



## Attachment H

January 2007

El Paso County  
Clerk & Recorder  
Colorado Springs, Colorado

### *The New American Revolution - Where's the Outrage?* by Robert C. "Bob" Balink

Imagine going to a voter registration office in any country in the world and registering to vote. No identification documents proving who you are and no proof of citizenship documents for that country are required. You just sign up and you are registered to vote. If you say "that's not going to happen!" you are right. It's not going to happen in any country in the world...*except in the United States of America.*

There has been significant conversation about illegal immigration recently and rightly so...we are a nation of laws and I believe we should enforce them. As the son of an immigrant, I understand and appreciate the greatness of America. My father understood that America was a nation of immigrants where opportunities were open to those who sought them. However, the bottom line is America also is a nation of laws...and America is under attack.

We are experiencing a serious deterioration of many of the institutions upon which this country was built.

Where is the outrage when American citizens can no longer be assured that only they are given the right to vote? Judges across America are ruling that states can no longer ask for a government issued photo I.D. before allowing someone to vote and election officials who insist that proof of citizenship should be required from those registering to vote are being denied by the courts.

Regarding proof of citizenship, Articles XV and XIX of the Constitution of the United States make reference to the "**right of citizens to vote**" which shall not be denied or abridged. And, in state statutes all across the country, it is also quite clear that you must be 18 years of age and a U.S. Citizen to be eligible to vote (in Colorado C.R.S. 1-2-101). In addition, C.R.S. 1-2-202 requires the County Clerk & Recorder to register only U.S. Citizens who are at least 18 years old, yet we don't ask for proof of citizenship.

Have we gone beyond sound practical judgment in our government? Where's the common sense? Kant associated common sense with "the broadened maxim", one of three maxims for avoiding error, which enjoins one "to think oneself in the place of another." It seems common sense is no longer so common.

In law school, students learn the basis for most law...what a 'reasonable man (person) would do' under the circumstances. To that I ask "Have we lost all reason in America? Have we lost the ability to think logically; to understand, and to draw inferences; to analyze by reasoning; to do the right thing?"

In conclusion, I strongly believe that we must do all we can to ensure, at the time of registration as Colorado law requires, that those seeking to register to vote are eligible to vote (18 years of age and U.S. citizens). And, we need to be certain that those who request a ballot are who they say they are. Providing a photo identification when you go to vote seems like common sense to me...and much more important than requiring a photo I.D. when buying over the counter cough medicine.

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