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# THE RISE OF WOKE POLICIES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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## **In February 2022, Joint Chiefs Of Staff Chairman General Milley Disclosed That Service Members Have Spent A Total Of 5,889,092 Man Hours On Equity Issues Including Critical Race Theory**

**In February 2022, Joint Chiefs Of Staff Chairman General Milley Disclosed That Service Members Have Spent A Total Of 5,889,092 Man Hours On Equity Issues Including Critical Race Theory Training.** “In November, the senators wrote a letter to Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman General Mark Milley requesting details about the costs and readiness effects of the Administration’s progressive social agenda. Milley responded in a January 6 letter that U.S. service members have spent a total of 5,889,082 man-hours on the February 5, 2021, extremism ‘stand-down’ and on ‘Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion’ training, including critical race theory, since President Biden has taken office. The letter also revealed that around 530,000 hours was spent on new DEI trainings and more than 1,000 hours was spent on coordinating the DOD’s Climate Adaptation Plan.” (Anne Summerhays, “Military Has Spent 6 Million Man-Hours On “Woke” Training Under Biden, Senators Find,” [Magnolia Tribune](#), 2/15/22)

## **Under The Biden Administration, Defense Secretary Austin Ordered A Day Long Stand Down To Discuss Violent Extremism**

**Under The Biden Administration, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin Ordered A Day Long Stand Down To Discuss Domestic Violent Extremism, Which Was Criticized By Veterans.** “Since 2020, the services have ramped up their diversity, equity and inclusion efforts, following a lead from then-Defense Secretary Mark Esper, who in the wake of George Floyd’s murder called on the department to do better. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin ran with that idea in the early weeks of the Biden administration, ordering a day-long stand down in every unit to discuss the threat of violent extremism, following years of proclamation from the FBI that right-wing domestic terrorism is on the rise. But to some, these efforts were a direct attack on their worldview. ‘Instead of training and preparing for combat, today’s military is too busy worrying about teaching proper pronouns, how to incorporate men who think they’re women and women who think they’re men into the barracks and showers,’ wrote Ron Eslick, describing himself as a 1970s-era Navy submariner. [Joint Chiefs Chairman] General Milley and Sec Def Austin are a disgrace to the uniform I once wore. They are nothing less than lap dogs to the current administration. What a shame that our country has now become a second rate threat in today’s world.” (Meghann Myers, “Is The Military Too ‘Woke’ To Recruit?” [Military Times](#), 10/13/22)

## **Drag Queen Events Have Been Reported At Multiple Military Bases**

**A “Drag Queen Storytime” Event Was Scheduled At Ramstein Air Base, But Was Cancelled After Criticism Of The Event.** “Drag shows on military installations, which promoters say are designed to show support for LGBTQ service members, have increasingly made headlines, most recently in the case of a planned ‘Drag Queen Storytime’ that was scheduled at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, but canceled amid GOP criticism of the event.” (Michael Lee, “GOP Rep Stumps Top Military Leaders With Question On Base Drag Shows: ‘First I’m Hearing About That,’” [Fox News](#), 3/30/23)

**In 2021, Malmstrom Air Force Base Hosted A “Drag Queen Story Time” Event Which Was Not Publicly Discussed Before Congress Until 2023.** “Senator Steve Daines is calling a ‘Drag Queen Story Time’ event held on Malmstrom Air Force Base (MAFB) part of a ‘woke agenda’ and now he wants answers as to how it was funded and why it was allowed to take place on a military installation. The event happened in two-years ago in 2021, but Senator Daines just sent out the statement yesterday. The delay? Well, it all came up again on Wednesday in Washington D.C. during a House Armed Services Committee hearing on budgets. About 3-hours into the 6-hour hearing is when Secretary of Defense, Lloyd Austin, and chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff,

General Mark Milley were questioned by representatives about what they believe are Department of Defense (DoD) funded drag queen story hours being held on a handful of military bases around the nation.” (Joe Taylor, “Questions Raised About Who Funds ‘Drag Queen Story Time’ On Military Bases,” [Montana Right Now](#), 3/31/23)

**The Center For Military Readiness Also Criticized Policies In The Department Of Defense That Allow “Hyper-Sexualized Drag Performances On Military Bases.”** “A recent independent, high-tech survey on politicization of the military done by the Heritage Foundation found that among active-duty respondents, 80% said the ‘changing of policy to allow unrestricted service by transgender individuals’ decreased their trust in the military. Sixty-eight percent of active-duty responses reported seeing a ‘growing politicization’ of the military, and 68% said that it would impact their decision to encourage their children to join the armed forces. In view of recent problems with recruiting and retention, the 118th Congress should renew previous demands for information on military transgender policies. Congress also should consider mandating that all Defense Department agencies and educational institutions return to recognizing scientific realities of biological sex, not ‘self-identified gender.’ Servicemen and women deserve reality-based health care programs, with protection of the rights of doctors and nurses whose medical ethics and religious convictions differ from transgender ideology. Military women deserve separate-sex athletic teams and reasonable privacy in female-only living facilities. And instead of policies that allow hyper-sexualized drag performances on military bases, the Department of Defense should encourage discipline instead of indiscipline.” (“Biden Pentagon Quietly Expands Woke Transgender Policies In The Military,” [Center For Military Readiness](#), 2/15/23)

## **In December 2022, The Department Of Defense Restricted Information About “Gender Identity” And “Incidents Of Harmful Behaviors”**

**In December 2022, The Department Of Defense Restricted Information About “Gender Identity,” “Transgender-Related Information,” And “Incidents Of Harmful Behaviors” Released Annually.** “In 2018, then-Secretary of Defense James Mattis testified that problems with transgender policies were not being reported up the chain of command because they were considered ‘personal and private.’ Doubling down in December 2022, the DoD released a new instruction, DoDI 6400.11, which restricts (without high-level permission) release of information about ‘sexual orientation,’ ‘gender identity,’ ‘transgender-related information,’ and ‘incidents of harmful behaviors.’ Every year, the Pentagon releases non-personal statistics on sexual assaults, in excruciating detail. Why are officials restricting access to data on ‘incidents of harmful behaviors’ and ‘transgender-related information.’ Congress needs to find out.” (Elaine Donnelly, “Biden Pentagon Quietly Expands Woke Transgender Policies In The Military,” [Real Clear Defense](#), 2/18/23)

## **In July 2022, All Five Academies Were Found To Offer Voluntary Critical Race Theory Trainings To Students And Staff**

**In July 2022, All Five Academies Were Found To Offer Voluntary CRT Trainings To Students And Two Mandatory Trainings For Faculty And Staff.** “All five academies also have offered voluntary CRT-related trainings or activities to their students, faculty and staff, while two have mandatory trainings for faculty and staff, according to CriticalRace.org. ‘Do we really want our future military officers to view themselves and the troops they will command through an obsessive racial lens? Is military cohesion and effectiveness improved by putting people into racial and ethnic boxes? These are questions the military leadership will need to consider as it evaluates whether and how far it takes the teaching of CRT and related ideologies as part of a military service academy education,’ Jacobson said. ‘Because the education of military officers is so important to our nation, public and political scrutiny is justified.’” (Brian Flood, “Critical Race Theory Taught To Military Leaders At U.S. Military Academies, According To New Study,” [Fox News](#), 7/25/22)

## **In March 2023, Nearly One-Third Of All Defense Department School Libraries Were Found To Carry “Racial Justice” Children’s Books**

**In March 2023, Government Watchdog OpenTheBooks.com Found Nearly One-Third Of All Defense Department School Libraries Carry “Racial Justice” Children’s Books.** “Nearly one-third of all Defense Department school libraries carry copies of the controversial ‘racial justice’ children’s books that were authored or contributed to by the self-described “woke” diversity chief of the Pentagon’s education wing, according to a new audit from government watchdog OpenTheBooks.com. Kelisa Wing has worked as a chief of equity, diversity and inclusion at the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) since December 2021, where she is involved in influencing curriculum and hiring at 160 military schools in the Americas and other portions of the world. She faced scrutiny last fall after OpenTheBooks.com auditors looked through the book catalogs of all DOD school libraries and discovered that 11 schools collectively carried 45 copies of children’s books associated with Wing.” (Kyle Morris, “Woke’ Defense Department DEI Education Officials’s Books Now In One Third Of Pentagon Schools: Gov’t Watchdog,” [Fox News](#), 3/2/23)

**Some Of These Books Include “What Is White Privilege,” “What Is Anti-Racism” And “What Does It Mean To Defund The Police.”** “Those numbers, according to the watchdog group’s January audit that was shared first with Fox News Digital, have risen 1,200%. A total of 49 schools carry a combined 606 copies of works that were authored or contributed to by Wing. Some of the books noted connected to Wing include ‘What is White Privilege,’ ‘What is Anti-Racism’ and ‘What Does it Mean to Defund the Police.’ In most of the works, an author’s name appears ‘with’ Wing’s, but Wing has denied writing the books. ‘I want to go on record that I’m not the author of those books,’ Wing said in an Air Force Times interview, describing her role as a ‘content adviser.’ Speaking to Fox News Digital about the latest audit, Adam Andrzejewski, the CEO and founder of OpentheBooks.com, said the ‘Department of Defense has strict rules in regard to conflict of interest policies.’” (Kyle Morris, “Woke’ Defense Department DEI Education Officials’s Books Now In One Third Of Pentagon Schools: Gov’t Watchdog,” [Fox News](#), 3/2/23)

## **In July 2021, The Superintendent Of West Point Disclosed The Existence Of A West Point Lesson Plan Called “Understanding Whiteness And White Rage**

**In July 2021, The Superintendent Of West Point Disclosed The Existence Of A West Point Lesson Plan Called “Understanding Whiteness And White Rage,” Which He Conflated As “Military Training.”** “In April, Rep. Mike Waltz, R-Fla., sent a letter to West Point’s superintendent, inquiring about extracurricular workshops cadets had attended in the name of diversity, equity and inclusion education. During a June 23 hearing, Waltz confronted Austin about a presentation titled ‘Understanding Whiteness and White Rage,’ as well as lesson plans within some West Point classes that cover critical race theory. Waltz conflated these academic settings with ‘military training,’ which is of course one of the key features of West Point, in addition to the earning of bachelor degrees.” (Meghann Myers and Leo Shane III, “Is The Military Teaching Critical Race Theory? Not Really,” [Military Times](#), 7/1/21)

## **The Air Force Academy In Colorado Springs Required A Course On “Diversity Equity, And Inclusion For Students,” Which Included A Video On Black Lives Matter**

**The Air Force Academy In Colorado Springs Required A Course On “Diversity, Equity, And Inclusion For Students,” Which Included A Video On The Subject Of Black Lives Matter.** “For example, the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs requires a course on “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for Students,” according to the database. ‘This course includes a video on the subject of Black Lives Matter,’ CriticalRace.org wrote. Four of the academies were found to offer materials by authors Robin DiAngelo and Ibram Kendi, whose books explicitly call for discrimination, according to Jacobson. “(Brian Flood, “Critical Race Theory Taught To Military Leaders At U.S. Military Academies, According To New Study,” [Fox News](#), 7/25/22)

## **In March 2023, The Center Square Reported That West Point Cadets Were Receiving Presentations To Avoid Gendered Language, Including “Mom” And “Dad”**

**In March 2023, The Center Square Reported That West Point Cadets Were Receiving Presentations Encouraging Cadets To Avoid Gendered Language, Such As Terms Like “Mom” And “Dad”** “In one of those examples, the report points to official training materials in which West Point cadets are lectured on white privilege. The report points to another case where a slide presentation for the Air Force Academy is titled, ‘Diversity & Inclusion: What it is, why we care, & what we can do,’ which warns cadets to avoid gendered language, such as terms like ‘mom’ and ‘dad.’ The recent Department of Defense’s comptroller’s budget report points to millions of dollars in equity funding as well. ‘Ensuring accountable leadership by adding nearly \$500 million in FY 2023 to implement the recommendations of the Independent Review Commission (IRC) on Sexual Assault in the Military, enhancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) programs, and addressing extremism in the ranks,’ the comptroller report said.” (“As Pentagon Struggles To Fill Military Requests, Funding Goes To Diversity, Critical Race Theory,” [The Center Square](#), 3/27/23)

## **In March 2021, The DODEA Held An “Equity And Access Summit” Where Teachers Were Educated On Critical Race And Gender Theory**

**In March 2021, The DODEA Held An “Equity And Access Summit” Where Teachers Were Educated On Critical Race And Gender Identity Theories.** “In May 2021, I saw that DODEA would be holding an ‘Equity and Access Summit’ for teachers and administrators. Knowing that ‘equity’ means different things to different people, I wanted to get a sense of what it meant at DODEA. When I managed to gain access to the recordings, I was absolutely floored by what I saw and heard. As the Claremont report shows, the summit featured hours of teacher training steeped in critical race and gender identity theories. Claremont released a video of summit clips in which a principal talks about a student who felt like he’d done something wrong because he’s a ‘young, white male.’ The teacher said she didn’t know what to tell him — but she seemed pleased with the breakthrough. Perhaps she was just following the lead of DODEA’s diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) chief Kelisa Wing, who is currently under investigation by DOD for a history of disparaging comments toward white people.” (Amy Haywood, “DOD Is Forging A Woke K-12 Army With Race And Sex Indoctrination In Military Schools.” [The Federalist](#), 10/24/22)

## **Educators At DOD Schools Have Encouraged Racially Focused Education Of Historical Events And LGBT Conversations Without Parental Consent**

**An Educator At Robinson Barracks Elementary School In Germany Encouraged Her Students To Ask If The American Revolution Was Just A “Transition From One Group Of Rich White Men To Another Group Of Rich White Men.”** “Betty Roberts, an educator at Robinson Barracks Elementary School in Germany, talked about critical literacy. She wants her students to look deeply into textbook versions of events to find hidden biases. She asks her students questions like: ‘Is the American Revolution still being fought today?’ She presses further and asks if the American Revolution was just a “transition from one group of rich white men to another group of rich white men.” Roberts goes on to express her gratefulness to the teachers’ union for its training on white fragility because she recognized her need for cultural humility.” (Amy Haywood, “DOD Is Forging A Woke K-12 Army With Race And Sex Indoctrination In Military Schools.” [The Federalist](#), 10/24/22)

**Educators At DODEA Schools In Spain And Germany Have Also Facilitated Conversations About LGBT Inclusivity And Transgender Identities, Sometimes Without Parental Consent Or Knowledge.** “Aside from the relentless instruction on anti-racism and white privilege, a clear effort was underway to normalize transgender identities and the notion of a gender spectrum. Genevieve Chavez and Lindsey Bagnaschi, presenters of ‘Ally 101 — Creating an Inclusive Classroom for LGBTQ+ Students,’ talked about gender transitions they have

facilitated for students at their schools in Spain and Germany, respectively — sometimes without parental knowledge or consent. And many LGBT educators apparently belong to a system-wide resource-sharing group on Schoology curated by a DODEA educator. Chavez recommends resources from the group such as ‘Teaching with Mx. T’ and ‘Teaching Outside the Binary.’ But there is another similar group that’s passcode protected — and it’s for students. Teachers can add students to their own LGBT chat rooms in Schoology, and parents are not invited.” (Amy Haywood, “DOD Is Forging A Woke K-12 Army With Race And Sex Indoctrination In Military Schools.” [The Federalist](#), 10/24/22)

## **In February 2023, The Center For Military Readiness Noted Significant Changes Since Biden Took Office, Including Allowing Cross-Dressing**

**In February 2023, The Center For Military Readiness Noted Six Significant Changes Since Biden Took Office, Including Vocabulary To Reflect Transgender Ideology And To Allow Cross-Dressing Behavior.** “CMR notes at least six significant changes that have been made incrementally since Biden took office in 2021. In summary, the Biden policy: 1. Changes official DoD vocabulary to reflect transgender ideology 2. Specifically involves the military service academies and ROTC (contract) programs 3. Holds commanders directly responsible for all alleged ‘biases against transgender individuals’ 4. Allows cross-dressing and other “transitioning” behaviors on-base as well as off-base 5. Allows ‘de-transition’ procedures if costly treatments do not resolve gender dysphoria 6. Restricts collection and disclosure of data on ‘incidents of harmful behaviors’ involving sexual orientation and transgender persons” (“Biden Pentagon Quietly Expands Woke Transgender Policies In The Military,” [Center For Military Readiness](#), 2/15/23)

## **In March 2021, Navy Admiral Gilday Defended Recommending Navy Personnel Read “How To Be An Antiracist,” A Book With Racially Focused Content Encouraging Discrimination**

**In March 2021, Navy Admiral Gilday Confirmed That The Navy Recommended “How To Be An Antiracist” On A Navy Reading List Despite Congressional Concerns About Its Content Being “Anti-American”** “Several Republican members of Congress voiced concerns about some of the books included on the Navy’s 2021 reading list, but Adm. Michael Gilday said he is not making any changes. Rep. Jim Banks, R-Ind., who serves in the U.S. Navy Reserve as a Supply Corps officer and deployed to Afghanistan in 2014 and 2015, sent a letter to Gilday on Feb. 26 arguing that the views promoted in Ibram X. Kendi’s ‘How to Be an Antiracist’ on the Chief of Naval Operations Professional Reading Program (CNO-PRP) are ‘explicitly anti-American’ and called on Gilday to explain the Navy’s decision to include it on the reading list or remove it. Gilday responded to Banks in a March 12 letter obtained by Fox News saying he included Kendi’s book on the CNO-PRP list because ‘it evokes the author’s own personal journey in understanding barriers to true inclusion, the deep nuances of racism and racial inequalities.’ He added that he wants the Navy’s sailors to achieve the same level of ‘self-reflection.’” (Audrey Conklin, “Navy Won’t Remove ‘Anti-American’ Books From Reading List Despite Republicans’ Concerns,” [Fox News](#), 3/16/21)

**Excerpts From This Book Included “Capitalism Is Essentially Racist And Racism Is Essentially Capitalist” And “The Only Remedy For Present Discrimination Is Future Discrimination.”** “The Navy’s top admiral says he urged sailors to read books like Ibram X. Kendi’s ‘How To Be An Antiracist’ in response to conversations with sailors after the murder of George Floyd. ... Among them is Sen. Tom Cotton (R-Ark.), who used his questioning time during the hearing to ask Gilday whether he agreed with certain statements in Kendi’s book, repeating a similar line of questioning from last week. ‘I want to give you a sampling that is included in books like this,’ Cotton said, before offering passages without further context from the 241-page book: ‘The notion that capitalism is essentially racist and racism is essentially capitalist. That the only remedy for past discrimination is present discrimination. The only remedy for present discrimination is future discrimination. That some individuals by virtue of his or her race are inherently oppressive or privileged while others are victimized or oppressed. That individuals can bear some collective responsibility or collective guilt for actions committed by members of his or her race.’” (Paul Szoldra, “Why The US Navy Wants Sailors To Read ‘How To Be An Antiracist,’” [Task And Purpose](#), 6/23/21)

# Kelsia Wing, The Former Chief Of Equity Diversity And Inclusion At The Department Of Defense Education Was Removed From Her Post After A Series Of Racially Focused Tweets

In November 2022, The Pentagon Was Noted As Failing To Investigate Kelisa Wing, Its Chief Of Equity, Diversity, And Inclusion At The Department Of Defense Education Activity. “The Pentagon continues to drag out its final decision on a self-described ‘woke’ diversity chief of its education wing who is being investigated after disparaging posts about White people were exposed by Fox News Digital. Kelisa Wing has worked as a chief of equity, diversity and inclusion at the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) since December 2021, where she is involved in influencing curriculum and hiring at 160 military schools in the Americas, Europe and the Pacific.”

- **Wing Was Under Investigation For Tweeting She Was “Exhausted With These White Folx” Among Other Statements.** An investigation into Wing was launched Sept. 19 after she wrote on Twitter she was ‘exhausted with these White folx,’ among other statements. The Pentagon originally told Fox News Digital that the matter would be referred to Under Secretary of Personnel and Readiness Gil Cisneros for a final decision 30 days after the initial review. But, after nearly two months, the case is unresolved.” (Patrick Hauf, “Pentagon Drags Out Decision After Probe Into ‘Wike’ Diversity Chief Accused Of Anti-White People Tweets,” [Fox News](#), 11/11/22)

**On Another Occasion, Wing Said “I Am Exhausted By 99% Of The White Men In Education And 95% Of The White Women. Where Can I Get A Break From White Nonsense For A While?”** “On another occasion, Wing responded to a user who said, “I am exhausted by 99% of the white men in education and 95% of the white women. Where can I get a break from white nonsense for a while?” (Patrick Hauf, “Pentagon Drags Out Decision After Probe Into ‘Wike’ Diversity Chief Accused Of Anti-White People Tweets,” [Fox News](#), 11/11/22)

**Wing Also Tweeted “This Lady Actually Had The CAUdacity To Say Black People Can Be Racist Too....I Had To Stop The Session And Give Karent The BUSINESS.”** Wing responded, “If another Karen tells me about her feelings... I might lose it...” Wing also tweeted, “[T]his lady actually had the CAUdacity to say that black people can be racist too... I had to stop the session and give Karen the BUSINESS... [W]e are not the majority, we don’t have power.’ ‘Caudacity’ is a term used to describe audacity demonstrated by White people. ... In addition to the disparaging tweets, Wing co-wrote ‘racial justice’ children’s books that said White people must confess their privilege and were de facto hurting Black people by being benefactors of unearned advantages. Fox News Digital also found that on two occasions Wing promoted the anti-police book ‘Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates while representing herself as an employee of the Pentagon’s education wing.” (Patrick Hauf, “Pentagon Drags Out Decision After Probe Into ‘Wike’ Diversity Chief Accused Of Anti-White People Tweets,” [Fox News](#), 11/11/22)

**In March 2023, Wing Was Reassigned To A Role Unrelated To The Defense Department School Program.** “Self-described ‘woke’ Defense Department schools official Kelisa Wing, whose anti-white social media comments garnered national attention last fall, has been reassigned to an unrelated role, The Post has learned. The Defense Department in October launched a 30-day review of Wing — the now-former education activity chief diversity equity and inclusion officer — after her Twitter posts with disparaging comments about white people resurfaced. ‘I’m so exhausted at these white folx in these [professional development] sessions this lady actually had the CAUdacity to say black people can be racist too,’ she wrote in one post from June 2020, using a portmanteau for ‘Caucasian audacity.’ While Wing’s job change came after the DoD completed its review, Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Gilbert Cisneros Jr. said it took place not as a ‘disciplinary action’ but rather ‘as part of a headquarters restructuring.’” (Caitlin Doornbos, “‘Woke’ DOD Official Kelisa Wing Reassigned After GOP Highlights Anti-Wake Tweets,” [The New York Post](#), 3/23/23)

## Since October 2022, Veterans Have Been Vocally Concerned About Wokeness And Transgender Policies In The Military

**In October 2022, After Running A Commentary Urging Veterans To Help Recruitment Numbers, *The Military Times* Received “Hundreds Of Emails” Saying They Would Refuse Due To Wokeness In The Military.** “When Marine Corps Reserve Col. Matthew F. Amidon, director of veterans and military families at the George W. Bush Institute, wrote a commentary urging veterans to help during the recruiting crisis by recommending military service to their kids and other young people, *Military Times* was inundated with a hundreds of emails from veterans saying they would do no such thing. Their reasons varied, but most said wokeness is to blame. They accused the military of becoming so ‘political,’ or such a ‘social experiment,’ that even proud veterans wouldn’t recommend service. ‘I’ll be blunt. I wouldn’t encourage anyone to join today’s armed forces and I discouraged both of my sons from considering serving,’ wrote Peter Demas, who described himself as a third-generation veteran. ‘America’s military leaders have sold out the Services for their own advancement and reflect all the poorest qualities of civilian “leadership” from whom they accepted thirty pieces of silver; instead of being the nation’s repository of integrity and moral courage, they have become more political than the political animals they grovel before.’” (Meghann Myers, “Is The Military Too ‘Woke’ To Recruit?” [Military Times](#), 10/13/22)

**In February 2023, A Survey Found That 80% Of Active Duty Recipients Said “Changing Of Policy To Allow Unrestricted Service By Transgender Individuals’ Has Decreased Their Trust In The Military.”** “A recent independent, high-tech survey on politicization of the military done by the Heritage Foundation found that among active-duty respondents, 80% said the ‘changing of policy to allow unrestricted service by transgender individuals’ has decreased their trust in the military. Sixty-eight percent of active-duty responses reported seeing a ‘growing politicization,’ which is affecting their decision to encourage their children to join the military. In view of recruiting problems, the 118th Congress should renew previous demands for information on woke policies. Congress also should consider mandating that all Defense Department agencies and educational institutions return to recognizing scientific realities of biological sex, not ‘self-identified gender.’” (Elaine Donnelly, “Biden Pentagon Quietly Expands Woke Transgender Policies In The Military,” [Real Clear Defense](#), 2/18/23)