

GOOD NEWS, AMERICA

There's a State of Emergency

State of Emergency:

The Third World Invasion and Conquest of America

Patrick J. Buchanan

New York: St. Martin's Press, Thomas Dunne Books, 2006

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Reviewed by Peter B. Gemma

Pat Buchanan's eighth book, *State of Emergency: The Third World Invasion and Conquest of America*, is filled with alarming statistics, frightening culture war scenarios, grim historical analogies, and bleak political analyses that should make every reader scared to death. And that's the good news. He writes: "If we do not solve our civilizational crisis—a disintegrating culture, dying populations, and invasions unresisted—the children born in 2006 will witness in their lifetimes the death of the West. In our hearts we know what must be done. We must stop the invasion." And he warns:

Both parties are paralyzed by guilt over America's racial sins, and lack the will and fortitude of previous generations to do what is necessary to defend the nation from the Third World invasion.

Fear of ethnic lobbies and of being called "xenophobes" and "racists" causes politicians to remain silent as textbooks for Mexican-American kids teach the Mexican-American War from the Santa Anna point of view.

I've never quite accepted the worse-is-better-syndrome typical of the right (you know the logic): "As soon as the economy collapses and there are food riots in the streets, *then* they'll understand what we were talking about." Nor do I think that all the Republican Party needed was a good thumpin' at the polls to come to its senses. *Realpolitik* defines progress—and regression—in politics as direct action that produces change on the margin. That's why even Pat Buchanan's latest and greatest book on the threat of America's illegal (and legal) immigration problems will not save the day. But it will help in providing

the reasoning and, even more important, the motivation for policy wonks and real people to *do* something.

For those who still cogitate logically, *State of Emergency* has proven its impact. Pundit Joe Sobran wrote (*Middle American News*, October, 2006), "Rarely has a book rocked me as Pat Buchanan's latest one has" and asserts that Pat's book "shattered my skepticism about the problem of immigration."

Writer Chris Seck, in the *Stanford Review* (Stanford University, October 7, 2006), says that "Buchanan argues that America is united by the 'bonds of history and memory, tradition and custom, language and literature, birth and faith, blood and soil,'" and he admits that, "Buchanan's 'blood and soil' patriotism may seem rather simplistic and un-intellectual. But it is nevertheless sensible and natural: Most people love their countries for cultural reasons." He also confesses, "Personally, I am Chinese, but I do not feel that the Republican Party would lose my vote if they deport the illegal Chinese immigrants. Most minority citizens, regardless of race, believe in doing what's best for America, rather than engaging in raw identity politics."

An editorial (*not* a book review) in the Nevada newspaper, the *Lahontan Valley News and Fallon Eagle Standard* (August 30, 2006) stated:

Buchanan laments [in *State of Emergency*] that we are steadily becoming the Third World dystopia that Theodore Roosevelt warned against when he said we must never let America become a "polyglot boarding-house" for the world. Buchanan argues that the melting pot is broken beyond repair, and he cites lots of evidence (heavily footnoted evidence). Interesting example: over 60 percent of the residents of Los Angeles live in households that do not speak English as their first language. Unlike my immigrant grandparents, they have no interest in learning English, or plans to otherwise assimilate into the larger society.

Of course, liberals denounce Buchanan's message as intolerant bigotry. They condemn any such concern about the "Balkanization of America" as an affront to common humanity. They remain dedicated to multiculturalism. In this case, multiculturalism is code-speak for admiring and defending any heritage or tradition except the one handed down to us by George Washington, John Adams, James Monroe, Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, Andrew Jackson, and Sam Houston. ... It is time to rethink and thoroughly reform our nation's immigration policy.

Before its official publication date, advance orders for *State of Emergency* pushed it to top ranking for books sold through Amazon.com, and shortly thereafter it soared to the top of the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, and other best-seller lists. It is an influential publication because Pat Buchanan is a powerful wordsmith who can identify and deftly define issues of concern to Middle America. And the popular commentator makes compelling and factual arguments: "In 1960, the U.S. population was 89 percent white. By 1990, it was 76 percent. Today, it is under 70 percent. By 2050, white Americans, the most loyal voting bloc the Republican Party has, that provides 90 percent of

all GOP votes, will be just another minority because of an immigration policy championed by Republicans. When John Stuart Mill called the Tories 'the Stupid Party,' he was not entirely wrong."

Buchanan argues policy and politics with confidence because the numbers are on his side: Almost as many immigrants are now in America (36 million) as came to this country between 1607 and 1965; each month government agents apprehend more illegal aliens – approximately 150,000 – than the entire number of troops we have in Iraq; in Los Angeles, 95 percent of all warrants for homicide, 1,200 to 1,500, target illegal aliens.

Establishment conservative columnist Tony Blankley concedes that in picking up Pat Buchanan's *State of Emergency* "...even those who have read his earlier books and read his columns, as I have, will not be prepared for the remorseless presentation of unimpeachable facts with which he makes his convincing case for the reality of his book's subtitle: 'the third world invasion and conquest of America.' Here he deepens his case against illegal immigration (and his case for a moratorium on even legal immigration) with statistic after statistic concerning, among many topics, the shockingly disproportionate degree of disease and crime that illegal Mexican and other immigrants are transmitting into the country" (*Washington Times*, August 16, 2006).

Of course not everyone who reads *State of Emergency* will embrace its logic. File this breathless disclosure by Alexander Zaitchik of the radical Southern Poverty Law Center in a "man-bites-dog" folder: "*State of Emergency* is a white nationalist tract" ("Selling Racism," October 6, 2006, <http://www.splcenter.org>). However, in an interesting *Washington Post* review (September 25, 2006), Steven Holmes acknowledged that Buchanan's views articulately and accurately reflected the feelings of a consequential political constituency: anti-immigration "populist nationalists." These voters (and, more significantly, nonvoters) are passionately opposed to the interests of the pro-immigration "progressive globalists." But the writer and his paper allowed their ideological slips to show: "We would dismiss him and the anger embodied in 'State of Emergency' at our peril." Um, excuse me, "we"... "our?" They're talking about us but who are they smugly and presumptively talking to?

Never mind, says Pat. "We've already won the battle with the public," Buchanan declared in a newspaper interview just after the book was released, "the question is when will the government respond?" (*Washington Times*, August 22, 2006)

Before President Bush appointed one of the biggest open-borders promoters, U.S. Sen. Mel Martinez (R-FL), to become chairman of the Stupid Party (Cuban-born Martinez actually wants to *increase* the flow of immigrants), political activist Pat Buchanan wrote in *State of Emergency* that "The Republican Party has one last chance. If the President will act, he may yet regain the allegiance for his party of enough Reagan Democrats to more than compensate for any Hispanic votes he may lose."

The former GOP presidential candidate, who defeated the elder President George Bush in the 1992 New Hampshire primary on culture-war issues like immigration, points out that Hispanics made up “only 6 percent of the electorate in 2004. White voters still constitute more than 80 percent of the electorate. This means the white vote is thirteen times the size of the Hispanic vote. Adding 1 percent of the white vote is thus worth as many raw votes as gaining 13 percent of the Hispanic vote.”

In *State of Emergency*, Buchanan argues that “An increase of only 2 percent of the white vote adds more GOP votes than a 25 percent increase in the Hispanic vote. Now, which is easier for the GOP to accomplish? Raise the party’s share of the White vote by 2 points, or raise the party’s share of the Hispanic vote from 35 to 60 percent?” Apparently the Bush political brain trust (I’m using the term lightly here), led by Karl Rove, considered Pat’s question. They calculated that the Republicans polled only 51 percent of the white vote in 2006 (compared to earning 57 percent in 2004 and 58 percent in 2002) – and factored in Hispanic support for the GOP falling from about a 40 percent share in 2004 to only 30 percent last November – and concluded that Mel Martinez’s ideas promise future successes. The prevailing logic of the Stupid Party is to lower the river with Martinez rather than raise the bridge with the Buchanan. Go figure that one – the GOP sure didn’t.

I still insist, however, that there is good news in all this. First, the seemingly complicated crises of immigration (legal and illegal, mind you) are clearly and urgently outlined in a well-written book of some 300 pages. Even your befuddled neighbor or stubborn brother-in-law will finally “get it” – and be persuaded to *do* something about the problem. Secondly, there is bipartisan support at the grassroots and on Capitol Hill for the practical solutions Pat Buchanan advocates:

- A ten-year moratorium on all legal immigration, at the level John F. Kennedy favored in 1958 – between 150,000 and 250,000 a year.
- A 2000-mile double-line security fence between the United States and Mexico, built with no apologies to Mexico City.
- A federally legislated end to all social welfare benefits for illegal aliens, except for emergency medical services.
- A crackdown on major businesses that chronically hire illegal aliens and the elimination of deductibility for all wages paid to illegals.
- A U.S. law to restate the true meaning of the 14th Amendment, and denial of automatic citizenship to “anchor babies” born to illegal aliens.
- A deportation program like President Eisenhower’s Operation Wetback, beginning with all aliens convicted of felonies and every gang member who is not a citizen of the United States.

I think the good news in *State of Emergency* is that we have a big but definable political problem in immigration — one that Buchanan dissects along historical, social, cultural, political, and even racial lines in one single blockbuster book. The bad news (for some anyway) is that his proposed solutions are not sexy — no political party or candidate or even riots and rampant alien-driven crime sprees — no simple time/event that will wake up America.

Buchanan quotes Oswald Spengler in *State of Emergency* as saying “Optimism is cowardice,” noting that “to witness Western history since 1914 is to understand what Spengler meant.” The hard part to see and hear in Buchanan’s book is his warning not to submit to the siren call of the “worse-is-better” political crepehangers. Their pessimism, he writes, “induces despair [that] can be as paralyzing as the guilt with which Western man is afflicted.”

Pat Buchanan has encouraged and enjoyed the promise and the success of politics, as well as suffered through its folly and failure, yet he can still find the balance — even while declaring a state of emergency: “What is required of us is the confidence and the courage of our forefathers, who made no apologies for who and what they were as they believed — and rightly so — that theirs was the greatest civilization and culture the world had ever produced, and they meant to preserve and protect it.”

Peter B. Gemma, a columnist for Middle American News, has written for USA Today, Military History, Human Events, The New American, and other publications. He is the editor of Shots Fired: Sam Francis on America's Culture War (www.shotsfired.us) and is currently writing a biography of former Louisiana judge and Congressman John R. Rarick.

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