Message from David and Amy Ridenour

What a difference your support has made!

A year ago, big-government liberals looked unstoppable. We now know they’re not.

Obama may have pushed his socialized medicine scheme through Congress, but he did so seven months behind schedule and at an enormous cost to his presidency and his party.

The battle against ObamaCare is only just beginning. Given enough public pressure, even liberal Congressmen buckle. And we’re absolutely committed to making that happen.

This isn’t wishful thinking. Twenty-two years ago, Congress passed another socialized medicine scheme, the Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act, that provoked such strong public anger it was swiftly repealed. What’s more, it was repealed by a Congress largely unchanged from the one that passed it.

Our odds are even better now. The public is already overwhelmingly opposed to ObamaCare, and that’s before they’ve paid one penny in additional taxes or been forced to comply with one mandate.

Public opinion didn’t turn against ObamaCare on its own. We helped shape it, with your support, through such publications as “Shattered Lives: 100 Victims of Government Health Care,” which has kept us on the air or in print virtually non-stop educating the American people.

Our work was quoted, cited, printed and our staff interviewed over 6,000 times last year. Full-time Project 21 Fellow Deneen Borelli is now – like Sarah Palin – a Fox News Contributor and appears regularly.

We’ve had greater success against Obama’s cap-and-trade energy rationing scheme.

Three major corporations we pressured to pull out of the U.S. Climate Action Partnership (USCAP), the green-corporate alliance bankrolling the cap-and-trade lobbying campaign, did just that.

The Washington Post said this “dims prospects for the cap and trade bill...”

Now we’re going after other corporate collaborators. With our friends at FreedomWorks, we’re running ads urging John Deere employees to protest the company’s support of cap-and-trade policies that endanger their jobs.

As pleased as we are with the momentum for liberty we’ve created, we face the greatest threat to our liberty in generations. That’s why we’ll continue making the most out of every dollar of your support. Thank you!

Sincerely,

David and Amy Ridenour
Fighting the Left’s “Racism” Slander Against the Tea Party Movement

The Tea Party movement is the most potent activist force for freedom in decades. And that’s precisely why the left is trying to discredit it by charging it with racism.

Congressional Black Caucus members have alleged that Tea Party activists hurled racial epithets and spit on them.

These charges are lies. What’s more, a $100,000 reward offered by conservative columnist and blogger Andrew Breitbart for video proof of the Congressional Black Caucus claims remains unclaimed.

Project 21 has been fighting these lies since the very beginning.

Project 21’s Bob Parks appeared on Black Entertainment Television and our Joe Hicks appeared on CNN to dispute the charges.

Deneen Borelli called out the liberals for their absurd charges from the podium of the huge September 12 and April 15 Tea Parties in Washington, and Tea Parties in Pennsylvania and New York, earning herself coverage on MSNBC, NBC, the Fox News Channel, the Associated Press, BBC, CSPAN and newspapers and blogs too numerous to list. Soon after her first appearance, she was offered a contract with the Fox News Channel.

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Project 21 members are active Tea Party organizers, such as Emery McClendon, who was a key organizer for a successful Indiana Tea Party, and Mychal Massie and Niger Innis, who spoke at tax day Tea Parties in Pennsylvania and Colorado.

The hostile reaction of the left to Project 21 speaks volumes about its effectiveness.

The Philadelphia Sunday Sun published a reprehensible article, “Project 21: House Negroes Stand Up for Tea Partiers,” excoriating Deneen Borelli. In it, Project 21 is called a “house ni**er” and “a willing concubine of the devil.”

MSNBC and the Congressional Black Caucus, of course, said nothing about the left’s use of the “n-word.”

With your continued support, Project 21 will give the left plenty more to be angry about.

Taming Corporations Gone Wild

None of the big-government left’s major initiatives – ObamaCare, global warming regulation, the stimulus or bailouts – would have advanced without corporate support.

Our Free Enterprise Project (FEP) is taking these corporations on and beating them.

In January, we won a major victory when the Securities and Exchange Commission voted to issue guidance calling on corporations to disclose the costs of compliance with global warming regulation. FEP Director Tom Borelli had petitioned the SEC to do so.

Corporate CEOs must now explain why they support regulations that harm their bottom line.

The following month, our FEP had another major victory when Caterpillar, BP, and ConocoPhillips withdrew from the U.S. Climate Action Partnership (USCAP), the corporate-green alliance that’s been bankrolling the lobbying campaign for Obama’s economically-suicidal global warming plan.

Our FEP had subjected all three companies to intense pressure to withdraw, criticizing the companies on television, raising questions at shareholder meetings, filing shareholder resolutions and sponsoring coalition letters and petitions.

The loss of these three companies is a major blow to the global warming lobby, as together the companies spent nearly $37 million on lobbying last year – a significant portion of it promoting global warming legislation.

The Washington Post’s Steven Mufson admits our victory “dims prospects for the cap and trade bill.”

Now we’re going after other USCAP members. We grilled John Deere CEO Sam Allen over the company’s support of cap-and-trade at Deere’s shareholder meeting. Now, with FreedomWorks, we’re running advertisements in Moline, Illinois and Waterloo, Iowa, where Deere has its main facilities, urging the company’s employees to protest its support of policies that could
result in their jobs being exported abroad. You can see the ad at www.nationalcenter.org.

GE, another company in our sights for pushing global warming regulation, has found its reputation so tarnished from being associated with the big government agenda – thanks largely to our Tom Borelli’s frequent appearances on Glenn Beck, the O’Reilly Factor and Varney & Co. – that it’s had to invest significant money into wooing conservatives.

It’s now running ads touting its sponsorship of the Ronald Reagan Centennial Celebration and its past association with Reagan.

When you’re playing defense, you can’t play offense. And now the big government left’s corporate allies are on defense.

With your continued support, we intend to keep them that way.

Calling Out Global Warming Hypocrites In Copenhagen

When 45,000 people traveled to Copenhagen for the U.N. Conference on global warming, they spewed more carbon into the atmosphere than the countries of St. Helena and the Caicos Islands do over an entire year. We were there to point out the hypocrisy.

We offered “Hypocrisy Offsets” for sale to environmentalists to absolve them for contributing “carbon to the atmosphere to attend the conference in order to preach to others the virtue of lower carbon lifestyles” and “failing to use low carbon and carbon-free modes of transportation.” None of the environmentalists we approached were willing to pay for an offset. Some even rejected them when they were offered for free (see video at www.nationalcenter.org).

The news media loved the story. Reuters, Forbes and Jason Lewis (who sometimes substitutes for Rush Limbaugh) covered it, among others.

The National Center continues to be one of only a handful of free market organizations that participates in these U.N. meetings to challenge command-and-control policies. As we are outnumbered at least 3,000 to one, we free market advocates have to be creative to be heard.

Other activities included...

• Distributing t-shirts with a photograph depression-era soup line and the caption “My Government Went to COP-15 and All I Got Was
This Lousy Economy,” making the point that carbon reduction mandates would further damage the already-reeling world economy;

- Distributing “Carbon Credit Gum” promising the “world’s biggest bubble” to make the point that the carbon credit trading scheme that would be created by U.S. cap-and-trade legislation would create an economic bubble similar to the mortgage and tech bubbles; and

- Distributing “Suckers for CO2 Limits” lollipops to publicize the fact that nations imposing sharp restrictions on greenhouse gas emissions at great economic cost are “suckers,” as China’s and India’s emissions grow unabated.

We also issued daily reports from Copenhagen and provided live reports for numerous radio stations — activities only possible thanks to supporters such as you.

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Health Care Work Receives Praise From Surprising Source

“The ‘Shattered Lives’ stories… offer up some pretty horrible details about national health care. There’s the British six-year-old whose brain tumor went undiagnosed for years… There’s one about the guy who ended up pulling his own tooth with a rusty pair of pliers [sic]… It’s a gripping read, and the production values suggest that someone put up a big chunk of money to produce and distribute it…”

That’s just one review of our book, “Shattered Lives: 100 Victims of Government Health Care,” and it comes from a surprising source…

…the ultra-left-wing Mother Jones magazine.

We’ve been on-the-air almost non-stop warning about ObamaCare. President Amy Ridenour is now a regular health care commentator for Fox News Radio and is now interviewed by an average of 10 radio stations each day she’s in Fox’s rotation.

We’ve collected hundreds of thousands of petitions against ObamaCare and continue to expose the many ways it threatens the quality of our medical care and our freedom.

Congressional approval of ObamaCare increases the demand for the unique programs we offer, as we build momentum for repeal, and we’re committed to doing even more.

Now we’re going after those who funded the lobbying campaign for ObamaCare to starve the left of the resources it needs to prevent us from repealing it. At their annual shareholder meetings, we’re calling out the corporate CEOs of the pharmaceutical firms that reportedly provided $150 million to push socialized medicine through Congress.
Donor Profile: Sherwood Schwartz

Just sit right back and you’ll hear a tale… a tale of National Center supporter and Gilligan’s Island creator Sherwood Schwartz.

Born in Passaic, New Jersey in 1916, Schwartz gained notoriety by writing scripts and jokes for radio and television. He wrote for The Bob Hope Radio Show, The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet, My Favorite Martian, and The Red Skelton Show. He’s probably best known, however, for his work on Gilligan’s Island and the Brady Bunch.

During World War II, Schwartz was assigned to the Armed Forces Radio Network, where he wrote for such shows as Command Performance. This allowed him to work with many major stars of the era, including Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra, and Judy Garland.

Schwartz first donated to The National Center for Public Policy Research after reading about our work to defend property rights. He knows first-hand that without clear rights to your property – including intellectual property – you don’t control it.

Gilligan’s Island almost didn’t make it to network television for this very reason. The show was headed toward the trash after test audiences rejected three versions of it.

Mr. Schwartz says that the audiences rejected it because none of the pilots were true to his vision. He didn’t own the project, so network executives called the shots.

“It was my concept, my show, my script,” said Mr. Schwartz in his 1988 book Inside Gilligan’s Island. “But I couldn’t edit it the way I wanted.”

Mr. Schwartz traces his difficulties to a 1961 speech by Newton Minow, then-Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. Calling television a “vast wasteland” filled with “violence… formula comedies… [and] mayhem,” Minow warned networks to either take responsibility for what they aired or lose their licenses.

The networks continued to air violence, formula comedies, and mayhem, of course, but they used Minow’s words as an excuse to take complete creative control over scripts, casting, directing, editing and everything else.

Schwartz was so convinced that Minow was the source of the problem, that he took a subtle jab at him by naming the ship wrecked boat on Gilligan’s Island “S.S. Minnow.”

Schwartz eventually convinced United Artists to release Gilligan’s Island to him so that he could re-cut it at his own expense. It’s been on the air constantly ever since, broadcast in at least 30 languages and in more than 70 countries.

James Madison wrote that without property rights, “No man is safe in his opinions, his person, his faculties, or his possessions.”

That’s why we’re so committed to preventing the erosion of this constitutional right. And it’s why we’re very grateful to supporters like Sherwood Schwartz… and you.

-by Stephen Saunders
Which One Do You Want to Benefit from Your Life’s Work?

Who benefits from your life’s work – our children and grandchildren or corporate and labor union fat cats – may depend on your estate planning today.

The federal estate tax was repealed effective January 1 of this year, but unless Congress acts to make it permanent, the tax will return at the start of next year and at a higher rate. Last year, the maximum tax rate was 45% on estate amounts over $3.5 million. Next year, it will be 55% on values over $1 million.

Even if you pass on this year, your estate could still be subject to significant taxes. For one thing, the basis “step up” for capital gains disappeared along with the estate tax this year and now all gains exceeding $1.3 million are subject to a 15% capital gains tax. Second, with the fiscal crisis deepening, it’s possible the tax will be reinstalled retroactively to January 1. Third, 19 states currently have an inheritance tax, an estate tax or both. All this means more of your hard-earned money could end up being used to bail-out mismanaged auto and banking companies, rescue under-funded trade union health care plans, or to increase government programs.

Wouldn’t you prefer these funds be used to preserve and expand American liberty for the benefit of future generations?

Then consider including The National Center for Public Policy Research in your will. Every dollar you bequeath is one that won’t count toward your estate tax exclusion and it will be used to shrink, not expand, the size of government.

Here’s sample language to share with your attorney: “I give, devise and bequeath to The National Center for Public Policy Research (federal identification number 52-1226614), 501 Capitol Court, NE Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20002 _______ (insert dollar amount, percentage of your estate, description of property or item, or ‘remainder of estate”).

You can also keep more of your dollars out of the IRS’s hands now by donating appreciated stock rather than cash. If you do, you’ll still receive your charitable deduction but you’ll also completely avoid the tax on the capital gains. To donate stock, contact our broker at UBS Financial, Scott Wilson, Tel. (202)585-5419, scott.a.wilson@ubs.com.

To discuss making a bequest, call David Ridenour at (202)543-4110 or email him at dridenour@nationalcenter.org.

Bequest Information Request

Name ____________________________________________
Phone Number ____________________________________

Address __________________________________________
City ____________________________________________
State ____________________________________________
Zip Code _________________________________________

☐ I’ve already included The National Center for Public Policy Research in my will. Please enroll me in your Legacy Society and begin my benefits immediately.

☐ I plan to include The National Center in my will.

☐ I’d like more information on leaving a bequest to The National Center. Please call me at____________________.

Mail to: The National Center for Public Policy Research
501 Capitol Court, NE, #200, Washington, D.C. 20002
“Barack Obama may consider himself ‘The One,’ but he can’t expand health insurance by 46 million without increasing costs or rationing care any more than he can feed thousands with a few loaves of bread and a couple of small fish.”
— David A. Ridenour

“…the U.S. is engaging in unilateral economic disarmament by shutting off access to the nation’s most abundant and reliable sources of energy… The global balance of power is already shifting away from the United States toward China and Russia…”
— Bonner Cohen

“The Senate health care bill is loaded with new taxes, many of which would fall on middle- and working-class families… [breaking] Obama’s repeated pledges…”
— Matt Patterson

“…if you think Congress stripped all federal funding from ACORN, think again… ACORN could receive a windfall should the cap-and-trade legislation… become law.”
— Caroline May

“Taxing fossil fuels [through cap-and-trade] might depress their use, but it also would depress the economy… Minority workers are being sledgehammered.”
— Deneen Borelli

“Denver Post
“This… if you think Congress stripped all federal funding from ACORN, think again… ACORN could receive a windfall should the cap-and-trade legislation… become law.”
— Caroline May

“Los Angeles Times
“… if you think Congress stripped all federal funding from ACORN, think again… ACORN could receive a windfall should the cap-and-trade legislation… become law.”
— Caroline May

“The Baltimore Sun
“… the Senate health care bill is loaded with new taxes, many of which would fall on middle- and working-class families… [breaking] Obama’s repeated pledges…”
— Matt Patterson