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Made in America Panel Cheers the Resurgence of the American Entrepreneur

The resurgence of entrepreneurship, the promise by Bernie Sanders that everyone in America will have a job, and the future of Iranian/American relations were among the topics tackled by host Neal Asbury, co-host Dr. Rich Roffman, and a panel of experts on the nationally syndicated "Neal Asbury's Made in America" show on Radio America (aired by almost 100 affiliates and by the Armed Forces Network).

Neal and Dr. Roffman began the show by recalling Bernie Sanders' recent claim that he would guarantee a job for everyone in America with an hourly wage of \$12-\$15 an hour.

Dr. Roffman quipped that Bernie stopped short of promising everyone a puppy and a role in a Broadway musical.

The discussion segued to the news that entrepreneurship is on the rise again and with it comes good paying jobs.

The first guest on Made in America was Raymond J. Keating, chief economist for the Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council, who proposed that since mid-2017, there has been a steady increase in new businesses and start-ups. With it has come a growth in optimism -- a welcome change over the Obama years.

Keating noted that a promising indication of the importance of entrepreneurs is that a recent Gallup Poll revealed that the military and entrepreneurs are the most respected occupations in America.

"With the reduction of taxes and regulations under Trump, it has spurred the growth of entrepreneurship. A surprise is the growth of older adult entrepreneurs. Yet, the employment number among people 25-45 is still problematic. And there are still too many people that have dropped out of the workforce," according to Keating.

Neal suggested that the solution is not Bernie Sanders' socialist idea to give everyone in America a job.

Neal and Dr. Roffman segued to a discussion of the rise of the "Nanny State" in California, which has mandated that all new homes must contain solar panels.

"It's going to cost \$10,000 per home, and the wacky part is that the solar panels are owned by the original homeowner, and does not transfer to a new buyer. And then in Seattle, which just passed a ruling that mandates that employers must pay 26 cents per employee when companies hit a certain income threshold. Amazon, headquartered in Seattle, which could be forced to pay \$21 million in additional taxes, recently announced that they are relocating a proposed new building due to the new taxation

system. It's only a matter of time before there is a revolt against the crazies that come up with these ideas," maintained Dr. Roffman.

Neal reminded listeners that unemployment is at its lowest level since 1976, and entrepreneurs are heartened by the recovered economy and are willing again to risk starting a new business.

Dr. Roffman weighed in on the significant power of millennials as a voting bloc, which has been wooed by the Bernie Sanders promise of jobs and benefits for everyone.

The next guest on Made in America was Lowell Ponte, whose piece "Redefining Humankind: The Left's Quest for a Head Tax on Robots," suggests that socialists and scientists now declare that a new Eden, a Heaven on Earth, is arriving. "All of us can soon live sweat-free on easy low-hanging fruit from the welfare-state tree in the center of the government's garden."

He proposed that Vermont's self-described socialist Senator Bernie Sanders, would guarantee a government job paying at least \$12-15 an hour plus health benefits to anyone in America who "needs or wants one."

"This would do more than cost taxpayers hundreds of billions of dollars annually. It would devastate consumers by prompting millions of minimum-wage employees to quit working, instead relying on the government, which might send the cost of hamburgers and thousands of other items skyrocketing. Minimum-wage employers would be forced to automate, further shrinking the private sector and the traditional ladder to work and achievement. Even more will become dependent on government make-work jobs. And they will vote for the political party of ever expanding government," according to Ponte, who added that when 81 cents of all welfare payments goes to the middleman instead of to the poor, so by reducing welfare payments, it would mean more money for everyone.

Despite Bernie's unworkable scenario, Neal cautioned listeners that Bernie won 23 states in the 2016 primary, and is still a favorite of millennials.

The final guest on Made in America was David Harsanyi, a senior editor at The Federalist and a nationally syndicated columnist and author of three books, who has written that Trump was right to blow up the Iran deal.

"Like most of Barack Obama's legacy, the Iran Deal was brittle and unsustainable because it was undertaken unilaterally. Even with the creation of a media echo chamber and the ugly, relentless attacks on critics, the former president was unable to pull

together a consensus. The Obama administration circumvented that accountability. For that reason alone, it's a good thing Trump nixed the deal. Even as John Kerry was acquiescing to one Iranian demand after the next, a number of senators explained to the despots in Tehran that such a deal could be easily scuttled," opined Harsanyi.

Neal and Dr. Roffman gave kudos to Trump for demonstrating that he is willing to stand up to Iran -- a message that won't be lost on North Korea.

Hasanyi noted that the Iran deal hasn't really gotten traction among the American people, but they should appreciate the initiative that could prevent a nuclear war.

"To tell the truth, most Americans don't really care what the Germans or English think about the U.S. And it is absurd for some pundits to predict that the U.K. will cozy up to Iran and ignore the U.S.," maintained Hasanyi.

Neal and Dr. Roffman ended the show by continuing the discussion of the Korean War, which started in 1953 and still hasn't officially ended. In fact, this conflict is known as the "forgotten war." Some 50,000 Americans died in the Korean War and there are still some 10,000 American military members guarding South Korea against a North Korean invasion.

"North Korea still has the third largest Army in the world, but South Korea has been able to weather the threat and turn the country into a world economic power. If Trump pulls off this agreement with North Korea it will be one of the great achievements over the past 100 years," according to Neal.

Dr. Roffman agreed, taking the media to task for ignoring Trump's achievements negotiating with Iran and North Korea.

"Trump delivers on what he promises. And he won't back down," concluded Dr. Roffman.

Each week Neal Asbury's Made in America provides Neal's insights into the week's top news stories and their impact on the worlds of entrepreneurship, small business ownership and the overall economy. Neal's analysis, together with co-host Dr. Richard Roffman, a veteran 30-year publisher with extensive domestic and international experience, takes a non-biased approach based on real life experience in business as an American manufacturer and exporter. Made in America airs nationally each Saturday from 7-8:00 PM on Radio America. Link to Made in America at <http://www.nealasburysmadeinamerica.com>.



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