



Financial Crisis Report

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2021

Advancing in a Time of Crisis

Words of Wisdom: "It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God such men lived." General George S. Patton

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PROUD TO BE A VETERAN



To understand a Military Veteran you must know:

We left home as teenagers or in our early twenties for an unknown adventure.

We loved our country enough to defend it and protect it with our own lives.

We said goodbye to friends and family and everything we knew.

We learned the basics and then we scattered in the wind to the far corners of the Earth.

We found new friends and new family.

We became brothers and sisters regardless of color, race or creed.

We had plenty of good times, and plenty of bad times.

We didn't get enough sleep.

We smoked and drank too much.

We picked up both good and bad habits. We worked hard and played harder.

We didn't earn a great wage.

We experienced the happiness of mail call and the sadness of missing important events.

We didn't know when, or even if, we were ever going to see home again.

We grew up fast, and yet somehow, we never grew up at all.

We fought for our freedom, as well as the freedom of others.

Some of us saw actual combat, and some of us didn't.

Some of us saw the world, and some of us didn't.

Some of us dealt with physical warfare, most of us dealt with psychological warfare.

We have seen and experienced and dealt with things that we can't fully describe or explain, as not all of our sacrifices were physical.

We participated in time honored ceremonies and rituals with each other, strengthening our bonds and camaraderie.

We counted on each other to get our job done and sometimes to survive it at all.

We have dealt with victory and tragedy.

We have celebrated and mourned.

We lost a few along the way.

When our adventure was over, some of us went back home, some of us started somewhere new and some of us never came home at all.

We have told amazing and hilarious stories of our exploits and adventures.

We share an unspoken bond with each other, that most people don't experience, and few will understand.

We speak highly of our own branch of service, and poke fun at the other branches.

We know however, that, if needed, we will be there for our brothers and sisters and stand together as one, in a heartbeat.

Being a Veteran is something that had to be

We are experiencing the most economically unstable period and socially erratic period in the history of the modern world. This period will be marked with extreme fluctuations in the stock, commodity and currency markets accompanied by severe and sometimes violent and deadly social disruptions including historic pandemics, conflicts, wars, riots and even regime changing coups. As is typical of such times, many fortunes will be both made and lost during this period. After talking with many business owners, executives, professionals, scholars and government officials from around the world, the writer believes that for the financially astute investor, this is a time of unprecedented opportunity given the global trade unbalances and distortions in the commodity and currency markets that exists. The Financial Crisis Report is a free compilation of the opinions of David Miyoshi as well as of those advisors he himself subscribes to (with appropriate credits given) on how to benefit during this historic time of crisis. The writer receives no compensation of any kind from any advisors whose articles or ideas may appear in this report. The reader is welcomed to check on all sources of information mentioned herein. Because the opinions and observations of this writer and other advisors are provided herein without charge, the reader is asked to make his/her own judgment on the contents.

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earned, and it can never be taken away.

It has no monetary value, but at the same time it is a priceless gift.

People see a Veteran and they thank them for their service.

When we see each other, we give that little upwards head nod, or a slight smile, knowing that we have shared and experienced things that most people have not.

So, from myself to the rest of the veterans out there, I commend and thank you all that you have done and sacrificed for our country.

Try to remember the good times and make peace with the bad times.

Share your stories.

But most importantly, stand tall and proud, for you have earned the right to be called a VETERAN.

I'M PROUD TO BE A VETERAN!

HAPPY VETERANS DAY!

D. Miyoshi

Why are we trying to reduce carbon emissions?

More people will ask this question after they read this report in Wikipedia written by a professor of Geology. D. Miyoshi



"Ian Rutherford Plimer is an Australian geologist, professor

emeritus of earth sciences at the University of Melbourne, professor of mining geology at the University of Adelaide, and the director of multiple mineral exploration and mining companies.

He has published 130 scientific papers, six books and edited the Encyclopedia of Geology.

Where Does the Carbon Dioxide Really Come From?

Professor Ian Plimer could not have said it better!

If you've read his book you will agree; this is a good summary.

PLIMER: "Okay, here's the bombshell. The volcanic eruption in Iceland. Since its first spewing of volcanic ash has, in just **FOUR DAYS, NEGATED EVERY SINGLE EFFORT** you have made in the past five years to control CO2 emissions on our planet - all of you.

Of course, you know about this evil carbon dioxide that we are trying to suppress - its that vital chemical compound that every plant requires to live and grow and to synthesize into oxygen for us humans and all animal life.

I know....it's very disheartening to realize that all of the carbon emission savings you have accomplished while suffering the inconvenience and expense of driving Prius hybrids, buying fabric grocery bags, sitting up till midnight to finish your kids "The Green Revolution" science project, throwing out all of your non-green cleaning supplies, using only two squares of toilet paper, putting a brick in your toilet tank reservoir, selling your SUV and speedboat, vacationing at home instead of abroad, nearly getting hit every day on your bicycle, replacing all of your 50 cent light bulbs with \$10.00 light bulbs..... well, all of those things you have done have all gone down the tubes in just four days.

The volcanic ash emitted into the Earth's atmosphere in just four days - yes, **FOUR DAYS** - by that volcano in Iceland which has totally erased every single effort you have made to reduce the evil beast, carbon. And there are around 200 active volcanoes on the planet spewing out this crud at any one time - **EVERY DAY**.

I don't really want to rain on your parade too much, but I should mention that when the volcano Mt. Pinatubo erupted in the Philippines in 1991, it spewed out more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere than the entire human race had emitted in all its years on earth.

Yes, folks, Mt. Pinatubo was active for over one year - think about it.

Of course, I shouldn't spoil this 'touchy-feely tree-hugging' moment and mention the effect of solar and cosmic activity and the well-recognized 800-year global heating and cooling cycle, which keeps happening despite our completely insignificant efforts to affect climate change.

And I do wish I had a silver lining to this volcanic ash cloud, but the fact of the matter is that the bush fire season across the western USA and Australia this year alone will negate your efforts to reduce carbon in our world for the next two to three years. And it happens every year. Just remember that your government just tried to impose a whopping carbon tax on you, on the basis of the

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bogus 'human-caused' climate-change scenario.

Hey, isn't it interesting how they don't mention 'Global Warming' anymore, but just "Climate Change" - you know why?

It's because the planet has COOLED by 0.7 degrees in the past century and these global warming bull**** artists got caught with their pants down. And, just keep in mind that you might yet be stuck with an Emissions Trading Scheme - that whopping new tax - imposed on you that will achieve absolutely nothing except make you poorer.

It won't stop any volcanoes from erupting, that's for sure.

End of Report

Writer:

Ian Rutherford Plimer

Born 12 February 1946

Residence Australia

Nationality Australian

Fields Earth Science, Geology, Mining Engineering

Institutions University of New England, University of Newcastle, University of Melbourne, University of Adelaide

Alma mater

University of New South Wales, Macquarie University

Thesis

The pipe deposits of tungsten-molybdenum-bismuth in eastern Australia (1976)

Notable awards Eureka Prize (1995, 2002), Centenary Medal (2003), Clarke Medal

(2004)

Source. Wikipedia"

Why Capitalism is Good

John Stossel has won 19 Emmys for his journalistic expertise and is the former host of Fox Business' Stossel and ABC's 20/20. He's also authored several best-sellers, including his most recent book, *Give Me a Break: How I Exposed Hucksters, Cheats, and Scam Artists and Became the Scourge of the Liberal Media*.

Below is a great article by John Stossel that appeared recently in *American Consequences* published by Stansberry Research. I recreate it here for your reading consideration. D. Miyoshi



Capitalism Makes Us Better Off

Everywhere, people trash capitalism.

But what they think they know about capitalism is usually wrong.

My new video debunks some myths about capitalism.

"No one ever makes a billion dollars," complains Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. "You take a billion dollars." In other words, capitalists get rich by taking money from others.

That's nonsense, and Myth No. 1.

People believe that myth if they think that when one person wins, someone else must lose. It's natural to believe that if you think there is a finite amount of money in the world. But there isn't.

Free markets increase total wealth. Competition encourages entrepreneurs to find new ways to release more value from both people and resources.

Because capitalism is voluntary and consumers have choices, the only way capitalists can get rich is to offer us something that we believe is better than what we had before.

That creates new wealth.

Steve Jobs became a billionaire. But by creating Apple, he gave us more: millions of jobs and billions of dollars added to our economy.

Research shows that entrepreneurs only keep 2.2% of the additional wealth they generate. "In other words, the rest of us captured almost 98% of the benefits," says economist Dan Mitchell of the Center for Freedom and Prosperity.

"I hope that we get 100 new super billionaires," he adds, "Because that means 100 new people have figured out ways to make the rest of our lives better off."

But former Labor Secretary Robert Reich says we should "abolish billionaires." He wants some form of wealth tax to hold their wealth down. "Entrepreneurs like Jeff Bezos would be just as motivated by \$100 million or even \$50 million," Reich



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claims.

But Mitchell points out that if their income is limited, "Maybe they just take it easy... retire... sail a yacht around the world... consuming instead of saving and producing."

I want them saving and producing! Billionaires have shown that they're good at cutting prices or improving products or both.

As Mitchell puts it, "I'm not giving Jeff Bezos any money unless he's selling me something that I value more than that money."

Even if they don't – even if they run out of ideas – their wealth is useful.

One reader called me "a complete moron" for saying that. He argues that "more money in the richest hands means money sitting in the bank doing nothing."

But that's an ignorant view of banks. Because banks loan that money out, they enable other people to buy homes, start new businesses and get educated.

Abolish Billionaires? How About Abolishing Poverty?

Still, I hear that "the rich are getting richer, while the poor get poorer!"

That's Myth No. 2. Yes, the rich got lots richer, but the poor and middle class got richer, too.

"The economic pie grows," says Mitchell. "We are much richer than our grandparents, and our grandparents were much richer than their grandparents."

For thousands of years, the world had almost no wealth creation. Only when some countries tried capitalism did gross domestic product grow.

Capitalists helped everyone, including the poor.

The media suggest that today's wealth gap proves that's no longer true. But they are wrong. Capitalism's gradual progress continues. Census Bureau data shows that the average family today is almost a third richer than 40 years ago (yes, adjusted for inflation).

The media also say, "The middle class is in decline."

It's true, Mitchell points out. "It's shrinking because more people move into upper-income quintiles! The rich get richer in a capitalist society. But guess what? The rest of us get richer as well."

Myth No. 4: Capitalism creates unsafe workspaces.

"Greedy capitalists" will risk workers' lives to increase production if government, through agencies such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OSHA") doesn't stop that.

It's logical to assume that government regulation saves lives. Workplace deaths dropped after the OSHA was created. Government officials like showing a graph of the decline.

But if you bother to also look at data from before the OSHA's

creation, you see that deaths fell at the same rate before regulation began! Why?

"As we become richer, we become safer," says Mitchell.

Wealth created by capitalism lets us afford safety devices and build machines to do dangerous work. The OSHA is like someone jumping in front of a parade and claiming he led the parade.

"We need more capitalism because when people get rich, they can afford more safety!" adds Mitchell.

The Rockefeller Model

Myth No. 5: "Unfettered" capitalism created evil "robber barons" who got rich by "exploiting" workers and consumers.

It's true that more than 100 years ago, a few entrepreneurs, such as John D. Rockefeller, amassed a huge amount of wealth.

But Rockefeller was neither a robber nor a baron. He was not born rich, and he didn't rob. He got rich by offering consumers better deals.

Rockefeller developed ways to deliver oil for less. He won customers by lowering the price of kerosene from 26 cents per gallon to about 6 cents.

For the first time, average people could afford fuel for lanterns so they could read after dark. Rockefeller may have even "saved the whales" by making oil so cheap that killing whales to get whale oil was no longer practical.

His competitors hated him for cutting prices. It was they who convinced the gullible media to call Rockefeller and other entrepreneurs "robber barons."

Cornelius Vanderbilt was also born poor. At age 11, he quit school to work on boats.

Then, he invented ways to make travel cheaper. He cut the New York-Hartford fare from \$5 to \$1.

Because of capitalists like them, Mitchell points out, "We went from agricultural poverty to a country characterized by middle-class prosperity."

Still, I'm told that even if capitalism brings us cheaper or better products, it just isn't "good for us."

That's Myth No. 6.

Of course, capitalism can breed nasty materialism. Fox News' Tucker Carlson sneers, "Does anybody believe cheaper iPhones or more Amazon deliveries of plastic garbage from China will make us happy?"

Mitchell responds, "We're not buying iPhones and plastic garbage unless we think it's better for us than the dollars that we have!"

That's a very important point. No capitalist gets our money unless we voluntarily choose to exchange it for whatever he's selling. As Mitchell puts it, "Capitalism is the only system that gives



The Terrifying Vision of a One World Government

people the liberty to make their own choices."

Myth No. 7: Capitalism's pursuit of profit drives businesses to create robots that will eventually take away most everyone's job.

It could happen. Artificial intelligence is powerful. Maybe this time is different.

But again and again, experts predicted that employment was about to decline – and again and again, they've been wrong.

Some people do lose jobs. Capitalism promotes creative destruction.

It's terrible for the fired employee.

But it's good for most everyone else. It's what allows for innovation.

Mitchell points out, "The computer destroyed the typewriter builder's job, electricity took candlemakers' jobs," but those jobs were soon replaced with better ones.

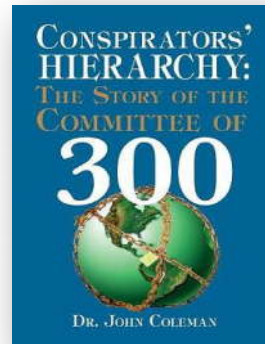
Capitalism has continually generated more jobs. When America began, 90% of workers worked on farms. Now, fewer than 2% do. And there are millions more of us.

"As long as our economy has the dynamism that free markets allow," says Mitchell, "we're going to see more job creation and higher income levels. That's what makes the children and grandchildren of typewriter makers so much better off. No other system anywhere in the world has ever come close to capitalism's ability to generate mass prosperity."

End of article

The Terrifying Vision of a One World Government

The world population is currently a little over 5 billion. In 1993, John Coleman, a former agent MI-6 Intelligence Analyst and whistleblower published a book entitled "*Conspirators' Hierarchy: The Story of the Committee of 300*." I thought I would provide some excerpts from the book here. It's a terrifying vision of a one world government. It's not a comforting read but like a dark science fiction movie, it offers tinges of truth. D. Miyoshi



"At least 4 billion "useless eaters" shall be eliminated by the year 2050 by means of limited wars, organized epidemics of fatal rapid-acting diseases and starvation. Energy, food and water shall be kept at subsistence levels for the non-elite, starting with the White populations of Western Europe and North America and then spreading to other races.

The population of Canada, Western Europe and the United States will be decimated more rapidly than on other continents, until the world's population reaches a manageable level of 1 billion, of which 500 million will consist of Chinese and Japanese races, selected because they are people who have been regimented for centuries and who are accustomed to obeying authority without question."

There are many conspiracy theories that circulate today about how groups such as the Council on Foreign Relations, the Trilateral Commission, the Bilderberg Group, the European Union, the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, Bohemian Grove, Le Cercle and Yale University society Skull and Bones plan to take over the world.

On June 22, 2021 the following article appeared on the website henrymakow.com. John Coleman wrote the following.

"To the people who own and run the planet, humanity has become a dead-weight except as servants and sex slaves. The end game for Covid is a return to feudalism where a mere billion people will serve the super-rich."

"The non-elite masses will be reduced to the level and behavior of controlled animals with no will of their own and easily regimented and controlled."

"Marriage shall be outlawed and there shall be no family life as we know it. Children will be removed from their parents at an early-age and brought up by wards as state property."

A pandemic with a minuscule death rate is not a pandemic.

People lining up to get vaccinated are lemmings throwing them-



The Terrifying Vision of a One World Government

selves into a gorge.

We hardly see anyone sneezing any more yet we're supposed to believe this is a pandemic?

We're passengers on the Titanic, drinking, dancing and fornicating while the ship sinks.

The Goal is a One World Government and one-unit monetary system under permanent non-elected hereditary oligarchists who self-select from among their numbers in the form of a feudal system as it was in the Middle Ages.

In this One World entity, population will be limited by restrictions on the number of children per family, diseases, wars, famines, until 1 billion people who are useful to the ruling class, in areas which will be strictly and clearly defined, remain as the total world population.

There will be no middle class, only rulers and servants. All laws will be uniform under a legal system of world courts practicing the same unified code of laws, backed up by a One World Government police force and a One-World unified military to enforce laws in all former countries where no national boundaries shall exist.

The system will be on the basis of a welfare state; those who are obedient and subservient to the One World Government will be rewarded with the means to live; those who are rebellious will simply be starved to death or be declared outlaws, thus a target for anyone who wishes to kill them. Privately-owned firearms or weapons of any kind will be prohibited.

Only one religion will be allowed and that will be in the form of a One World Government Church, which has been in existence since 1920 as we shall see. Satanism, Luciferianism and Witchcraft shall be recognized as legitimate One World Government curricula with no private or church schools.

All Christian churches have already been subverted and Christianity will be a thing of the past in the One World Government. To induce a state where there is no individual freedom or any concept of liberty surviving, there shall be no such thing as republicanism, sovereignty or rights residing with the people. National pride and racial identity shall be stamped out and in the transition phase it shall be subject to the severest penalties to even mention one's racial origin.

Each person shall be fully indoctrinated that he or she is a creature of the One World Government with an identification number clearly marked on their person so as to be readily accessible, which identifying number shall be in the master file of the NATO computer in Brussels, Belgium, subject to instant retrieval by any agency of the One World Government at any time.

The master Files of the CIA, FBI, state and local police agencies, IRS, FEMA, Social Security shall be vastly expanded and form the

basis of personal records of all individuals in the United States.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

Marriage shall be outlawed and there shall be no family life as we know it. Children will be removed from their parents at an early-age and brought up by wards as state property. Such an experiment was carried out in East Germany under Erich Honnecker when children were taken away from parents considered by the state to be disloyal citizens.

Women will be degraded through the continued process of "women's liberation" movements. Free sex shall be mandatory. Failure to comply at least once by the age of 20 shall be punishable by severe reprisals against her person. Self-abortion shall be taught and practiced after two children are born to a woman; such records shall be contained in the personal file of each woman in the One World Government's regional computers.

If a woman falls pregnant after she has previously given birth to two children, she shall be forcibly removed to an abortion clinic for such an abortion and sterilization to be carried out. Pornography shall be promoted and be compulsory showing in every theater of cinema, including homosexual and lesbian pornography.

DRUGS, MIGRATION, SILVER, BANKS

The use of "recreational" drugs shall be compulsory, with each person allotted drug quotas which can be purchased at One World Government stores throughout the world. Mind control drugs will be expanded and usage become compulsory. Such mind control drugs shall be given in food and/or water supplies without the knowledge and/or consent of the people.

Drug bars shall be set up, run by One World Government employees, where the slave-class shall be able to spend their free time. In this manner the non-elite masses will be reduced to the level and behavior of controlled animals with no will of their own and easily regimented and controlled.

The economic system shall be based upon the ruling oligar-ethical class allowing just enough foods and services to be produced to keep the mass slave labor camps going. All wealth shall be aggregated in the hands of the elite members of the Committee of 300.

Each individual shall be indoctrinated to understand that he or she is totally dependent upon the state for survival.... Only the Committee of 300 members and their elitists shall have the right to any of the earth's resources. Agriculture shall be solely in the hands of the Committee of 300 with food production strictly controlled.



America is losing its Manifest Destiny



As these measures begin to take effect, large populations in the cities shall be forcibly removed to remote areas and those who refuse to go shall be exterminated in the manner of the One World Government experiment carried out by Pol Pot in Cambodia. Euthanasia for the terminally ill and the aged shall be compulsory. No cities shall be larger than a predetermined number as described in the work of Kalgeri.

Essential workers will be moved to other cities if the one they are in becomes overpopulated. Other non-essential workers will be chosen at random and sent to underpopulated cities to fill "quotas." ...

From time to time there shall be artificially contrived food and water shortages and medical care to remind the masses that their very existence depends on the goodwill of the Committee of 300. After the destruction of housing, auto, steel and heavy goods industries, there shall be limited housing, and industries of any kind allowed to remain shall be under the direction of NATO's Club of Rome as shall all scientific and space exploration development, limited to the elite under the control of the Committee of 300...

The United States will be flooded by peoples of alien cultures who will eventually overwhelm white America, people with no concept of what the United States Constitution stands for and who will, in consequence, do nothing to defend it, and in whose minds the concept of liberty and justice is so weak as to matter little. Food and shelter shall be the main concern.

No central bank save the Bank of International Settlement and the World Bank shall be allowed to operate.

Private banks will be outlawed. Remuneration for work performed shall be under a uniform predetermined scale throughout the One World Government. There shall be no wage disputes allowed, nor any diversion from the standard uniform scales of pay laid down by the One World Government.

Those who break the law will be instantly executed. There shall be no cash or coinage in the hands of the non-elite. All transactions

shall be carried out by means of a debit card which shall bear the identification number of the holder.

Any person who in any way infringes the rules and regulations of the Committee of 300 shall have the use of his or her card suspended for varying times according to the nature and severity of the infringement. Such persons will find, when they go to make purchases, that their card is blacklisted and they will not be able to obtain services of any kind.

Attempts to trade "old" coins, that is to say silver coins of previous and now defunct nations, shall be treated as a capital crime subject to the death penalty. All such coinage shall be required to be surrendered within a given time along with guns, rifles, explosives and automobiles. Only the elite and One World Government high-ranking functionaries will be allowed private transport, weapons, coinage and automobiles....

Ethnic and religious differences shall be magnified and exacerbated and violent conflict as a means of "settling" their differences shall be encouraged and fostered. All information services and print media shall be under the control of the One World Government. Regular brainwashing control measures shall be passed off as "entertainment" in the manner in which it was practiced and became a fine art in the United States. Youths removed from "disloyal parents," shall receive special education designed to brutalize them. Youth of both sexes shall receive training to qualify as prison guards for the One World labor camp system.

End of a very creepy synopsis

America is losing its Manifest Destiny



The following article was written by Joel Hilliker. It appeared in the Christian publication *the Trumpet* on Sept 24, 2021. The article gives a searing insight into why today America is losing its sense of Manifest Destiny in the world and the hope that remains for us as Christian believers in the Lord. I recreate the article here for your reading consideration. D. Miyoshi

America is losing its Manifest Destiny

Why America Really Failed in Afghanistan

There is a host of reasons for America's humiliation in Afghanistan. At its core, though, the problem was spiritual.



A mother and her children wait among discarded trash near the Abbey Gate at the Kabul airport, where Afghans watched their last hopes fly away. MARCUS YAM/LOS ANGELES TIMES/GETTY IMAGES

The shameful departure from Afghanistan was agonizing for Americans. It was embarrassing to flee from a menagerie of Third World terrorists. It was humiliating to receive an evacuation deadline from the Taliban—and for the White House to weakly submit. It was insulting to hear the barefaced lies from this administration: that other nations support our withdrawal, that Americans had no trouble reaching the airport, that the Taliban have reformed, that al Qaeda is no longer a threat, that we accomplished our mission. It was painful to watch enemy nations gloat over America's hasty and ugly retreat.

Americans are ashamed and angry at how this was handled. But the truth is, even Joe Biden's political foes agree with him on the basic premise: that we needed to get out. With Americans today, stationing troops in foreign countries is not popular.

This wasn't so in previous generations. After World War II, the United States established a military presence in 3 out of every 4 countries on the planet. The most widely deployed nation in history, it oversaw Pax Americana—the relative world peace that has prevailed in the Western world since World War II. There have been no full-scale wars between major powers. The number of battle deaths per capita has been at a historic low.

Demands to withdraw from Bagram, Kandahar and Helmand province have been far more strident than they have been to bring our boys home from Okinawa and Iwakuni, Ramstein and Bavaria, Kunshan and Osan, Incirlik, Stavanger, Guantanamo, or any other of the more than a thousand American bases, forts, annexes, installations, embassies and missions worldwide. But the trend line is clear. A growing number of Americans don't really see the purpose in standing watch on foreign soil.

It's not difficult to understand why. We are filling our public education curricula with the toxic message that the nation was founded on genocide, built by slavery, and sustained by racism and oppression. Many Americans disagree, but the "enlightened" masses emerging from our universities and filling our bureaucracies, legislatures, corporate offices and newsrooms view the notion that American influence could be positive as egotistical and imperious. In their values-relative world, who's to say that the Taliban are any less deserving of sovereignty than the white males that dominate America?

America's former confidence, patriotism and pride, borne of a sense of purpose and destiny, have been supplanted by self-loathing. Why maintain a presence abroad when we don't even believe in the ideals for which the nation once stood?

America's loss of prestige and identity is disheartening to many people. But it has a definite, though little-understood, cause.

American Destiny

America's founders sought to establish a lasting beacon of liberty and democracy to the nations. Early American Lyman Beecher said America was "destined to lead the way in the moral and political emancipation of the world." The founders considered this a noble political experiment, one upon which the eyes of the world were set. Abraham Lincoln said the nation's success or failure would answer the question whether any government so constituted could long endure.

There was a sense of responsibility to the nations: to serve as an example, a benefactor, and a haven for the oppressed and dispossessed. "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free," wrote Emma Lazarus, personifying the iconic Statue of Liberty. The nation believed in itself and the light of freedom it represented. And immigrants, aflame with the promise of the New World, flocked to America in waves that swelled ever larger by the decade.

This belief underpinned the sense of Manifest Destiny that extended America's borders clear to the Pacific Ocean and beyond. It informed epic territorial acquisitions by Thomas Jefferson and James Polk. Theodore Roosevelt led with energy and confidence as he constructed the Panama Canal and established the United States as undisputed overseer of the Western Hemisphere. This fulfilled God's dynamic promise to the seed of Abraham to give them "the gate of his enemies" (Genesis 22:17). This vital passageway joining the Atlantic to the Pacific proved to be a boon not just for America but also for Panama and many other nations. With expansionist ambition, the U.S. eventually gained control of all the great Pacific sea lanes, including the Aleutians, the Hawaiian Isles, Midway, Guam, Wake Island and even the Philippines.

America's former confidence, patriotism and pride, borne of a sense of purpose and destiny, have been supplanted by self-loathing.

America was blessed mightily with favorable geography, bountiful resources, fertile soil, flourishing population, industrial might and



America is losing its Manifest Destiny

material prosperity. Many in America would take credit—but the reality is that these blessings were given by the great God. And this wasn't for the righteousness or greatness of our people, but because of prior promises God had made. These gifts fulfilled the birthright promises God had made to Israel's latter-day descendants—promises that included this: "And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing" (Genesis 12:2). (This and many related prophecies are richly explained in Herbert W. Armstrong's landmark book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*).

As America prospered, it increasingly embodied a set of noble ideals, enshrined in the nation's Declaration of Independence, which proclaimed "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," and the Constitution, which was to "establish justice ... promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity." The nation truly has been a matchless beacon of individual rights, opportunity, equality and liberty. Not only has it secured these benefits for millions of native-born citizens and millions more immigrants, it has inspired peoples the world over to pursue these same ideals. It has also devoted enormous resources and efforts to building, stabilizing, protecting and defending nations across the planet. It has been a genuine blessing to untold multitudes.

It is important to remember this history, to better recognize just how much America has lost.

Scripture shows that retaining all those promised blessings was conditioned on obedience to the God who gave them. In fact, God promised in His Word that if we failed to obey—if we cast Him aside, ignored His laws, and went our own way—He would replace those blessings with curses.



A United States Air Force transport plane carries almost 650 Afghans with it as it retreats from Afghanistan. Credit: U.S. Air Force via DefenseOne.org

A Byword to the Nations

Colonial-era lawyer John Winthrop was aware of those scriptural warnings when he said in 1630 to a developing, infant nation: "We must consider that we will be as a city upon a hill. The eyes of all people are upon us, so that if we deal falsely with our God in this work we have undertaken and so cause Him to withdraw His present help from us, we shall be made a story and a byword throughout the world."

This has happened. This is what is driving a dramatic reversal of fortunes in America today. It has been in process for years, but it is epitomized by the Afghanistan withdrawal—and is prophesied to get still worse. And along with a growing number of our blessings, America has also lost its sense of duty to other nations, its purpose, and its destiny.

While Afghanistan has absorbed all the headlines, similar retreats are happening elsewhere. On July 22, Joe Biden agreed to withdraw all American combat forces from Iraq by the end of the year. U.S. forces are already pulling out of Somalia, to the benefit of the terrorist group al-Shabaab. The U.S. is no longer supporting Saudi Arabia in Yemen, a boon for Iran-backed Houthis. America is retreating everywhere, from Pakistan to the Horn of Africa, to the elation of radical groups. Emboldened Islamists are increasing attacks on commercial vessels in the region. Great nations everywhere are making cold, pragmatic decisions on how to conduct themselves in a post-American world.

Right now, many observers can explain what is happening—they can tell you just how far America has fallen and how fast—but they cannot explain the true cause. We see a lot of finger-pointing—at the president, the previous president, bad advisers, poor military leadership, a lack of foresight and planning. Yet all these problems are actually symptoms of a much more serious and elemental cause.

That cause is revealed with crystal clarity in the Bible. It explains exactly why America has lost its leadership role in the world. In fact, it explicitly foretold it. You cannot understand Afghanistan without understanding this.

Mr. Armstrong spelled out the biblical explanation in *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. Speaking of the prophesied fall of these two nations that have dominated the world for decades, he wrote, "Do you think so great a fall could not come to so great powers as Britain and America? Do you say, '*It can't happen here?*' ... You need to wake up to the fact that the United States, even still possessing unmatched power, is afraid—fears—to use it, just as God said: 'I will break the pride of your power'; that the United States has stopped winning wars—that America was unable, with all its vast power, to conquer little North Vietnam! The United States is fast riding to the greatest fall that ever befell any nation! The handwriting is on the wall!"

Mr. Armstrong wrote these words in 1980. His reference to the humiliation of America's retreat from Saigon in 1975 has now been





America is losing its Manifest Destiny

eclipsed by the nightmare in Kabul.

Leviticus 26—from which Mr. Armstrong quoted—and Deuteronomy 28 are two crucial prophetic chapters that list the curses America would suffer if it rebelled against God. Ask yourself whether these are coming to pass: “But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments ... I also will do this unto you; I will even appoint over you terror And I will set my face against you, and ye shall be slain before your enemies: they that hate you shall reign over you; and ye shall flee when none pursueth you. ... And I will break the pride of your power ... And your strength shall be spent in vain ...” (Leviticus 26:14, 16, 17, 19, 20). Consider the fear and weakness crippling American foreign policy. Consider the armaments the U.S. spent billions of dollars on that is now in Taliban hands. Consider the terror among those who are suddenly American refugees. Consider the Americans slain before their enemies—all in vain.

“And thou shalt become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword, among all nations ...” (Deuteronomy 28:37). Winthrop was right to take this warning literally. Today, many are secretly or openly gleeful at the loss of American prestige.

Uncorrectable

Read through those chapters, and you see the purpose behind these curses: God is punishing us to try to help us see our sins, and to turn us back to Him. “God’s punishment only reflects God’s love—turning us from causing evil results to the way that brings happy results!” Mr. Armstrong wrote. “God is now about to stop us from bringing colossal evils on ourselves! God is not angry because we are harming Him—but because we are harming ourselves—whom God loves!” (ibid).

Several times in these “blessings and curses” chapters of Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28 God warns, If, in spite of all this, you don’t turn back to me, then the curses will intensify.

Sadly, however, even as Americans are sustaining grievous curses, nobody will take responsibility, let alone hearken to God. Joe Biden repeatedly insists he did everything right. His staff apparently feel they handled this situation perfectly. They watched thousands of stranded Americans, Afghans and other nationals shocked at their betrayal, they see America’s international reputation in tatters—and in their minds, it all confirms the correctness of their decision. “So you don’t think ... this exit could’ve been handled better in any way? No mistakes?” one reporter asked Biden. He responded, “No. ... The idea that somehow there’s a way to have gotten out without chaos ensuing, I don’t know how that happens.” What would this man have to see for him to recognize he could have handled it better?

“Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? there is more hope of a fool than of him” (Proverbs 26:12).

Hatred of admitting error is intrinsic to human nature. It matters not how much evidence accumulates, nor how spectacular are the fail-

ures that they directly cause, nor how grievous the curses become. Human beings hate saying, “I was wrong.”

Isaiah 9 prophesies about our uncorrectable nations. It criticizes the leaders who “say in the pride and stoutness of heart, The bricks are fallen down, but we will build with hewn stones: the sycomores are cut down, but we will change them into cedars” (verses 9-10). Even as punishment from God escalates, we keep trying to solve our problems any way possible—as long as it does not entail humbling ourselves toward God. “For the people turneth not unto him that smiteth them, neither do they seek the Lord of hosts” (verse 13).

Many people are angry with Joe Biden right now. But this is a national sin. Everyone seems to think the problem lies with someone else. Yet America is being hammered by all manner of curses—economic curses, health curses, immigration curses, weather curses. Recognize these curses for what they are: punishment from God! God is cursing us for our sins: pride, arrogance, godlessness, family breakdown, immorality and lust, materialism, greed, idolatry, hatred and violence. Our mass-scale sins, in which everyone has a part, have consequences.

Those two “blessings and curses” chapters—and the whole Bible—show you the purpose behind punishments. God is correcting us to help us see our sins, and to turn us back to Him.

If we refuse to be corrected, then what is God to do?

The curses will have to intensify even more. And God Himself will have to intervene even more directly—which is exactly what He prophesies He will do.

Proud Shall Be Made Low

The nations of Israel are guilty of worshiping money and other idols instead of the Creator God who has had a special relationship with them and their ancestors. “Their land also is full of idols; they worship the work of their own hands, that which their own fingers have made,” the Prophet Isaiah wrote. Then, he prophesied of God’s dramatic entrance: “Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the Lord, and for the glory of his majesty. The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day. For the day of the Lord of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low” (Isaiah 2:8, 10-12).

This describes the return of Jesus Christ to literally take over the government of all nations. He will first punish mankind, then put down all rebellion and mortify their arrogance. Verses 17-19 say, “And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day. And the idols he shall utterly abolish. And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the Lord, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.”



Beware of the Zombie Companies

God will humble America's leadership, and the American people, including the conservatives—as well as the Taliban and the nation's gloating enemies. He will make all men realize how small and pitiful they are!

"God is going to take mankind to the point where people will know there is no hope in man and they are willing to heed God's Word—the Bible," writes Gerald Flurry in *The Epistles of Peter—A Living Hope*. "The experiment of human government will prove itself a grandiose failure, and people will begin to recognize that they do need God's help. What a world that will be! When human arrogance has been leveled, people will be humble and childlike, ready to be taught by God! But to reach that stage, mankind must experience destruction just short of destroying all humanity—every man, woman and child."

How about you? Will you need to receive greater and greater chastisement from God before you recognize how much you need Him? Or will you humble yourself before Him and be taught by Him—today?

Realize that this is what it feels like to be in the last minutes of the millenniums of human civilization. America's will is gone, its society is imploding, and its remaining positive influence on the world is fast evaporating. These curses are only going to heighten.

What suffering you can be protected from, individually, if you will learn the lesson that America is collectively failing to learn today.

End of Article

Beware of the Zombie Companies



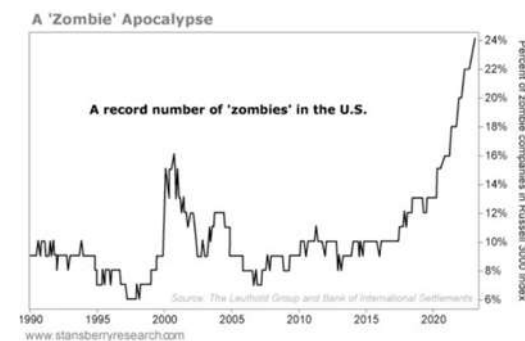
We are not talking about the human kind of zombie as in *The Walking Dead*. We are talking about the economic kind.

Essentially, zombie companies are those that don't make enough money to pay even the interest on the debt they've accumulated. Basically, they're living on borrowed time.

According to Dr. David Eifrig of *Stansberry Research*, the number of zombie companies has been steadily increasing since the 1990s. But because of COVID-19, the number has skyrocketed. According to Bloomberg, since the start of the pandemic, a few hundred major companies have become zombies. There are now more than 700 of them out of 3,000 of America's largest publicly traded companies.

In total, they have roughly \$2 trillion in debt – a figure almost the same size as Italy's economy.

Today, about one in four U.S. companies are zombies...



These businesses have been allowed to survive because their interest rates are near zero percent. The Federal Reserve has been buying corporate bonds and allowing them access to credit.

Many zombies are hotels, restaurants, and airlines. Think of companies like cruise line giant Carnival (CCL).

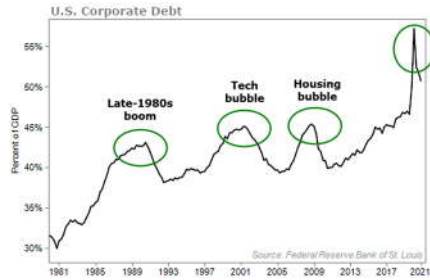
Many zombie companies will go bankrupt in the months and years to come. Others will survive – either because the economy will recover quickly enough to reverse their fortunes and they'll pivot their business models... or they'll be able to refinance their debt again and kick the can down the road.

A rise in the number of defaults will hurt the economy. And the companies that continue to limp along, barely covering their obligations, may depress employment and growth for years to come.

But that alone isn't a reason to pull your money out of the market and stash it under your bed. Debt bubbles – like the one it seems we're part of now – can often expand for years before they pop. It will likely be a while before the one we're in pops...



Beware of the Zombie Companies

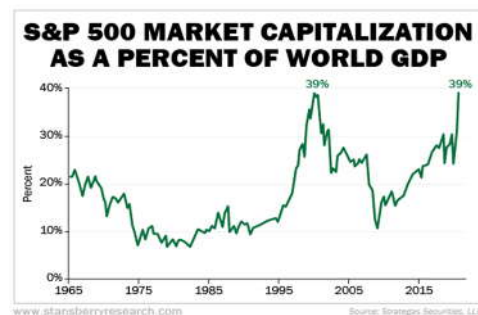


In the more immediate term, though, it makes sense to be cautious. The market is just too euphoric today...

Valuations are hitting new all-time highs, while the economy is still recovering.



The S&P 500 Index's market cap as a percent of the world's gross domestic product ("GDP") can give a sense of how rich today's market is. As you'll see below, earlier this year it hit the same level as it did back during the dot-com peak.



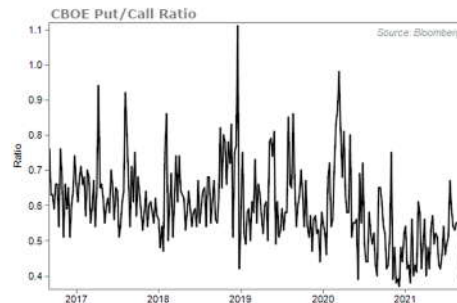
Another way to look at today's record euphoria is with the put-call ratio. This indicator measures how many call options outstanding versus how many put options are outstanding.

If more call options are outstanding than put options, then investors are believed to be positioned bullishly... meaning more folks are betting that stocks will move higher. If folks are trading more puts

than calls, it means more of them are betting stocks will fall.

We tend to use the put-call ratio as a contrarian indicator. When too many people are doing the same thing, the opposite will typically happen shortly after.

In early October, this ratio hit 0.42. That's near a five-year low...



Given the froth we're seeing in the market, we're overdue for a market correction. Remember, corrections are just part of normal market behavior. Even great bull markets experience corrections all the time.

And to be clear, I'm not predicting a doomsday scenario. Just because something should – and needs to happen – doesn't mean it will happen right away.

But I can't ignore the glaring risks in the market. It makes sense to have a cautious mindset now.

And all that may mean to you is to hold a little more cash than normal.

Just make sure to keep these risks in the back of your mind while you're making investment decisions.

Here is to your good investing.

D. Miyoshi



Children of the 30s 40s & 50s "We Are The Last Ones"



This article appeared on the internet in May 2021. I hate to admit it but I am included in (the tail end of) this group. If you are also in this group, maybe this will bring back some memories. D. Miyoshi

A Short Memoir – (the author is unknown)

Born in the 1930s, 40s & 50's, we exist as a very special age cohort. We are the "last ones." We are the last, climbing out of the depression, who can remember the winds of war and the war itself with fathers and uncles going off. We are the last to remember ration books for everything from sugar to shoes to stoves. We saved tin foil and poured fat into tin cans. We saw cars up on blocks because tires weren't available. My mother delivered milk in a horse drawn cart.

We are the last to hear Roosevelt's radio assurances and to see gold stars in the front windows of our grieving neighbors. We can also remember the parades on August 15, 1945; VJ Day.

We saw the 'boys' home from the war build their Cape Cod style houses, pouring the cellar, tar papering it over and living there until they could afford the time and money to build it out.

We are the last who spent childhood without television; instead imagining what we heard on the radio. As we all like to brag, with no TV, we spent our childhood "playing outside until the street lights came on" We did play outside and we did play on our own. There was no little league.

The lack of television in our early years meant, for most of us, that we had little real understanding of what the world was like. Our Saturday afternoons, if at the movies, gave us newsreels of the war and the holocaust sandwiched in between westerns and cartoons. Newspapers and magazines were written for adults. We are the last who had to find out for our-

selves.

As we grew up, the country was exploding with growth. The G.I. Bill gave returning veterans the means to get an education and spurred colleges to grow. VA loans fanned a housing boom. Pent up demand coupled with new installment payment plans put factories to work. New highways would

bring jobs and mobility. The veterans joined civic clubs and became active in politics. In the late 40's and early 50's the country seemed to lie in the embrace of brisk but quiet order as it gave birth to its new middle class. Our parents understandably became absorbed with their own new lives. They were free from the confines of the depression and the war. They threw themselves into exploring opportunities they had never imagined.

We weren't neglected but we weren't today's all-consuming family focus. They were glad we played by ourselves 'until the street lights came on.' They were busy discovering the post war world.

Most of us had no life plan, but with the unexpected virtue of ignorance and an economic rising tide we simply stepped into the world and went to find out. We entered a world of overflowing plenty and opportunity; a world where we were welcomed.

Based on our naive belief that there was more where this came from, we shaped life as we went.

We enjoyed a luxury; we felt secure in our future. Of course, just as today, not all Americans shared in this experience. Depression poverty was deep rooted. Polio was still a crippler. The Korean War was a dark presage in the early 50's and by mid-decade school children were ducking under desks.

China became Red China. Eisenhower sent the first 'advisors' to Vietnam. Castro set up camp in Cuba and Khrushchev came to power.

We are the last to experience an interlude when there were no existential threats to our homeland. We came of age in the late 40's and early 50's. The war was over and the cold war, terrorism, climate change, technological upheaval and perpetual economic insecurity had yet to haunt life with insistent unease.

Only we can remember both a time of apocalyptic war and a time when our world was secure and full of bright promise and plenty. We experienced both.

We grew up at the best possible time, a time when the world was getting better not worse.

The Number One Concern of Retirees

"We are the 'last ones'"

[End of Article](#)

The Number One Concern of Retirees



While we have an ostensible bull market and recovering economy ongoing, many of us are concerned and for good cause.

It takes years to build up a nest egg that will last you through retirement. But it can take just a few weeks to watch it get cut in half.

We're in a seeming market boom right now. That means a bust could be right around the corner. This naturally begs the question, how should retirees handle the coming "Melt Down."

But the number one concern of retirees is not that.

When it comes to retirement, it turns out that folks are more worried about the looming threat of inflation.

To best address this concern, below is an article by Dr. David Eifrig, recently published in *Stansberry Research* that accurately addresses this issue. I present it here for your reading consideration. D. Miyoshi

Inflation is the number one concern of folks who have retired

Inflation reduces purchasing power. For retirees, your health care becomes more expensive... as well as your housing costs... and even your groceries. Simply put, a dollar won't buy as much as it used to before a surge in inflation. And that means you run the risk of outliving your money.

It's scary to think of. No one wants to be forced back to work when they should be on a beach sipping Mai Tais.

As an example of how inflation can crush retirees, take a couple with \$1 million saved for retirement. They expect to spend \$50,000 per year on expenses and trips to see their children and grandchildren. Let's assume they earn 3% on their money in safe bonds.

Now, if there is 3% annual inflation, that \$1 million would last for 20 years. But if inflation rose to, say, 12% per year... that \$1 million would run out in 11 years and nine months. In this scenario, returning to work becomes a real possibility.

Now, 12% inflation is unlikely – but you get the point. Even an inflation rate of 4% or 5% can reduce the amount of time you can live on your nest egg.

Given the trillions in spending that our government has been pumping out lately, "inflation" is the latest buzzword. Flooding the economy with all that cash will definitely lead to more dollars chasing the same goods... and that means rising prices.

We track inflation each month in my income-focused newsletter *Income Intelligence*. To do this, we look at a number of inflation indicators – from commodity prices to real-world prices, like how much a bike costs at Walmart.

We're showing that 14 of our indicators are flashing "inflation," and that's one of the highest readings we've ever had.

Commodities	Price	1-Mo. Change	1-Yr. Change	Inflation	Stable	Deflation
Oil (barrel)	\$70.46	3.0%	89.1%	●		
Gold (oz)	\$1,801.79	1.2%	-7.9%		●	
Silver (oz)	\$23.80	0.2%	-12.2%		●	
Copper (lb)	\$4.28	-1.3%	38.9%	●		
Corn (bushel)	\$4.90	-15.7%	43.3%	●		
Surveys and Stats	Index Value	1-Mo. Change	1-Yr. Change	Inflation	Stable	Deflation
Consumer Price Index	273.0	0.3%	5.3%	●		
Producer Price Index	223.2	1.0%	10.5%	●		
CRB Industrial Prices	617.6	-0.8%	34.3%	●		
2021 SSA COLA Adjustment			1.3%		●	
Economy	Price/ Index Value	Qrtly Change	1-Yr. Change	Inflation	Stable	Deflation
Unemployment	5.9%	-0.2%	-7.1%	●		
Capacity Utilization	76.1%	1.4%	7.4%	●		
U.S. Personal Income (in trillions)	\$20.67	-14.4%	3.6%	●		
Baltic Dry Shipping Rates	4221	106.3%	134.6%	●		
Real-World Inflation	Price	1-Mo. Change	1-Yr. Change	Inflation	Stable	Deflation
White Bread (lb)	\$1.47	-1.6%	-1.9%			●
Gasoline (unleaded gallon)	\$3.26	0.7%	49.5%	●		
Electricity (kilowatt hour)	\$0.144	0.7%	5.1%	●		
Milk (gallon)	\$3.56	-1.6%	4.5%	●		
Ground Beef (lb)	\$4.64	2.5%	7.6%	●		
26" Men's Bike (Walmart)	\$79.00	-33.6%	-19.4%			●

As of September, a few prices have started to cool – like those of gold, silver, and bread. But many are still soaring. Oil has nearly doubled on the year... corn is up 43%... and gasoline has risen nearly 50%. Most striking, though, is that unemployment continues to decline. That will eventually lead to wage pressures.

It's obvious there's still an underlying rise in inflation. So whether you like it or not, inflation is going to be an issue. Retirees should be concerned by it.

I experienced this myself recently, when inflation almost sent me biking across California wine country...

The Number One Concern of Retirees

Last month, I turned up at Avis in Santa Rosa to rent a car for the weekend. I'm a regular customer there, so I'm familiar with the typical rental costs.

Of course, this year has been anything but typical. Normally, it would cost me \$800 to rent a car for an entire month. This time, I was quoted \$800 just for the weekend.

I ended up paying much less, thanks to my status as a longtime customer. But if I hadn't been... well, lucky thing I can still ride a bicycle, because I wasn't about to pay that price.

Then it was time to fly home. Two years ago, a business-class flight from California back to the East Coast would have cost me anywhere from \$500 to \$600. But it's different now. These prices were just around \$2,000. I even saw one for \$3,200. It's insane.

Once again, I was fortunate... I was able to push my flight to another day and pay a lot less. But some people have no choice but to pay these absurd prices.

This isn't just a story of wacky things I saw on my vacation. Prices are rising everywhere...

Home prices are up 17% over the past year. Used-car prices have increased 32%. And as we said, gas prices are up roughly 50%.

You've seen headlines about these increases, I know. But take another look at the table... Did you know the price of electricity is 5% higher than it was a year ago? And have you heard that a gallon of milk costs nearly 5% more than it did last year?

These are real price increases that affect real people... And they will hit you especially hard if you are retired and living on a fixed income.

Take a look at the chart below of the Core Consumer Price Index ("CPI"). Core CPI takes out volatile food and energy prices. You can see the dramatic spike in inflation...



Some folks are terrified of these rising prices... They think we're on the brink of 1970s-style inflation – a significant, long-term problem that will severely devalue Americans' savings.

Others, including Fed Chair Jerome Powell, see today's inflation as "transitory." In other words, it's a temporary price recovery from a wonky 2020.

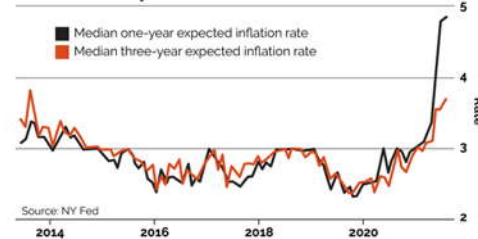
But whichever camp you fall into, one thing is clear...

Thanks to record government stimulus and a recovering economy, inflation is here today.

And while the Fed has made noises about raising rates down the road, it still isn't in a hurry to cool it. That means we could be looking at higher prices for the foreseeable future.

And folks increasingly believe this inflation could be significant. Take a look at the New York Fed's national consumer survey. While people do expect unusually sharp inflation this year, they're also expecting a higher rate over the next three years...

Inflation Expectations



So what should investors do in today's environment?

When inflation strikes, you want to own hard assets like gold or real estate. Some stocks can also do well during inflation...

A good business can raise prices to offset inflation. If you have highly demanded products and happy customers, you can charge a bit more to cover rising costs like wages or raw materials.

Most stocks like this are considered value stocks. A value stock typically makes a lot of money today relative to its market value. These kinds of companies don't have expectations of high double-digit revenue growth in the future, and that's often why they're priced cheaply.

Growth stocks, on the other hand, are priced expensively relative to what they earn today. That's because the market expects them to earn a lot more money in the future.

When inflation strikes, a growth stock's future revenue isn't so valuable anymore... That's the entire point of inflation: \$1 in 10 years looks a lot less attractive than \$1 today.

So with the inflation we're seeing today, look for quality businesses that can raise prices... and be wary of stocks counting on future growth.

End of Article

The Reason for the 2nd Amendment



I am a firm believer in the 2nd Amendment. Yes, I own a gun and no I don't go duck hunting.

Here is the purpose of the 2nd Amendment taken directly from the Bill of Rights.

"A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed."

Here are keys points related to the 2nd Amendment.

- The Second Amendment is part of the U.S. Bill of Rights.
- It gives the right to bear arms in the U.S., especially for the organization of state militias.
- The right to bear arms was originally seen as a check against the potential tyranny of the new Federal government as well as foreign invasion.
- In the 20th and 21st centuries, there have been conflicts between collective and individual interpretations of the amendment.
- Recent Supreme Court rulings have leaned towards the individual right to bear arms outside of a militia for other legal uses.

The Amendment was added to the constitution for the purpose of protection, including and to some, specifically, against a tyrannical, power-abusing, politicians and local and federal government leaders.

Again, it is not a threat to highlight the fact that we are armed,

and willing to protect ourselves, exactly as intended by the 2nd Amendment, but rather a warning to power-hungry liberals that Americans are more than capable of fighting back should they be pushed too far.

The Problem in Australia

In Australia the Army and Navy has been brought in under the guise of helping "fight" the COVID pandemic, yet the nightmarish reports coming out, indicate they are enforcing medical martial law.

In a recent article written in Australia, the following was reported:

Australians have become used to hour-long press conferences from politicians and premiers in the past 18 months, but new faces and dress codes have recently found their way onto our screens to lead the COVID response.

In April, naval officer Commodore Eric Young was named the new federal COVID vaccine operations co-ordinator.

In June, he was joined as a public face by Lieutenant-General John Frewen, the commander of the federal vaccination task-force.

Both men have appeared alongside federal ministers and chief medical officers at press conferences, giving vaccine updates, and have recently started holding solo media appearances and interviews.

By July 31, 2021, Australia had started deploying Army personnel and helicopters to order people into their homes. Reports at the time called this "one of the world's strictest Covid lockdowns."

By late August, Australia had set up travel restrictions, not just from country-to-country, but between states.

Reports show a state-by-state breakdown of where they can and can't travel and what they must do before they leave home.

Then in the Australian publication Guardian the various border restrictions were published.

Victoria border restrictions

Queensland border restrictions

Western Australia border restrictions



The Reason for the 2nd Amendment

Australian Capital Territory border restrictions

South Australia border restrictions

Northern Territory border restrictions

Tasmania border restrictions

New Zealand travel bubble

These are very similar to our own U.S. state restrictions.

Basically, no jab, no travel.

Back In June 2020, Australia sent the Army door-to-door for “free “testing,” and by early August 2021, they were back on the streets, going door-to-door on those infected by COVID to make sure they were following the COVID restrictions.

Here’s the fun one: the Australian ARMY has been called in “to assist police by going door to door to the homes of people who have tested positive for COVID to ensure people are obeying the restrictions.”

Here is some more:

REPORTER: Are you going to be going suburb to suburb, street to street, door to door, knocking on these and actively looking for people who are in the wrong house and fining them on the spot?

SYDNEY POLICE: Absolutely.

Once again, if this sounds overly familiar here in America, perhaps it is because the Biden regime also floated the idea of going to door-to-door to try to “persuade” people to get the COVID vaccine.

“Now we need to go community by community, neighborhood by neighborhood and often times door-to-door — literally knocking on doors — to get help to the remaining people protected from the virus,” Biden said, according to Fox News.

AUSSIERS GAVE UP THEIR GUNS, AMERICANS WON’T

Fun fact described by PJ Media: “Australians largely lost their gun rights after a mass shooting in 1996 that killed 35 people. Subsequently, 700,000 guns were turned in to authorities.”

So let’s compare that number to the estimated 434 million firearms in civilian possession, and we see why Biden has babbled about certain “plans,” some of which Australia and other countries have already implemented and are planning to implement

again, and we see the number one reasons why Americans should never, EVER, be willing to allow the federal, nor state governments to take our weapons.

Australians left themselves no method of protecting themselves, counting on the government to protect them, but who in Australia has the wherewithal to protect themselves against a tyrannical government that are treating them as prisoners in their own country?

No one.... well at least not enough people to give the Australian government any concern about acting like dictators.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Americans tolerated the first wave of COVID lockdowns, the restriction of movements, the destruction of businesses deemed “non-essential,” the mandated mask mandates and all the other tyrannical measures.

The time for standing up for our rights is now upon us because there is a good possibility that like the flu, COVID will never be totally eradicated and Americans are ready to simply start living again.

We are seeing more and more countries implement draconian COVID measures, most with such restrictive gun laws the people have no way to fight back against tyranny other than protests to which the governments ignore or crack down on.

So far, Americans still have a way to stand up for their inalienable rights.

Protecting Americans against a deadly virus is absolutely necessary for the good of the order. And protecting Americans against a tyrannical government is equally necessary for the good of the order

D. Miyoshi



Twenty Unanswered Questions About 9/11



It has been more than 20 long years since that fateful day where terrorists killed 3,000 Americans. Dave Hodges of the *Common Sense Show* is among those who believe that justice has never been served to the departed and their grieving families. Even more tragically, the mentally disoriented Joe Biden, has opened old wounds and poured salt in those wounds.

Here is what Hodges believes and has written about 9/11:

Regardless of what one believes about Dick Cheney's and *et al* involvement, the fact remains that terrorists from the Middle East carried out the attack. The attack had connections to Afghanistan, however, this was a thinly veiled excuse to protect heroin trafficking and later, lithium mining.

We allegedly fought for 20 years to keep the Taliban in check. However, Biden has emboldened our enemy by handing over Afghanistan to this terrorist group. Remember, we were in Afghanistan to limit, or eliminate the terrorist potential of the Taliban, and what has the traitor at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue done? He has left behind \$90 billion in high tech military assets. Thanks to Biden 20 years of military sacrifice accentuated by the loss of thousands of GI's and the severe wounding of several more, by arming our enemies.

Not only did Biden arm our enemies that were involved in 9/11, he enriched the Chinese as well who are moving in to takeover Bagram Air Base. Biden has also pushed our traditional allies away. He has endangered Taiwan by empowering China. And Biden has given control over the most important resource on the planet, lithium, and given control of this to the Taliban and the Chinese. This is treason. Not only did Biden commit treason against American interests, he purposely let 13 American soldiers die at Kabul Airport. There is strong evidence that we knew the suicide attack was coming and Sec Def Austin stood down. Further and as we now know that the Biden Crime Family owns 10% stock in China's primary lithium mining company which explains why we had to leave so fast. In

short, we see a CHICOM controlled President who dishonors the victims of 9/11 and the brave men and women that fought for two decades in Afghanistan.

Twenty Unanswered Questions About 9/11 That Will Never Be Answered

1. Why was the video of the Mineta testimony removed from the 9/11 Commission website?
2. Why has not the government addressed the "coincidence" of Able Danger? It is a case of a terror drill providing plausible deniability for the terror act embedded within the drill.
3. What explains the failure of the Government to release the many videotapes of the plane, on approach, that struck the Pentagon? It is almost 2 decades later, where are the tapes?
4. Why was there a change in the scramble/intercept procedure three months prior to 9/11 for jets that are off course accompanied by a change in the shoot down orders?
5. What can explain the failure of the government to scramble jets over a period of an hour and twenty-eight minutes between the Twin Towers being struck and the crash in Pennsylvania? With this kind of air security, Somalia could successfully invade the United States.
6. How could the unrelated events of 9/11 and the invasion of Iraq be successfully linked which culminated in the demise of Saddam Hussein despite strong evidence to the contrary?
7. What explains the well documented (e.g., Kevin Phillips) Bush/Cheney plans to invade both Afghanistan and Iraq within the first 10 days of the Bush Administration. This was well in advance of 9/11? However, 9/11 was used as the excuse in the early days of our military action to justify these unwarranted invasions. Why wasn't this contradiction investigated?
8. The well documented engineering and architectural arguments which, in my mind clearly demonstrate that the fire and heat generated by the planes striking the Twin Towers were insufficient to melt the core of the buildings. Why doesn't this evidence support the 9/11 Commission findings? Why hasn't a Congressional investigation looked into this striking discrepancy?
9. What could explain the almost near free-fall collapse of all three towers which defies the official explanation? Never before in the history of engineering and planes crashing into buildings has a building come down in such a free-fall and symmetrical manner?
10. Where are the pieces of plane wings that supposedly struck light poles on its approach to the Pentagon? Shouldn't independent investigators be able to examine these wings to determine the authenticity of the 9/11 report on this topic. The trust me approach did not fly in 2001 and it damn sure doesn't in 2016.
11. The attack upon the Pentagon appears to any layman who looks at this evidence to look more like a missile strike than an airplane crash. Why does the circumference of the hole in the Pentagon greatly differ from the width of the plane? Why is there an exit hole on the backside of the building since the plane melted upon impact? Where is the debris field that one would expect on the backside of the building?
12. What about the pop outs we see on each floor of the WTC buildings before the collapse? How could this not be considered to be a controlled demolition?
13. Where are the skid marks on the lawn prior to impact at the Pentagon that would have been left by the plane which supposedly



What is Truth?

struck the Pentagon?

14. What about the evidence which strongly suggests that 11 nations warned the United States about the possibility of such an attack?

15. Maintenance worker, William Rodriguez, was the last man out of the Twin Towers. At 8:46AM, Rodriguez reports that he heard two distinct explosions, seven seconds apart, which emanated from the floors below him. Rodriguez also reports the two explosions occurred before the planes hit the towers. Rodriguez was interviewed by the 911 Commission for 30 minutes, in secret, behind closed doors. His testimony is conspicuously absent from the 9/11 Report. So why did the last man out of the Towers manage to have testimony left out of the 9/11 Commission Report?

16. Brigham Young University professor, Steve Jones, concluded that super thermite was used to bring down the Towers, including Tower 7, through a controlled demolition. Jones contends that he was warned by governmental officials that if he published his results his personal "pain would be great." And the warning proved prophetic as Jones was fired from his job as a professor after publishing his results. How does a tenured university professor get fired for publishing legitimate research results when the peer review process could have been utilized to analyze and discredit the Jones' claims? Why isn't the government standard for research held to the same level as demonstrated by Professor Jones?

17. Ground Zero rescue worker, Mike Bellone, claims he was approached by unknown FBI agents a short time after he and his partner, Nicholas DeMasi, a retired New York firefighter, found three of the four "black boxes" among the WTC rubble before January 2002. In the 9/11 Commission Report, Chapter 1, footnote 76, there is the sole but definitive reference to the airline "black boxes": "The CVR's and the FDR's." [voice and flight data recorders] from American 11 and United 175 were not found." With this obvious contradiction, why weren't these two rescue workers interviewed by the 911 Commission?

18. How could all four black boxes not be retrieved by the FBI when nearly ALL crashes through course of modern aviation history, do retrieve the black box?

19. When LBJ ordered JFK's presidential limousine stripped and cleaned, he effectively destroyed the primary crime scene in the murder of JFK and implicated himself as a co-conspirator in the murder. In similar fashion, forty one truck loads of debris were hauled away from Twin Towers within hours of the crime and not one piece of the evidence was analyzed as a crime scene. Isn't this obstruction of justice? Who ordered this illegal action to take place and why? Both events are felonies as they clearly represent the tampering of a crime scene. Why didn't the 911 Commission Report address the question as to why normal crime scene investigative techniques were not employed?

20. Much of the remaining crime scene evidence is still being held under lock and key at Hangar 17 at JFK Airport. nearly 2 decades later and with the ink dry on the 911 Commission's findings, why isn't the evidence made available to journalists and investigators? What is the government afraid of? An earlier generation knew that the government was lying about JFK's murder, but did little to force the truth out into the open. I refuse to capitulate to the same kind of arrogance and the possible underlying motives of key government agencies with regard to the events of 9/11.

Until these twenty questions, and any other pertinent questions are answered, to the satisfaction of the victims' grieving loved ones, I will never let go of this issue and neither should the citizens of this

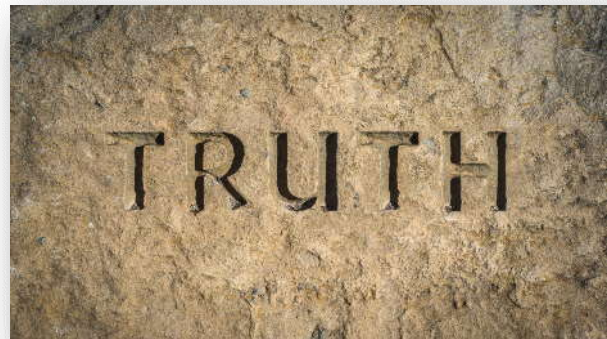
country. We have a solemn duty to the dead and their loved ones to discover the real truth about the events of that fateful day. Also, let's not forget that we lost our individual liberties on that fateful day as well.

Many feel that America is an occupied nation and this President will eventually hand this country over to the CHICOMS!

These are twenty compelling questions that Hodges has about 9/11. I will also continue searching for the answers as well. It's only right that reasonable answers to these questions be obtained.

D. Miyoshi

What is Truth?



Here is a question we almost never stop and think about. But we should because it affects everyone and everything around us. If we all knew the truth and what was really happening around us, it's reasonable to presume we would be able to best deal with the issues of life we face.

And this begs the question: Why do we have so much information, yet so many problems?

Now more than ever in human history, human beings have enormous amounts of information available to them. We celebrate that. We marvel at it. We wonder at the things we can build and invent based on all that knowledge.

And yet, now more than ever in human history, we have enormous amounts of problems: failures, inadequacies, confusion, self-destruction of all kinds, unspeakable evils we do to others and to ourselves.

How is that possible?

Doesn't information solve problems? Doesn't knowledge make things better? Doesn't knowledge make us better?





What is Truth?

Knowledge is multiplying and multiplying and multiplying. Yet finding the plain truth has never been more elusive. It has never been so easy to acquire knowledge, yet it has also never been so easy to acquire wrong knowledge.

The editor of *the Trumpet*, a Christian publication addressed this very question in last May's edition.. Flurry said these days it's so easy to get knowledge and yet it's so easy to get wrong knowledge. It doesn't seem like both of these things could be true. But take a look at the news. People have enormous amounts of knowledge at their hand. That's inescapable. And yet they have enormous amounts of problems. That is maybe even more inescapable!

Flurry explains that in actuality, we human beings are producing gigantic amounts of knowledge that is WRONG. We assume that we generally can tell the difference between true knowledge and false knowledge. But Flurry says this assumption is FALSE!

He says we now live in a post-truth age in which objective fact and truth rarely determine which stories spread or how rapidly they spread. The fastest-spreading, farthest-reaching knowledge is often false knowledge.

As Winston Churchill said, "A lie gets halfway around the world before the truth has a chance to get its pants on."

We are now living through a pandemic—a pandemic of disinformation and outright lies. This intensified decades ago with the idea that truth is relative. People began to teach other people that there is no such thing as absolute truth. But if nothing is absolutely true, it follows that nothing is false. Generations have been raised and educated by people who think this way.

And so here we are in the final, silly stages of our societal decline. Everyone has their own personal version of truth.

The actual truth, the absolute truth, is virtually impossible to find.

The truth has been blotted out and replaced by "your truth." Reality has been replaced by fantasy and fable. It's not substance that people care about most. It's the SPIN. A noble lie goes over better than unpopular truth. Personal views, emotional appeal and social values matter more than objective facts and evidence.

The world today is absolutely full of phoniness, fakery, dishonesty and deception! Enemies of the truth are everywhere!

So often we think this is something that affects others but not ourselves. But it does affect us. It affects conservatives, it affects religious people, it affects even traditional Christians!

Christians say they believe in the Bible, so what does the Bible say?

It says in 2 Corinthians 11 that Satan the devil has raised up fake apostles moved by a satanic spirit to preach a fake gospel message about a fake Jesus Christ!

As the founder of *The Trumpet* Mr. Armstrong wrote many years ago, "It may be hard to accept, but it's true—millions who believe they are Christians actually are still unconverted, deceived, having accepted a false conversion!"

Notice what Jesus said to the leading conservative, religious people of His time: "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him" (John 8:44).

Yes, there is a source of wrong knowledge. There is a source of lies. There is a source for all the resulting evil and the suffering—a mind, from which it originates. That source, as Jesus Christ said, was and is Satan the devil.

Satan hates God and everything God believes and teaches. Satan rejects all of God's truth. There is no truth in him. When he speaks, he speaks a lie—he is a liar and the father of it. And your Bible says this wicked, deceitful being is the god of this world and has deceived the entire world! (see 2 Corinthians 4:4 and Revelation 12:9).

In the Epistles of Paul course at Armstrong College they recently studied how Paul warned his assistant in 2 Timothy 4:3, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears."

Has that time come? People today love lies so much that they have contempt for those who dare speak the truth. (See also Isaiah 30:9-10.)

"And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables" (2 Timothy 4:4).

We don't stop to realize that human beings, including ourselves, actually do not have the power to discern good knowledge from bad knowledge, truth from error, good from evil.

But the lesson of our age and of all history is that people don't like the truth. That's why their leaders lie. They know that if they tell the truth, they will never get power. So the reason that politicians lie actually traces back to all of us. We don't like the truth because it is often embarrassing and hurtful. Fantasy is much more pleasant than the truth, so people prefer fantasy.

This is why human knowledge is such a hopelessly intermixed blend of true knowledge, errant knowledge and outright deception.





What is Truth?

So how can we be free from deception and disinformation? We need the truth! And the truth comes from God!

“The Eternal God nevertheless has made this vital revealed knowledge and truth available to any willing to believe what He says—in His inspired book, the Book of books—the Holy Bible,” Mr. Armstrong wrote in *The Incredible Human Potential*. “This book has actually become the world’s bestseller. But this precious book has been interpreted and misinterpreted, distorted, twisted, misrepresented, misunderstood, and maligned as no other book ever has.”

“As he spake these words, many believed on him. Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:30-32).

“Sanctify [the disciples] through thy truth,” Jesus prayed, “thy word is truth”! (John 17:17).

“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6)

God’s truth absolutely crushes deceit. If you forsake the truth and replace it with “your truth” or “relative truth,” then you become a slave to human nature, which is powerfully influenced by Satan’s nature.

Notice what 1 John 4:4-6 reveal about the truth. It shows us that if we are of God, then we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error. This gets down to the very origins, the very sources of truth and error.

“We must know not only truth and error, but ‘the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error,’” my father writes in *The Last Hour*. “It takes Christ’s mind in us to discern the spirit of truth and error. We can have the truth and still teach it in the wrong spirit.”

Human minds will always believe something different from reality (the truth) without God and His Word!

Years ago, Mr. Armstrong aired a classic World Tomorrow radio broadcast that looked at the four ways that human beings come to believe what we believe.

Again, this is something that most human beings never think about. But it’s fundamental to understanding who and what we are. And it’s absolutely fundamental to understanding the difference between true knowledge that solves problems and false knowledge that causes problems.

The first way we come to believe something is by taking for granted,

without question, what we have been brought up to believe.

Jesus said to the scribes and Pharisees, “Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition” (Mark 7:9).

In his radio program “How to Search for Truth,” Mr. Armstrong said, “I want you to stop and think a minute. How much did you know the day you were born? Do you realize that at the moment of your birth you had no beliefs, no convictions, no opinions? You have acquired every idea, conviction and belief that you now hold since the day you were born. And if you are an average individual, most of your present convictions entered your mind without so much as thinking to question what you heard, what you were taught, what you found others believing, what you were brought up to believe. You just took it for granted. You assumed it without question, without proof. You just accepted it, and now you firmly believe it.”

The second way we come to believe something is by sheep instinct. We believe it because we want to go along with the crowd. Human nature wants to conform. We follow a multitude to do evil.

The Bible warns against doing this: “Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil ...” (Exodus 23:2).

The older version of the Ambassador College Bible Correspondence Course (Lesson 5) that Mr. Armstrong published states: “Few people seem to know that the Bible is actually the Maker’s instruction book to the mankind He designed, created and made. ... Yet almost no one uses this very Word of God for its intended purpose. What do they do? Most people, ignoring or disregarding the Maker’s instruction book, follow like blind and dumb sheep going to the slaughter the wrong ways and customs of other people. They absorb and gullibly accept without question the false beliefs of other people God says, ‘Remember,’ and people promptly forget.”

“It seems to be human nature to want to belong and to go along, to conform,” Mr. Armstrong said in that radio program. “People like to join in some organized group such as a club, a party, a church. The human tendency is to just go along, to accept blindly and without question whatever ideas or doctrines or beliefs may be held by that particular group or organization. One will often express his beliefs somewhat in this fashion, ‘Well, we of our party or our church, our club believe (so and so).’ It seems human to fear to disagree with the policies or the beliefs of one’s organized group and usually this union in belief is the tie that binds the members together.”

To blindly accept whatever an organized group may adopt is to place one’s trust wholly in that human movement instead of utilizing one’s faculties to prove what is true or instead of relying upon the Supreme Divine God.

The third way we come to believe something is by believing what we want to believe.





What is Truth?

Winston Churchill addressed this in a House of Commons speech on Oct. 5, 1938, after Britain signed the Munich Agreement with Adolf Hitler. He said: “I will begin by saying what everybody would like to ignore or forget but which must nevertheless be stated, namely, that we have sustained a total and unmitigated defeat. ... Our loyal, brave people ... should know the truth. They should know that there has been gross neglect and deficiency in our defenses; they should know that we have sustained a defeat without a war, the consequences of which will travel far with us along our road; they should know that we have passed an awful milestone in our history.”

In his radio program, Mr. Armstrong said that when people study into an issue but “encounter some truth which they do not want to accept or to act upon, they reject it or they reason their way around it or they ignore it or they dispose of it by ridiculing it. Such people are simply not honest with themselves, and since it is only the truth that can make them free, they sentence themselves to continual slavery.”

As we study at AC in Old Testament Survey and other classes, this trait is what produced the horrible time of the judges, summarized in Judges 21:25: “In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes.”

“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death” (Proverbs 14:12).

The fourth way human beings come to believe what we believe is by learning to seek, find and act upon the truth.

“Prove all things; hold fast that which is good” (1 Thessalonians 5:21). “Prove” here means to put to the test, to examine, to discern, to scrutinize, to verify, even to try by fire, and to deem worthy or confirm as genuine.

And how do we put our beliefs to the test? By doing! When we seek, find and learn the truth, we must put it into action. We must not only believe that which is good but hold it fast. You won’t hold fast the actual truth, God’s truth, unless you act on it.

“We must first of all come to be willing to admit it when we are proved wrong,” Mr. Armstrong said on the radio. “We must bring ourselves to be willing to confess error, to repent of wrong whether it be wrong thoughts, wrong beliefs or wrong doing.”

Truth hurts! Someone once said, “The truth will set you free, but first it will make you miserable.”

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15). To rightly understand, we must study. We must prove every belief. We must question what we study until it is proved true!

“The most important question that the human mind can contemplate is the subject of life,” Mr. Armstrong said. “Why are we here? Were we put here for a purpose? And if so, what is that purpose and how may it be achieved? Just what are we? Where are we going? What happens when we die? What lies on beyond death? And above all, how do we know?” (ibid).

Again, Jesus said, “[Y]e shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32).

Make the Word of God the source you rely on to determine what you believe and practice! That is not just a religious-sounding sentiment. That is a practical, crucial, absolute requirement for understanding the truth. And only by seeking, finding and acting upon the truth in God’s Word can you solve problems.

Human beings all the way back to Adam and Eve have believed wrong knowledge. They have believed what Satan claimed to be the truth. They believed then—and most humans believe now—that our own minds can find the truth, that our own minds can even define the truth. And today we are drowning in millions of different versions of so-called “truth.”

We are doing what is right in our own eyes. Just as every human generation has back to the first one. We believed Satan’s big lie and didn’t know it. Now we are drowning in lies.

The pandemic of lies and disinformation traces back to a wrong spirit—meaning a wrong influence from a wrong attitude.

The truth, as Armstrong students are taught, is that human minds are incomplete! They do not have the capacity to discover the essential knowledge needed to solve the problems of this world. The truth is that human minds need guidance from our Creator’s mind.

Finding and understanding the truth isn’t a matter of producing more human knowledge. It’s a matter of submitting our attitudes to the source of right knowledge—knowledge that solves problems and prevents evils!

The fact that so many human beings reject that so strongly in itself proves that we are totally influenced by another mind. That mind is inspiring an explosion of problems, of evils; and we still follow after it! This is proof positive that enormous amounts of knowledge are useless against the infection of a wrong spirit.

Truth traces back to a right spirit—an attitude of submitting to the Creator of human minds and the Source of right knowledge.

2 Thessalonians 2 reveals that the wrong spirit influences even those rare few whom God has called into His Church. So many who understood this fundamental truth have lost it. Why? It wasn’t a matter of knowledge. They had the knowledge! It was a matter of spirit, of





Why we are passionate about politics?

attitude toward God. Verse 10 says they did not love God's truth.

It is not enough to only receive knowledge. In fact, it is not enough to even receive God's knowledge. You have to love it. Seek the truth. Know the truth. Submit to the truth. Use the truth. And love the truth.

Mr. Flurry gives us one of the most comprehensive answers to what truth is and I wanted to share it with you. Essentially, we need to understand there is a difference between the truth there is and the truth we want. And what makes us feel better is not necessarily what is right.

D. Miyoshi

Why we are so passionate (stubborn) about politics?

If you want to elicit an opinion from someone, just bring up a current political issue. If you want to anger someone, state a political opinion. If you want to lose a friend, criticize their political stance.

We all tend to tread carefully around the topic of politics when we are with others of unknown political convictions. And there is good reason for this. Recently a scientific (at least that's what they call it) study was published in CNN Health. Its title is "This is why you get worked up about politics, according to science" written by Jacqueline Howard. For your thoughtful consideration here is the gist of what Howard says about politics and how we react to it. D. Miyoshi

Why you get worked up about politics, according to science



Your brain on politics: What shapes your vote?

A new study holds clues as to why we get so passionate about politics.

When your political views are challenged, the brain becomes active in regions associated with personal identity, threat response and emotions, according to the study.

"We think it's because political beliefs are important to our identity, to our sense of who we are. They are part of our social selves as well and can define who we spend time with and how they relate to us," said Jonas Kaplan, assistant research professor of psychology at the University of Southern California's Brain and Creativity Institute, who was lead author of the study.

"When the brain considers something to be part of itself, whether it's a body part or a belief, then it protects it in the same way," he said.

Now, the researchers hope that their findings could shed light on how to talk politics without provoking a brawl.

How politics makes us emotional

The study, published in the journal *Scientific Reports* last month, involved 40 healthy adults who identified themselves as politically liberal.

They were asked to read eight political statements that aligned with their beliefs, such as "Abortion should be legal" and "Taxes on the wealthy should generally be increased." They also were asked to read eight nonpolitical statements, such as "Taking a daily multivitamin improves one's health" and "A college education generally improves a person's economic prospects."

After reading each statement, each participant was shown evidence challenging the statement. While they were reading the statements and counter-evidence, their brains were scanned in a functional MRI machine.

Then, the participants completed questionnaires intended to gauge just how strongly they agreed with each statement they had seen.

This is what emotions look like in your brain

After examining the brain scans, the researchers found that when the participants were presented with evidence that challenged the political statements they agreed with, increased activity occurred in the dorsomedial prefrontal cortex and decreased activity in the orbitofrontal cortex.

The dorsomedial prefrontal cortex is associated with emotion regulation and the orbitofrontal cortex with cognitive flexibility, Kaplan said.

"These are two regions we didn't specifically predict would play a





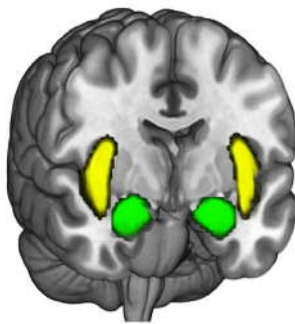
Why we are passionate about politics?

role in our study, so we interpret them with some degree of caution,” he said.

When presented with counter-evidence, “we found that people who showed more amygdala activity while being challenged were less likely to change their minds,” Kaplan said.

The amygdala is a part of the brain associated with emotion, fear and anxiety.

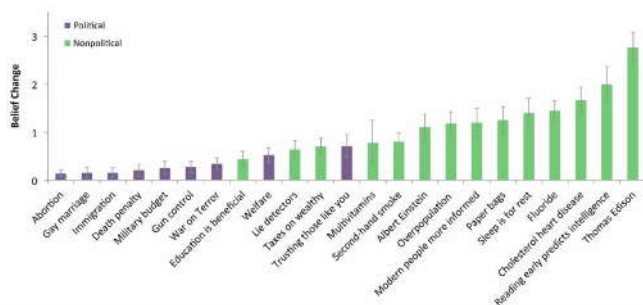
The study finding suggests that increased amygdala activity may be associated with increased skepticism of the counter-evidence and could be an important neural signal that a person is less likely to be persuaded.



Brain and Creativity Institute/USC

The amygdala -- the two almond-shaped areas hugging the center of the brain near the front -- tends to become active when people stick to their political beliefs, according to the new study.

Additionally, the researchers found that participants were significantly more likely to be persuaded to change their beliefs when provided with counter-evidence for the nonpolitical statements than for the political statements.



Brain and Creativity Institute/USC

This chart shows how likely participants in the study were willing to

reconsider their political beliefs compared with nonpolitical beliefs, with 0 being the least likely. Participants were more likely to adjust nonpolitical beliefs than political ones.

More research is needed to attempt to replicate the study findings in a group of conservatives or less strongly committed liberals, Kaplan said.

“There are also several ways in which political beliefs differ from nonpolitical beliefs, and from this study alone, we weren’t able to explore them all to understand what is the real basis for the differences we found,” he said. “For example, this group of people, chosen for their strong political beliefs, probably had more existing knowledge about the political topics we challenged compared with the nonpolitical topics.”

Kaplan hopes further research could shed light on how to effectively challenge a political view without triggering an emotional response, he said.

Tips for talking politics

The new study is in line with prior research that also has showed how challenges to political beliefs are associated with emotional responses from the brain, said Drew Westen, a professor of psychology and psychiatry at Emory University in Atlanta and author of “The Political Brain.” He was not involved in the new study.

In order to effectively challenge someone’s political views without triggering an emotional response, Westen said, your counterargument should do two things: solve the problem at the root of the political belief and address the values attached to the belief.

“The last thing to do is to try to argue someone out of a belief when they’re strongly committed to it emotionally, because what makes it so strong is the emotion attached to it, not the facts or arguments that support it,” Westen said.

How to talk politics at your family holiday meal this year

In addition, “you solve the problem for them,” he said. “You are addressing what their problem is, and when you do that, you don’t have to fight with them about what the facts are, because you’re going to change them.”

Consider abortion, a hot topic that was included in the new study. Westen used the example of someone who is for abortion rights talking to someone with anti-abortion views to explain how to identify, address and empathize with someone’s values to challenge beliefs.

The key is to identify the other person’s values, even if they differ from your own.



Wuhan was the Epicenter of the Pandemic

“Words like ‘reproductive health’ sound like you’re discounting their moral concerns and seeing this as just a medical issue. You don’t want to come from a medical perspective,” he said. “If you instead say, ‘You know, I just don’t like the idea of the government telling a woman or a couple when they should or shouldn’t start their family.’ ... Now you’re activating two completely different neural networks than you’ve activated before: one about government interference in our private lives and the other about families.”

He added, “it also makes this a man’s issue and not just a woman’s issue, so men feel, correctly, like they have skin in the game, too.”

If you want to end a conversation before it gets heated, simply agree to disagree, Daniel Post Senning, an etiquette expert from the Emily Post Institute, said in November.

“You are also not obligated to have these conversations,” Senning said. “If you are willing to cede the last word or acknowledge that your opinions may differ, it’s very hard to argue with that.”

Now that neuroscientists better understand how the brain responds emotionally to political beliefs, it’s equally important to study what happens in the brain when you might be persuaded to change your beliefs, Kaplan said.

“While it makes sense to defend the beliefs that are important to us, it’s also crucial that we are able to change them when it’s appropriate to do so,” he said.

End of Article

Perhaps using these techniques could help all of us ruffle less feathers at the Thanksgiving table. It’s worth a try. D. Miyoshi

Wuhan was the Epicenter of the Pandemic



Members of the World Health Organization team investigating the origins of covid-19 arrive at the Wuhan Institute of Virology in China’s central Hubei province on February 3. HECTOR RETAMAL/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

On August 4, 2021 Andrew Miller published an article in *The Trumpet* that exposes perhaps one of the greatest cover-ups in modern history.

Miller writes that on August 2, Rep. Michael McCaul released a report compiled by the Minority Staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee titled “The Origins of COVID-19: An Investigation of the Wuhan Institute of Virology.” It shows that “the preponderance of evidence suggests sars-CoV-2 was accidentally released from a Wuhan Institute of Virology laboratory sometime before Sept. 12, 2019.” The report cites multiple pieces of evidence supporting its conclusions, including actions by Chinese and Americans to cover up the dangerous research being done at the Wuhan laboratory. It also provides a timeline of events leading up to the virus’s release.

The report is worth reading. It describes an account of how six Chinese miners contracted an unknown disease in April 2012 while working in a cave in Yunnan province. After three miners died from this strange illness, the Wuhan Institute of Virology sent researchers to collect bat samples from the cave. Three years later, the Wuhan Institute of Virology teamed up with British zoologist Dr. Peter Daszak and American microbiologist Dr. Ralph Baric to develop a vaccine against novel coronavirus. But since the coronaviruses they were studying could not affect human cells, they spliced the spike of a bat coronavirus onto a mouse-adapted sars-CoV-2 backbone to create a new virus capable of infecting humans. Then, in August 2019, one or more researchers at the Wuhan Institute of Virology became infected with a virus either collected from the Yunnan cave or engineered in the Wuhan laboratory.

These infected researchers traveled by metro in central Wuhan, spreading the virus. When officials became aware of what was happening, the Communist Party sent Maj. Gen. Chen Wei to take over the coronavirus research facility and instructed a genomics company to start sequencing the virus. But as soon as this gene sequencing was complete, China’s National Health Commission started arresting doctors and ordering institutions not to publish any information related to the “unknown disease.” Dr. Baric had previously stated that “molecularly cloned viruses were indistinguishable from wild type,” but apparently, the Communist Party did not want to take any chances. With help from Dr. Anthony Fauci and Dr. Daszak and the World Health Organization, the Communists covered up the virus’s true origins and turned what should have been a local outbreak into a global pandemic.

CNN, MSNBC, ABC NEWS and CBS NEWS failed to cover the House Foreign Affairs Committee report because it was authored by Republicans. But some Democrats are now admitting that the Wuhan lab-leak theory is likely true in the face of overwhelming evidence.

Yet the Biden administration is still trying to cover up Dr. Fauci’s role in this scandal. House Republicans are broadcasting that the Fauci-led National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) funneled more than \$826,000 to the Wuhan Institute of Virology through Dr. Daszak’s EcoHealth Alliance. So the National Institutes of Health has taken its database tracking U.S. taxpayer-backed research grants offline. Apparently, the Biden administration

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wants Dr. Fauci to continue warning the public about the “Delta variant” without the distraction of journalists investigating the financial ties between the NIAID and the Wuhan Institute of Virology.

Representative McCaul has accused the Communist Party of engaging in the “greatest cover-up in human history,” and he may be right. With help from the NIAID, EcoHealth Alliance, and the University of North Carolina, Chinese Communists engineered a virus that American Democrats used to flood ballot boxes with fraudulent mail-in ballots, increase the national debt by \$6 trillion, enrich the technology and pharmaceutical industries, impoverish 100,000 small businesses, and trigger the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression.

“The coronavirus crisis has exposed the true nature of the Chinese Communist Party as nothing ever has,” *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote in “Where Is the China-America Clash Leading?” “For years, China has worked ferociously to surpass the U.S. in economic power and scientific advancements. By now, it probably has overtaken America by some economic measures. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is also amassing staggering levels of military power. It is bent on asserting more and more control not just over the people of China but over the territory and people in the nation’s periphery. Meanwhile, the coronavirus that the CCP unleashed onto the world has cost the U.S. trillions of dollars. America’s national debt keeps climbing toward \$30 trillion. This weakness will be a major factor that strips the U.S. of its superpower status and a lot more.”

In addition to exposing the true nature of the Chinese Communist Party as nothing ever has, the coronavirus crisis has exposed America’s “deep state” like few things ever have. Likely, Joe Biden would not be in the White House today if it were not for the lengths Dr. Fauci, Dr. Daszak and the CCP went to cover up the coronavirus’s true origins until it was too late to stop the pandemic.

The National Institutes of Health can take a database offline to hide its financial activities, but that does not change the fact that America’s government (the Deep State and all political parties) have become corrupt from head to foot!

A sad commentary on the state of affairs of our great country.

D. Miyoshi

Why the Right and Left Don't Understand Each Other

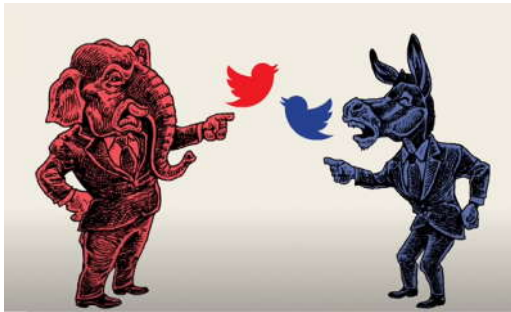


For the life of me, I can’t understand why some of my friends aren’t able to see the perfect logic of some my conservative (if not moderate) political views. And then I saw a video on YouTube entitled “Why the Right and Left hate Each other” by “Whatifaithist” and began to understand (at least a little) why these certain friends are not totally screwed up.

Essentially, the video reveals that the struggle between right and left is central to practically every country in the West. And if you dig a little deeper you find that it’s just not a mere political conflict but the struggle between right and left that is actually central to modern Western civilization with ideological roots going back thousands of years. And whichever side wins becomes decisive for the future.

The video was based on *Moral Foundations Theory* which was created by a group of social and cultural psychologists to understand why morality varies so much across cultures yet still shows so many similarities and recurrent themes. In brief, the theory proposes that several innate and universally available psychological systems are the foundations of “intuitive ethics.” Each culture then constructs virtues, narratives, and institutions on top of these foundations, thereby creating the unique moralities we see around the world, and conflicting within nations too.

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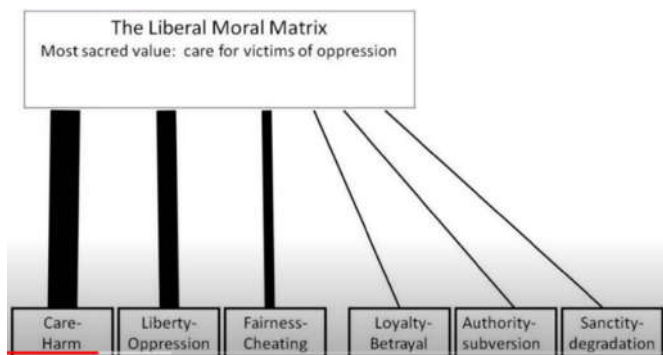
We need to first acknowledge that our minds are inherently self-serving and irrational. We ignore information we don't like. Social media algorithms have learned how to taken advantage of this and push us down rabbit holes that reinforce our beliefs about the world which might feel good but it's not good for us. Facebook is quite adept at this.

Let's explore why the right and left are different and why they dislike each other so much.

Different Values

The main determining factor is that the right and left care about fundamentally different values. A very smart social psychologist John Haidt did scientific studies and found there are six fundamental human values we all share. However, when looking at different political positions he found that conservatives, libertarians and progressives put extremely different emphases on these different values.

These values are 1. harm (which says that hurting others is bad), 2. fairness and people should reap what they sow, 3. liberty or that people shouldn't oppress their social inferiors, 4. loyalty which is self-explanatory, 5. respect for authority and 6. purity or that certain things are sacred and can't be violated.



Progressives are extremely high in the value harm. This is why left-wingers will say children are starving in Africa, how can we do nothing? Also, progressives are interested in liberty or caring about people who are oppressed by unfair hierarchies which is a lot of where their emphasis on helping oppressed groups comes from. Liberals also care a certain amount on fairness. However, after that, liberals don't care much of any of the other values.

Conservatives are fairly well balanced on all six values with high emphasis on authority and loyalty, maintaining moral purity, harm and liberty. Conservatives are more similar to the populace throughout history and the rest of the world and to non-Western societies. They tend to be generally higher in respect for authority, loyalty, and purity while progressives stress the West's greater emphasis on harm and liberty that began during the Middle Ages.

Why are THOSE PEOPLE so awful?"



As politics in the U.S. becomes increasingly polarized, more people than ever before are asking that question.

We know people on both sides of the political spectrum are quick to attack and dismiss those on the opposite side. Few people, however, make an effort to step back from the madness and ask, "What's really going on here? Why are these otherwise good people fighting so viciously? Why does politics seem to make everyone crazy?"

These are the sort of questions that the previously mentioned moral psychologist Haidt tries to answer in his book, *The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion*.

So how does Haidt answer the question, "Why are THOSE PEOPLE so awful?"



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Well, according to Haidt, most of them aren't awful and are instead decent and well-intentioned and genuinely believe their political views uphold what is good and moral in the world.

The problem is that people don't agree on what the words "good" and "moral" mean.

And here's a strange thought: Maybe we wouldn't actually want everyone to agree on what these words mean.

In *The Righteous Mind*, Haidt draws on his 25 years of research in evolutionary psychology, social psychology and anthropology and argues that:

Human moral and ethical judgments are made on the basis of intuition much more than rationality.

Our moral/ethical intuitions tend to be based on one or more "innate and universally available psychological systems"—i.e. systems for determining moral/ethical worth which are innate in all human minds.

As mentioned above, the five primary psychological systems—the five foundations of morality in human beings—are: care/harm, fairness/cheating, loyalty/betrayal, authority/subversion, and sanctity/degradation.

Each unique culture constructs "virtues, narratives, and institutions on top of these foundations, thereby creating the unique moralities we see around the world."

As alluded to above, Haidt's research has shown that politically liberal people in the modern world heavily favor just two of the human moral foundations: care/harm and fairness/cheating. That is, liberals have elevated the virtues of caring and fairness above all else, to the point of almost entirely dismissing the value of loyalty, authority, and sanctity.

Conservatives, on the other hand, tend to utilize all five of the moral foundations in approximately equal measures. This doesn't mean conservative morality is better or more accurate than liberal morality—just different.

Haidt suggests that most modern political disputes can be traced to the valuation or devaluation of loyalty, authority, and sanctity—the three moral foundations over which liberals and conservatives demonstrably disagree most violently.

Even more interestingly, Haidt's research has shown that it's possible to predict whether someone is liberal or conservative based on whether they have a high or low degree of openness to experience, one of the Big Five personality traits. Furthermore, openness to experience is believed to have a genetic component, meaning that a person's level of openness may be largely determined before they are born.

This leads to the surprising conclusion:

People's political orientation may be largely predetermined before they're born.

Haidt's research on openness to experience isn't the only research that has suggested this. A number of other studies have suggested a link between biology and political orientation.

Wait a minute. That means those awful other guys might have just been... born that way?

Yes, that is the implication.

OK, that may mean we're probably never going to be able to get rid of them or convince them that they're WRONG."

No, probably not. But there is still some hope.

Escaping the Moral Matrix

Haidt points out that liberals and conservatives both have something valuable to offer in the ongoing development of our world. Liberals tend to undervalue the goodness of the order, stability, and prosperity we've already attained, in favor of focusing on possibilities for a much brighter, better future.

Conservatives, on the other hand, tend to undervalue future possibilities, in favor of focusing on the goodness of what has already been attained. Liberals overlook the fact that there are more ways to break complex systems than improve them, while conservatives overlook the fact that over the long span of history, societal change has often (though certainly not always) been a force for tremendous good.



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Advancing in a Time of Crisis



Financial Crisis Report



Haidt argues that these liberal and conservative biases—the liberal bias toward a Bright Future and the conservative bias toward a Beautiful Past—actually result in a kind of Yin and Yang dynamic. He suggests that the tension between liberal and conservative ideas is healthy and productive for societies, and that being able to see this fact is the way to escape the “moral matrix.” Here’s a quote from his TED Talk on “the moral roots of liberals and conservatives”:

“So once you see this—once you see that liberals and conservatives both have something to contribute; that they form a balance on change versus stability—then I think the way is open to step outside the moral matrix. This is the great insight that all the Asian religions have attained. Think about Yin and Yang. Yin and Yang aren’t enemies. Yin and Yang don’t hate each other. Yin and Yang are both necessary—like night and day—for the functioning of the world.”

Or, as one of a rare breed of Actually Insightful YouTube Commenters put it:

“Liberals are there to liberate a culture from ideas and norms that have become outdated and counterproductive.

Conservatives are there to conserve the foundations and the stabilizing values of a culture.

We need both.”

These days in America this balance of political ideas is no-where near perfect, (as the Yin and Yang metaphor would suggest). Nevertheless, Haidt’s argument is an interesting one and has merit. If nothing else, his research suggests that there are legitimate (and perhaps biological) reasons why all of us believe what we believe, that liberals and conservatives both serve important societal functions, and that we’re much better off attempting to understand others’ viewpoints, rather than demonize them. This effort to understand must, of course, also encompass the countless rich viewpoints that can’t be neatly categorized within the liberal-conservative dichotomy that defines so much of our public dialogue.



In today’s political climate, Jonathan Haidt’s ideas seem exceedingly important and necessary. The sooner we can cease engaging in tribalistic warfare, transcend the “moral matrix,” and recognize that both liberal and conservative ideas can have merit, the sooner we can engage in more productive political discourse and focus on addressing the most pressing global issues of our time.

So there is some hope after all.

D. Miyoshi



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He is Managing Attorney of Miyoshi Law, an International Law Firm where he approaches legal issues through a commercial lens and is a trusted legal and business advisor to his corporate and estate clients. In military service in Vietnam, he led a Combined Action Platoon as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps and received the Naval Commendation Medal with “Combat V”.

He appears in 14 Who’s Who publications throughout the world and is listed as a specialist in international business, real estate and estate planning.



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