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Question1: Hello:

My name is Carlin Lawrence, I am 65 years old, and my wife, Sandra, is 61 years old and we farm about 400 acres of land. We are in good health and do most of our own farming.

When I read about young and middle-aged farmers wanting to take away the rights of older farmers and landowners, it makes me think about what happened to the Jewish people in Germany in the late 30s and 40s. Maybe it is time that the young people do what we did, we worked hard and paid the fair market value for our land.

As far as the crop base that is on a farm, most of us built this base up over a period of several years. And if we want to let the land rest for a year or two, what is wrong with that?

According to the law, the renting farmer gets all of the crop base payments, both Direct and counter-cyclical payments. So what is wrong with the land owner raising the rent a little to help him or her pay the ever-rising land taxes, irrigation and pivot expenses, fences, and so many other things that are an expense to the land owner.

If we live in a so-called "free society," then why are the older workers and farmers being discriminated against by our society and the government? And why do young men and women think they deserve special treatment?

And don't tell me about serving our country, I spent 4 years in the military, and over fifty of the men I served with were killed.

For many older farmers, the land they own is the only retirement fund they have, and now some wannabe farmer is wanting to take it away from us. How disgraceful can a person get?

And, a message to the young wannabe farmers: Hopefully, you will grow old someday, how do you want to be treated? Do you want the government to take away your retirement and give it to a young wannabe farmer?

Carlin Lawrence

Question2:  
Question3:  
Question4:  
Question5:  
Question6: