

Liberals perpetuate cycle of poverty

By Mark Cholowski / Posted on Mon, Feb. 08, 2010

Re Issac Bailey column "Bauer strays from responsibility," Jan. 29, and Bob Bestler column "Bauer's foul-up beyond words." Jan. 30:

Your columnists' comments demonstrate that their ignorance of the real issue presented by Lt. Gov. Andre Bauer is only surpassed by their close-mindedness toward any conservative-based solutions. I offer the following brief lesson in history and politics with the honest hope that Bailey and Bestler can see past their prejudices and predispositions to acknowledge the truth.

The truth is that big government liberal policies have created a culture of dependency in our citizens who live in poverty. Since the passage of the Fair Deal by Lyndon Johnson and its inexorable expansion by the liberal politicians and bureaucrats, trillions of dollars have been spent on the inappropriately designated War on Poverty. In addition to welfare and unemployment benefits, these subsidies include food stamps, housing subsidies, Medicaid and scores of other programs. Notwithstanding any initial good intentions of the proponents of these programs, there has been no meaningful impact on poverty. Instead, a culture of government dependency and entitlement was created and, as a result, poverty became comfortable for most and acceptable for many.

The impoverished know that their subsidies will continue so long as they keep electing the politicians who promise them more and more. And these politicians will keep promising more and more handouts, without any real hope of economic improvement, so long as the impoverished continue to cast their votes for them. This is the true cause of the cycle of poverty, not an unfair justice system or lack of compassion as Bailey and Bestler would have us believe.

This cycle of poverty, caused by the liberal self-serving politicians, with the deplorable assistance of the left-wing media, has already sentenced two generations of impoverished Americans to hopeless government dependence and is working on its third. If anyone doubts my assertions, I encourage you to take a trip to any of the liberal enclaves that have experienced first hand the devastation of systemic poverty. Go to Camden or Newark, or Philadelphia or Detroit, or any number of places where the government has handed out poverty, and families have handed it down to their next generation, all for the political prosperity of the politicians who could not care less about their constituents.

Indeed, Bailey and Bestler, you should congratulate Lt. Gov. Bauer for his courage to speak about a serious problem directly and with candor, and without concern for political correctness. You should support his efforts to break the cycle of government dependence that has already sentenced so many to a lifetime of poverty. You should encourage him as he promotes the real solutions to poverty, without simply throwing more money at it, which has failed miserably for all these years, but seemingly is the only answer known to liberals like yourselves. These solutions include but are not limited to, providing tax incentives for young people to work, educating them about the costs of having children, encouraging them to marry and finish high school before having children, and extolling the virtues of abstinence as the only proven method to avoid unplanned pregnancies.

Prosperity in this country is still available to all, despite the best efforts of big government, overtaxing liberals.

The writer lives in Murrells Inlet.