

Thumbs on the scale of Injustice

I wrote this back in the spring. It has to do with differences between a report called the “Inhabitants Analysis” issued by the Census Bureau on December 22, 2020 and the official results of the 2020 census, released in late April 2021. You may recall that the completion of the “every-ten-year” census (“decennial census,”) which normally would have been due April 1, 2020, was delayed due to Covid and finalized in April 2021. The “Inhabitants Analysis” was issued by the Census Bureau as an interim tool to help with planning and so forth.

It was immediately apparent to the Republicans on the House Oversight Committee that the Biden administration had its “thumb on the scale” of the official 2020 census. The results differed widely from the estimates that had been released only four months earlier and in every case favored blue states over red states.

Per Newsmax, the Republicans on the House Oversight Committee questioned “political interference.” They said that the Biden administration’s involvement was “surprising.” It amused me that what started out with inoffensive “politician-speak” ended leaving no doubt as to the accusations.

Their letter to Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo started out politely enough with “We have questions about the methodology and the role the Biden White House may have played in releasing these numbers.” But then the letter states that “Remarkably, the outcomes are strikingly completely different from the Inhabitants Analysis estimates launched mere months in the past.” (*Italics mine – Ed.*)

They pointed out, for example, that the Census figure for the state of New York is almost 900,000 greater than the estimate. “Likewise,” they say, “states such as New Jersey and Illinois experienced large population increases of hundreds of thousands of individuals compared to the December estimates, while states such as Arizona, Florida, and Texas experienced large decreases from the December estimates.”

Clever use of terms like “remarkably” and “may have played” still leave no doubt that the committee members were not surprised by the interference, but were shocked at the audacity. They only find it remarkable that the

Biden administration was so obvious about it. What they are really saying is STOP! TILT! THUMB ON SCALE! But who is listening?

For the record, members of the House Oversight Committee who signed the letter representing Arizona are Paul Gosar and Andy Biggs.

Tom Zades, Editor