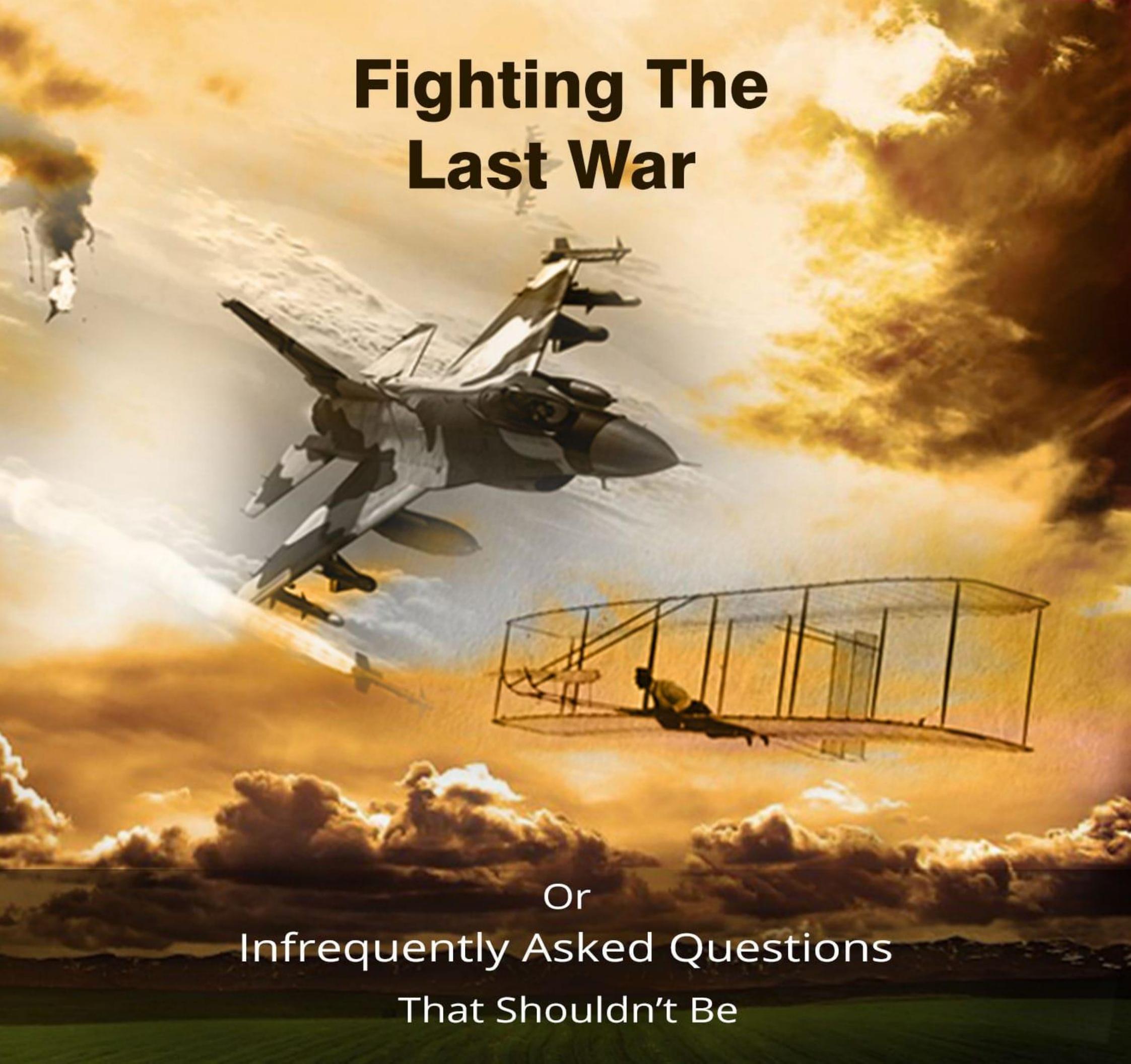


Fighting The Last War



Or
Infrequently Asked Questions
That Shouldn't Be

Fighting The Last War

Or

**Infrequently Asked Questions
That Shouldn't Be**

To All-The-Doers



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X Misdiagnosis!

Insanity, *with justification*, has been defined as doing the same things time and again while expecting a different result. Accepting that definition helps us run a public sanity check by comparing the political-social decline of the U.S.A, **and the people's habitual responses to it**, to the field of medicine and the frightening prospect of a misdiagnosis.

Knee jerk treatments to symptoms not well understood can create a cycle of doing the same, while expecting, *and hoping for something different*. By leaving vital questions of possible underlying cause to anything but careful analysis, what lingers can metastasize into what can be fatal.

Until symptoms are properly understood in the context of cause, dead ends will be followed that lead nowhere; *but to exhaustion*.

Unless the approach changes, ***no solution is possible!***

If a poor diagnostic process can still get you killed despite all the advances of modern medicine, we must also consider the parallel of the failing social-political-economic health of the U.S.A., **despite all the advances in modern communications**.

If we consider the conventional wisdom – *or the 'misdiagnosis'* – of our socio-political health in the form of questions, we can shed light on critical issues, errors in logic, and important connections and options that otherwise be missed.

X The conventional questions that indicate faulty analysis:



- How can we wake people up?
- What protest, boycott or “local” movement can work?
- What law or reform can be crafted that can empower people to change this?

- What leader can we elect that can change this?
- What Constitutional approach can change this?
- Why won't responsible parties in government, the military or law enforcement stand up to and against abuses?
- What facts and truth can be provided that will change this?



All The Wrong Questions!



X How can we wake people up?

Waking people up ! 😊

In general this seems to be ***the strategy***.

Endlessly parroted by so called ‘truthers’ and alternative media along with the advocates of our many protest movements, this term has become a social meme; ever present in our media landscape.

Its prominence in our language and its power as a default setting of ***THE*** corrective action demands that we ask: what does this “wake –up” idea really mean?

Where does it lead? What does it assume?

Can something so innately vague even qualify as a genuine strategy?



The right questions, a proper analysis:

1. Many millions **have been** awakened, supposedly, yet things continue to deteriorate. Why? Is there a **magic number** of people who need to be awake for in order for things to change?
2. What have people accepted that confirms them as awake; **a conspiracy**? That we are on a wrong track? Who decides the standard?
3. And, once people are awake, **what then should happen and why would “it” work?**
4. Logically, waking people must be considered a **quantitative** “strategy” based on engaging the masses. However, the masses have never been decisive in any society of any era, except maybe when it’s time for food riots! Since action, for better or worse, has always

been engineered by *the few* - motivated individuals or groups – what exactly is the proposition here?

5. Further, a stand-alone strategy of waking people up – i.e. with no action component attached – would seem to suggest, by default, a path of protest or confrontation.
6. The problems with protest actions as a strategy are dealt with in the “doth protest too much” section but the bullhorn approach, necessary to awaken those asleep, mostly doesn’t win friends and influence people.
7. It should be noted that a new system would want to deploy a strategy of discrediting the old one in order to overthrow it, **with consent!**

Therefore they would want people awake enough to be angry at the old and accepting of the new.

Beware the awakened with no further purpose; there are all different flavors of “awake”!

AND THE MORAL OF THE STORY IS...

Awareness-raising is very important but it does not make a strategy.

With no definition of what it really means, the emphasis placed on what is nothing more than a meme is quite useless and, moreover, harmful.

It clearly represents a major abdication of responsibility of those who consider themselves awake because squarely placing blame on those who don’t know, don’t care to know, or just plain don’t care, *while millions are supposedly awake and of like-mind*, is obvious nonsense.

And what is the definition of awake?

And who is truly awake; a civic minded person willing to cooperate actively with others or a content producer (or consumer) purveying fear, while offering no organizing ethos or solutions? (The proper definition of fear-mongering)

Under the extraordinary circumstances that prevail today, the over/misplaced emphasis on this pervasive notion is quite unhealthy as its simplistic appeal inhibits critical thinking! It also leads to people wearing themselves out when, even with a successful awakening, there’s no action plan waiting to move forward with; **how half-baked can you get?**

Like-minded people organizing around specific action must obviously be made the priority and wasting time with vague nonsense that explains nothing must be immediately rejected! Seeing those who are “already awake” (motivated regardless of their specific underlying beliefs) working together successfully, will do more than anything else possibly could.

Nothing succeeds, *or wakes people up*, like success.



All The Wrong Questions!



X What protest, boycott or “local” movement can work?

Protest actions today are everywhere in our social and political sphere but few seem to ask hard questions as to what these activities intend to, or actually might accomplish.

Are protests a strategy? Are they a tactic? Are their goals clear and the action sustainable? Are they safe? Are they prone to infiltration? How are they viewed by those they are aimed at **and** by the public at large? No era or recent century has lacked for crowds of protesting people. This, if nothing else, should demonstrate that protest actions are quite an ineffective tool for achieving social-political change.

There have been movements, like the Civil Rights efforts of the 1950s and 60s that used protest actions successfully; somewhat. Those actions, however, were tactics of a broad strategy that integrated politics, economics, communications,

religion and more. Its aims were clear and based on obvious moral- social inequities.

Overall it was reasonably well executed, **but** this experience raises important questions.

Is it possible the events of that time have conditioned us to somewhat romantic ideas about “what it takes” in our time? Is it possible that this stand-alone, quantitative form of “resistance” has become habitual, a reflex that blinds us to important lessons about the failings of even that “successful” effort?

As was the case with the Civil Rights Movement, advocates today also promote the idea of boycott as a “companion item” to protest actions. However, they do so with none of the realism or shrewdness of those efforts. Activists today propose to boycott businesses in favor of using local resources only or opting out of civic activities altogether like voting or

paying taxes. These ideas of voluntaryism, or anarchy are all of the same flavor and too are very flawed.



The right questions, a proper analysis:

1. By any measure protesting is begging. Beggars cannot be choosers. Beggars may be *given* a crumb or two but can never exercise true power! Worse, they will be lulled into a false sense of progress and a greater state of dependence on their “generous benefactors” for the trouble.
2. Protest actions devoid of an integrated strategy are essentially emotional and social and are therefore useless in enforcing change.
3. Almost all protest movements will demand some action in law or reform; *derivative*. Those problems are dealt with in the “Laws??!!” section.
4. Protest actions seek to **Petition**; *to plea or lobby*, or **Redress**; *to restore or equalize*. These are fine constitutional concepts that define relations between people and government *but*, they basically indicate submission and do not consider the powerful tools the people can fashion as true catalysts and leaders in our system.
5. Protests are difficult to sustain; they are physically arduous and require substantial energy that can be spent more productively. 😐

6. **Success**; meet the new boss. **Failure**; same as the old boss.
7. As we have seen, protest/civic actions are easily coordinated amongst and funded by agenda driven groups *i.e.* “*astroturfing*”. Further, legitimate citizen-based groundswells are easy to infiltrate and discredit with ‘provocateurism’; *and they can make sincere people easy targets for retribution*. Maintaining the purity of purpose and clarity of message is near impossible following this path.
8. Many boycott-related protest-advocacy suggests that we “go local” and opt out of citizenship and system by ending our relationships with government, businesses and industries that we have grown dependent on:
 - For that have an impact it would **require organizing very large percentages** of the population – the masses – to participate AND for them to tolerate significant change to their relationship with society and their comfort levels. As we have seen, any cogent action on the part of masses would be unprecedented
 - The *local level* is pure? It is as immersed in all of the abuses we see everywhere else! **Everything is connected** and any remedy, to be a genuine remedy, must have corresponding effect on all levels and geographies
 - Any suggestion that people should not vote, not

not buy and so on fails **the tests of logic and feasibility** as the amount of co-ordination and fellowship required to execute such mass action is beyond what is realistically possible. If it were, there wouldn't be a problem in the first place!

AND THE MORAL OF THE STORY IS...

The Internet will certainly be the organizing hub and information center for any successful civic effort, but no solution will be found on a computer screen alone. We will not be able to blog, comment and podcast our way out of this!

Therefore, one very important lesson, from the Civil Rights Movement of the mid-20th century cannot be missed: *demonstrating credible teamwork!*

Those accomplishments made clear that success in the “change business” will require the strong ties of

physical presence, shared sacrifice, coordination and fellowship.

Though protest actions by nature will have this potential, **lacking a winning strategy** they can only leave the crucial attribute of **strong ties** to wither. Much more is needed!

Logically, if protest actions were understood as tactic of a winning strategy there would no longer be a need for protests!

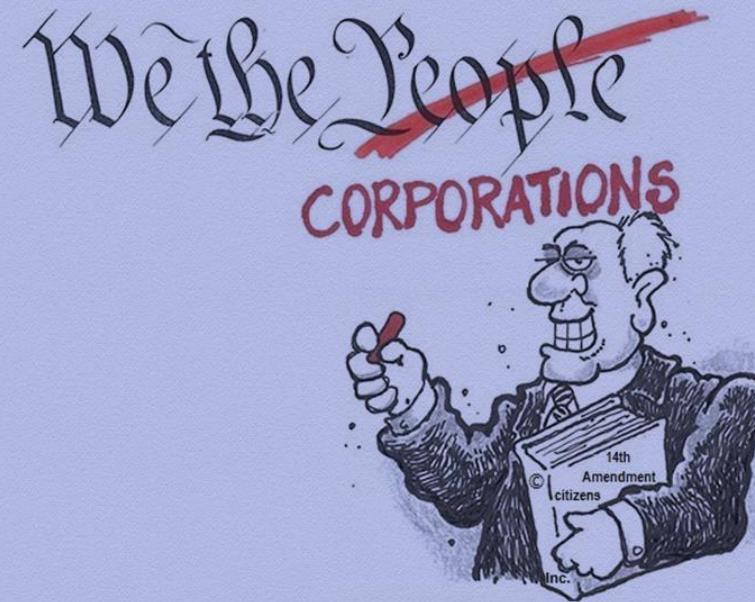
Such gatherings instead would be part of a process of **serving notice**; powerfully communicating that a shift in power has occurred.

That would be waking people up in the right way and should be the goal.

No more mindless protests, please!



All The Wrong Questions!



X What law or reform can be enacted that can empower people to change this?

Laws, reforms, empowerment !! 😐

Laws have their place but as anyone claiming to be *awake* would know, our system of law-making and giving has been perverted and used for the purposes of control; *not for the benefit of society*.

One method of control our legal establishment uses in law-making is the deceptive practice of manufacturing words for legal purposes that mean something quite different than what they would in common use. That means our law – *our legal, political, and justice system* – is not really one of clear rules, but of *terms of art* and fiat.

This is well established and means we are a country of men and not laws; *in other words, the exact opposite of what we've been told!*

Therefore, to demand that our social-political problems – steeped in such law and practice – be solved by that very law and practice is an illogical, terribly flawed idea. Flawed quickly becomes horrendous when one considers the enormous time and resources that's constantly devoted to such efforts; *a very undiscerning and misplaced confidence in a clearly failed approach.*

A dependence on **laws to reform** and fix what we perceive to be broken requires two major leaps of faith. One, is that the people who have used their authority to forge all this would be willing (and permitted) to undo the work! That is unlikely, no? The second is that our problem lies in “bad” laws and that “good ones” are the answer.

Well, if we consider our law making machinery much like a clever and well-resourced industry where we are much like the disorganized, under-resourced regulators we can see the problem clearly.

Also, our history is full of reforms; ***enshrined in law!***

Consider that tons of anti-corruption laws have long been on the books; *has corruption been eliminated?* And, in recent years, public financing of political campaigns has even been implemented in many states. The logic behind these laws, ostensibly, is to make elections more meaningful and competitive; yet no effort is made to even define what that means or create a standard; which makes as much sense as starting with the roof when building a house.

Yet, all of this law and reform comes with the usual promise of changed behaviors and the ***empowerment*** of the citizenry.

However, they have not only failed to produce results, in some cases they have prompted new innovations of control and corruption. This poor record requires that we ask if the endless path of *petitioning* for reforms and accepting vague promises of “empowerment” isn’t really just a lost highway.



The right questions, a proper analysis:

1. If a law or reform will be “**of** the process and **system** that has us in this mess in the first place, how can we expect they are a way out?
2. Any solution of law we might wrangle will likely be the product of years of efforts and compromise and would be contained in an overly

complex statute comprised of many words that don’t even plainly mean what they would in everyday life; *then the lawsuits, judges and justices.*

3. Further, *there are no means* for such statutes and reforms to be offered to the people in a way that offers simplicity, understanding or the power to change, reject or *regulate them*. **If there were, there would be no need for them in the first place!**
4. “Empowerment”; **Beware the word!** It chiefly means to “give”, “authorize” or “promote”. It is not the same as POWER which, given our founding premise, we are endowed by our creator to exercise in the pursuit of happiness. It can be “given” by no authority.

It is therefore illogical in the extreme to continually pursue remedies through lawmaking when the people have no qualitative means to control their creation or regulate their implementation. This does however leave us with several logical conclusions:

AND THE MORAL OF THE STORY IS...

- We must seek the power to command both the making and implementation of law
- We must seek the power to control the language in law and its purpose
- We must have the means to discuss, process and decide

- We must have the means to change, reject and eliminate
- It must be virtuous behavior that's encouraged and tracked; *which alone, no law can ever deliver*

Any pursuit of lawmaking to remedy abuses that lack this understanding must be immediately rejected; ***along with their advocates!*** To have any chance from here we must be very discriminating about the allocation of the **capable public's** precious resources of patience, time, money and attention – **these are finite resources that cannot continue to be wasted!**



All The Wrong Questions!



✗ What leader can we elect that will change this?

Leaders???



Leadership is important, but our cultural archetype of leaders and leadership has served to twist our perceptions of reality, dull our sense of civic skepticism and hamper our ethos of self-reliance. **We have been conditioned!**

Whether it is stories of Kings and Queens - now so often featured in our popular media and entertainment - or the horse race of our presidential elections, we have been programmed to an idea of **leaders** as something akin to royalty and seem to have come to consider their work and lives as more the stuff of drama than public service.

This has served to fuel perceptions that stratify society; making **them** something quite separate from, and superior to, **us**.

This stratification also blinds us to more a meaningful understanding of how power really works; its aims, institutions, and its continuities.

One way this shows up in our republic is that the people have become habituated to the idea of “leaders delivering” and doing so within a fixed hierarchy. That model suggests we can only “express ourselves” via an occasional, and highly derivative vote, and that we are excluded from directing any regular influence and power.

If a so-called leader is promoted and chosen by this model – one clearly based on submission and hope - and that model always fails to deliver, how likely is it that the said leader **would even intend** to “deliver” in the first place? And, even if they did wish to, **“could they?”**

If that were attempted, without the **protection** of a visible constituency who elected that leader based

upon a coherent understanding of a clear platform, that leader in order to “deliver” would have to love the “little people” enough to risk bucking the system and players they owe allegiance to.

Too many contradictions; too much fairytale!



The right questions, a proper analysis:

1. If you put even the most talented, sincere, sovereign and “reform minded” person or people in office, but left most everyone and everything else as it was - *exactly what we always do* - how could their big promises be kept? ***They could not be.***

Therefore it is illogical and self-defeating to depend on individuals – or parties – promising leadership, and “change” to emerge from a conventional approach.

2. Without the protection of that powerful constituency no one can “deliver” within a genuine republic. Therefore, the people, as policy demanders, would have to be powerful – **which is not at all the same as being “empowered”** – in order to provide that protection.

3. Nothing incoherent can be powerful. Unfortunately, numbers of people aren’t easily made coherent. Therefore, no protection can be

offered, and nothing can happen, until people can be made coherent by forming a visible, dependable constituency that can communicate and be communicated with. With the creation of a visible constituency we have our protection, and only then are we free to act effectively.

4. The path to coherence and constituency – that enables genuine power to be wielded – is a fundamental criterion that must be met.

However:

- Since our system is based on empowering representatives **via elections**. (We empower them, not the other way around)
- And since under current methods they **consistently fail** us and, could not be reasonably expected to succeed given our absence
- And since **waking** people up to **protest** for **legal** based **reforms** have proven 100% ineffective

Logically, we as citizens must change the methods.

**AND
THE MORAL OF THE STORY IS...**

That means we must seek out, support, and adopt ONLY those strategies that will create coherence and power **within our existing electoral framework; with no permissions necessary.**

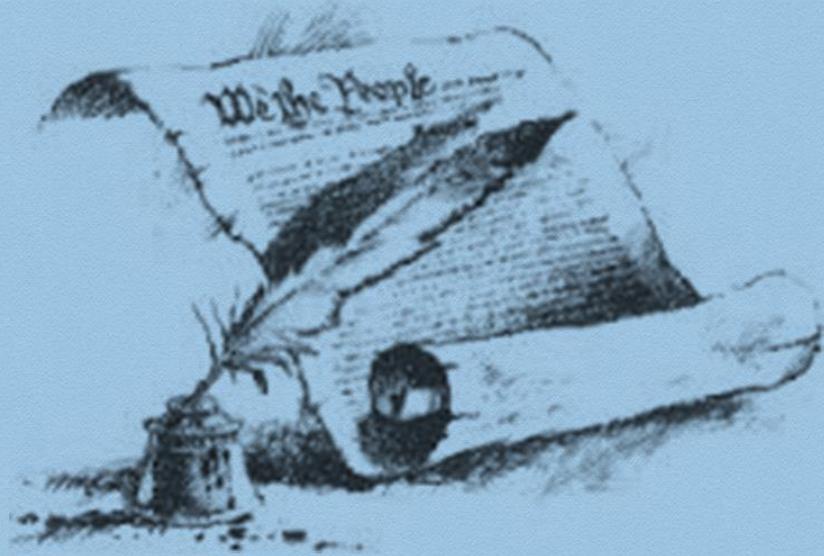
Only when leaders are chosen by, are from, and are answerable to a coherent constituency can any change be expected. Anything that does not account for this simple strategic-logical truth must be rejected.

That we consistently invest precious resources in leaders operating in an *unchanged theater* is a strategic blunder we continually repeat.

That insanity must stop. Leadership must start and end with the capable people. A focus on finding that path must be our number one priority.



All The Wrong Questions!



X What Constitutional approach can change this?

Ah, the constitution! 😐

The constitution is the way, but invoking it as a stand-alone solution, too often amidst romantic images of 1776, does not offer a clear path.

Simplistic demands from different groups – with varying sensibilities – that we “**just return to it**” are unhelpful. More specifics will be necessary for a coherent response; *much less a genuine plan/path that can be followed.*

The suggestion that we can change our society – and the many institutions that regulate it – by amending our constitution does not bear up to scrutiny and fails the tests of logic, coherence and power.

The more grounded approach is that we use the

moral and legal force the constitution embodies as wisely as its ambiguities - *and the opportunities for mischief they present* - have been used against us.

✓ The right questions, a proper analysis:

1. We do hear some calls for a “return to the constitution” in the context of armed resistance. Are these sensible? For three reasons they are not:
 - Any call for violence is against the law and unconstitutional itself, therefore illogical and self-defeating.
 - Secondly, with no clear and achievable political platform describing something better attached to it, there is nothing tangible for people to support. Therefore such advocacy does not pass the tests of feasibility, coherence and power.

➤ **Thirdly, no action could be more prone to mischief and provocateurism than this. Self-defense in last resort scenarios is of course the default of all natural law but any remedy based on ‘armed rebellion’ must be rejected.**

2. There has been, and continues to be, many efforts undertaken to amend the constitution based on the several options it offers for doing so but amending the constitution is problematic in the same way as the legal/statutory reform path previously discussed.

Amending the constitution is rare and unsafe!
Yes, an amendment may carry more weight than the typical statute, and removing ambiguities from the constitution is an admirable - however misguided - goal, but, whatever might be done, it will still be subject to all our established institutions that interpret and enforce!

Since, as it stands, those bodies and their work are well beyond the reach of the people, any priority that emphasizes words on paper – *any paper* – as opposed to an enduring, coherent, involvement of capable people will fail the tests of feasibility, logic and power.

3. There is a school of thought amongst a portion of the population who believe that Americans have been fraudulently classified as PERSONS, i.e. *subjects-citizens*, as opposed to self-governing men and women. This has given rise to advocacy for a constitutionally based means

of re-establishing a lawful standing of the supremacy of the citizen based on these findings.

- Many approaches based on “**common-law**” could have concrete applications in basic areas of civic interaction; from parking tickets to taxes.
 - However, while this category of action does fit the mandate for the wise use of our constitution by seeking tools for the permission-free and practical application of power our system potentially offers, it generally will require some eventual engagement with the courts and law enforcement.
4. Actions and advocacy meant to create citizen based responses and institutions that are based on honorable, historically sound principles do approach the feasibility and power tests more firmly; however, they must be pursued **VERY** judiciously.

If done piecemeal, in the absence of protective-coherent constituencies that are truly visible and powerful, they will fail to realize their potential as instruments of freedom.

The support of officials from our elected sphere and the government beyond will be needed; and in turn, they’ll have to do the peoples bidding as their commands become a coherent political reality. However, the participating public who will create that reality are not going to wage this essentially

political battle in the unfamiliar and risky surroundings of the courts.

Therefore, any attempt to return to constitutional/citizen based lawfulness that offers no path for public control of our **electoral** and **media** systems - where most of us "live" - will be dangerously non-inclusive and likely to fail.

**AND
THE MORAL OF THE STORY IS...**

- With no power to **directly grant or deny** elected officials their seats of representative and/or law enforcement authority
- With no clear means to establish citizen based discourse and decision making *that will be decisive*
- With no popular, accessible means to explain, assure, and seek wider influence and support
- With no ability to sideline all the destructive, divisive, imposed "noise"
- With no **media design** aligned to achieve these carefully crafted purposes

The capable people cannot succeed.

In order for freedom to stand **it must reach people; beyond courtrooms and law.**

Confronting established orders of power with a fragmentary approach, engaging only one pillar or branch of our system while leaving others as they are, is dangerously incomplete.

It will be far from enough to leave it at constitutional remedies of whatever nature.

However, the citizens and groups pursuing this type of action and advocacy are amongst our most knowledgeable and motivated *and considered action will be necessary.*

We must all channel our legacy of freedom wisely and understand our problems and people in the context of OUR times.

Everything, and everyone, is connected!



All The Wrong Questions!



X Why won't responsible parties in government, the military or law enforcement stand up and against these abuses?

This is a lament often heard from frustrated Americans who wonder how and why people in responsible positions, most of whom are surely unhappy with our direction, don't "**do something**"!

First we must understand that the ***chilling effect*** is pervasive and reaches through all levels of our society. Second we must put ourselves in the shoes of those people who we imagine *should be* standing up and ask ourselves: **why should they?** Third, in a world of deception, fueled by completely failed media systems, we ought to be very discerning about who we accept information from, who we ask to stand up, and what we want them to say.

There is all the difference in the world between dramatic and potentially dubious whistle blowing and straightforward demands coming from credible

people that unwarranted or failed systems should be dismantled and new ones established.

✓ The right questions, a proper analysis:

1. All of us are in some way reliant on the existing system; none more so than those employed directly by it as they are as dependent on their salaries, pensions and benefits as anyone else. Therefore, we cannot expect that officials, in enforcement roles particularly, will ignore orders unfavorable to an incoherent public who are in no position to unravel, explain, plan or assure. To them, even empty promises from authorities that the obligations to them will be met will sound much better than cries of liberty and fraternity from a people capable of nothing.

So, for those in this position, any speaking out, or resistance to following "unsavory orders", might bring great risk to themselves and their families; *needless to say a very heavy burden to bear.*

2. However, considering the cases ***where*** visibly heroic stands were (seemingly) taken or important “whistles blown” what was the result? Did the people, with the help of our crusading alternative media use that vaunted awareness raising to wisely organize a coherent, powerful response? **No they didn’t.**

But, these courageous deeds were met by our established order *quite coherently*. By targeting such people for legal prosecution/persecution, loss of financial security and social status and even – the prospect of bodily harm, **notice was served to anyone who might dare.**

3. Was their sacrifice worth it? Well, from their point of view perhaps not. Despite all of the abuses and dangers revealed, anyone with anything of potential interest to say couldn’t reasonably be called a pessimist to think the American people ineffective, *and their alleged new-media useless.*

Even if these heroic truths did serve to awaken many, certainly nothing effective, protective, or decisive has emerged as a result. Why then would anyone risk their life or livelihood for what seems to be a country that either doesn’t care or can’t be effective? *Would you?*

4. Questions regarding the “best practices” for *speaking out and standing up* are among the most important we face! What a coherent and powerful people should ask responsible people – at all levels of government and law enforcement

– “**to do**” goes directly to the high priority of creating the protective safe space born of visible constituencies- which are necessary to **neutralize** the **chilling effect.**

AND THE MORAL OF THE STORY IS...

Getting people in – *and/or “of” government* – bottom to top, to defend their country is one of the most important strategic goals because, as that happens (or *cascades- perhaps*), a de facto handover begins. Therefore, to encourage and manage that, we will surely need to leverage our civic, legal, and electoral forces so true public servants can be unshackled and freely join the people in that process.

Sunlight disinfecting, quickly and **gently**, is potentially the only way out of a perilous situation.

However, people who wish for a high functioning America must realize that it is a profound sign of weakness to depend on - **or demand** - dramatic heroics to save us. **We must show up so they will show up.** We must save them to save ourselves; everything is connected!

By doing this deliberately, strategically, we create a platform that will reassure those officials who should be – **and want to be** – answerable. Only then can they be expected to deliver their support in ways that are clear and useful. By doing this we can also end all the dependence on murky leaks *and the priesthoods that support them*; dynamics

that badly warp our media sphere and sense of reality.

Simple demands for transparent change in our power structures and its decision making apparatus are the responses of a healthy public sphere where deep throat-like intrigues are sure signs of illness.

This is a demand all those who are capable should participate in voicing. **We must be very careful – very mindful – of what we demand; the demand we create is very, very important!**

The results we seek must include the creation of that protective safe space steeped in coherence and power. Only when that exists will people feel secure and therefore free to speak their truth.

Accomplish that, with the people firmly established in right and organized behind a clear strategy; **logically there will no longer be a need for drama or heroics.**



All The Wrong Questions!

Say NO to the
~~LAMESTREAM MEDIA~~

X What facts or truth can be provided that will change this?

Few Americans would disagree that we have a media problem, *a big one*, but we must consider our part in its making.

We have done this by expecting facts and truth – to be *delivered to our door*, nice and neat – *and* furnish us with the power to change hardened circumstances. This has been one of the biggest lies our society has both promoted and accepted and is perhaps the essential problem we face.

It is for understandable reasons we have become conditioned to believe our modern media systems must ***provide us*** facts and truth, *and*, if they do, all will be fine. This highly uncritical conclusion ties directly to the problems discussed here of ***awareness-raising as a strategy*** and our many other misplaced/misguided demands for action.

Established forms of media content, and the mediums that deliver them, have, and **always will** have, the power to shape our perceptions, our responses, *and to a great extent even our personas*.

It is probably the most powerful external social force on earth and the leaving of that power to chance is bad enough.

Worse is that it's now pretty well known that only some six corporations - all playing their various roles - own this media system ***and with it our minds; though the trend towards consolidation*** was well underway before the days of modern electronic media.

So it should have come as no surprise that with the advent of the internet, dissatisfaction with this most crucial monopoly quickly led to today's Internet-based ***alternative media "revolution"***.

This supposedly new form of media promised citizen based journalism and genuine collaborative media, disrupting the old while bringing in the new.

There is however little evidence that this has happened and it can **and should** be argued that its continuing failures and deepening entrenchment have even made things worse.

The right questions, a proper analysis:

1. The constitution itself recognizes the importance of media to genuine freedom and protects it as a fundamental check on power. However, for the general public, our media-information systems have always operated in ways unconnected to direct civic action.

This often is framed as the whole “*we tell you and you make up your mind*” (in isolation) nonsense! When really considered, it’s clear this is a silly fairytale because it is saying “facts and truth”, delivered – **with nowhere to go with them no less** - are enough to ensure progress and freedom in the modern world.

That this non-thinking has persisted - particularly in the age of the internet - is a foundational failure of intellect and imagination; especially of our political and media *activists*.

2. It is a **fact** that everyone who has ever eaten a banana will at some point die; *is there a connection?* Facts with no context, no

processing, no analysis, no fellowship and no strategy are easily **submerged, subsumed and shaped to fit agendas**.

With domestic propaganda now legal and a fact; with strident agenda-driven groups funded and directed by shadowy forces (astroturfed), with carefully staged events an effective component of a strategy to confuse and divide us, we must be prepared to take full account of our media systems; **or else!**

3. **Truth?** Well, not too much can be done without that. But, given the astonishing success of our money- media- election complex’s machinations and manipulations, we must recognize that being delivered some ideal of a perfect truth is unrealistic. Moreover, in our heated public sphere, agreement that it was ideal, perfect, and truth would be difficult to come by.

Therefore, if left unchecked, this misguided pursuit becomes a destructive fetish that can only deepen divides making us even easier pickings!

4. Consequently, a simplistic demand for, or claim of having, “truth” will be inadequate to any remedy. It is certainly no strategy! This requires that we recognize the failure of our historic media model of **the single author broadcasting TO the passive viewer – consuming** - and consider other options.

The problem with this model is that there is nothing in it that is active or activates and so it represents just another form of consumerism. From a practical standpoint, it is completely unconnected to the immediate and impactful civic treatment that it necessarily must be connected to; this in order for there to be any coherence attached to the public will.

Be it mainstream or alternative, this model ensures **a passive citizenry; not an informed one capable of executing eternal vigilance.**

5. This has led to major absurdities on top of major absurdities. For instance, it is quite typical that so called alternative media outlets and activists – **many with substantial audiences** – constantly tell us that we are going to die and yell “**we gotta do something**”.

*And then? Pleassee; like, share, subscribe and of course **DONATE (and wake up ☺)**. THANKS FOR LOVING ME AND HAVE A NICE DAY Y'ALL!*

See the problem there? We have handed our profound powers as an audience over to others, who maintain a failed – and completely unexamined – model. As we demand nothing more of them, of course no one involved is the least bit interested in organizing all those hours and energies spent or “truths” revealed into something cogent.

Then there is us. It seems we have commoditized this form of media and its message of elite

intrigues and our impending doom into yet another *form of entertainment!* **People literally go get popcorn** and watch the latest insights into exactly how we are going to be destroyed!

Further, no critic of, or participant in, our political, media, or activist domains have even focused attention on these **obvious idiocies**, much less searched for or offered a genuine alternative!

Despite the fact that there is great deal of great information and opportunity for learning out there, **this explains a lot about why nothing changes.**

6. The only logical conclusion to all this illogic is that we make it our foremost priority to develop and deploy media that is truly collaborative and represents a true alternative. It must foster coherence by fostering constituency.

That requires it be tethered to action that is politically powerful.

The old and unimaginative chains must be broken!

**AND
THE MORAL OF THE STORY IS...**

There can be no mistake; we cannot succeed without workable media, *but how do we make media work?*

First we must face facts. We have more “facts and truth” than ever before but our decline deepens and accelerates. A big reason why can be understood

by understanding that truth is not as simple a thing as we are conditioned to believe and, moreover, **is too important to be left for others to decide upon and deliver to us.**

We must disabuse ourselves of the notion that *facts and truths*, in isolation, with no strategy attached to it, no structure for processing it, no fellowship or action component tethered to it, can work. These elements are essential for any truth to be vetted, and accepted much less acted on!

We must recognize that in *this era*, the unchallenged model of the single author broadcasting as a sole approach to media is a total disaster, unnecessary given the vast opportunity we have to forge new mediums, and so fails the tests of feasibility, coherence and power.

The only logical conclusion is that we must stop supporting pointless media that offers no path and innovate towards a new form that does.



The Right Questions Lead To The Right Diagnosis

Understanding analytical errors leads to better analysis, *and then, answers*

We have seen that our typical assessments of and responses to the problems we face are serial dead ends.

To stop the insanity we must extract lessons, isolate the right questions and resolve to follow them to a more promising path.

✓ The right questions, a proper analysis:

THE KEY TO WISDOM IS KNOWING ALL THE RIGHT QUESTIONS.

DEAD END OLD THINKING OLD RESULT	NEW LIGHT NEW THINKING NEW POSSIBILITIES
How can we <u>wake people up</u> ?	How can we get even a small percentage of our already aware and motivated citizens coherent and have them understood as a powerful constituency?
What <u>protest, boycott</u> or " <u>local</u> " movement can work?	How can we get beyond the old mindset of beggary and romance, and direct our energies more productively?
What law or reform can be crafted that can <u>empower</u> people to change this?	How can we spark this fast, asking for no permission and get the focus on behaviour?
What leader can we elect that can change this?	How can we do this with no one leader or fixed hierarchy that we'd be dependent on?
What constitutional approach can change this?	How can we make constitutional issues and approaches more accessible and go beyond words on paper?
Why won't responsible parties in government, the <u>military or law enforcement</u> stand up and stand against abuses?	How can we create a safe space that will allow people the freedom to act on their conscience?
What <u>facts and truth</u> can be <u>provided</u> that will change this?	How can we make our media systems effective by making knowledge trustworthy, actionable and powerful?

AND THE MORAL OF THE STORY IS...

Critical thinking – Definition

Critical thinking is the process of independently analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating information as a guide to behavior and beliefs.

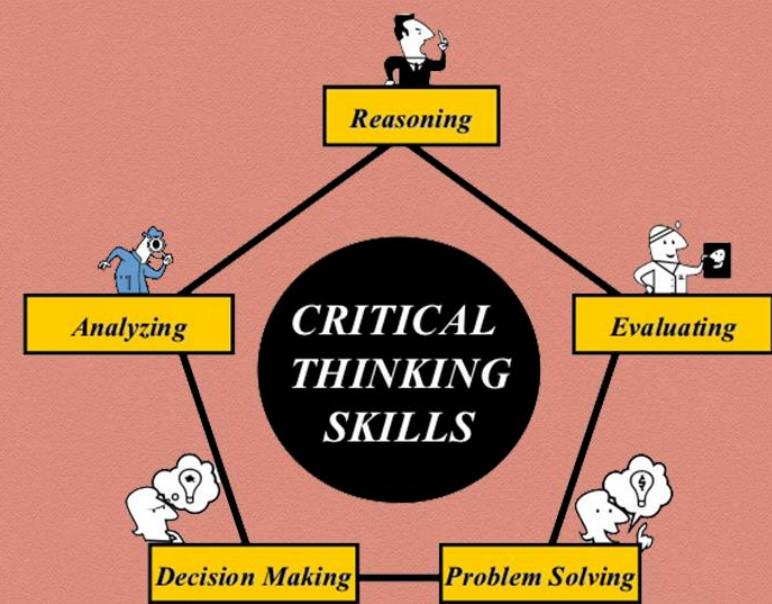
The American Philosophical Association has defined critical thinking as “the process of purposeful, self-

judgment. The process gives reasoned consideration to evidence, contexts, conceptualizations, methods, and criteria”.

Critical thinking is sometimes broadly defined as “thinking about thinking.”



The Right Diagnosis; Definitions, Attributes And Logic



We must know what we are looking for so we know when we see it- *and when we don't see it*

In the same vein as a medical diagnosis – where attributing symptoms to a probable cause is the first thing you'd do; considering what **attributes** a solution must contain **in order for it to be a genuine solution** is only sensible.

This should begin with what defines a solution in this context.

This is really important because we waste a lot of energy in debating ‘solutions’ that are nothing of the sort. For example:

- Hold elected officials “accountable”
- Remove elected officials if they fail to represent the interests of the people (*Kick the bums out*)
- Get the money out of politics
- Audit the Fed
- End war

- Balance the budget
- Improve education
- Simplify the tax code
- Blah-Blah

There is never a shortage of such “solutions” but this is nothing but a big blunder or a big distraction because these notions must be understood – depending on where you sit – as ***preferred outcomes*** or policies; **not solutions!**

✓ **The right questions, a proper analysis:**

In this context we must be quite disciplined about what we term a solution and here it's simple because only ONE definition applies;

solution

[suh-loo-shuh n]

Spell Syllables

Synonyms Examples Word Origin

See more synonyms on Thesaurus.com

noun

That which enables desired policies or preferred outcomes to be adopted; subject to constitutional and democratic principles and processes etc.

If it's **not possible to GET**, and it's not of/by and for the people – verifiably - *it cannot be a solution*.

With that definition defined we can then focus on what **attributes** a genuine solution would hold and the logic that would require its presence.

This creates clarity that lets us quickly reject what won't work, identify what can work, and provide a crucial focus that's been totally lacking!

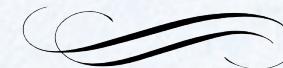
ATTRIBUTE	LOGIC
It must have the ability to work fast	Time is short, patience is limited and seeing traction come quickly is necessary to success
It must therefore require no laws, reforms or permission	Operating from a position of weakness is a no strategy at all
It must work with the least risk of danger and drama	With the carefully planned social engineering in place, a post-meltdown reset to constitutional freedom is highly unlikely. We must do all we can to create a retribution free environment of powerful but gentle transition
It must offer protection so all those participating have the security of visible fellowship	No one can do this alone; coherence through constituency is the foundation
It must be resistant to being hijacked and perverted by agenda driven forces but also accommodate legitimate issues that currently fragment and divide us	Nothing can happen without a focus on the whole; single issue, emotional, and identity-driven agendas must be contained
It must give us direct grant or deny authority over our elected officials and thus the government beyond	Without the means to select, elect and control our elected officials nothing will happen, nothing can stick
It must equally and affect all levels of government: local, state and federal	Advocacy based on fixing one or another level of government is false as they are all connected and interrelated
If must counteract the distortions, intended or otherwise, of our information and media systems	Truth and public policy must be "emerged" from citizen based processes and media manipulations must be neutralized
It must create coherence and power for small percentages of our capable people; that means those who are motivated to act	It is not possible for the "masses" to act coherently. Only the directed actions of the capable few can do that, and in doing so they then set the example for others

**AND
THE MORAL OF THE STORY IS...**

We should consider two questions:

1. Haven't we floundered long enough by tolerating fragmented and failed advocacy that's wasted precious resources; all with zero effort made to seek and apply lessons from the vast experience and effort?
2. Could a solution – *as defined* – be first adopted, and then successfully sustained, in the absence of **even one of these attributes**?

If the answer is no, then it cannot be a genuine solution



The Solution Comes Into Focus;

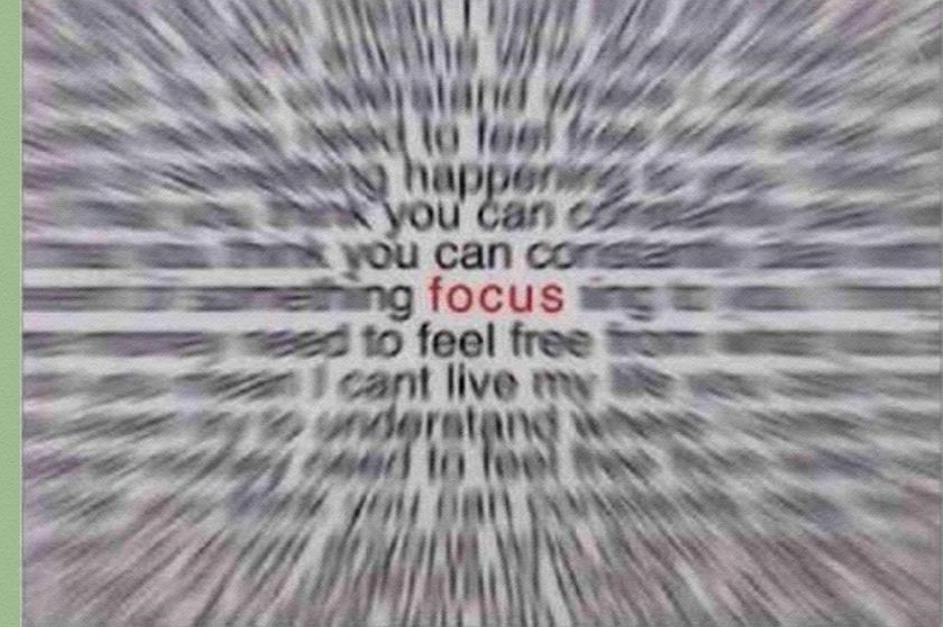
But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it—*Matthew 7:14*

The purpose of this critique/analysis has been to clearly reveal the ways *we*, the people, *repeatedly* fail to approach the national ills we hear so much complaint about sensibly and rationally.

Plainly, we are continually led to fixate on the wrong questions, pushed to listen to the same old pool of promoted ideas – *and people* – and so, constantly draw the same flawed conclusions. From this quagmire, if or when we “act”, it is ***mindlessly***.

We have made no genuine progress, yet expect and hope for different. This insanity trends toward ominous consequences as many now feel *the patient is terminal*.

On the plus side, it is obvious that drawing 20-20 insight from this 20-20 hindsight does lead to some crucial perspective.



Like what at to look for, what to reject, and why!

 **The right questions, a proper analysis:**

If we seized the opportunity and did just that, we could break this endless cycle of failed conventions in favor of finding a **powerful strategy, effective tactics and practical step by step action; in other words, a plan**.

We know many systems of control have discouraged our exercise of effective citizenship. Some of these systems are physical, visible in nature. Others are more subtle and psychological but they are mutually reinforcing and powerful.

They shape what we think, how we interact, what we do and what we don’t do, **and they ultimately decide fates; individual and collective**.

Here, in the United States; and everywhere else too.

**AND
THE MORAL OF THE STORY IS...**

We can say that the visible systems may number many **but three** stand above all others and it is our relationship to, *and our perception of*, these crucial pillars of system from which all else flows:

Crucial Pillar	Typically associated conduct
Political/Electoral	corrupt- psychopathic-power hungry -puppets
Media-MS/Alt	staged-controlled- owned-puppets-amateurish
The People	asleep- apathetic-stupid-sheep

These components of *system* are not unique to the United States of America or the times in which we live.

They have always present in various forms and have taken the blame for the many horrendous outcomes suffered by societies in both historic and recent times. However, we tend to condemn them more in isolation rather than see them for the integrated, interdependent and enabling structure that it actually is, ***or can be***.

but now;

That we have established the definition of a true solution

along with;

The attributes and logic necessary to produce a genuine solution

we can also;

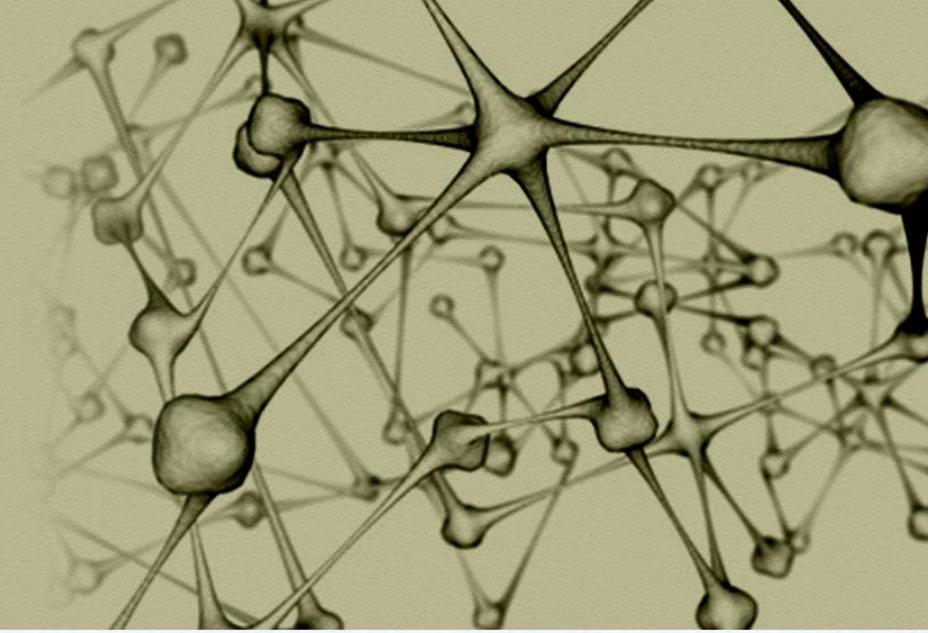
Reason how to connect those insights with the crucial pillars of culture they must affect

in order to;

Powerfully validate a plan that will work



Everything Is Connected



When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe.—John Muir

There are many reasons why sovereignty, freedom and prosperity in United States of America are under assault and none operate in isolation – **everything is connected!**

It's right there!

Missing that simple truth is at the core of our misdiagnoses and the central reason why we doom ourselves to failure, time and again.



The right questions, a proper analysis:

Comparing notions of what **SHOULD** happen and what **DOES** happen within these pillars of system and society help to make important connections and illustrate the point:

What does happen in our disconnected incoherent system;	What should happen in a well connected representative republic;
Our media systems, all, react and too often emphasize the unimportant and emotional	Our media systems would inform the people –the engaged participating public -about important issues of public policy and our political systems responses to them
The general public is ill informed and targeted for division; the engaged public is sidelined	The people grasp this information and act to ensure the political system is both responsive and wise
Our political system is unresponsive and deceitful	The political system, seeking the advice and consent of the people, would formulate wise policies and respond transparently
The media, either fueling these behaviors and/or simply making a living complaining about it, ensures it will continue	The media would provide a “processing filter” useful to both the political system and the people; ensuring wisdom, transparency and communication
Our electoral process - as practiced - informing nothing has therefore become a side show of distraction and near irrelevance	The engaged participating public would exercise influence via essential communication with their fellow citizens, elected officials and the media manifesting in systematic, honorable, competitive and transparent elections
No one is answerable, confusion abounds, advantage is taken and anything goes	All of this would be reinforced by an effective media and these collaborative interactions would ensure a high functioning republic and democratic public sphere

AND THE MORAL OF THE STORY IS...

Treating these “power centers” as organisms that are separate and apart ensures dysfunction, destructive imbalances of power - *and the hamster wheel.*

Therefore any solution, **in order to be taken seriously as an actual solution**, must make these

three components fully integrated, interdependent, and mutually reinforcing.

The mind, body and yes, soul of our system and culture: **politics**, media, and our **citizenry** are of one.

They must be fused!



Are You Ready?

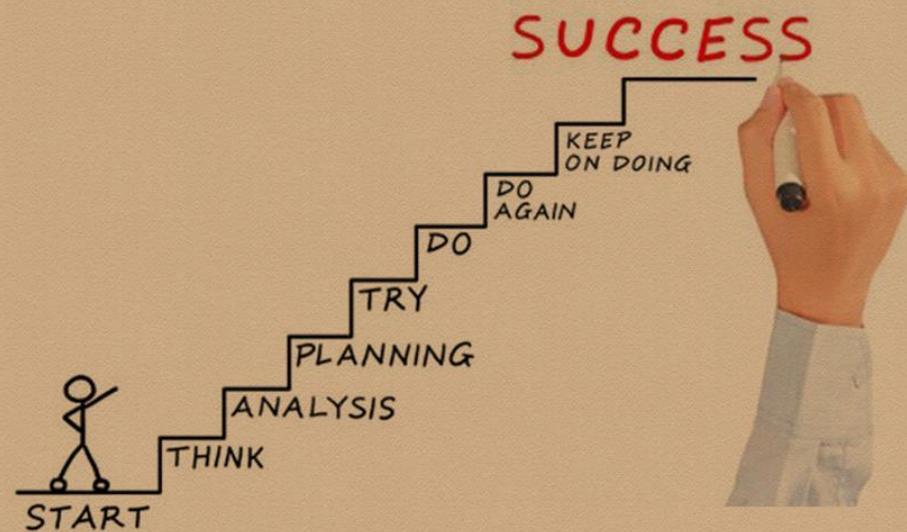
When it is obvious that the goals cannot be reached, don't adjust the goals, adjust the action steps.—CONFUCIUS

This analysis was meant to reveal the necessary adjustment and lay the groundwork for understanding the action steps involved in making it.

This can be boiled down to a simple precept; **our political and electoral systems must be combined with our systems of media and learning.**

This will:

- **Make our information and knowledge less delivered and more a process that is shared, transparent, independent, fully vetted and trusted;** ensuring an informed citizenry
- **Make what is known and learned directly actionable, and decisive;** ensuring that informed citizenry has a clear path for executing eternal vigilance



If that is accomplished, all goals can be met and all the promise of country and people fulfilled.

Conclusion



If you have absorbed this material and agree with its conclusions then you are ready to ask the question; **How?**

Davinci said, “*Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication*” and that idea is very well captured in what's been laid out here; this is our system and it is very simple; however misunderstood. But, that simplicity is not unsophisticated, so understanding and acting on it will require the intervention of our wisest and most able people.

Those who do continue this inquiry will clearly see both how straightforward and decisive this adjustment can be; even with challenges as complex as the ones we now face.

If you agree that rise and fall of a nation rests with
every one of its citizens then IT IS
UNDERSTOOD; *the responsibility is yours.*

