



**The Washington Flyer**  
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**Back Away from Pre-K**

The National Institute for Early Education Research has just published "[The State of the Preschool 2008](#)," the analysis and results of their research done on state-funded pre-k programs. The study highly praised the state programs stating in their [press release](#), "the annual survey of state-funded preschool programs shows impressive expansion in enrollment and spending." While the report indicates that these programs are increasing in numbers and funding, the report does not provide information indicating extensive improvement of the quality of education and effect it is having on young children. The research also indicated unless the federal government takes over and establishes a federal pre-k program, states that do not have state pre-k programs will never improve, and those states which do have state-funded pre-k programs will cease to exist due to limited funding as a result of the current economic crisis. In everyday terms, it is a cry to the federal government to intervene into the lives of 4-year-olds and take over as primary educator and authority.

However, in addition to the obvious financial problems of the federal government, allowing early education to be dictated and regulated also presents problems. With nearly 80% of the preschools being private or faith-based, government funding and intervention would ultimately destroy the quality of education through excessive regulations and control. Federal incentives will encourage the states to increase their requirements in the areas of teacher certification, curriculum, and learning environments in preschool programs, allowing any requirements that include state-approved curriculum or national curriculum to be tailored to fit a specific political agenda without regard for the religious beliefs, values, and mission of a faith-based school or the families they serve.

Apart from the regulations and requirements that pre-schools will be faced with under these incentives, the greatest threat is placed on the rights and responsibility of parents. "Fundamentally, the preschool and kindergarten debate is not about the effectiveness or expense of the programs. At heart is the question of in whose hands the responsibility for young children should rest. On that question, plans to entrench the state further into early education cannot be squared with a free society that cherishes the primacy of the family over the state," warns Darcy Olson, President and CEO of Goldwater Institute. Increased control of pre-school programs by the government on a federal or state level clearly leads to a failure to give parents the primary responsibilities, rights, and privileges of parenting.

***ACTION:*** Please call your Representative and Senator and urge them to oppose federal involvement in pre-k education. Contact information can be obtained at [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov) and [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov).

**Sticky Nominations**

*Associate with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation;  
for it is better to be alone than in bad company ~ George Washington*

Article II, Section II, of the [U.S. Constitution](#) states:

He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law: but the Congress may by law vest the appointment of such inferior officers, as they think proper, in the President alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

When electing a President, one must consider the effects his policies will have on the nation. The policies that he implements can significantly change the path on which the nation is heading. Perhaps one of the most efficient methods to drastically change the direction of the nation is the President's constitutional power to place individuals into positions who will best serve by pushing through his agenda and policies. President Obama, in his efforts to change the nation has nominated several individuals whose character and past records indicate a definite shift from the traditional and morally perceptive individuals who once founded this great nation.

On March 23, 2009, the President announced Harold Koh as his nomination to become the new Legal Advisor to the State Department. Koh, a former official during the Clinton Administration, has served as Dean of Yale Law School since 2004. While Koh's credentials make him well-qualified for the job, [Americans are concerned of his ideology and philosophical intentions](#). Koh has been on the forefront of transnational movements, writing documents that would concern anyone on his view of national sovereignty. He, along with President Obama, has heavily criticized the war in Iraq, and has referred to the United States as a leading power in the "axis of disobedience," accompanied by North Korea and Iraq. Strong allegations he imposes on America, due to our lack of obedience to International law. Stephen Gross, legal expert and fellow at the Heritage Foundation finds, "The president should have the right to choose the most conservative or liberal legal advisers to give them advice, but this is much more than that. The concern is that he cares as much about -- if not more about -- international law and integrating that into the American judicial system than he does about protecting American prerogatives and American sovereignty."

Other concerns raised by the announcement of Koh's nomination include his work with human rights efforts and pro-abortion advocates. With a strong legal background, it is probable that President Obama will consider Koh as a possible future [Supreme Court Justice nominee](#). According to Lifenews.com editor, Steven Ertelt, "With the United Nations, aided by a supportive Obama administration, possibly setting out [to make abortion an international right](#) and approving documents requiring countries across the globe to honor that right, a Koh appointment would make it that much harder to overturn Roe."

President Obama also has named Dawn Johnson, [a pro-abortion advocate](#), known for her brash statements defending the heinous act of abortion, as head of the Office of Legal Council, as well as naming former Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius as Secretary of the department of Health and Human Services. While Tom Daschle was originally nominated for the HHS position, after being exposed about tax problems, he willingly declined. Ms. Johnson, along with Ms. Sebelius are both very strong advocates for abortion on demand and the removal of all restrictions put on abortion, including partial-birth abortion. Ms. Johnson has equated "forced pregnancy" with "involuntary servitude" while Ms. Sebelius' [ties to well-known late-term abortionist George Tiller](#) have raised questions of her very own tax discrepancies.

While the Senate waits to confirm these nominations, it is not difficult to see that President Obama is in fact keeping his promise of bringing change to America. With the appropriate leaders in place, America is heading down a path that is far different from what any Founding Father could have imagined.

***ACTION: Please call your Senators and urge them to oppose the nominations of Harold Koh, Dawn Johnson, and Kathleen Sebelius. Contact information can be obtained at [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov).***

### **It's Tea Time!**

*December 16, 1774-* A day recorded in history books as one of the greatest public uprisings and protests to an overbearing authority and oppressive taxation. The Boston Tea Party transpired after taxes were placed on the colonies by the King of England in order to pay off the debt that had accumulated throughout the French and Indian War. Colonists were infuriated at the oppressive taxes and demanded it to stop. When the King refused, the Bostonians revolted, resulting in what many historians believe to have been the trigger of the War for Independence. That day would live on as a reminder to all those in authority, the people of this nation will not sit back while their liberties are being pick-pocketed.

*February 13, 2009-* [President Obama's Stimulus Package](#) is passed, with a price tag of over three trillion dollars. Less than 48 hours after the bill was released the house and senate voted and it was passed, leaving no

time to for any member nor the President himself to actually read the [1,071 page, 8 inch thick](#) content of the bill. Less than a month later, the President signed what he himself called an "[imperfect](#)" [spending bill](#), costing the taxpayers over \$4 billion, including thousands of earmarks. The President reasoned, "I am signing an imperfect omnibus bill because it's necessary for the ongoing functions of government."

*April 15, 2009, Tax Day.* A day after President Obama delivered a speech on the economy in which he stated, "If every business in America cuts back all at once, then no one is spending any money, which means there are no customers, which means there are more layoffs, which means the economy gets even worse. That's why the government has to step in and temporarily boost spending in order to stimulate demand. That's exactly what we're doing right now."

So how did American's respond to the new Administration's plan for the economy, including billions in bailouts and trillions in spending? Thousands of Americans actively participated in "Tea Parties" across all 50 states showing their objection and dissatisfaction with the current "solutions" the Administration and Congressional leadership are implementing. Many Americans feel that it is not the government's place to steal from its citizens and use their money for government bailouts or omnibus spending bills which will not "stimulate" the economy, but rather create a greater dependency on the government.

The [tea parties came about through a grassroots movement](#) started by online bloggers. The first protest was organized in Seattle in February. Other cities began to follow suit and after CNBC's Rick Santelli's "[rant heard round the world](#)" the parties commenced. While the Administration has yet to comment on the tea parties and the mainstream media seems to be more concerned about the first day of the Obama's new dog, it is important to note, that the protests are not against taxation in principle, but rather the irresponsible outpouring of spending that the government issues, leaving the people with the mega bill in the end.

### **In case you missed it:**

[Competition is Key](#)

[White House covers name of Jesus at Georgetown Speech](#)

[Students Protest Obama's commencement address at Notre Dame](#)

[Tea Parties turn out huge numbers](#)



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