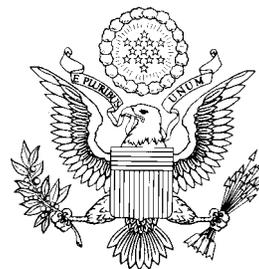


# ARTICLE ALERT

July 2007



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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>法律民主</u> <i>The Rule of Law</i> .....	<i>pp. 3-5</i>
1. Non-democratic revolutions and attempts at state breakup: is there a connection?	
2. The critical battles: political reconciliation and reconstruction in Iraq	
3. The nonprofit industrial complex: is there such a thing as too much civil society?	
4. One sun in the sky: labor unions in the People's Republic of China	
5. Democracies of the world, unite	
<u>经济贸易</u> <i>Economics and Trade</i> .....	<i>pp.5- 7</i>
6. Public procurement: spotting the bribe	
7. From credit to crops	
8. Avoiding the export crush	
9. One country, two systems, ten years: Hong Kong is still Hong Kong	
10. Economic freedom and net business formation	
<u>全球问题</u> <i>Global Issues</i> .....	<i>pp. 7-9</i>
11. The truth about recycling	
12. Working without wires	
13. Two paths for the planet	
14. The whole earth, cataloged	
15. The asteroid hunters	
<u>国际安全</u> <i>International Security</i> .....	<i>pp. 9-10</i>
16. The widening gap between the United States and Europe: does it matter?	
17. NATO's international security role in the terrorist era	
18. The proliferation security initiative: a glass half-full	
19. A world wide web of terror	
20. The winning weapon? Rethinking nuclear weapons in light of Hiroshima	
<u>美国社会及价值观</u> <i>U.S. Society and Values</i> .....	<i>pp. 10-13</i>
21. Hip-Hop planet	
22. Home-front ecology: what our grandparents can teach us about saving the world	
23. Angels and ages, Lincoln's language and its legacy	
24. Comic books and comic strips: a bibliography of the scholarly literature	
25. Squeeze play: how parents and the public look at higher education today	
26. The race to attract international students	

## 法律民主 The Rule of Law

### **1. NON-DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTIONS AND ATTEMPTS AT STATE BREAKUP: IS THERE A CONNECTION?**

Katz, Mark N.

World Affairs, vol. 169, no. 3, Winter 2007, pp. 111-117

Katz, professor of government and politics at George Mason University, compares the experiences of Russia, Yugoslavia, Indonesia, and Iraq, and concludes that revolutions can prove to be a serious obstacle to democratization in states with regionally dominant minorities. In each case, revolutionary movements that initially claimed democratic aspirations evolved into authoritarian regimes, alienating ethnic and religious communities and prompting repressive measures. When political and economic conditions eventually force democratic reforms, these long-held resentments seem to metastasize into nationalist movements pursuing independence rather than trusting the regime's second promise of democratization. While the author dwells on the regions of Chechnya, Kosovo, Aceh, Papua, and Kurdistan, he also argues that the revolution-state breakup correlation may also have possible implications for the futures of China, Iran, and Sudan as well.

### **2. THE CRITICAL BATTLES: POLITICAL RECONCILIATION AND RECONSTRUCTION IN IRAQ**

Pascual, Carlos; Pollack, Kenneth

Washington Quarterly, vol. 30, no. 3, Summer 2007, pp. 7-19

Pascual, vice president and director for the Foreign Policy Studies Program at the Brookings Institution and former coordinator for reconstruction and stabilization at the Department of State, and Pollack, director of research at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution and former director for Persian Gulf affairs at the National Security Council, present their ideas for addressing the situation in Iraq, which they describe as a "monumental task." They believe it is vital that Iraq be recognized as a failed state and that Iran, Syria, Turkey, and neighboring Sunni states be involved. The best case would be for the surge to provide enough security to begin rebuilding Iraq's political, economic, and social institutions and thus make way for the compromises necessary for a political settlement. The authors also emphasize the need to take into account lessons learned about peacemaking and peacekeeping: 1) civil wars require political solutions, 2) the situation must be "ripe" for solutions, 3) a truce can buy time to build trust and allow for the possibility of finding a longer-term solution, 4) a solid security environment is necessary, 5) external forces and economic support will be needed for 8-10 years after a political settlement, and 6) the effort must be multilateral, preferably under a United Nations mandate.

### **3. THE NONPROFIT INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX: IS THERE SUCH A THING AS TOO MUCH CIVIL SOCIETY?**

Alexander, Gerard

Weekly Standard, Vol. 12, No. 30, April 23, 2007, pp. 24-28

The nonprofit sector of the U.S. economy is showing rapid, massive growth, the author says, and there is speculation that it may change the nature of American society. Combined annual expenditures for all U.S. nonprofits in 2004 neared \$1 trillion, and 2001 total employment was 12 million. Furthermore, this does not include religious organizations, which are treated differently for tax purposes. Nor does it include state colleges or universities, which now frequently register as nonprofits. By 2003 there were 1.2 million faculty members nationwide, 54 percent working full-time and most at state schools, Alexander says. Nor do these numbers account for hundreds of thousands of college administrators. U.S. nonprofits have seen their combined assets grow from \$30 billion in 1975 to \$525 billion in 2005. Microsoft founder Bill Gates' foundation is the richest, with assets of \$29 billion. Second is the Ford Foundation with \$12 billion. There are also 62 colleges or universities with endowments of \$1 billion or more: Harvard has \$29 billion, Yale \$18 billion, Stanford \$14 billion. The Gates Foundation's annual giving now begins to rival Sweden's annual foreign aid, yet it still represents just 1 percent of U.S. nonprofits' giving.

#### **4. ONE SUN IN THE SKY: LABOR UNIONS IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

Posha, Jehangir S.

Georgetown Journal of International Affairs, Vol. 8, No. 1, Winter/Spring 2007, pp. 5-11

The author quotes an old Chinese proverb which says that there cannot be two suns in the sky, meaning that there can be only one source of power in the land. This image describes the Communist Party's opposition to any leadership or organization in China other than itself. The author argues that China's recent economic growth has been supported by five basic principles---cheap labor, market reforms, lax intellectual property rights protections, lax environmental protection practices, and cheap capital from state-controlled banks. Market forces and international pressure have greatly reduced all of these except the "cheap and disempowered labor force." While the government has pressured some companies to pay unpaid back-wages, it has not made any meaningful structural improvements to China's labor laws. This is illustrated by the fact that, according to the Dui Hua Foundation in San Francisco which tracks political prisoners in China, at least 24 labor activists are currently in prison. The major avenue of help for workers is the ability to sue companies for compensation. The author says that the West has remained largely silent about workers' rights because Western companies also benefit from the low wages and the fear that trade unions might create political instability and the "global consensus that a gradually reformed China tomorrow is preferable to a politically unstable China today."

#### **5. DEMOCRACIES OF THE WORLD, UNITE**

Daalder, Ivo; Lindsay, James

American Interest, Vol. 2, No. 3, January/February 2007

The authors write that "the Bush revolution in foreign policy is over"; the U.S.' unilateralist approach since Sept. 11 has alienated allies and greatly damaged our

international standing. Daalder and Lindsay argue that traditional multilateralist approaches, such as working with traditionally close allies or with the U.N. or NATO, are “nineteenth- and twentieth-century policies for a twenty-first-century world” -- what they propose is a “Concert of Democracies”, that share common values and perspectives. Traditional concerts-of-great-powers have their limitations -- countries such as China and Russia have divergent interests and often refuse to cooperate, and demagogues such as Hugo Chavez and Mahmoud Ahmadinejad are greeted with resounding applause when railing against great-power dominance, because “many of their listeners resent being told what to do by a few powerful countries.” The United Nations’ “universality ... is its greatest curse -- it is beholden to its least cooperative members”. The world’s democracies, however, have a proven track record for cooperation, as well as the most capable militaries, the largest economies, and a shared commitment for the rule of law and good governance. The authors argue that the greatest source of legitimacy for such an alliance is that democracies recognize that international peace and justice are now based on protecting the rights of individuals; nation-state sovereignty can no longer be the sole principle of international politics. They describe at length how such an organization might be structured.

## **经济贸易 Economics and Trade**

### **6. PUBLIC PROCUREMENT: SPOTTING THE BRIBE**

OECD Observer, no. 260, March 2007, pp. 11-12

Corruption — particularly in highly competitive government contracting -- costs millions of dollars annually. Government contracts also provide valuable, often long-term, business opportunities, so governments realize that strong anti-corruption measures are a sound investment. This article uses the OECD’s Anti-Bribery Convention to examine the problem of corruption in public procurement. Three primary actions to reduce bribery and corruption include clear rules backed by enforcement; development of judicial and technical expertise within procurement offices; and, buy-in and understanding of the consequences of bribery from all personnel involved in the procurement process.

### **7. FROM CREDIT TO CROPS**

Claessens, Stijn; Feijen, Erik

Finance & Development, vol. 44, no. 1, March 2007

The authors argue that more development of financial services can directly reduce world hunger by providing farmers in developing countries with the credit they need to buy such tools as tractors, fertilizers and livestock to increase agricultural production. This, in turn, causes household incomes to rise and food prices to decrease, resulting in less undernourishment. They studied more than 50 developing countries between 1980 and 2003 to find relationships between financial development and investment in agricultural inputs, productivity and nutrition. They incorporated variables likely to affect those relationships, such as government expenditures as a percentage of gross national product, level of economic activity, inflation and the percentage of the population living in rural areas. They found that private credit and greater agricultural productivity are linked, as

are credit and investment in the use of agricultural equipment. The authors say commercial banks are achieving success in some poor countries, including the development of sustainable microcredit institutions, mobile phone banking, smart cards and the use of scoring to extend credit. Claessens is a research director at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Feijen is an economist with the World Bank.

## **8. AVOIDING THE EXPORT CRUSH**

Beattie, Alan

Financial Times, June 13, 2007

Financial Times writer Beattie reports that economies such as the Philippines, Indonesia, Brazil, and Egypt, having achieved some middle-income status through industrialization, now find expansion threatened by competition from China. Low-wage China has started exporting more sophisticated manufactured goods. Business people in the Philippines and similar economies now have to spend more time figuring out the niche in the global economy where they have a relative advantage. After letting low-cost factory jobs go to China, Hong Kong has developed its services sector and South Korea has turned to product development and design. China's emergence has revived the debate about the value of industrial policy. Opponents view businesses as best suited to seize niche market openings. Even supporters recognize that traditional industrial policy -- tariffs on imports and subsidies to domestic producers -- is no longer adequate.

## **9. ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS, TEN YEARS: HONG KONG IS STILL HONG KONG**

Baker, Gerard

Weekly Standard, Vol. 12, No. 39, June 25 - July 2, 2007, pp. 20-22

The author, U.S. editor of the Times of London, says ten years of Chinese control over Hong Kong have had mixed results. The economy, he says, is better than ever, in spite of weathering the Asian financial crisis, a collapse in property values, and an outbreak of SARS. Economic growth is prodigious -- it now surpasses New York in total amounts raised for initial public offerings; and "it remains the model of a low-tax, small-welfare, low regulation enterprise culture," writes Baker. Politically, he says, Hong Kong remains freer than anywhere else in China, but "it feels as though it is on a long leash." He says Taiwan democrats call Hong Kong a "birdcage democracy." Vigorous political activity in Hong Kong elicits warnings from Beijing to "stop messing around with politics." The March general election campaign took place for the edification of a total of 800 voters (in a territory of seven million people), most of them carefully chosen by Beijing. The pro-Beijing candidate won 80 percent of the vote. Still, he writes, the opposition candidate was allowed to criticize Beijing all over the territory, including in two U.S.-style debates.

## **10. ECONOMIC FREEDOM AND NET BUSINESS FORMATION**

Campbell, Noel; Rogers, Tammy

Cato Journal, vol. 27, no. 1, Winter 2007, pp. 23-36

Economic research consistently indicates that countries with more economic freedom – secure property rights, limited government intervention, low taxes, etc. – enjoy higher per capita incomes and better living conditions than countries that are economically less free. Economists argue that in less free, more politicized economies creative economic energies are channeled away from wealth-creating entrepreneurial activity and into securing political protection from market forces. Campbell, from the University of Central Arkansas, and Rogers, from North Georgia College & State University, argue that similar differences also occur between the U.S. states, some of which have significantly different economic rules and regulations. They demonstrate that economic freedom on the state level has a more powerful and direct impact on entrepreneurial activity (understood as net business formation) than other state government policies aimed to stimulate the economy. The authors argue their findings support the libertarian economic approach: instead of yielding to the temptation to “fix” the economy, state governments should focus on safeguarding property rights and leaving entrepreneurs enough room to flourish. A smaller, less active government “will do more to promote prosperity than the conventional state development model,” they say.

## 全球问题 Global Issues

### **11. THE TRUTH ABOUT RECYCLING**

Economist, Vol. 383, No. 8532, June 9, 2007, p. 24

This article offers a global survey of the state of materials recycling, weighing the economics, the techniques and momentum of the practice. There are several major concerns in the recycling industry — first, local governments in the United States and Europe often find that recycling isn’t an economically viable practice because the costs of collecting, transporting, and sorting materials outweigh the market price. Another concern is whether recycled materials are bought and used in another manufacturing process which turns out a product that will end up ultimately in a landfill anyway. In some cases, products headed for recycling are disassembled in ways that release harmful gases into the environment, or expose workers to toxins. The most promising trend in the field is adoption of the “closed loop cycle” where materials and packaging are designed from the outset to create no waste, using materials that can be either recycled indefinitely or returned to the earth. Major corporations such as Wal-Mart, Toyota, and Nike have set goals to reach the zero-waste target.

### **12. WORKING WITHOUT WIRES**

Swope, Christopher

Governing, Vol. 20, No. 8, May 2007, pp. 28-34

A number of cities in the U.S. are installing wireless broadband networks to provide free public access to the Internet. While these projects are usually public-private partnerships and limited to selected public areas, the city of Corpus Christi, Texas took a different approach. This city of 282,000 installed its own WiFi network covering 147 square miles and found that most use was by city agencies, not residents or businesses. The network provides high-speed data exchange between field employees, such as police, firefighters

and building inspectors, and their offices, and allows real-time monitoring of public parks, city vehicles, and water and gas meters. Other uses are under development. While Corpus Christi recently sold its network to a commercial company which will maintain and upgrade the system and charge a fee for access, other municipalities continue to watch and learn from the city's experience with WiFi.

### **13. TWO PATHS FOR THE PLANET**

Gelbspan, Ross

American Prospect, vol. 18, no. 7, July/August 2007, pp. 45-48

Gelbspan, a longtime journalist interested in environmental issues, notes that humanity is facing “an increasingly chaotic future driven by a succession of climate-driven emergencies -- but the good news is that the bad news is at last being taken seriously.” Not only is climate change no longer seriously doubted, but many in the private sector now admit that the free-market forces that have helped create the current global environmental crisis are powerless to reverse it. A transition to a more sustainable global economy and way of life will require unprecedented feats of cooperation among governments. Many corporate executives privately admit that government regulation is required to mandate universal adoption of renewable technologies in lockstep, otherwise one company that heavily invests in renewable energy may be undercut by the competition. He notes that the “carbon crisis could be a profoundly transformative opportunity to begin to reverse the growing and unsustainable gap between the world's rich and poor.” As the world's biggest energy user, the U.S. can be a global leader in the energy transition, or it can obstruct it. Gelbspan concludes, “the future of the world quite literally depends on whether U.S. leadership rises to the occasion.”

### **14. THE WHOLE EARTH, CATALOGED**

Ratliff, Evan

Wired, July 2007, pp. 154-159

Obtaining maps and directions online has been a growing practice for about a decade, but further technological developments are allowing users to customize maps, and make them available to others in ways that redefine cartography. Sites like Platial.com allow users to share their commentary, photographs, or points of interest on map locations for other users. This development is more than another online pastime for the technologically adept, Ratliff writes. Mapmaking has always been a tool of dominance of the land, but now easy-to-use shareware allows anyone to become a cartographer. That can lead to entirely new views of the Earth in all its rich chaotic complexity. According to one expert quoted by Ratliff, “It's as close to Babel as we get.”

### **15. THE ASTEROID HUNTERS**

Svoboda, Elizabeth

Discover, Vol. 28, no. 7, July 2007, pp. 50-55

Improvements in telescope technology and sophisticated computer programs are allowing amateur astronomers to carry out professional research-grade work. In part due to

budgetary constraints, the professional astronomy community and NASA are increasingly turning to amateur backyard astronomers to help identify and track asteroids and other near-Earth objects. The author writes that amateurs have made many significant discoveries of asteroids, including one that is between two and four miles wide.

## **国际安全 International Security**

### **16. THE WIDENING GAP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE: DOES IT MATTER?**

Coonen, Stephen J.

Parameters, vol. 36, no. 3, Autumn 2006, pp. 67-84

The author describes the widening military capabilities gap between the United States and Europe. However, the gap should not prevent interoperability between the two forces. For example, the U.S. could play a leading role during high-intensity warfare while the Europeans become more prominent in the post-conflict phase. Americans and Europeans also perceive threats in the world today similarly. The author, a lieutenant in the U.S. Army, concludes that, although a gap exists between U.S. and European military capabilities, this disparity may not be as significant as many have implied.

### **17. NATO'S INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ROLE IN THE TERRORIST ERA**

De Nevers, Renee

International Security, Vol. 31, No. 4, Spring 2007, pp. 34-66

While the United States has cobbled together various coalitions in its pursuit of the war on terrorism, NATO, as a formal institution, has played a limited military role. While contributing to defense, and mounting military missions in Afghanistan, Bosnia, and elsewhere, NATO has not come up with a consistent extra-territorial strategy against terrorism, in part due to limited military capabilities. In addition, the U.S. strategy has shown a preference for cobbling together ad-hoc alliances quickly, rather than mobilizing the NATO as a whole. While NATO has expanded defensive tactics in the Mediterranean, intelligence sharing tends to be bilateral. In addition, NATO's effectiveness in the field is limited by national constraints on troop activity and a shortage of armed personnel. The author concludes the United States is unlikely to abandon NATO, which it regards as its most valuable political alliance. However, the success or failure of NATO forces in Afghanistan may define its military usefulness in the war against terror.

### **18. THE PROLIFERATION SECURITY INITIATIVE: A GLASS HALF-FULL**

Valencia, Mark, J.

Arms Control Today, vol. 37, no. 5, June 2007, pp.17-21

The author says the PSI's focus on interdiction has constrained some trade in weapons of mass destruction, their delivery systems and related material or has forced "rogue traders" to change tactics. The initiative, with over 80 supporting nations, has evolved from maritime interdiction to port inspections and aerial interdictions, as well as

coordinated efforts to disrupt financial networks that could supply this trade. He also points to ship-boarding agreements the United States has concluded bilaterally with seven countries covering about 70 percent of the world's commercial fleet measured by tonnage. Valencia, a senior fellow with a Malaysian government-sponsored policy research institute, says that secrecy surrounding PSI interdictions and methods make it difficult to evaluate the effectiveness of the four-year-old initiative. Greater transparency would help, he said, as well as bringing PSI into the United Nations system.

### **19. A WORLD WIDE WEB OF TERROR**

Economist, vol. 384, no. 8537, July 14, 2007, pp. 28–30

After the fall of the Taliban and its eviction from Afghanistan, Al-Qaeda reconstituted itself in cyberspace, “the ultimate ungoverned territory,” setting up virtual schools for ideological and military training and active propaganda arms. Internet communication enables terrorists to adopt a highly decentralized structure and to disseminate widely both military instruction and propaganda: “The hand-held video camera has become as important a tool of insurgency as the AK-47 or the RPG rocket launcher.” However, the anonymity of the Internet can also work against jihadists, as police and intelligence agents can infiltrate their Web sites. The article recommends “a systematic campaign of counter-propaganda, not least in support of friendly Muslim governments and moderate Muslims, to try to reclaim the ground ceded to the jihadists.”

### **20. THE WINNING WEAPON? RETHINKING NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN LIGHT OF HIROSHIMA**

Wilson, Ward

International Security, Vol. 31, No. 4, Spring 2007, pp. 162-179

In this provocative article, Wilson, an independent scholar, delves into history to re-examine the Japanese surrender of 1945. That surrender has been widely attributed to President Truman's decision to drop two atomic bombs on Japan, one on Hiroshima, one on Nagasaki. The author's examination of archives, however, concludes that Japan's decision to surrender was not made on the basis of its nuclear damage, but rather on the Soviet Union's late-stage entry into the war against Japan, which deprived Japan of all hopes of an alliance with the Soviets. The author posits that the Japanese leadership reacted to the nuclear bombs as a mere extension, in their minds, of an already-devastating bombing campaign. The author concludes that, in light of this insight, it is necessary to re-evaluate nuclear strategy and the importance of the nuclear weapon. Noting that all wars since World War II have been won or lost without use of nuclear weapons, he questions the primacy of the weapon both in war and in deterrence theory.

## **美国社会及价值观 U.S. Society and Values**

### **21. HIP-HOP PLANET**

McBride, James

National Geographic, vol. 211, no.4, April 2007, pp. 100-114

“Not since the advent of swing jazz in the 1930s has an American music exploded across the world with such overwhelming force,” writes the author. The culture of song, graffiti and dance that is collectively known as hip-hop has transformed popular music in every country that it has permeated. France, home to a large population of North African immigrants, is the second largest hip-hop market in the world. McBride traces the origins of hip-hop, from beat poet Amiri Baraka in the 1950s and 1960s, to the youth of the South Bronx and Harlem who came up with impromptu dance music in the 1970s – largely because the New York City public school system had drastically cut funding for the arts. While its structure is bewildering, and lyrics that glorify violence and ostentatious luxury disturb many, McBride writes that rap music has “become a universal expression of outrage ... at its best, hip-hop lays bare the empty moral cupboard that is our generation’s legacy. This music that once made visible the inner culture of America’s greatest social problem, its legacy of slavery, has taken the dream deferred to a global scale. Today, 2 percent of the Earth’s adult population owns more than 50 percent of its household wealth, and indigenous cultures are swallowed with the rapidity of a teenager gobbling a bag of potato chips. The drums are pounding out a warning. They are telling us something. Our children can hear it. We’d be wise, I suppose, to start paying attention.”

## **22. HOME-FRONT ECOLOGY: WHAT OUR GRANDPARENTS CAN TEACH US ABOUT SAVING THE WORLD**

Davis, Mike

Sierra, July/August 2007

“Does this generation of Americans have the ‘right stuff’ to meet the epic challenges of sustaining life on a rapidly warming planet?” The author writes that, in spite of growing concern over energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, Americans own bigger houses and cars, and are consuming more energy and resources than ever. But, Davis notes, a “surprisingly hopeful answer ... to whether Americans would ever voluntarily give up their SUVs and McMansions ... lies in living memory” — during World War II, the U.S. embarked on a nationwide campaign to aid the war effort by conservation, home gardening and reducing waste. Americans by the millions tore up their lawns and planted vegetable gardens, recycled scrap metal, old tires and cooking grease, bicycled or carpooled instead of driving alone, or mended clothes instead of shopping compulsively. Journalists of the time noted that the slower pace of life during the war was restoring a sense of community that the automobile culture had begun to erode earlier — and, Davis notes, would erode since, in the postwar euphoria of abundance. He takes hope that, “even a few short generations later, we can find inspirations and essential survival skills in that brief age of victory gardens and happy hitchhikers.”

## **23. ANGELS AND AGES, LINCOLN’S LANGUAGE AND ITS LEGACY**

Gopnik, Adam

New Yorker, May 28, 2007, pp. 30-37

As the bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln’s birth, in February 2009, approaches, the number of books on all aspects of his life and times is increasing. This summation of current Lincoln scholarship is, like its subject, surprisingly lively and relevant to a wide

international audience. "Overcome again by Lincoln's example," writes longtime New Yorker author Adam Gopnik, "by the idea of a President who was at once an interesting mind, a tough customer, and a good writer -- I decided start reading the new Lincoln literature. It seemed to be multiplying by fission, as amoebas do, on the airport bookshelves. In books published in the past two years alone, you can read about Lincoln's 'sword' (his writing), his 'sanctuary' (the Soldiers' Home just outside Washington, where he spent summers throughout the war). You can read a book about Lincoln's alleged love affair with a young officer, and one about Lincoln's relations, tetchy but finally triumphant, with Frederick Douglass. There is no part of Lincoln, from manhood to death, that is not open and inscribed." Gopnik's tour of Lincoln literature offers thumbnail sketches of Lincoln's sometimes evolving beliefs on faith, law, war, and Shakespeare, among many other topics of his and our times. The article offers both a useful guide to what to read, and a quick lesson, if one is needed, of the continuing relevance of Abraham Lincoln.

#### **24. COMIC BOOKS AND COMIC STRIPS: A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE SCHOLARLY LITERATURE**

Lent, John A.

Choice, vol. 44, no. 11, July 2007, pp. 1855-1867

Throughout the 20th century, comic strips have been one of the prime conveyors of popular American images. Early syndicated comic strips were translated and published in Europe and Walt Disney successfully marketed his cartoon characters as hardbound collections in Latin America in the 1930s as part of President Roosevelt's 'Good Neighbor Policy'. The study and research into comic art was minimal until after World War II, when interest began to increase as the State Department and later the U.S. Information Agency produced comic books as part of the publications it sent to its overseas audiences. The author, a recognized authority on the popular culture of comic art and the author of several important works on the subject, attempts to identify the most prominent comic books and newspaper strips published in English. One promising area of comic scholarship in the U.S. during the last decade has been an increased exploration of foreign comics, and not just from Europe and Japan. A number of factors have contributed to this, including the worldwide commercial success of Japanese manga; the Internet, with its potential to connect cartoonists and comic scholars globally; the arrival of graphic novels and of journals such as the International Journal of Comic Art; the interest of American book publishers in foreign comics; and the growth of comic book conventions and conferences. Comic art's biggest achievement in the past twenty years has been to find its place in academia; however, some areas still need further study, such as knowledge about the audiences, messages, and power structures behind comics. The essay is divided into two parts, dealing with reference titles, and discussing theory and criticism.

#### **25. SQUEEZE PLAY: HOW PARENTS AND THE PUBLIC LOOK AT HIGHER EDUCATION TODAY**

John Immerwahr, Jean Johnson, Paul Gasbarra, Amber Ott, and Jonathan Rochkind  
National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, Public Agenda, and Reinvesting in College Access and Success. Web posted May 31, 2007

The U.S. educational system has been the envy of countries around the world for its high quality, accessibility, ability to train skilled workers, and its contribution to the creation of the middle class. For the past several years, higher education in America has experienced new pressures—more students are seeking admission while public funding has been severely strained.

The Secretary of Education’s Commission on the Future of Higher Education called for greater accountability and more productivity. This report, based on a random sample survey of 1,001 Americans, five focus groups, and interviews with corporations, media, philanthropic organizations, and legislative leaders, explores the American public’s perception of higher education today.

## **26. THE RACE TO ATTRACT INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

Abdul Kargbo and Margie Yeager  
Education Sector. March 22, 2007

The U.S. has long been a magnet for the world’s top college students; but after 9/11, with heightened security and travel restrictions, the number of F1 visas issued declined significantly. In 2005-06 the Department of State granted 273,870 student visas (from 196 countries) or 20,000 less than 2000-01. The authors contend that “to retain its position as the destination of the greatest number of foreign students—and the advantage that such students afford in the battle for global economic competitiveness—the U.S. will have to be increasingly proactive in international marketing, simplify visa processing and increase affordable educational opportunities.”