



# REALity

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## CONSERVATIVE LEADERSHIP RACE

***“Canada has moved on to provide a political leader and a party which are in touch with ordinary Canadians. What a welcome change!”***

As usual, the media lives in their own bubble, having little understanding or sense of what grassroots conservatives, as well as other Canadians, are thinking. The media totally misunderstood the Conservative leadership race.

The media believed that the Conservative Party had become “modernized” (i.e. become more liberal) since the October, 2015 federal election and that social conservatives had become a marginal concern for the party. How wrong they were.



The media totally underestimated the vitality and effectiveness of social conservatives. Evidence of this attitude was apparent in comments in the Globe and Mail by columnist, Gary Mason, who on December 8, 2016, after the second conservative leadership debate, confidently wrote

about social conservative candidate, Brad Trost, whose combined vote with another social conservative, Pierre Lemieux, had 16% support on the first ballot. Mason wrote:

Brad Trost is someone else whose political reflexes seem horribly off ... if the Conservatives were smart, they would be encouraging him to drop out of the race now because his continued presence in it will be a harmful distraction. Any political party worth its salt would want nothing to do with the man.

Brad Trost came a respectable 4<sup>th</sup> and social conservative, Pierre Lemieux, 6<sup>th</sup>, of 13 candidates, overcoming Lisa Raitt and Kellie Leitch, for example, who were provided much media coverage during the campaign.

Social conservative, Andrew Scheer, won the leadership race.

Columnist Gary Mason and other media are the ones whose political reflexes seem to be horribly off.

### MAXIME BERNIER, THE FRONT RUNNER

Maxime Bernier was the front runner in the final months of the campaign. According to Toronto Star columnist, Chantal Hébert (May 27, 2017), not only was Mr. Bernier likely to win the leadership race, but also, he was going to win Quebec handily. In fact, according to Ms. Hébert, Mr. Bernier’s strength in Quebec would be his ace in a winning hand. This did not happen. In fact, Bernier did not do well in Quebec. Mr. Bernier’s policy platform to abolish supply management, which provides quota and price control systems, supposedly to ensure stable incomes for dairy, egg and poultry farmers, was not popular in his native province of Quebec. In fact, Bernier was beaten by Scheer even in his home riding of Beauce, where he had 48.89% of the support compared to 51.11% for Mr. Scheer, who resides in Saskatchewan and was born and raised in Ottawa.

At the first rounds of ballots, it all was going relatively well for Mr. Bernier, who led for twelve of the thirteen rounds of the ranked-ballot results. However, Mr. Scheer picked up the lion’s share of support in the crucial final rounds. Brad Trost, overwhelmingly social conservative, and Pierre Lemieux, another social conservative, went 2 to 1 to Scheer in the second last round. It then came down to “centrist” Erin O’Toole’s voters as to whether they would back Bernier or Scheer. Their vote went 60 to 40 in Scheer’s favour.

In retrospect, Bernier’s doom should have been evident after the first round. This is because his numbers came in slightly under expectation because Trost and Lemieux ended up in the top half-dozen candidates, thanks to their tremendous social conservative support.

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## MAXIME BERNIER'S BIZARRE BEHAVIOUR AT THE CONVENTION

Bernier's campaign at the party's convention was bizarre. His campaign team presumed, as the media constantly told them, that he would win the leadership race. As a result, Bernier and his team launched into a premature victory lap. They announced that instead of welcoming all the candidates to their libertarian tent, Bernier's loyalists would have "dibs on the good positions first" and that backers of Scheer would not be given jobs because, according to Emrys Graefe, Bernier's strategist, they would be more comfortable hiring staff from O'Leary's campaign. Bernier's team also made it clear that Bernier would be keeping a list of everyone who had supported and donated to his campaign and that anyone who disagreed with Mr. Bernier's agenda would not be acceptable to him. His supporters also stated Bernier's platform would become the platform of the Conservative party without even consulting the caucus.

On tasting victory, Mr. Bernier, who is always unconventional, but who kept his eccentricities under wraps during the campaign, let his true self show through to the delegates at the convention.

For example, on the Friday evening, among the thirteen candidates, Bernier was the only one failing to address party members in something approaching a convention speech. Instead, before stumbling through a few brief remarks, he used most of his allotted ten minutes to show an amateurish video, which did not help his cause. Accompanied by ominous music, the video was a thumping reminder of Bernier's controversial platform. What was it all about? Nobody knows.

It is also a concern that, when controversial Kevin O'Leary dropped out of the campaign in April, he said he

would be advising and assisting the successful candidate, Bernier, once the latter was elected leader. We seem to have escaped a bullet.

The Conservative party was fortunate that the libertarian Mr. Bernier was not elected as leader of the party.

## ANDREW SCHEER

Andrew Scheer is 38 years old—seven years younger than Justin Trudeau. His views are more compatible with grassroots Canadians. He is sensible, politically experienced, and cares about the ordinary Canadian. This is unlike Justin Trudeau, who lives in a world of the wealthy and the political elites, while promoting outdated policies, such as feminism and unrestricted abortion.

Canada has moved on to provide a political leader and a party which are in touch with ordinary Canadians. What a welcome change! †



Andrew Scheer, his wife Jill, and children (from left to right): Henry, Mary, Grace, Madeline, and Thomas.

## THE IDIOCY OF FEMINISM: GENDER ANALYSIS

***“Justin Trudeau has taken the extreme measure of enforcing feminism, not just by policy, but by way of legislation ... and bears no resemblance to the real life and opinions of Canadians.”***

In his feverish desire to install the outdated ideology of feminism into Canada, similar to the 1970's and 1980's, Justin Trudeau has taken the extreme measure of enforcing feminism, not just by policy, but by way of legislation. This legislation is to be managed by the farcical Standing Committee on the Status of Women, which was established in 2004 by Liberal Prime Minister Paul Martin. This Committee has been assigned the following responsibilities to implement feminism.

### I. BILL C-309

This eccentric bill promoting feminism is filled with politically correct feminist jargon and bears no resemblance to the real life and opinions of Canadians.

Bill C-309, called an Act to Establish Gender Equality Week, introduced by Liberal MP Sven Spengemann (Mississauga-Lakeshore), passed second reading in the House of Commons on February 1, 2017 and was referred to the House of Commons Status of Women Committee for review. No opposition was raised to this absurd legislation except for Conservative MP Brad Trost (Saskatoon-University) who saw the bill for the foolishness it was.

The Standing Committee on the Status of Women consists of mostly feminist members. To present this Committee with Bill C-309 to review, is just like putting the fox in charge of the hen house.

## What is Bill C-309?

This private member's bill is a testament to a politically correct list of feminist grievances and unsubstantiated demands, based solely on ideology, not fact. The preamble to the bill states that all women, including transgendered women (based on their chosen gender identity and expression) and lesbians, are hapless victims of society. Poverty, violence, barriers to education and employment, barriers to political representation and health care, and denial of representation on executive or board management of corporations, are the purported lot of Canadian women, according to this bill.

The bill makes the House of Commons a laughing stock. The only vote opposing it, as mentioned above, was that of Conservative MP Brad Trost. Some Conservative MPs refused to join the Liberal posturing about gender equality and did not vote at all on this poorly drafted bill. Other Conservative MPs, however, chose to go along with the bill's vague, superficial assumptions about inequality and voted in favour of it because they didn't want to be portrayed as being "discriminatory" by the media.

## II. REVIEW OF FEMINIST GENDER ANALYSIS

In order to ensure that the government delivers "meaningful" changes aligned with feminism, the Liberal government decided the 2017 budget, and all future budgets will include a provision to cover the cost of undertaking a "rigorous" gender analysis of all government policies and legislation to determine whether women will experience disproportionately negative effects, by way of these policies. If such should prove to be the case, policymakers (i.e. the Cabinet Ministers) will be required to reshape their policies to mitigate such supposed negative effects.

The stakeholders in this undertaking for gender analysis – namely feminists – are jubilant that every budget henceforth will require this gender analysis. They claim "there is lots of work to be done" on this.

In effect, the Status of Women Committee's responsibility will now be to hover over the shoulders of Cabinet Ministers, busy with real files, to ensure that a "gender-based analysis" is applied to proposals before they even arrive at Cabinet for decision-making. It is a perfect make work project for feminists.

### The Incompetency of the House of Commons Status of Women Committee

Not only are the policies and legislation that the House of Commons Status of Women Committee will be addressing ridiculous, the Committee itself is equally ridiculous and meaningless. For starters, it is hypocritical to have a radical feminist dominated Committee implement a program supposedly on the "equality" of women when the Committee, itself, does not treat all women equally since it does not include the views of most Canadian women. That is, the Committee is applying a specific ideology (feminism) to all women, most of whom have a completely different, non-feminist vision of what it means to be a woman.

## Status of Women Canada Agency

In 1976, Trudeau Senior established the government departmental agency called The Status of Women, which currently operates under the Department of Canadian Heritage. In addition to handing out taxpayers' money to feminist only groups, it has now been given the additional responsibility of overseeing that government employees assume the correct feminist position in determining policies.

### i. Indoctrination of Public Employees

In February 2017, the Liberal government announced that Canadian federal employees must take and pass a "gender-equality" test. The public servants will have three chances to pass this mandatory feminist course or face unspecified consequences. Public employees fear that if they refuse to take this nonsensical test, or fail it by not selecting the feminist approved answers, they will be overlooked for promotion or even lose their jobs. The purpose of this program is to force these unfortunate government employees to craft and implement "gender equality" policies, programs and legislation. Not only is this program altogether biased in favour of feminists, it also includes a provision for "diversity and inclusion" analysis and consideration to include sexual orientation issues.

The purpose of this program is to indoctrinate public servants and purge them of politically incorrect thoughts. It is an outrageous attack on the dignity and personal integrity of employees. Federal employees are paid by the taxpayer to carry out government policies, not be subjected to this totalitarian and autocratic order to think in an ideologically correct manner, contrary to their own personal beliefs and values. This program is fascism unleashed.

### ii. The Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

In 1971, Trudeau Senior established the position of Minister Responsible for the Status of Women. This current Minister is the absurd MP Maryam Monsef (Peterborough-Kawartha), who was relieved of her position as Minister of Democratic Reform because of her incompetent handling of electoral reform. As Minister responsible for the Status of Women, she has quickly shown herself to be equally incompetent.

When the Trudeau government announced a \$285,000 gift of taxpayers' money to Planned Parenthood, Ottawa branch, for a three year project to make abortion and contraception more accessible, Ms. Monsef rose to the occasion by stating:

Reproductive health rights in Canada and around the world are critical to advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. We're committed to making sure that women and girls have that choice, because otherwise, this is a form of gender-based violence.

***Abortion "empowers" women? To deny a woman an abortion is "gender-based violence"?*** One has to marvel at her dim-witted response. Such mindless patter by Ms. Monsef, who, it can accurately be stated, is not the sharpest knife in the drawer, does not bode well for the future activity of this Agency. †

# ADDRESSING SOME OF SOCIETY'S CHALLENGES

***“[F]amily structure is exceedingly important to society and a return to intact marriage is necessary for a nation set on rebuilding itself in order to create stability.”***

We can endlessly lament the instability in our troubled society or we can point out some reasonable approaches that could possibly address some of the challenges. For example,

## **PROVIDING MOTHERS WITH CHOICES**

Many women return to paid employment after the expiration of their one-year maternity leave. Most women say they do so because of financial necessity.

What then, would be the effect if the mother could be funded for choosing to raise her child at home rather than placing the child in substitute care? According to a 2013 poll by Albion Research, of 2,022 Canadians, 69% of parents, who currently have children under six years old, would prefer to remain at home with their child. This is understandable since it is not easy to work in paid employment and raise a family at the same time.

Recently, a proposal was made in New Zealand to pay New Zealand mothers to stay at home if they wished. This proposal was endorsed by a major newspaper, *The New Zealand Herald*, which published an editorial stating that paying women to stay at home with their babies:

... would find plenty of support among those who believe babies and toddlers are being put in daycare too soon. If a parental care payment can keep one of them at home for much longer, it would be well received. With the Budget now showing a healthy surplus for the next four years, National [the governing party] might find it hard to refuse.

Providing some compensation to mothers who stay at home to raise their children would also have a benefit of giving recognition to the value of a mother's contribution to society. Unfortunately, society today encourages women to put education, training and careers before motherhood – often at the cost of infertility among those who actually want to have a child later on. That is, we seem to be teaching our young people that there is no value in motherhood and that homemaking is an outdated, misogynistic concept. We do this through the promotion of professional progression as a marker of success, while completely devaluing the contribution of parents in the home. Our culture simply does not value the family or motherhood. Perhaps, it's time it did.

Finland has already implemented a policy to provide financial support to parents, equally through a home care allowance or by a subsidized childcare system. About half of Finnish parents choose the home care allowance. This may

be a possible reason that Finland's education system consistently outperforms others in European countries.

## **TAX INCENTIVES FOR MARRIAGE**

The growth of cohabitation today is creating chaos in society for a number of reasons:

1. According to psychologist, Pat Fagan, at Marriage & Religions Research Institute, an analysis of the National Survey of Family Growth 2006/2010 indicates that American and European children whose parents are living together, but not married, are far more likely to see their parents separate by the age of twelve. According to this report, legal marriage is a far more stable union than a common-law union. The study reports that in the U.S. and seventeen European countries, children born to cohabiting couples are 96% more likely to see their parents split by the time they are twelve.

In the United States, between 2002 and 2010, births to cohabiting couples jumped from 41% of all non-marital births to 58%. In France and Sweden, one in four adults aged 18 to 49 is cohabiting, while in South America, families based on non-marital “consensual unions” are a longstanding tradition.

The United Kingdom has one of the highest levels of family instability in the Northern Hemisphere. According to the report, a third of children in the UK are not living with both biological parents. Children born to cohabiting parents are “94% more likely to see their parents break up before age 12”, compared to those whose parents were married at their birth. In Canada, according to the 2011 census, there were 5.587 million children under 14 years of age living in private households. 910,708 or 16.3%, of these children are living within a common law union. Not a very happy situation for such children.

2. In December, 2016, a study was released by researchers at the *US Bowling Green State University* indicating that cohabitation results in a much higher level of violence than occurs in legal marriage. One of the reasons for this higher level of violence in cohabiting relationships is due to a risky combination of low commitment and a high level of ease in ending the relationship.
3. In February 2017, psychologist Patrick Fagan, Marriage & Religions Research Institute, released a study correlating the number of past sexual partners with subsequent marriage stability. According to this study, of women who were monogamous with no other sexual partner than their married spouse, 95% remained in an intact marriage after the first five years of marriage. However, for women who had one other sexual partner, other than their husband (almost always prior to marriage), the

percent drops to 62%. In the case of women having two other sexual partners prior to marriage, the percentage of stable marriage after five years drops to 50%. Thereafter, it plateaus. For men, it takes five previous sexual partners to reach the same level of break-up.

Unfortunately, cohabitation has become common in contemporary society. If couples are not concerned about the stability of a future marriage when they enter into cohabitation, then perhaps one way of curbing common-law unions would be to provide generous tax incentives to couples to encourage them to enter into legal marriages.

On every outcome measured, for adults and children, those in an intact family do best on all the positive outcomes: education, income, savings, health, longevity, happiness, sexual enjoyment, intergenerational support. They also have the least incidence of all the negatives such as: crime, addictions, abuse-both physical and sexual, poverty, illiteracy, exclusion, ill health, unhappiness, mental illness, lack of sexual fulfillment.

Thus, family structure is exceedingly important to society and a return to intact marriage is necessary for a nation set on rebuilding itself in order to create stability.

to transfer that family member to a nursing home/hospital because of the extensive care that is required. This would be a far less costly approach, than the one we are providing now, where the aged are deposited in nursing homes far too soon. Employers must also be more willing to provide the benefit of compassionate care leave of absence to employees who wish to care for their aging loved ones. Fortunately, there is now a tax deduction for caregivers to look after dependent family members.

Canada is already witnessing a quiet evolution in household composition. This is evidenced by children no longer leaving homes in their late teens and early twenties and forging their way independently. Instead, the delineation between childhood and adulthood has become blurred, as children often “boomerang” back to the family, even after university. This is mainly because of the economic situation whereby it is difficult to obtain a foothold in the world by way of steady employment and affordable housing.

Under such circumstances, perhaps, it is not unreasonable for children who are saved the expense of a mortgage and the inconvenience of running a home themselves, to assume more responsibility for their aging parents than they do at present. †

## CARING FOR THE ELDERLY

Politicians in the western world are apprehensive about the rapidly aging population that is careening towards them. It means that a lot more money will be required to care for this elderly population. More retirement and nursing homes will be required, with greatly increased demands on the healthcare system. Increased pension payments are also inevitable, because individuals are living much longer today, well into their eighties and even nineties, instead of conveniently, for the state budget, dying off in their late sixties and early seventies, as was common previously.

This may be why some insensitive politicians are looking fondly on assisted suicide, which could alleviate some of their “problems”. A cost analysis of assisted suicide, in fact, was published in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, in January, 2017 claiming that assisted suicide could save the country’s health care system as much as \$138.8 million a year, depending on the number of people who choose to hasten their death with the help of a doctor or nurse. It is worrisome that the cost of looking after the elderly is a consideration. An elderly person must live in dignity, with respect, and be valued because he/she is a part of our human family and not be regarded as merely a statistic.

One approach to caring for our aging population is for the family, not the government, to take more responsibility for aging parents. This is not a new idea, of course, as it is a common practice in Europe, Africa and South America.

The family cannot carry out this responsibility, however, 24/7 without some support. This is where the government can step in to at least provide generous assistance for home caregivers. Eventually, it may be necessary

## MESSAGE BOARD

- **FUNDRAISER:** A few years ago, as a fundraiser, REAL Women published “[The REAL Cookbook](#)”, a soft-covered, coil-bound cookbook, with 135 pages of tried and true recipes submitted by “real” cooks. A limited number of these are still available. The suggested minimum donation is \$10 per book. If you would like to be a proud owner, please mail a cheque to our Ottawa office and include a note requesting a book (or two). Include your complete mailing address. Thank you for your generosity.
- **MEMBERSHIP:** Another reason to be a member of REAL Women of Canada: We are the only pro-life, pro-family, social conservative women’s organization in Canada, the alternative movement to the radical feminist ideology movement. We analyze women’s issues through the lens of how they affect the natural family, the most important unit in society. Membership fee is only \$30 a year. We need your support if you believe in our aims and objectives.
- **Writing your will?** Have you ever considered including REAL Women of Canada as a beneficiary in your will? <http://www.realwomenofcanada.ca/donate/bequest/>. Bequests from generous patrons have been an extremely important source of revenue for us. We are ever so grateful. †

# OVERPOPULATION —WHAT A MYTH

***“[Physician assisted suicide] will be cheaper for the state than providing more beds and costly care for the elderly.”***

What a difference forty years makes in the life of a nation.

A recent US study entitled “The Changing Economics and Demographics of Young Adulthood 1975–2016” (the results of this study will not be much different in Canada), is of concern. Forty years ago, more than half (57%) of Americans between the ages of 16 and 34, lived with their spouse in their own household, and 28% lived with their parents. Not anymore. Today, only 27% of that age group live with their spouse and 31% with their parents. Even when taking into consideration the percentage of those living with unmarried partners, or living alone, the number of 34 year olds living independently is 10% lower than the percentage of those living with their spouses forty years ago.

What’s more, the delay in marriages has reached an alarming stage. In the 1970’s, the median age for marriage was 23.2 years for men and 20.8 for women. The figures, as of 2013, are 29 years of age for men and 27 years for women. Later marriage means fewer children being born and fewer workers to financially support the costs of an aging population.

Young people don’t seem to be planning to do anything about demographic changes which are already causing havoc. When surveyed, the 16 to 34 year old group state that completing their education and getting a job were most important to them, while three quarters rated marriage and child-rearing as only “somewhat” important.

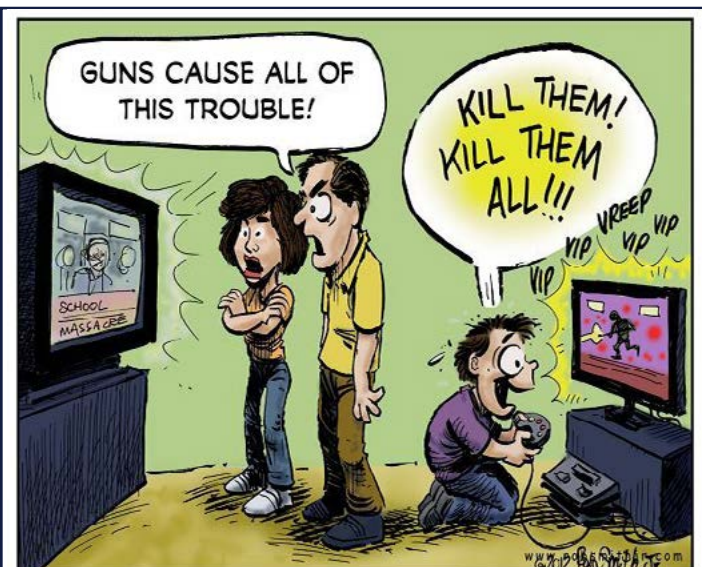
The smaller extended families that we are now experiencing have reduced the support and social capital

generated by the extended family of the past. This means that more and more of the elderly will eventually become wards of the state since there will be no family able or willing to look after them. The cost benefits of maintaining the elderly will be coldly calculated by the state authorities and the vulnerable aged, with no one to care for them, will, inevitably fall prey to the physician assisted suicide brigade. This will be cheaper for the state than providing more beds and costly care.

Encouraging marriage and childbirth should be a major undertaking for both the federal and provincial governments. It is time they remove the mask from their eyes and frankly look into the future. †



Adam Zigllis, *The Buffalo News*, July 22, 2007.



Cartoonist Rob Smith Jr. portrays concerned parents commenting on the availability of guns in our society. Yet, at their fingertips, their child is involved with and enjoying a violent video game. [www.robsmithjr.com](http://www.robsmithjr.com) 2012

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