

FREEDOM'S *Phoenix*



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Freedom'sPhoenix Digital Magazine viewing tips By Nick Barnett

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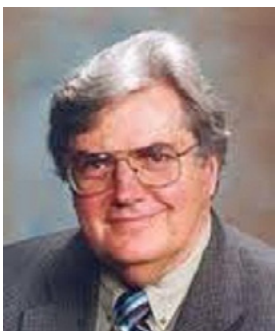
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"WHERE THE GREAT MINDS OF THE MODERN FREEDOM MOVEMENT COME TOGETHER"

Where Do We Go From Here?

By Butler Shaffer

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JUST because everything is different doesn't mean anything has changed.

~ Irene Peter

Operating on the assumptions (1) that Ron Paul will not be the 2012 GOP presidential nominee, and (2) that he is likely to retire from future presidential campaigns, I focus on the question: *where are those who advocate peace and liberty to now direct their energies?* With three daughters, their husbands, and five young grandchildren comprising my sense of the future of mankind, I am quite interested in how they – and other members of their generations – can best advance the values and social systems that serve *their* interests rather than the interests of members of the corporate-state.

My experiences and inquiries keep me convinced that trying to dismantle political thinking from within the system is both a futile and contradictory undertaking. I do acknowledge that Ron Paul, using the political process, has done more than any other individual to help intelligent men and women discover the harsh and destructive nature of the state. The central "issues" that whisked George H.W. Bush into the White House in 1988 – whether Willie Horton should have been let out of prison and the sacred nature of the pledge of allegiance – can still arouse applause from aged defenders of the status quo, but the younger generation knows that the quality of their lives depends on more important questions. There is *enfolded* into the life force of humans a need for fundamentally new thinking and social practices that is – thanks primarily to Ron's concise and principled analysis – *unfold*ing in the kids. At my age, *everyone* is a kid.

Anyone who believes that Ron Paul has simply dreamed up an ideology that young people find attractive has no understanding of what is transpiring in this movement. Ron has tapped into an energy source that could be likened to a Rupert Sheldrake "morphogenetic field." At both a conscious and unconscious level, tens of millions of people throughout the world are sharing in the spontaneous eruption of opposition to the dehumanizing, oppressive, violent, and destructive nature of the corporate-state systems that exploit human beings for institutional ends. Peace, liberty, private property ownership, and respect for the inviolability of the individual, are qualities insisted upon by growing numbers of persons, not only in America, but elsewhere in the world.

Ron Paul did not invent this mobilization of the human spirit, nor will the energies subside after November's elections. If members of the established order look upon this movement as a "fad" that will disappear when Ron Paul retires, they are sadly disillusioned. The question before us, however, has to do with how this energized spirit will find expression in the following months and years. How will those whom I affectionately refer to as "the kids" advance the cause of peace and liberty when there is no presidential campaign to attract them?

Those who are drawn to libertarian sentiments and ideas are generally in agreement that there is no definitive answer to the question of how free men and women will live. When people ask me the kinds of questions about "how will streets be provided for?," or "how will children be educated?," or "how will the impoverished be cared for?," I respond: "I don't know. I suspect that in a society of free people, there will likely be many different ways in which such services will be provided." F.A. Harper stated the matter quite succinctly: "the man who knows what freedom means will find a way to be free." We ought not be surprised to imagine that, in a society of unqualified liberty, millions of people will find a multitude of ways of living. Uniformity and standardization do not characterize the nature of life.

Libertarians have a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate – both from reasoning and empirical evidence – that human beings are capable of organizing and creating ways of accomplishing whatever they value and to which they are willing to commit their own resources. All that the state can accomplish, in this regard, is to (a) *restrain* such efforts in order to protect the interests of those who enjoy access to state power, and/or (b) shift the costs of providing such goods or services to those unwilling to pay for them. The history of privately-built roads, alternative schools, early 20th century health-care systems, private fire companies and security firms, are just a few examples of how men and women can resort to voluntary practices to accomplish what politically-conditioned minds believe can only be done through state coercion.

So it will be with the future of libertarian thinking and behavior. The man I have long considered to be the father of modern libertarian thinking, Leonard Read, was of the view that the most successful way to promote the cause of liberty was to *be* – in your behavior – the kind of person that your philosophy espoused. This is another way of encouraging people *to live the centered life; to live with integrity; without contradiction between your ideas and your actions.*

My friend – the late Karl Hess – had an interesting metaphor with which to address the question of how libertarians might act to promote their philosophy. Recognizing that there will be all kinds of approaches people might take – from engaging in peaceful demonstrations, to running for public office, to writing op-eds or letters-to-the-editor, or teaching, or writing articles and/or books – we ought to be supportive of any efforts, consistent with peace and liberty, to which different people are attracted. "Imagine that you are boarding a train and want to proceed to a destination of 'total liberty.' There are some people who will ride with you all the way, but others who will be more comfortable getting off early; going as far as they feel like going." Karl went on to point out that as long as the other passengers are going in the direction of liberty – and not trying to reverse the direction of the train – the rest of us should welcome their support.

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I have long been of the view that trying to reform the political system, or running for political office, is counter-productive. I continue to hold to this view even as I greatly admire what Ron Paul has been able to accomplish within the political system. His accomplishments, however, are to be found in helping to raise the conscious awareness of millions of people to see the state for the vicious racket that it is. It must also be noted that Ron is a very exceptional case: he understands the problems of statism with an intellectual depth few others share. Those who cling to faith in electoral politics should be forewarned to pay little attention to the make-believe "libertarians" who bandy about phrases they neither understand nor embrace. There is an important distinction to be drawn between making compromises as to *strategy* (i.e., how best to advance peace and liberty) and *principles*. One must learn how to distinguish the two, as there will be many eager for political power who will *sound* like principled libertarians even as they help advance statism. (Does the name "Ronald Reagan" ring a bell?)

As people weigh the options for advancing libertarian principles, I offer this advice: bear in mind the comparative advantage these ideas have in today's world. Statist programs grounded in socialistic thought and economic planning have had whatever respectability they once enjoyed among most intellectuals dispatched by decades of empirical experience. Even the case for superintending regulatory systems is now understood to be little more than a cover for industry-desired cartelism. The consequence of the failure to maintain a separation of economy and state has been to foster recessions/depressions, inflation, and increased taxation, and to discourage the creativity and production necessary to the survival of civilization itself. In a word, the modern state is *economically* bankrupt.

But the bankruptcy runs much deeper than what can be quantified in material terms. Our modern culture suffers from a *moral* bankruptcy as well. Wars against any nations selected by the whims of an empirical president; expanded police-state practices; the use of torture, imprisonment without trial, and assassination of persons selected by the president; increased surveillance, wiretapping, and censorship; the war against the unimpeded exchange of information, combine to reveal an institutional order that has lost whatever moral foundations it might have once enjoyed.

But beyond these more obvious examples of a culture in entropic collapse is to be found its most vulnerable trait: the *spiritual* depletion of a politically-dominated society. Because the state is defined as an institution that enjoys a monopoly on the use of violence within a given territory, such power is dependent upon having no impediments to its exercise. The idea of a "limitation" on the exercise of state power is purely illusory, offered to give Boobus the feeling that his liberty and individuality are bounded by a cushion of inviolability. But the reality is to the contrary: a *limitation* on state power is necessarily a *denial* of its monopolization of the forces of violence. Almost by definition, then, the state must treat its human subjects as assets to be exploited on behalf of the purposes of the state and its institutional owners.

This, I suggest, is where the modern state is the most defenseless and subject to criticism. It is, I believe, the state's war against the human spirit that has so energized not only the Ron Paul movement, but much of the Occupy, Arab Spring, anti-war, Tea Party, pro-Wikileaks, and other widespread, peaceful expressions of civil disobedience and opposition to state power. While the institutional self-serving economic consequences of governmental policies are also helping to drive these various movements, Murray Rothbard's deeper, spiritual sentiments are also being voiced. Forty years ago, he accurately prophesied that "the young kids out there are not going to go the barricades in defense of lowered transaction costs."

With a growing awareness of the dehumanizing and destructive nature of all political systems, and the demonstrated failure of centralized banking and regulatory practices to produce economic well-being, there is a wonderful opportunity for the defenders of liberty to articulate a coherent case that addresses the economic, moral, and spiritual dimensions of the failures of statism. The bankruptcy of state collectivism has left many otherwise intelligent minds without an intellectually respectable basis for their thinking. As we are witnessing in the "war on terror" as well as efforts to advance the "global warming" religion, the statist cause has reduced itself to little more than an attraction to institutionalized violence. What better time to advance an intellectually sound philosophy that values principled *integrity* more highly than public opinion polling and special-interest funding as the basis for their actions?

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As our civilization – and the thinking that’s bringing it down – continues its downward spiral, there is a vacuum to be filled by ideas and practices that sustain life. It is in response to such emptiness that Albert Jay Nock’s “Remnant” will help to discover alternatives to our politicized mass-minded destructiveness. I have been in attendance at Ron Paul rallies and seen thousands of young faces in the audience, and realized that I was looking upon the Remnant; the future of truly civilized people. What a contrast is found in comparing the attitudes of the young who see their lives enhanced by such transformations, while those who have chosen to become part of the life-destroying military are responding with ever-increasing acts of suicide. What better images to put before our children as they embark on the preparations for their futures!


But to be a part of this metamorphosis will require great effort, not so much in trying to organize and change *others*, but in developing one’s own understanding. The defenders of the *ancien regime* – having no intellectual foundations for their ambitions for power – will be unable to sustain themselves in intelligent discourse. As we have already seen, they have had to resort to name-calling – “racist,” “anti-Semitic,” “hate-monger,” etc. – as a substitute for clear, principled thought.

The best advice I can offer to those participating in this new renaissance is to devote your energies to the expansion of your awareness of the conditions necessary to a human-centered culture. This involves moving beyond the recitation of clichés and bromides; abandoning ideologies, dogmas, and gurus; and discovering that a creative understanding is to be found *not* in *answers*, but in refining the quality of your *questions*. Two of my favorite quotations are Thomas Pynchon’s “if they can get you asking the wrong questions, they don’t have to worry about answers,” and Milton Mayer’s “the questions that can be answered are not worth asking.” Learn to employ my favorite word in the English language: “why?” Learn, as well, how to take this question into the ever-deeper inquiries your thinking will take you.

At the same time, *do your homework!* No matter how knowledgeable you believe yourself to be in various subject areas, keep expanding your awareness. Read with greater depth in such fields as economics – even challenging yourself with Mises’ [Human Action](#) – history, psychology, philosophy, religion, the genuine sciences (e.g., physics, biology, chemistry, brain/mind studies, geology). There are many sources that

can assist you in your inquiries: Mises University, LewRockwell.com, Antiwar.com, the Independent Institute, along with hundreds of other Internet sites.

I am convinced that any emerging life-sustaining renaissance will have its primary focus on the liberation of the human spirit. It is the confrontation between *individualism* and *collectivism* that will be the focal point in efforts to civilize and humanize an uncivilized and dehumanized world. As such, extend your inquiries into areas with which many libertarians are unfamiliar or uncomfortable: poetry, art, music, dance, depth psychology, and other spiritual dimensions of what it means to be human. I suspect that what most attracted readers to Ayn Rand’s novels was not her logical reasoning, but her passion. Rediscover the liberating works of Shelley, Whitman, Goethe, cummings, among earlier poets, as well as the more recent poetry of Seamus Heaney and Liliya Valis. For spiritual accompaniment on your journey, I offer “The Seedkeepers,” written by an unknown Palestinian:

- “Burn our Land.
- Burn our dreams.
- Pour acid on our songs.
- Cover with sawdust the blood of our massacred people.
- Muffle with your technology the screams of all that is free, wild and indigenous.
- Destroy our grass and soil.
- Raze to the ground every farm and every village our ancestors had built.
- Every tree, every home, every book, every law and all equity and harmony.
- Flatten with your bombs every valley.
- Erase with your edits our past, our literature, our metaphor.
- Denude the forest and the earth till no insect no bird no word can find a place to hide.
- Do that and more.
- I do not fear your tyranny.
- I do not despair ever.
- For I guard a seed, a little live seed, that I shall safeguard and plant again.” 

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Butler Shaffer [[send him e-mail](#)] teaches at the Southwestern University School of Law. He is the author of the newly-released [In Restraint of Trade: The Business Campaign Against Competition, 1918–1938](#), [Calculated Chaos: Institutional Threats to Peace and Human Survival](#), and [Boundaries of Order](#). His latest book is [The Wizards of Ozymandias](#).

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WHAT WE CAN DO NOW:

How to Prepare for the Future, Grow in the Light Direction, and Teach Each Other

How to Survive with Integrity

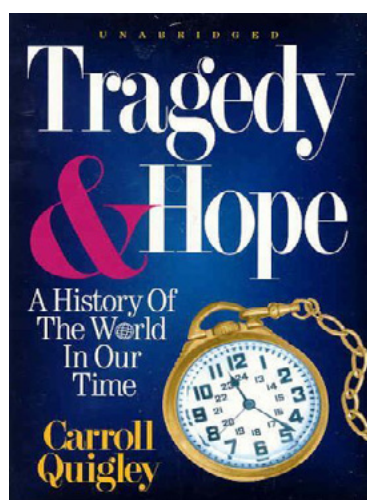
By Richard Grove

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SUMMARY: A presentation of effective strategies and tactics for engaging in [intellectual self-defense](#) (to empower the integrity of your perspectives and decision making), coupled with methods of cogent and compassionate communication, all of which equate to pursuing, attaining, and preserving, a voluntary Life, total Liberty, and lifelong Happiness... a true brand of wealth which you can share endlessly with others.

Introduction: Greetings, and thank you for taking a few moments of your precious time, to consider a few thoughts which Ernie and Donna felt would empower all readers of Freedom's Phoenix. My name is Richard Grove, and yes, it's likely we haven't yet met; it's a pleasure to make your acquaintance, and I'll take the onus of responsibility to admit it's likely my fault we did not meet earlier. In the [July 2012 issue of Freedom's Phoenix](#), Cody Hall authored an [article](#) in which my fiancée (Lisa) and I were mentioned with respect to "The Ultimate History Lesson" and the ongoing fundraising for John Taylor Gatto. The word "Introduction" is composed of 2 Latin words, meaning, to "*lead into*" (the unknown), and in investing [several hours on air this past week with Ernie](#), his criticism of my research and publication is highly constructive and instructive, in so far as it pertains to the fact that I don't do enough to ensure that honest folks of all ages are being exposed to the dots we've been connecting at Tragedy and Hope dot com; which is absolutely true and an astute observation on his part. To help rectify this matter, herein, my aim is to begin integrating his constructive criticism, and continue to demonstrate my ability to learn and outgrow the status-quo in a way that benefits anyone with enough curiosity to continue asking the right questions.



What I do: I work with my friends to create educational media, which enables individuals to identify the blind spots embedded in their perspective, by the non-elected international ruling class and proliferated through the purposeful

subversion of public schooling and corporate mass media. Since 2006, I have published a curriculum for students and adults, inclusive of both audio ([The Peace Revolution Podcast](#)) and video (an example would be "[The Ultimate History Lesson: A Weekend with John Taylor Gatto](#)"). Since 2009, we've hosted an online research community at [Tragedy and Hope](#), populated by about 2,000 conscious individuals from all over the planet. In 2012, we launched several live streaming shows for our subscribers, including [History... So It Doesn't Repeat](#), the first episode of which is now publically available. [My bio and resume can be found here](#), and an explanation of why we chose "Tragedy and Hope" is based on a famous history text,

[detailed here](#). Last but not least, my recent interviews on Declare Your Independence can be found [here](#) (07-25-12), [here](#) (07-26-12), and [here](#) (07-31-12).

Freedom's Phoenix has a fantastic news feed to which I've subscribed since 2008. FP also has a unique audience among internet news sites; that uniqueness is found in the sheer magnitude of exposure to a myriad of interconnected news and history filed diligently over the years, and organized such that it empowers you, the intended audience, with a potent form of data streams for all things involving a voluntary and self-reliant lifestyle.

That being read, what I'm going to provide you with is *unlike* what I would provide the general public with, given that they need a ramp up to the first step, and you're already well on your way toward a serene perspective by understanding reality, as it is, not as we've been taught to see it.

I find that even the most-experienced individuals I've encountered can find the following to be a useful resource, to help explain what they may already realize, to others. In other words, even if at first you think you know what I'm saying, it might be interesting to follow the stream of consciousness anyway, just as a refresher; and if you can help me improve my understanding, I would be grateful.

I had intended this to be a 1-page article, short and sweet; but nature sometimes takes another course, independent of our plans, and I find that I enjoy the unfolding of each mystery just as much, if not more, than I do forcing my will on reality through strict planning. Knowing such things about yourself, will help you in maintaining your integrity, the essence of which is time management; because you can't keep your word, if you don't control your schedule and your ability to get things done.

Now, before you think I don't have time to read all this, consider: Do I have time *not* to read this? Will not reading this cost me hours, days, or years of needless struggle through trial and error; when in fact investing a few moments now might certainly lead me to much more valuable perspectives, in a manner far more expedient than my own trial and error? If you can ask those questions, and you want answers, you're in the right place. This *IS* after all, the resurrection of liberty that is [Freedom's Phoenix](#)!

Ask yourself "*what are some things which I've learned during my life, and which I grew to enjoy, but which I was not successful on the first attempt?*", it could be learning a sport, learning to read, learning how to drive a car, or use a fire-arm, or any of a number of other talents you've developed thus far. The point is, you might not enjoy this or think reading this is as empowering as you will after you do a little practice

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and invest the time to fortify your perspectives, through observation. This sport, the sport of intellectual and physical self-defense (which is life here on earth), was a sport ongoing before you realized it, and one which will continue as you play through, in one form or another, for the rest of your life here on spaceship earth.

Keep in mind, that there are no enemies, only antagonists to help us identify our weaknesses, and to aid in discovering and developing our strengths.

Here's an outline which you can use every day, all day, for the rest of your life; so don't think of it so much as an "article" as my conveying some of the most valuable "life lessons" I've learned so far. I am, as of yet, still learning; so if you disagree with where I am right now in my learning curve, you're in good company, because I often disagree with myself, and I find that it's only through that line of constructive and purposeful argument that I can grow without including contradictions and illusions in my growth as a human being.

Preparing for Life: If you want to see how many people are unprepared and unconscious in life, just see who laughs when you're prepping. *They* think that we're wasting our time, and *we* know they are wasting theirs, by not thinking in the first place. The reality of our human experience is that which unites us in the common bond that is nature: we are all human beings, and what makes us different from animals of the earth is that we have the ability (the obligation?) to ask questions. By making non-declarative sentences, by thinking with diffidence, we are already learning our way to survival. We as human beings, all share common needs: clean air, fresh water, healthy natural food, shelter, and security of our rights as individuals, just to name a few. In order to be productive in preparing for the future (or any other area of life), one must focus on positive outcomes (i.e. survival without loss of individual freedom, liberty, health, or integrity), organize by priorities (i.e. food, water, shelter, individual and group security), and move forward with the next actions of most important items to be completed on your list. The QUESTION is: Once you're prepared, once your family is prepared, how do we get our friends, colleagues, neighbors, and the hundreds of millions of other individuals in America to do likewise? How do we survive as the non-elected ruling class attempts to eliminate billions of people? At what point is survival under tyranny worse than death? Whew! So many questions, so little time.

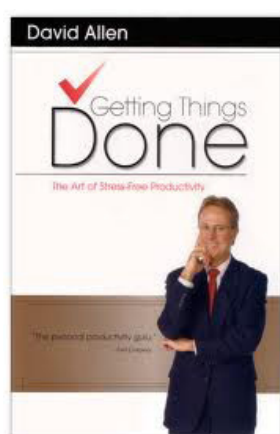
Time Management: Remember those people who make fun of "preppers"? Yes, those are the people we'll need to eventually learn how to communicate with, as their needs are identical to ours, yet their priorities continue to be in conflict with human needs for individual survival. How did they get this way? Why do they

not see what we see? Why do their actions contradict their proclaimed love for their family, and perpetrate a sort of slavery by ignorance? There are many questions, the answers to several are in the following suggestions for consideration, but it remains that in order to bridge the existing gap in mindsets, we have to ask several questions, find the answers, and that takes time. Without a method to administer your will into time and space, you will find that you are not nearly as efficient, effective, or organized as you *could* be.

In order to ask the questions and find valid answers, we first have to become increasingly involved in the simple steps of organizing and harnessing our own unique ability to get things done. The book I would recommend is "[Getting Things Done: The Art of Stress-Free Productivity](#)" by David Allen. Yes, his method is used effectively by the World Bank, Oracle, and many other nefarious New World Order type international gangsters; but the method is a tool, and in this case, the tool is predominantly being used to organize human beings out of existence. Like all tools, its use is a function of the mindset of the users. I think we're all in the market to learn how the non-elected rulers have enough time to rule us, and live their lives. I think that learning how the prison lock works, is the way to pick it. I think we can do better, if we all take the time to get organized and become the majority users of our own time and resources. The fact is, the sociology of the elites is that they are few in number, but highly organized, and they communicate without entropy (or meaning being lost in translation). We, liberty minded individuals who seek to be self-reliant and equal in our voluntary relationships, have yet to grasp the meaning and use of these tools on a wide scale ourselves, and then to make them widely available and understood to all. If you pick up the book, *Getting Things Done*, read the last 3 chapters first, then start back at chapter 1 and read through to the end; that's my personal assessment after much study, as the content in the first edition is somewhat yet-to-be refined, however in David Allen's lectures he presents in the order I've just described (last chapters first). I've used this method successfully and effectively and I continue to find it to be one of the most useful integrations of learning, because it helps to improve my abilities in all other areas of life, as they are all functions of *Getting Things Done*.

Responsibility: The ability to respond as a responsible adult is a function of self-reliance, and individual autonomy. To increase our ability to respond, we as individuals must use abstractions which I'll refer to as methods; wherein we use our mind to increase our chances of survival. Simply stated, there are 6 questions I ask individuals to gage where they stand, on their path toward outgrowing the extended adolescence instilled through compulsory schooling and reinforced repeatedly by status-quo media. Keep in mind, knowledge grows where the question mark goes; this is how I identify how balanced someone could be, juxtaposed to where they are

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now, and without these methods we are flipping coins instead of getting consistent and repeatable results, creating synergy across many individuals who can then work together voluntarily to get things done.

1. By what method do you identify that which exists (i.e. reality)?
2. By what method do you validate the contents of your mind and communications?
3. By what method do you identify contradictions (i.e. fallacies)?
4. By what method do you identify when someone is providing you with false information?
5. By what method do you resolve disputes and conflicts?
6. By what method do you manage your time?

(the answers to these questions are found at the end of this article, underneath the section titled “Would You Like To Know More?”)

The Methods: There seems to be a single method, given many names, which leads to the same result. David Allen’s method in “[Getting Things Done](#)”, is not new, and it’s not rocket science. He simply has taken a method which has existed for thousands of years, and branded it in a specific area of time management and accomplishing your prioritized tasks to reach the serenity of a job well done, in all aspects of life. That’s admirable, but it could be made even more useful, and that’s what I’m here to explain. Put simply, in studying Allen’s book and lectures, I realized that the key to getting things done is simply learning the epistemology of your stuff. That sounds complex, because I used the word epistemology, so allow me to define it in context. It simply means asking the *QUESTIONS* which help you *IDENTIFY* your stuff. It works like this: the example is a messy office or work area, stuff is stacked all over the place.

You have lots of stuff to do. You feel anxious, and overburdened, and you want the day to end; unless you’re working for yourself, in which case, that never happens until you get *ORGANIZED*, once and for all... and that starts with a method of how to *IDENTIFY* your stuff, which no longer makes it stuff. Stuff is what we call things we haven’t yet *DEFINED* and *ORGANIZED*. (Note: I’m not yelling, I’m simply emphasizing in a way that’s easy for you to read. Think of it as me WHISPERING the wisdom of what’s in front of our noses.)

The process Allen teaches, asks questions, for example: What is this? Why do I need it? When do I use it? Where should I store it? When do I no longer need this? Now, clear an area to contain your “stuff”, and put it all there, Allen calls this your inbox. Process the inbox, by asking the questions, identifying the next action, and if the next action takes less than 2 minutes, do it then; if not, schedule it on a prioritized list, to be processed later, unless you can delegate it. Repeat for each and every item, and I’ve found that following Allen’s advice of employing use of a few tools, those being some file folders, a label maker, and some file cabinets, which can do wonders for eliminating clutter, and turning

your stuff into valuable assets. Now that you know it’s not a liability because you’ve observed the context, identified the object, organized it and removed the clutter, and thus you’re more effective... every day. As the founding of your ability to instill yourself with intellectual self-defense, you need time management, in order to have the time to learn (i.e. ask the questions, find the answers) all that needs to be realized in order to survive and thrive while living the solution.

Pause for a moment, and think about how many question marks you’ve read in this article, and ask yourself, “Am I asking enough questions during the day?”, and “Am I consistently asking questions, or do I sometimes make assumptions without doing the work of thinking?”. Considering that thinking is the process of asking questions to attain *IDENTIFICATION* through *DEFINITION*, it becomes apparent that if we’re not asking questions consistently and using a method, we’re not thinking as clearly or as constructively as we might be able to do, IF we had just a little more info. What do we need to understand to learn *ANYTHING* for ourselves? Where might we find such information? Well, I’m not an expert, I’m simply a human being, who has been inspired to ask my share of questions, and I’ve been fortunate enough to be surrounded by brilliant minds, together with whom I’ve identified many, many, answers which I’m sure will be likewise inspiring to you. First I’ll explain what I’ve learned about the method, and second, I’ll provide you with a myriad of useful resources through which you can unleash your own question and answer (i.e. thinking) potential.

To aid in your discovery, here’s what I’ve learned, about *how I learn*; which is useful because it pertains to everyone enjoying the human experience. I know that we all think we know this, but when you break down what actually happens, there’s a finer perspective to be had, reality in higher definition, if you pardon the mixed metaphor. It begins with our 5-senses, our sole connection to that which exists, it existed before we got here, it will exist after we graduate from life; our only way to know it is to process our perceptions by formulating abstractions, or concepts, which we identify and label using words. The world is all one thing. When we learn our first word, usually pertaining to our parental guardians, that word exists, separate from the world. As we learn more words, we can take the world, and through abstraction break it down into the individual words of any language on earth. Here are 2 useful definitions, describing how to put it back together:

Reality is every substance, action, relationship, and attribute which is, was, or ever will be. In other words, reality is every noun, verb, prepositional phrase, adjective, and adverb, used to describe that which is, was, or ever will be.

Existence is your perception of objective reality, combined with your subjective abstraction of reality, using words to form thoughts, to take action (in objective reality) to achieve happiness (in subjective reality).

Now, admit the fact that this is kind of deep thinking, and yet we all thought we knew all about it without first observing what was going on, and that’s my point; illustrated here in this

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quote by Daniel Boorstin (a Rhodes Scholar and Librarian of Congress, if you're impressed by appeals to authority):

“The greatest obstacle to *discovery* is not ignorance - it is the *illusion* of knowledge.”



That means, we need a method to identify that which exists, and accurate information about that which exists; this is the essence of knowledge, and

it is a direct consequence of asking substantial questions and identifying valid answers. This is the key to the human experience, as I laid out in my class on the human experience “[Peace Revolution episode 023: How to Free Your Mind / The Occulted Tools of Wisdom](#)”, just as an example this is not a new idea, but the foundation of how the ruling class operates, by hiding useful information from us, and thereby creating a power/info/knowledge/money gap... it all has the same root cause and source of corruption, the philosophy of plunder, challenging those of us with a philosophy of production and private property, as functions of our living-and-breathing existence.

We as human beings are plagued by our own lack of discipline in our thinking, and this lack of intellectual self-defense on a wide scale, is a purposeful and strategic method to manage us, as human resources; living our lives at the will of the non-elected ruling class, having learned to love our servitude, which means: going through life without asking questions, consistently, each and every step of the way, through each day, week, and year. Subconsciously we know this, we know that we need reason and logic to survive. For anyone questioning this, you're not alone- I challenge my own ideas all the time; when I challenged this idea, I asked myself the following questions:

1. “What if I were alone in the wilderness, left to survive with nothing from the civilized world, how long could I survive without logic and reason?”
2. How long could I stave off panic and stupidity that arises when fear grips the brain, when the unknown is present and I have no way to deal with it?
3. What happens to the human will to survive when facing obstacles which cannot be intellectually or physically surmounted?”

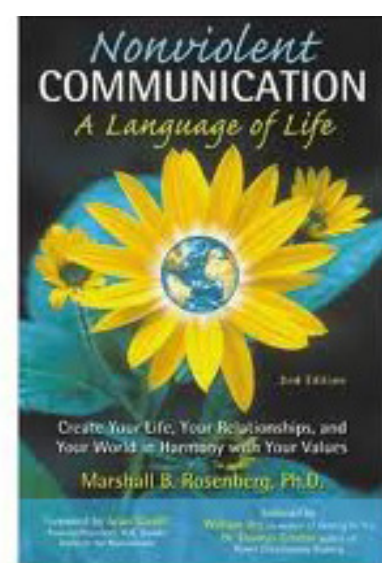
After asking those questions, and answering them for one's self, it's easy for an individual to realize the power of existence, as it is the function of our life, and eventual death... and to realize that our “job” is to use our minds, to elongate our time here, to surround ourselves with others who understand the cause-and-effect nature of life, and to share the wisdom of living a voluntary lifestyle and being of a self-reliant mindset, peacefully alongside others... as they are also looking for the same serenity enjoyed by those who organize their lives, identify positive outcomes, and prioritize the next actions to realize and define their life's purpose, step-by-step.

Succinctly, given any unknown, or fear, or frustrating situation; relax, call upon your question mark-forming abilities, put your mind to work for you, not against you. Stop and observe the relevant data available to you, identify and define the individual parts, organize it by removing the contradictions (i.e. illusions, non-facts of reality, anti-concepts; things which do not exist, but others assert to exist, without objective evidence).

After you've asked the questions and identified valid answers, you're then, and only then, ready and responsible enough to communicate to others; of course, this isn't a perfect world, and not a single one of us have had the privilege of being exposed only to truth during our lives. In living our lives prior to understanding this, we have experienced entropy (loss of effective communication), error, and worse... because we were and are at all times, playing in a game which demands our survival... whether we temporarily forget that, or choose to consciously live that reality on a daily basis. So the pattern is: ***Observe, Identify, Organize, and Communicate***; that covers your input of data via the 5-senses, your definition and abstraction into words of your chosen language, as well as organizing by removing the contradictions (as those are the indicators of non-reality, i.e. illusions, lies, non-valid data), before you communicate your thoughts into actions.

How did all those people who are not thinking get that way? It's a function of the system of schooling made compulsory not by our parents, teachers, and administrators; but by a group of internationally-minded individuals who organized themselves against everyone else. Their financial order held by monopoly may seem recent, but their intention to plunder the rights and thus lives of individuals, has been eternal in human history; it is high-time that we learned our way out of this ruse, back into reality, where we can take action with certainty, based on natural law and voluntary interactions... to demonstrate that peace IS the way, and the WAY is meant to be peaceful. The ruling elite have to go through great expense of their time and resources to precondition us all to be like crabs, pulling anyone who attempts to rise out of the system of confinement, back down into it. We are our own worst policemen, ONLY until we learn how to think clearly and consistently, and communicate compassionately.

Speaking of compassionate and constructive forms of communication, once our methods of observation and decision making are in place, we need a way to meet our needs; our language forms our thoughts, which then become our words, transmitted through the air and heard by others... these are all functions of logic, and reason, and what should be communication is in actuality nothing but noise when logic and reason are absent. The book “Non-Violent Communication” by Dr. Marshall Rosenberg contains a method, yes another useful method, to help individuals and groups meet their own needs even when it seems nothing can be done but to resort to conflict. His method is especially useful when we're



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dealing with someone of the plunder mentality, but it is also useful in overcoming the obstacles of the majority of people just like you and me, who just need a little time, patience, and attention... we can all meet our needs, and live without violating the free will and inherent rights of other human beings.

Why do they not see what we see? In many cases, it is because we have done more work, asking the questions and finding valid answers; and they have yet to do that work for their own benefit. By “work”, I simply mean “taking the actions which lead to continuing your survival”.

Why do many people take actions which are in direct conflict with their needs to survive? In many cases it is due to the fact that many people have also outsourced their thinking, trading self-reliance for experts’ opinions, which the experts are happy to make up, on the spot, given a dollar value. This is the ancient art of sophism, the use of non-truth, to control human resources. It dissolves in the face of logic and reason, when we all know how to question away illusions, find the reality, and get things done; so that we can all pursue, attain, and maintain, our life, and liberty while experiencing the happiness that comes, with a hard day’s work (repeated) toward a worthwhile purpose.

My purpose: to get you to ask more questions.

My method: to demonstrate to you how I did it for myself, in less time than it took me to figure it out by trial and error.

My goal: to enlist your help, so that we, together, can reach the billions of people who are still amazed by the matrix, entranced by entertainment, and polarized by contrived politics. The word politics refers to the individual’s participation in their own community, and today, politicians have little-or-no participation or meaningful communication with those who they govern; no accountability means no rights, and that indicates a population without the intellectual self-defense to organize, and to make meaningful and constructive progress, one day, at a time. Ironically, that’s how we live life, one day at a time.

Live to Learn, Learn to Live. And while we’re at it, we should also make a bumper sticker that reads “Your *Lawn* could be Your *Farm*”... because it’s the little reminders that when repeated, chip away at the prison of empire we’ve all been loving a bit too much; question why we have a lawn, learn the history of British slavery and how it empowers the ruling class for you to not be independent and self-reliant. The more each of us asks why we do each task during our day, the more we look into the history of the habits we all take as “American”, we should first come to know ourselves... and that is the process which I’ve described above. Integrate the information, by clicking the links, asking the questions, exploring the answers; and sharing what you’ve learned with everyone you know.

After all, that’s what Cody Hall was doing when he handed Ernie and Donna “[The Ultimate History Lesson](#)”, and my life hasn’t been the same

since, and I’m appreciative, grateful, and humbled to be read by such a wide and heretofore educated audience; I hope that your time invested herein was as worthwhile for you, as it was for me to sit down, focus, and communicate a sample (hopefully a useful one), which you can use successfully to empower your subjective dreams and manifest them into objective reality... that’s what this place is all about, and my job is to make sure the tools aren’t being used exclusively by some, who like to deny the others their right to exist and be free.

Thank you for taking the time to read, to think, and to enrich your own life, to whatever extent you seek to integrate useful information; please share what you find valuable with others, and leave the arbitrary and un-substantial bits to the sands of time, and THANK YOU for [TUNING-IN](#) and not DROPPING OUT!

Would you like to know more?

1. **Resource:** [The Peace Revolution podcast](#) is an ongoing curriculum for individuals of all ages, focused on a journey through which you can see all the sights, and avoid the pitfalls in life. Specifically: learn how to undo each and every tie that binds us to involuntary servitude, one “lesson” (i.e. episode) at a time. Note: some chains take longer to break, so if you jump into the later episodes, they are substantially more dense and thus longer, than the early episodes.

a. Where to start? Try episode 023: [How To Free Your Mind](#), which fits in with every other episode we’ve published; it’s the master key to understand by answering your questions. You can [subscribe through iTunes](#), or on the host site [Peace Revolution dot org RSS feed](#).

2. **Resource:** The Tragedy and Hope [online research and solution-creating community](#). By giving individuals access to the intellectual tools and resources of which self-reliance, and autonomy are made, we’ve noticed individuals growing in the light direction, integrating useful information and learning how to dismiss the arbitrary and non-substantial, to leverage reality as a means of surviving and thriving in this crazy and (purposely) mixed up world which we all call “home”.

a. Where to start? Try this [complimentary invitation link](#) good for all Freedom’s Phoenix readers for August 2012 (until the invitation link expires, you’re welcome to explore as long as you like).

3. **Resource:** [Richard’s Brain Models](#), which are internet representations of the topics we’ve studied in the Peace Revolution and our other productions; this allows the audience to jump into the search box and discover not only thousands of topics, but the myriad of interconnected topics revealing the origin, nature, and history of each topic, so that you can form an impeccable and ever-growing understanding of that which exists, which is, ALL that we have to deal with in life. These

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models are [linked here](#), and if that link fails, the models are found on the top navigation menu at Tragedy and Hope dot com.

a. Where to start? Try clicking up and down in this model, starting from “[Critical Thinking Removed from Public Schooling](#)”, or this link on the [Smart Grid](#) (which 2/3 of American households are already on).

4. **Book:** [Getting Things Done](#) by David Allen

5. **Book:** [Non-Violent Communication](#) by Marshall Rosenberg

6. **Book:** [Tragedy and Hope: A History of the World in Our Time](#) by Carroll Quigley

7. **Book:** [Socratic Logic](#) by Peter Kreeft

Answers to the 6 Method-Based Questions:

1. *By what method do you identify that which exists (i.e. reality)?*

a. Listen to Peace Revolution episodes [048](#), [058](#)

2. *By what method do you validate the contents of your mind and communications?*

a. Listen to Peace Revolution episodes [002](#), [006](#), [023](#)

3. *By what method do you identify contradictions (i.e. fallacies)?*

a. Listen to Peace Revolution episodes [028](#), [049](#)

4. *By what method do you identify when someone is providing you with false information?*

a. Listen to Peace Revolution episodes [028](#), [049](#), [059](#), [060](#)

5. *By what method do you resolve disputes and conflicts?*

a. Listen to Peace Revolution episodes [015](#), [017](#),

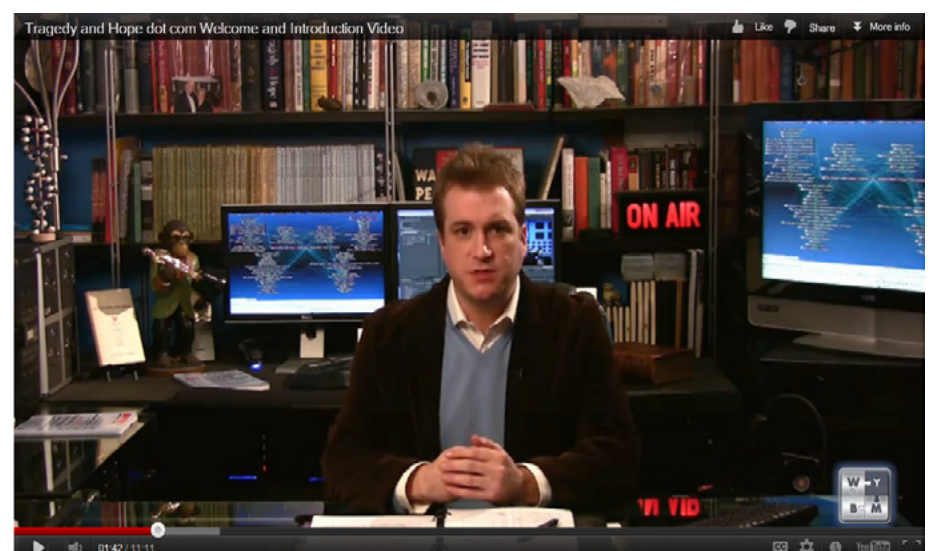
6. *By what method do you manage your time?*

a. Listen to Peace Revolution episode 65 (Sept 2012)

You might not be able to see where I’m going, but if you listen, you can hear where I’m coming from; and realize we’re all trying to get to the same place, safely, and with our volition (i.e. free will) intact.

Peace is the Way, the Revolution is in between Your Ears! 

Tragedy And Hope dot com Welcome and Introduction Video:



Richard Grove is publisher of [TragedyAndHope.Com](#), and to keep it simple, here's a summary of why the site exists: We exist, and as human beings, we depend on reason to survive and thrive in life; therefore, the content on this site is necessary to an individual's ability to think rationally about the world we all share.



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Advice for Our Children, Circa 2012

By Karen Kwiatkowski

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sent their chains.

I hope our children will innately remember liberty, and somehow understand that it is indeed their birthright.



There are three things we might be able to do now to help the upcoming generations. The republic has already fallen, as thousands of pages of laws have replaced fundamental rule of law, and every citizen today is no more than a felon in waiting. A new American culture of dependency on the state has replaced healthier cultures of personal independence and market productivity.

The past eras, when both rich and poor boldly rejected European and third world statism and took a one-way trip to America, are long gone. They will not return. Today, no more geographic new worlds exist for those who value freedom more than security, or risk-taking and creativity over fascistic centralized control. The task at hand is to recreate republics outside of top-heavy militarized socialism, underneath the ahistorical and moronic state media, and above state educational systems.

We and our children have one overarching mission today. We must ride out the failure and ragged collapse of national and global socialism with our lives and souls intact, and with the skills and vision to rebuild a better system of trade and governance, one that is liberty-oriented, decentralized, and inexpensive.

We have some of the tools we need already – we are human and love freedom. In some ways we are addicted to liberty – when we have a little, we envision more, we accomplish and produce more, and we want more freedom to do so. Freedom is dangerous to the state. With neither force or fear, freedom motivates and rewards every human action in a single moment. Freedom produces value, and it creates its own demand.

First and foremost, we ought to create in our children and grandchildren a taste for freedom.



For the past thirty years, the emphasis in public schools and in society has been to foster the development of “self-esteem” in young people. This has been and continues to be done by avoiding hard knocks and adventure,

discouraging strongly held opinions, replacing logical judgment with authoritarian mandates, and promoting groupthink. The self-esteem movement is part and parcel of a broader strategy of feminization in public education. Feminization of public schooling de-emphasizes the role of individualism and liberty in creating and fostering peaceful productive communities, while creating habitual followers. This was not done by hiring women in the school system, but rather by systemic and pharmaceutical promotion of “feminine” qualities of submission, obedience, cooperation, compromise, and avoidance of passion that are considered culturally acceptable feminine qualities. Students (many of our own sons and grandsons, as well as daughters and granddaughters) failing to sufficiently demonstrate these qualities are punished, held back, medicated and even incarcerated.

The feminization of the public school and university system creates exactly what the state needs – a marriage of a feminized population with the masculine state. But thirty years of public school feminization was predated by what the welfare and entitlement system has done to American families. Senator Patrick Moynihan complained nearly 50 years ago, in 1965, that the welfare system was already having the measureable effect of replaced human husbands with the husbandry of the state. The state would be pronounced breadwinner, rulemaker, and guarantor of safety and survival, till death.

To state as “father” and state as “husband,” add in state as “mother.” This has been subtly achieved through the friendly and cooperative yoking of media and the state that began before World War II. Americans today have consumed nearly 70 years of streaming state propaganda that encourages us to believe and accept that un-republican and unconstitutional government in Washington, D.C. is in fact both republican and constitutional. With rare exceptions, we have been told that the warfare-welfare state is not an empire, but instead a shining city on a hill that the rest of the world envies and admires.

When I reflect on what socialism in American has wrought – I worry less about the next four years of Obama and more about the last 75 years of American statism’s unarguable success in shaping the bulk of the population into passive, weak, unimaginative slaves and serfs.

Yet – for this unending diet of socialistic illusion a percentage of Americans have remained awake, and many more are awakening today to the fundamental realities that socialism isn’t free, and that our government lies, cheats, and steals as a matter of policy.

The abundant and rapidly growing home school movement has been one response to the counter-logical and anti-liberty message of the state to our children. Today, over 5.5 million young people are in private schools, and another 1.5 million are homeschooled. Beyond that is adult self-education being pursued by tens of millions as a result of the Internet. Ironically, this self education is aided by the state fostered underemployment that has created a troika of frustration, curiosity,



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and time to pursue interesting ideas from people all over the world and from past generations. I would suggest that we have more Rothbardians today than when the great man was alive, and we probably have more Randians today than when Ayn held court. I wonder if we also don't have fewer true Marxists than when Marx and Lenin were alive – because the Internet and modern events have put forth the failed record of Marxism for all to see. Certainly, countries that suffered lost decades and generations under Communism and subsequently transitioned to something slightly more market based and libertarian are not filled with Marxists any more, if they ever were.

This is cause alone for hope – statist systems collapse but people don't. Our children – and ourselves – should aspire to be not just survivors but rainmakers and change agents. This means we must, as soon as practical, divorce the state as husband, reject the state as mother, and abandon the state as father. We do all of this much as we would divorce a real husband, reject a real mother, or abandon a real father. Prepare, consider strengths and options, and then leave the state family to go out into the world and test ourselves, produce for ourselves, and take on for ourselves those wonderful qualities of father, mother, and husband. This means we exercise courage, work hard, learn rapidly, and become more alert and aware of both past and present, and more willing to boldly look over the horizon to an unpredictable future.

This is what the state currently attempts to do for us. It is “courageous” so we don't have to be. It works, as Obama has said, and it builds our businesses. It learns while dumbing us down, and it looks to the future and plans our role in that future. Today, as the political mouthpieces have been saying, the state is taking us over a cliff, at full speed ahead.

We must give ourselves and our children an awareness and understanding of real freedom, and real independence. We must divorce the state, as individuals and as extended families. To survive, we and our children must be prepared to jump off the speeding train, leap out of the back seat of that car being driven over the cliff by Red Thelma and Blue Louise.

Beyond fostering a sense of freedom's possibilities and demands, we must prepare physically and economically for the collapse of the state-led family – and that means, much as the collapse of any family, uncertainty, doubt, economic hardship, new kinds of jobs and even relocating. We would do well to revisit George Carlin's famous “stuff” skit. The stuff we have ought to be useful for the next phase – meaning an era of independence, creativity and survival, self-education, production and provision of what we and others people need, and NOT what the state needs.

The state needs your payroll income, it needs you driving to and from state-approved activities, and it needs centralized control. Divorced from the state, and post-state, we ought to examine what it is that people and communities really need. I would submit that centralized control, payroll income, and state approved activities are going to be low on the list of what we will be needing – so think on these things and start practicing now. Help our children differentiate between community and market self-perpetuating order and the heavy-handed controls of the state that poses as “order.”

If we help our children and those around us to understand freedom, seek it, if we take steps to divorce the state's many



assumed roles in our lives, and if we prepare physically and educationally for living and producing above, below and beyond state awareness and control, we have done much. Unplugging from the state can be done, slowly and bit by bit, while we have the chance and the choice. Unplugging may also give us more time to think, to learn, to study to practice new skills and most importantly, to strengthen our relationships with people. Our networks and extended families, and our like-minded communities will be critical in surviving and thriving the metastasizing cancer of present-day American fascism. They will be imperative if we intend to thrive in the coming post-socialism era.

We crave and need liberty, and liberty is our God-given birthright. We must divorce the state, unplug from socialism, and prepare for the collapse that always occurs when debt and poverty collapse a government semblance of order. Humans are strongest and healthiest with a combination of active intellectual growth and hard physical work. My advice for my children is to embrace both with equal enthusiasm. 🌸

Karen Kwiatkowski is an American activist and commentator. She is a retired U.S. Air Force Lieutenant Colonel whose assignments included duties as a Pentagon desk officer and a variety of roles for the National Security Agency. Since retiring, she has become a noted critic of the U.S. government's involvement in Iraq. Kwiatkowski is primarily known for her insider essays which denounce a corrupting political influence on the course of military intelligence leading up to the invasion of Iraq in 2003. Kwiatkowski has become a respected columnist for various international media outlets. She is a regular contributor to Lewrockwell.com and has had articles about her work with the Department of Defense published in the American Conservative. She has hosted the popular call-in radio show American Forum, and blogs occasionally on Liberty and Power. Since her retirement, she has taught American government related classes at Lord Fairfax Community College and James Madison University, and teaches information systems related classes for the University of Maryland.

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YOUtopia

By L. Neil Smith

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THE question before us, as I understand it, is what will it be like on the other side, not of this plane of existence, but after we finally get rid every political threat to our lives, liberty, and property?

Psychologist Nathaniel Branden once asked a libertarian gathering - a group who had spent most of their lives fighting for freedom -- a similar question: come the revolution, assuming its successful conclusion, will you have anything else worthwhile to do with your life? As a writer, I knew what I would do, although the topics might change.

I never know, whenever I write articles like this one, whether my readers will be aware that I'm principally a novelist, a science fiction writer to be exact. Over the past 33 years, I've written about that number of books, specializing in stories about the libertarian future.

I do not write stories like [1984](#) or [Brave New World](#), bitching about how rotten things are or will probably get, unless a sliver of that kind of stuff provides necessary contrast or helps to set up the story.

I do not write stories about anti-authoritarian revolutions, like [The Moon Is A Harsh Mistress](#) or [If This Goes On](#) ... " because it's not what I want my books to be about. Revolutions are all pretty much similar to one another, even though no two are exactly alike. I don't want to write war stories or about people hunkering down in cellars, plotting sabotage over candles guttering

in empty wine bottles. I don't even care much for offerings like [Serendipity](#) (now the truth can be told), because an evil government still has the good guys on the run.

I believe in the eventual inefficacy of evil. The Soviet Union collapsed of its own rotten weight, not because Ronald the Great told them to, and Hitler's empire of depravity would have, too. I greatly prefer to write about well-matured, stable, successful libertarian societies, long steeped in peace, freedom, progress, and prosperity, so that I can examine in detail how such an enterprise might actually operate.

One thing I know for certain about *this* former Utopia: things can't go on the way they have, with one stupid, crooked, or insane glorious leader after another, pretending to sail the "ship of state" safely through the perilously narrow gap between the [Scylla](#) of socialism and the [Charybdis](#) of fascism -- only to discover, when it's too late, that there is no gap, that they are exactly the same thing, and that the keel has been broken on the rocks of political illusion. The one bright spot is that more and more folks seem to understand this.

Regardless of how we get there, the society to be desired (we're not talking about anything political here, but about a culture, a civilization, bound by customs, rather than by laws) will be easily recognizable by certain core characteristics that it may arrive at all together, or over a span of time, by any one of a number of avenues. I calculate that there are seven, which I present here in no particular order.

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First, it will stringently observe the Zero Aggression Principle, or something like it, which holds that nobody (including government, to the extent that we permit it to exist) has a right, under any circumstances, to initiate force against another human being for any reason.

Second, it will employ something -- perhaps several somethings -- of genuine, intrinsic value for money, something that can't be faked, forged, or counterfeited by government or any other such rapacious institution.

Third, it will leave the very basis of civilization, private property (including intellectual property) absolutely unmolested, and refrain from taking property or money from anybody to give to somebody else. In fact, there must be no taxation of any kind for any reason whatever

Fourth, it will encourage individuals to be adequately armed, to deter both freelance criminals and those representing themselves as government. Crime will be a legend of a past young people will not believe. Nor can there be any limits on what people own and carry beyond the indiscriminate destruction forbidden by the Zero Aggression Principle

Fifth, it will recognize no "legal fictions", particularly that of corporate personhood, but insist on holding genuine individuals fully responsible for their own trespasses, as well as those of their agents.

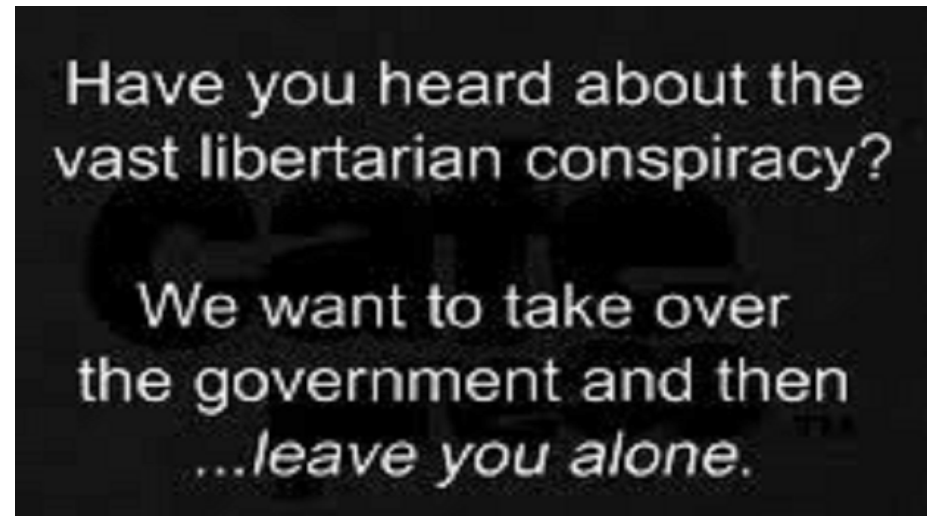
Sixth, it will not interfere in relationships of any kind between consenting adults, nor define or categorize those relationships in any way.

Seventh, people will be free to educate their children any way they wish.

Above all, a genuinely free society will be easily recognizable because it will be a great pleasure to wake up every morning just to see what new opportunity or wonder the world is going to present us with.

We are not entirely without a place to start. The great 19th century abolitionist and Constitutional lawyer [Lysander Spooner](#) famously held that the United States Constitution was invalid, null and void, and "of no authority" because none of those individuals who had signed it was still

alive, and because no right exists, under any just system, to bind one's heirs and successors in perpetuity to any contract, social or otherwise, without their specific, informed consent.



Spooner was right about contracts, but he was dead wrong about the Constitution, which *is* a valid political contract between those who have consented to it over the centuries, by pledging to uphold and defend it against all enemies, foreign and domestic. The Constitution isn't binding on me or anybody else who hasn't taken such an oath, but it is on every politician, bureaucrat, policeman, soldier, sailor, and Marine.

Perhaps the place to begin, getting from here to there, is to hold all those people to the terms of their oath, and prosecuting those -- like every officeholder who advocates victim disarmament -- who betray it. At first our attempts will be rejected as the State defends its own, but eventually some cynical somebody will perceive that there is something to be gained by arresting and putting these criminals on trial.

And we'll be off to the races.

In the end, what happens "on the other side" of this epic struggle for individual liberty we're engaged in is entirely up to you. The law -- even the highest law of the land -- cannot enforce itself, and those who expect it to, or who criticize it because it can't, are fools.

But ... Bloomberg behind bars -- sounds kinda catchy, doesn't it? 

L. Neil Smith is the award-winning author of 33 freedom-oriented books, including [The Probability Broach](#), [Ceres](#), [Sweeter Than Wine](#), and [DOWN WITH POWER: Libertarian Policy In A Time Of Crisis](#).

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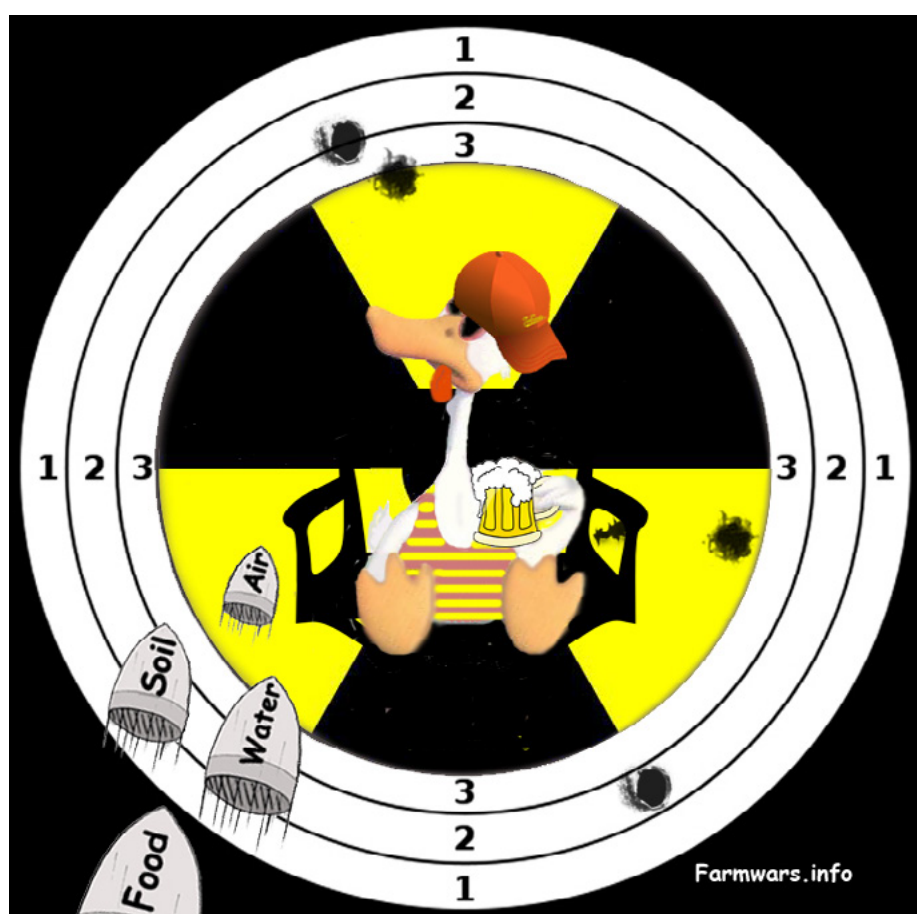
Feel like a radiated sitting duck? Things you can do to mitigate the problem. By Barbara Peterson

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AT this point in time, most of us can say “no” to vaccines, genetically modified (GM) food, fluoride, and Big Pharma drugs. But we can’t “just say no” to radiation in the air all around us

coming from Japan, and through oceanic contamination resulting from the BP Gulf incident. So, the difficult question is not how do we avoid this contamination, but rather, how we mitigate our exposure.



Let’s face it. We are surrounded by radioactive contaminants in the air, water, soil, and in our food, which is grown outdoors. We cannot control the air, which contaminates the soil, water, and plants. So, if we cannot get away from the problem, then what do we do? We can start by making sure that we have the knowledge to do the right things and collect the right resources to lessen our exposure. The following is a collection of some of the materials and applications that can be used to mitigate radiation exposure.

Personal detoxifying – people and animals

Unless we live in a bubble, our bodies will be contaminated with radioactive particles, so don’t just wait until someone tells you that you have been exposed, do something about it now. There are certain materials that will help detoxify the body without ill effects whether or not you have been exposed to these harmful materials. Some of these are:

Zeolite Clay, French Green Clay, Bentonite Clay, Baking Soda, Boron, Certain foods

Clay

The same products that are good for humans, are good for the animals you care about also. You can mix the above-mentioned clays in food and water for ingestion, as well as in bath water or use body wraps and clay packs to draw radioactive materials out of the body, and aid in preventing the uptake of harmful radioactive materials.

Clay of all kinds — in the bath, on the body and taken internally — is recognized (albeit quietly) as being the fastest and most effective way to remove all forms of radiation from the body.

Taking a clay that is high in electrolytes internally... sets up an electromagnetic polarity in the body causing heavy metals, radiation, chemicals and other toxins (which are positively charged) to gravitate to the clay as it passes through the body and through the bloodstream.

Before the Response Team at Chernobyl put on their radiation suits, they smeared clay all over their bodies. (What did the Russians know that we are just now beginning to understand?) ([Vitality Herbs and Clay](#))

The research on the use of Zeolite in Chernobyl show that giving 1-2 zeolite cookies per day cleared all radiation after 3 days for adults and children. ([Gabriel Cousins](#))

Growing up in Provence, South of France, the use of green ILLITE clay was a part of our lives. Mom made me drink it, would spray her plants with a clay/water solution, it was given to dogs, cats, horses... Internally and externally..

After moving to the US and becoming fully involved in the horse world, I became aware of how little was known about the benefits of the green illite french clay. It is my hope to bring the clay and its healing properties into public awareness. ([Clay for All](#))

Baking Soda

Baking soda, or sodium bicarbonate is by far the least expensive addition to our defense against radioactive contamination.

The oral administration of sodium bicarbonate diminishes the severity of the changes produced by uranium in the kidneys. The kidneys are usually the first organs to show chemical damage upon uranium exposure. Old military manuals suggest doses or infusions of sodium bicarbonate to help alkalize the urine if this happens. This makes the uranyl ion less kidney-toxic and promotes excretion of the nontoxic uranium-carbonate complex. The oral administration of sodium bicarbonate diminishes the severity of the changes produced by uranium in the kidneys. ([IMVA](#))

Baking soda taken internally, or used in baths along with salt, is very effective at cleansing the body from radiation.

This bath counteracts the effects of radiation, whether from X-rays, cancer treatment radiation, fallout from the atmosphere, or television radiation: 1 cup of baking soda and 1 to 2 cups of ordinary coarse salt (or epsom salts or sea

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salt) to a tub of water. You can soak for 20 minutes. ([Our Little Place](#))

Boron

The backup system to force-fed potassium iodide in severe, acute radioactive poisoning is boron.

In the entire table of elements, including sub-atomic particles, there is only one mineral that is capable of accepting and ionizing radiation that never changes the innards or the nucleus of the cell — boron. The protons and the neutrons do not change under any conditions in the boron molecule. Boron can take radiation and release it without upsetting this very delicate balance.

That makes Boron an excellent candidate to have into your system, whether the radiation be from excessive sunlight or spent uranium bullets that's being ionized and released into the atmosphere. When that mineral is present in your system, your DNA creates a much better buffering system to ward off radiation. Even when chromosome breaks do occur, they are much more easily repaired and maintained by the system. ([New Paradigm Digest](#))

Interestingly enough, Boron can be found in Borax.

Borax: Yes, this is the laundry detergent. It is quite safe, it has been for years. The Boron content of Borax is approx 11 %. While Borax is classified as a chemical, but it is usually a mined product – meaning that it is a [natural mineral complex](#). It has some H2O2 quality and emulsifies fat. Hence its use as laundry powder. ([New Paradigm Digest](#))

Foods

Here are [19 of the best foods](#) to naturally combat radiation poisoning:

Brown rice, Seaweed, Kelp, Miso, Pumpkin, Spirulina, Bee pollen, Wheat grass, Rosemary, Blue-green algae, Beets, Garlic, Ginger, Alfalfa sprouts, Broccoli, Onions, Olive oil, Leafy greens, Apples and other sources of pectin

Indoor Gardening

If you are concerned that your garden will be subjected to rain containing radioactive material, and you are able, a greenhouse or indoor gardening space will protect your fruits and veggies. Make sure to use uncontaminated soil by treating it with one of the clays discussed earlier, rock dust, and/or baking soda before planting. These soil treatments will be discussed in the next section titled “Treating the soil.”

Here is a nifty video with instructions on how to turn a room in your home into an indoor gardening area.



If inside gardening is not an option, or you prefer to garden outdoors, here are instructions for small hoop houses on the cheap:



If you have a large outdoor area that you want to use for growing fruits and veggies, then you might want to consider treating your fruits and veggies after harvesting. This will be discussed in a later section titled “Treating veggies and fruits.”

Treating the Soil

There are a few products that will bind radioactivity in the soil and keep your plants from assimilating it. The following are a few examples:

Rock dust

Simple rock dust can be used to remineralize the soil and remove radioactive materials. At the Chernobyl disaster it was found that

“Remineralization protects not only soil and plants from radioactivity, but humans, too. Supplying abundant minerals especially trace elements to the human body improves radiation tolerance, immune system integrity and radiation exposure recovery.” -David Yarrow, 2006

The intelligence of Nature tends to work to maintain health. Life on earth has evolved systems to selectively incorporate healthy minerals and trace elements into biological structures, and to repair the damage done by low levels of radiation, which is a common phenomenon even in Nature. Plants, for example, will selectively uptake healthy metals over radioactive particles if given the choice. However, under high levels of radioactive stress such as those encountered during a nuclear disaster, those systems become stressed and cannot cope with the damage, resulting in radiation sickness. Replenishing these systems with remineralized foods or a finely ground rock dust supplement is an important part of coping with this unprecedented radioactive stress.” ([Remineralize the Earth](#))

Zeolite

The following information is from John:

I heard about zeolite a few weeks back and thought I could buy enough for a 1 acre garden but saw how expensive it was. So I thought “go to the source” and called a mine I think was in Texas. Turned out that they sold a minimum of 2 tons or so but told me that a horse deodorizer called “Sweet PDZ” is 100% zeolite. Comes out of Spokane, Wa and is sold locally here on the west side of the state.

They assured me not to worry about radiation in our soil but went on to tell me how much I should buy if I were to treat 1 acre, off the top

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Things you can do to mitigate the problem**

of my head I think the guy calculated I should get 10 or 12 bags.....50 lb bags. (John VanVoorhees)

This equates to roughly 500-600 lbs per acre.

Bentonite Clay

Calcium Bentonite clay will bind radiation in the soil, as well as other toxins. You can mix this clay with water, and sprinkle it on your soil.

When it is safe to go outside, get a clean new garden sprayer and add ½ cup of liquid clay to a gallon of water and spray your lawns and gardens. ([New Paradigm Digest](#))

Baking Soda

So useful and strong is sodium bicarbonate that at Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, researcher Don York has used baking soda to clean soil contaminated with uranium. Sodium bicarbonate binds with uranium, separating it from the dirt; so far, York has removed as much as 92 percent of the uranium from contaminated soil samples. I started writing about baking soda after discovering that the United States Army recommends the use of bicarbonate to protect the kidneys from radiation damage. ([IMVA](#))

Here are some instructions for using baking soda in your garden. They are not specific to radiation cleanup, but are a rule of thumb for normal use:

Acidity test for soil: To test the acidity level of your garden soil, add a pinch of baking soda to 1 tablespoon of soil. If it fizzes, the soil's pH level is probably less than 5.0. Flower species that prefer alkaline soil such as geranium, begonia, and hydrangea should be watered occasionally with a weak baking-soda and water solution.

Sprinkle baking soda lightly around your tomato plants. This will sweeten the tomatoes by lowering their acidity.

Raise alkalinity in potted plant soil: Carnations, mums, and petunias prefer neutral soil. To raise potting soil alkalinity, apply some baking soda but use it sparingly.

Flowers and planting pots: Coat clay pots with a thin layer of baking soda when transplanting plants but before adding the soil. This helps keep the dirt fresh. If you have cut flowers, dip them in a solution of baking soda and water to lengthen their life. ([How Stuff Works](#))

Treating Veggies and Fruits

Clay

According to the CRIRAD "Spinach, salads, cabbage and other vegetables with large surface areas are among those food products that are particularly sensitive to iodine-131 contamination, if they are cultivated outside and exposed to rainwater. Washing vegetables does not help, as iodine-131 is quickly metabolized by the plants."

Calcium Bentonite clay has been proven to remove radiation. Not only can the clay remove radiation but it can also remove pesticides and toxins.

Because Calcium Bentonite Clay has a strong, negative ionic charge, it will act like a magnet when activated with water, adsorbing and absorbing radiation, pesticides and toxins. The clay grabs these substances which get removed when the clay is washed off.*

How to Wash Your Vegetables:

Mix 1 part Calcium Bentonite Clay to 8 parts of water. In a large bowl (non-metallic), mix ¼ cup of liquid clay with 1 quart of water. Toss your produce in this clay water, ensuring complete coverage, and let sit for about 10 minutes. (for a large batch of produce, use more clay/water). Rinse, dry and store. ([Vites](#))

Treating the Water

Reverse Osmosis

Reverse osmosis is highly effective in removing several impurities from water such as total dissolved solids, turbidity, asbestos, lead and other toxic heavy metals, radium, and many dissolved organic. The process will also remove chlorine,

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and also can remove nuclear radiation such as radioactive plutonium or strontium in the drinking water. Therefore, reverse osmosis combined with activated carbon seems to be the most advanced water purification method developed so far. ([Free Drinking Water](#))

Zeolite

Zeolites have the ability to capture cesium 134, 137 and strontium 90 isotopes and are ideally suited for the treatment of liquid radioactive waste effluents...([Steelhead](#))

Using Zeolite as a filtering material for water is being done in Japan after the nuclear reactor incident:

The Tokyo Electric Power Co. will build a special facility to process radioactive water from the crippled Fukushima-1 nuclear power plant.

The new facility, to go on-stream already in June, will push the contaminated water through an oil filter using zeolite, a mineral that absorbs radioactive materials.. ([The Voice of Russia](#))

Shower heads for the home are available with Zeolite filters. Just type “Zeolite shower filter” into your Internet search engine and you will find information about this product.

The University of Texas has a patent on a Zeolite water filter application that can be used for the production of potable water from wells, bodies of water such as ponds, and/or point of use filters and water bottle filters:

Our Surfactant Modified Zeolite (SMZ) filter is a filter that is designed to remove biological pathogens from water. Removed pathogens include bacteria, viruses, and parasitic protozoa. The material can be included in a filtration device, which can be used as a potable water filter, a point of use water filter, a water bottle filter, or a filter packet that can be placed into a body of water such as a well or a pond. The SMZ filter is especially suited and was intensively tested as a filter pack of wells. SMZ can be produced cheaply (about 50 cents per pound or less than \$500 per cubic meter), and used for any types of water ranging from drinking water to waste water. The SMZ can be manufactures in various grain sizes to allow water to flow at reasonably fast discharge rates through the filter. The SMZ was tested in the laboratory and in field experiments and was shown to be extremely efficient in removing bacteria and viruses from water. For example, in field experiments 100 % of E. coli and more than 99.9 % of the bacteriophages tested were removed from sewage water. After 6 months the removal efficiency for E. coli was still 100%. ([University of Texas](#))

New Discovery

We also might want to keep our eyes on this new discovery by Russian scientists:

Russian scientists in the Khibinsky Mountains in the Arctic Circle have made an important scientific discovery. They’ve found a new mineral which absorbs radiation.

It does not yet have an official name and is known only as number 27-4. It can absorb radioactivity from liquid nuclear waste.

“It can extract radioactive substances from any water-based solution and so has a very important practical significance,” said Yakov Pakhomovsky, the head of the Kolsky Research Institute.

After coming into contact with the mineral, radioactive water becomes completely safe. Had this mineral been available to physicists after the Chernobyl or Three Mile Island disasters, the consequences might have been very different, as both accidents resulted in contamination from radioactive water. ([RT](#))

Prepare for the worst and hope for the best

Face it. None of us will make it out of this world alive, but we might just be able to make things better along the way. Since we are constantly being bombarded by radiation, which is a clear and present danger due to the Japanese Fukushima reactor melt down, we find ourselves facing the very real prospect of imminent demise. So, what matters most is how we react to the situation. We can succumb to fear and go out cowering, ignore the situation and pretend it isn’t happening, or face it and embrace our circumstances, doing all that we can to make things better for ourselves and the people around us. I choose the latter, and hope you do too. 🌻

Barbara H. Peterson is retired from the California Department of Corrections, where she worked as a Correctional Officer at Folsom Prison. She was one of the first females to work at the facility in this classification. After retirement, she went to college online to obtain a Bachelor's degree in Business, and graduated with honors.

Barbara lives on a small ranch in Oregon, and believes that self-sufficiency and localization of food sources will be necessary to survive the coming depression. To this end, she has put up a website to share information at: <http://survivingthemiddleclasscrash.wordpress.com> and <http://farmwars.info>

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5 Stages of the Awakening

By Chris Duane

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“THINKING is the hardest work there is, which is probably the reason why so few engage in it.” -Henry Ford

One of the greatest challenges to becoming **Totally Free** is to be able to think independently from everyone else. You know instinctively that no one cares about you, as much as you care about yourself. Yet we constantly listen to others about what is best for us, instead of thinking about what is best for us. That is because we live in a world where everyone tells you **what** to think, but no one tells you **how** to think. We are blasted everyday with advertising, financial sales pitches, political media propaganda, religious dictates and more and more social pressure to conform. Most of our lives we don't make any real decisions we kind of just fall into a routine. You see when you do not really think, you leave your mind open to those who do think. The real and most often unnoticed danger is a class of predators manipulating societies for their own selfish benefits. If you go along to get along and not think outside of the box, you risk being caught in the undertow of a doomed society or worse.



*“In our dreams, people yield themselves with perfect docility to our molding hands. The present education conventions of intellectual and character education, fade from their minds and unhampered by tradition, we work our own good will upon a grateful and responsive folk. We shall not try to make these people, or any of their children, into philosophers, or men of science. We have not to raise up from them authors, educators, poets or men of letters. We shall not search for great artists, painters, musicians nor lawyers, doctors, preachers, politicians, statesmen — of whom we have an ample supply. **The task is simple. We will organize children and teach them in a perfect way the things their fathers and mothers are doing in an imperfect way.**” - John D Rockefeller*



There is a lot of money and power derived off of having a “sucker born everyday.” Our Elite molds societies by educating the people just enough to run the machine, but *never*

enough to ask if this is the best machine for us. Think about it, our controlled school systems teach sex, drugs and multiculturalism in third and fourth grades and not how to even balance a checkbook by high school. The Elite's system wants utterly dependent people to control for power and profit. They do not want fully aware people, who can see through main stream media lies, Wall St Ponzi schemes, or Federal

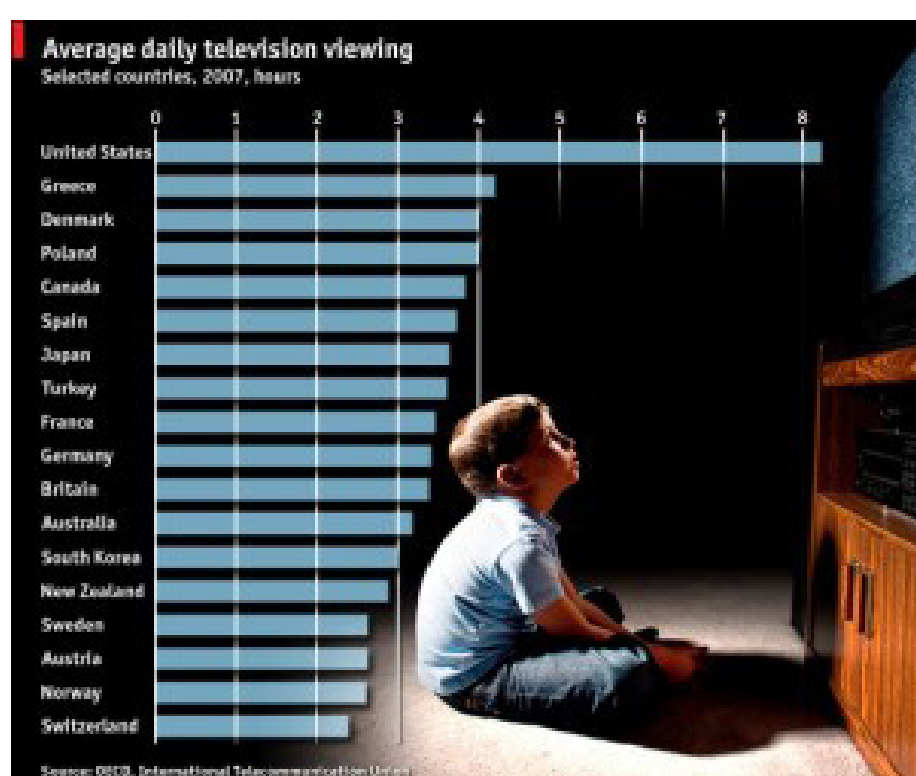
abuses. They certainly do not want people educating others to our common plight of illusion.

“Our wretched species is so made that those who walk on the well-trodden path always throw stones at those who are showing a new road”- Voltaire

Your thoughts are not your own. I love asking thoroughly indoctrinated people, *“do your ideas serve to free you or simply to make you serve?”* I then following up with, “who put those ideas there?” I always get two answers back, the first is “uh...” with eyes rolling into their head. The second is the programmed ego self defense mechanism of “I did.” It is sad to see people lie in general, but to see people lie to themselves is absolutely heart breaking. If you ever wonder why most Americans are broke, depressed and lifeless, look no further than whose thoughts they are thinking. If they are listening to the Elite's [financial CON-men](#), they are constantly stripped of their wealth through a myriad of schemes. If they are listening to the Elite's MSM, they are depressed because the national problems are too big and the experts say that there is no hope or worse they say hope is coming... someday. If they are listening to the Elite's medical community, they are hooked on psychotropic drugs and will never get their fire back by tackling their life's challenges.



“Competition is a sin.” John D. Rockefeller



The Elite give us the illusion of freedom but control all of the choices. The Elite give us the choice of 500 cable stations, yet the same message comes from all of the channels. They give us aisles and aisles of food, yet 90% of it is just corn and soy byproducts. They give us the choice of hundreds of political candidates, yet nothing changes because both sides are bought and paid for by the Elite. They give you the choice of investments of stocks, bonds, and real estate but when this all goes down, you will see that it is all apart of the same illusion of the dollar. This of course is controlled by the Elite. If you do not think independently for yourself, you cannot help but to be controlled, whether you know it or not.

Every aspect of your life is monitored, regulated, taxed and controlled, not for your betterment, but for betterment of others. To do most high paying jobs requires a certification or a license. Most “assets” you have or own out right are not your own. (Try not paying your property taxes on a home you own out right and I will show you the real owner is.) All of your communications are monitored and recorded.

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Now the Federal government wants these records to be kept indefinitely. Think you own your 401k? Try getting your money out. You want to do anything to your home? You better get permission from the homeowner association or the local zoning board. All of these examples, plus many, many more have nothing to do with making your life better. They exist to create power, profit and a parasitic life for another.

“Until they became conscious they will never rebel and until after they have rebelled they cannot become conscious.” — George Orwell (1984)

**“When you are Aware,
you can Prepare”**
- Chris Duane

Now before you crawl into the fetal position and start sucking your thumb after realizing that you possibly are a slave, don't worry. There is a way out. My [Sons of Liberty Academy](#) is based off of the simple principal of “When you are aware, you can prepare.” I believe that when you see the big picture and understand how you are manipulated, finding the best path for you becomes simple. *You cannot become aware unless you rebel against everything that you are now.* It starts with putting your foot down and saying, “no more!” You must commit to yourself that you will no longer play the fool for someone else. You will start by doing what is best for you and the ones you love. You will search for truth wherever it is and let that search be your guided light. That simple little rebellion of your mind is just the spark for a much greater fire of enlightenment. You will be reborn a man that is totally aware, completely free and fully alive.

“Judge a man by his questions rather than by his answers.” - Voltaire

I have identified 5 Stages of the Awakening Process that mirror Elizabeth Kubler Ross's [Five Steps of Grief](#). The reason why they mirror is because it is literally your old self dying. Your body will



physically and mentally react as if there was a real death in your life. We identify ourselves by what we do, what we wear, and what we drive. When you are awake, all of that will matter no more. You will transcend the current consumer order and be fully prepared for the new paradigm. I feel it is incredibly helpful to understand this process to not only identify where you are, but where you *should* be going. I cannot stress to you how important and necessary this process is. If you do not start thinking for yourself, you will be without the skills necessary to survive in a post-dollar world.

“No snowflake in an avalanche ever feels responsible.” - Voltaire



1. Denial-In this stage you dismiss anything that goes counter to conventional wisdom as crazy

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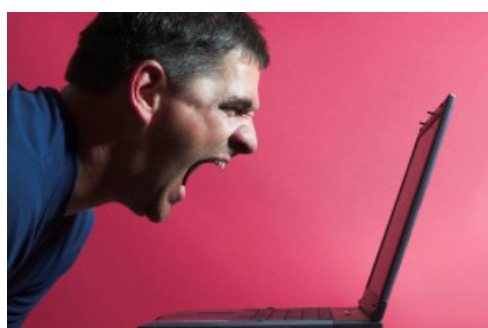
talk or conspiracy theory. This is really a self defense mechanism the brain uses to protect the ego. No one likes to admit when they are wrong, much less admit when they have been fooled. So it is infinitely easier to deny a truth, rather than to embrace it. It is easier to mock, than to debate. It is easier to hide under the sheets and pretend that there is not a monster in the room. This is where most of our society is stuck right now. They believe that whatever the “authorities” tell them is the truth. They go along with the crowd in fear of being looked upon as strange or crazy.

In my experience, denial comes in two forms. The first is the most common and least dangerous form of denial. It is just not wanting to know the truth that might upset their happy little life. This *innocent denial* of the “ignorance is bliss” mentality, is held by so many Americans who think that things are going “swell” for them, so why ruin it with the truth. There was a woman who I was working with that shut down on me when confronted with the truth. She literally said to me, “I don’t want to know that 9/11 was an inside job because that reality is too scary for me.” Another person said, “that it would be like finding out his father was gay.” (“Not that there is anything wrong with that...” quoted from the very funny social engineer Jerry Seinfeld.) This form of denial is the easiest to overcome because when things go wrong in their perfect little world, they will have no more excuse not to look for the reason of why their world fell apart. There is no more bliss for them to remain ignorant. This economic depression and political failures of both Bush and Obama have already shook a great many out of this denial.

“As long as people believe in absurdities, they will continue to commit atrocities.” - Voltaire

The second kind of denial is one that is much more pernicious. I view it as *guilty denial*. This is the denial of people who actually are benefiting off of the illusion of our paradigm. This comes from business owners, government employees or others whose livelihood is derived off of the current debt paradigm. These people actively fight the truth through disinformation or saying, “they can’t keep that a secret” or that is “just a crazy conspiracy.” They would rather create plausible deniability to distance themselves from the reality of their actions/inactions. Their aggressive defense of the illusion shows me that they know what they are doing is wrong. They are too afraid to live outside of this paradigm, so it is better to try to hold it together despite its human costs.

“Anger is just a cowardly extension of sadness. It’s a lot easier to be angry at someone than it is to tell them you’re hurt.” - Thomas Gates



2. Anger- When you start to see that you were fooled, you react violently for being taken for a fool and want to

lash out. The Freedom Movement has a lot of this in it currently with talk of “just shooting the bastards.” This action is ineffectual in bringing about positive change for the Freedom Movement. (Those that have proposed this violence to me, I am sure were working for the government trying to find some sucker to frame.) Anger is a very natural reaction and is one that you must go through rather than suppress. Finding out how the world really works is a kin to finding out your significant other has been cheating on you. You may have remained faithful to what this country was about while atrocities were committed behind your back. Anger is just covering up for the fact that you are really hurt for being taken advantage of. This stage is often the shortest, but is also the one where the most energy is expelled. In my anger stage, I redirected my anger to fuel an intense amount of research into making sure I was never fooled again. It eventually lead to the creation of the [Sons of Liberty Academy](#).



3. Bargaining- After you calm down, you reach out to anyone who will listen to tell them what is really going on. *This is the most annoying stage of the awakening process.* (Remember you are reaching for people who are in stage 1 of Denial.) You ruin Christmas parties telling people about WTC7 or kids basketball games talking about the Federal Reserve. By reaching out and sharing, you are not really trying to awaken people, you are really looking for help. By reaching out, you are seeking guidance or structure in your search for truth. You know that there is something wrong. You know that you cannot go back to ignorance. Without clarity, you cannot go forward. This naturally leads to the next stage of depression.

4. Depression- Now that you have reached out to everyone and nothing seems to happen, depression sinks in. You start saying “it is too big” or “what could I do about it.” The worst kind of

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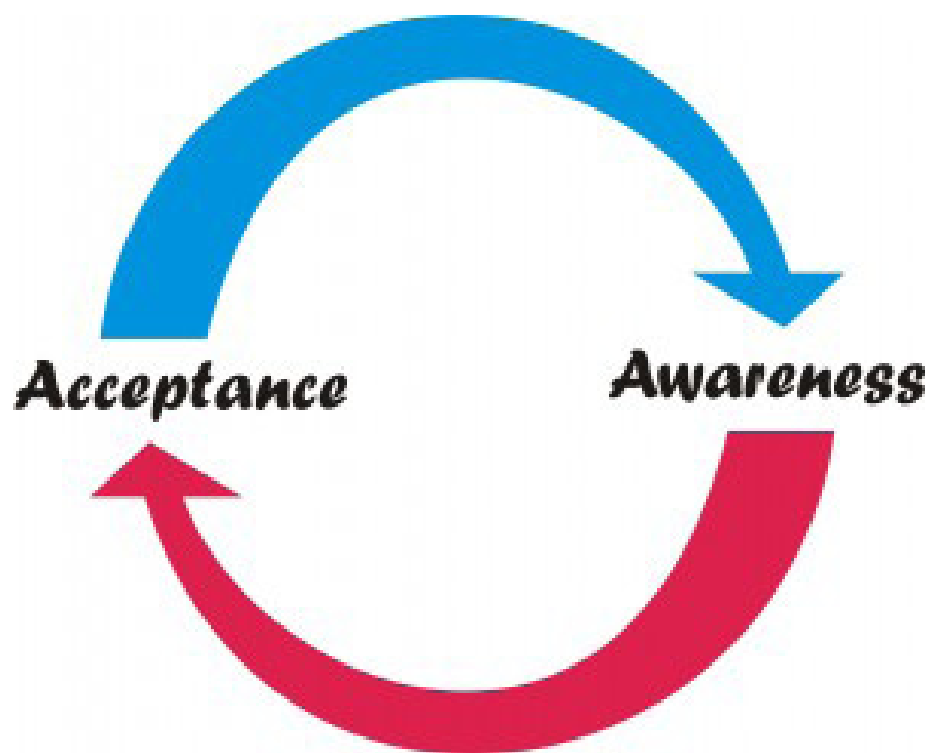
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depression that permeates the Freedom Movement is the arrogant attitude of “I know it all” or “screw everyone, I don’t care.” This is the most painful stage and the hardest to get out of. Human hap-

piness comes from progress and yet progress in this journey seems to suck you further into a hole. Unfortunately there is no way around this, yet it is necessary to go through it.

“I must not fear. Fear is the mind-killer. Fear is the little-death that brings total obliteration. I will face my fear. I will permit it to pass over me and through me. And when it has gone past I will turn the inner eye to see its path. Where the fear has gone there will be nothing. Only I will remain.” Frank Herbert



5. Acceptance- At the point where you now become comfortable with the oncoming reality and make active, positive steps to prepare for it. This process of making wise choices for yourself and not others, will yield massive positive personal results. These positive results will reinforce your actions and bring about more

positive change in your life. People will start to notice the light in your eyes as confidence returns. They will now ask what happened to you and those that once did not want to hear the truth, will be ready to listen. This is ultimately where we need to get to both personally and as a movement.

“Most men lead lives of quiet desperation and go to the grave with the song still in them.”
 -Henry David Thoreau

I really feel that the reason I have been so successful at waking people up is that I do not try to scare and depress them. (Trust me, I can write doom and gloom with the best of them.) I do try to motivate, encourage and enlighten people in order to take that first step into their highest self. This journey is the most important one they will ever take and is your only hope to ever becoming what you were meant to be free and independent. 🌸

“I think therefore I am free.” -Chris Duane

Christopher Duane (<http://dont-tread-on.me/>) is a Financial & Investing Expert and Founder of the Sons of Liberty Academy. Chris is also a US Marine & venture capitalist and became a self-made millionaire by age 30. Since 2001, he has been able to increase his net worth an estimated 3,750% since 2001 while the housing, stock and job markets have been tanking. Chris Duane’s YouTube Channel “[Greatest Truth Never Told](#)” has over 3.6 million views since it’s debut nine months ago. And he believes massive change is coming and that if you are aware and prepared for this change you will be able to create generational wealth.

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Why Use Hours and Bitcoins as Currency Over Gold and Silver?

By Joby Weeks

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THE purpose of this article is to explain what I believe could be a successful solution in transitioning our current money system that has enslaved us with debt and perpetual war to one with real value that the producers control.

What started me on this path was a book I read called, "[The Creature From Jekyll Island](#)" by G. Edward Griffin. The book explained to me the differences between cash, currency, coin and credit; what money is and the history of banking for the last 1000 years. What fascinated me was how in depth he got explaining how the Federal Reserve creates our currency. I highly recommend it to everyone who wants to know why things are the way they are.

The Problem.

For the last 100 years the Federal Reserve, which is no more Federal than Federal Express, has been debasing our currency which destroys the purchasing power of our money thus causing inflation. Inflation is theft. We used to be able to buy gasoline for .20 cents a gallon, now it's \$4 dollars a gallon. To make matters worse, the money the Fed creates out of thin air springs into existence out of debt which they then charge interest on!

So, let's say there is no money in circulation. The Fed comes along and loans \$1 Billion dollars to the government. Now let's say the government spends the Billion dollars on drones which are used to over throw democratically elected leaders, bomb innocent civilians and install puppet dictators who agree to accept bankster "money" that's been created out of thin air for their goods (oil) and services that have intrinsic value.

The government is now on the hook for the \$1 billion dollars, plus interest! Well, if there are only \$1 billion in circulation, where does the extra money to pay the interest come from? It doesn't exist! There is more debt than there is money in circulation! You can't pay principle plus interest if only the principle exists. It's like a game of musical chairs. Remember playing musical chairs? It's like there are 12 people going after 10 chairs. Someone will always lose.

This is why our current money system is guaranteed to create bankruptcies and foreclosures while financing war and genocide. This is why we have had constant wars since 1913 when the Fed was created. It's so we can pay back the "money" our government owes to the banksters by stealing the natural resources of other people around the world. Remember to "support our troops" while they die in the desert fighting for the banksters... errr I mean support our troops as they fight for our "freedom". To do otherwise is simply un-American.

Oh, but you are too smart to be a soldier you say? Well, if you are an American employee, all the money you make working from January 1st to June 1st (6 months) goes to pay taxes to the government so they can spend it paying interest on the money the FED creates out of nothing. We currently spend close to \$1 trillion dollars a year servicing our debt. That's more than what we spend on housing, food and clothing combined!! This literally violates the 13th Amendment making us debt slaves because the government uses us as collateral for the money the FED

loans to it. When a child is born, he is already \$20k in the hole. This causes misery, divorce, poverty and suicide. It really is evil. Know any preachers who have the balls to speak out against this form of slavery now-a-days? Know any preachers who even have a clue?

Just imagine if the people were smart enough to have their elected representatives in Congress create our money interest free through the Treasury instead? For one, we would save \$1 trillion dollars a year in interest payments to this private group of banksters!

Unfortunately, the majority of Americans have gone to government run indoctrination camps called public schools and most haven't read a book since they got out, so most folks aren't going to figure it out any time soon. So, what should we who have figured it out do in the meantime? I say we should vote with our wallets and stop using the FED money.

After reading the Creature from Jekyll Island and studying the bible which talks about being in the world but not of the world, I decided that I could no longer morally participate in this system that causes so much death and destruction. I decided to join the Liberty Dollar Movement and became the regional currency officer for Colorado.

Well, that went along great. We minted more than \$100,000,000 worth of "lawful money" (gold and silver) and even created a Ron Paul coin that tens of thousands of people purchased. Ron Paul is my hero! We got legal opinion letters from the Treasury, the Fed and the Secret Service giving us the go ahead to continue minting. Then one day a dozen FBI agents came in with machine guns and stole around \$5,000,000 (4 tons) worth of our metal. There were no cease and desist letters, no one was arrested. They just came in and stole our property. That's when I realized these government boys in blue are the real gangsters. To make a long story short, 4 years later they still haven't given us our money back. If they really hate Ron Paul so much, they should just melt down the coins with Dr. Paul's face on them and give us back bars of metal to put something else on them instead. Will the government gangsters do such a thing? Probably not.



Some good did come out of the experience, though; I met my good friend Rob Gray through all of this nonsense. We decided to branch off and start a different organization called, The American Open Currency Standard or AOCS. We began creating new medallions and minting gold and silver again. You can check out some of our medallions at www.WorldCurrencyStandard.com

The problem I've found is bad money chases out good money (Gresham's law) meaning the bad money circulates while people pull out of circulation and save the good money. [Gresham's Law is a monetary principle stating that "bad money drives out good." In currency valuation, Gresham's Law states that if a new coin ("bad money") is assigned the same face value as an older coin containing a higher amount of precious metal ("good money"), then the new coin

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will be used in circulation while the old coin will be hoarded and will disappear from circulation.] When we started minting, silver was at \$4 an ounce. The other day it was \$40 an ounce! (It went as high as \$49) That's a 1000% return on your investment if you would have purchased silver from us and just held onto it. Well that's what people have done which has really been a discouragement for me because I've been trying to get everyone to use silver and gold in their everyday transactions. I've come to realize that gold and silver are a great form of MONEY, like guns, ammo, booze and food, but an awful CURRENCY.

I still highly recommend buying gold and silver and believe it should be used as savings as a shelter from inflation. However, it is practically impossible to use these items as currency as long as we have the Federal Reserve System funny money circulating. It's like that game "hot potato", you want to spend Fed notes as quickly as possible to avoid being stolen from via inflation. The longer you hold onto Fed money, the less valuable it becomes.

I decided to finally give up on working to have silver and gold be currency when I thought about the people at the top who run the Fed. What are they doing with all their paper money? Are they buying up all the gold and silver? If they decide to hyper inflate the currency so that the people demand a sound monetary system, they will come about with the solution to the problem that they caused and stay in power, enslaving us with debt now owed to them in commodity money, which they control, and they still stay in power because the billionaire banksters control most of the gold and silver. We "little guys" who don't own mines, mints, and refineries need to issue our own currency so we can be free from their control. Currently, I believe that we are seeing deflation taking place on main street. Many libertarians preach out about inflation yet are stone cold broke. Talk about cognitive dissonance and excellent banker propaganda! The bankers first loan out the money like casting out a fishing line. People borrow the money because interest rates are low and money is cheap. Then the bankers create a drought by not loaning money anymore, by jacking up the interest rates like they did in the great depression and are doing so today (reeling the fishing line back in). Then when the people can't pay the money back because it's been sucked out of circulation, the banksters repossess the real assets, the real wealth of the people. The boom and bust creating bubbles that wipe people out. Remember pictures of all the people standing in line waiting for work during the great depression? They had plenty of time, but there wasn't any money in circulation to pay them to work. Now it's just a bunch of digits on the computer screen that the people have given value to. People can prepare themselves, if they are smart enough, by creating their own local currency based on time instead. If we did that, we wouldn't have to be held hostage by Ben Bernanke and the Fed. Remember, gold and silver are just another commodity pinged to Fed notes, too, so their prices can be manipulated as well...

Jefferson said that if the people of America ever allow a private bank like the Federal Reserve to issue the nation's currency, first by inflation then DEFLATION, the banks and corporations that grow up around the people will deprive them of their property until they wake up homeless on the continent their forefathers conquered. This is exactly what is happening now!

In America, the people are supposed to be the sovereigns. A sovereign loses his sovereignty when he has to borrow. I came to realize that we the people are the money. What gives money value are the people who are willing to accept it. Now the question is, should the producers issue the currency interest free and voluntarily trade with it? Or should the parasitical banksters, who produce nothing, be allowed to create the currency, charge interest on it and use force and violence coercing us to accept it with their legal tender laws and countless taxes? The question answers itself. So, what currency can we the people all agree on?

I believe we should be trading with Bitcoins for online anonymous transactions while also using a local "Hours" currency as a physical form to circulate within the community of producers in a county. I am going to spend more time explaining Hours, since many are already using bitcoins for online purchases.

A problem both sides can agree on.

The smart people within the Occupy movement say, "Look at what has happened to America; Globalism has destroyed our manufacturing base, as we see practically all of our industries move off shore. All the big box shops like Starbucks, Target and McDonalds have moved in and are putting the local shops out of business. Before the Federal Reserve, 95% of Americans owned their own businesses. Today, 95% work for the 5%. We are no longer self-sufficient. The system is not sustainable. When you buy something from Wal-Mart, that money gets sucked out of the community to some New York bank account to go pay somebody in China \$1 a day to make cheap stuff that we then have shipped here from thousands of miles away. When NAFTA was passed, more than a million American jobs disappeared!"

The Tea Party says, "What Washington does can have a real effect on our communities. These Wall Street banksters are the financial terrorists causing way more harm than a suicide bomber!" The threat is much worse than al-CIA-duh. Who did we just bail out in 2008 with tax payer money? Was it the American people or the banksters who are enslaving us with endless debt? We bailed out the banksters which really pissed off the tea party people. This issue brings everyone together.

So what my friend Wayne Walton and I have decided to do in Summit County Colorado is create our own, debt free, organic community currency issued by the producers, interest free, instead of the parasitical banksters. That alone makes it a better alternative than Fed notes.

If it wasn't for the Federal Reserve getting us off the gold standard and on to paper/digital money, this would never work. And by the way, I keep hearing people calling dollars, "worthless Federal Reserve Notes" Well, we can take these "worthless" dollars and buy silver and gold with them, can't we? Not really worthless then are they? What gives the money value is the people who are willing to accept it.

Here is what we are doing

We've all heard of the term, "Time is money" right? Well, TIME, not gold or silver, is the only thing that all of us have the same amount of. Think about it. The Billionaire has 24 hours

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in a day and so does the homeless guy looking for work. Time is a commodity. It's inflation proof. This is why we are calling our currency HOURS. To get people to remember that they are the money.

Our system competes with the Fed notes better than gold and silver.

Our currency works like this:

We have 1/10th of an hour notes that trade for \$1

We have 1/2 hour notes that trade for \$5

We have 1 hour notes that trade for \$10

We have 2 hour notes that trade for \$20

Now, if you are a minimum wage worker getting paid \$7 an hour, wouldn't it be smarter for you to trade 1 hour of your time for a 1 hour note? You'd now be giving yourself a 30% pay raise by accepting hours as payment instead of dollars.

What about taxes?

Think about this for a second, we all know about the IRS and their income tax. Don't you think it's a little strange that in the thousands of pages of tax code, the word "income" isn't defined anywhere? What's that all about? How are we supposed to even know what income is if they haven't defined it? According to the Supreme Court, income is defined as a gain from some corporate activity. Is that the definition the IRS wants us to use.

Now, let me ask you a question, if you trade a \$20 bill for two \$10 dollar bills, is there a gain? No of course not, so there would be no "income" thus there would be no tax, correct?

Now, if you were to trade a \$20 for four \$5 dollar bills, is there a gain or is it an even exchange? It's an even exchange isn't it? Property for property.

According to the Supreme Court, you own yourself, which means you own your time. Your time is your property.

What if you traded an hour of your time mowing a friend's lawn for a 12 pack of his beer? All you're doing is trading property for property right? Just like trading two \$10 dollar bills for a \$20. Since there wouldn't be any gain, there wouldn't be any income, so there would be no tax, correct?



Now what if you traded an hour of your time for an hour of someone else's time? Is there a gain or is it an even exchange? We like to let the market decide. A lawyer may feel his time is worth more than a carpenter. So, he may want to take 20 Mountain Hours for 1 hour of his time whereas the carpenter may only charge 2 hours for his 1 hour of time. That's fine. It's up to the market to decide what the person is worth and what someone is willing to pay.

We encourage you to treat the Hour community currency as you do cash. If you do not feel that

there is any gain because you made an even exchange, great. If you feel there is a gain or that the government should get a cut of all your transactions, than by all means, pay the tax you feel you owe. The government spends your money much better than you could anyway, right?

I look at our hour currency as kind of transitional money, kind of like coupons. Most businesses already create the "Buy one get one free" deals so they are familiar with how our system works. We are building the ground work for a barter network that we can then MAYBE introduce gold and silver to once the Fed is gone. When a county gets 5000 hours in circulation (\$50,000 USD worth), that's like having \$1 million dollars a month in transactions taking place, which is the equivalent to creating 150 jobs at \$20,000 a year per job! If 1000 other counties each put \$50,000 or 5000 Hours into circulation within their own community economies, we would have roughly \$1 billion dollars a month in transactions happening outside the Fed system! This is the solution we need to wean ourselves off the Fed and their toxic money.

We are working on creating a council for other Hours communities to join. Details can be found at COMMUNITY-HOURS.COM

Joby Weeks explains Mountain Hours - the Summit County Community Currency (Video):



Each member agrees to model the currency the way we are doing it in Summit County with Mountain Hours.

If you're like most people, you may be thinking this is great! How can I get merchants in my community to join the hours network?

Well, before I approach the merchant, I have a couple friends go into the business at separate times through-out the week asking the business owner if they can exchange their cash into Mountain Hours to spend. After several requests have been made, the merchant is usually ready to listen when I walk in the door.

I walk up to a merchant in our community and ask them.

"Do you guys take Visa/MasterCard here?"

They say, "Yes"

So I say,

"Cool, so you guys are open to different ways of accepting payment. Right on. Has anyone taken the time to tell you about the Summit County Mountain Hours yet?"

They usually say, "No" or "Some people have come in the store asking to buy some, but I don't have any." (It's always better to blame the imaginary third person for not sharing it with them than to ask them if they have heard about it. We

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don't want people to feel stupid for not knowing about it.)

"The reason I ask is, some business owners in Summit County have gotten together and figured out a way to trade with one another, to keep the money circulating in the community instead of it going to all the big box shops. Kind of like barter, but better. Many businesses are using it as currency right now. Kind of like gift certificates or the Summit value card; it's called Mountain Hours."

HOURS expand the local money supply
 promote and expand local shopping, with an endless multiplier
 HOURS almost doubles the local minimum wage to \$10.00, benefitting not only workers but businesses as well, who find new and loyal customers.
 HOURS enable shoppers to afford premium prices for locally-crafted goods and for locally-grown organic food.
 HOURS help start new businesses and jobs
 HOURS reduce dependence on imports and transport fuels
 HOURS make grants to nonprofit community organizations
 HOURS make zero-interest loans
 HOURS stimulate community pride

"Would you like to start accepting Mountain Hours for your goods and services? You can spend the currency at other local businesses all over the County."

They usually say, "Yes" or "Maybe, tell me more."

"Well, remember how much paper work you had to go through to get your merchant account set up with Visa and MasterCard? This isn't a tenth as bad. Instead of having to pay Visa 3% to use their services, we pay you to use this money. We pay you the equivalent of \$200 dollars (20 hours) when you sign up to be a merchant in the network. You can then go on the website (www.mtnhours.com) and see a list of the merchants under the directory link that you can spend your money with. We have merchants joining every week. We will give your business a free ad spot on the website to attract more customers. Every month we will send you another \$100 (10 hours) to spend with businesses in the network. Some fellow businesses are giving the hours to their employees as bonuses, some are spending it themselves. If the money comes back to your store, you agree to accept it and then circulate it again and again! The more transactions that happen because of people using the currency, the more money you make."

"In Ithaca NY, they have been doing organic money called Ithaca Hours for more than 20

years. We already have many restaurants, breweries, the distillery, dispensaries, the mechanic, doctor, lawyer, plumber, massage therapist, handyman, butcher, baker, and grocers etc. as part of our network. You can already get pretty much anything you want for Mountain Hours!"


We know it will put your County on the map for tourists who will get a kick out of using the local money while they are visiting. Many will probably take some home with them to show their friends. Now, instead of being dependent on tourists trying to import money, we are actually exporting money!

Eventually this will create so much economic activity that we will be able to pay a percentage of our sales taxes to the town in hours. The town will then eventually be paying their employees a percentage of their checks in the local currency. The end goal would be to eventually hire the sheriff who re-inhabits the de-jure as opposed to the de-facto government, and who answers to the people instead of the banksters. When the Sheriff is paid in bankster money, he answers to the banksters not the people.

Once we have the sheriff and his SWAT team working for us, we can tell him to stop enforcing victimless crimes, stop sheriff sales and foreclosures and kick the Feds, like the DEA who violates the 10th Amendment by raiding medical marijuana shops, out of the County. Sheriff Mack has a great organization called the Oath Keepers and they are working on doing just that!

This is how we take our towns and communities back from the tyrannical federal government that has been violating our rights for far too long. If we all do this at the same time, it will be unstoppable.

Also, learn about Jury nullification. Volunteer for jury duty and acquit all who are accused of victimless crimes. It will send a message to the lying politicians that we the people will not convict fellow Americans who have broken unjust laws.

Let's take our country back from these banksters one community at a time! Join us! 



Joby Weeks is an avid adventurer, world traveler, social entrepreneur, author and libertarian political activist! He people how to become financially independent while blessing tens of thousands of undernourished orphans around the world with cutting edge wellness technology. Visit his [Facebook page](#).

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WHY I RUN FOR OFFICE

By Marc Victor

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SINCE the age of age fifteen, I have been an activist for human freedom. Whenever I interview someone for employment at my law firm, I make it clear that freedom is more important to me than money. I advocate for freedom in all circumstances, at all times, and for all people. It is impossible to know me at all without knowing of my deep and absolute commitment to advancing the case for human liberty. It could be said my mission in life is promoting individual rights and responsibilities, free markets, and the sovereignty of the individual. The absolute right to define and peacefully pursue one's happiness is of utmost importance to me. I believe it is the very nature of what it means to be an American.

Promoting freedom is a vast and worthy enterprise. I have given countless freedom related speeches to a countless number of groups. I co-founded the [Freedom Summit](#) which has attracted nationally well known speakers for annual freedom conferences in Phoenix. I have written several articles which promote freedom in various ways. I have used my position as a criminal defense attorney to promote freedom to many different actors in the justice system. I used my appointment as a Superior Court Judge Pro Tem to make a stand for freedom. My law firm has accepted many clients and cases not for the money, but for the freedom. I have participated in countless debates advocating for freedom. I have appeared on countless radio shows to promote some aspect of freedom. I have used my status as an honorably discharged United States Marine to promote freedom to veteran groups. I have done my best to live my life consistent with the principles of those who abhor and reject coercion and embrace voluntary transactions. In short, I believe a truly voluntary society best serves humanity; and I practice what I preach.

In economics, central planning has been a failure. The free market works well because, among other reasons, it rewards individuals for doing a good job when they voluntarily choose to do something they are well suited to do. As with economics, centrally planning to promote freedom is a bad idea. As such, there is no effective central plan for freedom. Each of us has a unique blend of skills. We are not all well suited for the same tasks. Freedom can only be achieved and preserved when freedom minded people are vigilant and promote freedom in ways which best suit them.

There are no written words that can achieve or protect freedom. As we have seen with the United States Constitution, virtually anything can be justified as consistent with those words by those who interpret them. We no longer have a government of limited powers. Rather, we have a government constrained only by the laws of physics. The only way to achieve a free society is to win the hearts and minds of those who live in that society. Only when Americans once again cherish freedom will America be free.

I don't know if my running for office will help win hearts and minds such that people once again cherish and value freedom. However, I am willing to try my best. I will strongly advocate for freedom to as many people as possible. I will not be modifying or watering down any of my long held pro-freedom positions to make them more palatable to some voter who prefers coercion. I am focused solely on promoting freedom and wherever that road leads is where I will go.



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Trampled Underfoot

By Charles Goyette

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Only this is a battle of economic forces. As we see on the old black and white movies, when Godzilla and other monsters battle, ordinary human beings count for nothing. They are trampled underfoot.

In the same way when powerful economic forces like inflation and deflation are engaged in mortal combat.

The victims of these titanic struggles can be numbered in the millions; the hardships inflicted are incalculable. While it is a needless battle, the showdown between the forces of inflation and deflation has been fought many times.

It is a tiresomely predictable cycle. The Fed blows up a bubble. The bubble pops. To protect powerful financial interests from loss, the Fed hunkers down to either blow up a new bubble, or to try to reinflate the one that just popped.

The latest round got underway in earnest with the Federal Reserve's inflating the housing bubble. But even that had its roots in the previous round of Fed manipulations.

When Alan Greenspan at the Fed drove interest rates down sharply in the 1990s to provide cheap liquidity to the banks, he inflated the dot com bubble. When that bubble popped, the Fed manned the money pumps, blowing up money and credit conditions again.

LIKE [Alien vs. Predator](#), it's an epic battle of powerful forces locked in combat. Only this is a battle of economic forces. As we see on the old black and white movies, when Godzilla and other monsters battle, ordinary human beings count for nothing. They are trampled underfoot.

Only this time the result was the real estate bubble. Between January 2001 and May 2003, Greenspan pushed the Fed funds rate all the way down from 6.5 percent to 1 percent, where it was left for a year. The Fed created trillions of dollars of debt-driven housing price inflation.

Bubbles always pop. When the housing bubble popped in a stunning deflation of home prices, the Fed did the only thing it knows how to do: Inflate. And thus the colossal battle was joined once again.



With the popping of the bubble and deflating home prices, the losses have been huge: household losses in home equity, investor losses in mortgage paper, bank losses in foreclosed homes and defaults, job losses in the real estate and construction trades. So what's the metric in terms of the deflation of money and credit conditions?

Michael Shedlock has been an astute observer of the deflationary side of the battle. He recently cited a report showing credit money contraction of \$6 trillion since March 2008.

Meanwhile, on the inflation side of the battle, the Fed responded by creating trillions in new

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money, buying the trashed mortgage debt securities of the privileged banking cartel and the downgraded debt of the U.S. government.

Other central banks around the world operate no differently. Europe is engaged in the same bubble/ bust cycle. Buying elections and the favor of the people, debtor governments borrowed and spent more than they could hope to repay. Created like all central banks to protect the privileged banking cartel, the European Central Bank responded by creating euros in the trillions for banker bailouts and central bank bond purchases.

You will note in following the European crisis, that no matter how often the central banks extend more such fiat credit, nothing is resolved in the process. This is understandable because – although it isn't described this way - the extension of credit is only another way of describing what is actually the creation of more debt. For a problem that consists of too much debt to begin with.

In the case of the Federal Reserve's serial bubble blowing – the dot com bubble, the housing bubble, and the current bond bubble - the central bank drives the affair with the creation of credit and money.

A healthy and sustainable boom is the result of the formation of new capital or net new savings. But the Fed's boom is the result of the artificial, fiat creation of money and credit. The Fed's booms are neither healthy or sustainable. They are not fueled by new savings and capital.

The newly created money and credit rushes into one or another favored sector of the financial markets, depending on the prevailing political conditions. But eventually the bubble must burst.

And like the terrified citizens trampled underfoot as they try to flee the destruction of battling behemoths such as in King Kong vs. Godzilla, the central bank's needless cycle of inflation and deflation destroys the people's livelihoods, crushes their savings, and tramples their prosperity.

By this time the damage should be familiar:

- The median net worth of American families fell 40 percent between 2007 and 2010. Predictably, the middle class took the biggest hit, while the wealthiest families' median net worth actually rose.
- Between 10 to 11 million home mortgages are underwater; almost seven percent of home mortgages are seriously delinquent, 90 days or more past due.

- One in seven Americans is on food stamps. The cost of the programs has exploded, up 135 percent from 2007 to 2011.
- Unemployment persists at depression-era levels.


We are victims of a needless cycle, explained Ludwig von Mises, one that is driven by politics:

Economic theory has demonstrated in an irrefutable way that a prosperity created by an expansionist monetary and credit policy is illusory and must end in a slump, an economic crisis. It has happened again and again in the past, and it will happen in the future, too.

If one wants to avoid the recurrence of periods of economic depression, one must start by preventing the emergence of artificial booms. One must prevent the governments from embarking upon a policy of cheap interest rates, deficit spending, and borrowing from the commercial banks.

This is, of course, a very difficult task. Governments are in this regard very obstinate. They long for the popularity that booming business conditions seldom fail to win for the party in power. The unavoidable crash, they think, will appear only later; then the other party will be in power and will have to account to the voters for the evils which their predecessors have sown.

The governing classes, those who benefit most from inflation, keep inflating bubbles which in turn must deflate. Most people, once they understand that they are victimized by this process, will long to be freed of it. They will wish to live in an environment of stability. They will want to be free to restore prosperity for themselves and their families.

But this is a barren hope. Like collateral damage in war, ordinary people count for nothing. They will be trampled as long as central banking and fiat money persists. 

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Charles Goyette [[send him mail](#)] is the author of the New York Times bestseller [The Dollar Meltdown](#). His new book is [Red and Blue and Broke All Over: Restoring America's Free Economy](#). He is also editor of [Freedom & Prosperity Letter](#), a monthly political and financial newsletter dedicated to revealing the truth about the U.S.'s political scene and economic climate. [To learn more, go here](#).

Charles Goyette's
FREEDOM & PROSPERITY LETTER
Protect Your Wealth. Reclaim Your Liberty. Restore The American Dream.

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The Artificial Habitat for Mankind: This Isn't the End of the Road

By Daniel Taylor

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HUMANITY is under attack. Our men are are dying out. The future of mankind is uncertain.

The [Global Future 2045 Congress held in Russia early this year](#) discussed the future of humanity amidst a technological revolution. Transhumanist leader Ray Kurzweil was in attendance among other top technology leaders. Maksim Kalashnikov, a Soviet Union apologist, also attended the conference. He warned of the rise of “easily deceived” “barbarians” who’s “...video-game mentality means they could easily start to wreak havoc...” As Svetlana Smetanina reported from the conference, “If the proportion of people like this comes to encompass 50 percent of the Earth’s population, then a new “middle ages” are almost guaranteed.”

This is the discussion taking place among the elite and intelligentsia: *What will we do with masses of obsolete people in the wake of the technological revolution?* This article examines a few outstanding examples – [recently given attention in the media](#)- of what is being done presently, and offers a potential way out of the trap.

Look out over a cityscape and you will likely see a mass of humanity distracted, absorbed in the glowing screens of handheld devices, largely unaware of the approaching crossroads of history. If you are a person of a moral nature, your conscience will tell you to warn them; Empower them and give them information that will help them make the right choice. If you are an elitist with some degree of control over world affairs, you see them as an ugly mass of insects too stupid to possibly comprehend what you have in store for them. In fact, they’re an obstacle to your success. If they’re dumb enough to fall into your traps, they deserve what they get.

To manage these “barbarians” an artificial habitat has been created in which the reward system of our brain is constantly stimulated with artificial forms of satisfaction ([television](#), [video games](#), [porn](#), [artificial flavoring](#), [Facebook](#), etc.) in place of seeking after real partners, real experiences, knowledge, and adventure. It is a real life matrix. We have an artificially induced sense of fulfillment, and deep down we know it is but a shadow of who we could be. This is the scientific attack that we are enduring, and if we become conscious of it we can make the first steps in conquering it.

The scientific dictatorship has [studied human nature and biology](#) only to craft psycho-social-biological weapons against the masses. They are designed to over-ride your thought processes

with subliminal messages that target your weaknesses. Food and water have also been weaponized.

The elite has created this situation – using corrupt human nature to their advantage – and now points at the demoralized, dulled mass of humanity left in its wake and dares to say that we are a new class of barbarians threatening to destabilize the world. Looking at the [fruits of the elites work](#), we can see exactly what their agenda is. This [Business Insider article](#) gives a few disturbing statistics:

- In 2011, young men’s SAT scores were the worst they had been in 40 years.
- Even Hollywood has caught on: films like *Failure to Launch*, *Knocked Up* and *Jackass* mock the ineptitude of this generation.
- Boys account for 70 percent of D’s and F’s given at school.
- Research shows guys aren’t interested in being husbands, fathers or the head of the household.

Additionally, the health of the world is [in a state of necrosis](#). Alarm bells should be going off the world over. [According to Johns Hopkins](#), “*By 2015, 75% of Adults Will Be Overweight; 41% Will Be Obese.*” Autism rates continue to skyrocket. Around [one in 88 children](#) is now diagnosed with the disorder. A study published by the [Journal of the American Medical Association](#) concluded that as of 1994, *properly prescribed and used* pharmaceutical drugs accounted for the “...*fourth and sixth leading cause of death...*” in the United States.

In 1958 Dr. R. Swinburne Clymer [exposed the elite’s agenda](#) in his book *The Age of Treason*, which was subtitled, “*Food and Liquids Used as a Medium in Deliberately and Carefully Planned Methods Developed by the Vicious Element of Humanity, for the Mental Deterioration and Moral Debasement of the Mass, as a Means Toward Their Enslavement.*”

Dr. Clymer wrote regarding the destruction of man,

“Every vigilant human being should be concerned with several important factors involved: The methods or means by which it is possible to change man’s characteristics as easily as the animal’s. Man is a warrior by nature, the protector of his family, and his own rights and privileges; an individual, a free man... A being who has wrought great things and who, if not interfered with, will do even greater things. This being is to be turned into a lesser female; unable, even

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unwilling, to defend himself, much less his family or country; becoming a slave..."

The "Animalization of Humankind"

A brave new world is rising, and with it the de-humanization of humanity is accelerating. [One reader](#) of Huxley's timeless 1931 book *Brave New World* describes the society of Huxley's future: "The pleasure-seeking society pursues no spiritual experiences or joys, preferring carnal ones. The lack of a religion that seeks a true transcendental understanding helps ensure that the masses of people, upper and lower classes, have no reason to rebel."

Love and marriage are separated from reproduction in Huxley's world. Babies are grown in labs while the sterilized masses are encouraged to embrace promiscuity.

In our present world, [projections from Deutsche bank](#) state that due to falling fertility rates, "... the human race will no longer be replacing itself by the early 2020s." [Sperm counts are also falling](#) world-wide. Following these trends is what some call the "animalization" of humankind through the increasing prevalence of porn. *Brave New World* is no longer science fiction.

Roger Howard [writes in the Futurist](#) magazine,

"...the animalization of humankind will inevitably have consequences that stretch well beyond the screens upon which we view internet porn. Not only will those who participate in online action be labeled with such terms, but those labels will shape how we see each other. If each of us increasingly sees others more as "animal" than "human," then it follows that our mutual respect is similarly eroded. Human well-being is traditionally protected by a framework of morals and manners that simply does not protect animals... and human life is sacred in a way that animal life is not."

The Virtual Skinner Box

Video games are designed with basic human psychology in mind. They dispense virtual goodies for the reward system in your brain, which makes no distinction between the real and virtual worlds. Your mind is hooked in, [driving you to press the button](#) inside your own personal skinner box over and over again. Psychologist B. F. Skinner developed the Skinner box as a way to induce certain behaviors in rats through a simple reward system. Video games utilize the same idea of behavior based rewards.

[This article summarizes](#) the various ways that video games trap your mind:

- "Why do so many of us have that void? Because according to everything expert Malcolm Gladwell, to be satisfied with your job you need three things, and I bet most of you don't even have two of them:
- Autonomy (that is, you have some say in what you do day to day);
- Complexity (so it's not mind-numbing repetition);
- Connection Between Effort and Reward (i.e. you actually see the awesome results of your hard work).
- Most people, particularly in the young gamer demographics, don't have this in their jobs or in any aspect of their everyday lives. But the most addictive video games are specifically geared to give us all three... or at least the illusion of all three."

Eventually, following trends of nanotech and miniaturization, virtual games will be embedded everywhere in the environment dispensing virtual rewards and points to millions of "players". They will be in your car, on light poles, cereal boxes, walls; [Even in your glasses](#). The question is, who will decide what the rewards are based on? This system has the potential to be the social engineer's dream come true.

This 2010 presentation explains:



What will we do?



We can reach for a higher standard

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"We make men without chests and expect of them virtue and enterprise. We laugh at honour and are shocked to find traitors in our midst. We castrate and bid the geldings be fruitful." – C.S. Lewis

What will we do about this? How can mankind defend against these tools of deception and domestication? There are a vast number of potential solutions to choose from. I will share with you what I personally believe to be effective.

First, realize that there is a [raging battle being fought](#) right now between freedom and tyranny. Too many people have been sold the idea that their lives are boring and the world dull. The hardcore reality of this battle – and the realization that there is [breathtaking beauty everywhere](#) – is enough to snap semi-conscious people out of their artificial habitat induced trance.

Noted scholar and writer C.S. Lewis eloquently stated,


*"...war creates no absolutely new situation: it simply aggravates the permanent human situation so that we can no longer ignore it. Human life has always been lived on the edge of a precipice. **Human culture has always has always had to exist under the shadow of something infinitely more important than itself. If men had postponed the search for knowledge and beauty until they were secure, the search would never have begun.** We are mistaken when we compare war with "normal life." *Life has never been normal.**

The artificial habitat that we live in has seduced us into a state of complacency. We aren't exercising the strength that we have as human beings. Our ancestors strove for knowledge and beauty amidst great hardship. Now we are convinced that we are at the end of the road; We don't need

to strive for anything else. We don't have a reason to rebel. It's time to break the chains.

We can reach for a higher standard and take the open hand that God is extending to us. Scientific control over humanity is not full proof. In fact, once individuals [filled with the spirit of God](#) overcome the spell of wickedness and deception, they are empowered beyond anything that they were before. I say to the New World Order; Keep doing what you're doing. You are building the army of your own destruction. The weapons that you forge against us *will fail*.

I leave you with another quote from Mr. Lewis,

"To us [evil] a human is primarily food; our aim is the absorption of its will into ours, the increase of our own area of selfhood at its expense... One must face the fact that all the talk about His [God's] love for men, and His service being perfect freedom, is not (as one would gladly believe) mere propaganda, but an appalling truth. He really does want to fill the universe with a lot of loathsome little replicas of Himself – creatures whose life, on its miniature scale, will be qualitatively like His own, not because He has absorbed them but because their wills freely conform to is... Our war aim is a world in which Our Father Below has drawn all other beings into himself: the Enemy [God] wants a world full of beings united in Him but still distinct." – C.S. Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters* 

Reprinted from [OldThinkerNews.Com](#)

Daniel Taylor is an independent researcher, activist, and webmaster of [oldthinkernews.com](#), who for the past 7 years has studied the information that none of us was (or likely ever will be) taught in the public education system. He has made an attempt to teach himself, rather than be well-schooled.

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The Fear of Self Responsibility and How to Break Free from State-Inspired Fear

By Meghan Kellison

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FEAR is one of the most powerful forces used to control a human. By keeping a person or group of people afraid of a real or perceived threat, one can emotionally manipulate a victim to turn in family members to agents of the state, give up basic human rights, and beg for protection to be administered by the very entity using fear to control them. Some of the most popular enemies include the Communists in the 1950's, the Black Panthers in the '60's, Russia in the '70's and '80's, terrorists after 9/11, and the ever present threat of manufactured diseases like the bird and swine flus. It appears as if this country has been scared to death by our government warning us of the latest boogeyman for most of the last century, and this fear has been used to whittle away at our civil liberties.

By being in constant fear of hypothetical danger (like "cyber-terrorists"), our defenses are weakened and our bullshit meters function at lessened capacity. We have lost sight of the things we should really be concerned with: the ever-expanding military-industrial complex, the erosion of our civil liberties with each passing "defense" bill, the fact the president now has the authority to authorize the remote killing of US citizens by predator drones, the increasing aggression of the police state...you get the point. There are the real issues, then there are the fabricated scenarios used to distract us from the real power grabs going on in our country. So, while people focus on the recent bill banning gay marriage in North Carolina, they are distracted from the question of what government is doing managing a personal contract between two people. Oftentimes, the knee-jerk reaction to a superficial social issue eliminates the question of "why." Why do we need government to be involved in the most personal aspects of our lives?

It is taken for granted that the government has such control over our lives, and never ever questioned. We must ask why we do things like submit our children to be molested in the name of security. Are we afraid of freedom? In a way we are afraid of the responsibility that freedom brings. As long as there is a scapegoat to blame our problems on, we are content to live in a sterile, manufactured world where the state supplies what it thinks we need and our dependence is paid for by coercing others, for no service is truly free of cost. It is never the fault of the state or its supporters if the country is attacked for perpetuating overt and covert wars around the world, no, it is the brown people who hate our freedom. As little sense as this explanation makes, it is a convenient way to divert responsibility for the actions of the people who elected the officials who continue to fuel the war machine.

While government has so much power over our daily existence, it is a complaint that begs the question, "How did it get to this point?" The culprit is revealed when one looks into a mirror. By allowing our reason to be manipulated by fear, the people have given credence to a broken system and provided the life blood to support it through taxes and voting. These corrupt leaders were elected over and over again to use their monopoly on violence to harm others and

take away their rights while forcing the values of their supporters on others who disagree. The degree of evil genius involved when pitting us against each other whether it be through race, class, gender or religion is sickening, yet near perfect. This situation leads to the conclusion that voting has become an act of violence because it allows for an undereducated minority to inflict its morals on the uneducated majority. When the people, swayed by false promises and doomed to repeat history due to insufficient knowledge and critical thinking skills, elected Obama nearly four years ago, they consented to the theft and war to come. Despite pleas by an informed minority that this candidate was exactly the same as his predecessor due to his campaign backers (Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan Chase, Bank of America), the lemmings dismissed the facts and instead chose another smooth talking politician as their beloved leader.

If the majority of people can accept the fact that most all politicians are liars who pander to their bases with false promises and only seek to serve themselves, why do people continue to vote for them? It is fear; fear of the newest threat, fear of their neighbor, fear that their benefits (falsely called) will be taken away, fear that they will have to answer for their actions. I guess they reason that as long as there is a scapegoat, the people can remain blameless and devoid of responsibility. Try telling that to the millions who have been raped, killed, and tortured by the monolithic war machine supported by the American citizens under republican and democrat regimes. As long as people continue to uphold the status quo of a two party system (in name only), they should be held responsible, and quite frankly deserve what they get when their elected leaders and government entities makes bad decisions and backlash ensues. Of course, if you are supportive of this system, that is fine, but don't act offended when the politician you voted for and the system you pay taxes to disappoints you. However, there is a growing number of people experiencing cognitive dissonance and becoming weary of the same old game.



These individuals are tasked with the concern of how convoluted things have become, and if there is any way to fix the current system or at the very least take an ethical stance in opposition. A violent revolution at this point in the game is not possible. You could have all the guns humanly possible, but they will do nothing when confronted by a hellfire missile, predator drone, or any other military weapon. Changing the minds of the people is a start. By educating your friends and family on the history of topics such as central banking, the public/Prussian school system and its methods of indoctrination, false flag attacks, and denaturing of our food, the womb of consciousness can be opened. It

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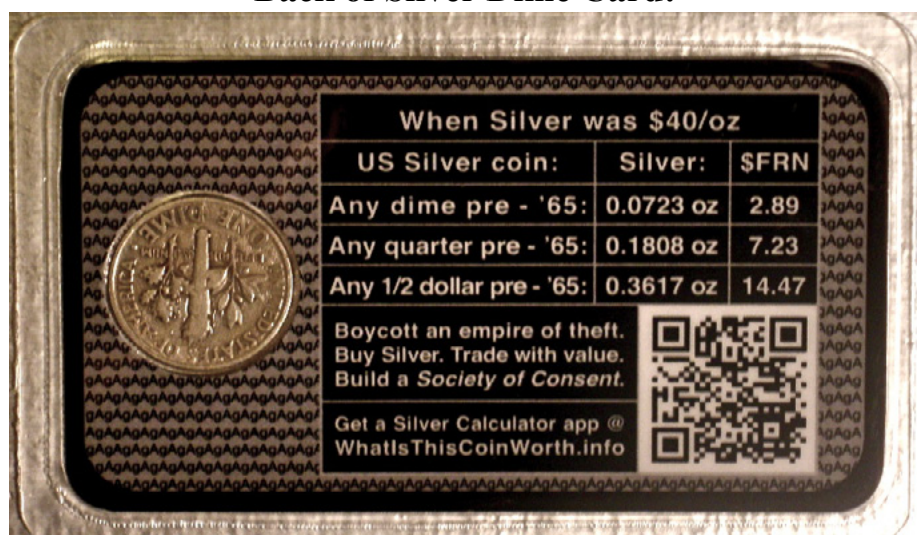
begins with taking responsibility for how one's decisions affect neighbors near and far, and not allowing responsibility to be delegated out to external forces.

Another approach, and my personal favorite as far as direct action after the re-education phase, is opting out. Reform of the system by working within it, despite the good intentions of some activists, is not possible. The system was designed in such a way to oppress the people; therefore, its rules are made to benefit the rulers. There is no playing by their rules to encourage change, and if you don't believe me look at what happens to politicians who stand up for the rights of the people. There is the opportunity to opt out as much as you can. If you don't like the food the system feeds you, stop eating it. If you don't like the products it makes, quit buying them. If you don't like the foreign policy of the military-industrial complex, quit paying for it. If you don't support the destructive actions of politicians, quit voting for them. If your bank is screwing you over, quit banking there. If you disagree with the Fed and monetary policy, quit using its currency. It is not as difficult as you might think because the more dissatisfaction that surfaces, the more innovation comes out of the minds of the people hoping to break free. The hardest part would be the issue of avoiding paying taxes, and I am in no way encouraging people to take on the IRS. The rest of the actions have easy solutions. Grow your own food, or support a local farmer. Define the necessities you need to exist, and choose the services that can afford you peace of mind over convenience. Quit voting altogether, but even more so if your options are decided by morally derelict parties with an agenda. Take your money out of the major banking institutions and support your local credit union or better yet, change your money over to real money in the form of gold and silver to protect your wealth against inflation, and store it yourself.

Silver Dime Card Variety:



Back of Silver Dime Card:



One of the most fascinating developments in the liberty movement is that of wallet voting---the concept of using silver to barter with for goods and services instead of fiat reserve notes. You'll find many of your local, independent businesses will be more than happy to accept silver as payment. Bartering doesn't have to be limited to silver, though. I have used my handmade hula hoops to barter with, for example, but any kind of voluntary exchange that limits the Fed's control over you is an option. This method of exchange has the dual purpose of avoiding taxes, as well, and while it may be particularly difficult to avoid the income tax altogether, a barter society significantly decreases the power they have over your wealth.



If you have already made the decision to opt out, there are numerous resources available to you. Here are some sources to make those changes in your life today:

Growing seasons: http://www.cartoko.com/content/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/Paul-lin_1932_pl_3e.jpg

Local farmers participating in work exchange programs and also sellers of organic food: <http://www.wwoofusa.org/>

Credit unions: http://thecommunitybanker.com/cu_links/

Buy real money, stay up to date on financial news, free iPhone silver wallet app, and other resources to keep you empowered: <http://rrbi.co/>

Information on wallet voting, awesome t-shirts, and where to buy collectible silver dime cards: <http://donttreadonmeme.com/>

Meet other individuals opting out peacefully: <http://freestateproject.org/> 🌱

Meghan has been writing poetry, prose, short stories, and essays for several years, has been published in small independent publications (mostly poetry), and currently runs the blog at Roberts & Roberts Brokerage (<http://rrbi.co/category/blog/>). Her focus is on social issues, politics, fitness, and natural health topics. The best way to contact Meghan is on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100001243544080>.

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Terry and the Checkpoint Goons, Part I

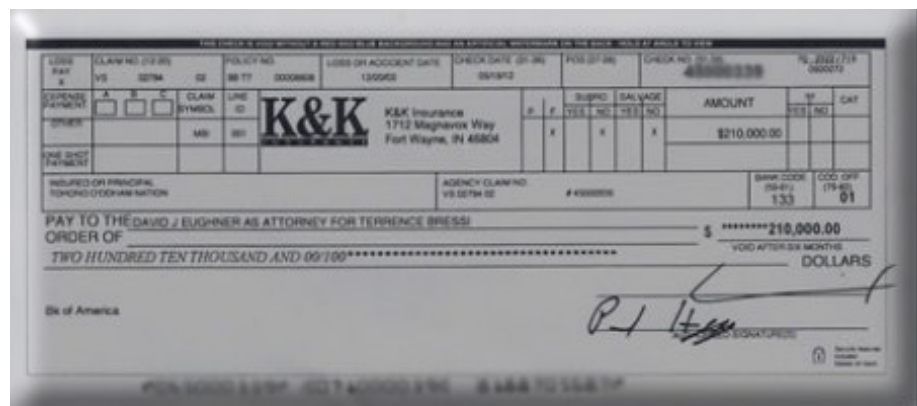
By Claire Wolfe

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MUSINGS ABOUT PERSONAL FREEDOM
AND FINDING IT WITHIN OURSELVES

THREE thousand four hundred and fifty-one days after being [dragged out of his vehicle & arrested](#) at an illegal roadblock conducted by Tohono O’odham tribal police (with the assistance of U.S. Customs agents and the U.S. Border Patrol), Terry Bressi settled his lawsuit. He received a \$210,000 check.



From the moment he filed his suit, [he fought for exactly 3,087 days](#) — all the while driving in the same area and becoming a target of enforcer rage. It wasn’t a complete victory. No individual officer paid a penalty. No principle of law was changed. Nevertheless, he won.

In doing so, he also posted a treasure-trove of documents to help others who might want to push the right-to-travel fight even farther.

As a born [Ghost](#), somebody who just wants to go *around* “the system” rather than contend with it, I can’t even imagine fighting such a fight. But then, that’s what Agitators are for, and if there’s ever an Agitator Hall of Fame, surely Terry Bressi has earned his place in it.

He was kind enough to answer a few questions about what motivated him. Q&A follows. (He also gave some more practical information about his setup for recording police stops; that will be in another blog post.)

Q. Did you realize right after the initial incident that you were going to fight back, or did it take you some time to work up to it?

A. I knew immediately that not only would I do what was necessary to vigorously defend myself against the charges but that I would use an acquittal as a spring board into a civil rights lawsuit. To that end, I wrote up a rough draft of my initial report within a few days of the incident while everything was still fresh in my mind. I also immediately began looking for a good attorney to represent me regarding the charges along with providing council on how best to prepare for a lawsuit upon successfully defending against the charges.

Q. Did you consider other options besides pursuing the issue in the courts?

A. I decided early on that not only would I pursue the issue in a court of law but also the court of public opinion. To that end, I used the incident in particular and the issue in general as a motivator to create a website, [CheckpointUSA.org](#) and blog, [Roadblock Revelations](#). These online resources could then be used as a discussion platform for issues related to the right to travel and the abuses that always seem to manifest themselves after men and women with guns

and shiny badges are empowered to seize people absent suspicion and investigate/interrogate them regarding unknown crimes.

I also wanted to use my website as a comprehensive legal document repository for my interaction with the ‘justice’ system. One of my frustrations over the years while reading about other people’s cases and researching associated legal issues has been the lack of documentation regarding specific cases or documentation that only told part of the story.

In all legal proceedings, there are three sides to every story; the plaintiff’s, the defendant’s and the court’s. Usually what we hear in the media or see online is the court’s side via a court order. A court order in turn is little more than the position the presiding judge takes after filtering the evidence, facts and pleadings made by the other two sides through the judge’s particular bias filter. As such, when a person only has a court ruling to review, and not the complete court record, it’s difficult to determine the merit of one’s own legal position on a related legal issue. It also makes it difficult to strategically plan a legal action if one doesn’t know how an issue has been argued before, how the other side responded, what conclusion the court came to and how far any particular disagreement was appealed, if at all.

This is the primary reason why I decided early on that, in the absence of an explicit court order to the contrary I would post all the legal documentation associated with the case online, a stance that caused problems on several occasions over the nine year history of the case. As such, the 240+ legal documents I have posted provides a treasure trove of information for others who want to push this issue further. Folks can see exactly how the issues were argued, what evidence was brought to bear, how the other side responded and how the court treated each argument. Such information is invaluable for anyone who wants to challenge suspicionless roadblock operations in future legal actions because it allows others to capitalize not only on our legal successes but also our legal mistakes.

Q. Were you motivated more by a desire to right the wrong done to you? Or more by sheer principle? Or was it a mix?

A. For me, the individual wrong was merely the offshoot of the violation of the principle. If I wasn’t concerned about the principle, if I didn’t have the principle to help guide my response to begin with, I wouldn’t have been motivated to question the officers who stopped me and would have shown a government issued ID after the first ‘request’ to do so.

The principle enshrined within the Right to Travel is fundamental. Without it, most of the other rights enumerated in the Bill of Rights have little to no meaning. What good is the right to speech, press, assembly or petition if you can’t travel somewhere to speak to a group of like-minded individuals, distribute media, assemble regarding an issue of common concern or stand in front of the government official(s) you’re trying to petition? What good is a right to keep and bear arms if the only place you can

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keep or bear them is within the boundaries of your home? How will you exercise your right to face your accuser if you aren't allowed to travel to or enter the court house where you're being accused? How will you pursue your life, liberty or happiness if the substance of your life, liberty or happiness lies outside the boundaries of your property line?

The principle, Right to Travel, was interfered with the moment I was seized by armed government agents along a public highway no where near an international border while admitting they had no reason to believe I had done anything wrong in order to investigate me for crimes they had no reason to suspect me of violating. Everything that transpired from that point on was merely the result of my response to that violation of an individual's right to travel unmolested along roads paid for by a public whose name 'the government' purports to exist for and operate in the service of.

Q. During the nine years you pursued this, what kept you going? Surely you must have just wanted to quit sometimes.

A. In a nutshell, I can be quite persistent when I know I'm right.

There's a host of reasons why I pushed the case as far as I did. Some practical, some not so practical. A few of those reasons appear below. I'll also point out that my ability to keep going over the years on this issue was due in no small part to the support of friends, family and people I had never even met before the case was filed.

On the practical side of things, every time I had to drive to work along that deserted stretch of Southwestern desert highway where the number of enforcement vehicles on the road at any given time outnumbered most other traffic was a constant reminder that it's generally not a good idea to start a fight you can't finish – especially when the King's men are involved.

By standing up for my rights during the initial roadblock incident in 2002, I quickly went from being a random driver in the area to a target. This became even more the case after the Border Patrol established a strong presence along SR86 with its 'High Intensity Enforcement Zone' in 2003 and eventually a so-called 'tactical' roadblock in 2008 that's still there to this day (see my [YouTube videos](#)).

A target that can't demonstrate an ability to not only defend itself against unwanted aggression but also inflict some damage of its own from time to time quickly becomes a casualty in one form or another. As such, successfully defending

oneself against trumped up charges and following up with a largely successful, albeit lengthy, civil rights lawsuit was just as much a matter of survival as anything else.

On the not-so-practical side of things, a lot changed for me personally over the nine years I was involved in the lawsuit. I went from being primarily responsible for my own well-being at the time of the incident to being responsible for several others as the size of my immediate family grew over the years, a responsibility I took on willingly. Not wanting my children to grow up in a society where they can be arbitrarily seized, detained, questioned, investigated, searched & assaulted by random government agents merely for traveling down a public road, was a great motivator for me to do what I can about it now. For purposes of this case, that involved seeing the case through by seeking the best outcome I could get given what I had to work with.

Q. Now that it's over and you've had some time to reflect, what are your thoughts & feelings about the outcome?

A. In many ways, the legal outcome was not what I wanted but it was more than I expected. After all, any legal action involving the King's men that you can walk away from is a good one. Additionally, nine years of legal wrangling in justice court, federal district court and the 9th circuit has provided a treasure trove of experience and information that others can use without having to recreate the wheel regarding similar legal challenges.

Legally, we made a few tactical mistakes along the way. Mistakes that shouldn't have made a difference in the outcome but did. We also did a lot of things right but learned the hard way that when it's your word and the word of other witnesses against the word of the King's men, the King's men almost always get the benefit of the doubt in the King's court. That's why audio and video of every interaction with a government agent who is forcing himself on you is so important.

My purpose in filing the lawsuit was to establish legal precedent regarding what actions enforcement agents can/can't take while seizing people absent suspicion at police checkpoints. I also wanted reasonable compensation for the thousands of dollars the incident initially cost me in legal defense fees and other costs. What I got nine years later was a purely monetary settlement after the courts whittled the lawsuit away to a few basic, out of context, facts that would be difficult to present in any meaningful way to a jury.

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By whittling away at the substance of the lawsuit before a jury ever got close to hearing it, the court was also pushing us towards settlement due to several factors that I didn't fully understand until I was standing right in the middle of them. Specifically, judicial precedent over the past decade has had the effect, intended or not, of undermining the right to sue for constitutional torts under 42 USC 1983. Specifically, courts are increasingly instructing jurors to only assign nominal damages of \$1.00 to plaintiffs who prevail in a 42 USC 1983 action for constitutional violations that don't involve substantial physical or financial harm.

The justice system's rationale is that from its perspective there is no monetary value in a constitutional right in and of itself so significant monetary damages for a constitutional violation shouldn't be awarded to someone who can't prove any other substantial harm associated with the violation. To add further insult to injury, court's are increasingly limiting or denying attorney's fees to civil rights attorneys who prevail on 42 USC 1983 claims but only win nominal damages for their clients.

This of course creates the perverse incentive that individuals who want to realize change to unconstitutional government policies, procedures and practices through non-violent legal action must stand their ground to such a degree during an incident that they place themselves in significant jeopardy of physical or financial harm before it's realistically feasible to bring suit under 42 USC 1983.

What civil rights attorney, after all, is going to take a case pro-bono knowing that the chances of recouping his or her costs after a lengthy legal battle will be slim to none – even if the case is successful?

What individual, who isn't independently wealthy, is going to pay an attorney to bring a 42 USC 1983 claim forward knowing there's a significant chance that even if they do win, the court will only award nominal damages?

What government agency is going to be persuaded to change its ways when the only liability it faces for the wholesale disregard of individual rights is \$1.00 in nominal damages?

While this wasn't exactly the situation we were facing here, we weren't very far removed from it either – especially after the most recent judge in the case denied several of our claims while leaving the core constitutional claims intact. We could have appealed the denial but we wouldn't have been able to do so until after the trial. Additionally, another appeal would have added several more years to the case and all the costs and aggravation that goes along with it.

As such, I had a front row seat to just how badly the judicial system wants settlement over trial and just how little respect the system as a whole has for the fundamental individual rights it was allegedly created to protect.

Do I think the nine year effort was worthwhile? Most definitely but probably not for all the same reasons many other people would. 🌸

Claire Wolfe is a libertarian author and columnist. Her favorite topics are himesteading, firearms, homeschooling, open source technology, and opposition to national ID and the surveillance state. Wolfe's books include such titles as [101 Things to Do 'Til the Revolution](#) and [I Am Not a Number!](#). Wolfe also writes or has written for a number of magazines, notably [Backwoods Home Magazine](#), [S.W.A.T. magazine](#), and [DGC Magazine](#), which covers electronic, metal-backed currencies.

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Will Downing St. Memo Recur on Iran?

By Ray McGovern and Annie Machon

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A decade after the infamous “Downing Street Memo” and its “fixed” intelligence for invading Iraq, the pressure is on again to make the case – whatever the facts – for a new war with Iran. Will the UK’s MI6 and the CIA bend again or hold firm, ask ex-intelligence analysts Annie Machon and Ray McGovern.

Recent remarks by Sir John Sawers, who heads Britain’s MI6 (the Secret Intelligence Service that is Britain’s CIA counterpart), leave us wondering if Sawers is preparing to “fix” intelligence on Iran, as his immediate predecessor, Sir John Scarlett, did on Iraq.

Scarlett’s pre-Iraq war role in creating “dodgy dossiers” hyping the threat of non-existent “weapons of mass destruction” is relatively well known. On July 4, the red warning light for politicization was again flashing brightly in London, as Sawers told British senior civil servants that Iran is “[two years away](#)” from becoming a “nuclear weapons state.” How did Sawers come up with “two years?”



British Prime Minister Tony Blair and U.S. President George W. Bush shake hands after a joint White House press conference on Nov. 12, 2004. (White House photo by Paul Morse)

British Prime Minister Tony Blair and U.S. President George W. Bush shake hands after a joint White House press conference on Nov. 12, 2004. (White House photo by Paul Morse)

Since late 2007, the benchmark for weighing Iran’s nuclear program has been the [unanimous assessment](#) by all 16 U.S. intelligence agencies that Iran halted its nuclear weapons program in late 2003 and that, as of mid-2007, had not restarted it. Those judgments have been revalidated every year since, despite strong pressure to bow to more ominous — but evidence-starved — assessments by Israel and its neo-conservative supporters.

The 2007 U.S. National Intelligence Estimate helped thwart plans to attack Iran in 2008, the last year of the Bush/Cheney administration. This shines through in George Bush’s own memoir, *Decision Points*, in which he rues the NIE’s “eye-popping declaration: ‘We judge with high

confidence that in fall 2003, Tehran halted its nuclear weapons program.’”

Bush continues, “But after the NIE, how could I possibly explain using the military to destroy the nuclear facilities of a country the intelligence community said had no active nuclear weapons program?” (*Decision Points*, p. 419)

Hands tied on the military side, U.S. covert operations flowered, with \$400 million appropriated at that same time for a major escalation of the dark-side struggle against Iran, according to military, intelligence, and congressional sources [cited](#) by Seymour Hersh in 2008.

The clandestine but all-too-real war on Iran has included attacks with computer viruses, the murders of Iranian scientists, and what the Israelis call the “unnatural” demise of senior officials like Revolutionary Guards Major General Hassan Moghaddam, father of Iran’s missile program.

Moghaddam was killed in a [large explosion](#) last November, with *Time* magazine citing a “western intelligence source” as saying the Israel’s Mossad was behind the blast. More threatening still to Iran are the severe economic sanctions laid upon it, sanctions which are tantamount to an act of war.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and pro-Israel neo-conservatives in the U.S. and elsewhere have been pushing hard for an attack on Iran, seizing every pretext they can find. Netanyahu was suspiciously fast off the blocks, for example, in claiming that Iran was behind the tragic terrorist bombing of Israeli tourists in Bulgaria on July 18, despite Bulgarian authorities and even the White House warning that it is too early to attribute responsibility.

Netanyahu’s instant indictment of Iran strongly suggests he is looking for excuses to up the ante. With the Persian Gulf looking like an accident waiting to happen, stocked as it is with warships from the U.S., the U.K. and elsewhere — and with no fail-safe way of communicating with Iranian naval commanders — an escalation-generating accident or provocation is now [more likely than ever](#).

July 23, a Day of Infamy

Oddly, Sawers’s speech of July 4 came just as an important date approached — the tenth anniversary of a sad day for British and U.S. intelligence on Iraq. On July 23, 2002 at a meeting at 10 Downing Street, then-MI6 head, John Dearlove, [briefed](#) Prime Minister Tony Blair

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and other senior officials on his talks with his American counterpart, CIA Director George Tenet, in Washington three days before.

In the official minutes of that briefing (now known as the [Downing Street Memo](#)), which were leaked to the *London Times* and published on May 1, 2005, Dearlove explains that George Bush has decided to attack Iraq and the war was to be “justified by the conjunction of terrorism and weapons of mass destruction.”

When then-Foreign Secretary Jack Straw points out that the case was “thin,” Dearlove explains matter-of-factly, “The intelligence and facts are being fixed around the policy.”

There is no sign in the minutes that anyone hiccupped — much less demurred — at [making a case for war](#) and furthering Blair’s determination to join Bush in launching the kind of “war of aggression” outlawed by the Nuremberg Tribunal after World War II and by the United Nations Charter.

Helped by the acquiescence of its chief spies, the Blair government mainlined into the body politic un-assessed, raw intelligence and forged documents, with disastrous consequences for the world.

UK citizens were spoon-fed fake intelligence in the [September Dossier](#) (2002) and then, just six weeks before the attack on Iraq, the “[Dodgy Dossier](#),” based largely on a 12-year old [PhD thesis](#) culled from the Internet — all presented by spy and politician alike as ominous premonitory intelligence.

So was made the case for war. All lies, resulting in hundreds of thousands dead and maimed and millions of Iraqis displaced — yet no one held to account.

Sir Richard Dearlove, who might have prevented this had he had the integrity to speak out, was allowed to retire with full honors and became the Master of a Cambridge college. John Scarlett, who as chair of the Joint Intelligence Committee signed off on the fraudulent dossiers, was rewarded with the top spy job at MI6 and a knighthood. George W. Bush gave George Tenet the Presidential Medal of Freedom — the highest civilian award.

What need have we for further proof? “So are they all, all honorable men” — reminiscent of those standing with Brutus in Shakespeare’s play, but with no Mark Antony to expose them and stir the appropriate popular reaction.

Therein lies the problem: instead of being held accountable, these “honorable men” were, well, honored. Their soft landings offer a noxious object lesson for ambitious bureaucrats who are ready to play fast and loose with the truth and trim their sails to the prevailing winds.

Ill-begot honors offer neither deterrent nor disincentive to current and future intelligence chiefs tempted to follow suit and corrupt intelligence rather than challenge their political leaders with hard, un-“fixed” facts. Integrity? In this milieu integrity brings one knowing smirks rather than honors. And it can get you kicked out of the club.


Fixing Intelligence on Iran

Are we in for another round of “fixing” — this time on Iran? We may know soon. Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu, citing the terrorist attack in Bulgaria, has already provided what amounts to a variation on Dearlove’s ten-year-old theme regarding how war can be “justified by the conjunction of terrorism and weapons of mass destruction.”

According to the *Jerusalem Post* on July 17, [Netanyahu said](#) all countries that understand that Iran is an exporter of world terror must join Israel in “stating that fact clearly,” in order to emphasize the importance of preventing Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon.

Appearing on CBS’s *Face the Nation* on Sunday as well as on *Fox News Sunday*, Netanyahu returned to that theme. Blaming the July 18 terrorist attack in Bulgaria on Hezbollah supported by Iran, he asked TV viewers to imagine what would happen if the world’s most dangerous regime got the world’s most dangerous weapons.

This has too familiar a ring. Has it been just ten years?

Will MI6 chief Sawers model his conduct today on that of his predecessors who, ten years ago, “justified” war on Iraq? Will he “fix” intelligence around U.K./U.S./Israeli policy on Iran? Parliamentary overseers should demand a briefing from Sawers forthwith, before erstwhile bulldog Britain is again dragged like a poodle into another unnecessary war. 

Annie Machon is a former intelligence officer in the UK’s MI5 Security Service (the U.S. counterpart is the FBI), and Ray McGovern is a former U.S. Army Intelligence officer and CIA analyst. [To see Annie Machon and Ray McGovern discuss this issue on TheRealNews, [click here](#).]

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What Can We Do Now

By: Jan Rose Kasmir

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"IF you are not part of the solution, then you are part of the problem", has motivated me to action

for over 40 years. Eldridge Cleaver's words elegantly remind me that the buck stops HERE - with me. If I become aware, then I am obligated to act. The tough question involves what course of action to take. The bad guys are more clever than ever, and, the right course of action is more difficult than ever to choose.



I am reminded of the time when Anita Bryant spoke out against gays, and a virulent "Hate Anita" campaign ensued, replete with bumper stickers and buttons. I stopped someone sporting a the button, and asked them where the proceeds from the button sales were going. "Dunno?"

It dawned on me that if Anita was REALLY smart, she would have been out there, making and selling as many buttons as she could. Today, I have no doubt that we are heavily manipulated by the illusion that we are doing good. We may THINK we are opposing evil, when in fact, we are mostly co-opted by it. The bad guys are slicker than ever. They enjoy power and intend to keep it at all costs.

Visit the International Red Cross headquarters sometime. After you walk past their many limos, proceed through the entrance way. Lofty columns tower above your head, as you walk across the marble floors leading to vast conference rooms that are furnished with no expense spared. WHERE IS ALL THE AID MONEY GOING TO? Oscar Schindler looked at his wedding ring and asked how many lives he could have saved in exchange for its value. How many starving babies could be fed just by selling the limo tires???? What are their priorities? I would say staying fat and comfortable was at the top of the list!

But look at all the good they do! Does their end justify their greed? Who would dare to attack these wolves in sheepskin clothing? They have become an institution that is above the letter of the law, like the Vatican, and so many other self-serving institutions.

I want to shift gears, and address one other important concern.

Have you ever noticed that inevitably, at the end of a lively political discussion about what is WRONG today, everyone agrees that something is amiss, and yet NO ONE has the faintest idea about a definitive, remedial course of action? We ALL feel incapable of solving what we ALL clearly see as problematic. WHY? Because we

feel small and overwhelmed by technology and bureaucracy.

So, what is the answer?


Think small! Grassroots! Patience! Evolution not revolution. If everyone of us responded to a small piece of the problem, we would be on track to solving our needs as a community. While it is true this philosophy may not immediately solve many big problems, it will go a

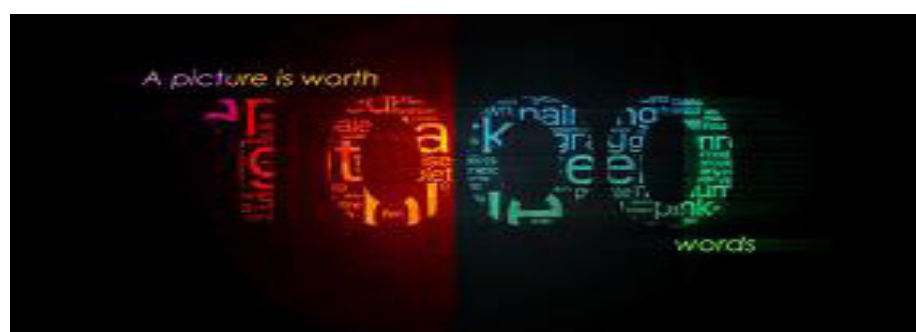
long way to solving many of our basic human problems, such as sustenance and shelter. I believe that when minds are not clouded by the constant threat to their survival, then they are more capable of wrestling with the bigger issues that govern our existence.

I believe we should help people who are trapped in the grind of abject poverty, and elevate their existence by providing subsistent food and shelter. A civilization is only as strong as its weakest link. Relieve the bondage of a substandard existence, and you free the mind for a higher pursuit.

I plan to pursue my ideals by supporting the people in the communities that are helping to care for those in need. The people who are creating the soup kitchens and free clinics. Just as important as our need for adequate food and shelter, is our need for health care. My plan is to support the community providers of these services and more by creating mini- documentaries that will be uploaded to YouTube and made available to the general public through other channels. My hope is to create support for the providers and encourage and inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

**A dream
becomes a goal
when action is
taken toward
achieving it...**

I refuse to waste time shaking my fist at the dark clouds in the sky. Instead, I will light one candle. I AM that candle. I AM that light in the dark. 



Jan Rose Kasmir is a former American high-school student who became known due to an iconic anti-war photograph taken by French photographer Marc Riboud. Kasmir was photographed on 21 October 1967 while taking part with several thousand anti-war activists who had marched to The Pentagon to protest against America's involvement in Vietnam. Seventeen-year-old Kasmir was shown clasping a daisy and gazing at bayonet-wielding soldiers. The photo was published world-wide and became a symbol of the flower power movement. Jan Rose is currently living in South Carolina where she is a massage therapist. Webpage: HiltonMassage.Com

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The Pentagon Abides: Martial Incompetence and the Extinction of America

By: Bill Buppert

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“EVEN if we are spared destruction by war, our lives will have to change if we want to save life from self-destruction.”

~Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn

Be happy that the US is spending itself into oblivion on military hardware. The American military is a colossus in presence, [spending](#) and technology and they lack one vital feature, they cannot fight a sustained conflict anywhere.

The spending numbers are deceptive because like all the traditional US budget legerdemain, there are plenty of ways to hide military spending such as the black budgets in the intelligence community, the Department of Energy nuclear programs and the ever burgeoning budget for veterans both retired and medically enfeebled who are starting to take a greater toll on government expenditures. This would include the aging military retiree population in the [Department of Veterans Affairs](#) and the care necessary for all the maimed and crippled soldiers returning from the failed attempt to install an American Caliphate on the Middle Eastern peoples. When it is all added up, it appears to exceed one trillion dollars which is merely 25 percent of the total budget for the [US](#).

As [William Lind](#) and other keen observers of the military industrial complex have observed, the US simply cannot prosecute an effective long term military conflict anywhere on Earth despite the vast resources and hundreds of military bases peppering the globe. There are a number of explanations for this.

First, the US military is ill-suited to fight the cost effective and localist nature of most conflicts. There are currently hundreds of small-scale insurgencies and dozens of large-scale insurgencies and revolutionary movements around the globe. It is a large and cumbersome [Second Generation warfare](#) model although the USMC is showing signs of evolving into a genuine Third Generation warfare military engine. Excepting some special operations forces, the US is hopelessly mired in a stalled and ultimately futile effort to master Fourth Generation Warfare. There are some who claim that if we simply unleashed the forces to maximize their homicidal urges on both combatants and civilians alike, winning in Iraq and Afghanistan could be achieved. I would suggest that historically more restrictions on targets and surgical means to achieve military goals in these irregular warfare conflicts always give the greatest yield if victory is desired but then again victory has a different flavor in these conflicts as opposed to the WWII model that still permeates the thinking in the Pentagon and the modern US military machine.

Second, as I wrote earlier, the American military solution always involves creating large centralized governments. This makes the bureaucratic mind purr with satisfaction. If we can only impose a powerful police state where the state's every wish is obeyed and they can centrally plan the entire mechanism, all will be well with the world. From the USSR to the European Union to the current fiscal nightmare that is these United States, one can see that large central governments only guarantee ill-ordered fiscal houses, political control of the economy and concomitant extinction of individual liberty that appears to be the leading result of these central planning nightmares. It appears that more and more folks in the developing world are watching the first world's self immolation and economic seppuku



and getting a clue. Afghanistan, for instance, will never have a properly functioning central government because it can only have a mayor and never a unitary state. It has an historical legacy that rightfully ignores the machinations of Kabul outside the city borders. Western

nations and their nascent revolutionary movements would be wise to crack the code on how the Afghans created this immovable resistance to central planning. It certainly confounded the blindered Soviets in their ill-fated attempted of conquest of a country with imaginary borders such as Afghanistan.

Third, technology is never a panacea or substitute for ago old military maxims. If you fight in urban terrain, you better have highly restrictive Rules of Engagement or the inevitable civilian maiming and killing by military operations will simply sow the seedbed of resistance and rebellion. It will stiffen the spine of any insurgency. You can vacuum up [petabytes](#) of data but if you don't have the human sense or critical thinking skills to make sense of the data, it becomes an expensive archival repository with limited military value. You can create billion dollar aircraft like the F-35 or continue to improve anachronisms like aircraft carriers but you will simply spend yourself into oblivion with no military value achieved. Drones have certainly revolutionized targeting but the inevitable civilian mayhem reaped by these airborne robot killers simply prolongs the conflict.

Fourth, the US government has a penchant to think that there is a bureaucratic solution to everything as if all problems have a solution. This is not reality. The only way for the US to its problems in the Middle East is to get out. There is no more viable nor elegant solution. It could achieve the exact opposite of its consistent record of military failure in Iraq, Afghanistan, Yemen, Pakistan and now Libya with spectacular military victories across the fated Arabian sands and it would still have to remain for decades or centuries because the day after its military

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forces departed, things would revert back to the way they have been for hundreds of years. The law of intended consequences is especially cruel to the techno-wizards in the marble halls of the US government as their vaunted system of mob rule known as democracy metastasizes into increasingly powerful enclaves of Islamist fundamentalism in Egypt and Libya. Even one not steeped in the art of statecraft and Machiavellian intrigue like the mandarins on Capitol Hill and the White House could have predicted that outcome. When it comes to freedom and liberty, there are no teachable moments in DC. They talk a good game but at the end of the day, a police state is always the answer mated to the fiscal suicide of monopoly fiat currency and the regulatory state.

The current US military menace to the globe has a half-life and it is slowly but inexorably approaching its nadir. The US fiscal house is nearing collapse and once the inevitable economic meltdown occurs, we will be lucky to be able to buy plane tickets to get the troops home much less sustain more pointless blundering and blustering about the globe enforcing a military presence that actively destabilizes the planet and saps the lifeblood out of the host in the US mainland.

California is Greece but it has a sugar daddy in Uncle Sam...for now. [The bankrupt cities in California](#) are simply harbingers of what America is going to look like before 2020.

Many years from now, historians are going to puzzle over the causes and effects of how the largest hyper-power in the history of humankind could extinguish itself so effectively in less than one hundred and fifty years. All empires turn to dust over time and America will join that ash-heap soon enough. Those same historians will wonder how a military power so rich in expenditure and technology could be so impotent in the execution of its most basic military functions after its victory in the War to Save Josef Stalin (1939-1945).

The answer is rather benign. Not only is government and the state a doomsday machine for the hundreds of millions of victims it cages, maims and murders but over the long term, it always manages to murder itself and history is littered with the evidence of the corpses left behind. The graveyard of empires is the very existence of the state. 

“The slightest acquaintance with history shows that powerful republics are the most warlike and unscrupulous of nations.”

~Ambrose Bierce

Bill Buppert is the Publisher of the website [ZeroGov.Com](#), which is dedicated to the total abolition of slavery and the state. Bill is also an instructor with the [Appleseed Project](#).

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HOW TO CHANGE THE WORLD

By Julian Hecklen

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IF you fight for a cause, almost anyone can change the world. It takes personal discomfort, confrontation, and persistence. It does not happen fast. Usually it takes a generation, and sometimes maybe longer. You do not convince the present generation. It is the following generation that you hope to reach.

You engage in unconventional behavior that produces publicity and adherents to your cause. You grow or join a movement. Remember that eternal publicity is the price of justice. You must be a publicity hound.

Individuals who changed the world, with the help of their followers, were [Moses](#), [Jesus](#), [Mohammad](#), [Martin Luther](#), [Buddha](#), [Isaac Newton](#), [Johannes Gutenberg](#), [Albert Einstein](#), [Max Planck](#), [Stephen Hawking](#), [Sigmund Freud](#), [Mohandas Gandhi](#), [Martin Luther King](#), [Ayn Rand](#), [Victor Hugo](#), [Charles Dickens](#), [George Washington](#), [Anne Morrow Lindbergh](#), and many others.

Many of these people were ordinary people. Moses started his career by killing a man, spent most of his adult life in exile from Egypt, must have been stoned out of his mind to be talking to a burning bush, had a speech impediment, and was 80 years old when he decided to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

Jesus was a poor carpenter when he decided to challenge the priests and money changers on the Temple Mount, yet founded a religion, as did Buddha. Mohammad started a holy war and founded a religion. Luther was excommunicated by the Catholic Church, but founded another religious group.

Newton was a compulsive introvert, who rarely spoke. Yet he founded the Royal Society, which started the scientific revolution for which he was

considered the second most important individual of the last millennium. First place was given to Johannes Gutenberg for developing the printing press. Max Planck discovered quantum mechanics, but never believed it. Einstein was an introvert, but dominated modern physics. Hawking is completely physically incapacitated and cannot talk, but he holds the physics chair at Cambridge University once held by Newton.


Mohandas Gandhi was a pathetic old man, but he liberated India. Martin Luther King was a 25-year old Black man in the United States, but he coalesced the civil rights movement.



George Washington was a pompous, extravagant, womanizer. He was President of the Constitutional Convention, but made no legal contribution to it. His genius was keeping his mouth closed, but uniting all the

delegates into a common goal by throwing lavish parties for them.

Charles Dickens, Victor Hugo, Ayn Rand, Ann Morrow Lindbergh, and many others did it by writing books.

The secret to changing the world is to use your particular talent with persistence, publicity, and patience. 

Julian Hecklen is a retired Chemistry Professor from Penn State University. He has been a libertarian activists for many years, has spent countless hours on the steps of court buildings handing out FIJA (Fully Informed Jury Association) information, as well as being an advocate for marijuana legalization. He has been arrested and incarcerated many, many times for his efforts to educate the public of government corruption, and fled to Israel on May 22nd, 2012 as a political exile and was granted Israeli citizenship at customs. Visit his webpage at [TyrranyFighters.Com](#) and [Facebook](#).

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You Are an Individual

By: Jesse Matthewson

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THE act of voting is a simple one - you make your way to the nearest voting booth, and after being barraged by endless television promotions and signage, you choose the one you believe is most likely to do what you want, and the least likely to do what your neighbors want. You know that government is necessary; after all, look around you, there are far too many people who obviously cannot care for themselves. You believe that being born places you in a contractual relationship with the State, and that voting and otherwise supporting what your government does are important.

Every voting season you may occasionally join some friends and go to a rally or two. At these rallies you rekindle the smoldering embers of freedom, and promote voting by placing a candidate's sign in your front lawn, proudly showing your affiliation with the person that best represents the ideals and desires you have for the nation. You join your friends in complaining about the current administration, and blame them for every wrong doing outside of the black plague. You see, it doesn't matter what history has shown us, all that matters is right now and tomorrow.

You attend your chosen church or family dinner and question the rising prices of everything. You question the violence you see in the media, and the wars. And you realize that to fix this, it is necessary to simply vote again, for when something doesn't work the first several hundred times, it doesn't mean it won't again - it probably just needs a different point of view. And just like a lazy day floating in the sun on a pond you slowly fall asleep, content in your continued action to stay free.

...Stop

Wait...

You struggle for a breath, not sure what's wrong. The lazy summer day is lost as dark clouds slowly creep across the sky. The waves wash over your body and you begin to sink, and in that moment your eyes are opened as they never

have been before. In that split second, clarity invades your mind and you realize that your entire life up to this point has been for naught. This transformation is often as physical as it is emotional and mental.

Your journey of peaceful intentions is an act of initiatory aggression against those who may not agree with your ideas or values. You realize that you have endorsed a policy of "might makes right", through a democratic process that masquerades as free choice and liberty. You realize that the government must have war to exist, for without the fantasy of protection for yourself and all those around you being a constant, you the voter would quickly lose all desire to support such a loathsome beast as is government.

So with your eyes wide awake, and your brain on overload, you promote true liberty. At first it is very simple; after all, even though you know what you supported before was wrong you have not yet come to understand exactly why it is. You study, steadily siphoning knowledge up as you traverse your life.

The first changes are minute, easily missed by those who live around and with you. However, the more you study and the less you promote the state, the more prominent the signature you begin to leave on their radars. You want to believe that everyone can see what you see, that everyone can understand and agree with your desire for real peace, and your subsequent desire for true liberty. However, as with all major changes, some family may disagree, some friends may leave. This is not a negative, it is truly a positive. For you are those with whom you surround yourself.

More importantly, you have realized that you are only responsible for yourself, your decisions and those whose care you have been entrusted with. Further understanding comes as you realize the only property you truly own is yourself; and with that understanding, you begin to look at the world differently. You understand that you may reside on the land that you hold title to, and that you may have goods of varying types. However, while these things are legally yours,

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those laws that ensure your ownership are a result of the state with which you have become disenchanted.

It is the understanding that everything as it pertains to the state that you once fully promoted is wrong simply because it is based on the use of initiatory aggression that allows you too easily to slip into a more laid back lifestyle. You begin gardening perhaps, or speaking with others, or possibly start your own business. Gone is the stress from the daily issues that flash by us faster than a supernova from the many and rarely varying sources of news. We understand now that some people will in fact intend harm against others; however, we also understand that most people are good once separated from the cult that is state worship.

You understand that the people so wrapped up in trying to get ahead are simply spinning their proverbial wheels against an onslaught of red tape and lies. The people you once saw as simply stupid and classed in the worker-side of things you now see as simply not having the time or energy to find the truth. No longer do you care as much if someone is illegal, on SSI, scamming the system, or otherwise. The reason for this is quite simple: the state they are scamming is robbing you and these people, and they are doing what they have been taught. Might makes right, after all.

Sadly, you also understand that until the state is no longer seen as necessary by the masses of indoctrinated adherents, no peace is possible. There can only be endless cycles of war, racial

unrest, bigotry and more. The state itself promotes these problems with one hand hidden, while the other is seen as "helping." The only way a system of governance can maintain order is by creating chaos and promoting a fix for it. You have seen that if government really worked, it would effectively work itself into oblivion.

Over time you find that there are hundreds, thousands, even millions of individuals who have begun to or already do think this way as well. You find a definition for what you now believe; the non-aggression principle allows no equivocation. All that matters is that no intentional harm is done to another human. You have found liberty, you understand freedom, and you are an individual. 



As a voluntaryist it is Jesse's firm belief that we should all be better students in life. His education is both accredited and auto-didactic and spans American History through Modern Criminal Justice; allowing his philosophy to be fluid, so question, criticize and above all exercise your intellect. You can email Jesse at jesse.mathewson@hotmail.com

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Who Will Be the Most Dangerous Man In The World?

By Chris Duane

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SOMEONE out there is going to change the course of history.

You have not heard of this man and this man does not know it is he.

What will this man be like?

He will lead three lives; a cold professional life, a warm and shallow social life and a dark, conflicted personal life, which no one knows about.

He has no guilt about the very real pain that he has caused, whether it is ill gotten gains, or death tolls.

He is excited by instant gratification, which gives him more financial or political power.

He is extremely smart and knows how to scheme and spin situations in his favor.

He is someone that is deeply involved in the machine of debt and war.

He has an arrogant attitude because he is thoroughly indoctrinated into the machine.

He is one of the most ardent and fervent supporter of this machine.

He is closed off to the truth and has pushed away those who love him.

He has committed legalized crimes against humanity.

He believes that the ends justify the means.

He believes that might makes right.

He sees the end of the lie.

He finds out that he was wrong about everything.

He is encouraged by the strength that he sees in “weaker” people.

He reaches out to someone that is of the of another political world.

He opens up and has deep conversations with this new friend.

He challenges this person with hard questions that he himself is wrestling with.

He has put the pieces together in his head and sees the absolute clarity of truth.

He latches onto one simple truth and it will split his world in two.

He no longer passively accepts the status quo; silence is consent.



He seeks redemption by plotting to destroy what he has created.

He creates a deathblow to the machine, that has nearly consumed his soul.

He no longer fears being called names like unpatriotic or traitor.

He is willing to take great personal sacrifice needed in order to strike this blow.

He uses all of his cunning skills, once used to do evil, now in doing good.


He does this without the support of anyone and is guided by something greater than himself.

He has found a new energy and passion about his mission

He takes a moment before he commits his world changing action and feels utter and complete calm.

He will cast the die of truth for his world to explode.

For the first time in his life, he is completely free.

We will be eternally indebted to this man and the men that follow him. 

All men die, yet most never really live.

Christopher Duane (<http://dont-tread-on.me/>) is a Financial & Investing Expert and Founder of the Sons of Liberty Academy. Chris is also a US Marine & venture capitalist and became a self-made millionaire by age 30. Since 2001, he has been able to increase his net worth an estimated 3,750% since 2001 while the housing, stock and job markets have been tanking. Chris Duane’s YouTube Channel “[Greatest Truth Never Told](#)” has over 3.6 million views since it’s debut nine months ago. And he believes massive change is coming and that if you are aware and prepared for this change you will be able to create generational wealth.

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PAUL FESTIVAL 2012 - AUGUST 24-26, 2012 TAMPA, FLORIDA

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PAUL FESTIVAL announces new additions to an already impressive lineup

Ron Paul sends a personal message of appreciation

"Burns & Poe" and others join the show

Tampa, FL. - On Thursday, July 26th, Paul Festival announced new additions to an already impressive lineup that includes keynote speaker Peter Schiff, Lew Rockwell, Gov. Gary Johnson, and Chuck Baldwin. The new additions include:

- Country and Western Sensations, **"Burns & Poe"**
- Liberty Band: **"Golden State"**
- The Winners of the Paul Festival Video Promo Contest : **"Corrected Axiom"**
- YouTube Sensation, **"The Minister of Truth and the Axis Experience"**
- Atlanta Georgia's own: **"The Industry"**

They join the music sensation The Red Jumpsuit Apparatus, Ron Keel, Jordan Page, and Circle II Circle, among others. A full list of speakers and performers are available on their website at www.PaulFestival.org.

Organizers have been busy putting together what could potentially be the greatest gathering of the Liberty movement to date. They were pleasantly surprised by an encouraging note from the founder of the movement, Presidential contender Ron Paul himself -- whose recent legislative victory in the House saw bi-partisan support to audit the Federal Reserve.

"The organizers of Paul Fest have been very helpful in working with my staff to avoid scheduling conflicts with our rally on Sunday, and I am very appreciative of the flexibility they've shown and the enthusiasm with which they've embraced our plans. I am confident that the hard work by the Paul Fest organizers will result in a great time for all those attending their event." stated the Congressman.

As a special promotion, organizers are holding a ticket raffle and prize give-a-way. Prizes include a Skype-date with the sultry sensation Tatiana Moroz, an actual date with grassroots activist/veteran and former Congressional candidate Adam Kokesh, tickets to LibertyFest NYC, the premier of Atlas Shrugged and many more. Anyone who buys a ticket or a Ronvoy package between now and Aug. 8th are entered into our drawing. For more information please visit: <http://www.paulfestival.org/77-general-information/253-paulfestival-ticket-raffle-and-prize-give-a-way>

The confluence of events taking place in Tampa are shaping up to be quite a spectacle. Besides the official [RNC events](#), [Paul Festival](#), the [Rally at the Sundome](#), the [Veterans' March](#),

[Camp Liberty](#), not to mention the [Ronvoy parade through Tampa](#), this August is sure to be an historical time for the Liberty movement, which is the proving itself as the fastest growing political movement in recent history.

[Paul Festival Commemorative Dime Cards Fundraiser - READY FOR PURCHASE NOW!](#)

Paul Festival Commemorative Dime Cards \$10



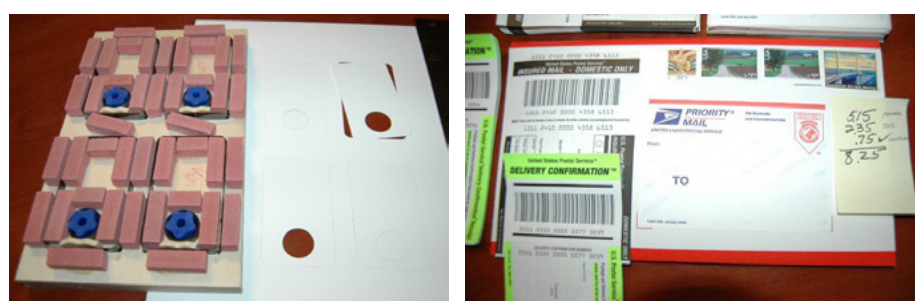
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Does Spanking Violate the Non-Aggression Principle?

By Stefan Molynuex

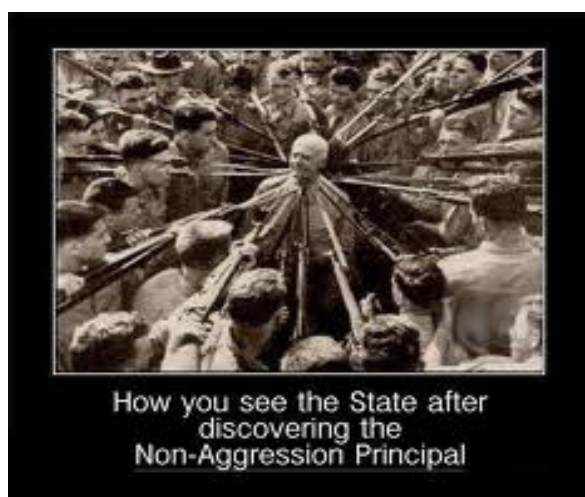
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LIBERTARIANISM centers around the nonaggression principle and a respect for property rights, which are derived from the axiom of self-ownership.

Libertarians condemn social institutions which violate the nonaggression principle and property rights. Taxation, national debts, fiat currency, unjust invasions, and the persecution and incarceration of nonviolent citizens through drug laws – all these have been roundly and soundly criticized by libertarians through the decades.

The one thing that all these institutions have in common is that we, as individuals, can do next to nothing to oppose them. Even as a collective movement, not only has libertarianism been unable to shrink the unjust power of the State, but it's hard to see how the movement has even slowed the rate of its growth.



Libertarianism is fundamentally a moral philosophy with political implications – however, libertarians have a habit of fo-

cusing on the political implications, which cannot be changed by any individual, and avoiding the personal implications of the moral philosophy, which can be put into practice by everyone.

For instance, while countless books have been written analyzing economics from a libertarian or Austrian perspective, very few have been written about how to apply Libertarian morality to parenting. Ayn Rand touched on parenting in a throwaway scene at Galt's Gulch in 'Atlas Shrugged,' and Murray Rothbard reaffirmed the right of adult children to leave abusive parents in 'Kids Lib,' but I do not know of any major work by a Libertarian or Objectivist focusing on parenting. Nathaniel Branden has touched on the subject in a few articles, but does not mention any particular discipline techniques.

Very few libertarians become bank robbers or Federal Reserve Chairmen (but I repeat myself). By far the most common aggression Libertarians will ever personally use or experience is the disciplining of children. This is a moral question central to our lives as parents, yet it has to my knowledge never been addressed in Libertarian literature.

So – in terms of practical morality, the most essential question for libertarians to discuss is: does spanking violate the nonaggression principle?

The nonaggression principle basically states that it is immoral to initiate the use of force against another human being. Clearly, spanking is the initiation of force, in that it is not used in self defense, but rather as a form of discipline or punishment for children.

Spanking is hitting a child with the goal of deterring behavior. In order to be effective, spanking must inflict sufficient pain to alter behavior, and so mild swats to a padded bottom cannot be considered spanking. Spanking must result in sufficient physical and emotional pain for the child to fear it as a punishment.

Since spanking is the initiation of force, and cannot be excused under the category of immediate self defense, it would seem to be a violation of the nonaggression principle, and thus immoral – however, there are times when the initiation of force can be considered moral, or at least not immoral, and these have to do with the defense of another person's well-being.

For instance, if a blind man is walking into a busy street, it can't be considered evil to stop him from getting creamed by a bus, even if we have to tackle and bruise him to do so. In the same way, if you require an emergency tracheotomy, and cannot give your consent, is not quite the same as being stabbed if a handy surgeon takes a knife to your throat.

Certain actions would seem to be morally appropriate even though they violate the nonaggression principle, just as other actions could be morally appropriate even if they violate property rights, such as the example of a man hanging from a flagpole who kicks in a window and climbs into someone's apartment rather than fall to his death. Not many of us would argue that the hanging man should respect the apartment dweller's property rights and fall to create a morally perfect stain on the sidewalk below.

Thus the initiation of force does not violate the nonaggression principle if the following conditions are met:

- It is an unforeseeable crisis
- The initiation of force is the only possible remedy
- The 'victim' would almost certainly give his consent in the moment if it were possible
- The victim gives his consent after the fact

The reason for these standards is fairly simple – morality is universal, and thus is independent of time, and so it is irrelevant whether an aggressive action is approved of before or after the event. Everyone who perpetrates aggressive actions is in a sense gambling on the reaction of the victim, because if the victim likes the aggression, the perpetrator will not face any legal retaliation for his actions.

There are of course situations that can arise where the person initiating aggression ends up misjudging the intentions of another person – if I pull back a drunk staggering towards a cliff edge, he may thank me, or he may be enraged at my prevention of his suicide attempt. Reasonable standards of anticipation should be the rule here. If the vast majority of people would prefer to be pulled back from a cliff edge, it is reasonable to pull someone back – if the man really wants to commit suicide, then he should approach the cliff edge when no one else is around, otherwise his actions could be easily construed as a twisted cry for help.

So, if an aggressive action does not fulfill the four standards outlined above, then it is almost certainly a violation of the nonaggression principle, and therefore immoral.

Let's look at these one by one, to figure out where spanking lands on the moral spectrum.

An Unforeseeable Crisis

Many parents who spank claim that it is a reasonable reaction to an imminent crisis, such as a

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child reaching for a pot of boiling water on the stove.

This is not a valid argument, for several reasons.

First, it is the responsibility of the parents to ensure a safe environment for their children, therefore it seems hard to justify hitting a child for the negligence of the parents. Basic childproofing requires that only the back burners be used on the stove, and that the handle be pointed toward the wall, rather than toward the kitchen. In the same way, cupboards, drawers, stairs, electrical outlets and so on should all be protected through child safety devices.

It is hard to imagine any dangerous action a child could take that could never have been anticipated or prevented by the parent, either through patient coaching or childproofing.

Also, any parent who is close enough to a child to hit him for reaching for a pot of boiling water is also close enough to pick up or move the child away in a nonviolent way, which immediately eliminates the danger.

The Initiation of Force Is The Only Possible Remedy

As mentioned above, if a child is in imminent danger, and the parent is close enough to hit, then the parent is close enough to pursue non-violent remedies to the situation. Furthermore, dangerous situations that are the result of my negligence do not excuse me from the results. If I don't repair my failing brakes, and this causes me to crash my car into your house, I cannot blame the brakes.

The initiation of force can only be excused in an emergency if it is the only possible remedy – if I'm choking on a fishbone, and the Heimlich maneuver does not work, and the only chance I have for survival is an emergency tracheotomy, so be it. If I have a mild cough at my dinner table, and someone stabs me in the throat, that's just plain assault.

Since the initiation of force is not the only possible remedy when a child is in a dangerous situation, it does not fulfill this requirement for moral justification.

The 'Victim' Would Almost Certainly Give His Consent in the Moment If It Were Possible

Well, first of all, it is possible for the child to give his consent to being spanked, since there is no immediate time pressure for action. A child can certainly express his or her wishes, assuming an appropriate age – but of course spanking is only considered effective if it is thoroughly against the child's wishes. Therefore spanking also fails this test.

The Victim Gives His Consent After The Fact

This one is very tricky, since many children who were spanked grow up into adults who claim that spanking was very effective in eliciting and maintaining good behavior. "My parents spanked me, and I turned out fine!" "My parents spanked me because I was a disobedient child with no discipline, and I became very well behaved and disciplined as a result, and so I am very happy that they did spank me." "I deserved spanking because I was disobedient."

This certainly could be considered the victim giving his consent after the fact, but there are some important caveats or restrictions on this.

First of all, it assumes that spanking is not abusive, in that it is only the perspective of the victim that determines the morality of the situation, which is not a valid principle. Many citizens are fine with paying taxes; this does not make taxation moral. There are countless examples of women who had been verbally and/or physically abused by their husbands who stay, and even claim to love their husbands – this does not mean that physical and verbal abuse suddenly become morally acceptable. The Stockholm Syndrome is a well-known psychological phenomenon in which the victim of violence and abuse emotionally bonds with the abusers, and may even fight to defend them from justice.



Secondly, aggression which impairs judgment cannot easily be excused by the victim. To take an extreme

example, if a man is forced to submit to a frontal lobotomy, and afterwards, claims to have no moral problem with the operation, we cannot take his word at face value, since his cognitive abilities have been enormously harmed by the procedure he was subjected to.

Also, propaganda dilutes clarity of thought – that is its real purpose of course. A 20-year-old man who was raised in Russia in the 1950s would likely profess great affection for communism and Joseph Stalin, but his perspective was not arrived at through a process of independent, sovereign and free inquiry. Amish children cannot grow up with independent and critical thinking about the Amish religion, and so we must rationally apply an extra layer or two of skepticism to their adult pronouncements about the forms of thought that they were indoctrinated with as children.

Children raised in heavily religious households would also very likely have been subjected to heavy propaganda about physical punishment due to the general conception of the Biblical commandment that to spare the rod is to spoil the child.

Furthermore, since spanking has been scientifically linked to lower IQs, it is mildly analogous to the frontal lobotomy example, in that it can impair cognitive abilities to the point where any judgments about spanking that come from the victims of spanking are at the very least suspect.

Spanking also creates many emotional and social problems, from depression to anxiety to self-destructive rebelliousness to increased aggression towards other children, a decreased capacity to form positive and healthy relationships, and so on.

Thus, since we know that spanking can create irrational bonds with the perpetrators, lowers intelligence, impairs social development, reduces the possibility of positive and healthy relationships, and increases risks of mental disorders such as anxiety and depression, it is certainly more difficult to get objective approvals from the victims many years after being spanked. Rather than rely on self-reporting, we must defer to the objective science on the effects of spanking.

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This problem is only compounded by the fact that, at least in my experience, very few people who claim to approve of spanking after-the-fact have any knowledge about the negative effects it has likely had on their intellectual, emotional and social development.

I will be much more prone to forgive someone for stealing a cardboard box of mine if I do not know that my wife was using it to store \$20,000 worth of our gold. In other words, if I'm not fully apprised of the negative effects of an aggressive action, it is not possible for me to provide an objective judgment of that action.

Thus, the standards of acceptance for spanking would have to be, at a minimum:

1. A full and detailed knowledge of the objective effects of spanking on the development of children.
2. A reasonable amount of time in professional therapy to ensure that any irrational attachments have been addressed.
3. A philosophical understanding of the basic fact that personal approval does not equal moral justification.

Common Spanking Defenses

Kids Can't/Won't Listen to Reason

How do you know your kids won't listen to reason? If you spank your kids because they won't listen to reason, you're not exactly finding out if they can listen to reason, are you? The science is not in your favor here, since babies can process mathematical odds at 8 months, show preferences for good behaviour also at 8 months, know that others can have false beliefs by 15 months, and show genuine empathy at 18 months.

This position would have at least some credibility if spanking was preceded by years of failed reasoning attempts – but if the spanking comes first, it becomes a classic self-fulfilling prophesy. Since spanking tends to lower IQ and provoke defiance and evasion, it sure looks like it's "needed" because kids don't listen to reason – but that's like saying I need to spank my kids because they don't speak Mandarin, when I have never exposed them to Mandarin.

Also, if you believe that your kids can't listen to reason, are you sure that you as a parent are being perfectly rational? Are you telling your children about gods and devils and heaven and hell, and then getting angry because you see doubt and skepticism in their eyes? Are you telling them that flags must be saluted and war is heroic and public schools are great and that they have to kiss Aunt Millie even though she smells? Does your behaviour match your commandments? Do

you tell your kids that they have to do the right thing even if they don't feel like it in the moment, and then sit and watch football all Sunday instead of playing with them?

Do you hit them because they hit others? Do you take away their toys and then tell them to respect other people's property? Do you tell them to respect their mother, while treating their mother disrespectfully?

Remember that children are born as total foreigners to the world you take for granted. They have never heard of America or Europe or Jesus or Krishna or war or prison or history or culture. They are born empirical and striving mightily and endlessly for rationality – delusional is the culture that dares to say that any children who oppose or question cultural norms are by definition "irrational." That would require something other than culture – it would require a truly rational and philosophical world, and that is something we are still generations away from.

It is very hard to be truly rational in this world. It means rejecting an enormous number of beliefs held by others. It requires great courage, and a deep commitment to reason and evidence at all costs. So – can you look in the mirror and state with absolute certainty that you have to spank your kids because they are irrational, while you are 100% rational?

Also, why is it only children who must be spanked for being irrational? Have you ever been pulled over unfairly by a cop? Harassed by a border guard? Received bad service from an unapologetic waiter or valet? What about your own parents, as they age? Are they becoming any less clear-headed? What about that kinda-sorta racist woman at the office? Isn't she being irrational? Or that dude next door who won't support Ron Paul, even though he supports so many of his positions?

So – we can spank those who don't listen to reason? Well OK, so just let that cop or coworker or neighbour have it! What? No? You're not rushing out to do that? Why not? You have the moral right on your side!

Irrationality and injustice surround us – and irrational adults have infinitely less justification for their foolishness and inconsistencies than children whose brains are still so very young. So – why pick on kids?

Kids Brains are Immature

You say that children must be spanked because their brains are physically immature? All right – if physical mental limitations require spanking,

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does that mean we must spank elderly people with dementia? What about mentally handicapped adults?

You get that that would be morally repugnant, right? Surely those with physical limitations need more tender care, not more aggression.

It's the Only Way Kids Will Listen

Many parents use the word “listen” when what they really mean is “obey.” What if your kids are listening to you, but just disagree with you? What if they have legitimate criticisms of your values and/or behaviour? Is that all right?

It Teaches Children ‘Respect’

Again, the word “respect” is used, when “obedience” is usually the goal. Respect, of course, must be granted before it can be requested. If you treat your children with respect, you can reasonably ask for mutual regard – if you spank them, frightening them into compliance with your size and strength, you are only compelling them into obedience against their will and judgment; you are not treating them with respect.




The goal of parenting is to create self-sufficient virtues in children. Applying external pressure and punishments tends to teach them fear-based compliance rather than the internalization of moral standards.

If spanking worked, then its use should quickly curtail. 40% of high school students are still being spanked by their parents, which is proof against the idea that spanking allows children to internalize values. Spanking causes compliance and resentment, obedience and resistance, which is why its use tends to increase over time – or at least not decrease.

Conclusion

According to the standards outlined in this essay, spanking is a clear violation of the non-aggression principle, and thus an immoral action.

This is not to say that all parents who spank are immoral. Morality requires knowledge; if all parents who spank are immoral, then all libertarians were immoral before they discovered libertarianism. Most people need exposure to the argument that taxation is theft before they can reasonably be held morally responsible for understanding the violent basis of the state. It is only within the last few decades that serious moral and scientific objections to spanking have spread within society, and patience and persistence is the key to convincing others of this essential and actionable moral reality.

That having been said, however, now that you have read this essay, you need to refute these arguments and disprove the science, or stop spanking. If you lacked knowledge and clarity before, you deserve sympathy. If you cannot refute these arguments, and continue to spank, you have no excuse anymore. 



Stefan Molyneux is a blogger, essayist, author, and host of the [Freedomain Radio](#) series of podcasts, living in Mississauga, Canada. He has written numerous articles and smaller essays which have been published on libertarian websites such as [LewRockwell.com](#), [antiwar.com](#), and [Strike The Root](#), recorded over 2000 podcasts, produced over 900 videos, and written several books which are self-published except for his first, which was published by Publish America. In 2006, Molyneux quit his previous job in the field of computer software and works full-time on Freedomain Radio, a philosophical community website which is funded through donations. He self-identifies as a full-time parent and philosopher.

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Collusion Between Pharmaceutical Industry and Government Deepens

By Dr. Mercola

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THERE'S no shortage of stories detailing conflicts of interest—so many in fact that you may be getting sick and tired of hearing of them. However, this is a truly important issue that must be tackled, and one of the ways of doing that is by exposing it to the harsh light of day. As long as people remain unaware, or turn a blind eye, it will continue unabated.

The price we pay for not paying attention is the loss of health, as the information disseminated by grossly compromised health agencies is skewed in favor of various industries, with Big Pharma leading the pack as one of the most powerful political and governmental influences.

Here, I will review two important revolving-door cases, and while neither is recent news, many of you may still be unaware of them.

Former CDC Director Now President of Merck's Vaccine Unit

In the summer of 2011, Merck president Julie Gerberding said in a news interview¹ that she's "very bullish on vaccines," as she recounted the various ways she helps Merck sell its products. What she didn't divulge was her motivation for leaving her job as director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)—an agency charged with overseeing vaccines and drug companies—and join Merck in the first place, back in January 2010.

If you don't see the enormity of the influence her former high-level ties to the CDC can have, just consider the fact that Merck makes 14 of the 17 pediatric vaccines recommended by the CDC, and 9 of the 10 recommended for adults, and while vaccine safety advocates are trying to rein in the number of vaccines given to babies, safety concerns keep falling on deaf ears. The vaccine industry is booming, and it's become quite clear that profit potential is the driving factor behind it.

One of the reasons for this is because vaccine patents do not expire like drugs do, so each vaccine adopted for widespread use has the potential to make enormous, continuous profits for decades to come. Vaccine makers also enjoy a high degree of immunity against lawsuits—and in the case of [pandemic vaccines](#), absolute immunity—so the [financial liability](#) when something goes wrong is very low, compared to drugs.

Gerberding has a Long History of Disregard for Vaccine Safety

Joining a parade of other high-ranking government officials who pass through the revolving doors between government and Big Pharma, Gerberding left a trail of controversy behind her when she left the CDC. While a 2009 article by the Institute for Southern Studies lists a number of them², I believe they left out the most important ones, namely her misinformation campaign about the pandemic swine flu vaccine, as well as her naive stance on vaccine safety issues in general.

The CDC disseminated extremely exaggerated data on the 2009 [H1N1](#) "pandemic" and urged almost everyone in the U.S. to take the new, untested vaccines. When questions arose, they blocked CBS's requests for samples of the [swine flu cases](#) and added obstacles to getting information. Despite the many dangers that have since been linked to the hastily developed vaccine—including the confirmed link to [narcolepsy](#)—the H1N1 vaccine is now part and parcel of the "regular" [seasonal flu vaccine](#), although most people are completely unaware of this fact. And the CDC is now, for the first time ever, urging the seasonal flu vaccine on everyone in the country, from six months' of age until death.

Even more disturbing, the CDC withheld data on [miscarriages](#) from the H1N1 vaccines under Gerberding's lead, while insisting that pregnant women be put first in line to receive it. This was a dramatic reversal of its own recommendations. More than 3,500 post-vaccination miscarriages may have simply been ignored by the CDC.

One of Merck's potentially most dangerous vaccines right now is [Gardasil](#); a vaccine that so far has been linked to thousands of adverse events and at least 49 unexplained deaths. It's a situation that the FDA and CDC have repeatedly denied, even as the adverse reports mount.

Gerberding's 2004 report to Congress, '*Prevention of Genital Human Papillomavirus Infection*'³ likely played a significant role in getting the controversial vaccine approved in the first place. Needless to say, the approval of this questionable vaccine guaranteed her future employer billions of dollars-worth of profits. Gerberding has also been a staunch defender of thimerosal, the mercury-based preservative used in many vaccines, and has consistently denied any links between [vaccines and autism](#).

All in all, Gerberding has repeatedly demonstrated that safety is nowhere on her list of priorities or concerns when it comes to vaccines. It's easy to see why Merck would want her to head up their vaccine unit. For the rest of us, however, her blatant disregard for proven vaccine safety is bad news indeed.

Former NIH Director Now Heads Sanofi Research Labs

Another former government official who's switched sides is Elias Zerhouni, former director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)—one of the world's foremost medical research centers, and an agency of the US Department of Health and Human Services. Zerhouni is now head of Sanofi-Aventis' research labs⁴. He also is a professor at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine; a member of the Board of Trustees at the Mayo Clinic; and is a senior fellow for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Health Program⁵.

As pointed out in a recent article by Forbes Magazine⁶, Zerhouni is no stranger to controversies over conflicts-of-interest.

³ REPORT TO CONGRESS, Prevention of Genital Human Papillomavirus Infection (PDF)

⁴ Sanofi Corporate Governance, Elias Zerhouni, MD

⁵ Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation February 3, 2009

⁶ Forbes December 14, 2010

¹ Xconomy June 24, 2011

² The Institute for Southern Studies January 14, 2009

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In the fall of 2003, the NIH with Zerhouni at its head faced grave accusations when it came to light that hundreds of its scientists had financial ties to the medical and pharmaceutical industries. According to a 2004 article in the NIH Record⁷, over 100 scientists did not get approval for their industry activities, even though the rules were so loose virtually all requests to conduct outside work were approved by the agency, without any limits on compensation or hours worked for outside entities.

In one case, an academic scientist was found to have a financial interest in a therapy that ended up killing a patient. The case served as a potent warning of how dangerous such conflicts of interest can be. While Zerhouni managed to emerge from the 2003 debacle looking like a good crisis manager, the following paragraphs from the NIH Record⁸ are quite telling. Essentially, Zerhouni dissuaded Congress from doing the right thing, which is ban all outside activities of those working for the NIH, limiting the restrictions for conflicts of interest to upper level management only:

"[Zerhouni] disclosed that 'initially, Congress truly wanted to ban [all outside activities], and the members of the committee have been very public about that...I was fortunate to be able to make contact with legislators and to help them understand what happened, how it happened, and why [a draconian response] might not be the right thing to do.'"

Zerhouni said that over the course of long discussion, a good consensus emerged that formed the basis of NIH's approach to the issue: stewards of public funds should never be vulnerable even to the perception that their activities could result in private gain. The top concern, he said, is, "How do you keep a true firewall and separation between the public trust — the money the public has given us in trust — and the activities of those who manage that resource?"

He doesn't think it was well appreciated outside of NIH that the agency "has a dual nature — number one, we are a granting agency, but number two, we are also one of the most advanced, most capable biomedical research institutions in the world."

So we're both sort of an academic, scientific research place, and yet next to that we're also a government agency with its own rules and regulations...I said, look, we need to build a firewall around those who have fiduciary responsibility relative to the government, and those who do not. And that's where we came up with these much more stringent rules for directors, deputy directors, and people who have those authorities, versus those who do not."

Conflicts of Interest Affect Your Life and Well-Being...

When it comes to medicine, mere disclosure of conflict of interest is not nearly enough. Patients need unbiased advice when it comes to making decisions that can impact their very *life*, and physicians and scientists with financial ties to the drug industry should not be allowed to participate in broad policy and public-health recommendations in the first place. Likewise, while it's perfectly legal to engage the revolving door and switch jobs from government agencies to private industry and vice-versa, this practice has become so widespread it has undermined the entire system of checks and balances.

Conflict of interest is rampant not only within the field of medicine, but the revolving doors between government and industry has effectively led to a situation where it's now extremely difficult, if not impossible, to trust conventional health advice from the federal government—which is supposed to be independent due to this massive collusion between government and industry. Here are a few more examples of the many revolving doors between the pharmaceutical industry and the US government:

- [The American Cancer Society](#) has close financial ties to both makers of mammography equipment and cancer drugs. Other conflicts of interest include ties to, and financial support from, the pesticide, petrochemical, biotech, cosmetics, and junk food industries—the very industries whose products are the primary contributors to cancer
- Drug companies pay seven-figure amounts into FDA coffers to gain approval of their drugs. FDA staff knows that the cash means higher salaries and more perks in the agency budget. (Incidentally, the FDA's commissioner [Margaret Hamburg](#) came straight from

7 NIH Record September 14, 2004

8 See ref 7

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the boardroom of America's largest seller of dental amalgam, Henry Schein, Inc.)

- Conflicts of interest are also rampant in a [mass vaccination](#) infrastructure that has the same people who are regulating and promoting vaccines also evaluating vaccine safety.
- The vaccine industry gives millions for conferences, grants, and medical education classes sponsored by the [American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\)](#). The vaccine industry even helped build AAP's headquarters.
- President Obama's nominee at the Department of Homeland Security overseeing bioterrorism defense, Dr. Tara O'Toole, served as a key advisor for a lobbying group funded by a pharmaceutical company that asked the government to spend more money for anthrax vaccines and biodefense research⁹

There are countless others—so many, in fact, I'm sure you could fill an entire book with examples. These types of blatant conflicts should simply not be tolerated, but they most certainly are. For now the majority still does not understand the pharmaceutical industry's power and influence over government, and the field of conventional medicine itself, but the tide is beginning to turn, and will continue to do so as more and more people get informed.

What Can You do to Take Control of Your Health?


The good news is that increasing numbers of people are now waking up to these harsh realities, and you, being among those who are informed, can help share this knowledge with others. Remember that the definition of fascism is a government system that has complete power in regimenting all industry and forcibly suppressing opposition and criticism. What we have here is a hybrid—a sort of corporate fascism, where industry has powerful control over government,

and forcefully suppresses anything that threatens their monopoly on profits.

Unfortunately, this can be extremely dangerous as it pertains to your health.

Virtually every measurable index indicates that despite the ever-increasing amounts of money invested, if you live in the United States your chance of achieving optimal health through the medical system is only getting worse. While the U.S. spends *more than twice* the amount on health care as other developed nations, we rank 49th in [life expectancy](#) worldwide—far lower than most other developed nations! The time is ripe for you to take control of your health, and this site is full of free comprehensive recommendations that can serve as an excellent, truly independent starting point.

When it comes to your health, you simply cannot accept claims at their face value ... you've got to dig below the surface and use all the resources available to you, including your own commonsense and reason, true independent experts' advice and other's experiences, to determine what medical treatment or advice will be best for you in any given situation. Ultimately, you must come to the realization that YOU are responsible for your, and your family's health -- not me, not your physician, and certainly not any researchers or government health agencies on a drug or vaccine manufacturer's payroll.

You've got to become an active participant in your care and make sure you are making decisions that correspond with your own best judgment, knowledge and experiences. 

Dr. Mercola is the founder of the world's most visited natural health web site, [Mercola.com](#). You can learn the hazardous side effects of OTC Remedies by getting a FREE copy of his latest special report [The Dangers of Over the Counter Remedies](#) by going to his [Report Page](#).



Dr. Mercola

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⁹ McElhatton J. "Obama nominee omitted ties to biotech" The Washington Times, September 8, 2009

What Do We Do Now?: Prepare for Revolution.

By Stewart Rhodes

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IN answering this question, my conscience compels me to be blunt with you. I am duty bound to tell it like I see it with no sugar-coating. And frankly, that is what you must do as well. As Admiral Stockdale put it, when discussing how he survived being a POW in North Vietnam, you must acknowledge the reality of the situation you are in – see clearly just how bad it is – but you must also not give up, but instead resolve to get through it no matter what. Never, ever, give up.

And that is the attitude we must now have. We must see clearly how bad things really are, but then not give up.

I am now convinced that we will have to fight another revolution (or civil war, depending on how you look at it) to defend our liberty. The GOP had one last chance to fix things peacefully through the political system. They blew it. With few exceptions, all the “Tea Party” freshmen voted for the NDAA of 2012 which is the single most dangerous law passed in U.S. history. Section 1021 of the NDAA of 2012 authorizes military detention, military trial, and extraordinary rendition of anyone, including U.S. citizens. It is Congress rubber stamping it’s approval of all the twisted, perverse, anti-constitution claims of totalitarian power made by both Bush and Obama. It is actually worse than the violations of rights that compelled our forefathers to rebel against King and Parliament. That law, more than any other act, has placed us on a short track to having to fight another revolution.

The GOP also rejected Ron Paul (again!) and instead have embraced yet another demonstrated oath breaker – Romney - who, as governor of Massachussetts, signed that state’s “Assault Weapons Ban” which was a clear violation of the Second Amendment. And Romney has also said he would have signed the NDAA, and that any American accused of being part of al Qaeda does not deserve a jury trial, and should be subjected to military law as an “enemy combatant” instead. The GOP has chosen the same path as always – mouthing devotion to liberty and the Constitution while they destroy it in an ongoing bipartisan rape of lady liberty.

And the Democrats are no better. Their candidate is a sitting president who has publicly acknowledged having a secret snuff list of people he will have killed by predator drones, including U.S. citizens. He claims the power to kill any American HE determines is an “enemy combatant” in the war on terrorism, and he has already begun to kill Americans. I challenge anyone to explain how that is any different than the absolute power of life and death that Hitler and Stalin enjoyed over their servile people during their dictatorships. There is no difference. Only the labels and absurd rationale is slightly different – using the laws of war to illegitimately circumvent the clear commands of the Article III, Section 3 Treason clause, and to circumvent the entire Bill of Rights.

By their actions, both Republicans and Democrats have placed us on a short track to another American Revolution. They have presented us with a false choice between oath breaking traitor A and oath breaking traitor B. Either way, we will have an oath breaking traitor in the White House who claims all the power of a dictator or

emperor, and the march toward a police state will go on, until and unless we stop it.

We are at a dire cross roads. We are now being forced to choose between 1934 Germany and 1774 America – on the eve of revolution. Which will it be? Will we become the next Nazi Germany, or will we walk the same path as the Founding Generation who took up arms in defense of their natural rights, taking on the most powerful Army of their day, and kicking its ass?

Chose now. Which will it be? Will you chose to slink and slither on your bellies and submit as “good Germans” to the modern Reich? Or will you stand like the men and women of 1775 America?

Actually, that choice between total submission or revolution has already been made. I speak to veterans across the country (and active duty military too), and I can tell you with a certainty that they WILL NOT let this nation fade quietly into a brutal dictatorship. They will chose revolution. They will fight. And as bad as things really are in America, we still have this one great difference between us and the German people – there is still a sizeable minority in this nation who will fight and die for liberty. The Ron Paul Revolution is an indicator of how big that sizeable minority is. It is big enough to make sure that there is a real fight here, a real revolution/civil war between those who stand for liberty and those who stand for totalitarian power. There will be a fight. Count in it. Prepare for it.

Here is our message to the current serving military and police:

We, the American veterans, will not let you choose between keeping your oath and defending the Bill of Rights on one hand, and breaking your oath and participating in the destruction of the Bill of Rights on the other hand, and ushering in a dictatorship while America dies with a whimper.

That will not be the choice you will have to make.

No, we veterans (and also many among the active duty) will see to it that your choice will be between honoring your oath , standing down, and stepping aside, or KILLING US. We will force you to make that choice because we will FIGHT. We will not let this nation slide farther into the darkness of an anti-constitutional dictatorship. We will fight. And that will force you to either keep your oaths, or, in violating your oaths, kill ALL of us veterans.

Our Great-grandfathers, grandfathers, and fathers fought the Nazis in World War II and against the brutal Japanese Empire in the Pacific. They bled, suffered, and died stopping fascism over there. And now what they fought over there has come to our shores. And we are now honor bound to bleed, suffer, and die fighting fascism over here – fighting the domestic enemies of our Constitution, the domestic enemies of our Bill of Rights . What side will you be on? Choose now.

Are you on the side of the Bill of Rights, on the side of the Constitution, and on the side of the American people, or are you on the side of the corrupt, treasonous, vile traitors who are wiping their backsides with the Constitution all our fathers and grandfathers fought to preserve?

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They may as well trot on down to Arlington and piss on the graves of our war dead, since those traitors are making a mockery of all we are told they died for.

You will not be able to just be a good German and go along, just following orders, as you round up meek civilians. First, you will have to kill all of us veterans, in combat. Because we will fight. Count on it. We will fight, and we will fight hard, because we will be fighting for everything – for our homes, for the Bill of Rights, for our children and grand-children, and we will fight to the death. We have no choice. Submission and slavery are not an option for us. We were born free, and we will die free. We swore an oath to defend the Constitution, and we will keep that oath.

You swore the same oath. Will you keep it? Or will you violate your oath and commit treason against the Constitution? Will you kill your brother veterans who wish only to live under the Bill of Rights rather than under an unconstitutional and illegitimate power nowhere in our Constitution, which wipes the Bill of Rights away (Section 1021 of the NDAA, and the claim that the laws of war trump our right to jury trial when accused of treason)?

Will you help us to defend the Constitution, or will you help the traitors to destroy it once and for all?

Choose now. We have already chosen. Now it is your turn. Choose now whom you shall serve.
[End of message to the current serving].

That is what I say to the current serving. Now, here is what I say to you, the dedicated American lover of liberty:

Acknowledge where we are. See it for what it is. Don't sugar coat it. But then do not give up. Instead, embrace your place in history. You are here for a reason. You were born an American, in this time, in this place, so that you can take your place in the battle lines of liberty and stand in the breach. The torch of freedom has been placed in your hands, passed on by past generations. It now your turn to guard that sacred flame. This is your watch. Do not run. Do not hide. As they say in the military, embrace the suck. Deal with it. Stand up, step up, and step out across that line in the sand, and say "Here I am. Send me." Let us be glad and thankful that we have been given the great honor of being the champions of liberty in this fight against darkness. Let us embrace our place in history, and stand as warriors for liberty. Unafraid, unbowed, unblinking, like the men who stood at Concord bridge, or the men who crossed the line in the sand at the Alamo. This is our turn in the breach.

Embrace it as a great privilege and honor to have this chance to show the world, to show history and the cosmos, what we are made of as Americans, and as simple human beings. I personally am grateful that I am still alive to take part in this fight. I nearly died twice while in service as an Army paratrooper, and once more after I got out (when I took a bullet to the head which destroyed my left eye but miraculously did not enter my brain). I figure I am on bonus time, and that I must still be here for a reason. And it is not to live in fear or concern for my own safety. It is not to go along to get along, or just to make money. I am still here because I have a purpose and a calling which I must fulfill, and I believe that purpose is to fight for liberty with all I have. I agree with the immortal Thomas

Paine when he said, "*If there must be trouble, let it be in my day, that my child may have peace.*"

But I am not special. You too are here for a reason. Of all the times in history you could have been born, of all the places, you were born in this time, in this place, as an American. It is time for you too, to fulfill your purpose, your calling. As an American you have a heritage of fighting for liberty, and a heritage of taking on odds that no one thought you could beat – of taking on the most powerful enemies and kicking their asses. Embrace that heritage and show the world that we Americans can still get it done when it really counts. If there must be trouble, let it be in OUR day, so that our children may have peace.

We must live the words Patrick Henry, when he said "Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!" Or, as my good friend Jordan Page said in his song, [*Message of Freedom*](#): "Is life so dear, or peace so sweet as to be purchased with chains from our necks to our feet? Forbid this Lord, I know not what is left. Give me liberty or give me death."

To do this, to truly prepare yourself for what is coming, and take your place in the front lines of liberty, you must become warriors in every sense of that word. Warriors for liberty. It is not enough to be intellectual libertarians. You must embrace a warrior ethic and commitment. It is what is expected of you by history, by your nature as human beings, and also what the Founding generation intended us to be. Their ideal was the citizen soldier. Their answer to that ancient question of who shall guard the guardians, was that we should be our own guardians. Anything less leads to tyranny. And after having abdicated that responsibility, our only way back to liberty is to become a nation of warriors once again, with each and every one of you ready, willing, and able (trained and equipped) to fight. Every able bodied American should have a rifle and the ammo and gear it takes to field with it, and should have light infantry training (know how to move, shoot, and communicate in buddy teams, fire teams, and squads, know now to patrol, and how to conduct ambushes, raids, how to break contact, escape and evade, land navigation, first aid, fieldcraft, and also especially know how to act as snipers and guerilla fighters against a powerful occupying force). Those were the kinds of skills the frontiersmen had, and the kinds of skills many in the early American militia had, by virtue of their service in the French and Indian War, which made all the difference in our Revolution. We too need those skills. They are within your reach, if you but seek them out. There are now plenty of veterans with recent combat experience. Seek them out and ask them to train you. As a start, attend an Appleseed shoot (<http://appleseedusa.org/>). Read [*Boston's Gun Bible*](#) by "Boston Tea Party." Read [*Guerilla Sniper*](#) by Anthony James, and [*Guerilla Sniper II*](#), by "Sua Sponte". Read [*Fry the Brain*](#), by John West. Read [*The Tigers Way*](#), by John Poole (and anything else by Poole). And read the [*Ranger Handbook*](#). A good, free online resource is [*Mountain Guerilla.Blogspot.com/*](#).

Am I scaring you with all this warrior talk, and of your need to prepare for the very worst, which is a bloody revolution/civil war? Well, tough. Deal with it. And get to training. But another way to look at it is that you are supposed to be trained and equipped as light infantry anyway,

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as the militia of the free states, and it is only because you have abdicated and ignored that duty that we have such a massive standing army in the first place, so get busy correcting your mistakes.

I will continue to do all I can to get the men with the guns in the current serving military and police to not shoot you, and to honor their oaths. But don't put all your eggs in that one basket, just like you should not and cannot trust politics alone. You must take your part. Get ready.

But what can we do, short of revolution? Is there anything we can do to avoid violence? I can think of only one thing – a massive stand down and nullification by the military. That is our last peaceful way out.

Now that the GOP has once again rejected liberty, I think outreach to the current serving military, in particular, is all the more important. That is the most powerful thing we can do. It can change history, still. Even in this very, very dark hour, we can still tip the scales on the side of liberty if we focus in on waking up the troops.

So, focus on them. Let's do our best to speak the truth to them. The truth is powerful enough, and the current serving, once they know the truth, will connect the dots on their own. Let 1989 East Germany be the model of a peaceful mass stand-down that we hope to see. It would be great if we had time to achieve a modern repeat of the "revolution of 1800" when the Jeffersonians swept the Federalists from Congress and the White House, through political means, after the Federalists lost all legitimacy by so blatantly violating the First Amendment with their Sedition Act. I suppose we have a theoretical chance of seeing that happen, given enough time, working from the very bottom up, from the local and state levels, but I fear that we will have to fight long before we can ever purge the oath breakers out in sufficient numbers to have a peaceful revolution. But the military still has a real possibility of a mass stand down, if we reach enough of them. We are honor bound to give that a try so that we exhaust all peaceful means, just as the Founding Generation did. And even if that peaceful attempt fails, it will show that we did keep the high ground and tried all we could. Even if, at that point, the American people have no choice but to fight, we will have helped to strengthen our numbers and resolve. God, I pray that be true.

When a 1776 style revolution kicks off will depend on exactly what is done, and to whom, and whether the military refuses to carry out such orders. It is likely that they would start with domestic killing by predator drone or arbitrary detention of some radical American Muslims that most Americans don't give a crap about (as they did with Yasir Hamdi or Jose Padilla), and then slowly expand it out from there.

We have to stand up now, in mass protests, and in nullification and civil-disobedience, including not just the states but also individual military and police refusing to carry out such seizure and detention of US citizens, and also whole units issuing preemptive refusals, like SSGT Joshua May's unit did during Katrina (see video on front page of [Oath Keepers.org](http://OathKeepers.org)). All of that has to happen. Now that we have failed to root the vipers out of Congress, we will have to rely on our states to nullify and to interpose to protect the people (and that includes our state National Guard, under command of the Governors, our state defense forces, our state police, our county sheriffs, and our city police officers who all need to commit to defending the people against

any such snatch and grab black bagging by the DOD).

And the people need to be ready to back them all up, in sheriff's posse, in militia, in state defense forces, police auxiliaries, etc. That would be a combination of nullification and interposition and defense, by both the people and dedicated public servants in our towns, counties, and states.

And we must at the same time work hard on achieving a massive stand down and refusal among the military.

And all this time, we will have massive protests and massive civil disobedience to be going on, JUST LIKE IN EAST GERMANY IN 1989, right before the Wall fell.

You should watch the [interview with Gunter Spens](#), the East German LT Col. that is on the Oath Keepers main site front page, off to the right. Also watch the above referenced interview with SSGT Joshua May.

Those are your two "best case" scenarios of stand downs that we should be striving for.

So, short answer is that, in addition to training and preparing for the very worst, we need to:

1. Work our asses off to create more SSGT Joshua May's in the military and National Guard, who will refuse unlawful orders, and especially will refuse to detain U.S. citizens as "enemy combatants" which is #3 on the Oath Keepers list of orders we will not obey. We need to encourage them to decide now, ahead of time, that they will not obey such orders, and then it will be up to them to decide if they want to do a preemptive stand down, or if they want to wait till the orders are given. That is a strategy and tactics decision each service member, and each unit, will have to make. But they need to at the very least work it out in their heads what they will do if given such orders, and have contingency plans worked out for dealing with a rouge government. Nuff said. Let them work out the details. We should focus on the peaceful stand down of the Utah National Guard Unit SSGT May was in, and also on the peaceful mass stand down of the East German Army in 1989. Use those as your models. We should focus on teaching them why this is wrong - why it is treason against the Constitution and against the people, and encourage them to refuse, and strive for the best case scenario of a peaceful mass stand down.

2. NULLIFY. As individuals, as local communities, as states. We need resolutions against the NDAA and other abuses of our rights passed in towns, cities, counties, and states. Issued by town selectmen, by county commissioners, by country sheriffs, by the legislature, by the governor, etc. And BY THE PEOPLE. Pass around petitions, get your whole town, whole county, all the veterans in your area, to sign the petition condemning this usurped power and pledging to resist it and to aid each other, and back up the police, sheriff, county, state in nullifying and resisting it. The more we come together and stand together, and the more people know they are not alone, the better.

3. MASS PROTESTS. We need massive protests against this, standing up and making it clear that the great mass of the people oppose it, are not afraid to stand up, and will resist it. This is necessary. Those protests must call the Congress out as traitors, and must demand their resignation as oath breakers and enemies of our

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Bill of Rights and enemies of the people. Those mass protests must keep up and keep going. They MUST cut across all ideological and political lines. The common ground is our Bill of Rights, period. With our Declaration read aloud as well, since it states clearly that if any form of government becomes destructive of these ends (securing our rights) then it is our right and duty to throw it off. But first and foremost, demand their resignations - ALL OF THEM and then work to kick the bums out.

4. KICK THE BUMS OUT. Adopt a scorched earth policy of zero tolerance for any congressman or Senator who voted for the NDAA of 2012. Challenge them all at the very next primary they are in, and make this issue the litmus test for them. Make it the campaign issue NUMBER ONE for their primary challenger, and run someone who pledges to repeal it. Kick their asses in the primary of whatever party they are in.

If you can't boot them out in the primary, then try again in the general election, again making it the central campaign issue. They likely voted for other crap too, like the "Super Congress" or the bailouts, and of course use that too, but focus first and foremost on this usurpation and treason against our Bill of Rights. The model for this is the Revolution of 1800, where the Jeffersonians swept the Federalists out of power in reaction to the Alien and Sedition Acts, which were a direct assault on the First Amendment.

Yes, this is an unlikely solution - a political solution. But we MUST try it, so we (and the whole world) will know we did all that we could to solve it by peaceful, political means.

5. If we fail to kick the bums out, then we will have to rely on nullification alone, and a stand down of the military. Those two together will be our last chance at a peaceful, or relatively peaceful, solution. (and given the recent primary results, this is now our best short term option).

6. If all of the above fails, and units within the military DO follow orders to snatch up Americans, then we will be in that horrible situation of having to decide when to resist, when to fight back. That may come over a course of several instances, rather than one clear trigger event. it may be that we see resistance in states, with a Sheriff or police department interposing, or maybe a state level defense force or national guard unit. or it may be by individuals. And there may be several such snatches that take place before others feel compelled to resist. It is hard to say.

Look at the Founding Generation history leading up to April 19, 1775. You had the Boston Massacre, you had warrantless searches, you had denial of jury trial and Americans being taken over to England for trial, you had all of Boston harbor blockaded and under martial law. They put up with a bunch of crap before they fought back, and by doing so, they had a clear conscience that they had done all they could through peaceful means, and it was also clear to the whole world that they had turned the other cheek many, many times and done all they could, and were finally forced to defend themselves.

Reflect long and hard on their example.

But yes, there will, if all of the peaceful means fail, and if we fail to reach enough in the military to attain a mass stand-down, and the military (God forbid) follows those orders, there will come resistance, and then that will start the ball rolling of a next American Revolution, and

when it kicks off, all in the military will have to choose sides.. But if we go through all those above steps, trying all we can to fix this by peaceful means, and always, always within the Constitution, then we will hold the moral high ground, and we will get more of the military on our side, and more of the rest of the world's people on our side (and we may well inspire them to resist tyranny in their nation, too!).

And when it comes to that stage, when all else has failed, when a political solution has failed, when our states have failed to interpose and protect us, when the military and police are breaking their oaths and rounding us up, then we will have no choice but to resist.

And here is where we should follow the advice of a man who lived through it:


Quote:

“And how we burned in the camps later, thinking: What would things have been like if every Security operative, when he went out at night to make an arrest, had been uncertain whether he would return alive and had to say good-bye to his family? Or if, during periods of mass arrests, as for example in Leningrad, when they arrested a quarter of the entire city, people had not simply sat there in their lairs, paling with terror at every bang of the downstairs door and at every step on the staircase, but had understood they had nothing left to lose and had boldly set up in the downstairs hall an ambush of half a dozen people with axes, hammers, pokers, or whatever else was at hand?... The Organs would very quickly have suffered a shortage of officers and transport and, notwithstanding all of Stalin's thirst, the cursed machine would have ground to a halt! If...if...We didn't love freedom enough. And even more – we had no awareness of the real situation.... We purely and simply deserved everything that happened afterward.”

— Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn

When they come for you, you must resist.

And just like the woman who fights the rapist is doing other women a favor, so too will you be doing other Americans a favor by not making it easy on the oath breaking traitors. Follow Solzhenitsyn's sage advice. He knew. He lived it. Listen to him.

But let us work HARD right now to nip this in the bud and turn the tide, using all the above tactics and strategies, and whatever else we can come up with for peaceful resistance and reform, and let us NOT just wait around till they start actually rounding up Americans. Let's step out now, and use all the non-violent means at our disposal, using especially our rights of free speech and assembly, and organizing resistance and nullification in our states, and more than ever, FOCUSING ON THE MILITARY, and only if that fails,  then we should absolutely be ready, willing, and able to resist. Train and prepare for the very worst, and make peace with your own mortality, and your place in history. And then stand.

Stewart Rhodes is the founder and President of Oath Keepers. Visit their webpage at OathKeepers.Org.



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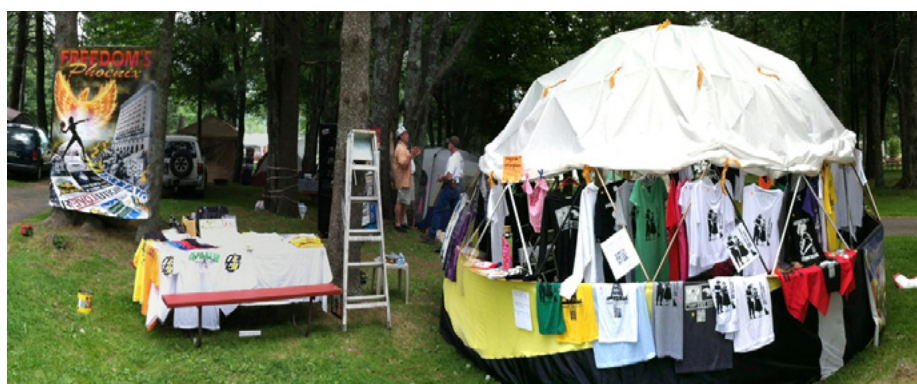
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WHILE Donna is finishing the e-Zine in Phoenix today (Friday - August 3rd 2012), I am writing from our campsite at the first [Jackalope Freedom Festival](#) in Arizona's Rim Country to get a prime spot and to have time setting up the geodesic dome that we created for the [Porcupine Festival](#) in New Hampshire this past June.



"Rim Country" in Arizona refers to a high plateau in the northeastern part of Arizona less than 2 hours from Phoenix. At about 4500 feet in elevation, the town of Payson, Arizona is a popular respite from the summer's egg-frying sidewalks of 'The Valley of the Sun'. Another 35 miles will put you into the tall pines on 'The Rim'. Towns like [Heber](#), [Show Low](#), and [Alpine](#) feature heavily wooded areas that include trophy game and lots of lakes and wild life. A little south of Alpine and you find yourself in forests that you would easily be confused with the Pacific Northwest.

Strangers to Arizona have no idea of the variety of climates available. Alma Sommer arrived last night with a visitor from New Jersey that she picked up from the airport to drive to Jackalope. I am certain that he was very surprised that he needed a jacket in Arizona... in August.

We're on the edge of a 30-acre meadow in the tall pines with green grass and a sandy soil. Having enjoyed Porcupine Festivals for the past 3 years, several of us knew of wild areas in northern Arizona at least as nice. But finding a campground as nice as [Roger's Campground](#) that would be as friendly to freedom would be a challenge... so we didn't try very hard and decided to just 'go native'.

Alma Sommer is a local activist in Scottsdale, Arizona with a very positive attitude that wanted to have a freedom festival in Arizona, and simply willed it into existence.

But first... 'What the heck is a [Jackalope](#)'? In a nutshell, a Jackalope is a made up animal at tourist traps along the highways that was created by taxidermists by placing antlers on the head of a large jackrabbit (Jackrabbit/Antelope). Postcards and t-shirts and coffee mugs etc. feature the creature. These souvenirs can be found all over the world on shelves and in attics of relatives of Arizona tourists. Other names for the event were floated, but this is the one that stuck.

My wife, Donna, and I left Arizona on June 4th 2012 for a month long road trip around the USA. We drove to Montana, then to New Hampshire,

down to Texas, and back to Arizona. We continued the daily 3-hour radio show M-F, sharing our adventures and talking to people about their communities, allowing them to advocate for their particular home state.

Donna and I know Arizona well. We have visited almost every mountain range and river valley, and are familiar with its culture and politics, but we needed confirmation before we decided to invest in an area where we would try to ride out the economic collapse of the dollar (that be a'com'n). So we went to take a look.

I am originally from Florida and moved to where my mother's family resided in Arizona when I was twelve. Donna spent a summer in Florida between her 3rd and 4th year at Penn State as an [Epcot](#) worker at Disney World in Orlando. But we have not spent a lot of time in the Southeastern part of the United States together. I think we might make an effort to search the Gulf Coast on our way to the Florida Keys where I spent many enjoyable hours as a pre-teen, and again as a young man of 14. I still remember the relaxed atmosphere of Island life where the traffic stopped to watch every Sunset.

We spend our entire lives seeking this serenity, but as easy as it is to achieve for many with a certain mindset, it alludes most of us our entire lifetime. I remember a scene from the family movie '[Swiss Family Robinson](#)' where after creating a comfortable life on the island, the husband said to his wife, "It's amazing all the things you don't need when you don't have anyone around to pity you for not having them".

We have been conditioned to value the valueless and to ignore, and even shun, the simplest of pleasures. The Jackalope Freedom Festival, in my mind, is a step in that direction. While other efforts always seem to devolve into government paperwork for tax write offs and structured outcomes, I'm advocating for a return to the value of voluntary communities that are not planned, regulated, and pre-determined. Nothing other than the idea of 'Leave me Aloneism' would govern, and associations are voluntary and often temporary.

Over the decades I have discovered that, at events, attendees are the most entertaining. Even the best rock concert is a flop when attended with the wrong people around you, and the best vacation ever is often the worse guided tour ever imagined when shared with people you love and enjoy sharing time with.

So the Jackalope Freedom Festival IS the people. No schedule, no requirements and no expectations. It's already been decided that one of the new attendees will be helped in the massive gathering of wood for the bonfire that will take place whenever we get a big enough pile of wood (with heavy consideration for where in the meadow we'll place it to avoid a forest

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fire - fortunately it has rained here a lot... Mon-soooooon). I visited some of the early arrivals this morning to find a young family that lives in Mesa, Arizona that have brought some show-and-tell Rabbits and Japanese Quail. The quail begin laying eggs in 4 weeks from hatching and the hundreds of Quail and Rabbits they produce bring their young homeschooled family extra income, and they want to share their success. The mom is very involved in the homeschool community and we'll be certain to take advantage of their knowledge during a presentation sometime Saturday.

Shooting skills will be shared with those interested throughout the weekend at a location less than half a mile away. A listener to freedom talk radio shows has been living in a converted Greyhound bus for over 20 years and is educating us on his quality lifestyle that includes a roof full of solar panels and satellite dishes for communication and entertainment... And we haven't even got started yet!

The attendees are the event. I brought my donated and refurbed 1977 Tioga RV so I have a bathroom and a place to wash up (so Donna will be comfortable), but others attending had 5 Portable bathrooms delivered for \$260 for the comfort of themselves and others. I don't even know who did it. It was made very clear to everyone that if they didn't bring it... don't count on it being brought. Armed with this knowledge and the ability to communicate with each other, problem solved.

In the [Sitgreaves National Forest](#) there are no fees, there is no charge for the festival, and there are no requirements that you bring anything. But you are on your own. This "Bugout Shake-down" is a learning experience with friends of like mind in a beautiful and comfortable location with a daytime temperature of 80 and a nighttime temperature of 55,... in Arizona,... in August.

Hours of conversation with the early arrivals (about 15 people and 6 sites) have not included political activism or voting or discussions about the latest war or legislation.... just how best to live your life with family and friends... COOL!

It became clearer than ever before to me over the last 2 months that human beings on this planet are grouped into ranch herds to be harvested as livestock for the benefit of a very few. This is only possible with our voluntary compliance.

I don't seek to support replacements for the corrupt individuals on the thrones of power; I seek to remove the thrones of power that we have allowed to exist in our minds. The realization that there is no "legitimate" power that rules your peaceful and voluntary interactions with others IS the WIN!... the rest is just a mop up operation.

What I have come to realize, and was likely the most important thing that I came to fully realize over the last 2 months, was the most effective opposition we could have against those that benefit the most from our being herded. It started to fully form during the June controversy around a store clerk's refusal to sell cigarettes to an individual using a Welfare Visa Cash Card from the US Government. The clerk lost her job, and the Welfare recipient smokes at taxpayer expense.

Just seemed like bad PR for the government and it got me thinking.

With a utility bill as identification, any human being in the United States can qualify for many government programs,... why? While the movement to eliminate any non-citizen from taking advantage of their neighbor's paycheck has gotten a lot of attention, the idea that producers must subsidize the cigarettes of others is left unaddressed.


I have come to the realization that the collective effort to provide every Human Being a utility bill (refrigerator, microwave, lighting, communications, cooling and heat) is less about forced social welfare for those in need and more about making certain that everyone consumes the energy supplied by those that benefit from full consumption.

It doesn't take a full time conspirist to realize that Big Oil/Energy & Big Banking have been at the center of many of our problems for a very long time.

A good friend of mine moved totally off grid 8 years ago (he's a supervisor of the refueling process at the Palo Verde Nuclear power station in Arizona BTW). He demonstrated the ability to be totally grid free (Well, Septic, Solar, Wind, Satellite) in a 2600 sq.ft. home with all of the goodies. This summer the price of solar panels dropped to less than a 5th of what he originally paid, and he doubled his production capacity. The United States government reacted by applying a 30-40% increase to import these panels, while at the same time wasting billions on US failed companies to offer what is already immediately available.

Battery Technology is the next boom under the strain of government manipulation, but Thomas Edison had already become a serious competitor to Standard Oil over a century ago with his [Nickel Iron technology](#), and this old tech is being rediscovered and combined with carbon nanotubes to produce a power-dense, rapid charging-and-discharging battery that lasts long enough to will to your children.

So, as a freedom activist, how would I best spend my time maximizing individual liberty?.... by not supporting the beasts that are devouring us. Trade with Value, use commodities in as many transactions as possible (search for the "[Silver Calculator](#)" apps for Android and iPhone), learn about Solar, Wind and other power producing technologies and how you can even make your own panels with cheap cells purchased on the Internet, follow battery and super capacitor technology, and above all understand how you are contributing to your own demise.

[FreedomsPhoenix](#) has created a new category called "[Battery Project](#)" where we will be sharing our own efforts to understand what is possible while building our own cells. This is just a small part of an independent future free of manipulation and coercion once we fully understand how we are the cause of our own enslavement. 

POWER to the People!
Ernie

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