

Opinion: Millennials' spending, values not in sync

By Cherri Senders, Sacramento Bee

If you talk to young people today about issues such as economic inequality or climate change, you will usually hear them profess deep concern. A survey released earlier this year found that economic and social inequality topped millennials' list of concerns, followed by climate change.

But the values embraced by those in their 20s and early 30s are not always in sync with their behavior, especially on inequality.

A case in point is the wild popularity of Uber, Airbnb and other pillars of the "sharing" economy. While millennials are big users, Uber has come under increasing criticism for using independent contractors to avoid providing benefits to drivers, and Airbnb has been assailed for exacerbating the shortage of affordable housing in cities where housing costs are already sky high.

Read the whole story

Opinion: Emergency preparedness is critical

By Tracy Franklin

Are you prepared for an emergency? South Lake Tahoe has developed a 12-month emergency preparedness tool to help you

prepare.

As part of the city's continued initiative to increase communications, we will be offering a 12 part monthly series throughout the year highlighting emergency preparedness. Use these tools to prepare yourself for an emergency. More information is available **online**.

Emergency Preparedness—Month 1 – Create a Family Disaster Plan

Your family needs a plan that tells everyone: where to meet if you have to evacuate; who you've identified as an out-of-state "family contact"; how to get emergency information in your community; and how to take care of your family pets.

When preparing for an emergency, plan on having enough supplies to get you and your family through at least the first 72 hours. After a major emergency, there's a good chance that traditional emergency response teams will be too busy to take care of you and your family. You need to prepare your home and neighborhood.

- Stock up on at least a three-day supply of food, water, clothes, medical supplies and other necessary equipment for everyone in your family.
- Make sure everyone knows where to find them.
- Decide where and when to reunite your family should you are apart when a disaster strikes.
- Choose a person outside the immediate area to contact if family members are separated. Long distance phone service will probably be restored sooner than local service. Do not use the phone immediately after a major emergency.
- Know the policies of the school or daycare center your children attend. Make plans to have someone pick them up if you are unable to get to them.

- If you have a family member who does not speak English, prepare an emergency card written in English indicating that person's identification, address and any special needs such as medication or allergies. Tell that person to keep the card with him/her at all times.
- Conduct Earthquake: Duck, Cover and Hold drills every six months with your family.
- Practice Stop, Drop and Roll drills for fire, as well as emergency exit drills in the house regularly.
- Know the safest place in each room because it will be difficult to move from one room to another during an earthquake or explosion.
- Locate the shutoff valves for water, gas and electricity. Learn how to shut off the valves before an emergency. If you have any questions, call your utility company. Remember not to shut off utility valves unless directed to do so by your utility company.
- Make copies of vital records and keep them in a safe deposit box in another city or state. Make sure your originals are stored safely.
- Before a major emergency occurs, call your local Red Cross chapter and Office of Emergency Services to find out about their plans for emergency shelters and temporary medical centers in case of a disaster.
- Establish all the possible ways to exit your house. Keep those areas clear.
- Know the locations of the nearest fire and police stations.
- Take photos and/or videos of your valuables. Make copies and keep them with a friend or relative in another city or state.

- Include your babysitter and other household help in your plans.
- Keep an extra pair of eyeglasses and house and car keys on hand.
- Keep extra cash and change. If electricity is out, you will not be able to use an ATM.

Sign up to receive emergency notifications **online**.

Tracy Franklin is the public information officer for South Lake Tahoe.

Opinion: Why we need to name the dead

By Thomas W. Laqueur

Almost 3,000 migrants have drowned this year trying to cross the Mediterranean Sea from Africa to Europe. Many of their bodies have washed ashore without names. These are bodies of people whose loved ones will never know their fates; they are bodies bereft of the most fundamental attribute of cultural belonging.

A very few have been identified. Italian doctors managed to match a photograph of a young, smiling Eritrean woman dressed in colorful clothes with the teeth of an anonymous corpse, its face frozen in the grin of rigor mortis. This body got back its name and re-entered the order of humanity.

Naming the dead is a great antidote to anonymity and a testament to belonging: Very quickly after the last terrorist attack on American soil—in San Bernardino, California—we got media reports listing the 14 people killed; we've built important public memorials in the last 50 years comprised of great assemblages of the names of the dead. Two thousand nine hundred and forty-two of them are at the heart of the National September 11 Memorial and Museum in New York. They are organized into nine broad categories—those who worked in Tower 1, first responders, crew and passengers of United Airlines Flight 175, for example—and within each category by more refined classifications—those who worked together, first responders from a particular agency, the crew of Flight 175. Next of kin were allowed to suggest the proximity of particular names, so that close friends and colleagues could be closer to one another here, too. These naming practices restore the dead to the places they once held in the social world of the living.

Resting beneath the great panels of names are the remains of 1,115 unidentified bodies; 7,930 plastic envelopes of unidentified bone fragments joined them in 2014. The names of the dead are thus as near to the bodies they have lost as forensic science and aesthetic ingenuity allow.

Maya Lin's stunning Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., is, of course, centrally about names. These are organized chronologically into the deathly contours of the unfolding of war; the wall is at its tallest for the period of greatest numbers of fatalities. Visitors see themselves reflected in the names; they trace names on paper; they leave gifts and notes in front of particular panels for the person remembered by an inscribed name. The exact locations of the bodily remains of most of these names are known, but 1,626 of the names on the black shiny marble wall represent bodies that are lost—disappeared. The only trace of their existence is the inscriptions of their names on this memorial.

This sort of recuperative attention to the names of the dead is found not only in great public places. It informs smaller and more intimate settings. Woody Guthrie's last great protest song, "Deportee (Plane Wreck at Los Gatos)," for example, is about the 28 unnamed Mexican workers who went down in flames in Los Gatos Canyon near Coalinga in 1948:

*Goodbye to my Juan, goodbye, Rosalita, / Adios mis amigos,
Jesus y Maria; / You won't have your names when you ride the
big airplane, / All they will call you will be "deportees"*

The names of the pilot and security guards on this tragic flight were printed in the *New York Times* and other papers; the 28 Mexicans were buried anonymously. These dead, seen as beneath notice, were buried anonymously in a mass grave—"Mexican Nationals 1-28"—in a nearby Catholic cemetery. Sixty years later, through the efforts of the poet and performer Tim Hernandez and an aged cemetery worker, their names were recovered. A proper memorial was built. The site became a place around which the dead hovered: "*Abuelo, Tio, estoy aquí*" (Grandfather, Uncle, I am here). The nameless had a resting place: "*Mi'jo, I can go in peace now that I know where my brother was buried.*"

In 2013, Hernandez and the Fresno musician Lance Canales recorded a new version of "Deportee" in which the individuals' names are all sung.

There have been many such efforts to name the dead in the last few decades, large and small. Advocates for the anonymous dead buried in a potter's field on New York City's Hart Island have recovered 63,694 names out of nearly 1 million nameless bodies that have been buried there since 1868. This past summer, as a result of the settlement of a lawsuit brought by the ACLU, relatives of those who think they have kin on the island gained the right to visit and mourn. From 2003 to 2007, Castro Valley police and community groups spent hundreds of hours and tens of thousands of dollars to discover the name of an

anonymous Latina found dead on the city's streets. They succeeded; the body was returned to her family in Mexico.

Our interest in commemorating the dead through the recovery of their names dates back to the 19th century. Before then, soldiers were usually buried anonymously where they fell, and even many private graves were only minimally marked. The American Civil War was a turning point. A great web of emotion—letters, poems, and novels—made the anonymous death of soldiers unacceptable in the public and private spheres. Gettysburg was the first national cemetery in the modern world and was modeled on the one on the site of the Battle of Marathon—where the Athenian soldiers who died defeating the city's great Persian enemy are buried.

But World War I was an even more decisive moment. The period after the war witnessed the creation of many naming monuments, the largest of which at Thiepval listed 72,195 British soldiers who died in the Battle of the Somme and whose bodies were either nameless—the unknowns—or lost—disappeared into the muck. Starting in the early 1920s, Britain, France, the United States, and other countries erected tombs of an “Unknown Soldier,” a body that in its eternal anonymity represented all such bodies. These memorials became hallowed ground.

An easy answer to why individual names have become so much a part of our commemorative culture is the rise of democracy. Every one of us deserves individual remembrance. True enough, but it only gets us so far. More important is the claim, made by more and more groups—descendants of slaves and migrants, families of ordinary office workers and common soldiers—that their dead, too, had lives worth noting and have a right to public recognition, to a place among the living. If the 19th century was the great age of the monument to civic worthies, the 20th is the age of the universal right to a name worth remembering. The state that had conscripted millions of young men to die for its sake recorded their names as evidence of national belonging and sacrifice. But more importantly,

beginning with the Civil War, ordinary people began to feel that each and every life has a claim to a denouement—to a known and knowable death.

Thomas W. Laqueur teaches history at UC Berkeley. He is the author most recently of “The Work of the Dead: A Cultural History of Mortal Remains”, which was published by Princeton University Press in October.

Opinion: LTN making changes in 2016

By Kathryn Reed

Looking back on some of the headlines from 2015 I'm extremely proud and grateful to live here: Amgen women cyclists and other sporting events, local athletes excelling, businesses reinvesting in the area, environmental improvements, the artists and authors who share their world with us.

Looking back on others I'm embarrassed, saddened and just shake my head: the ones about political recalls, censure of an elected official, crime, deaths, lawsuits, companies treating employees shabbily.

Together, though, they represent our life in the Lake Tahoe Basin and beyond. The frivolity and the complexity of topics will never change; which is probably good, otherwise life might be boring.

People often ask why *Lake Tahoe News* doesn't write more positive stories, why it's always negative. My reply – there is no good or bad news, there is just news. We merely seek the

truth of whatever the topic.

There are times as a publication we have plotted out special series like we did in 2015 with stories about the city of South Lake Tahoe turning 50. In 2016 we have a couple other special topics in the works. The first will commence at the end of the month. While it is not Tahoe-centric, it is a topic that is bound to resonate with many *Lake Tahoe News* readers.

Not all stories on *LTN* generate comments, but most do. We welcome the dialogue. For the most part we like the conversation. We understand there are plenty of reasons to remain anonymous while commenting.

However, starting today we are going to be more rigid with what is allowed to be posted. One of my favorite phrases is: "You can disagree without being disagreeable." It's time for the commenters to embrace that sentiment as well. Attack the idea, not the person. Then try to come up with a solution. Elevate the discussion; don't let it devolve into childish rhetoric. If you can't play nice, you will be banned from commenting. It's that simple. If you aren't using a valid email address, your comments won't get posted. For all the people who claim we will be limiting your rights in regards to the First Amendment, you're wrong – study the Constitution a bit more.

The goal is to make *Lake Tahoe News* more inviting, a place that welcomes diverse points of view without the threat of being demeaned and ridiculed. Disagree all you want among yourselves, just do it without the name calling. Be constructive, be passionate, pick apart flaws in reasoning, express why you agree or disagree – just don't make it personal.

The biggest change is it is now going to cost people to comment. For \$100 a year people may make as many comments as they like. Or you may choose to pay \$10 for unlimited comments

for that one month. A number of people already subscribe to *Lake Tahoe News*. Whatever the amount you've paid will continue to get you unlimited comments on an annual basis as long as you renew your subscription each year.

The pay-for-comment policy will take effect Feb. 1. This gives you time to subscribe. You may do so **online**. If cash or check is more to your liking, send them to: Lake Tahoe News, PO Box 13406, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96151. Please make checks payable to Lake Tahoe News. This **paid subscriber form** must also be filled out.

Becoming a paid subscriber, though, will not give you license to be abusive with your comments. Bullies will be banned – no matter the amount you've paid.

And with that, I wish you all a wonderful 2016.

Kathryn Reed is publisher of Lake Tahoe News.

Opinion: Reviewing South Tahoe's accomplishments

By Nancy Kerry

As we welcome in 2016, the city of South Lake Tahoe would like to reflect on the accomplishments of 2015.

The following is a summary of accomplishments during 2015.

Strategic Priority: Fiscal Sustainability



Nancy Kerry

The most important issue facing cities and local agencies is continued steadfast attention to the budget, both short term and long term fiscal impacts.

- Fiscal year 15-16 budget adopted on time and without use of alternative revenues – third consecutive year.
- Adopted five-year financial forecast and five-year capital investment plan.

Strategic Priority: Improve the Built Environment

- Implemented Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Ordinance to ensure common sense regulations for the use of hotel/motel rooms as quality transitional housing.
- Implemented plastic bag ban for all grocery stores.
- Implemented comprehensive Vacation Home Rental (VHR) Ordinance to ensure safety compliance.
- Adopted the Tahoe Valley Area Plan which focuses on creating a commercial, mixed-use, and multi-family development that are pedestrian friendly and transit oriented while harmonizing with the overall natural environment of the Lake Tahoe Basin.
- Completed phase 4 of \$4.5 million Sierra Tract erosion control project.
- Airport Master Plan completed.

Strategic Priority: Economic Development

Growing the economy is important to the entire South Shore. Economic development is necessary as a strategy of the City Council and survivability of the South Shore.

- Construction began at Zalanta Resort at the Village consisting of high-end luxury condominiums and 19,477 square feet of retail space.
- Renovation of the shops at the Y to begin in 2016.
- Construction began for the new 27-acre Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care Center on Al Tahoe Boulevard.
- \$2.145 million in grant funding awarded for Al Tahoe Boulevard Safety and Mobility Enhancement Project.

50th Anniversary Events

- Held open houses at police, fire, development services, recreation and administrative service departments.
- Hosted a parade with 100 vehicles, 450 walkers and 200 cyclists.
- Hosted a gala dinner event at Lake Tahoe Resort Hotel.
- Created a 123-page commemorative book of the city's first 50 years.
- Created a 45-minute video with interviews chronicling the formation of the city of South Lake Tahoe.

Community Engagement Initiative

- 23,000 average monthly website visitors
- 20,572 Facebook likes
- 2,314 Twitter followers
- 2,180 Instagram followers
- Launched SpeakupSLT.com website
- Launched eComment feature for public to comment on agenda items before City Council meetings
- Launched OpenGov to view city's budget in real time
- Hosted Coffee with a Cop during summer months.

Strategic Priority: Partnership Development

- Through partnership with Tahoe Area Mountain Bike Association (TAMBA) and South Lake Tahoe BMX Association, built the Bijou Bike Park.
- Partnership with El Dorado County on implementation of

Parks, Trails & Recreation Master Plan.

- Participated in emergency evacuation and preparation with multiple agencies including; EDSO, CHP, American Red Cross, Barton Hospital, LTUSD and USFS.
- Established Legacy Principles for the South Shore with group of 40 community leaders.

Strategic Priority: Quality Core Services

Delivering quality core services is a key function of city government and the main reason the city was formed 50 years ago to deliver police, fire and snow removal operations. The following actions and activities supported the strategic priority to deliver quality core services.

- Implemented the South Tahoe Action Team (STAT) program and trained citizens to be first responders in large scale emergencies.
- Acquired 1740 D St. to create an office and industrial facility for the city's Public Works Department staff and equipment currently located at the Rufus Allen Corporation Yard and the Tata Lane Offices.
- Purchased new sander/plow truck fleet.
- Purchase new street sweeper fleet.
- Installed asset management system.

Long Term Planning Initiatives

- Recreation complex renovations.
 - Regan Beach upgrades and remodel.
 - Expansion of community playfields.
 - Implementing El Dorado Beach to Ski Run Bike Trail.
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Opinion: Legislative concerns for 2016

By Ted Gaines

Jan. 1 marks the New Year and also the day that hundreds of new California laws go into effect. In addition to the changes those laws are supposed to bring, there are other changes on the horizon that could signal a dramatically different state.

2016 is a general election year and numerous initiatives may make it onto the ballot.



Ted Gaines

Marijuana could effectively become legal in our state if voters decide to back one of the numerous cannabis-related measures that are in the process of qualifying. I've never supported legalizing marijuana or other drugs and think it would be terrible for our state. I've heard heartbreaking stories from many of my friends and constituents about how drugs have torn apart their families and ruined young lives. I don't think we should be doing anything to make it easier for young people to be getting marijuana or any drug, and I'm afraid that's what would happen if we legalize and culturally normalize marijuana.

From the "I told you so" department, there will also be attempts this year to extend parts of the "temporary" taxes championed by Gov. Jerry Brown in Proposition 30. There is

nothing more permanent than a temporary tax, and these efforts to string out Prop. 30 prove that. Remember that the state took in billions in unanticipated revenues last year, but even that isn't enough to satisfy the big government crowd.

There is yet another initiative that could put more criminals back out onto the street before their sentences are up by changing our Three Strikes law again, which would make our neighborhoods less safe. I opposed Gov. Brown's "realignment" plan and the pro-crime Proposition 47, and I don't want to see any more soft-on-crime policies that put our families at risk.

Those are just some examples of big changes that could be coming to our state soon, and it's not much of an agenda for our state – higher taxes, more drugs and more crime. I know that I'll be seeing the same set of ideas coming through the Legislature. I will be fighting against it all so that California taxpayers and families aren't stressed any further.

Last year I tackled a fairly new issue to California that is only going to become more important in the years to come. Drones are amazing tools and toys that have incredible applications that are only now becoming widespread. But they can also do great harm when they interfere with public safety, invade our privacy, or aid in terrorist attacks.

I built a strong, bipartisan coalition for my drone bills last session, bills that would have protected citizens and emergency responders, schoolchildren, and our prison guards and prisoners themselves.

Unfortunately, in spite of the need for these bills and the bipartisan coalition behind them, the governor vetoed them all. But the drone problems are not going away and I'm not giving up. I'll be introducing those same bills this year and also tackling drone use over critical infrastructure as well as "drone stalking," where someone uses a drone to harass, stalk or violate a restraining order.

As always, this legislative session I will be fighting to keep taxes down and to keep a tight lid on state spending, and looking for ways to make California the best place for businesses to prosper. A powerful, job-creating private sector will do more for this state than any legislation and I want to make sure that government doesn't get in the way of prosperity.

Stay tuned for more information on all of these issues this year. Until then, I want to wish each and every one of you a Happy New Year!

Ted Gaines represents the California side of the Lake Tahoe Basin in the state Senate.

Opinion: Adelson has chance to prove doubters wrong

By John L. Smith, Las Vegas Review-Journal

Casino titan Sheldon Adelson likes to tell the story of his early days as a newsboy in Boston, elbowing the bigger kids for a chance to hawk nickel dailies on the street corner. It's an inspiring tale torn straight from the pages of Horatio Alger.



John L.

Smith

The scrapper from Dorchester has come a long way since then, and today ranks among the world's richest men, but this past week we learned Adelson has entered the local newspaper business in a big way. Not on a street corner, but as the proxy owner of the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*.

After being pulled from the shadows of a Delaware LLC by intrepid *Review-Journal* reporters, the Adelson family made its jaw-dropping \$140 million acquisition official and insisted in a statement that it has only the best interests of the community and journalism in mind. We'll see.

Read the whole story

Letter: Physical therapy team helps at B&B

To the community,

By providing meals and giveaway food bags, Bread & Broth strives to give hope and comfort to those who struggle with hunger in our community. Thanks to B&B's Adopt A Day of Nourishment sponsors, filling and well-balanced meals are served every Monday at St. Theresa Grace Hall.

Knowing that nutritious meals will be served and additional food to take home will be provided, B&B's Monday evening dinner guests gratefully know that they will not be hungry for at least for that day.

Sponsoring the Dec. 21 dinner event was Gallanty Physical

Therapy. The AAD volunteer crew consisted of new owner Christina Frohlich and fellow team members Jim Gallanty, Lauren Andrew and Roxanne Chiarpotti.

“Everyone was so nice and thankful and grateful,” was Frohlich’s response while taking a break from the serving line. “I’m so glad we were able to be a part of something so special. I feel more committed to our community here in South Lake Tahoe.”

As an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization, B&B is able to continue its mission of easing hunger due to our partnerships with our sponsors. Not only are we grateful for Gallantry Physical Therapy’s financial donation, but also for stepping up and helping out at the dinner. This enthusiastic group bagged giveaways, served dinner, dried dishes and stayed after the dinner to help with cleanup.

Thank you to Gallanty Physical Therapy your incredible service and concern for our community.

Carol Gerard, Bread & Broth

Opinion: Side with the refugees, not the terrorists

By Joe Mathews

On a Saturday night after the terrorist attack in San Bernardino, a plastic replica hand grenade was left in the driveway of Baitus Salaam Mosque in Hawthorne, a municipality near the Los Angeles airport. Someone also spray-painted “Jesus” on the mosque’s front gate and crosses on the windows.

The Ahmadiyya mosque community could have responded by erecting new walls or adding security. Instead, its members decided that the vandalism was an opportunity to connect with neighbors. So the mosque held an open house. “Extremism,” the community president Jalaluddin Ahmad said in an invitation, “will not scare us into locking our mosques. Rather we will open the doors wider to educate all.”



Joe Mathews

If only the rest of California were responding to this moment in the same spirit.

So far, we Californians—from everyday citizens to top leaders—have demonstrated an abundance of ignorance and cowardice. But if we thought of San Bernardino as an opportunity to reach out to others, we could emerge a safer, and even richer place.

Since the attack, California has seen a surge in vandalism and threats against mosques. And we’ve seen public authorities spread fear by overreacting to threats. Last week, the Los Angeles Unified School District committed the cardinal sin of responding to terror with terror by closing all its schools—900-plus, serving 640,000 students—because of an implausible threat that other cities were quick to dismiss.

We’re also seeing political opportunists of both parties use the attacks to advance law enforcement agendas—like weakening the encryption that protects all of us from hacking or demanding onerous new requirement for foreign tourists that will hurt California’s tourism business. And we see some

California Congressional Democrats joining Republicans in linking the attacks to concerns about Muslim refugees—an especially cruel and thoughtless response during the largest worldwide refugee crisis in decades.

Stop the madness, California. Our state needs a hard and immediate U-turn, which starts with recognizing how the attacks connect California to the rest of the world. While we have always been connected by who we are—27 percent of us are foreign-born, twice the national percentage, San Bernardino now connects us to people around the world as fellow victims of terrorism. We all saw the horror of just one attack in one building in one small city of a state of 39 million. Imagine such scenes repeated far more often in places like Syria. How can we not respond by seeking to help our fellow victims—especially refugees fleeing the same terror we've experienced?

California, more than any other place in this country, has been defined by its readiness to integrate people fleeing wars and other horrors. Most tellingly, California communities have often welcomed refugees even in the face of opposition from our leaders. Back in the 1970s, Gov. Jerry Brown was as wrong to oppose the resettlement of Vietnamese refugees here as President Ronald Reagan was a decade later to oppose the taking-in of refugees from Central American wars. Both Vietnamese and Central American arrivals have enriched California immensely. In more recent times, our state has responded to callous inaction in Washington, D.C., by giving what public services and legal status it can to undocumented immigrants and to child refugees coming over our border.

So why do we allow ourselves to be limited by the United States' decision to accept indefensibly low numbers of refugees from Syria (just 10,000) and other theaters of American warfare? California, as a global power in its own right, would do well to set the goal of leading the world in accepting refugees.

Sweden, with fewer than 10 million citizens, has accepted 200,000 refugees this year. Germany, with 80 million citizens, has taken in about 800,000 this year. California leaders and citizens, as a start, should express our willingness to accommodate a number that would put us in that class—say 500,000 refugees from Syria and other places. And our demand for more refugees should also include the request that the laborious and bureaucratic process of screening refugees—it lasts two years—be expedited. We need to save as many lives as we can, as fast as we can.

Of course Washington, not the state, makes refugee policy, as a federal matter. But a push by California to fulfill its historical role as America's America would change the conversation nationally. And if we were to get such a number of refugees, there would be huge challenges—but also huge payoffs. Our welcoming stance would distinguish us internationally—and offer a competitive advantage over the lily-livered cowboys in Texas and 29 other states who are so consumed by fear that they're seeking to block the arrival of even tiny numbers of refugees. It'd be much easier for California, as a generous and welcoming place, to make connections of trade and commerce to the many Muslim countries that are, despite tremendous challenges, on the path to greater wealth and democracy.

We'd also win at home, since refugees would be assets in a state that needs more people. Immigration is flat here, the birth rate is down, and our increasingly homegrown population is aging, with fewer children to support it. Refugees would provide a shot in the arm to our culture and our economy—and the human capital to make up big deficits the state faces in the number of skilled workers.

The fact that such a movement in California sounds unrealistic—I can already hear the fear-mongers accusing me of wanting to give California its own Islamic state—shows just how far down the road of unreasoning fear we've already gone.

Let's turn around, and send the vital and very Californian message that, in this great place, the doors are always open—and that we don't punish the many for the heinous crimes of the few.

Joe Mathews is California and innovation editor for Zócalo Public Square, for which he writes the Connecting California column.

Editorial: Every Student Succeeds Act a failure

Publisher's note: *This editorial is from the Dec. 10, 2015, Los Angeles Times.*

Is anyone mourning the No Child Left Behind Act? Its clumsy regulations and harshly punitive measures against low-performing schools left many, many students behind and worsened education in multiple communities around the nation.

But the Every Student Succeeds Act, which President Obama signed into law this month to replace it, is even more of a lie. This measure doesn't even pretend to create situations in which large numbers of academically struggling students will succeed, let alone all or even most of them.

As satisfying as it is to see No Child Left Behind go away at long last – and even more to be rid of the Obama administration's clumsy waiver program for states seeking a way out of the law's requirements – this new act is a compromise that benefits pretty much everyone but the students most in need of improved schools.

Read the whole story