

## Aufsatzdienst Mai 2011

### 01

#### **The Death Penalty Debate** / Patricia Smith

In: The New York Times Upfront, Vol. 143, April 18, 2011. – 1517 words

“Illinois's move revived the long-running debate about the death penalty and the many questions it raises: Should the government put people to death? Does the death penalty deter future crime? Does it discriminate against minorities? What about the possibility of mistakenly executing innocent people? Conversely, are some crimes so horrific—mass murders or acts of terrorism, for example—that any punishment short of the death penalty is simply inadequate? “

### 02

#### **New Americans (predominantly pictures)** / Claudia Glenn Dowling

In: American History, April 2011, Vol. 46 Issue 1, p50-55. – 783 words, 7 pictures

The article discusses immigrants who came to the U.S. through the Bureau of Immigration on Ellis Island in New York between 1905 and 1920. It presents images of several individuals from places such as Guadeloupe, Algeria, and the Netherlands who were photographed by Ellis Island photographer Augustus F. Sherman during this period and speculates on the fates that the immigrants faced while adapting and assimilating into U.S. society.

### 03

#### **Dreams of His Mother** / Stacy Schiff

In: Newsweek, 5/9/2011, Vol. 157 Issue 19, p44-47, 4p. – 2042 words

The article discusses Stanley Ann Dunham, the mother of U.S. President Barack Obama. Over the course of several years she married and divorced Barack H. Obama and Lolo Soetoro, had two children, and raised them while working and attending graduate school. She seems to have placed a great emphasis on being polite, and had no patience for arrogance.

### 04

#### **When Life Gets in the Way of Paying for College. (cover story)** / Beckie Supiano

In: Chronicle of Higher Education, February 4, 2011. – 3355 words

The article presents a profile of the family of college student Diane Schillinger and chronicles their struggles in finding ways to pay for her freshman year of college at the University of Massachusetts. It explores how the job loss of parents Pat and Mark have contributed to problems in applying for U.S. federal student and parent loans, examines how medical expenses and the purchase of a second home have led to financial problems for the family, and presents a chart of student debt that the family's five children have to pay off.

### 05

#### **Finding My Asian American Identity With the Help From Ralph Ellison's Invisible Man** / John C. Lin

In: Independent School, Winter 2011. – 2447 words

“I am an American-born Chinese person, "ABC" as some "real" Chinese people designate us, or "banana" -- yellow on the outside and white on the inside, the Asian equivalent to "Oreo" for African Americans -- but these terms are perhaps a bit dated now. My father was born in China; my mother was born in Hong Kong. I am the first Lin to be born in the United States.” A personal narrative is presented which explores the author's life experiences of having an identity as a Chinese.

### 06

#### **Fire Away** / Michael Grunwald

In: Time, January 24, 2011. – 1639 words

The article looks at gun control in the U.S., focusing on how policy is influenced by shooting sprees. A 2011 public shooting in Tucson, Arizona, which left six dead is discussed. The attempted murder of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords by suspected shooter Jared Loughner is mentioned. The author comments on how mass killings on the campuses of Columbine High School and the Virginia Polytechnic Institute have not helped to change gun control at the federal level. The gun control policies of presidents Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama are discussed.

### 07

#### **Changing The Game:** Audrey Peterson

In: American Legacy, Fall 2010. – 3607 words

The article lists several important events in black history as there are the arrival of Africans in Jamestown, the omission of the words “Slaves” and “Slavery” from the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, the Underground Railroad, the German Coast uprising, Plessy v. Ferguson, the Great Black Migration, the Harlem Renaissance et al.

08

**City of Ruins** / by Chris Hedges, art by Joe Sacco

In: Nation, November 22, 2010. – 4 pages

The article presents information on the city of Camden, New Jersey. As of November 2010, Camden is said to be both the poorest and the most dangerous city in the U.S. It is estimated that less than 70% of Camdenites are employed, and only 13 percent of its high school students have been able to meet the state's minimum requirements for numeracy. ... Certain populations have risen considerably since the 1950s, however, such as the population of heroin-addicted prostitutes with AIDS, and the population of drug-dealers who belong to street gangs like the Latin Kings, Los Nietos or MS-13.

09

**Who Are America's Jobless?** / Susan Page

In: USA TODAY, January 25, 2011 Tuesday, FINAL EDITION. – 2119 words

The jobless have lost more than their jobs.

In a USA TODAY/Gallup Poll of unemployed Americans, most of those surveyed have lost any optimism they will find a job soon or end up with work they really want to do. Two-thirds struggle to pay their bills. Nearly half have had to deal with such major personal problems as moving to cheaper housing or fighting depression.

10

**The Way We Weren't. (cover story)** / David Von Drehle

In: Time, April 18, 2011, Vol. 177 Issue 15. - 4538 words

The article focuses on the U.S. Civil War and how historians have been glossing over the fact that slavery was at the heart of the conflict. It states that the first stirrings of the Civil War occurred in Kansas when a proslavery army attacked and destroyed the antislavery community of Lawrence, Kansas in May 21, 1856, followed by abolitionist John Brown's attack on a proslavery settlement on Pottawatomie Creek.

11

**How to Save California** / Sharon Begley; Anrew Murr; Claudia Kalb; Pat Wingert

In: Newsweek, March 28, 2011. – 1884 words

The article discusses California's vulnerability to earthquakes. By one estimate there is a greater than 99% chance the state will experience a major quake within the next 30 years. California has two nuclear power plants, and both are located near faults. These facilities store spent fuel rods in a manner that poses radiation risks in the event of an earthquake.

12

**What We Owe Jehovah's Witnesses** / Sarah Barringer Gordon

In: American History, April 2011, Vol. 46 Issue 1, p36-41. - 2526 words

The article examines ways in which U.S. court decisions regarding the religious rights of members of the Jehovah's Witness religion in the 1930s and 1940s has contributed to greater religious freedom in the U.S. It focuses on the Supreme Court case West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette, which addresses issues surrounding the pledge of allegiance in public schools, and also presents an overview of the belief system of Jehovah's Witnesses.

13

**The New Face of America** / by Susan Saulny

In: The New York Times Upfront, Vol. 143, March 14, 2011. - 1433 words

Today one in seven new marriages is between spouses of different races or ethnicities, according to the Pew Research Center. Multiracial and multiethnic Americans (usually grouped together as "mixed race") are one of the country's fastest-growing demographic groups; census estimates from 2009 indicate there are about 7.5 million. And the racial results of the 2010 Census are expected to show the trend continuing or even accelerating.

14

**"King Maker."** / Carson Clayborne. - 1154 words.

*<<http://www.americanheritage.com/people/articles/web/20100111-Martin-Luther-King-Jr-Civil-Rights-March-Letter-Birmingham-American-History-Alabama-I-Have-a-Dream-Speech.shtml>>*

"On April 12, 1963 in Birmingham, Alabama, Martin Luther King Jr., faced the prospect of failure in his most significant civil rights campaign. For all his generally acknowledged leadership in the escalating southern black protest movement, King had actually never initiated a major demonstration."

15

**The Role Model. (cover story)** / Michael Scherer; et al.

In: Time, February 7, 2011. – 2688 words, 1 chart

The article focuses on U.S. President Barack Obama who is the 44th President of the United States. The idea that President Obama views the 40th U.S. President, Ronald Reagan who is referred to as the Gipper, as a role model is discussed. The parallels between the two Presidents in their early home and political lives, geographical connection, and the economic conditions during the first two years of their presidencies are noted. Lessons that can be learned from the Gipper's transformational leadership are discussed.