

# The Passy Press

## Letter to the Editor

From: [wm.v.cowan@undisclosed.com](mailto:wm.v.cowan@undisclosed.com)  
To: Nick Gardiner [enpg@thepassypress.com](mailto:enpg@thepassypress.com)  
Date: February 16, 2016  
Subject: Essay Novitski – US

Dear Sir

Thanks for asking me to comment. It's certainly an interesting essay, but I take exception to some of it.

I agree totally that some sort of obligatory national service, military or civilian, would serve our nation and our society well. My good friend retired Army Colonel Ken Allard, a former Dean of the National War College and frequent op-ed contributor to numerous publications, was himself a draftee and writes consistently for the need to return to the draft if for no other reason than to provide some 'balance' to society. Expanding the draft to include some sort of other obligatory civilian service would enhance the results, although, when it comes to understanding sacrifice, there is no substitute for combat.

In his writings, Ken speaks to the less than 1% of American youth who today get the military 'experience'. Indeed, that's a small number. Interestingly, the volunteer Army is extremely expensive (numerous incentives to join and/or re-enlist, plus more!), and a draft could probably drive costs down and provide some of the necessary money for a civilian work corps, as Mr. Novitski calls for.

In sum, I believe there are compelling reasons to support the idea, although I doubt they would gain the support of the American public in general. As we know, the public is pretty content where it is.

As to money from the right driving the agenda, that sounds like pure New York Times. Where is the discussion about George Soros, Tom Steyer, Michael Bloomberg, and others who drive the DAILY agenda across America, not just the political one? I see their pervasive influence as being much more destructive than contributions to Republican political campaigns. After seeing Obama elected twice, despite large infusions of money to conservative candidates, I for one am hopeful that MY side will win the next one. I'll admit that I'm no big fan of Trump, but I'll support him if he's the one.

At the end of the day, money is influential but the American public still has its say. Bush's BIG money and his support by the Establishment didn't make it this time.

Thanks for asking me about Joseph Novitski's essay. I hope this answers it!

Respectfully,

Bill Cowan

Bill Cowan is a highly decorated Viet Nam veteran who spent most of his professional life involved in special programs and activities in support of the U.S. Government. He appears regularly on the Fox News Channel and the Fox Business Network to discuss matters of national security.