

The 100 Hour War

George Will, the conservative columnist at the Washington Post, does not believe America needs a raise. He believes that “the minimum wage should be the same everywhere: \$0.”

“Labor is a commodity,” writes Will, “governments make messes when they decree commodities’ prices. Washington, which has its hands full delivering the mail and defending the shores, should let the market do well what Washington does poorly.”

Will backed up his conclusions with a cascade of nonsense, arguing that “America’s wage earners earning the minimum wage are not poor;” and that more than half of the 1.9 million American who earn the minimum wage are under age 25 and a quarter are between the ages of 16 and 19.

But Will’s most idiotic reason for opposing an increase in the minimum wage is that it will increase the high school dropout rate. He cites two unnamed “scholars” who claim a 10 percent increase in the state minimum wage caused teenage enrollment to drop by 2 percent.

What George Will really hates is that raising the minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$7.25 is a key feature of the new Democratic Congress’ agenda and marks the end of 12 years of Republican rule in Washington.

Will’s attack is the opening shot of the 100 Hour War. It was not a rational attack, just a reflexive one. Conservatives detest the simple fact that, in America, the people rule.

During the first 100 hours of legislative action, you can remind lawmakers that only losers listen to the ramblings of George Will. Log on to www.goiam.org to make your opinion heard above the braying of Corporate America’s apologists.

