

SAMUEL L. BLUMENFELD
6 ROSECLAIR STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125
(617) 282-0299

OUTLINE FOR A BOOK ON THE NEA

After spending considerable time researching the NEA, I am convinced that it is not only determined to become the most powerful political force in the nation but is also using the public schools as a means to indoctrinate American children in the radical social and political agenda of the left.

In a few short years, NEA-PAC has become the radical left's most effective political machine. The radical left seems to have chosen the NEA as the most promising means to attain its political ends.

NEA-PAC was created in 1972. In 1976 the NEA endorsed Jimmy Carter -- breaking its 120-year-old policy of not endorsing any Presidential candidate. According to Hamilton Jordan: "The massive support of teachers was critical to our winning the election. All over the nation we turned to the NEA for assistance . . . and they delivered." Gerald Ford, as we know, lost by a very small margin.

In 1978 NEA-PAC spent \$335,347 on the elections. In 1980 NEA had 302 delegates and 162 alternates at the Democratic National Convention -- more than the total number of delegates from any state except California, and California's delegation included 24 NEA delegates.

In 1982 NEA spent \$1,271,452 on its candidates. NEA-endorsed candidates won 224 of the 302 House races and 20 of the 32 Senate races for an overall win average of 73 percent. As for incumbents, 190 of the 195 NEA-PAC-endorsed candidates were reelected.

NEA president, Willard McGuire, told teachers in November 1982: "Get out and vote on Nov. 2. More and more often critical elections are being decided by margins of only one or two votes per precinct. With 4,000 to 6,000 NEA members in each of the nation's 435 Congressional districts, together we can make the difference in many vital races on Election Day."

Most people are not aware of the enormous growth and effectiveness of NEA-PAC in the last ten years. The NEA is really only at the beginning of its power grab.

The NEA is the world's largest professional organization. It has 1.8 million members, with PACs in every precinct in the nation. Its Washington headquarters has a staff of 600. It has a full-time lobbying staff that keeps tabs on every Congressman. Its tentacles reach out

SAMUEL L. BLUMENFELD
6 ROSECLAIR STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125
(617) 282-0299

- 2 -

to 10,000 local units in every school district in America. It supplies favored candidates with money, volunteers in voter registration, phone banks, leafletting, and door-to-door canvassing. By politicizing teachers, the NEA has created an awesome political machine.

It is important for Americans to realize the implications of a power grab by a very large group of public employees whose salaries depend on taxes. These public servants are fast becoming public masters intent on achieving monopoly, dictatorial control of American education and control over Congress and every state legislature in the nation.

Conservative gains will always be in jeopardy as long as the NEA's drive for power goes unchallenged. We should learn from the French how the socialists used the teachers as their means to achieve power. According to a reviewer of Katherine Auspitz's book, The Radical Bourgeoisie:

"The secret to understanding the Mitterand government is to begin with the recognition that school teachers are the largest occupational bloc of socialist deputies. Mitterand's wife is the daughter of teachers. Mitterand supported measures to unify parochial and public schools of France before he was elected.

"It was just 100 years ago this month that laws were passed establishing free, compulsory, secular schooling for French children of both sexes. Universal schooling, more than nationalization or any other single measure, represents the policy response of left-center governments to the problem of breaking with corporate authority -- whether of church, state or modern corporations. All else is secondary."

One thing is certain: he who controls the schools controls the future. When public servants become the masters and the taxpayers become the servants, it is time to ask fundamental questions about public education. Whom does it serve? And what do the teachers really want?

Here is a chapter outline of the book:

Introduction -- Why this book?

Chapter One -- Short history of public education and its philosophical evolution. America adopts the Prussian system.

Chapter Two -- NEA as an outgrowth and reflection of the public school philosophy. Its history and aims from 1857 to 1900.

SAMUEL L. BLUMENFELD
6 ROSECLAIR STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125
(617) 282-0299

- 3 -

Chapter Three -- NEA and the progressives reshape American education in accordance with the development of science and experimental psychology. The classroom becomes a laboratory. Three themes are pushed among educators: science, socialism and professionalism. Science means eliminating religion, socialism means getting rid of capitalism, and professionalism means taking control of education away from taxpayers, laymen and parents.

Chapter Four -- NEA as a Washington lobby. Each year the NEA presents a legislative agenda to the Congress and 50 state legislatures. Their lobbyists press hard for what they want. As NEA president Helen Wise said in 1974: "Virtually every educational decision is a political decision." It's dangerous to vote against an NEA proposal.

Chapter Five -- NEA becomes a labor union. NEA adopts the tactics of big labor with strikes, agitation and forced membership. NEA-AFT rivalry sharpens differences between radical left and labor moderates.

Chapter Six -- Transforming the NEA from a professional organization into a political machine. In 1968 NEA starts its Teacher-in-Politics program to turn teachers into effective political activists. NEA streamlines internal organization for effective political purposes.

Chapter Seven - NEA and the decline in educational excellence. As NEA becomes more political, functional illiteracy, vandalism, violence and delinquency increase and SAT scores drop dramatically. The NEA's solution to all problems: more federal money.

Chapter Eight -- NEA adopts the agenda of the radical left and uses the schools to promote its political and social ends.

Chapter Nine -- NEA's drive for monopoly control over all public and private schools, including religious schools. The NEA wants to control all teacher training and employment via the establishment within each state of an "autonomous agency" that would be governed by "a majority of teachers who are members of the majority national teachers' organization, to approve teacher preparation programs and certificate prospective teachers."

Chapter Ten -- NEA-PAC as a means of changing America politically. As Helen Wise, NEA president, said in 1974: "Teachers individually and collectively can change the direction of government." That's what the teachers of France believed.

Chapter Eleven -- What is to be done? Can America tolerate a politicized public education system with a bias toward the radical left? What are the alternatives?