



# Ladies First

Chapter Excerpt from *WOMEN: America's Last Best Hope* by Kimberly Fletcher

I am not a fan of flying. In fact, the more I fly the more I realize I thoroughly despise flying. I am obviously not alone but the mode of travel is just too expedient to avoid. So we all come up with our own way of dealing with it. Some people drink themselves through their in-air experience. I go the Dramamine route.

A few years ago I had the opportunity to fly with my daughter Amber who was just over a week old. I had flown to Arizona to witness the miracle of her birth. Amber was a very exciting, unexpected addition to our family through the miracle of adoption.

As I settled into our seat, the flight attendant came to the front of the plane to go over the usual flight procedure information. This time, however, her words caught my attention. "If the oxygen masks are released and you are traveling with young children, put the mask on yourself first and then your child."

I suddenly looked up at the attendant. "Put *myself* first?" I thought. "How could I do *that*?"

I looked down at the precious little bundle that lay cradled in my arms. I couldn't stand the thought of anything happening to her. "Surely that isn't what the attendant meant," I rationalized in my mind. Of course, I had no intention of taking care of myself before my helpless baby.

As if to read my thoughts, the flight attendant looked at me and said, "It is imperative that you first place the oxygen mask on yourself and then your child. If you don't do so," she continued, "you may lose consciousness due to lack of oxygen yourself, and you will not be able to care for your infant." She was looking right at me when she said the last few words. Suddenly it made perfect sense. I wasn't being selfish putting myself first. I was being responsible. My sweet little baby relied completely on me. What if I wasn't there? I *needed* to take care of myself first, so I could be there to care for her.

It goes completely against our nature as women to put ourselves first, but sometimes we have to. If we don't put our health first we may not be around to care for our children. If we don't take the time to exercise and eat healthy we won't have the stamina we need to fulfill our responsibilities. And if we do not take the time to educate ourselves on our heritage, we can't

possibly expect to share it with our children. We can't teach our children how great America is if we don't even know ourselves.

For years I have been frustrated and deeply concerned about the distorted history our children are being taught in public schools. However, I had a very enlightening experience a few years ago when, after reading a book titled "Treason," I suddenly realized that I too had been deceived. The author of the book went to great lengths to collect data and provide detailed references based on historical fact, instead of the media fiction we often get in our history books. The book was extremely well referenced and thoroughly captivating but it was chapter five that really caught my attention.

Chapter five goes into great detail about Senator Joe McCarthy. For those of you who have somehow slipped by that indoctrination, Senator McCarthy has been blamed for single-handedly creating the Hollywood Blacklist in the 1950's when so many Hollywood actors, writers, and producers were accused of being Communist sympathizers and blacklisted from working. Even Lucille Ball was accused based simply on the fact that her husband was from Cuba. But she handled the matter with her usual class and flair and escaped the ax. There is a great movie with Jim Carey in an uncharacteristically serious role called "The Majestic" that deals with this subject.

Now, I want to pause here and make it clear that I am adamantly opposed to members of Congress acting like God and using their political muscle and scare tactics to intimidate American citizens for any reason—kind of like they are doing today with the IRS or American sports figures, but the fact is, that is not what Senator McCarthy did. I am, by the way, still trying to figure out why Congress has anything to do with sports franchises and why they are wasting tax payers' time and money interrogating baseball players. I am not at all pleased that national sports figures (who children look up to) are using drugs to enhance their performance but I just can't understand why Congress thinks they have anything to do with it and why we should be letting them. But, that's a discussion for another day. Back to the point at hand.

When I was in school the term "McCarthyism" was taught as a synonym for anyone who didn't believe in a person's right to free speech because, as I was taught, Senator McCarthy blacklisted hundreds of Hollywood actors for supporting Communism. The thing is, that never happened. Joseph McCarthy had nothing to do with the Hollywood Blacklist. Don't get me wrong, the Hollywood Blacklist did happen but it was members of the House who launched that fiasco. Though Senator McCarthy has been blamed for the whole thing in our history books, he had nothing to do with it. What he *did* do, however, was launch an investigation on Communist sympathizers in our own State Department who he stated were helping to shape our foreign policy. Surely you can see the danger of this. Having members of our own government helping the Communists in the 1950's was not in the best interest of our national security. Kind of like when Jimmy Carter flies to the Middle East and cavorts with known terrorists. As a private citizen former President Carter is just an annoying distraction when he does such anti-American things, but if he was a member of the State Department I would consider that an act of treason

and would expect Congress to do something about it. After all, the defense of our nation, unlike counting the steroid content in Roger Clemens' bloodstream, is the job of Congress.

In the Cold War, we couldn't afford to have members of the State Department sympathizing with the communist agenda and having secret talks about American policy behind closed doors. Senator McCarthy knew this and he knew the danger of Communism. He was well within his right to call an investigation. It was his *responsibility* and I would expect any member of Congress to do the same. I have read a lot more about Joseph McCarthy since reading *Treason* and I have come to admire and respect the man. He reminds me a lot of that courageous, humble servant in Spotsylvania Virginia who stood up for what he knew was right and was persecuted because of it. Joe McCarthy was made out to be a dunce, a boy crying wolf, and even worse—an enemy of the state. But he wasn't any of those things. He was an American Hero.

When I finished reading *Treason* I'll admit, I was steamed. All this time I had been angry about the lies my children were learning in history class and then I find out I was lied to as well? I suddenly started questioning everything I had been taught. I wasn't sure what was true and what wasn't. I thought about all those true and false tests I took in school and wondered if true was really true and false was really false. I had no idea. All I knew is what I was told but I wanted to know for myself. That is when I began to research, study and read in earnest to find the answers.

From 2000- 2004 I read everything I could get my hands on that had anything to do with American History. I also watched documentaries, read historic fiction, and talked to people who were first hand witnesses. Our older generations are a wealth of knowledge and information and they love to talk. In 2001, after making the decision to homeschool our children, I began an intense, in-depth study of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. I marveled at the things our Founding Fathers wrote in those remarkable documents. I kept searching and reading, hungering for more. It was absolutely astounding to me how much I learned in such a short time. But the more I learned, the more I realized how much I didn't know and that was very eye opening.

I think the greatest lesson I learned was that I still had so much to learn. Our Founding Fathers were so inspired. I understand that so much better after reading their words, letters, and documents. They knew what would happen to our nation if we did not remain vigilant. They knew that ignorance and apathy would be our downfall.

It has become much too easy for Congress to legislate and regulate our lives. It has become much too easy for the Judiciary to completely disregard our rights. And it has become much too easy for us to ignore it all. If we took the time to search our history and learn what our Founding Fathers had learned by studying thousands of years of governments that failed, you would know just how wise they really were. If you knew what they knew, you would never allow our elected leaders to rule over you and you certainly wouldn't give your rights away.

Benjamin Franklin said, “A nation of well informed men (and women) who have been taught to know and prize the rights which God has given them cannot be enslaved. It is in the region of ignorance that tyranny begins.”

Today, we are surrounded by tyranny. The very things our ancestors sacrificed so much to fight against are the very things we are tolerating and even accepting today. Just take a few minutes and read the Declaration of Independence. Read the grievances against King George. It will amaze you to see the similarities between Congress and King George. Our Founding Fathers and their families would never have tolerated what we have come to accept, and even embrace as “progress.” We are not *progressing*. We are *regressing*. But how can we know this when so many Americans have never even read the Declaration of Independence. Even more troubling, way too many Americans have never read the United States Constitution. And that is how so many usurpations of power can take place today. The government has power to rule over us because we don’t hold them accountable to their very limited powers which are clearly outlined in the United States Constitution. When we study the Constitution we suddenly realize just how simple the answers are to our complex problems.

The perfect example of this is the 17<sup>th</sup> Amendment. Millions of Americans are up in arms over the government healthcare bill and scrambling to figure out how to stop it. The simple answer is—repeal the 17<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

When our Founding Fathers constructed the Constitution, they created something completely unique. Not only were the people represented in the new government but so were the states themselves. The most heated battle of the convention was fought over the rights of the states. The smaller states felt if representatives to Congress were chosen by population their voice would be overshadowed and even crushed by the states with higher population. That is where the great compromise came in that created a form of government even the Founders were in awe of.

Under the compromise, each state would be represented in the House by population and voted on by the people. But in the Senate, each state would receive the same representation—two Senators, two equal votes, and they Senators would be appointed by the legislature because they were to represent the states in Congress. And that is how our government operated until 1913 when Congress decided to let the people vote on the Senators instead of state legislators and that was the beginning of the end of States Rights. Today, with the government mandated healthcare bill we see the consequences of thinking we know better than the Founding Fathers.

Within days of the federal healthcare amendment passing, twelve states filed lawsuits to stop the forced government run program in their state. They filed these law suits against the government but in actually they were filing them against their own Senators who were supposed to be representing their interests in Congress and instead, voted *against* their states!

So let’s think about this for a minute. If Senators were still appointed by the State Legislatures, then if they acted against the states the state legislature could remove them from office. So instead those twelve states filing lawsuits to stop healthcare, they would have just

made 24 phone calls to the Senators from their states and told them if they voted for that bill they would be fired and—voila—no government healthcare bill.

Allowing the people to vote for their senator may sound like a great idea, but the fact is, it has actually limited the voice of the people in each state not added to it. Our protection as citizens from an oppressive federal government *was* our state sovereignty. I mean seriously, how many of us feel like we can call our Senators on the phone and actually speak to them let alone get them to listen to us? We already know they aren't listening. We've gone to D.C. how many times? We've attended how many town halls, written how many letters, sent how many e-mails, made how many phone calls? It is obvious they are not listening to us, but what about our state representative or state senator? How easy is it for us to reach them?

That is the beauty of the Constitution. It keeps all government local. Our state representatives live and work in our communities. They are our neighbors. So, if our U.S. Senator suddenly decides he loves the healthcare bill, we just call up our state representative and tell him it's time to reign in Senator so and so and our state representative makes a call to the Senator—who takes the call because he knows his job in the hands of the state legislature and suddenly Senator so and so decides he isn't for national healthcare after all. Do you see how simple it is? If we don't know the Constitution, if we don't those limited powers contained in it, it is very easy for the government to step in and extend those powers beyond their limits. That is exactly what has happened in our country. We have forgotten who we are. We have forgotten the power of *We the People*. And that is what power hungry officials count on.

Our elected leaders, the Supreme Court, the judiciary, they *have* become wolves, just as Thomas Jefferson predicted. But it is *not* too late. We can still stop the wolves. And our greatest tool is information. For as Thomas Jefferson stated: "Enlighten the people, generally, and tyranny and oppressions of body and mind will vanish like spirits at the dawn of day." He further stated, "Whenever the people are well-informed, they can be trusted with their own government." Feminists, their many cohorts, and the myriad of power hungry, elitist officials running this country are desperately fighting to keep their control over our society. The last thing they want is an educated, well-informed citizenry. Ignorance is what keeps them in power and so far, it has worked.

I know most of you are just like me—women who are focused on our homes, our families, and often, a part-time or full-time job. It is an incredibly demanding life that keeps us extremely occupied. Even those of us who are stay-at-home moms don't just stay home all day. We are community volunteers, business owners, teachers, and full-time students. We are intelligent, patriotic, and concerned citizens of this country, but let's be honest, many of us are completely unaware of what goes on in Washington D.C. or even in our local communities.

How many of us know who won American Idol or Dancing with the Stars last year but cannot name our U.S. Congressman or Senator? You see what I mean? I think more of us know more about the life of Britney Spears than what goes on in our own city council meetings. But it isn't Britney Spears who will make the decision to convert your neighborhood into an industrial

park, so maybe we should pay attention to the city council now and then—attend a meeting every once in a while.

James Madison said, “A popular Government, without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a Prologue to a Farce or a Tragedy; or, perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance: And a people who mean to be their own Governors, must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives.”

And that, ladies, is why I started Homemakers for America. That is what it is all about—helping women arm themselves with the power of knowledge. It is so important that we take the time to be informed. We must know what the Constitution says. If we don’t, then tyranny will surely prevail. It is okay to put ourselves first every now and then. We need to educate ourselves first. We need to be informed. If we don’t, what kind of world will we be leaving our children? What kind of freedoms will be left to them? How much more corrupt will things become if we do not act now? We need to do this for our children.

So where do we start? We need to start at the beginning. The first thing I recommend is that you get a copy of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. You can find them both on the internet. You can get a free copy of a pocket Constitution through the Heritage Foundation and the National Center for Constitutional Studies offers them in bulk at a great price.

We *must* read our freedom documents. The Declaration of Independence is our founding document. The Constitution is the document that all our laws and our very form of government are based on. We, as citizens, must read these documents if we are to remain free. Thomas Jefferson stated, “If a nation expects to be ignorant — and free — in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be.”

We must begin with our freedom documents. We must study and understand them. There are so many amazing resources to help you in your study. The National Center for Constitutional Studies puts on some amazing one-day seminars on the Constitution called The Making of America Seminar. I highly recommend these seminars. You can get on their website to see where there is a seminar near you.

Brad Daccus, president of the Pacific Justice Institute, told me that if I could get women to read the Constitution of the United States they would already be more knowledgeable than most of the lawyers in this country. And I don’t doubt for a minute that is true since they don’t teach the Constitution in law school anymore—they teach you how to get around it using “case law.” So, please start with the basics—start with the Constitution.

The next thing I highly recommend is getting a copy of *The 5000 Year Leap*. It is an excellent book that simply and easily outlines the 28 Principles of Liberty our nation was founded on. It is a great place to start. Then, I would start reading books to your children. I highly recommend the Libraries of Hope and Yesterday’s Classics which are all reprints of books printed prior to 1930. They are great stories for the whole family and excellent addition to your Freedom Library.

I have also compiled a *Patriot's Reading List* which is included in the back of the book. It is a book list full of excellent books and resources that will help you gain a better knowledge and understanding of our history, heritage and the values and principles that made this nation great. They are books you can read yourself, books your children can read, and books you can read together with your children—my favorite kind.

These are things that will get you started on your quest for truth. But there is a price for this knowledge, you must be willing to leave all your preconceived notions and ideas behind and come in with an open mind. The truth is sometimes inconvenient, even painful, but if we are to make a difference, we must be armed with the truth. You may have to change your entire way of thinking, but in the end, I think you will find it was worth it and the knowledge you gain will be priceless.

Once you are equipped with this knowledge, you will gain a passion for this country and realize its divine greatness in a way you never have before. And that passion will spread through your home and influence your family. And that, ladies, is how we will take our country back—*One Woman and One Family* at a time. For as Abigail Adams so fittingly stated, “If we mean to have heroes, statesmen, and philosophers, we should have learned women.”

So, ladies, put yourselves first. When you educate yourself, you will influence an entire nation. The power is within you. It really is. That is why the National Organization for Women and their myriad of elitist cohorts have tried so hard to discredit, devalue, and deceive you. They know full well how important you are. They are completely aware of your influence. They don't want you to know the truth. If you do, their deception is exposed and they lose their power. N.O.W. and their cohorts have enslaved a nation of citizens with ignorance for forty years. It's time we break the chains, diminish their power and disrupt the hold they have on this country. *We* are the only ones who can.