

Obfuscation

by

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Huh? Say what? “Obfuscation, what’s that?”

This is not a word most of us hear in our daily lives, but it is the epitome of our current political and social environment. The Oxford dictionary defines obfuscation as:

the action of making something obscure, unclear, or unintelligible.
"when confronted with sharp questions they resort to obfuscation"

There are many synonyms that can help to further define obfuscation. These include:

- bafflement
- befuddlement
- bewilderment
- confusion
- deception
- discombobulating
- distortion
- falsification
- inaccuracy
- insincerity
- mystification
- misreport
- misstatement
- perplexity
- puzzlement
- self-deception
- stupor
- subterfuge

Considering these synonyms it may become clearer that much of what politicians say often falls into one of the categories established by the synonyms. For example much of what Kamala Harris says is translated in our minds as “What did she just say.” President Biden often confuses “facts” and is not accurate with comments on the state of our nation. And both Pelosi and Schumer routinely practice subterfuge and falsification by blaming conservatives for the state of our nation.

In the mid-1950s a new word was added to the American English lexicon.

Bafflegab

Incomprehensible or pretentious language,
especially bureaucratic jargon.

Bafflegab became a primary tool used by politicians to keep the public off balance and confused. In 1968, Philip Broughton, a civil servant, developed what was called the

“Baffle-Gab Thesaurus” or more commonly the “Obfuscation Chart.” The chart consisted of 30 words arranged in three columns of 10 each. The object is to think of a three digit number (234), then pull the corresponding words from each column representative of the digits, and then inject the “phrase” into a report, speech, etc. the phrase generated by 234 would be “total monitored mobility.” The phrase has the ring of authority and means absolutely nothing.

As we consider the meaning of obfuscation, it is easy to see how closely “political correctness” is aligned with the term. Political correctness is not a new term and appeared in a Supreme Court decision in 1793. However in the early 1990s the term was used to create further confusion about what was happening in American politics.

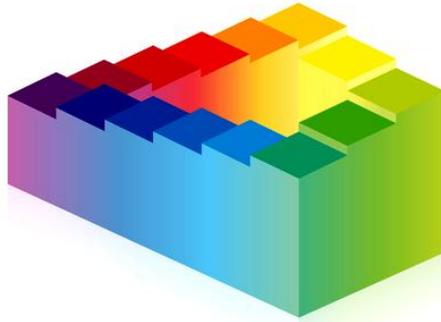
Since the 1990s further confusion has grown within the nation as rules, regulations, and law moved from addressing racial issues to gender issues, thus creating greater confusion among the American population.

As planned by the left, socialists, and communists, it is necessary to break the unity among Americans through civil disobedience and not allowing the people to “catch their breath” and figure out what is going on. To this end, the above three groups have pushed the highly contentious and negative issue of “Critical Race Theory” (CRT) onto the American public and in particular the future generations of our nation.

However obfuscation is not the only tool being used by the left, socialists, and communists. Closely aligned with obfuscation is another word of which its outcomes are equally dangerous and confusing. That word is. . .

<p style="text-align: center;">Illusion Something that is perceived or interpreted by the senses.</p>
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We often think of illusions as something “physical” that can be seen in different ways. Such objects are often called “optical illusions.” The two most famous ones are:



Penrose stairs



Old/young woman

While most of us think of illusions as optical misinterpretations of what we see, there exist other forms of illusions. Magicians for example, perform their tricks using misdirection. A soldier in camouflage clothing uses the clothing to blend in with his surrounding, thus misrepresenting what the enemy sees. The con-artist uses deception to present the illusion that he is not who he really is but rather someone else.

Illusions are a constant in our lives. If we are aware of them, we can know what is real and what is not. If we are not aware of them, we are deceived and, very often, confused.

There are many forms of illusions. Discussions on illusions are generally concerned with “physical” objects, either real or imaginary. However there are illusions that are not based on physical realities but rather on “conceptual” realities. Such illusions are found in the social, economic, and political aspects of our lives.

In economics there are several types of illusions. For example there is the illusion of money. On a broad scale money is a commodity used as a medium for economic exchange. Money is used to express prices and values. It circulates from person to person, facilitates trade, and is the principal measure of wealth. The problem is that money is an illusion. It is supposed to represent physical things of value such as gold, silver, or diamonds. Prior to 1971, the US dollar was the dominant reserve currency and that the dollar was convertible to gold at the fixed rate of \$35 per ounce. However Nixon stopped the convertibility of the dollar to gold, the result of which is that there is nothing of monetary value that backs up the US dollar.

Another economic illusion that Americans see through is inflation. The current administration claims that economically the US is stable and that the inflation rate is not something to worry about, even though Americans are steadily falling behind in their purchasing power.

The Democrats for years have perpetuated the illusion that the “rich” do not pay their fair share of taxes in spite of the fact that percentage wise they pay more taxes than middle and low income levels. The Democrats continually block discussion on implementing a flat tax rate for everyone. A flat tax rate would take away their arguments for raising taxes and perhaps even calls for balanced budgets.

Socially there are many illusions perpetuated by Democrats. One such illusion is that public schooling is better than private/home schooling. However Covid brought to light many problems with this illusion with critical race theory (CRT) being the most prominent. There are also the illusions of transgender, social injustice, and that we don't need law enforcement to name a few.

Political illusions abound in our nation. The current is that our southern border is secure. Following slightly behind that is the illusion that law enforcement contains extreme racial bias, and that fentanyl and other illegal drugs are not the problem they are made out to be. The latest illusion perpetuated by Democrats is that MAGA Republicans threatens democracy.

For further discussions on political illusions, visit <https://fee.org/articles/six-political-illusions-a-primer-on-government-for-idealists-fed-up-with-history-repeating-itself/> and <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2129003>

For decades American media has been complicit in perpetuating both obfuscation and illusion with its liberal bias. At one time journalists either reported the news events or they did investigative reporting. Overtime the media's responsibility to the American people changed from presenting the facts to writing commentaries with the intent to influence (bias) the readers and viewers. Such a shift in the “free press” is dangerous to our democracy, and the sad thing is that the media does not even realize that danger.

It is fairly easy to know where the liberal media stands. The conservative media however seems to be in limbo. The conservative media keeps wondering how Biden and his cronies can be so “stupid” as not to realize what is really happening.

The conservative media needs to stop implying that Biden and his administration are blind to the realities of the current social, economical and political situations. Instead they need to call out the obfuscation and illusions that the administration is foisting upon Americans and calling it. The current administration knows exactly what it is doing!

Seek the truth and it will be revealed!