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Carly Fiorina: Legitimate Contender?

By **ALEX KLOSNER**
STAFF WRITER

Carly Fiorina impressed everyone at the last Republican debate with her eloquence, intelligence, and powerful ability to articulate ideas. Fiorina emerged victorious from the debate and has garnered national media attention.

Michael Warren of The Weekly Standard wrote: "Carly, as everyone knows her, is less Sarah Palin and more Ronald Reagan, a natural storyteller with a quick wit and an ear for emotional narratives."

Carly has lived the American dream. She started her career as a secretary at a small real estate firm and eventually became the chief executive of the largest technology company in the world. In 1998, Fortune magazine recognized her as the most powerful woman in business.

After two impressive debate performances, Fiorina has skyrocketed to second place.

Since her time at HP, Carly battled breast cancer, worked for John McCain's 2008 presidential campaign, and waged an unsuccessful Senate campaign against Barbara Boxer, one of the most powerful Democrats in Congress.

The 62-year-old former Hewlett-Packard CEO announced her candidacy for president last May. Prior to the first debate, Fiorina had a disappointing 39% name recognition and 23% likability, and consistently polled between one and two percent.

After two impressive debate performances, Fiorina has skyrocketed to second place. According to a new CNN poll, she now has 15% Republican support while Donald Trump's poor debate performance has diminished his lead from 32% to 24%.

This new wave of support for Carly has inevitably drawn attacks from both the left and her opponents on the right.

Her political opponents have relentlessly attacked her record as CEO of HP.

At first glance, the numbers do not support Carly's claim of a successful business career. During her tenure as CEO, HP laid off nearly 30,000 workers and its stock tanked over 60%. Additionally, she faced widespread criticism for her \$19 billion acquisition of Compaq. In 2005, HP board member Tom Perkins fired Fiorina in a "board room brawl" and she received a \$21 million severance package.

Critics often overlook the economic climate during Fiorina's tenure. She led the company through the dotcom bubble. The NASDAQ Composite lost 80% of its value and has taken 15 years to recover. Those conditions would force any executive of a technology company to make tough cuts.

When questioned about her

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Putting Putin in His Place

By **SAM BENEVELLI**
GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

Last week, Russia thrust itself onto the stage of a complex international conflict when its forces began conducting airstrikes in the middle of ISIS-controlled territory. Dmitry Suslov, Deputy Director for Research at the Council on Foreign and Defense Policy, discussed the development in a lecture on Thursday sponsored by the Dean of Faculty, the Levitt Center, and the Government Department.

Suslov spoke about the development of a new multipolar world order in place of the unipolar system the United States has grown accustomed to since the end of the Cold War. Suslov argued that Russia is taking advantage of the diffusion of power to earn a higher spot in the international order.

While it is clear that Russia does not hold the highest position in the international order today, Suslov contended that Russia is a powerful pole in a multipolar system. Russia is not, however, a superpower. Rather, Russia is a marginal power that is trying to throw its weight around to stir up

This Week's News in 140 Characters

EDITORIAL REPORT



CJ Ciaramella @cjciaramella · Oct 3

If you want a picture of the future, imagine a finger wagging in a human face -- forever.

Dylan Matthews @dylanmatt

I want really high taxes on tobacco, alcohol, and sugar.
I want to ban human drivers ASAP.
And I want gun control.
It's not an either/or.

← 36 ★ 28 ...



TheModernMan @AceofSpadesHQ · Oct 1

#TheModernMan's Tumblr account is filled with both low-fat recipes and fat-positive memes, because Hashtag Complexity

← 19 ★ 23 ...



Will Antonin @Will_Antonin · Sep 29

Just a friendly reminder that most of the asinine political battles we have to fight today are because we ceded the classroom yesterday.

← 54 ★ 52 ...



Guy In Your MFA @GuyInYourMFA · Oct 2

Can I bum a smoke?

Oh this? No, this one is my behind-my-ear cigarette. It's not for smoking.

← 266 ★ 646 ...



Byron York @ByronYork · Sep 28

Huge changes Daily Show. New host: 'I'm less likely to skewer CNN or Fox and more to skewer Kim Davis and Mike Huckabee.' Very edgy.

← 74 ★ 86 ...



Dan McLaughlin @baseballcrank · 23h

If you don't believe laws mean what they said when they were written, you don't believe in meaning at all, only power.

← 54 ★ 63 ...

@ENQUIRY_AHI

PUTTING PUTIN IN HIS PLACE cont.

trouble.

In this case, a marginal power is defined as a country that is "not of central importance, limited in extent, significance or stature." While Suslov was correct in saying that Russia has tremendous influence in regional territories, Putin's inconsistent international doctrine does not allow Russia superpower status.

Russia is a marginal power that is trying to throw its weight around to stir up trouble.

One can observe Russia's regional importance in its interactions with Ukraine, Crimea, China, and now the Middle East. When viewed on a global scale, however, Russia does not have the economic capabilities or international military presence to pose a significant threat to the United States in the near future.

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Discrimination in Fair Housing?

By **ELIZABETH BARRY**
GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recently adopted a new definition of housing discrimination. In addition to prohibiting discrimination based on race, color, national origin, etc. the HUD's duty is to "affirmatively further fair housing goals." That means the question of fair housing is no longer one of actual discrimination, but rather one of disparate impact.

Instead of requiring specific evidence that someone was denied a house on the basis of his or her minority status, the inference of discrimination based on numbers alone is now enough for legal intervention. This shift in policy is in part due to a larger movement of affirmative action favored by

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record at HP at the recent CNN debate, Fiorina said, “Despite those difficult times, we doubled the size of the company, we quadrupled its top line growth rate, we quadrupled its cash flow, we tripled its rate of innovation.” She added, “We went from lagging behind to leading in every product category and every market segment.”

In August, a *New York Times* article reported that former HP board member Tom Perkins regretted his decision to fire Fiorina and argued that a dysfunctional board resulted in Fiorina’s termination. He praised Fiorina’s record at HP, saying, “not only did she save the company from the dire straits it was in, she laid the foundation for HP’s future growth.”

This election cycle, the Republican base appears to favor candidates lacking prior political experience. Trump, Fiorina, and Carson all lead in the polls. Although she has never held political office, Fiorina continues to capitalize on her “outsider” status. Fiorina has already captivated the GOP base in the last debate with her stance on Russia, criticism of Planned Parenthood, and her position on the Iran deal.

When she announced her candidacy, pundits dismissed her as inexperienced and unqualified. It’s still too early to predict the nominee, but if Carly continues to perform well on the campaign trail, America may elect its first woman president.

S. BENEVELLI cont.

According to the IMF, Russia currently stands as the 10th largest economy when measured in terms of nominal GDP. But in 2014, 110 Russians possessed 35 percent of all household wealth. That is, 0.0000007 percent of Russians control 35 percent of the country’s household wealth (and we talk about inequality in the United States). A country with such inequity and lack of investment diversification cannot compete when sharing borders with an economic power like China.

Russia’s international military presence further proves that it is a marginal power. With bases only in neighboring countries, Russia is not able to impose a consistent international will that can be enforced with military might.

Russia’s latest actions demonstrate that Putin is acting in his own interest, not to set an

international standard. Putin’s demonstration that he is willing to break international law like the United States is like a child swearing to show their parent they are grown up—it does little but annoy the parent.

As mentioned by Suslov and many writers on the subject, Russia is a military threat to the United States because it remains the only country that can physically annihilate us. However, Suslov also argued that mutually assured destruction helps stabilize the US-Russia relationship because neither country is willing to initiate an attack. Today, MAD is a steadying force rather than a cause of fear.

Russia, while a regional influence, is not to be feared as a rising global superpower. Unless Putin can present a consistent international policy, strengthen an unsteady economy, and earn the trust of his own people, he is nothing more than a peripheral power with a nuclear arsenal.

E. BARRY cont.

the Obama Administration.

Under Title VIII of the new HUD policy, known as Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH), all recipients of HUD funding are responsible for taking an active role in achieving integration within their communities. HUD counts housing policy as fair if and only if it is actively “reducing disparities by race, color, religion, sex, familial status, national origin, or disability.” Jurisdictions are legally required to create a list of impediments to integration in their communities, take action to overcome these issues, and record their progress in doing so.

As a result of the new HUD stipulations, several localities have faced, and continue to face, intense scrutiny. In one such case, the Anti-Discrimination Center of Metro New York sued Westchester County, a predominantly white upper-middle-class community in southeast New York, on the grounds that it denied housing to minority groups.

The county was never found guilty of discrimination of any kind. Nonetheless, a federal judge ruled that county officials had misrepresented Westchester’s fair-housing enforcement efforts. The judge threatened to fine Westchester County in excess of \$1 million if local officials did not approve funding for 750 low-income housing units, all

of which were to be located in 31 of its predominately white communities.

By forcing Westchester County to build these low-income housing units, the federal judge grossly overstepped the boundaries of federal power. The federal government has no business telling people where they can or cannot live.

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Free choice in the market for housing inevitably causes disparities among neighborhoods, but HUD should not intervene with a radical new take on how residential life in America should be organized.

To this point, Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino argues that “Washington-driven social engineering” threatens liberty, local zoning practices, and the suburban way of life. Astorino has gone as far as to ask if HUD would facilitate the breakdown of residential communities in Vermont or Maine for being too white, or destroy ethnic neighborhoods, such as Chinatown, on the basis that they are not diverse enough.

Although many Westchester residents agree with Astorino’s sentiments, those who are most vehemently opposed to building low-income housing units hail from former Secretary

of State Clinton’s hometown of Chappaqua.

Chappaqua residents fear that building low-income housing will not only lower property values, but also that it will have a negative effect on those who live in the low-income units. Low income families, thrust into a community like Chappaqua, run the risk of becoming social pariahs if they cannot afford to maintain the same lifestyle as the rest of the town’s residents.

Until recently, Chappaqua has been able to delay the building of these units by refusing to approve zoning variances.

A similar lawsuit recently occurred in Texas. An organization called the Inclusive Communities Project sued the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for allowing the creation of “segregated housing patterns by allocating too many tax credits to housing in predominantly black inner-city areas and too few in predominantly white suburban neighborhoods.” The Supreme Court eventually tried this case. On June 25, 2015, the Supreme Court sided with the Inclusive Communities Project in a 5-4 decision.

For now, the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing policy is here to stay and the residents of Chappaqua will have to prepare to welcome their new neighbors.

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