to bring greetings at the General CofC Historical Evening on Thursday evening on behalf of the SCV. Anyone is welcome to come and support me on this as well as the CofC.

# GLORIOUS 4<sup>TH</sup> IN SC

By Kirk D. Lyons

My friends and suffering fellow countrymen: My Independence spirit has been seriously mauled by recent attacks on our liberty by the Supreme Court and self appointed censors, who like ISIS (and I believe I was the first to label them so) are waging an all out attack on all things Confederate. This imperils Liberty for all of us. If we are unwilling to unshackle ourselves from the chains of the federal plantation, then we owe King George III an apology. As a patriot, I feel like my best course today is to work, and work hard at the office, to do what I can this day and every day to reverse this daily tide of tyranny. My heart, breaking for what was once my country, has no feelings for celebrating a currently meaningless holiday. Any American Indians or citizens of Vicksburg, Mississippi who want to join me are welcome. I will also spend part of the day on my knees in prayer. Support [www.slrc-csa.org](http://www.slrc-csa.org)



# SDYC 2015!!!

## THAXTON, VIRGINIA



Sam Davis Youth Camp just completed a successful week at our eastern camp in Thaxton, VA. Its not too late to sign up for the **Texas camp**, which will be held at Three Mountain Resort in Clifton, Texas, **July 26<sup>th</sup> – August 1<sup>st</sup>**. For more information, contact Mark Brown at 972-479-9341 or go to:

[http://scvtexas.org/Sam\\_Davis\\_Youth\\_Camp.html](http://scvtexas.org/Sam_Davis_Youth_Camp.html)

# GOOD POINT!

## I'm Offended

The location of that flag at the South Carolina State House offends me. Not the Confederate battle flag; it seems to be in an appropriate place. I'm talking about the U.S. central government flag. The U.S. flag should fly over U.S. government property, but the last time I checked, the S.C. State House still belongs to the people of South Carolina, even though the state is now subjected by force to U.S. rule. Unfortunately, most of our scalawag state politicians are happy and proud to be the red-headed step children of the Yankees that still openly hate and ridicule us, hoping to gain favor with their northern rulers, I suppose. That flag was placed there by force at the point of a gun by the war criminal W.T. Sherman against the will of the people of South Carolina while his troops burned and plundered the unarmed city of Columbia. How do the worshippers at the altar of Americanism reconcile that fact while stating that they adhere to the concept of government by the consent of the governed? The P.C. propagandists are in a frenzy over the wrong flag, but you can't expect intellectual honesty from them. The flag over the memorial in front of the State House is honoring those who fought for the principle of self government against an invading army bent on conquering and subjugating the people of our State. The one flying above the State flag symbolizes the rule of a government that is boldly operating outside the limits of its constitutional cage and was placed there against the will of the people it now rules. We should remove that offense and let the South Carolina flag fly alone as a symbol of state sovereignty, a concept that was once well understood by all. Sadly, we no longer have the right of free speech, so if this note gets into the wrong hands and you hear of the "free and brave" heroes dragging me out of my burning home for hate crimes, please don't forget to send magazines and cigarettes...

Deo Vindice  
Dennis



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June 29, 2015

Honorable Richard D. Holcomb  
Commissioner  
Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles

RE: Ban on issuance of SCV specialty plate

Dear Commissioner Holcomb:

In 1999, the Virginia General Assembly approved a specialty license plate for the Sons of Confederate Veterans but unconstitutionally censored the use of the Confederate Battle Flag. The Confederate Battle flag has been part of our organization's logo since the SCV was founded over 119 years ago. Although the Assembly had permitted dozens of organizations to use their logos on specialty plates, the SCV is the only group the Assembly has ever forbidden to display its logo on a license plate. The Sons of Confederate Veterans filed a civil rights lawsuit challenging the Commonwealth's actions as a denial of their right of free speech. In April 2002 a 3 judge panel of the 4<sup>th</sup> Circuit United States Court of Appeals unanimously ruled that the State of Virginia had violated the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment rights of the Virginia Sons of Confederate Veterans and ordered the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles to begin issuing specialty tags bearing our Confederate Battle flag themed logo.

On June 23, 2015, Governor McAuliffe stated that he would "move quickly" to erase the Confederate flag from state license plates. I have already received calls from the VaDMV, undoubtedly in an attempt to discuss new logo options with me.

What the Governor and you seem to forget is that our Confederate Battle flag plates did not come through the offices, largesse and goodwill of the Governor, the General Assembly or the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, *but by a Court order* issued by the 4<sup>th</sup> Circuit United States Court of appeal. (Decision attached if the Governor and you have mislaid your copies).

I am aware of *no* order from the 4<sup>th</sup> Circuit vacating our right to receive our plates from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles and on behalf of ALL the citizens of the Commonwealth I insist that you follow the rule of Law. If you desire to cease issuing SCV plates on the *lie* that they are "hurtful" and "divisive," then I demand that you follow proper legal procedure by filing a proper Motion to Vacate in a United States District

Court for the Western District of Virginia, so that we may have a venue outside of the current orchestrated witch hunt to properly respond.

Whatever the cost, the Virginia Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans will oppose the Governor's attempt to stymie the rights of *all* Virginians by picking on groups of citizens he believes are vulnerable & unpopular. This tactic, very old, used to be called "McCarthyism."

Deo Vindice,

L. Tracy Clary  
Commander  
Virginia Division Sons of Confederate Veterans

# SC lawmakers: Flag should be down by end of next week



SC State House AP

BY ANDREW SHAIN

*ashain@thestate.com*

COLUMBIA, SC

South Carolina lawmakers are confident a bill to remove the Confederate flag from the State House grounds could reach Gov. Nikki Haley's desk by the end of next week, several said Tuesday.

The Legislature reconvenes Monday.

Lawmakers expect the Senate to give final approval to a flag-removal bill — sponsored by state Sen. Vincent Sheheen, D-Kershaw — by Tuesday. The House then could push Sheheen's proposal to Haley by Thursday.

The bill takes effect with the signature of the governor, who called for moving the flag last week.

"It doesn't have to take several weeks to do this," said House Majority Leader Bruce Bannister, R-Greenville.

But some serious hurdles could slow the debate, reignited after nine African-American parishioners were gunned down June 17 while attending a Bible study at a historic Charleston African-American church.

In a statement a week ago, House Speaker Jay Lucas said he would refer flag bills to the House Judiciary Committee "where they will go through the appropriate process." That could add weeks to the deliberations.

Lucas' office did not address Tuesday if the Darlington County Republican would support allowing flag bills to go straight to the House floor. The speaker "is confident that a swift resolution will be reached," said a spokeswoman for Lucas, who has not shared his opinion on removing the flag.

House Minority Leader Todd Rutherford, D-Richland, said Tuesday that delaying a vote would only increase the chances of violence over the flag.

One man was arrested Monday night after pro- and anti-flag protestors clashed at the State House. Also on the Capitol grounds, a vandal threw a red paint-filled balloon Tuesday at the statue of "Pitchfork Ben" Tillman, a white supremacist who was the state's governor and a U.S. senator.

"It's July and hot, and the world is watching," Rutherford said. "It will only get worse. If we don't act, we are encouraging problems."

Rutherford said he expects Lucas will not delay action on flag.

Last week, the 123-member House voted 103-10 and the 45-member state Senate voted 42-3 to debate the flag. Those overwhelming votes — and subsequent polls of lawmakers by news outlets — indicate there is the two-thirds support required in the House and Senate to take down the flag.

"The speaker works for the body," Rutherford said. "I don't know of a single member who wants to talk all day on this."

Bannister said he expects the House to take up the Senate proposal once it comes across the State House lobby.

The House can wait for the Senate bill.

The House will vote Monday on 87 budget vetoes that Haley unveiled publicly Tuesday. Meanwhile, the Senate plans to meet Monday to consider Sheheen's flag bill, taking the crucial second of three votes required for the measure to move out of that chamber to the House.

Passage out of the Senate is expected. Senate President Pro Tempore Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence, has said he agrees with calls to remove the flag.

Flag-removal supporters may have averted a potential obstacle in the Senate.

State Sen. Lee Bright, a Spartanburg Republican who has started an online petition to keep the flag on the State House grounds, said Tuesday that he has no plans to filibuster Sheheen's move-the-flag bill.

Bright said he wants people to understand that not all people see the Confederate flag as a symbol for hate, adding: "I hate how these creeps have misused these emblems."

Accused church shooter Dylann Roof was photographed holding the Confederate flag. Roof's friends say he wanted to start a race war.

Bright said he would introduce two amendments to Sheheen's bill, one to let South Carolinians vote on removing the Confederate battle flag and another to stiffen penalties for defacing State House monuments.

Sen. John Courson, R-Richland, said he plans to introduce an amendment to fly the South Carolina state flag in place of the battle flag next to the Confederate soldiers' memorial.

"The South Carolina flag shows how we have come together as a state after (the shootings)," said Courson, who backs moving the flag.

Sheheen's bill, however, would remove the flagpole. The Democrat's bill would move the flag to the Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum, located at the State Museum, a mile away from the State House.

State Rep. Kenny Bingham – a Lexington Republican who supports moving the flag, saying it has become a distraction – said he would like to see the Civil War banner taken down in a way that honors those who fought "for their government at their time."

The battle flag was removed from the Capitol dome by Citadel cadets in 2000 and raised in front of the Confederate soldiers' memorial by a color guard of reenactors before a crowd of 3,000.

"It was put up in an honorable way, and that's the way it needs to be done," Bingham said, referring to the flag's removal.

Haley's office did not address Tuesday whether the governor has an opinion on a ceremony to remove the Confederate flag or whether another flag should be flown on the flag pole near the soldiers' memorial.

"Gov. Haley remains focused on working with legislators to remove the flag from the grounds, healing our state and moving forward," her press secretary, Chaney Adams, said.

*CORRECTION: Senate President Pro Tempore Hugh Leatherman's opinion on moving the Confederate flag from the State House grounds has been updated.*

[http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article25932943.html?fb\\_action\\_ids=10153547103164274&fb\\_action\\_types=og.comments](http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article25932943.html?fb_action_ids=10153547103164274&fb_action_types=og.comments)

# July 4- What Exactly are We Celebrating?

By Carl Jones on Jul 4, 2014



On July 2, 1776 the Continental Congress voted to declare independence from the English Crown. A committee of five men was selected to put an ordinance of secession into written form, and on July 4 of that year, the Congress voted to approve what would be known as the Declaration of Independence. Interestingly, and largely unknown, as [Kevin Gutzman notes](#) is the fact that Virginia had already declared its independence nearly two months earlier, on May 15, 1776.

Contrary to popular modern opinion the Declaration was not a “revolutionary” document. The rights of the colonials, as well as the notion that the Creator was the origin of these rights, were already codified into English law- the English Crown and Parliament were no longer observing these rights and were in fact using the force of government to curtail them. Thus it was they, not the Colonials, who were acting in a “revolutionary” capacity. The Crown was failing to abide by their own law, while the Colonials were fighting to uphold it for themselves as well as their posterity. George Mason observed this when he said “We claim nothing but the liberty and privileges of Englishmen in the same degree, as if we had continued among our brethren in Great Britain.”

After establishing in the Declaration’s preamble the basis for the existence of government, and then enumerating the manner in which the Crown had violated these tenants, the resting place of the Declaration is found in its final paragraph. It states:

We therefore, the representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by the Authority of the good people of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States.

Notice as well, that it goes on to equate these “Free and Independent States” with the “State” of “Great Britain” and declares that-

as free and independent states, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent states may of right do. A “colony” is subject to the authority of a parent government. In this case that parent government was the English Crown. The 13 American Colonies wished to be “absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown” and established that “all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain ought to be totally dissolved.” They were no longer “colonies”, but “States.”

Stated another way, they were now in fact “Independent Nations” free to form their own governments, independent not only of England, but of each other as they were “unified” solely for the purpose of defending themselves against invasion by the British.

Reflecting on this, the notion that “The United States”, or what some now call “this great nation”, was born on July 4, 1776 is a historical farce. While declaring independence ultimately led to the creation of a “union” under, first the Articles of Confederation, and later the Constitution, the Declaration itself created nothing- it merely established a separation of the colonies from England, and each of these would go on to form their own “nations”. Virginia did so even as the Declaration of Independence was being penned in Philadelphia, as it was at that time in the process of enacting its own Constitution. Future States would enter the union on the same footing as the original 13. (Sorry Texas, you were therefore not the first sovereign “Republic” to enter the union. There were 27 others before you).

Neither the Articles of Confederation, nor the US Constitution of 1787 changed the relationship between the States in this regard. As James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, James Wilson, Charles Cotesworth Pinckney and numerous other proponents of the Constitution would assure, the Constitution ratified in 1788 would delegate only specific enumerated powers, dealing primarily with defense, foreign commerce and regulating trade among the several States. All other powers, as was insisted on by the States, were to be “reserved to the States respectively”. This was acknowledged in what would become the 10th Amendment of the Constitution. The 13 States created themselves, and went forward to become a plural “union” not a singular “nation” under the constitution.

Prior to the defeat of the South by Lincoln’s invading armies the people of the united States would refer to the union in the plural, as in “The united States were” or “The united States are”, rather than “The United States is” or “The United States was”. This changed only after Lincoln’s bloody crusade to undo the constitution of our Founding generation.

With the South’s defeat in 1865 the constitution was thus effectively annulled. The right as recognized in the Declaration of Independence to “alter”, “abolish” or “throw off” a government that was no longer desired was crushed under heel and the precedent was set establishing that the government in

DC is now, by virtue of the mere notion that “might makes right”, “Supreme” in all things. It was no longer relegated to what Alexander Hamilton, in referring to the 17 specific powers delegated under Article I, called a specific “sphere” of authority. Today, the States refrain from challenging Federal authority which necessarily means that they have lapsed from their prior existence as “Free and Independent States” united for mutual protection, to being, once again, “provinces” subject to an all-powerful parent government- the very thing that July 4th is remembered for dissolving. This “parent” government resides in Washington, DC, rather than London.

On July 4 of every year Americans gather to shoot fireworks, eat barbecue, listen to “patriotic” speeches and celebrate the birth of their country unaware that the union of our Founders was laid to rest at Appomattox Court House in 1865. The Founder’s union was altered through an act of violence, bloodshed and subjugation, and its stated purpose for existences in 1788, when the constitution was ratified, was dealt a death blow. In all reality, we are celebrating a country that no longer exists.

<http://www.abbevilleinstitute.org/blog/july-4-what-exactly-are-we-celebrating/>

## **SURVEY: 70 PERCENT WANT FEDS TO KEEP HANDS OFF CONFEDERATE FLAG**

by [AWR HAWKINS](#) 30 Jun 2015

According to a Tuesday Suffolk University/USA Today survey, 70 percent of respondents said they do not want the federal government imposing a ban on the sale or manufacture of the Confederate flag.

The issue took center stage following the Charleston attack after a photo emerged of alleged gunman Dylann Roof posing with the Confederate flag. And the Suffolk University/USA Today survey was conducted June 25-29, right in the middle of the backlash against the Confederate flag.

According to [Suffolk University](#), following Gov. Nikki Haley’s (R) calls for the Confederate flag to be removed from South Carolina’s Capitol grounds, 42 percent of Americans at large agreed — and 42 percent disagreed. When the questions were asked specifically to southerners, 49 percent of respondents said the flag “represents Southern history and heritage and is not racist.” Only “34 percent said it is racist and should be removed from official locations.”

Regarding federal action banning the sale or manufacture of the Confederate flag, 70 percent of respondents opposed it and 19 percent supported it.

The same survey found that only 38 percent of Americans believed the Charleston attack was a reflection of a larger problem of racism in America.

Follow AWR Hawkins on Twitter: [@AWRHawkins](#). Reach him directly at [awrhawkins@breitbart.com](mailto:awrhawkins@breitbart.com).



<http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2015/06/30/survey-70-percent-want-feds-to-keep-hands-off-confederate-flag/>

# Hoist It High And Proud: The Confederate Flag Proclaims A Glorious Heritage.



by [GERALD WARNER](#) 1 Jul 2015

The night they hauled old Dixie down...? In your dreams, Barack. And that goes for you too, Bill and Hillary, and all the other Beltway “liberal” control freaks. The American left is in a feeding frenzy, cynically exploiting the tragic murders of nine black worshippers in a Charleston church to promote its agenda of cultural genocide against conservatism, tradition and the South.

The liberals feel they are on a roll, having trashed states’ rights by railroading compulsory acceptance of homosexual marriage through the Supreme Court. Now, they feel, is the time to airbrush out of history every tradition that is an obstacle to their new, rootless, alien society based on intolerant political correctness. The epitome of everything they detest and fear is the Confederate Flag, so that is now the target of a hate campaign so fanatical and irrational as to seem barely sane.

A White House spokesman said last week that President Obama has maintained for years that the Confederate flag “should be taken down and placed in a museum where it belongs”. Some members of Congress are also demanding the

removal from beneath the Capitol dome of several statues of Confederate leaders, including Jefferson Davis, the president of the Confederacy. The dean of Washington National Cathedral has called for two stained glass windows that depict the Confederate flag to be replaced. If Jefferson Davis's statue is "divisive", will they also demolish the Lincoln Memorial celebrating his opponent?

Further afield, Mayor Mitch Landrieu of New Orleans has called for a debate over the future of a statue in the city of Robert E. Lee and the renaming of a roundabout called Lee Circle to "reflect who we are as a people". National retailers such as Walmart, Amazon, Sears, eBay and Etsy have rushed to remove items featuring the Confederate flag from their websites, though Walmart made a cake decorated with the ISIL jihadist flag when a man who had been refused a cake with a Confederate flag requested it.

Google blocked digital ads that showed the flag and manufacturers pledged to stop producing it. But Nazi and Communist flags continue to be marketed on many American websites. At the outer fringe of irrationality, film critic Lou Lumenick, in the Washington Post, made a scathing attack on *Gone With the Wind*, the most iconic American film of the first half of the 20th century. It also resulted in the first award of an Oscar to a black actor. Lumenick did not, as some people stunned by his diatribe assumed, call for a ban on the film. But the attempt by the left to deride people who thought a ban was coming ignored the fact that any liberal denunciation of a cultural work almost routinely leads to a prohibition, so the reaction was perfectly logical.

Flags, statues, church windows, street names, films, novels, even an elementary school in California named after Robert E. Lee – all are threatened with being swept into oblivion by a tsunami of destructive liberal triumphalism. The object is to disinherit and eradicate the historical memory and distinctive culture of millions of Americans. It is a second scorched-earth devastation of the South, cultural this time rather than material. This is Obama's March to the Sea.

While your supporters are trashing the monuments and reputations of the forefathers of so many Americans, Barack, you might just want to remind us again which state of the Union, north or south, your ancestors resided in during the traumatic years 1861- 1865? Or did Kenya not have a dog in that fight? The Confederacy was not a callous conspiracy to enforce slavery, but a patriotic and idealistic cause for which 490,000 men were killed, wounded or taken captive. The Civil War was not fought over slavery, but in defence of states' rights. As for secession, the very existence of the United States derived from its secession from the British Crown. Why did the South, then, not have the right to secede in turn from a Union grown intolerable to it, with Abraham Lincoln assuming the role of George III?

The attempt to demonise Robert E. Lee, a great gentleman and Christian soldier, is obscene. Lee was more critical of slavery than were the Northern generals Ulysses S. Grant and William Tecumseh Sherman. In a letter to his wife on 27 December 1856, which he could not have imagined anyone else would ever see, Lee wrote that "slavery as an institution, is a moral & political evil in any Country".

American liberals have just struck another blow against states' rights by benefiting from the whim of just one "floating" Supreme Court justice to enforce homosexual marriage at federal level. When a supreme court is recognised as having a bloc of "liberal" judges – a partisan alignment more appropriate to a political assembly – neutral justice no longer exists. Everything that America deplors in Washington today is what the Confederacy fought against.

With a Republican governor pressing to remove the Confederate battle flag from the monument to the South's dead sons in the South Carolina State House grounds, conservatives could be forgiven for despairing, not at the assaults from the enemy without, but at the treason of the RINOs within (Jeb Bush, too, has jumped on the anti-flag bandwagon). Weaklings are now routinely subverted by a false sense of guilt induced by liberal propaganda and media hype.

But like their Marxist predecessors in the Soviet Union, the culture warriors of the left cannot be appeased by any concession: they rightly interpret it as weakness and demand more. Those who initiated identity politics are attempting to obliterate the Southern identity. There is only one response: defiance. Every tree, every rooftop, every picket fence, every telegraph pole in the South should be festooned with the Confederate battle flag. Hoist it high and fly it with pride, it proclaims a glorious heritage.

<http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2015/07/01/hoist-it-high-and-proud-the-confederate-flag-proclaims-a-glorious-heritage/>

Sunday, June 28, 2015

## 7th Roadside Memorial Battle Flag Raised, Southerland, Dinwiddie County, VA

This afternoon, in support of "National Raise Your Battle Flag Day", the Virginia Flaggers and the Army of Northern Virginia Mechanized Cavalry raised a 10x15 Battle Flag on a 50' pole on Rt. 460 at Southerland, Dinwiddie County, Virginia.

This was the 7th Roadside Memorial Battle Flag installed by the Virginia Flaggers since September, 2013...and the first joint venture for the organizations, involving many hours of volunteer work and support from both groups. The flag was raised in a small, private ceremony on private property along the busy highway. The ceremony was interrupted constantly by the honks and shouts of approval as cars drove by. Many motorists pulled over to take photos during the ceremony as well.

The site is near the location of the Battle of Southerland Station, where 600 Confederate soldiers were killed and wounded, and 1,000 captured on April 2, 1865, the same day that Confederate General A.P. Hill was killed.



The Battle Flag will fly as a living breathing memorial to those men, and all of our Confederate soldiers and Veterans, and was dedicated...

*To the glory of God and in memory and honor of our Confederate heroes. 1861-1865.*

*"The world shall yet decide in truth's clear far- off light*

*That the soldiers who wore the gray, and died with Lee, were in the right."*

*June 28th, 2015*

The Virginia Flaggers would like to thank Willie Wells and the men of the Army of Northern Virginia Mechanized Cavalry for their assistance, support, and co-operation with this project, and all of those whose generous gifts made it possible.

#RaiseYourBattleFlag



Virginia Flaggers

P.O. Box 547

Sandston VA 23150

[info@vaflaggers.com](mailto:info@vaflaggers.com)



*Judy Smith*  
PHOTOGRAPHER

# July 4 crowds ignore call to boycott Georgia park over Confederate flag



By Rich McKay | Reuters – 3 hours ago

By Rich McKay

STONE MOUNTAIN, Ga. (Reuters) - Fourth of July holidaymakers ignored a call to boycott Georgia's Stone Mountain Park, known as the "Confederate Rushmore," over its display of the contentious Confederate flag.

Hundreds of people had staked out spots at the 3,200-acre (1,295-hectare) privately run park by noon on Saturday for nighttime laser and fireworks shows. They shrugged off heavy rain on the park's busiest day of the year as well as the boycott call.

Democratic state Representative LaDawn Blackett Jones this week urged people to stay away from the park 10 miles (16 km) east of Atlanta because it flies three flags of the pro-slavery Confederacy alongside the U.S. and Georgia state flags.

Bobbie Smith of Fitzgerald, Georgia, who was camping at Stone Mountain with her family, called the boycott call "just stupid."

"This whole park is a Confederate memorial. If you don't have the flag here, where on Earth would you put it?" she said.

The Confederate flag from the 1861-65 U.S. Civil War has become a lightning rod for outrage after the shooting of nine black churchgoers in Charleston, South Carolina, last month. The white suspect, Dylann Roof, had posed for photos with the Confederate battle flag.

Politicians in several Southern states have called for removal of the flag and other Confederate memorials from public spaces. A raft of major retailers have said they would pull items with the Confederate flag on them.

Ray Simpkins, of Kennesaw, Georgia, who brought his children to see the laser show, said the flag remains a reminder of the Confederacy's advocacy of slavery.

"Although I don't love it, I think there's a place for it here," said Simpkins, who is black. "But it shouldn't fly next to the U.S. flag."

The park is on state land and run by the Stone Mountain Memorial Association. Spokesman John Bankhead said, "People on both sides of the issue say it (the flag) belongs in a museum. Here in Georgia, the Stone Mountain Park serves as that."

The park is known as the "Confederate Mount Rushmore" for its 90-foot-tall (27-meter-tall) relief sculpture of three Confederate figures - President Jefferson Davis and Generals Robert E. Lee and Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson. The park describes it as the largest high relief sculpture in the world.

The mountain is also infamous as the founding spot of a 20th century version of the Ku Klux Klan, a white supremacist group.

(Editing by Ian Simpson and Christian Plumb)

<https://ca.news.yahoo.com/july-4-crowds-ignore-call-boycott-georgia-park-203102664.html>

# STATES' RIGHTS GO FRONT AND CENTER, POST-SCOTUS

Survey says: 33% Americans OK with ignoring courts

Published: 7/3/15



CHERYL CHUMLEY



The U.S. Supreme Court

Fully one third of Americans believe states ought to have the right to ignore federal courts on issues that sets voters and lawmakers at odds with judicial decisions, a new [Rasmussen Reports'](#) telephone survey found.

*[Get "The Original 13," William Federer's documentary history of religion in America's first 13 states.](#)*

The 33 percent of likely U.S. voters who buy into that view is up nine points from February, when only 24 percent polled said yes to such scenario. The big difference is the U.S. Supreme Court's recent rulings on "gay marriage" and Obamacare, and the outcry that's been generated in recent days, Rasmussen found.

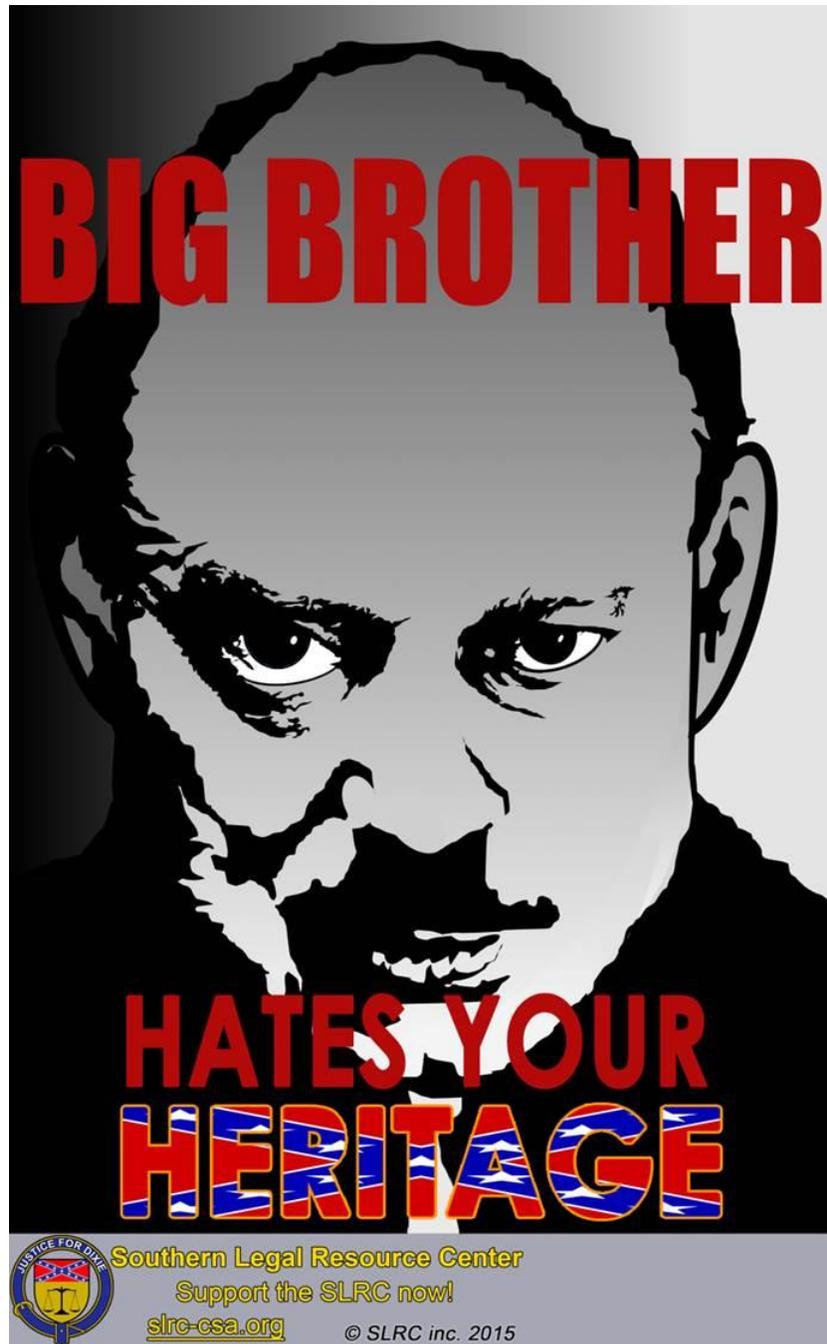
"Perhaps even more disturbing is that the voters who feel strongest about overriding the federal courts – Republicans and conservatives – are those who traditionally have been the most supportive of the Constitution and separation of powers," Rasmussen wrote. "During the Obama years, however, these voters have become increasingly suspicious and even hostile toward the federal government."

Fifty percent of Republican voters think states' rights ought to trump when it comes to deciding the fate of objectionable federal court rulings. By comparison, only 22 percent of Democrats and 30 percent of politically unaffiliated Americans feel similarly, the poll found.

The survey of 1,000 likely voters was conducted between June 30 and July 1, and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus three percentage points.

<http://www.wnd.com/2015/07/states-rights-go-front-and-center-post-scotus/>

# TIME TO CHANGE HOW WE DO HERITAGE BUSINESS.



It was bound to happen someday. A Confederate flag case reached the US Supreme Court, the lower appeals court ruled in Liberty's favor. The Supremes split 5 to 4. NO Confederate flag on a state issued license plate without the State's consent. Its "government" speech don't you know.

Since the 1990's the US Courts of Appeal have looked at this issue, the 4th, 5th, 6th & 11th Circuits ALL upheld the right of the Sons of Confederate Veterans to have their logo on specialty plates. Open to one then open to ALL, was uniform rule of the Courts of Appeal that looked at this issue. But then when the 5th Circuit said yes to the SCV, so-called conservative Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott (now Governor Abbott) appealed to the Supreme Court last Fall - the Confederate Community was cautiously optimistic that the court

would follow the well settled precedents of the Courts of Appeal. But wait, who are these SCV nobodies when we have 12 States, including states like North Carolina who issue an SCV specialty tag, lined up against the Confederate flag and liberty? NYET to Liberty! NYET to the Confederate Battle flag! Nyet to the rule of law!

You see as the SLRC has said MANY, MANY times in the past: ALL Confederate flag cases are "political" cases all of them. What does "political" mean? It means all the rules change when deciding a "political" case because the system has a vested interest in the outcome. Every SCV member, every member of the Confederate Community needs to know this when weighing Confederate legal options. That doesn't mean abandon the legal fight - it means go in with your eyes open with realistic expectations. It means don't just leave the case to the lawyers - Confederate Community members should let the lawyers do what they do, while non-lawyers make their case to the court of public opinion - everyone has a role in a legal fight. Leave it just to the lawyers and you should not be surprised when you lose.

But if you do lose - do you accept an illegal ruling? - NO you figure out a new theory, a new angle and you fight on - its why God put you in our community - to fight, and keep fighting, and if you die of old age and the battle is not over - you pass the fight to the next generation - but YOU/WE never, ever give up so long as we are in the right and asking God's blessing on our struggle for LIBERTY!

One of the reasons that we lose these "political" cases is because we have next to zero political clout. We represent less than 200,000 hard definable votes (we actually quantified that number for Karl Rove one time) and of that extended number only a handful are really active. So politicians, legislatures, courts ignore us - there is absolutely NO down side for them in doing so.

And as we have been marginalized over the last 15-20 years our conservative so-called "allies" have taken our support & vote for granted while steadily moving away from us. we are on our own.

And as we at the SLRC have said again, and again, and again and again, if our Confederate Community does not acquire some serious political savvy to support legal & heritage fights - we will continue to lose important fights. and be further & further marginalized in our society.

The SCV relied on the rule of law for 20 years to display SCV logo specialty plates - just like many Flaggers across the country rely on private property rights to keep their roadside flags secure. WARNING! WARNING! WARNING! Our Enemies are working like gravity to undo us. They work at it 24/7 all out of proportion to our numbers & influence. The day will come, sooner than you think, when the forces of evil figure out a legal/political dodge or trick to remove a Battle flag from private property. FLAGGERS start your war chest for that fight today! It will assuredly come sooner than you think and when you are least prepared.

Remember where you live. You live in a Stalinist country that is a mere shell of its former greatness - and it does not suffer dissidents gladly. Look at the drumbeat already started over the tragic shooting in Charleston, where the dangerous mind altering drugs used by the shooter are ignored by the media and all focus is on his Confederate flag car front plate.

Bottom line. We are not mainstream. we got pushed out of the mainstream some time ago. So-called "Gay" marriage is mainstream, Miley Cyrus is mainstream. We need to start thinking and planning and acting like the (soon to be) persecuted minority that we are. We need new tactics; new thinking, new leaders and we need to stop being surprised when our opponents do to us exactly what they said they would do.

We are peaceful and non-violent. We still need to play the political/legal game with the chess pieces offered us. We still need lawyers and knowledge of our increasingly ineffective & corrupt legal system. And there is still a need for the SLRC - which has time-in-grade of fighting this kind of tyranny. Support [www.slrc-csa.org](http://www.slrc-csa.org)

Respectfully submitted

Kirk D. Lyons  
Chief Trial Counsel SLRC  
Associate Member George Washington Littlefield Camp #59

# **Southeast Texas teen works to restore an official uniform of the United Confederate Veterans**

*Fifteen-year-old President of the Texas Children of the Confederacy has taken on this challenge as his President's Project. This message is from Col. E. W. Taylor Camp #1777.*



Checks should be made payable to "Texas Children of the Confederacy" and mailed to Zander Sheppard, PO Box 808, New Caney, Texas 77357

Zander Sheppard wants to see Lt. William Randolph McEntire's UCV uniform professionally conserved and then placed on display in the Texas Civil War Museum in Fort Worth. To do that, he needs to raise about \$2,500.

The coat and its pants are the property of the Texas United Daughters of the Confederacy. Zander traveled with his grandmother, a member of the UDC, from his home near Houston to Temple, Texas on June 6 and made a speech to the entire Texas SCV Division assembled. For his time, effort, and courage in addressing the large group, one single SCV member handed him a check for \$25.

Gentlemen, this worthy young man needs our help. If you have room in your newsletter, please run these pages and encourage your members to help Zander.

## UCV suit conservation, cont.



This suit belonged to Lt. W. R. McEntire (at right) of Co. A, 9<sup>th</sup> Georgia Btn. Artillery. He came to Texas after the War and became famous here in the cattle industry, banking, cotton, and merchandising. He died in 1920 and lies buried in Oakland Cemetery in Dallas. There are lots of articles and photos of him on the internet.

Zander is a very dedicated young man who deserves our help, both as individuals and as camps. Please consider making a generous donation to his project before the end of July if possible. Thanks for your attention.

We in the E. W. Taylor Camp have no connection to the project other than our wish to help Zander raise the funding.

If you have any questions or concerns please email them to Anna Sheppard at

[Marbil1764@aol.com](mailto:Marbil1764@aol.com)



# Graham: Confederate flag a 'roadblock' for South Carolina



WATCH VIDEO REPORT [HERE](#)

By [NICK GASS](#)

6/28/15 11:50 AM EDT

The Confederate flag is a “roadblock” for his home state of South Carolina, Sen. Lindsey Graham acknowledged on Sunday.

“I see it as a roadblock for South Carolina. Put it in a museum. You can look at it any way you would like. But after this shooting, and after the call for it to be taken down by the families of the victims, I see it as a roadblock to the future of my state,” Graham told host Chuck Todd on NBC’s “Meet the Press.”

Story Continued Below

“I love my state,” he added. “We’ve come a long way. We’ve got a long way to go, but it’s got to come down, and I see it being a museum and you can look at it any way you want.”

The senator, who’s now seeking the Republican presidential nomination, commented on his state’s long history with the flag and the 2000 compromise that moved it from atop the state Capitol dome in Columbia to a memorial on the same grounds.

But, 15 years later, after a white man shot and killed nine black parishioners at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, Graham said, the state must move on.



### ALSO ON POLITICO

## In Lindsey Graham's hometown, resentment over the Confederate flag

BEN SCHRECKINGER

“If you’d asked me the day before the attack in this killing I would say the compromise worked for South Carolina,” Graham told Todd. “I’m not going to throw my state under the bus. That’s never gonna happen. This compromise was 15 years old.”

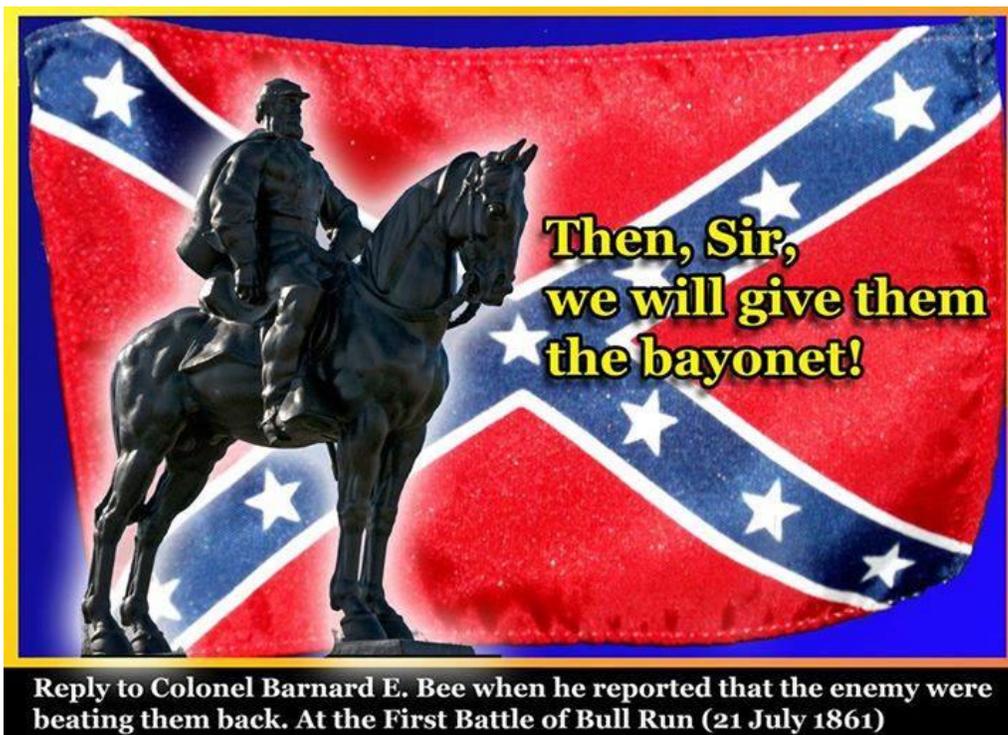
South Carolina “will never be able to move forward if we don’t take the flag down,” he concluded.

“The people at the AME Church, the families of the victims changed everything by their grace, by their love, by their forgiveness, making it impossible for a guy like me to say, ‘Keep the flag up,’” Graham explained.

The senator praised President Barack Obama’s eulogy and singing of “Amazing Grace” at Friday’s service for the slain Rev. Clementa Pinckney.

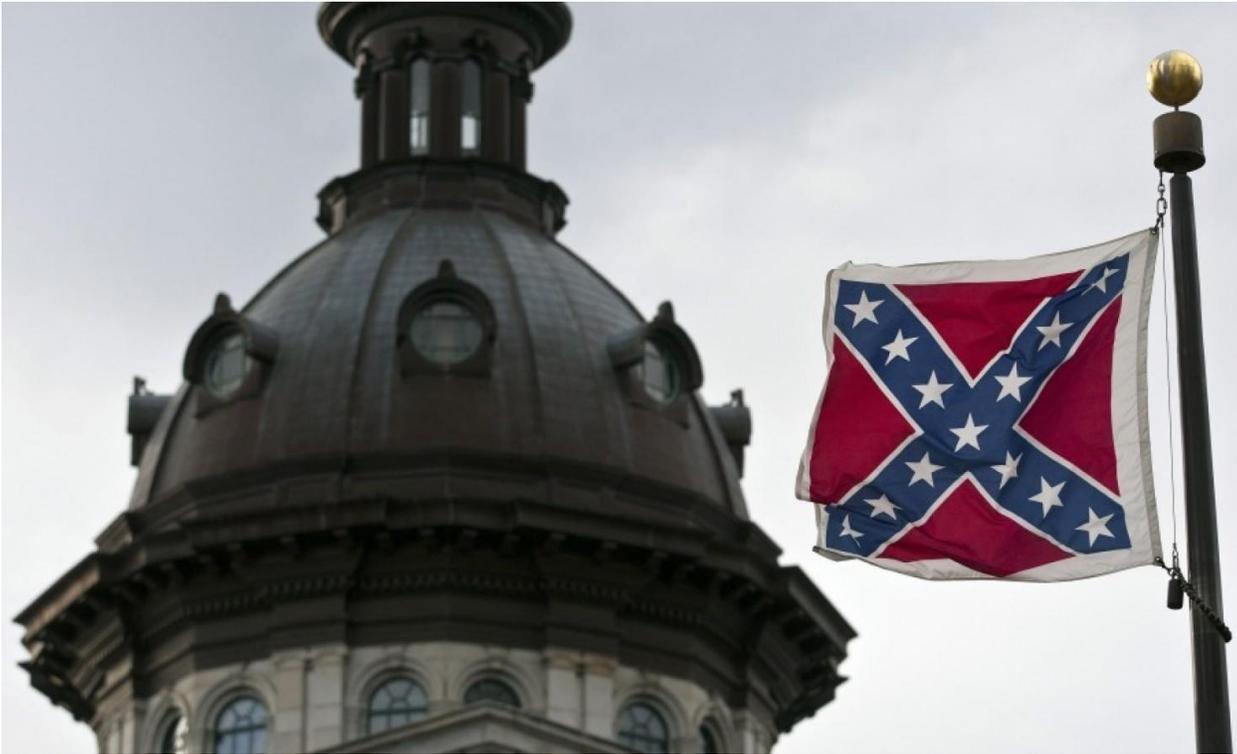
“When he started talking about God’s grace and embracing the Democratic agenda across the board, he sort of lost me there. But I thought he did an incredible job speaking about Rev. Pinckney,” Graham said. “I think he did a good job of explaining our history. Then, it got a bit political. But I’m glad he came, and I know it meant a lot to the people in South Carolina for the president to come.”

Read more: <http://www.politico.com/story/2015/06/lindsey-graham-confederate-flag-road-block-south-carolina-119511.html#ixzz3f3YKl9Lv>



# How the Confederacy lives on in the flags of seven Southern states

By Christopher Ingraham June 21



A Confederate flag flies outside the South Carolina State House in a 2012 photo. (REUTERS/Chris Keane/files)

The shooting of nine black Charleston churchgoers by a young man [allegedly inspired by white supremacist ideology](#) has reignited a controversy over the [proper place of the Confederate flag](#) in contemporary society. [Photos have surfaced](#) showing the suspect, 21-year-old Dylann Roof, brandishing the flag. It [adorned the license plates](#) on his car. And due to an odd quirk of South Carolina law, the Confederate flag on the statehouse grounds -- seen above, in the form of the Confederate Battle Flag -- flew at full mast this week.

Defenders of the flag say it's [a symbol of Southern heritage](#). Detractors maintain that hatred and racism are [an inextricable part of that heritage](#). With all the focus on South Carolina, it's easy to forget that Confederate symbolism still adorns many official state flags in the South. Some states, like Georgia and Mississippi, have seen fierce political battles over explicit Confederate imagery in their flags. In other states, the references are subtler.

As of [the 2010 Census](#), these state were home to about 60 million Americans -- including [12 million African-Americans](#), meaning roughly one third of the nation's black population lives under a state flag that evokes, at least in the eyes of many, the Confederacy. Take a look below.

Alabama



The red cross of the Alabama flag, adopted in 1895, was designed to evoke the [battle flag of the Alabama infantry](#) in the Civil War. That's according to [a written account of the flag's history](#) given by the attorney general of Alabama in 1987.

## Arkansas



The Arkansas state flag was officially adopted in 1913, [according to the Arkansas Secretary of State](#). There were initially three blue stars "representing that Arkansas belonged to three countries (France, Spain, and the United States) before attaining statehood." The secretary of state noted "1803 was the year of the Louisiana Purchase when the land that is now Arkansas was acquired by the United States; and Arkansas was the third state created from the purchase by the United States, after Louisiana and Missouri."

But 10 years later, trouble brewed when legislators realized that "there was no indication on the flag the Arkansas had been a member of the Confederate States of America from 1861 to 1865." So a fourth star was added, above the word Arkansas.

"The lone star above the word is to commemorate Arkansas's membership in the Confederacy," wrote the Secretary of State.

Florida



Florida's flag is similar to Alabama's, consisting of a state seal over a red cross. The cross was added to the flag a few years after Alabama adopted its flag, at the suggestion of Governor Francis P. Fleming. Fleming had enlisted in the Confederate army in his youth, and some historians see his choice of the cross as an attempt to memorialize the confederacy.

## Georgia



Georgia's flag has a long and complicated history. The Confederate battle flag was incorporated into the state flag's design in 1956, a symbol of the state's opposition to racial integration, according to a report by the state Senate in 2000. The design was changed by the legislature in 2001, over the stiff opposition of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and other groups.

In 2002, Sonny Perdue was elected Governor of Georgia, partly by promising voters a referendum on the new flag. In the end, the legislature changed it to a new design: it consists of the first national flag of the Confederacy (the "Stars and Bars") with the addition of the Georgia seal.

Mississippi



Mississippi remains the only state incorporating the [Confederate battle flag](#) into its state flag design. It was adopted in 1894.

In 2001, a voter referendum was held to determine whether to keep the existing flag, or to adopt a new flag design removing Confederate elements. Voters opted to keep the existing flag by [nearly a two-to-one margin](#).

## North Carolina



The current North Carolina state flag was adopted in 1885. It closely resembles the [flag adopted in 1861](#), shortly after North Carolina seceded from the Union. The first date on the flag, May 20, 1775, is the date of the so-called Mecklenburg Declaration, a purported statement of independence from Great Britain that happened in North Carolina, [although the exact nature of the declaration is disputed](#).

But during the Civil War, Southern secessionist leaders evoked the Mecklenburg Declaration as a parallel to the South's declaration of independence from the North. Addressing a crowd in Charlotte, N.C., Jefferson Davis is [reported to have said](#) "people of this section were the first to defy British authority and declare themselves free."

In the original flag, the second date was May 20th, 1861 -- the date of North Carolina's withdrawal from the Union. In 1885, that date was changed April 12, 1776 -- the date of the [Halifax resolves](#), when North Carolina officially called for independence from Great Britain.

## Tennessee



The Tennessee Legislature adopted the current flag in 1905. In a 2013 [article](#), [vexillologist](#) Steven A Knowlton argues that "the Tennessee flag has pragmatic unity with the Confederate flag: both share the element of white stars inside a fimbriated blue charge, and the element of that blue charge on a red field." He also notes a resemblance between the flag's vertical bars and the vertical bar of the [third national flag of the Confederacy](#).



But he concludes that one interesting aspect of the Tennessee flag is plausible deniability: "it is reasonable to say a logo is only expressing Tennessee pride, even if deeper symbolic recognition does link it to Confederate imagery."

Christopher Ingraham writes about politics, drug policy and all things data. He previously worked at the Brookings Institution and the Pew Research Center.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2015/06/21/how-the-confederacy-lives-on-in-the-flags-of-seven-southern-states/>

Morning Mix

# These Texas rebels say the American flag is more racist than the Confederate flag

By Peter Holley April 8



A Confederate battle flag flies near Interstate 95 in Fredericksburg in 2014. (Yue Wu/The Washington Post)

When people tell the Texas Sons of Confederate Veterans spokesman Marshall Davis that his group's flags are an enduring symbol of the South's savage history of slavery, he has an answer ready for them.

“The American flag flew over a slave nation for over 100 years,” Davis says. “The Confederate flag flew over a slave nation for four years. By comparison, the American flag is 25 times more a slave flag.”

Not surprisingly, the Sons of Confederate Veterans believe the controversy swirling around the memorial to Confederate war dead that they’re building in the east Texas city of Orange is overblown, if not entirely unfounded.

Construction on the \$50,000 monument near Martin Luther King Jr. Drive began in 2013, despite strenuous objections from some locals.

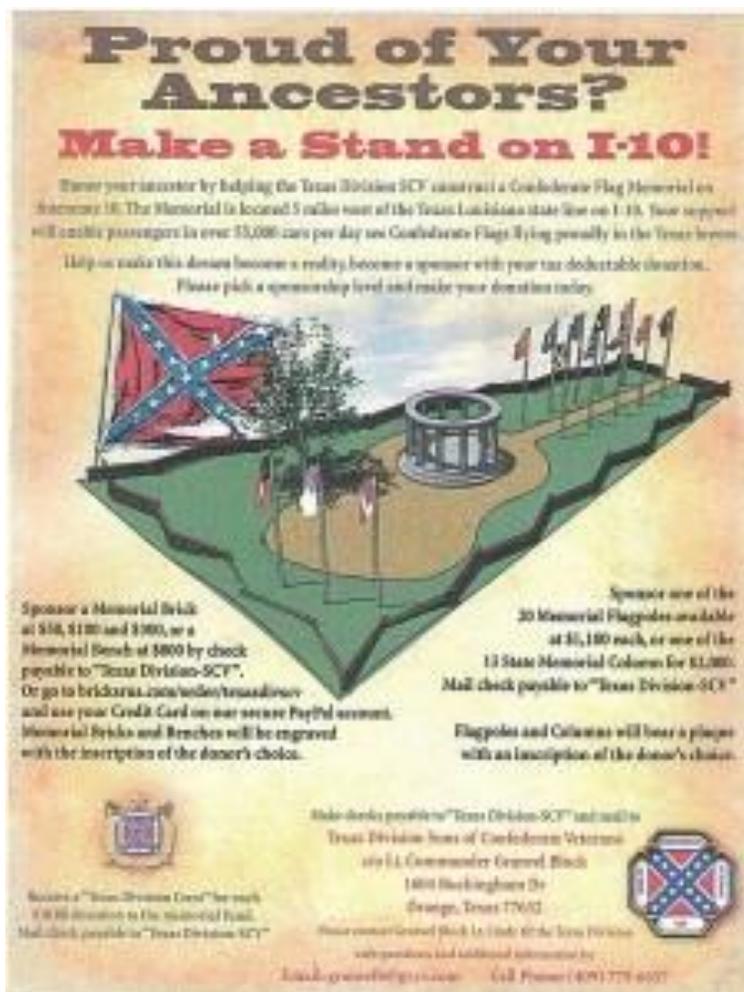
Those objections recently resurfaced after the Sons of Confederate Veterans announced that they have ordered eight custom-made poles for Confederate battle flags that will, Davis said, increase the visibility of the monument alongside Interstate 10, not far from the street named after King, the slain civil rights leader.

*[A Confederate flag divides a Virginia community]*

Eventually, as funds allow, Davis said, the group plans to install 24 more Confederate battle flags representing various Texas regiments that fought in the Civil War. Each one, he noted, will include a nameplate with the flag’s history.

“All we want to do is honor our war dead,” Davis told The Washington Post. “We want to honor our heroes. We don’t want to impede anyone from honoring their heroes, their veterans and their war dead. We would like the same tolerance and courtesy.”

**A 2010 flier shows the memorial’s original design. (Courtesy of the Texas Sons of Confederate Veterans)**



Paul Jones, president of the Beaumont chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, called the memorial a “slap in the face.”

“Why would you want to glorify that part of history?” Jones told the Beaumont Enterprise. “That’s a big question mark in my mind.”

The monument is supported by 77 percent of Orange residents, according to a survey conducted by the Enterprise. Many of them aided in its construction by purchasing bricks at \$50, \$300 and \$500 and benches at \$800, according to the group's Web site.

*[Huge cache of Confederate weapons seized by Gen. Sherman may have been found in S.C. river]*

Orange City Attorney John Cash "Jack" Smith told the Enterprise that he does not count himself among that cohort.

"I don't like it," he said. "I think it's a bad idea. But they own the property, and the First Amendment warrants them that right."

Smith said the city could have faced a lawsuit if local officials had tried to stop construction of the memorial, which sits on recently purchased private land.

David Moore, Lieutenant Division Commander of the Texas Sons of Confederate Veterans, told The Post that Southern states did not fight the Civil War to defend slavery, but instead to defend state's rights after they were "invaded by Northern troops." He said the monument in Orange honors the ancestors of the 2,600 members of Texas Sons of Confederate Veterans.

"We're not a hate group or anything like that," he said. "My great-grandfather joined the Confederate army and he didn't own any slaves, so why did he fight? It was to preserve his family, his children and his state's rights."

He added: "We also had black Confederates fighting for the South as well, which gets left out of history books."

As [The Post has reported previously](#), that claim has been rejected by most historians but is often made by groups seeking to play down slavery's role as a cause of the Civil War.

*[Virginia 4th-grade textbook criticized over claims on black Confederate soldiers]*

Meredith Morgan, an Orange native who opposes the monument and signed a petition to keep it from being constructed, told the Enterprise that the Confederate flag "was adopted by white extremist groups and has been a symbol of hate."

"How do we explain to our children that this monument only represents the divide of the United States in the directional sense?" she said. "In its best form, the flag is still a symbol of division and rebellion."

Davis said critics who find the memorial offensive misinterpret the site's intent.

"The flags are not supposed to be overly obtrusive and offensive," he said.

Instead, he said: "They are to accent the monument."



As builders begin installing Confederate flags around the structure, the Confederate memorial in Orange, Tex., is drawing criticism. (Courtesy of the Texas Sons of Confederate Veterans)

## Stone Mountain Confederate Flag To Remain In Place

See video Report [HERE](#)

By [Cynthia Otero](#) Published: July 2, 2015, 7:57 am Updated: July 2, 2015, 8:16 am

STONE MOUNTAIN, Ga.- The Confederate Battle Flag will continue to fly at Stone Mountain Park.

The head of a state authority that oversees the park says it will keep flying at a memorial plaza because state law prevents its removal.



Confederate flag at Stone Mountain Park. Stone Mountain, Ga.

He says the law would have to be changed for the flags to take them down.

The flags were donated by the United Daughters of the Confederacy in 1964 and are considered a memorial, protecting them under Georgia law. <http://wjbf.com/2015/07/02/stone-mountain-confederate-flag-to-remain-in-place/>

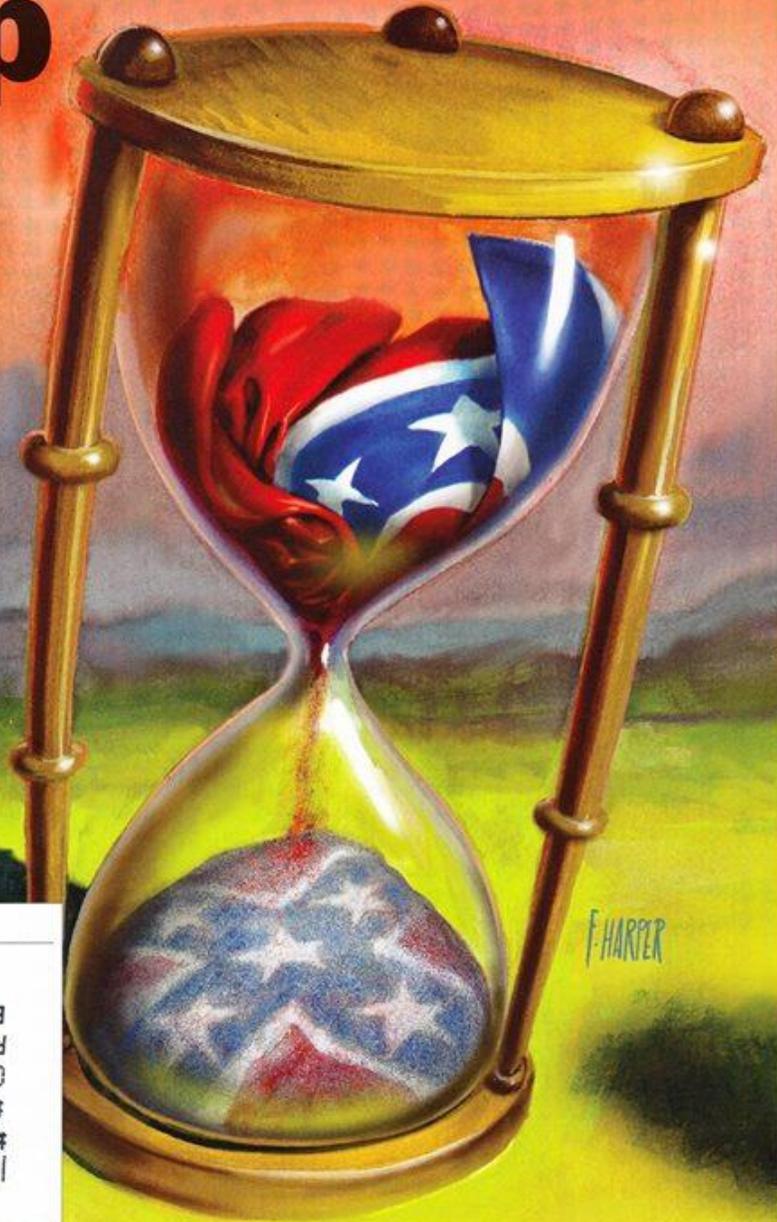
# THE WEEK

THE BEST OF THE U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL MEDIA

## Time's up

After a massacre, will the Confederate flag be consigned to history?

p.4



JULY 3, 2015 VOLUME 15 ISSUE 726

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# Commentary

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## The Emergence of Orwellian Newspeak and the Death of Free Speech

By John W. Whitehead  
June 29, 2015

**“If you don’t want a man unhappy politically, don’t give him two sides to a question to worry him; give him one. Better yet, give him none. Let him forget there is such a thing as war. If the government is inefficient, top-heavy, and tax-mad, better it be all those than that people worry over it.... Give the people contests they win by remembering the words to more popular songs or the names of state capitals or how much corn Iowa grew last year. Cram them full of noncombustible data, chock them so damned full of ‘facts’ they feel stuffed, but absolutely ‘brilliant’ with information. Then they’ll feel they’re thinking, they’ll get a sense of motion without moving. And they’ll be happy, because facts of that sort don’t change.”** — Ray Bradbury, *Fahrenheit 451*

How do you change the way people think? You start by changing the words they use.

In totalitarian regimes—a.k.a. police states—where conformity and compliance are enforced at the end of a loaded gun, the government dictates what words can and cannot be used. In countries where the police state hides behind a benevolent mask and disguises itself as tolerance, the citizens censor themselves, policing their words and thoughts to conform to the dictates of the mass mind.

Even when the motives behind this rigidly calibrated reorientation of societal language appear well-intentioned—discouraging racism, condemning violence, denouncing discrimination and hatred—inevitably, the end result is the same: intolerance, indoctrination and infantilism.

It’s political correctness disguised as tolerance, civility and love, but what it really amounts to is the chilling of free speech and the demonizing of viewpoints that run counter to the cultural elite.

As a society, we’ve become fearfully polite, careful to avoid offense, and largely unwilling to be labeled intolerant, hateful, closed-minded or any of the other toxic labels that carry a badge of shame today. The result is a nation where no one says what they really think anymore, at least if it runs counter to the prevailing views. Intolerance is the new scarlet letter of our day, a badge to be worn in shame and humiliation, deserving of society’s fear, loathing and utter banishment from society.

For those “haters” who dare to voice a different opinion, retribution is swift: they will be shamed, shouted down, silenced, censored, fired, cast out and generally relegated to the dust heap of ignorant, mean-spirited bullies who are guilty of various “word crimes.”

We have entered a new age where, as commentator Mark Steyn [notes](#), “we have to tiptoe around on ever thinner eggshells” and “the forces of ‘tolerance’ are intolerant of anything less than full-blown celebratory approval.” In such a climate of intolerance, there can be no freedom speech, expression or thought.

Yet what the forces of political correctness fail to realize is that they owe a debt to the so-called “haters” who have kept the First Amendment robust. From [swastika-wearing Neo-Nazis marching through Skokie, Illinois](#), and [underaged cross burners](#) to [“God hates fags” protesters assembled near military funerals](#), those who have inadvertently done the most to preserve the right to freedom of speech for all have espoused views that were downright unpopular, if not hateful. Until recently, the U.S. Supreme Court has reiterated that the First Amendment prevents the government from proscribing speech, or even expressive conduct, because it disapproves of the ideas expressed. However, that long-vaunted, Court-enforced tolerance for “intolerant” speech has now given way to a paradigm in which the government can discriminate freely against First Amendment activity that takes place within a government forum. Justifying such discrimination as “government speech,” the Court ruled that the [Texas Dept. of Motor Vehicles could refuse to issue specialty license plate designs featuring a Confederate battle flag](#). Why? Because it was deemed offensive.

The Court’s ruling came on the heels of a shooting in which a [21-year-old white gunman killed nine African-Americans during a Wednesday night Bible study](#) at a church in Charleston, N.C. The two events, coupled with the fact that gunman Dylann Roof was reportedly pictured on several social media sites with a Confederate flag, have resulted in an emotionally charged stampede to sanitize the nation’s public places of anything that smacks of racism, [starting with the Confederate flag and ballooning into a list that includes the removal of various Civil War monuments](#).

These tactics are nothing new. This nation, birthed from puritanical roots, has always struggled to balance its love of liberty with its moralistic need to censor books, music, art, language, symbols etc. As author Ray Bradbury notes, "There is more than one way to burn a book. And the world is full of people running about with lit matches."

Indeed, thanks to the rise of political correctness, the population of book burners, censors, and judges has greatly expanded over the years so that they run the gamut from left-leaning to right-leaning and everything in between. By eliminating words, phrases and symbols from public discourse, the powers-that-be are sowing hate, distrust and paranoia. In this way, by bottling up dissent, they are creating a pressure cooker of stifled misery that will eventually blow.

For instance, the word "Christmas" is now taboo in the public schools, as is the word "gun." Even childish drawings of soldiers result in detention or suspension under rigid zero tolerance policies. On college campuses, trigger warnings are being used to alert students to any material they might read, see or hear that might upset them, while free speech zones restrict anyone wishing to communicate a particular viewpoint to a specially designated area on campus. Things have gotten so bad that comedians such as Chris Rock and Jerry Seinfeld refuse to perform stand-up routines to college crowds anymore.

Clearly, the country is undergoing a nervous breakdown, and the news media is helping to push us to the brink of insanity by bombarding us with wall-to-wall news coverage and news cycles that change every few days.

In this way, it's difficult to think or debate, let alone stay focused on one thing—namely, holding the government accountable to abiding by the rule of law—and the powers-that-be understand this.

As I document in my book *Battlefield America: The War on the American People*, regularly scheduled trivia and/or distractions keep the citizenry tuned into the various breaking news headlines and entertainment spectacles and tuned out to the government's steady encroachments on our freedoms. These sleight-of-hand distractions and diversions are how you control a population, either inadvertently or intentionally, advancing a political agenda without much opposition from the citizenry.

Professor Jacques Ellul studied this phenomenon of overwhelming news, short memories and the use of propaganda to advance hidden agendas. "One thought drives away another; old facts are chased by new ones," wrote Ellul.

Under these conditions there can be no thought. And, in fact, modern man does not think about current problems; he feels them. He reacts, but he does not understand them any more than he takes responsibility for them. He is even less capable of spotting any inconsistency between successive facts; man's capacity to forget is unlimited. This is one of the most important and useful points for the propagandists, who can always be sure that a particular propaganda theme, statement, or event will be forgotten within a few weeks.

Already, the outrage over the Charleston shooting and racism are fading from the news headlines, yet the determination to censor the Confederate symbol remains. Before long, we will censor it from our thoughts, sanitize it from our history books, and eradicate it from our monuments without even recalling why. The question, of course, is what's next on the list to be banned?

It was for the sake of preserving individuality and independence that James Madison, the author of the Bill of Rights, fought for a First Amendment that protected the "minority" against the majority, ensuring that even in the face of overwhelming pressure, a minority of one—even one who espouses distasteful viewpoints—would still have the right to speak freely, pray freely, assemble freely, challenge the government freely, and broadcast his views in the press freely.

This freedom for those in the unpopular minority constitutes the ultimate tolerance in a free society. Conversely, when we fail to abide by Madison's dictates about greater tolerance for all viewpoints, no matter how distasteful, the end result is always the same: an indoctrinated, infantilized citizenry that marches in lockstep with the governmental regime.

Some of this past century's greatest dystopian literature shows what happens when the populace is transformed into mindless automatons. In Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*, reading is banned and books are burned in order to suppress dissenting ideas, while televised entertainment is used to anesthetize the populace and render them easily pacified, distracted and controlled.

In Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*, serious literature, scientific thinking and experimentation are banned as subversive, while critical thinking is discouraged through the use of conditioning, social taboos and inferior education. Likewise, expressions of individuality, independence and morality are viewed as vulgar and abnormal.

And in George Orwell's *1984*, Big Brother does away with all undesirable and unnecessary words and meanings, even going so far as to routinely rewrite history and punish "thoughtcrimes." In this dystopian vision of the future, the Thought Police serve as the eyes and ears of Big Brother, while the Ministry of Peace deals with war and defense, the Ministry of Plenty deals with economic affairs (rationing and starvation), the Ministry of Love deals with law and order (torture and brainwashing), and the Ministry of Truth deals with news, entertainment, education and art (propaganda). The mottos of Oceania: WAR IS PEACE, FREEDOM IS SLAVERY, and IGNORANCE IS STRENGTH.

All three—Bradbury, Huxley and Orwell—had an uncanny knack for realizing the future, yet it is Orwell who best understood the power of language to manipulate the masses. Orwell's Big Brother relied on Newspeak to eliminate undesirable words, strip such words as remained of unorthodox meanings and make independent, non-government-approved thought altogether unnecessary. To give a single example, as psychologist Erich Fromm illustrates in his afterword to *1984*:

The word *free* still existed in Newspeak, but it could only be used in such statements as "This dog is free from lice" or "This field is free from weeds." It could not be used in its old sense of "politically free" or "intellectually free," since political and intellectual freedom no longer existed as concepts....

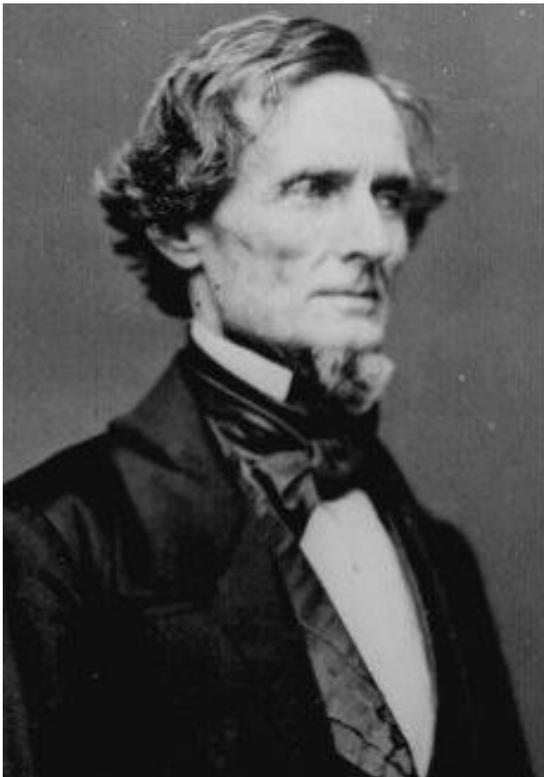
Where we stand now is at the juncture of OldSpeak (where words have meanings, and ideas can be dangerous) and Newspeak (where only that which is "safe" and "accepted" by the majority is permitted). The power elite has made their intentions clear: they will pursue and prosecute any and all words, thoughts and expressions that challenge their authority.

This is the final link in the police state chain.

Having been reduced to a cowering citizenry—mute in the face of elected officials who refuse to represent us, helpless in the face of police brutality, powerless in the face of militarized tactics and technology that treat us like enemy combatants on a battlefield, and naked in the face of government surveillance that sees and hears all—we have nowhere left to go. Our backs are to the walls. From this point on, we have only two options: go down fighting, or capitulate and betray our loved ones, our friends and our selves by insisting that, as a brainwashed Winston Smith does at the end of Orwell's *1984*, yes, 2+2 does equal 5.

WC: 1909

[https://www.rutherford.org/publications\\_resources/john\\_whiteheads\\_commentary/the\\_emergence\\_of\\_orwellian\\_newspeak\\_and\\_the\\_death\\_of\\_free\\_speech](https://www.rutherford.org/publications_resources/john_whiteheads_commentary/the_emergence_of_orwellian_newspeak_and_the_death_of_free_speech)



"Our enemies are a traditionless, homeless race. From the days of Cromwell to the present day they have been the disturbers of the peace of the world... After what has happened the last two years, my only wonder is that we consented to live for so long a time in association with such miscreants. Were it ever proposed to enter again into a Union with such a people, I could no more consent to do it than to trust myself in a den of thieves."

-President Jefferson Davis

[26 December, 1862]

June 24, 2015

# A Confederate flag does not divide us; leftist ideology does

By [Sylvia Thompson](#)

If Governor Nikki Haley thinks that removing a flag from a capitol building will do anything to alleviate the racial hatred fomented by Barack Obama over the past several years, and the Left throughout the country's history, she is sadly mistaken. Not only Governor Haley, but every conservative thinker who follows her lead have fallen into the web of deceit that the Left always uses to entrap the gullible.

I recall over the years having seen white supremacists with American flags flying. Their position is that America is being taken away from them by foreigners and people who had no part in forming this nation. Is Old Glory to be the next target because social undesirables use it as a symbol for whatever?

Governor Haley is not part of the black-white heritage of this country, so I don't expect her to understand more than that a heinous crime has been committed in her state and that she genuinely grieves for the victims and their families. She, however, is being used big time. So are all the others clamoring for the removal and destruction of flags and Civil War monuments in southern states, and even statues in Washington, DC. History happened, folks, that's what makes it history. You can hide it and distort it, but you will never do away with it.

Since the end of the Civil War, many on the side of the Northern faction of the fight have done their best to demean, denigrate and punish white people of the South. I know this because I was born and reared in the South. The sneering at and looking down upon Southerners, black and white, by some from other parts of the country have become a pastime, these days.

In my reading of history, President Andrew Johnson, the successor to the assassinated President Abraham Lincoln, succeeded in making Reconstruction (the rebuilding of the postwar South) a vindictive program that hurt even repentant Southerners while benefiting northern opportunists (Carpetbaggers) and cynical white Southerners (Scalawags). All of whom exploited alliances with blacks for political gain.

This acerbation of wounds bred a hatred and resentment among defeated Southerners that played out against freed slaves, the only defenseless people in their midst. And so it goes even to this twenty-first century, capitalizing on old hatreds. One can only wonder how much better this nation would have fared had Lincoln lived to negotiate the South's surrender.

Today's opportunists taking advantage of black folks are called Leftists: Marxist types, some claiming the mantle of Christianity; garden-variety evil doers of all stripes; and of course the elitist class of well-heeled people who think only they are fit to rule over us, the sweaty masses. A primary goal of the Left is to ensure that the age-old rift between American blacks and whites is never resolved, because blacks will no longer be enslaved to them if it is resolved.

The massacre at the church in Charleston is just another source of leftist exploitation. While everybody's guard is down, it is a good time to advance a few infractions against the rights of some Americans to maintain their history, a history that is, by the way, part and parcel of American history.

Do not ever believe that taking down a flag will be the end of it. The Left will demand no less than the destruction of America's soul.

On another note, heinous crime, such as the one that Dylann Roof committed, usually switches our focus to the issues of hate and forgiveness. The survivors of victims of Roof's massacre have puzzled the public with their decision to forgive him. There is nothing puzzling about a mature Christian's view of hatred. We understand that hating gets you nowhere, except stressed out and at odds with Christ's teachings. Only people who do not have a

strong grasp of Scripture and the person of Christ are baffled by Christians acting like Christians.

Forgiveness in the biblical sense, however, is sometimes not well understood. We can only forgive someone for what they do to us directly. Dennis Prager, the columnist and radio talk show host, makes this point in one of his recent articles on the events in Charleston.\* The survivors can only forgive Roof for the pain and loss that he caused to them. They cannot forgive the deaths of their loved ones; only their dead relatives can forgive him for that. And they are no longer in a position to do so; therefore, Roof must eventually face Almighty God to sue for forgiveness.

Prager, in his article, also offers that it is time for all blacks who hold hatred and animosity toward white Americans to consider forgiving them, now that as a nation, we are contemplating forgiveness. It is fact that Barack Obama and all of his leftist ilk have exacerbated underlying hatred that, over the decades, was being rooted out of the psyche of many Americans of all races. It takes only a few small, hateful men, however, to bring down what so many good people built up. If we get rid of those hate mongers among us (remove them from power and to the ash bin of history where they belong), this nation just might survive.

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\* Dennis Prager article: <http://www.wnd.com/2015/06/america-not-dylann-roof-should-be-forgiven/>

© Sylvia Thompson



## Sylvia Thompson

Sylvia Thompson is a black conservative writer whose aim is to counter the liberal spin on issues pertaining to race and culture.

Ms. Thompson is a copy editor by trade currently residing in Tennessee. She formerly wrote for the Conservative Forum of Silicon Valley California Newsletter and the online conservative blog ChronWatch, also out of California.

She grew up in Southeast Texas during the waning years of Jim Crow-era legalized segregation, and she concludes that race relations in America will never improve, nor will we ever elevate our culture, as long as there are victims to be pandered to and villains to be vilified. America is better served without victims or villains.



**Randolph  
Harrison McKim**  
Chaplain in the 2nd Virginia Cavalry

**“We must forevermore  
consecrate in our hearts  
our old battle flag of the  
Southern Cross not now as  
a political symbol, but as  
the consecrated emblem  
of an heroic epoch. The  
people that forgets its  
heroic dead is already  
dying at the heart, and we  
believe we shall be truer  
and better citizens of the  
United States if we are  
true to our past.”**



## BLACK CIVIL RIGHTS ICON:

# THE PROBLEM IS BLACKS KILLING OTHER BLACKS, NOT THE CONFEDERATE FLAG

Former Mayor who marched alongside MLK: "The problems we face don't have anything to do with the flag"

by PAUL JOSEPH WATSON | JUNE 30, 2015



## Watch Video Report [HERE](#)

Black civil rights icon and former Mayor of Atlanta Andrew Young says that debate over the Confederate flag is a divisive non-issue which completely distracts from the real problem – the fact that 93% of blacks are killed by other blacks.

Young is widely recognized as a prominent activist for the African-American civil rights movement, having been a personal friend and supporter of Martin Luther King. Young marched with King in Selma, Alabama and was with King when he was assassinated. He was also instrumental in pushing through the 1964 Civil Rights Act and 1965 Voting Rights Act.

Young, a former Democratic Congressman, was also the United States Ambassador to the United Nations and served as President of the National Council of Churches USA. He cannot be dismissed as an “Uncle Tom” or an apologist for right-wing Republicans.

In an interview with [Fox 5 Atlanta](#), Young skewers the politically correct outrage mob that has targeted the Confederate flag in the aftermath of the Charleston shooting, asserting that the elimination of southern heritage will do nothing to address the problems faced by black people today.

“The challenge for us is not to wipe out our past history but to learn to live together in the future,” said Young.

“I would never trade the flag for a single job,” he added. **“The problems we face don’t have anything to do with the flag. The fact is that 93% of black people killed are killed by other black people.** So black lives matter. Let us start believing that we matter.”

Young refers to [statistics on black crime](#) that people have been lambasted as racists for even mentioning which illustrate that the biggest threat to black people is not police brutality or racist white people, but violence within the black community itself.

Those same statistics show that black people commit over half of homicides despite making up only 13% of the population.

Rather than focusing on a divisive symbol – the Confederate flag – Young urges Americans to rally behind the message of unity and healing that was embraced by the Charleston community in the aftermath of this month’s shooting.

Respondents to Young’s comments were impressed with his message.

“Amen Mr. Young, now if your principles would just rub off on the crazies like Sharpton, Jackson, and Obama,” wrote J.W. Binion.

“The most rational display of opinion I have seen,” added Ken Davis.

“Perhaps due to his stature and the respect he commands some on the left will listen and cooler heads will prevail,” noted Larry Farlow.

Paul Joseph Watson is the editor at large of [Infowars.com](#) and [Prison Planet.com](#).

<http://www.infowars.com/black-civil-rights-icon-the-problem-is-blacks-killing-other-blacks-not-the-confederate-flag/>

# New York Tribune

New York Tribune, Tuesday, February 5, 1861

*"Lincoln's latest speech contained 'the arguments of the tyrant; force, compulsion, and power.' 'Nine out of ten people of the North' are opposed to forcing South Carolina to remain in the Union. 'The great principle embodied by Jefferson in the Declaration is...that governments derive their just power from the consent of the governed.' Therefore, if the Southern states want to secede, 'they have a clear right to do so.'"*

**John Chandler Griffin, Abraham Lincoln's Execution (Pelican Publishing, 2006), 44.**

# TEXAS SCHOOLS JUMP ON BANDWAGON TO DUMP HISTORIC CONFEDERATE TIES

## TEXA



by [MERRILL HOPE](#) 29 Jun 2015 **552**

Texas public schools are jumping on the bandwagon to shun symbols and dump historical figures that memorialize the Confederate South in a politicized push around the state that follows the tragic [hate crime shooting](#) of nine African-American church parishioners during a Bible study in Charleston, SC. On Thursday, Rhonda Skillern-Jones, school board president for the nation's seventh largest school district, Houston Independent School District (ISD), called for renaming six campuses that bear the names of Confederate army officers and others associated with the Confederacy. District Superintendent Terry Grier is "strongly considering" recommending that the board do it, the *Houston Chronicle* [reported](#).

Previously, Texas state Sen. Rodney Ellis (D-Houston) [urged](#) Skillern-Jones in a letter to rebrand those six campuses, which are Dowling Middle School, named for Richard Dowling, a Confederate army officer; Jackson Middle School, named for Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson, the brigadier general in the Confederate army; Davis High School, named for Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate States of America; Johnston Middle School, named for Albert Sidney Johnson, a Confederate army general; Lee High School, named for Confederate army commander Robert E. Lee; and Reagan High School, named for the postmaster general and the Confederacy’s secretary of the treasury John H. Reagan.

Houston ISD student population is largely Hispanic and African-American but in the aforementioned schools, the students are predominantly Hispanic, notes the *Chronicle*.

Calls for change do not come cheap. Last year, it cost Houston ISD about \$250,000 to transform the Lamar Redskins into the Lamar Texans, [according to](#) KTRK-13. This included costs for changing mascot names, team uniforms, related spirit, pride and booster branded materials,

Lamar High School became the “Texans” after being deemed offensive to the Native American Community. Ironically, they wanted to become the Lamar Texians but that word came under fire because of a semantical battle over its historical roots.

The *Houston Press* [reported](#) that for some individuals “Texian” was a nostalgic term to describe the inhabitants who lived in the region at the time Texas fought for its independence from Mexico. Others insisted Texians were only Anglos and not Tejanos or Hispanic Texans and were tied to a slave-trading past.

Also, in Houston ISD, the Welch Middle School Warriors became the Wolf Pack, the Westbury High Rebels and the Hamilton Middle School Indians became the Huskies in Grier’s policy to ban “mascots deemed culturally insensitive,” [according to](#) the *Houston Chronicle*.

Hispanic activist Ben Raigoza with [Una Voz Unida](#) (One Voice United) called to rename the Robert E. Lee High School in Midland ISD. He claimed that by changing the name of the school it “could inspire students that are maybe not doing as well as they could,” KWES-9 [reported](#).

Gene Collins with the local NAACP chapter disagreed and called history “knowledge.” He told KWES-9: “It’s important to know Robert E. Lee.”

He also said: “You could, with your own freedom of expression, you could put up whatever you want to. That’s one of the beauties of this country.”

The report pointed out that many alumni and current students still use the confederate flag to show their rebel pride.

In San Antonio, former mayor-turned-HUD czar Julian Castro stirred the pot during the week as well. News Radio 1200 WOAI [reported](#) that he called for a name change of area North East ISD’s Robert E. Lee High School.

Castro wrote on his personal Facebook page: “North East ISD should call together a group of board members, students, and community members to change the name of Robert E. Lee High School,” according to the radio outlet.

He added: “There are other, more appropriate individuals to honor, and spotlight as role models.”

There was no mention of whom the [progressive](#) Castro felt was a suitable namesake for the school. According to 1200 WOAI, the local San Antonio school scrapped the Confederate flag as the school’s symbol back in 1991 and the principal decided, at this time, that it would be best to let history remain in the past.

She said that the removal of the Confederate flag came after some racial incidents in the neighborhood compounded by the fact that an African-American boy was a member of the school band which donned Confederate flag adorned uniforms. The sensitivity to the request was taken seriously but a complete school name change all these years later will not likely happen.

According to the local radio outlet, the North East ISD chancellor has “already received a flurry of phone calls” demanding the name not be changed.

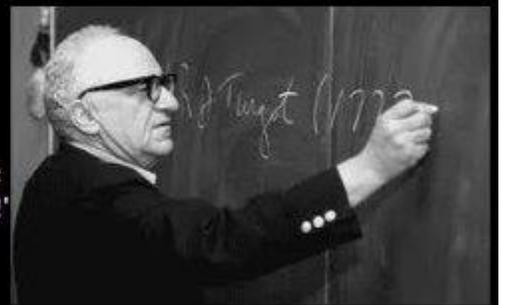
An [opinion](#) piece in the *Dallas Morning News* [promoted](#) an online petition to rename two Dallas ISD campuses – Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson elementary schools. It was curiously concerned that Houston ISD was ahead in the race to rename Confederate-referenced public schools. However, in 2000, far away from the media spotlight, the Hays High School in Buda voted to phase out the use of the Confederate flag at official events, [according to](#) the *Austin American-Statesman*. Then, in 2012, the Hays Consolidated Independent School District (CISD) board members voted 5-2 to prohibit the display of writings or images that are discriminatory, harassing or threatening. That included the Confederate flag where it was cause for controversy. Some found the flag offensive for what it symbolized while others, argued it was a symbol of Southern Pride.

It was not just political correctness behind the flag ban, said the *Statesman*. Two 14-year-old boys wrote “KKK” slurs and urinated on an African-American teacher’s door. Charges were filed against them. Meanwhile, the school’s fight song [Dixie](#), equally associated with the pre-Civil War South, was not banned as there was less opposition to the song than to the flag.

Follow Merrill Hope on Twitter [@OutOfTheBoxMom](#).

‘We must never forget, we must put in the dock and hang higher than Haman, those who, in modern times, opened the Pandora’s Box of genocide and the extermination of civilians: Sherman, Grant, and Lincoln.

Perhaps, some day, *their* statues, like Lenin’s in Russia, will be toppled and melted down; their insignias and battle flags will be desecrated, their war songs tossed into the fire. And then Davis and Lee and Jackson and Forrest, and all the heroes of the South, “Dixie” and the Stars and Bars, will once again be truly honored and remembered. The classic comment on that meretricious TV series *The Civil War* was made by that marvelous and feisty Southern writer Florence King. Asked her views on the series, she replied: “I didn’t have time to watch *The Civil War*. I’m too busy getting ready for the next one.” In that spirit, I am sure that one day, aided and abetted by Northerners like myself in the glorious “copperhead” tradition, the South shall rise again!



-Dr Murray Rothbard

# [The Texas Capitol's Confederate memorial problem](#)

By [Sanford Levinson](#), June 29, 2015



In the wake of the Charleston church shooting, the fate of the statues and other emblems commemorating the ostensible heroes of the Confederacy is still roiling the nation. In Texas, the debate has largely centered on the University of Texas at Austin, where an effort to remove a statue of Confederate President Jefferson Davis is [gaining steam](#).

But the debate — as important as it may be, especially to those of us affiliated with UT-Austin — won't likely stop with the university. The true elephant in the room is the grounds of the Texas Capitol, which contain a [handful of memorials](#) to those who fought for the Confederacy. The most prominent is the monument to the Confederate war dead on the Capitol's south grounds. Installed in 1903, it depicts Davis standing atop a pedestal surrounded by several soldiers. The side of the monument reads:

*Died for state rights guaranteed under the Constitution. The people of the South, animated by the spirit of 1776, to preserve their rights, withdrew from the federal compact in 1861. The North resorted to coercion. The South, against overwhelming numbers and resources, fought until exhausted.*

The message perfectly captures the ideology of the so-called lost cause, as portrayed by apologists for the Confederacy then and now. Their cause had nothing to do with slavery, they say, and everything to do with the vindication of the Declaration of Independence and its commitment to the proposition that the only legitimate government was the one that acted with the “consent of the governed.” That no longer applied in Texas and 10 other states following the inauguration of Abraham Lincoln, and withdrawal “from the federal compact” was therefore appropriate, their argument goes.

The *Austin Statesman*, covering the dedication of the statue on April 16, 1903, featured the speeches of former Gov. Francis Lubbock, a onetime aide to Davis, and the current governor at the time, S.W.T. Lanham. Lubbock, according to the newspaper account, was “delighted to see the grand work of commemorating the

Confederacy.” Lanham, not to be outshone, “pointed directly at the statue of President Davis [sic], and eloquently exclaimed, ‘I salute thee!’” This brought forth a great roar of approval, the report continued, followed by Lanham’s threat to assault anyone who “abus[ed] President Davis or the noble cause he championed.”

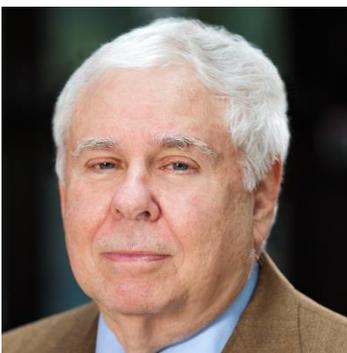
During the 2000 presidential primary season, then-Gov. George W. Bush entered the controversy over flying the Confederate flag over the South Carolina Capitol by [saying](#) that it was the state’s business, not his — a position [echoed recently](#) by a current presidential candidate from Texas, U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz. In 2000, no one bothered to ask Bush what he thought about the monuments on his own state Capitol grounds — and 15 years later, as the controversy flares anew, no one is asking Cruz or former Gov. Rick Perry, one of Cruz’s 2016 rivals. No doubt they’re relieved that Texas doesn’t fly the Confederate battle flag or incorporate it as part of the state flag. But that doesn’t get them off the hook.

As South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley put it, all citizens should feel equally welcome when entering the near-sacred grounds of their state capitol. She recognized that would never be the case so long as those opposed to the “noble cause” of perpetuating slavery — or even the principle of secession — were forced to confront a flag whose central meaning required accepting the legitimacy of a government that viewed some citizens as sub-human.

What’s true in South Carolina is just as true in Texas. To deny the brutality that is inflicted on many of our fellow citizens — and not just African-Americans — as they visit what is, after all, *their* Capitol is simply obtuse. What, for example, should parents say to their children when asked about these presumably great men? The monument is not merely honoring the brave young men who gave their lives on behalf of a thoroughly wicked cause; it is celebrating that cause and its articulation by “leaders” like Davis.

UT-Austin’s motto is “what starts here changes the world.” Some might see that as typical Texan braggadocio. The real question is whether what starts on the UT campus changes the state Capitol grounds just a few blocks away.

*Disclosure: The University of Texas at Austin is a corporate sponsor of The Texas Tribune. A complete list of Tribune donors and sponsors can be viewed [here](#).*



[Sanford Levinson](#)

Law and government professor at UT-Austin

<http://tribtalk.org/2015/06/29/the-texas-capitols-confederate-memorial-problem/>

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WE PETITION THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION TO:

## Leave the Confederate Flag Fly To Honor the Soldiers of the Civil War

It has come to my attention and many peoples attention that you are demanding the removal of the Battle Flag of the Army of Virginia from the Memorial for Civil War Soldiers in S.C. That battle flag has flown for 150 years to honor the men that died during the Civil War. To take it down will dishonor them. This country is falling apart history needs to be remembered not forgotten. If you want to avoid another civil war then we need as a nation to remember the first one. By taking down the flag you are taking the first step in forgetting. That flag was never about racism and those that use it for racism are desecrating the true meaning of it. After the civil war Confederate Soldiers were named American Veterans and they deserve the same respect we give to all American Soldiers.

Published Date: Jun 23, 2015

Issues: Civil Rights and Liberties, Human Rights

[Learn about Petition Thresholds](#)

SIGNATURES NEEDED  
BY JULY 23, 2015 TO  
REACH GOAL OF  
100,000

93,359

TOTAL SIGNATURES  
ON THIS PETITION

6,641

### Add Your Name

First Name \*

Last Name \*

Email Address \*

Zip Code

Sign up for email updates from President Obama and the White House on this and other issues.

By signing this petition you agree to our [terms of participation](#) and [privacy policy](#).

**SIGN NOW**



*Virginia Clay*

*By the autumn of 1864 the Southern States found themselves ravaged of everything either edible or wearable. Food was enormously high in cities and in locations which proved tempting to foragers. Delicately bred women were grateful when they were able to secure a pair of rough brogan shoes at one hundred dollars a pair, and coarse cotton cloth from the Macon Mills served to make our gowns. For nearly three years the blockade of our ports and frontier had made the purchase of anything really needful, impracticable. Nor could we utilise the stores in Southern cities once these had fallen into the enemies' clutches. A correspondent, Mrs. Captain du Barry, who in December, 1863, was permitted to visit Memphis, now in the enemy's possession, wrote, 'I deeply regretted not being able to fill your commissions. I put them on my list that I sent in to General Hurlburt, when I requested a passport, but they were refused. All the principal stores were closed and their contents confiscated. There is a perfect reign of terror in Memphis. Not even a spool of cotton can be purchased without registering your name and address, and' swearing it is for personal or family use, and no number of articles can be taken from the store without, after selection, going with a list of them in your hand, to the 'Board of Trade,' accompanied by the clerk of the store, and there swearing on the Bible that the articles mentioned are for family use and not to be taken out of the United States.'*

Virginia Clay, Belle Of The Fifties: Memoirs Of Mrs. Clay, Of Alabama, Covering Social And Political Life In Washington And The South, 1853-66 (New York: Doubleday, Page & Company, 1905), 222.

# The Dog Caught the Car

June 26, 2015

Did you ever want to ask a dog that habitually chased cars what she would do if she caught the bumper?

Did she just want to tear it off, or additionally chew up the tires and jump through a window to attack the people inside? The present situation regarding Confederate symbols is similar.



When endorsing an opinion that the Confederate flag flying on South Carolina's capitol grounds should be removed, one former New York senator said it should not fly anywhere. Presumably that includes the one over the mass Confederate burial trench at Shiloh. Perhaps she is also implying that that battlefield park souvenir shops, such as the one at Gettysburg, should discontinue selling Confederate memento flags and items containing its image due to the symbol's presumed exclusive racist subtext.

If so, last November South Carolina voters proved that her interpretation fails to be universal. The state elected one of only two presently serving Black US Senators and elected a lady governor who – at the time – supported keeping the flag in Columbia. They chose to simultaneously honor the state's Confederate heritage and reject race prejudice when selecting political leaders. In contrast, New York has never elected a Black senator or a female governor. Even though the overwhelming majority of Confederate public symbols are in the South, of the forty-four US cities with populations over 50,000 having Black mayors, twenty are in the former Confederacy. Thus, with 32% of the US population the former Confederate states have 45% of the entire nation's Black mayors.

Nonetheless, many otherwise responsible people are yielding to a reflex reaction to eradicate Confederate symbols. One example might be [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), which has yet to clarify whether book covers will be included in its ban of the Confederate flag image. If so, Amanda Foreman's *A World on Fire* must be banned. Yet Foreman's book won the \$50,000 Lincoln Prize and was also named one of the ten best books of the year by the Washington Post, presently owned by Jeff Bezos who is also

the largest Amazon shareholder. Booksellers normally appreciate that cover designs should quickly convey a book's subject matter. A cover with a Rebel flag logically signals the book's content is likely about the Civil War.

Similarly the New Orleans mayor wants to destroy a Robert E. Lee statue while comparable actions are brewing in Baltimore, Austin and elsewhere. Yet Lee's leadership examples can help motivate the present and future US military to its best efforts. One example was the general's reception of his soldiers as they returned from a failed attempt to win the battle of Gettysburg with Pickett's Charge. According to eyewitness British Lieutenant Colonel Arthur Freemantle:

[I came upon Lee] rallying...the broken troops. "All this will come out right in the end: we'll talk it over afterwards; but in the mean time, all good men must rally..." I saw General Wilcox...come up to him and explain, almost crying, the state of his brigade. General Lee immediately...said cheerfully, "Never mind, General, all this has been my fault – it is I that have lost this fight, and you must help me out of it in the best way you can."

Despite failing, Lee promptly took the responsibility in the presence of soldiers of every rank. In contrast, too many defeated Civil War generals – North and South – refused to admit responsibility and tried to pin blame on others. It is perverse to dismiss Lee's many examples of inspiring leadership because he was "on the wrong side of history" as a currently popular phrase puts it.

Some critics may not realize that two-thirds of antebellum Southern families did not own slaves, or that a small number of Blacks were also slave-owners. Although the venerable historian, William C. Davis, believes slavery is the reason secession came, he concludes it was not the reason one million Southern men fought. "The widespread Northern myth that the Confederates went to the battlefield to perpetuate slavery is just that, a myth. Their letters and diaries, in the tens of thousands, reveal again and again that they fought and died because their Southern homeland was invaded and their natural instinct was to protect home and hearth."

One example is Major General Patrick Cleburne who was a 35 year-old Irish immigrant when killed late in 1864 at the battle of Franklin. He was not a slaveholder. In a letter to his Cincinnati brother during the secession crisis the Helena, Arkansas resident wrote, "I never owned a Negro (and) care nothing for them...(My neighbors) have been my friends and stood up for me on all occasions." Cleburne's loyalty was to his adopted state. In January 1864 he submitted a proposal, endorsed by thirteen other officers, to massively recruit slaves into the Confederate army in exchange for their freedom. Included in the document was a warning about the consequences of losing the war:

It means that the history of this heroic struggle will be written by the enemy; that our youth will be trained by Northern school teachers; will learn from Northern school books their version of the war;

will be impressed by all the influences of history and education to regard our gallant dead as traitors, our maimed veterans as fit objects for derision.

The reaction of public-opinion-sensitive politicians to the present wave of revulsion against Confederate symbols is disappointing, but predictable. Only former Democratic senator [Jim Webb](#) provided a thoughtful response. Nonetheless, levelheaded Americans may wish to ponder how far the restriction of Confederate symbols can be constructively pursued. For example, if unchecked it may eventually lead to the removal of all Confederate monuments at national park battlefields as well as prohibition on the sale of souvenirs depicting the flag or Confederate personalities, uniforms, and symbols of any kind.

Given the current atmosphere, the adoption of such a prohibitive policy may not be unrealistic. Not a single National Park Service executive or notable academic historian has yet responded to the current situation to suggest otherwise.

When I was a boy, our neighbor had a car-chasing dog. Eventually, however, the dog's family took responsibility to convince her to give up the habit.

*about.me*

**[Phil Leigh](#)**



For reasons that I cannot explain I've been interested in the Civil War since I was about 11 years old.

Since 2012 I've written [twenty-four articles](#) for the *New York Times Disunion* series, which is a section of the online newspaper that commemorates the War's Sesquicentennial. Typically the authors are academic historians or popularly published Civil War writers such as Winston Groom and Peter Cozzens.

In May of 2013 my first Civil War book was released by Westholme Publishing who distributes through the University of Chicago Press. It is an annotated and illustrated version of the memoirs of Confederate Private Sam Watkins entitled [Co. Aytch](#) which is rebel vernacular for "Company H". Civil War News published a review of it [here](#).

Westholme released my second book in May 2014. It is about intersectional trade during the Civil War and is entitled [Trading with the Enemy](#). The book is reviewed at Civil War Books and Authors [here](#). It is also reviewed at Civil War Librarian [here](#). LSU Libraries: Civil War Book Review published a review of it [here](#).

My third Civil War book, [Lee's Lost Dispatch and Other Civil War Controversies](#) was published in May 2015.

June 2015

<https://civilwarchat.wordpress.com/2015/06/26/the-dog-caught-the-car/>



# Who are the real haters here?

[buchanan.org](http://buchanan.org)

## Love and Hate in Dixie

By Patrick J. Buchanan

*Friday - June 26, 2015 at 12:11 am*

“I will never be able to hold her again, but I forgive you.”

So said Nadine Collier, who lost her mother in the massacre at the Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina, offering forgiveness to Dylann Roof, who confessed to the atrocity that took the lives of nine churchgoers at that Wednesday night prayer service and Bible study.

If there is a better recent example of what it means to be a Christian, I am unaware of it. Collier and the families of those slain showed a faithfulness to Christ’s gospel of love and forgiveness that many are taught but few are strong enough to follow, especially at times like this.

Their Christian witness testifies to a forgotten truth: If slavery was the worst thing that happened to black folks brought from Africa to America, Christianity was the best.

Charleston, too, gave us an example of how a city should behave when faced with horror.

Contrast the conduct of those good Southern people who stood outside that church in solidarity with the aggrieved, with the Ferguson mobs that looted and burned and the New York mobs that chanted for the killing of cops when the Eric Garner grand jury declined to indict.

Yet, predictably, the cultural Marxists, following Rahm Emanuel’s dictum that you never let a crisis go to waste, descended like locusts.

As Roof had filmed himself flaunting a Confederate battle flag, the cry went out to tear that flag down from the war memorial in Columbia, South Carolina, and remove its vile presence everywhere in America.

Sally Jenkins of The Washington Post appeared front and center on its op-ed page with this call to healing: “The Confederate battle flag is an American swastika, the relic of traitors and totalitarians, symbol of a brutal regime, not a republic. The Confederacy was treason in defense of a still deeper crime against humanity: slavery.”

But if Jenkins' hate-filled screed is right, if the Confederacy was Nazi Germany on American soil, then not only the battle flag must go.

The Confederate War Memorial on the capitol grounds honors the scores of thousands of South Carolinians who died in the lost cause. And if that was a cause of traitors and totalitarians and about nothing but slavery, ought not that memorial be dynamited?

Even as ISIS is desecrating tombs in Palmyra, Syria, the cultural purge of the South has begun.

Rep. Steve Cohen wants the name of legendary cavalryman Nathan Bedford Forrest removed from Forrest Park in Memphis and his bust gone from the capitol; Sen. Mitch McConnell wants the statue of Confederate President Jefferson Davis removed from the Kentucky capitol.

Governors are rushing to remove replicas of the battle flag from license plates, with Virginia's Terry McAuliffe the most vocal. Will McAuliffe also demand that the statues of Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson be removed from Monument Avenue in Richmond?

"Take Down a Symbol of Hatred," rails The New York Times.

But the battle flag is not so much a symbol of hatred as it is an object of hatred, a target of hatred. It evokes a hatred of the visceral sort that we see manifest in Jenkins' equating of the South of Washington, Jefferson, John Calhoun, Andrew Jackson and Lee with Hitler's Third Reich.

What the flag symbolizes for the millions who revere, cherish or love it, however, is the heroism of those who fought and died under it. That flag flew over battlefields, not over slave quarters.

Hence, who are the real haters here?

Can the Times really believe that all those coffee cups and baseball caps and T-shirts and sweaters and flag decals on car and truck bumpers are declarations that the owners hate black people? Does the Times believe Southern folks fly the battle flag in their yards because they want slavery back?

The Times' editorialists cannot be such fools.

Vilification of that battle flag and the Confederacy is part of the cultural revolution in America that flowered half a century ago. Among its goals was the demoralization of the American people by demonizing their past and poisoning their belief in their own history.

The world is turned upside down. The new dogma of the cultural Marxists: Columbus was a genocidal racist. Three of our Founding Fathers — Washington, Jefferson, Madison — were slaveowners. Andrew Jackson was an ethnic cleanser of Indians. The great Confederate generals — Lee, Jackson, Forrest — fought to preserve an evil institution. You have nothing to be proud of and much to be ashamed of if your ancestors fought for the South. And, oh yes, your battle flag is the moral equivalent of a Nazi swastika.

And how is the Republican Party standing up to this cultural lynch mob? Retreating and running as fast as possible.

If we are to preserve our republic, future generations are going to need what that battle flag truly stands for: pride in our history and defiance in the face of the arrogance of power.

<http://buchanan.org/blog/love-and-hate-in-dixie-16191>

# Stone Mountain's Confederate flags will still fly

June 30, 2015



*Stone Mountain*

**The array of Confederate flags flying at Stone Mountain**, that most obvious of Georgia Confederate memorials, will continue to fly.

Bill Stephens, who heads the Stone Mountain Memorial Association, said a few days ago that the park's operators were weighing different options for the three Confederate States of America banners and the Rebel war emblem that fly alongside Old Glory.

He reports today that the park's position has hardened since then.

Said Stephens:

*"Stone Mountain is preserved by state law as a Confederate memorial. The law that changed the flag to our current state flag also expressly prohibited changes at Stone Mountain Park. Some on both sides of these issues have said that these Confederate symbols belong in a museum. Here in Georgia, Stone Mountain Park serves that purpose."*

State law has a very clear mandate for Stone Mountain's state-owned memorial. "The Stone Mountain Memorial Association shall continue the practice of stocking, restocking, and sales of Confederate memorabilia." Another section says that the site should be "preserved and protected for all time as a tribute to the bravery and heroism of the citizens of this state who suffered and died in their cause."

The shooting deaths of nine black worshippers by a suspected white supremacist in Charleston has shone a spotlight on symbols of the Confederacy in Georgia and across the South. State Rep. LaDawn Jones, D-Atlanta, called on residents "who do not tolerate hate of any kind" to boycott the park until the flags come down.

"We can never change the fact that Stone Mountain was where the KKK was reformed in 1915 and grew from dormancy to millions of members," she said. "However, we can stop giving credence to this type of hate by removing the flags that fly at the bottom."

[http://politics.blog.ajc.com/2015/06/30/stone-mountains-confederate-flags-will-still-fly/?ecmp=ajc\\_social\\_facebook\\_2014\\_sfp](http://politics.blog.ajc.com/2015/06/30/stone-mountains-confederate-flags-will-still-fly/?ecmp=ajc_social_facebook_2014_sfp)

# Sons of Confederate Veterans: Court order prevents removal of license plates

Posted: Jun 29, 2015 4:17 PM CDT Updated: Jun 29, 2015 5:06 PM CDT



Virginia Confederate license plate sample (Source: DMVNow)

RICHMOND, VA (WWBT) -

Days after Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe [ordered license plates displaying the Confederate Battle Flag be discontinued](#), the Sons of the Confederate Veterans is fighting back, saying a federal court order overrules the Governor's actions.

In a letter sent to Virginia DMV Commissioner Richard Holcomb, the SCV argues a 2002 ruling by the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals forced Virginia to allow for specialty Confederate flag license plates, based on free speech grounds.

"I am aware of no order from the 4th Circuit vacating our right to receive our plates from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles and on behalf of ALL the citizens of the Commonwealth I insist that you follow the rule of Law," says L. Tracy Clay of the Virginia Sons of Confederate Veterans in his letter to the Virginia DMV.

**READ: [The Sons of Confederate Veterans' letter to the Virginia DMV \(PDF\)](#)**

Earlier in June, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled in a separate case that [states could refuse to issue license plates featuring the Confederate Battle Flag](#). It's not immediately clear if the Supreme Court decision automatically vacates the 2002 decision.

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# Confederate Flag Debate Comes to the House

By [Bridget Bowman](#) Posted at 6:12 p.m. on June 25



*The Mississippi flag in the Senate subway tunnel. (Bill Clark/CQ Roll Call)*

As lawmakers reflected on Confederate symbols in the Capitol, members of the House began to take legislative action on the hotly debated issue.

Two measures were discussed in the House chamber Thursday: one pertaining to Confederate Battle Flag imagery in the U.S. Capitol, and another banning the iconography from the South Carolina Capitol and any government property.

The latter, introduced by members of the Congressional Black Caucus, is an attempt for Congress to weigh in on the debate swirling around the banner at the Palmetto State's capitol following the murders of nine African-American church-goers in Charleston on June 17.

"We acknowledge that demanding the removal of these hurtful images and symbols that represent decades of hatred and oppression is only the first step in addressing the racism plaguing our country, but we must also acknowledge that symbols matter," Rep. Emanuel Cleaver, II, D-Mo, said in a statement Thursday. "As the conscience of the Congress, we must exhibit an unyielding commitment to help this country solve its centuries old challenges with racism and prejudice."

The CBC's resolution would call for the immediate removal of the Confederate Battle Flag from the South Carolina Statehouse; end sales of Confederate flag merchandise; remove "the symbolic and/or actual references to the Confederacy in the seven states where they still remain; and ban the use of the Confederate Battle Flag from any government property, including license plates.

Before the CBC members introduced their resolution, the House voted on a procedural motion on another measure pertaining to the Confederate flag's place in the U.S. Capitol.

Rep. [Bennie Thompson](#), D-Miss., [introduced a privileged resolution](#) banning the Confederate flag from the House and House office buildings, unless it is displayed at a member's office. The goal of his resolution is to remove the Mississippi state flag from the Capitol, which displays the Confederate battle flag in its upper left corner.

"I'm convinced that an effort to remove this flag from the hallowed halls of the House of Representatives is the right thing to do," Thompson said on the floor.

Due to the nature of Thompson's resolution, the House would have been forced to vote on the divisive issue, but on Thursday GOP leadership moved to send the resolution to committee, avoiding a floor vote for now.

"I'm a big believer in the committee process to discuss all issues that come to the floor, especially one of this importance," House Majority Leader [Kevin McCarthy](#), R-Calif., said on the House floor as he offered the motion to send the resolution to committee.

The House voted along party lines, 240-184, to refer the resolution to the House Administration Committee. Rep. [Curt Clawson](#), R-Fla., was the only Republican to vote not to send the resolution to committee.

But House Administration Chairwoman [Candice S. Miller](#), R-Mich., assured Thompson in a House floor speech that her committee would "give this measure every serious consideration and every thoughtful consideration." Miller said she was looking forward to hearing from Thompson, the other members of the Mississippi congressional delegation, and Mississippi's state government officials about the issue.

One of Mississippi's representatives sits on the House Administration Committee, but he declined to take a position on the Thompson resolution Thursday afternoon. GOP Rep. [Gregg Harper](#) referred all questions about the resolution to Miller and told CQ Roll Call outside the House floor, "We're going to let the committee process work."

Harper and two other members of the House delegation have yet to take a position on the Mississippi state flag, but both of the state's Republican senators said Wednesday the flag should be changed.

These might not be the last resolutions of their kind. Thompson said Wednesday other members will likely move to address other Confederate symbols, such as statues of Confederate generals.

"We're going to do specifically the flag," Thompson said of his resolution. "There will be other efforts by other individuals to deal with some of the other symbols."

<http://blogs.rollcall.com/hill-blotter/confederate-flag-debate-comes-to-the-house/>

## NRSC Chairman Evolves on Mississippi Flag (Updated)

By [Niels Lesniewski](#) Posted at 10:35 a.m. on June 24, 2015



*Wicker has changed his stance on his state's flag. (Bill Clark/CQ Roll Call File Photo)*

**Updated 11:20 a.m.** | GOP Sen. [Roger Wicker](#) now says his home state of Mississippi should change its flag.

"After reflection and prayer, I now believe our state flag should be put in a museum and replaced by one that is more unifying to all Mississippians," Wicker said in a statement.

The change in position from the National Republican Senatorial Committee chairman comes less than 48 hours after he told CQ Roll Call in a statement [it was an issue for the state and the voters to decide](#).

The full statement from Wicker appears below:

After reflection and prayer, I now believe our state flag should be put in a museum and replaced by one that is more unifying to all Mississippians. As the descendant of several brave Americans who fought for the Confederacy, I have not viewed Mississippi's current state flag as offensive. However, it is clearer and clearer to me that many of my fellow citizens feel differently and that our state flag increasingly portrays a false impression of our state to others.

In I Corinthians 8, the Apostle Paul said he had no personal objection to eating meat sacrificed to idols. But he went on to say that "if food is a cause of trouble to my brother, or makes my brother offend, I will give up eating meat." The lesson from this passage leads me to conclude that the flag should be removed since it causes offense to so many of my brothers and sisters, creating dissension rather than unity.

This is an issue to be decided by the legislature and other state government officials and not dictated by Washington. If I can be part of a process to achieve consensus within our state, I would welcome the opportunity to participate.

Over on the House side, Mississippi Democrat [Bennie Thompson](#) told CQ Roll Call in a Tuesday interview he is [prepared to force a floor vote](#) on whether Congress should remove his state flag from the tunnel connected the Capitol to the Rayburn House Office Building

<http://blogs.rollcall.com/wgdb/nrsc-chairman-evolves-on-mississippi-flag/?dcz=>

# Lawmakers Reflect on Capitol's Confederate Symbols

By [Bridget Bowman](#) Posted at 5 a.m. on June 25



*Tourists pass the statue of Jefferson Davis in Statuary Hall. (Bill Clark/CQ Roll Call)*

As attention on the Confederate flag shifts from South Carolina to Mississippi and Alabama, federal lawmakers began looking around the halls of their own workplace and questioning whether flags [and other symbols of the Confederacy](#) have a place in the U.S. Capitol.

“This Capitol represents the United States of America and to give people a prominent place in this Capitol, and they did everything they did to split away from this government, is not the right thing to do,” Rep. [Bennie Thompson](#), D-Miss., said Wednesday.

Thompson introduced [a privileged resolution](#) Wednesday to remove flags with Confederate iconography from the Capitol, except in front of the offices of members who choose to display them. The Mississippi state flag, for instance, sits in a glass case above the state’s seal in the hallway connecting the Capitol to the Rayburn House Office Building.

But the Rayburn tunnel is not the only spot in the Capitol featuring the Magnolia State’s flag. It flies a few blocks from the Capitol at Columbus Circle, hangs along the tunnel connecting the Dirksen and Hart office buildings to the Capitol and is displayed outside the offices of members of the Mississippi delegation.

Thompson is not the only lawmaker who thinks flags with Confederate imagery don’t belong in the Capitol.

“They’re a symbol of division, separation, of a dark past,” Rep. [John Lewis](#), D-Ga., said of Confederate battle flags. “They shouldn’t be displayed on state or federal buildings, especially our own.”

Lewis, an icon of the civil rights movement, said this is the time to review all flags with Confederate roots, including his own state’s. Georgia’s flag was approved by voters in 2003 to replace a previous flag that bore the Confederate battle flag. But its current banner incorporates the design of the “Stars and Bars.”

“We need to go back and look at it also,” Lewis said. “We should look at all of them and the 11 states of the Confederacy, from Virginia to Texas.”

One of his home-state colleagues doesn’t think Congress should be involved in such matters in the states or in the U.S. Capitol.

“I think this is something for states, obviously,” Sen. [David Perdue](#), R-Ga., said of Confederate symbols in the Capitol. “I said yesterday that if people are offended by flags or statues then that’s a debate that we ought to have.”

Former Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., said he didn’t think Congress should get involved in the decisions about statues in the Statuary Hall collection, including Jefferson Davis from his native Mississippi.

“I would suggest that they not start messing around with state-designated statues,” Lott said.

While Lott said it was ultimately a state issue, he said Davis was qualified for the Statuary Hall honor based on service prior to the Civil War as a House member and senator from Mississippi, and as secretary of War under President Franklin Pierce.

Earlier this week, Senate Majority Leader [Mitch McConnell](#), R-Ky., said a statue of Davis in the Kentucky statehouse should be removed. Davis was born in Kentucky.

For Lewis, seeing symbols of the Confederacy embodied in flags or statues of Confederate soldiers is unfortunate, particularly for lawmakers who traverse the halls every day and for young people who visit the Capitol.

“We work here,” Lewis said. “There’s hundreds of thousands of children, of young people, from all over the world, all over America that come here. And they should be sensitized and educated. I speak to a lot of children, a lot of young people. Talking to them about the American civil rights movement, how we’re trying to bring people together and not divide people. And this should be a place of learning.”

Thompson is the only member of his House delegation not to display his state’s flag outside his office. Instead, along with an American flag, two flags from Tougaloo College and Jackson State University are outside his Rayburn office. Both institutions are historically black colleges.

“I don’t go to their offices,” Thompson said when asked about seeing the Mississippi flag outside his colleagues’ office. “I mean, to each his own. It’s a preference and there’s no requirement to have a state flag in front of your office. It’s a tradition. And it’s a tradition that I chose not to honor, given my opposition to the flag and what it represented.”

Across the Capitol, Republican Mississippi Sens. [Roger Wicker](#) and [Thad Cochran](#) [voiced their support for changing the state flag](#) Wednesday. The flag was still displayed outside Wicker's office Wednesday morning, though Cochran's office did not display any flags outside its door.

Cochran's spokesman said Thompson's resolution was a matter for the House.

Wicker did not offer support for Thompson's effort and said changing the Mississippi flag is best handled by the state government.

"I really would hope that he would not do that," Wicker said. "I think this is a decision that should be made by the state of Mississippi. And that might be counterproductive actually, to think that Washington, D.C., would dictate the terms. The decisions that have been made so far have been made by the state leaders in state capitols."

Lending some credence to that argument, Alabama's Gov. Robert Bentley, a Republican, ordered Wednesday that four Confederate-era flags be taken down from the state Capitol grounds in Montgomery: the Battle Flag; the First National Confederate Flag, or the "Stars and Bars;" the Second National Confederate Flag, or "Stainless Banner;" and the Third National Confederate Flag.

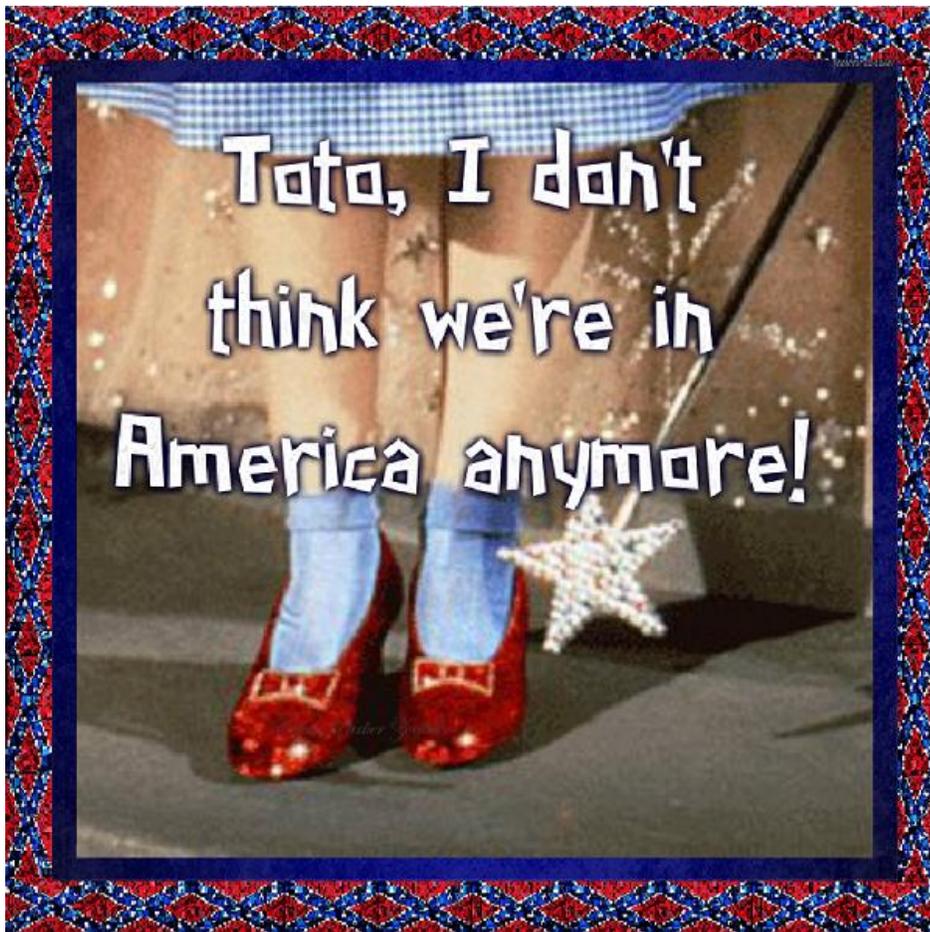
Bentley told [AL.com](#) it was "partially a reaction" to the Charleston, S.C., shootings but ultimately said, "This is the right thing to do," and the flags could be a distraction from more pressing state business.

When asked if removing Confederate symbols, including Mississippi's flag and statues of Confederate generals, would be akin to erasing history, Thompson bristled.

"You're asking a black American about scrubbing and sanitizing history? You know there's so much history of African-Americans in this country that we'll never know about, you understand?" Thompson said. "So as somebody that's been a victim of scrubbing history, what I'm trying to do is get it right."

"I don't think we should glorify someone who tried to separate this country," Thompson continued. "We should identify who they are and put them in their rightful place and not prominently displayed in the United States Capitol."

<http://blogs.rollcall.com/hill-blotter/lawmakers-reflect-on-capitols-confederate-symbols/?dcz=>





## Confederate Flag Debate Showcases Scott as Symbol

By **David Hawkings** Posted at 5 a.m. on June 23



*(Bill Clark/CQ Roll Call File Photo)*

The revived debate about the Confederate battle flag has climaxed with exceptional speed in South Carolina, where the state's three most prominent Republicans led a bipartisan call Monday for removing the banner completely from the state capitol.

Sen. **Lindsey Graham** was seizing an opening to underscore his maverick political brand and distinguish himself in a field of presidential candidates who have remained largely equivocal on the polarizing question. Gov. Nikki R. Haley was taking advantage of an opportunity allowing her to reverse a position that's complicated her own public profile.

But for Sen. **Tim Scott**, the moment represented something quite different. He's got no overt national ambitions at the moment, but his background afforded him a unique platform for raising public consciousness about a deeply ingrained hurt that's confounded healing for a century and a half.

Scott is not only the solitary Republican senator who's African-American and the first black person elected to the Senate from the South since the end of Reconstruction. He's also the most popular politician in the state, having won a special election last fall with an astonishing 82 percent of the white vote while also outperforming both the more prominent GOP candidates seeking re-election statewide that day — garnering 84,000 more votes than Graham and 61,000 more than Haley.

That's an extraordinary combination of attributes. So it was the fact that Scott joined the calls for the flag to be mothballed — on the grounds it's become a symbol so much more identified with racism and hatred than with regional pride — that will provide reluctant colleagues in the Republican Party the most political cover for getting on the right side of history at close to the last available moment.

Scott had promised as recently as Sunday that he wouldn't say anything on the topic for another week, after all the funerals for the nine black people murdered inside a storied Charleston church last week by a 21-year-old man who said he was motivated by the desire to start a race war (and whose car displayed the Confederate flag license plate available in South Carolina, the first state to secede from the Union and the place where the Civil War began).

"I do not believe the vast majority of folks who support the flag have hate in their hearts," Scott said in a written statement explaining his reasoning. "Their heritage is a part of our state's history, and we should not ignore that. However, for so many others in our state, the flag represents pain and oppression."

The nation is paying close attention to the extraordinary rapid changes of political heart — none more intently than the sprawling field of Republican presidential candidates who are, of course, looking ahead to a primary in South Carolina that will take 2016's initial measure of the overwhelmingly white and culturally conservative GOP voters in the South. (Symbolism evocative of the Confederacy lives on in the flags of seven states across the region.)

Other than Graham, the presidential aspirants have remained equivocal, with many of them declaring the flag debate should remain exclusive with the people of South Carolina — no matter the office they are seeking comes with the nation's premier bully pulpit and unparalleled potential for exercising moral authority.

Graham has made a political career of staking out counterintuitive and provocative positions that benefit him in the end. But being in the vanguard of polarizing discourse has generally been antithetical to Scott's approach.

Instead, unlike so many who first came to the Hill as part of the GOP's tea party wave of 2010, his congressional method has been to pair his solid small-government conservatism with the approach of a minimal-fanfare facilitator instead of a bomb-thrower.

During the last presidential campaign, when he was a freshman in a coastline-hugging House district connecting Charleston and Myrtle Beach, Scott enticed most GOP candidates to meet with his constituents at a series of sessions he dubbed "Tim's Town Halls." He later organized a series of "Revitalizing America" conferences in his district, with panels of CEOs and political leaders discussing the economy and entrepreneurship. And he started a statewide "Women in Leadership" series last fall.

"I think we would do well as a party to find ways to be authentic and sincere in engaging others in a conversation about the future of the country," he said in an interview last fall for his CQ Roll Call "Politics in America" profile. When issues are presented in a non-political format, he added, "people stay at the table longer."

Scott frames his legislative efforts as an "opportunity agenda," describing most of his policy ideas in terms of empowerment or choice for individuals — which almost always means less federal regulation and lower taxes. The GOP leadership rewarded Scott this year with assignments to the Finance and Banking committees, while permitting him to hold his seat on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

A 49-year-old native of North Charleston, Scott says his ideology is a natural outgrowth of his personal story. His parents divorced when he was 7, and Scott and his siblings were raised by his mother, a nurses' aide. He almost flunked out of high school while working a series of jobs at a gas station, a men's clothing store and a movie theater, but was persuaded to focus on schooling by the owner of a local Chick-fil-A who became his mentor. After graduating from a local college he went into the insurance business and eventually founded his own agency.

Scott's first political experience was as a low-level campaign aide when **Mark Sanford** ran his first successful House race in 1994. (After being governor and having a marital crisis, he returned as Scott's House successor in 2013.) Scott spent 14 years on the Charleston City Council before winning his House seat in 2010. While awaiting the start of his second term, he was appointed to the Senate when **Jim DeMint** resigned to take over the Heritage Foundation.

South Carolina law requires Scott to run yet again in 2016, this time to secure a full Senate term. He's now viewed as a safe bet to win again. Another record victory, with another lopsided share of the white vote, would be quantifiable evidence it's politically safe to consign the Confederate flag to a museum for all time

<http://blogs.rollcall.com/hawkings/confederate-flag-tim-scott-symbol/>

# Congressman Asks St. Louis Mayor to Remove 32-Foot Granite Civil War Monument

by [Bridget Johnson](#)

June 30, 2015 -  
8:01 am



A Missouri congressman is asking the mayor of St. Louis to bring down a 32-foot-high stone Civil War memorial in the city's Forest Park.

The Confederate Memorial was erected in 1914 by the Ladies' Confederate Monument Association. "To avoid provoking further antagonism to the project, the Association declared that the design they would choose could not depict any figure of a Confederate soldier or object of modern warfare," reads a [history of the monument](#). The shaft of the monument bears "The Angel of the Spirit of the Confederacy" and below that is a bronze sculpture "depicting the response of the South to this spirit as a family sends a youth off to war."

"On the back of the shaft, designed by William Trueblood, is a tribute 'To the Memory of the Soldiers and Sailors of the Southern Confederacy,' written by St. Louis minister Robert Catlett Cave, who had served as a Confederate soldier from Virginia. Beneath that is a quotation by Robert E. Lee: 'We had sacred principles to maintain and rights to defend for which we were duty bound to do our best, even if we perished in the endeavor.'"

Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay wrote last week to St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay, stressing that "now is the time to replace the Confederate Memorial, as iconic as it is controversial, from its perch in Forest Park."

"Some may disagree and reflect upon this memorial as a symbol of southern culture and Civil War reverence," Clay said. "But, symbols matter and should reflect who we are as a people today. Divisive, alienating, racially charged symbols do not accurately represent the goodness and fullness of the people of the city of St. Louis."

The congressman called it "unfortunate" that the mass murder of nine people at the historic Emanuel AME Church in Charleston brought the issue to the forefront. "However, action must be taken to ensure that divisive symbols, such as the Confederate Memorial, do not have relevance in our city's future."

"Let us lead and influence how we are perceived by the world...as a force for good, and in solidarity with those advocating racial healing. It is not only time for a reappraisal of all public symbols that reflect upon the 'peculiar institution' of slavery, but also time for removal. Symbols associated with this country's racist, oppressive past should not be elevated or displayed in public places."

Other [statues and monuments](#) in the park include a Korean War memorial, Thomas Jefferson, Union Gen. Franz Sigel, and St. Francis of Assisi.

Clay will be introducing with Rep. Ruben Gallego (D-Ariz.) a bill that would prohibit the Department of Veterans Affairs from allowing the display of the Confederate flag at national cemeteries which it manages across the nation.

*Bridget Johnson is a veteran journalist whose news articles and opinion columns have run in dozens of news outlets across the globe. Bridget first came to Washington to be online editor at The Hill, where she wrote The World from The Hill column on foreign policy. Previously she was an opinion writer and editorial board member at the Rocky Mountain News and nation/world news columnist at the Los Angeles Daily News. She is an NPR contributor and has contributed to USA Today, The Wall Street Journal, National Review Online, Politico and more, and has myriad television and radio credits as a commentator. Bridget is Washington Editor for PJ Media.*

<http://pjmedia.com/tatler/2015/06/30/congressman-asks-st-louis-mayor-to-remove-32-foot-granite-civil-war-monument/>

# STATES' RIGHTS GO FRONT AND CENTER, POST-SCOTUS

Survey says: 33% Americans OK with ignoring courts

July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015

CHERYL CHUMLEY



The U.S. Supreme Court

Fully one third of Americans believe states ought to have the right to ignore federal courts on issues that sets voters and lawmakers at odds with judicial decisions, a new [Rasmussen Reports'](#) telephone survey found.

The 33 percent of likely U.S. voters who buy into that view is up nine points from February, when only 24 percent polled said yes to such scenario. The big difference is the U.S. Supreme Court's recent rulings on "gay marriage" and Obamacare, and the outcry that's been generated in recent days, Rasmussen found.

"Perhaps even more disturbing is that the voters who feel strongest about overriding the federal courts – Republicans and conservatives – are those who traditionally have been the most supportive of the Constitution and separation of powers," Rasmussen wrote. "During the Obama years, however, these voters have become increasingly suspicious and even hostile toward the federal government."

Fifty percent of Republican voters think states' rights ought to trump when it comes to deciding the fate of objectionable federal court rulings. By comparison, only 22 percent of Democrats and 30 percent of politically unaffiliated Americans feel similarly, the poll found.

The survey of 1,000 likely voters was conducted between June 30 and July 1, and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus three percentage points.

Read more at <http://www.wnd.com/2015/07/states-rights-go-front-and-center-post-scotus/#CIQ40vQVxPKKSzEz.99>

# NAACP petitions to remove a large Confederate flag flying over I-95

By [Perry Stein](#) June 26



A Confederate flag flies close to Interstate 95 between Quantico and Fredricksburg, Va. (Yue Wu/The Washington Post)

A large Confederate flag on a 90-foot pole flies over Interstate 95 in Virginia, north of Fredericksburg, and the local chapter of the NAACP wants it down.

The activist group [Virginia Flaggers](#), who say the flag honors Confederate soldiers, erected the flag in 2014 [amid controversy](#), which has only heightened in the wake of the mass shooting last week at a historic black church in Charleston, S.C., and the ensuing debate over the place of the Confederate flag in contemporary society.

“The Confederate Flag is a constant reminder of the oppression, marginalization and dehumanizations of African slaves and African Americans in the U.S. post slavery,” [reads the petition on MoveOn.org](#), which is being circulated by the Stafford County chapter of the NAACP. “The large flag flying on I-95 in Stafford VA should be removed.”

Organizers will deliver the petition to the Virginia state House and Senate, Gov. Terry McAuliffe, Congress and President Obama.

McAuliffe announced earlier this week that he would phase out a state-sponsored license plate featuring an image of the Confederate flag. But the Confederate flag along I-95, which measures 30 feet by 22 feet, is legally staked on private property.

Hubert Wayne Cash, 65, a Navy veteran and retired phone company worker, [told The Post in 2014](#), that he allowed the Virginia Flaggers to plant the pole for the flag on his yard to honor the heritage of his 50 ancestors who fought in the Civil War. The Virginia Flaggers have long rejected the idea that the flag is a symbol of racism and hate.

“We’re not sitting around like a bunch of yokels thinking slavery was a good thing,” Cash said at the time, adding that none of his Confederate ancestors owned slaves. “You think they fought for someone else’s slaves?”

Over the past week, politicians across the country have been calling for the removal of the flag from government sites and national retailers have pulled the flags off their shelves and Web sites.

Despite the controversy, manufacturers [that produce the flag](#) say sales are soaring.



Perry Stein covers the happenings in D.C., Maryland and Virginia.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/local/wp/2015/06/26/naacp-petitions-to-remove-a-large-confederate-flag-flying-over-i-95/>

# Gonna miss her

June 22, 2015 by [Steve](#)

Well, with all the hubbub about flags coming down and such, I confess that I've had to do a lot of rethinking over the past few days. This often happens to me when violent, wicked racists commit despicable crimes (and not just despicable crimes, but crimes committed against my own brothers and sisters in Christ, whose only fault was trusting the murderer who killed them) and doing so while wearing on their clothing symbols of countries (past and present) that imply their agreement with wicked presuppositions, Pharisaical assumptions, and unbiblical prejudices. And then when fellow Christians come out and demand that historic flags be removed and denounced because some wicked men lived and fought under those flags and some people who believed and stood for very wicked things love those flags, it gives you pause.

Makes you do a lot of rethinking.

So that's what I've been doing.

And I've been forced to come to some very hard and painful conclusions that only now am I ready to acknowledge (and I'm sure this is going to be a shock to many of my friends given my past commitments and convictions, but I can't help it – facts are facts after all and there's no use running and hiding from them as if they're not true, right?).

So I've been thinking.

And I've decided that I can no longer support the public display of a flag that flew over a country that endorsed the genocide of a race of people that they viewed to be inferior.

I can no longer support the public display of a flag that flew over a country that put images of overt, unapologetic racists on its currency and coins.

I can no longer support the public display of a flag that flew over a country that endorsed African slavery and allowed it to exist up to and even past 1861.

I can no longer support the public display of a flag that flew over ships involved in the evil slave trade and over a capital whose leaders refused to take any truly effective action to stop that hateful and wicked traffic – even when they knew it was continuing *after* 1861!

I can no longer support the public display of a flag that flew over cities which condoned race riots, public lynchings, false arrests and other persecution of innocent black people.

I can no longer support the public display of a flag that flew over a nation that provoked a war that costs hundreds of thousands of lives and left hundreds of thousands without husbands, fathers, sons, and brothers.

I can no longer support the public display of a flag that flew over a nation whose leading general was not only a slave holder who refused to emancipate his slaves until *after* the

war but also said that if he had thought that the war was for the purpose of abolishing slavery, he would have resigned his commission.

I can no longer support the public display of a flag that flew over a nation whose president believed that white people were inherently superior to black people and said that he would do *nothing* to end slavery and had no interest in doing so.

I can no longer support the public display of a flag that flew over a nation that not only praised racist terrorists who murdered innocent people but erected monuments in their honor.

I can no longer support the public display of a flag that flew over a nation whose armies were allowed to rape, pillage, and kill non-combatants (black and white), pursuing a policy of "total war" with the full authorization of their President and War Department.

I can no longer support the public display of a flag that flew over a nation that kept prisoners of war in despicable, deplorable conditions and refused to give them adequate food and medical care when it was fully in their power to do so.

And, of course, I can no longer support the public display of a flag that was used in the rallies of and became identified with the KKK.

Sorry, but, as they say, "facts is facts," and as I've reviewed the history of this country, I've had to confess that, following the logic of our new "popular front" I have been wrong in supporting the display of this flag and seeking to honor the country for which it stands.

So, I confess.

And I repent.

And now I have come to the difficult conclusion that this flag should be taken down. As much as I will miss seeing it, it is causing incredible pain to a significant portion of our citizens. It has to go.

My only question is, who is going to serve on the committee to design a new flag for the United States of America?

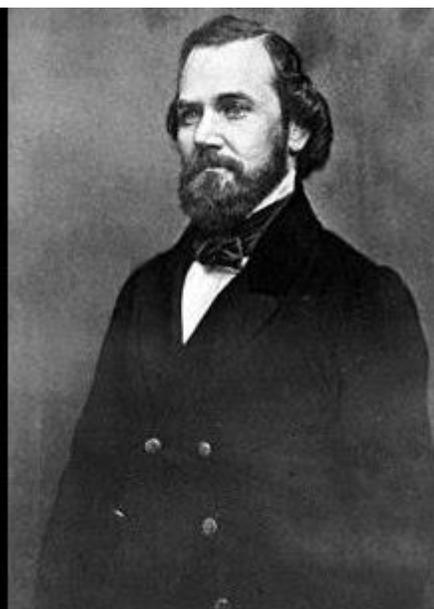
I hope they do a good job, cause I for one am going to miss Old Glory.

<https://auburnavenue.wordpress.com/2015/06/22/gonna-miss-her/>

**'Take your destinies in  
your own hands, and  
shatter this accursed  
Union.'**

**-Laurence M Keitt**

[Keitt was a leading US Congressman, leading Fire-Eater, Delegate to the provisional CS Congress and a colonel in the Confederate Army. He died from battle wounds in 1864]



# On many fronts, Hillsborough seeks to put Confederacy behind it



The third National Flag of the Confederacy is seen along with the American flag and others inside the County Center building. County Commissioner Les Miller is working to see a small Confederate battle flag removed from the Hillsborough County Center CHRIS URSO/STAFF

By [Anastasia Dawson](#) | Tribune Staff

Published: July 1, 2015 | Updated: July 2, 2015 at 05:49 AM

TAMPA — David McCallister, president of the Tampa chapter of the Sons of the Confederacy, stood before the county's Diversity Advisory Council Wednesday in a smart suit and patriotic tie to make a familiar plea.

For the past year and a half, he has sought to have county commissioners sign off on a proclamation honoring Confederate Memorial Day, publicly acknowledging ancestors of his who fought to protect the Confederacy during the Civil War.

The lawyer from Wesley Chapel has spoken during the time allotted for public comments at nearly every county commission and advisory council meeting, but Wednesday was the first time his cause landed on an official agenda.

Yet with only one member in support of the idea, conservative activist Terry Kemple, and after less than 10 minutes of discussion, the council gave McCallister a familiar answer: No.

“Don’t worry, I’ll be back,” McCallister said with a grin as he gathered fellow members of the Judah P. Benjamin Camp and their wives to plan their next steps.

Hillsborough County government is among many in the South hoping to leave the Confederacy in its past after nine black church members were slain last month in a racially motivated shooting in Charleston, South Carolina.

County Commissioner Les Miller is working to have a small Confederate battle flag removed from the Hillsborough County Center downtown and critics have decried the giant banner flown by the Sons of the Confederacy near the intersection of Interstates 75 and 4.

It was a stroke of bad luck that the proclamation McCallister seeks finally landed on a county agenda while the “drum beat of hysteria over the flag” has swept the nation, McCallister said.

Native Americans, African Americans and Jewish Americans also fought in the Confederate Army, and refusing to acknowledge their service is just another attempt at a “cultural cleansing brought by people with an agenda,” he said in an interview.

Confederate Memorial Day has been celebrated April 26 in Florida since 1895, but Hillsborough County formally put an end to the tradition in 2007.

Hillsborough Commissioner Al Higginbotham and former members Mark Sharpe, Kevin White and Rose Ferlita were first to refuse to sign the Sons of Confederate Veterans’ proclamation — the first time a board ever rejected such a request.

The proclamation was intended to be part of a “gentleman’s agreement” reached with Confederate supporters like McCallister after the county removed the Confederate Battle Flag from its seal in 1994, McCallister said.

Now another gentleman’s agreement, intended to appease supporters of the flag, is also in jeopardy.

The third National Flag of the Confederacy, which depicts the familiar “Stars and Bars” emblem in the upper left corner with a white background and a red stripe on the right side, still hangs in the lobby of the Frederick B. Karl County Center. But Hillsborough County Commissioner Les Miller, the lone black voice on the board, said Wednesday he will seek approval from the other commissioners to have it removed.

“The flag to me depicts hatred,” Miller said. “It should not be in any government building, whether county, state or federal buildings.”

The small flag was installed above the front desk, nearly hidden from view, in 1994 after the commission removed the battle flag from the Hillsborough County seal, adopted in 1965. It hangs next to the flags of Spain, Britain, France and the United States — all representing governments that at one time had jurisdiction over Hillsborough County,

“The other flags are part of a nation,” Miller said. “The Confederacy was never a nation, so it shouldn’t be there.”

Miller has talked to County Administrator Mike Merrill about putting all the flags on display in the Tampa History Center. The history center said it could accommodate the display, Miller said. The full commission will consider the matter June 15.

The county is powerless to pull the privately owned, 50-by-30-foot Confederate battle flag near Interstate 4, among the largest in the world, Miller said. But another private effort has been launched to blunt the impact of the banner, at least.

Aaron McRae and his friends started a movement to raise a “unity” flag nearby.

“The reason for it is this: Bigotry is just bad for business,” McRae said.

The group opened a Kickstarter account shortly after the Charleston shootings, seeking funds to counter the message many read into the large Confederate banner. The unity flag would depict a drawing of a hand making a peace sign, colored with blue and white stars and red and white stripes and includes the inscription: “Stand Against Racism.”

The goal is to raise \$65,000 to purchase a piece of land next to or very near the Confederate flag, or at least somewhere along the interstate, he said.

Three weeks after the account was opened, about 30 people have pledged just over \$2,600. McRae is hoping to raise the money within a couple of months. Talks with “certain prominent groups” to get financial backing, he said, also are underway.

McRae said he travels a lot from his Sarasota County home and often passes the flag.

“One time, I was picking up a friend from the airport and I was telling him what a nice place this is and then he sees this big Confederate flag and that kind of threw him,” McRae said. “I told him that’s not a good representation.”

He said he understands that some are proud of the Confederate flag, that it represents their Southern heritage and pride.

“I don’t want to speak negatively about it,” he said. “I don’t want to belittle the flag. But we want to come in with a positive influence. Later, down the line, we hope ultimately to get the Confederate flag taken down.”

Staff writers Keith Morelli and Mike Salinero contributed to this report.

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<http://tbedit.tbo.dc.publicus.com/news/breaking-news/on-many-fronts-hillsborough-seeks-to-put-confederacy-behind-it-20150701/>

HOUSTON

# Confederate flag boosters rally

Some say banner stands for heritage, not racism, deny it's a symbol of hate

By Lomi Kriel July 4, 2015



Photo: Kim Brent

Supporters of the Confederate flag, including members of the regional chapters of Sons of Confederate Veterans, march up Highway 327 in Silsbee on Saturday. Organized by Ricky Stuart, the event, like a similar one at Gulfgate Mall, was intended to celebrate the pride in heritage associated with the flag, and comes in the wake of recent calls to ban the flag.

About 100 people in trucks and on motorcycles flying Confederate flags and honking their horns gathered Saturday at Gulfgate Mall, a shopping center near the intersection of the Gulf Freeway and Interstate 610 - one of several pro-Confederate flag events planned around the country for Saturday.

<http://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/Confederate-flag-boosters-rally-6366703.php>

# Poll: Americans say Confederate flag symbol of pride, not racism

BY KELLY COHEN | JULY 2, 2015 | 9:03 AM



A majority of Americans see the Confederate flag as a symbol of Southern pride, not as a symbol of racism.

However, there is a clear racial divide on how the rebel flag is perceived and what should be done about it and other references to the Confederacy.

According to a new CNN/ORC poll, 57 percent of all sampled adults say the Confederate flag is a symbol of Southern pride. Thirty-three percent called it more a symbol of racism and five percent said it is both equally. Nearly three-fourths (72 percent) of blacks view the Confederate flag as more of a symbol of racism, while two-thirds (66 percent) of whites view it as a symbol of pride.

Public opinion about the flag now is about where it was 15 years ago. In May 2009, 59 percent of Americans viewed the Confederate flag as symbol of Southern pride. Sixty-nine percent said the same in December 1992 — both according to a CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll.

A majority of Americans (68 percent) oppose naming streets and highways after Confederate leaders — a notion that draws support from both whites (71 percent) and non-whites (61 percent).

However, Americans are more split on what they think private companies such as Amazon and Wal-Mart should do when it comes to not selling or manufacturing things featuring the Confederate flag.

Just 50 percent of all Americans support companies choosing not to sell or manufacture such merchandise. Whites are less likely (49 percent) to support companies who choose to do this, compared to blacks (65 percent) who support the decision.

Whites are also less likely (35 percent) to support redesigning state flags that feature Confederate emblems or symbols to remove references to the Confederacy than blacks (59 percent). Overall, only 40 percent of Americans support this notion.

A majority of Americans (55 percent) however do support removing Confederate flags from government property that is not part of a museum. Though blacks were more likely than whites to support doing this, 73 percent to 50 percent.

The telephone-based poll of roughly 1,000 Americans was conducted June 26-28 with an overall margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

The poll comes as both Americans and lawmakers tussle over what to do with the Confederate flag and symbols of the Confederacy on display in different facets of life.

The Confederate flag has been under scrutiny for the past few weeks after a shooter — who had previously posed in photos with the Confederate flag and allegedly said he wanted to start a "racial war" — took the lives of nine worshippers at an African-American church in South Carolina.

<http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/poll-americans-say-confederate-flag-symbol-of-pride-not-racism/article/2567510#>

# 'Dukes of Hazzard' Star Rips TV Land for Dropping Show: "Can't We All Just Watch TV?"

**John Schneider** is blasting TV Land for its [decision](#) to erase from its schedule - due its depiction of the Confederate flag - reruns of The Dukes of Hazzard, the wholesome show that made the actor a teen idol in the 1980s.

"The Dukes of Hazzard was and is no more a show seated in racism than Breaking Bad was a show seated in reality," Schneider told The Hollywood Reporter on Wednesday. TV Land confirmed Wednesday that it pulled the show in the aftermath of the June 17 shooting in Charleston, S.C., perpetrated by **Dylann Roof**, who was a fan of the Confederacy, known in the 19th century for its defense of slavery.

Schneider says his residuals from the show "have never been much to write home about," but he would like the show to persist because of the old-fashioned values it promotes, such as honesty, courage, chivalry, rebelliousness and the like. Those who seek to malign the show because the famous car it featured had a Confederate flag painted on the roof are missing the point, he says.



© Everett Collection/REX

The Dukes of Hazzard "I am saddened that one angry and misguided individual can cause one of the most beloved television shows in the history of the medium to suddenly be seen in this light," Schneider said

Wednesday. "Are people who grew up watching the show now suddenly racists? Will they have to go through a detox and a 12-step program to kick their Dukes habit? 'Hi... My name is John. I'm a Dukesoholic.'"

Earlier Wednesday, Schneider [tweeted](#) a photo of Roof burning a U.S. flag while wearing a Gold's Gym shirt. "I am grossly offended by flag burning. But ... is the Gold's Gym logo to be considered a symbol of racism as well now?" he wrote.

"I'm kidding, of course, but has it really come to this?" he said in an interview with THR. "Come on, TV Land, can't we all just watch TV?" A week ago, Warner Bros. said it would no longer license models of the Dukes of Hazzard car, known as the General Lee, unless the licensees stripped the Confederate flag from the car's roof, and Schneider [similarly weighed in](#) on that decision.

"Throwing this particular baby out with the bathwater seems reactionary and overly PC to me," Schneider told THR last week. "If the flag was a symbol of racism, then Bo and Luke and Daisy and Uncle Jesse were a pack of wild racists, and that could not be further from the truth."

Schneider starred in Dukes of Hazzard from 1979 to 1985. He recently founded [John Schneider Studios](#) in Louisiana where he is shooting Like Son, a feature film he wrote and executive produced and in which he plays a small role. See the trailer [here](#).

Email: Paul.Bond@THR.com

<http://www.msn.com/en-us/tv/news/dukes-of-hazzard-star-rips-tv-land-for-dropping-show-cant-we-all-just-watch-tv/ar-AAcriD3>

## Watch Video Report [HERE](#)



# Texas Reject

By James Rutledge Roesch on Jul 3, 2015



*“Texans! The troops of other states have their reputations to gain, but the sons of the defenders of the Alamo have theirs to maintain. I am assured that you will be faithful to the trust.” – Jefferson Davis, 1861*

This ruling was a foregone conclusion. As soon as Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg implicitly compared Confederates – the descendants of American leaders like George Washington and Thomas Jefferson and American folk heroes like Daniel Boone and Davy Crockett – to Nazis and ISIS, everyone’s mind was made up. The campaign for the Confederacy’s expulsion from the public square advances triumphantly, demanding nothing less than unconditional surrender and total extermination. As Abraham Lincoln admitted himself, “The South is to be destroyed and replaced by new ideas and propositions” – “with malice towards none, with charity for all,” right, Honest Abe?

Texas has a plethora of specialty plates commemorating various aspects of her heritage, but the War of Southern Independence – perhaps the most monumental event in her history, in which two-thirds of her sons went off to war and a quarter of whom never came home – is not just ignored, but now suppressed. Meanwhile, Dr. Pepper gets a specialty plate. The only other people with such venomous hatred of their heritage are the radical Muslims who destroy anything from their pagan, pre-Islamic history. While Americans wail over ISIS’ demolition of the Mosul Museum, they cheer at the desecration of General Robert E. Lee’s tomb.

As conservatives from Cicero to Edmund Burke have known, it is profoundly unnatural and unhealthy for a people to be divorced from their roots, yet this is exactly what is happening to Southerners. “We are witnessing a cultural and political atrocity – an increasingly successful campaign by the media and an academic elite to strip young white Southerners, and arguably black Southerners as well, of their heritage, and, therefore, their identity,” declared Eugene Genovese in a lecture series at Harvard University. “They are being taught to forget their forebears or to remember them with shame.” In contrast to the hard form of ethnic cleansing attempted during the so-called “Civil War,” this form of ethnic cleansing is soft.

First of all, the Supreme Court had no jurisdiction in this case. Article III, Section 2 of the Constitution grants no jurisdiction to the federal judiciary over disputes between the citizens of a State and their State government. In fact, in 1794, the Eleventh Amendment was ratified to prohibit any pretension to such power! Only by the spurious doctrine of “incorporation,” by which the Supreme Court has extended the Bill of Rights – which the States ratified to limit the powers of the federal government – to the States, can any federal jurisdiction be contrived. Thus, amendments which were meant to protect the States from the federal government – the First Amendment begins with the expression “Congress shall make no law,” not “the Texas State Legislature shall make no law” – have become a means by which the federal government assumes control over the States. This unchecked centralization of power in an uncontrollable federal government is precisely the sort of tyranny that the Confederates fought to prevent.

Second, the Supreme Court did not just lack jurisdiction, but ruled incorrectly as well. If the Supreme Court is going to stick its nose in where it does not belong, then it could at least do us lowly citizens the courtesy of applying the law correctly. The First Amendment, by any construction, is clear: the freedom of speech shall not be abridged. If freedom of speech does not protect controversial speech, then it protects nothing at all. James Madison and George Mason were not concerned with protecting Americans’ right to talk about sports and the weather, but about truths that others might not want to hear. As the Sons of Confederate Veterans’ attorney remarked, “Speech we hate is speech we should be proud of protecting.” Such integrity is lost on the likes of Breyer, Ginsburg, Sotomayor, Kagan, and Thomas – Republican and Democrat appointees alike – who rule not on the law, but on their opinions, and act not like judges, but like lawgivers. “Contrary to all correct example, they are in the habit of going out of the question before them, to throw an anchor ahead and grappled further hold for future advances of power,” Thomas Jefferson once observed of the Supreme Court. “They are then in fact the corps of sappers and miners, steadily working to undermine the independent rights of the States and to consolidate all power in the hands of that government in which they have so important a freehold estate.”

Third, and most importantly, the Sons of Confederate Veterans have nothing of which to be ashamed. The Confederates were not traitors; secession was a lawful right rooted in the foundational principles of American freedom and recognized by most of the Founding Fathers. The Confederates did not start the war, but took up arms to defend their homeland from an invasion of unprecedented bloodshed and brutality. Moreover, the Confederates fought one of the greatest fights for independence in history – a struggle worthy of their revolutionary forefathers. “Our reputation, next to the Greeks, will be the most heroic of nations,” reflected General James J. Pettigrew on his way to the Battle of Gettysburg – and death shortly thereafter. Although the Confederates did not win their freedom, they did win the admiration of the civilized world. “The Confederate Army’s fight against overwhelming odds,” claimed Sir Winston Churchill, “is one of the most glorious moments in Anglo-Saxon history.” During the dissolution of the Soviet Union, when the socialist Lincoln admirer Eric Foner was urging Mikhail Gorbachev to crush the seceding states, Confederate flags were waving from the crowds. Today, Novorossian separatists in Ukraine have adopted the Confederate flag as their own banner.

On November 28, 1861, the Confederate battle flag was unveiled before the Confederate Army. The creation of the flag was kept secret from the Confederate government, conceived in the minds of Generals Joseph E. Johnston and P.G.T. Beauregard and created by sewing circles of Richmond ladies. One by one, Johnston and Beauregard presented a battle flag to the colonel of each regiment, who in turn presented the flag to his color guard. Thomas Jordan, Adjutant General of the First Corps, made the following announcement:

“Soldiers: Your mothers, your wives, and your sisters have made it. Consecrated by their hands, it must lead you to substantial victory, and the complete triumph of our cause. It can never be surrendered, save to your unspeakable dishonor and with consequences fraught with immeasurable evil. Under its untarnished folds beat back the invader, and find nationality, everlasting immunity from an atrocious despotism, and honor and renown for yourselves – or death.”

It does not matter if the Supreme Court brands the Confederate flag “hate speech.” This is the cause for which the Confederate flag will always stand – independence, liberty, and honor – and that is why it will always make us proud.

### ***About James Rutledge Roesch***

James Rutledge Roesch received his Bachelor of Arts in Classics from Bucknell University and his Master of Business Administration from Claremont Graduate University. He lives in Florida, where he is an active member in the Sons of the American Revolution and Sons of Confederate Veterans. Despite his respect for Lee's character, he shares Longstreet's love of whiskey and tobacco. <http://www.abbevilleinstitute.org/blog/texas-reject/>

# The Flag Controversy: We Did It To Ourselves

By John Devanny on Jun 26, 2015



Who looks at Lee must think of Washington;  
In pain must think, and hide the thought,  
So deep with grievous meaning it is fraught.

**Herman Melville, "Lee in the Capitol," April 1866.**

"Be of good cheer: the flag is coming down all over, and it's coming down because Rand Paul is right: it is inescapably a symbol of bondage and slavery, and it is inescapably a symbol of white contempt for the humanity of black people."

**Rod Dreher, "Driving Old Dixie Down," *The American Conservative*, June 23, 2015**

In the wake of the dark evil perpetrated by one Dylan Roof upon the members of the historic Emmanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, we are faced with calls for the lowering of Confederate flags and the removal of Confederate monuments. That such calls emanate from the Left is nothing new. Their game has

been one long demonization of the South bolstered by a Neo-Abolitionist myth that is every bit as myopic and simplistic as the other mythologies that pass for interpretations of American history. What is perhaps disconcerting to many in the South is that erstwhile allies and fellow conservatives have decided to dip into the treasury house of cheap moral vindication and even cheaper virtue. Chamber of Commerce Republicans such as Governor Nikki Haley are all about the “Benjamins.” They believe flag is bad for business so it must come down. Senator Rand Paul is a politician, and one whom I have some limited admiration for; yet he is a politician all the same and his job is to pander. Mr. Dreher, ah we shall return to Mr. Dreher in a moment. We might pause and think why these and other folk have decided to abandon the memorialization of the Confederacy? My dear reader, I suggest that we have met the enemy and it is not Haley, Paul or Dreher; it is us.

Now that I have offended you dear reader, I suggest that it well behooves us to examine the flag controversy in South Carolina back in the 1990s. The usual dichotomy came out during that debate: heritage versus hate. A compromise was eventually agreed to whereby the flag would no longer be flown from atop the state house dome, but would be transferred in a more diminutive form to a Confederate memorial on statehouse grounds. All in all this was not a terrible compromise; all parties to the debate did get something, if not everything, that they wanted. Some voices who opposed moving the flag warned that this was not a final compromise, but just a first step in removing Confederate symbols and names from public places, a type of operation memory hole. Of course these voices were correct.

The opponents of the Confederate flag do want the flag to come down everywhere. On this issue, the aforementioned Mr. Dreher and former Secretary of State Mrs. Clinton are in full agreement, odd pairing though this couple may seem. This my dear reader illustrates the power of myth over the hearts and minds of Americans. The Neo-Abolitionist myth of the Civil War reduced the war to one single and solitary clause: slavery upheld by a fundamentally racist order. Like all myths there was contained in this a bit of truth. The slavery debate was certainly central to the war, but there were a host of cultural, political, and economic conflicts which were as well. Some historians have even made some noble attempts at unraveling these complexities: Avery Craven in his book *The Coming of the Civil War*; Anne Norton’s *Alternative Americas*; and Susan-Mary Grant’s, *North Over South* to name but a few. Much more work needs to be done, for the subject is a complex maze requiring the highest degree of skilled historical scholarship and semiotic study.

The stumbling block is that Americans, including Southerners, hate complexity. In part this is due to our pragmatic temperaments forged through frontier experiences of various sorts; in part it is also an effect of the triumph of secular puritanism in American culture. The latter is especially pernicious for it reduces all conflicts to a Manichean struggle between the forces of light and darkness. The way it works in the Neo-Abolitionist Myth is the assertion that the extension of slavery was the sole or primary cause of the war, and slavery being a horrible, racist and oppressive institution; it follows that anything associated with the old Confederacy must by nature also be horrible, racist and oppressive. Of course there are facts get in the way of this myth, but this does not stop the mythologizers. One may point out that if Southerners were so absolutely insistent on expanding slavery how was it that there were a total of 31 slaves in all the western territories in 1860? Indeed, by leaving the Union weren’t the seceding states excluding themselves from said expansion? Moreover, any southern dreams of rushing down to Cuba or Mexico would have run into a not well pleased British navy and U.S. navy. And finally, when James McPherson, a man whom the historian Gary Gallagher credited with re-introducing the “slavery is the sole cause of the war” argument into the debate, produced his book, *What They Fought For*, he found that the vast majority of troops north and south did not view slavery or its abolition as the *causus belli*; most Billy Yanks and Johnny Rebs viewed the contest as a defense of union, constitution, and hearth. The response to such findings is not to ask searching questions, but to either ignore the evidence or perhaps claim that the ordinary soldier was a dupe.

Immediately after the war two mythologies emerged to explain the war’s meaning. We might call the southern version the Lost Cause and the northern version the Union Manifest. In both versions southerners were viewed as noble and gallant opponents who had tried to thwart the march of progress, and thankfully they had been defeated. Missing from these myths were the African Americans (and I might add Native Americans), and New

Left historians were right to suggest that weaving their perspective into the tapestry of the story might well help us to understand the complexities of the Civil War and its origins. Ah, but many of these folks went searching for a myth and found one in the Abolitionist worldview, a worldview that is starkly Manichean and allows for no compromise. The believers in the Neo-Abolitionist Myth are able to make a good bit of hay from the evil and disturbed actions of people like Dylan Roof.

So how are we Southerners responsible for the situation in which we find ourselves? Well I believe there are at least two ways. First, the insistence that the Confederate flag and memorials only stood for “heritage, not hate” tacitly concedes the point that said flags and monuments now belong in museums. After all, most Americans associate heritage and history and other such things with museums. The second way is a bit more complex, so forgive me mythologizers and pragmatists. Southerners have rightly pointed out that the misuse of Confederate symbols by the local bigot or racist should in no way preclude their exclusion from public life. After all, the American flag, the Cross, and the Crucifix have been similarly misused. Where the Southern argument fell apart was on the point of heritage. When heritage was invoked, his opponent responded, “Yes, the heritage of slavery.” Most often the Southerner retorted that the heritage in question was a defense of home and dearth, recognition of sacrifice. The opponent would then respond again with, “No, the defense of slavery.” What was missing from the Southerner’s arsenal was the heritage of self-determination, states’ rights, and local governance. For you see dear reader, those things are, shall we say, gone with the wind. No, not when there is federal largess to be had, Duck Dynasty is on cable, and multi-national corporations must be courted. When Estonians were seceding from the Soviet Union, an action our federal government opposed, they rallied under the Confederate flag. These Estonians had a far better sense of the flag’s meaning than many of the descendants of the men who fought under that flag. What Southerners allowed over the decades was to permit their enemies and their erstwhile friends to redefine and impose meaning upon their symbols—a very dangerous concession.

I began this piece with two separate quotes. Mr. Melville, a supporter of the Union, knew the meaning of the South’s struggle, he found it embodied in Robert E. Lee and like any good American confronted with complexity he suppressed it. Mr. Dreher, who has written intelligently on a host of religious and social issues and who has positioned himself as a defender of local communities, must be warned of the path he treads. Aside from subscribing to a faulty and over simplistic, indeed even Manichean perspective on the flag, I believe him to be gravely unaware of the danger his argument contains. Allow me to edit Mr. Dreher’s words quoted above, “Be of good cheer: the cross is coming down all over, and it’s coming down because it is inescapably a symbol of anti-Semitism, bigotry, and medieval superstition, and it is inescapably a symbol of Christian contempt for the humanity of Muslims and gays.” Don’t think it would not or could not happen. Mr. Dreher has written well about the rapid secularization of the culture and the hostility towards Christians; he should know better than to dabble in the arts of the Manichean enemy. Indeed we have seen similar arguments used against Christian symbols in the past that follow Mr. Dreher’s reasoning and phrasing with respect to the Confederate flag.

It is not the Left, nor Mrs. Haley, nor Messrs. Paul or Dreher who shall bring the flag and the monuments down. We did it. We simply no longer believe in the true principles the flag embodied: self-determination, state’s rights, and local governance. We abandoned these principles and in doing so created a vacuum of meaning which our enemies exploited, and that dear reader is why the flags and monuments may well come down.

### *About John Devanny*

John Devanny holds a Ph.D. in American History from the University of South Carolina. He is the Dean of Faculty for Forsyth Country Day School and resides in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. **More from John Devanny**

<http://www.abbevilleinstitute.org/blog/the-flag-controversy-we-did-it-to-ourselves/>

# TEXAS WANTS ITS GOLD BACK INSIDE THE STATE'S BORDERS

BY WILL WEISSERT  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) -- Forget Fort Knox or the Federal Reserve. Texas has decided to start keeping its gold holdings within its own borders. But what makes sense politically in such a sovereignty-loving place is creating a logistical conundrum.

Texas is the only state that owns an actual stockpile of gold, according to public sector and financial industry experts - not just gold futures or investment positions, but approximately 5,600 gold bars worth around \$650 million. The holdings, stored at a New York bank, for some harken back to century-old fears about the security of currency not backed by shiny bullion.

The Legislature's decision this summer to bring its gold cache home was hailed by many conservatives, and even some on the far left, who are suspicious of national government.

"There will always be the exact same amount of gold in there as the amount that was put in," no matter what happens to the financial system, said Republican state Rep. Rep. Giovanni Capriglione, a former tea party organizer from the Dallas suburbs who authored the gold bill.

But for the Texas comptroller's office, which has to implement the policy, the catch is that the new Texas Bullion Depository exists in name but not reality.

The law doesn't say where the depository would be or how it should be built or secured. No funding was provided for those purposes or for leasing space elsewhere. Further complicating matters is a provision allowing ordinary people to check their own gold or silver bullion into the facility.

"We are honestly at the phase where the questions we are answering are creating more questions that we have to answer," said Chris Bryan, a comptroller's office spokesman.

Charged with figuring everything out is a four-member task force within the comptroller's office, which recently dispatched an official to a precious metals conference to study up.

One immediate concern is the possible cost. When Fort Knox was completed in 1936 it cost \$560,000 - or roughly \$9.2 million in today's dollars. When Capriglione first introduced his bill in 2013 it had an estimated cost of \$23 million.

But Capriglione now thinks private companies would bid to create a depository in exchange for charging storage and service fees.

The plan has kicked up chatter outside of Texas that it's a step toward secession, an idea raised now and then on the state's farthest political fringe.

"Just moving it would be pretty expensive and, unless Texas is anticipating withdrawing from the union, which I suspect is some peoples' want, I don't see what advantage it is...", said Edwin Truman, a senior fellow at the Washington-based Peterson Institute for International Economics who has written about gold and monetary policy. "What are you getting for what you're paying for?"

But Capriglione says he's just convinced that gold is safer, especially close at hand.

After the bill sailed through the Legislature, Republican Gov. Greg Abbott signed it and tweeted: "California may be the golden state, but Texans deserve to keep their gold in-state!"

Texas' state-owned gold is held by the University of Texas Investment Management Company, the nation's second largest academic endowment behind Harvard. It began gradually amassing gold futures in 2009 as a hedge against currency weakness in the recession. It eventually transitioned to physical bullion, and by 2011 had \$1 billion worth.

The price of gold has since mostly slumped amid a soaring stock market. Today, the fund's gold bars represent about 2.5 percent of its \$25.4 billion in holdings, said Chief Executive Officer Bruce Zimmerman.

Asked about the new depository, Zimmerman said, "We don't do politics. We're just investors."

The Fed declined comment on the new Texas depository, as did HSBC bank, which currently stores the gold bars in an underground vault in Manhattan.

Stacked together, the state's gold occupies about 20 square feet. It's unclear whether repatriating it could be done with an electronic transfer or would require a fleet of planes or armored cars.

One possible effect of the new depository might be more attention to the idea of returning to the gold standard, long a cause of former Texas Rep. Ron Paul. The Federal Reserve was founded more than a century ago so that the value of the U.S. dollar no longer had to be anchored to gold, and Richard Nixon formally scrapped the gold standard in 1971.

"I think Texas is once again showing they're ahead of the curve," said James Rickards, author of the 2014 book "The Death of Money: The Coming Collapse of the International Monetary System."

"They're not waiting for the disaster, but preparing for it."

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**DON'T AGREE WITH  
SECESSION?**



**WHAT ARE YOU CELEBRATING EVERY  
JULY 4?**

"Any society which suppresses the heritage of its conquered minorities, prevents their history, and denies them their symbols, has sewn the seed of its own destruction."

Sir William Wallace



# Abraham Lincoln said war was over taxes, not slavery



In a Friday, June 19, 2015 file photo, the Confederate flag flies near the South Carolina Statehouse, in Columbia, S.C. (AP Photo/Rainier Ehrhardt, File) (*Rainier Ehrhardt*)

By [Guest opinion](#)

on June 26, 2015 at 10:02 AM, updated June 26, 2015 at 10:04 AM

**By Roger K. Broxton** of *Andalusia*, president of the *Confederate Heritage Fund*

Abraham Lincoln repeatedly stated his war was caused by taxes only, and not by slavery, at all.

"My policy sought only to collect the Revenue (a 40 percent federal sales tax on imports to Southern States under the Morrill Tariff Act of 1861)." reads paragraph 5 of Lincoln's First Message to the U.S. Congress, penned July 4, 1861.

"I have no purpose, directly or in-directly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so," Lincoln said in his first inaugural on March 4 of the same year.

There is no proof of Lincoln ever declaring the war was fought to abolish slavery, and without such an official statement, the war-over-slavery teaching remains a complete lie and offensive hate speech that

divides Americans, as is being done now by the media and politicians regarding the Confederate flag in South Carolina.

Slavery was NOT abolished; just the name was changed to sharecropper with over 5 million Southern whites and 3 million Southern blacks working on land stolen by Wall Street bankers.

White, black, Indian, Hispanic, Protestant, Catholic and Jewish Confederates valiantly stood as one in thousands of battles on land and sea. Afterwards, they attended Confederate Veterans' reunions together and received pensions from Southern States.

Photos of black Confederate veterans may be seen in Alabama's Archives in Scrapbook – 41<sup>st</sup> Reunion of United Confederate Veterans, Montgomery, June 2,3,4 and 5, 1931."

Lincoln did not claim slavery was a reason even in his Emancipation Proclamations on Sept. 22, 1862, and Jan. 1, 1863. Moreover, Lincoln's proclamations exempted a million slaves under his control from being freed (including General U.S. Grant's four slaves) and offered the South three months to return to the Union (pay 40 percent sales tax) and keep their slaves. None did. Lincoln affirmed his only reason for issuing was: "as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing said (tax) rebellion."

Mrs. Grant wrote in her personal memoirs: "We rented our pretty little home (in St. Louis) and hired out our four servants to persons whom we knew and who promised to be kind to them. Eliza, Dan, Julia and John belonged to me. When I visited the General during the War, I nearly always had Julia with me as nurse."

Lincoln declared war to collect taxes in his two presidential war proclamations against the Confederate States, on April 15 and 19th, 1861: "Whereas an insurrection against the Government of the United States has broken out and the laws of the United States for the collection of the revenue cannot be effectually executed therein."

On Dec. 25, 1860, South Carolina declared unfair taxes to be a cause of secession: "The people of the Southern States are not only taxed for the benefit of the Northern States, but after the taxes are collected, three-fourths (75%) of them are expended at the North (to subsidize Wall Street industries that elected Lincoln)." (Paragraphs 5-8)

It was on April 8, 1861, that Lincoln, alone, started the war by a surprise attack on Charleston Harbor with a fleet of warships, led by the *USS Harriet Lane*, to occupy Fort Sumter, a Federal tax collection fort in the territorial waters of South Carolina and then invaded Virginia.

On April 29, 1861, President Jefferson Davis described the South's response of self-defense in his Message To the Confederate States Congress: "I directed a proposal to be made to the commander of Fort Sumter that we would abstain from directing our fire on Fort Sumter if he would promise not to open fire on our forces unless first attacked. This proposal was refused." (Paragraphs 8-9)

The only reason the South ever gave for fighting was in self-defense of the voluntary Union of independent States, as symbolized then by the U.S. Flag.

Secession (withdrawal from a voluntary union) and war are two very different events.

[http://www.al.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/06/war-over-slavery\\_rhetoric\\_is\\_i.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.al.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/06/war-over-slavery_rhetoric_is_i.html#incart_story_package)



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Non-profit tax deductible public law corporation founded in 1995, dedicated to preservation of the dwindling rights of all Americans through judicial, legal and social advocacy on behalf of the Confederate community and Confederate Southern Americans.



## Mission

A return to social and constitutional sanity for all Americans and especially for America's most persecuted minority: Confederate Southern Americans.

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Kirk D. Lyons, Chief Trial Counsel

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# Sons of Confederate Veterans

"DEFENDING THEIR HONOR SINCE 1896"



[www.scv.org](http://www.scv.org) ★ 1-800-MySouth

## What is the Sons of Confederate Veterans?

The citizen-soldiers who fought for the Confederacy personified the best qualities of America. The preservation of liberty and freedom was the motivating factor in the South's decision to fight the Second American Revolution. The tenacity with which Confederate soldiers fought underscored their belief in the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. These attributes are the underpinning of our democratic society and represent the foundation on which this nation was built.

Today, the Sons of Confederate Veterans is preserving the history and legacy of these heroes, so future generations can understand the motives that animated the Southern Cause.

The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans, and the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers. Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to ensuring that a true history of the 1861-1865 period is preserved.

## Events & Functions

Memorial Services • Monthly Camp Meetings • Annual Reunions • Grave Site Restoration  
Educational Programs • Parades & Festivals • Heritage Defense • Honoring Our Veterans



Rattle Flag



1st National Flag



2nd National Flag



3rd National Flag



Bonnie Blue Flag



*They took a stand for us.  
Now, we stand for them.*

*May God bless our efforts to  
Vindicate the Cause of the  
Confederate South.*

Michael Givens  
Commander-in-Chief  
Sons of Confederate Veterans

**NEVER APOLOGIZE**



**FOR BEING RIGHT!**

### About our namesake:

[belo.herald@yahoo.com](mailto:belo.herald@yahoo.com)

Colonel A.H. Belo was from North Carolina, and participated in Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg. His troops were among the few to reach the stone wall. After the war, he moved to Texas, where he founded both the Galveston Herald and the Dallas Morning News. The Dallas Morning News was established in 1885 by the Galveston News as sort of a North Texas subsidiary. The two papers were linked by 315 miles of telegraph wire and shared a network of correspondents. They were the first two newspapers in the country to print simultaneous editions. The media empire he started now includes radio, publishing, and television. His impact on the early development of Dallas can hardly be overstated.

The Belo Camp 49 Websites and The Belo Herald are our unapologetic tributes to his efforts as we seek to bring the truth to our fellow Southrons and others in an age of political correctness and unrepentant yankee lies about our people, our culture, our heritage and our history. **Sic Semper Tyrannis!!!**

# Do you have an ancestor that was a Confederate Veteran?

Are you interested in honoring them and their cause?

Do you think that history should reflect the truth?

Are you interested in protecting your heritage and its symbols?

Will you commit to the vindication of the cause for which they fought?

If you answered "Yes" to these questions, then you should "Join Us"

*Membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces regardless of the applicant's or his ancestor's race, religion, or political views.*

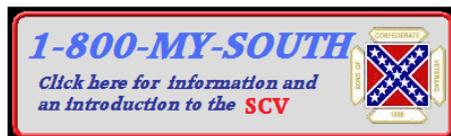
## How Do I Join The Sons of Confederate Veterans?



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*Membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate States armed forces and government.*



Membership can be obtained through either lineal or collateral family lines and kinship to a veteran must be **documented genealogically**. The minimum age for full membership is 12, but there is no minimum for Cadet Membership.

<http://www.scv.org/research/genealogy.php>

### CHARGE TO THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

*"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish." Remember it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations".*

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee,  
Commander General

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