

“Ali Baba Babble and Common Core” by Denis Ian (an opponent of Common Core in New York)



"Open sesame" is that mystical phrase from "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves." It unlocks the cave-sanctuary where all of the treasure is secured. But, in light of Common Core, "open sesame" has unleashed a deluge of questionable educationalists who see this moment as an opportunity to pile up their extremist treasures under the guise of Common Core ... and they seem to have been largely successful.

Common Core, at the moment, is bad stuff. But it has the potential to become extremely bad stuff. For months, in post after post and article after article, the great debate has been about various lessons and approaches that have emerged. Are they or are they not Common Core sanctioned? I used to think that was a valid question. Not anymore.

The very sponsors of Common Core hardly seem to mind these curriculum excursions into their absurdity ... such as rewriting American history to coalesce with the current pc mindset. They seem barely shivered by eye-popping, stomach-churning developments in sex education ... for the littlest of students ... who are now exposed to startling information and vividly detailed sexual escapades ... all under the guise of healthy living. The Common Core oligarchs seems somewhat soothed by the politically charged alterations to historical documents and events ... provided they tumble to the left of center. In short, Common Core's whoop seems to be ... "Open sesame" ... everything and anything is up for "reform".

Anyone and everyone seems welcomed in the Common Core tent of the macabre. If you're up for skewering America and its history, hop on board. If you're inclined toward seedy sexual stuff ... welcome home! If you're in favor of disrupting and disturbing a particular activity like coal or petroleum production ... or sanctifying every tree and bog and swamp ... then there's a slot for you in the Common Core mayhem. Itching for a fight about who should control nutrition for kids? You're welcomed aboard. Cranky about tenure or teacher sovereignty in the classroom? All aboard. It seems anyone with a beef gets a plate at the Common Core buffet of all-you-can-eat nonsense.

Got beefs? Maybe against the military or the Tea Party? Scribble out a unit or a lesson package. You're in. Got hang-up about climate change or homosexual marriages? Fire away. Got a bug up your nose about Christianity or religion in general? Just punch out a screed about fanatics and zealots and it'll find it's way into Common Core.

The point? Common Core has given educational cover for a slender minority to pollute the actual education environment with any issue whatsoever ... and it seems to give those issues ... no matter how hair-brained or offensive ... a certain legitimacy. Common Core has become the new "open sesame" because, by its very nature, it suggests that what is, is not acceptable. America must be altered, changed, renovated, rejuvenated, redirected ... and most especially ... cured. But only if those cure pass a certain muster.

Esteemed historical figures are pilloried at the politically-correct whipping post. Historical documents ... which foundationed this nation for centuries ... are now seen as attic junk ... to be recycled according to the "New Nonsense" of the day.

This is no time to hail this nation. Nope. It needs to be SHAMED. Made to appear as sinful as any other on the planet. It's time to excoriate those blasphemers who think this is an exceptional nation based on a unique set of principles because, well, it makes us stand out a bit too much from the rest of the miserable world. And we can't have that. No, siree. We're even cajoled to empathize with the new medievalists ... currently on a head-collecting mission in the sands of the Middle East ... who will one day rocket us into a modern armageddon of real life-or-death preservation. It now seems wiser to "understand" our enemies than to even question them ... to search for the vomit-inducing "root cause" of their bloody neo-

medievalism. Ever think we might be playing with a modern Ali Babba who isn't so randy and dandy as the fictional one of yesteryear? I think not.

In schools today, Christianity is viewed as a dangerous cult, personal responsibility has been replaced by an all-knowing, all-soothing government, and espousing contrarian points of view will get you tattooed as a racist, a xenophile, a homophobe, a sexist, a capitalist-pig, a Neanderthal ... or a dastardly conservative. Common Core has opened the flood-gates for every miscreant with a special beef to step forward and set the record unstraight ... because that is part and parcel of the New Nonsense. Ali Babba had his forty thieves, but Common Core has its horde of whorey intellectuals who are determined to retool this nation into a supplicating, value-free, nonjudgmental mess. A nation like all of the others who feed off miserableness and are hellbent on cultivating it.

It's time we slammed the door on Common Core. For good.

Ali Obama and His Forty Thieves Are Robbing our Children of a Decent Education by Orlean Koehle

Having directed the musical, "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" when I taught speech and drama in a middle school many years ago, I am very familiar with the story and would add my comments to the above excellent article by Denis Ian.

"Open Sesame" opens the door to the vast "treasury" of every strange ideology and radical belief of Common Core progressive educators and politicians, who are all playing their parts so well. The Chief Thief is Ali Obama, with his under studies played by Secretary of Education Ali Duncan, chief funders are Ali Bill Gates and Ali Pearson Foundation (the main publisher of the e-books and tests for Common Core).

The 40 thieves have many layers: starting with the national cartel who actually wrote the standards (state and local educators were not involved); the governors and state boards of education who signed on to Common Core, sight unseen, coerced by the possibility of winning \$435 billion grant money coming from the vast treasury of "stimulus money" of the chief thief Ali Obama.

The next layer of thieves are the state legislators, who were originally bypassed and not consulted when the governors signed on, but eventually agreed and gave their support (either willingly or silently by not opposing it); the teacher unions who (with the exception of a few states) are supporting this debacle and are receiving large hand outs (bribes) from the private treasury of Ali Bill Gates and other state and federal grants to do so.

The next layer of thieves are the superintendents and local school board trustees who are allowing this travesty of education into their schools, even though they have heard testimony after testimony from expert witnesses, parents and students how bad and harmful it is. School boards are kept in line also by the bribes coming from the state and federal treasuries - if they are willing to jump through all the hoops offered to them.

And lastly are the teachers who either truly believe in this new radical ideology and way of teaching or are so afraid of losing their jobs that they go along with it. Many courageous teachers, however, across the nation have already resigned over this issue.

And who are the people who are being robbed blind by this vast group of thieves? They are our children. They are being robbed of what used to be an outstanding American, broad-based, highly rated, liberal arts education. (That is back when liberal meant something good.)

And because of the radical, anti-American ideologies that they are being taught, the future of America is also being robbed. These graduating students in Common Core will know nothing of our great American heritage of liberty. They will know nothing of the three branches of government that are designed to keep power in check. They will not even notice as the executive branch grows larger and larger and the freedoms of America rapidly disappear. In fact, many of them will probably be applauding

as that happens, for they will have already been so steeped in anti-American propaganda, they will be off in some foreign land fighting alongside ISIS.

The one redeeming thought - the story of Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves ends with all the thieves being boiled alive in hot oil. They get their just rewards.

Orlean Koehle is the President of Eagle Forum of California, the author of two books on Common Core: *Common Core, the Trojan Horse for Education Reform* and *The Hidden Cs of Common Core: Cartel-written, Corporation-Driven, Cash Cow, Cradle-to- Grave Data Collection, Cogs in a Global Workforce, Cookie-Cutter Design, Costly, Central-Controlled, Citizens of the World, and Communist-Like*