

Weekly Current Events:      Posted: 10.18.21

Smith, Varsity Blues Trial and Conviction, CNBC [Part I \(3:06\)](#) and [Part II \(1:23\)](#)

1. What was the “Varsity Blues” scandal?
2. Who was the mastermind of the operation?
3. Have any of the accused conspirators plead guilty to this crime?
4. What was the “side door” entry method of college admissions in this story?
5. What crime are they accused of?
6. Do you believe that the parent(s) may have thought this was legal?
  
7. Did the post-trial verdict come easily?
8. What did the commenting attorney suggest for those facing the same charges?

[Sabet, “PA Cannabis . . . Dire Consequences,” RealClearPolitics.com.](#)

1. What’s this author’s overall point?
2. What state is considering legalizing marijuana and through what process?
3. How is cannabis of old different from cannabis of new?
4. What examples does he give of post-legalization problems or unexpected outcomes with marijuana?
5. What change in marijuana policy does he suggest might be OK?
6. Who is the author, what is unique in his experience?
7. Do you agree or disagree with the author? Why?

[Aleem, “Trump telling Republicans not to vote . . . GOP nightmare,” MSNBC.com, 10.14.21.](#)

1. What is former president Trump doing? Why?
2. How does the author characterize Trump’s actions?
3. Name one false claim regarding accusations of election fraud.
4. Why is the boycott of an election an odd strategy?
5. What is the author suggesting when he says Trump’s discouraging mail-in voting in 2020 “caused a huge partisan gap in mail-in ballots”?
6. Did the author provide evidence and proof of his claims?