

Los Angeles LYM Fractures Global Warming Consensus

by Leandra Bernstein, LaRouche Youth Movement

“Now, the resistance against [the New Politics], has taken the form of stubborn refusal to face the issues that had to be faced, and also by a panic-stricken embrace of a piece of clinical insanity, and mass-murderous insanity at that, Al Gore and his program of destroying everything.”

—Lyndon LaRouche, addressing the March 31 town hall meeting of the Los Angeles County Democratic Party’s Franklin Roosevelt Legacy Club.

Faced with the severely morally challenged Baby-Boomer leadership in the Democratic Party, who are being tempted to go along with racist Al Gore’s anti-human global warming policies, the LaRouche Youth Movement’s Franklin Roosevelt Legacy Democratic Club (FRLDC) disrupted that impulse and opened up a crucial fight within the ranks of the largest Democratic party in California. In what was supposed to be a debate of the FRLDC’s resolution on the global warming hoax, the Los Angeles County Democratic Party (LACDP) Resolutions Committee voted to table the resolution, causing an outcry from top officials in the party. The LYM intervention allowed the officials to clearly see the ill-boding tendencies of those among their ranks. Rather than address the pseudo-science of global warming, the policy effects on Third World development, and lying Al Gore’s carbon-swap thievery, the majority voted to silence the opposition.

Since the launching of the LYM several years ago, the Los Angeles chapter has been persistently stirring up controversy—for the good—in the LACDP, providing the moral leadership that has recruited caucus leaders and elected officials to increasingly join the LYM in the fight for the republic. The LYM’s role in the district has undergone a profound

transformation from the early days of the 2003 State Convention, when the LYM intervened as a raggedy-pants brigade, to the present day, when LYM members hold four elected positions on the party central committee, in addition to the Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Legacy Club. The lasting effects of this leadership were tested at the April 10 would-be debate.

Previously, during a meeting on April 3, the LACDP Resolutions Committee agreed to submit the LYM’s anti-global warming resolution for a floor debate at the following meeting. The chair of the Women’s Caucus noted that, because the two crucial issues for the 2008 Presidential election would be global warming, and the Iraq War, the party should reach a consensus before issuing any official statements. Immediately following the Resolutions Committee meeting, Theodore Smith III, the chair of the African American caucus, was a guest on the widely listened-to Rob Nelson radio show. What was scheduled as a 15-minute segment with Smith turned into a two-hour discussion of the LYM resolution and the Democrats’ position on global warming.

The ‘Debate’ Begins

When the body reconvened for the debate on April 10, the LYM were surprised to learn that, according to the by-laws, they had to gather 25 signatures from the 103 party officials in attendance. As the LYM struggled to gather the signatures, they found a number of officials who, despite previous support, were afraid to sign their names. Meanwhile, the moderator read the text of the resolution, while a few Baby Boomers in the audience grumbled, and laughed out of context at the mention of a new New Deal. The signatures were easily gathered, and the moderator called the first speaker to the floor.



EIRNS/Wynneal Inocentes

Quincy O'Neal of the FDR Legacy Club; Amelia Boynton Robinson of the Schiller Institute; and Ted Smith, head of the L.A. County Dems African American Caucus, shown here at a March 13 meeting of central committee, joined the LYM in supporting a resolution exposing the global warming hoax.

Los Angeles LYM member Ian Overton made the first statement, and, in the context of the continued threat of Cheney's war and the collapse of the economy, Overton laid out the fraudulent science of global warming, and Gore's hedge fund robbery. There was applause and some hissing from Baby Boomers, mostly at the mention of science, and Gore's green profiteering.

Before the moderator called for a representative to speak in opposition to the LYM's anti-global warming resolution, a rather fat Baby Boomer, who was one of the 25 signers, lifted himself up to say, "I rise to move to table this resolution." Tabling the resolution was the only motion the opposition could make, because no one was in line to debate the LYM.

The moderator spoke quickly: "Motion on the floor is to table this resolution. All in favor, the crowd roared, "Aye!" All against, the crowd roared, "Nay!" When the votes were counted, 65 were in favor of tabling the resolution, 38 opposed it. The co-chair of the Resolutions Committee, enraged at the fight that broke out after the ruling, demanded respect for all positions, particularly the majority position, and pushed ahead to the next resolution.

At the end of the meeting, LACDP Central Committee chairman, Eric Bauman, stepped up to the same spot where, only one month before, Amelia Boynton Robinson, Schiller Institute/LaRouche PAC leader, and heroine of the Civil Rights Movement, had addressed the very same party body. "Let me point out that [the resolution] got tabled because it is a LaRouche resolution," Bauman said. "It could have just as easily been a Stonewall [lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community] resolution or a New Frontier [African-American community] resolution. We should not use tabling as a

rule to cut off debate. It's not necessary." Obviously disturbed by what the party showed itself capable of, he concluded, "The worst thing we could have done was table a resolution that we knew would not have passed."

After this intervention by Bauman, the president of New Frontier Club, the oldest African-American delegation in the party, asked to be recognized from the crowd. She spoke in defense of the LYM and the debate, and raised her concerns over how global warming policies would effect African development. Previously, Quincy O'Neal, LYM member and president of the FRDLC, had spoken with her and had given her a package of *EIR* material on Gore, racism, eugenics, and the astrophysical science of climate change. She read the material, and responded to O'Neal with a number of questions. Then she watched the majority in her party willfully censor those questions that had been provoked after only a cursory investigation of the issue.

The real debate is far from over. Heading into the April 2007 California State Democratic Convention, the LYM has already set up multiple meetings to focus key members of the party on destroying the fascism clearly represented in Gore's global warming hoax. Ranking officials in the party have already told the LYM that the resolution *will* be brought up again at the state convention April 20. If the issue of global warming is to take precedence in the 2008 election, the party needs a national statement reflecting a unified position. To get a unified position, they need consensus. The LYM-led opposition fractured that consensus.