

**MEMORANDUM FOR
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**Subject:
The Resurrection of the USA –
Your Legacy, 200 Years, Must Be Systemic**



**Robert David Steele
Earth Intelligence Network**

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UPDATE 1:

Cover Image Changed

Pagination Repaired

Dedication

This publication is dedicated to Donald J. Trump, potentially the first President of the restored Constitutional Republic of the United States of America.

The primary purpose of this publication is to orient the public with respect to the possibilities achievable by President Donald J. Trump. There are now ample proofs that he and his team are enroute to NESARA/GESARA implementation.



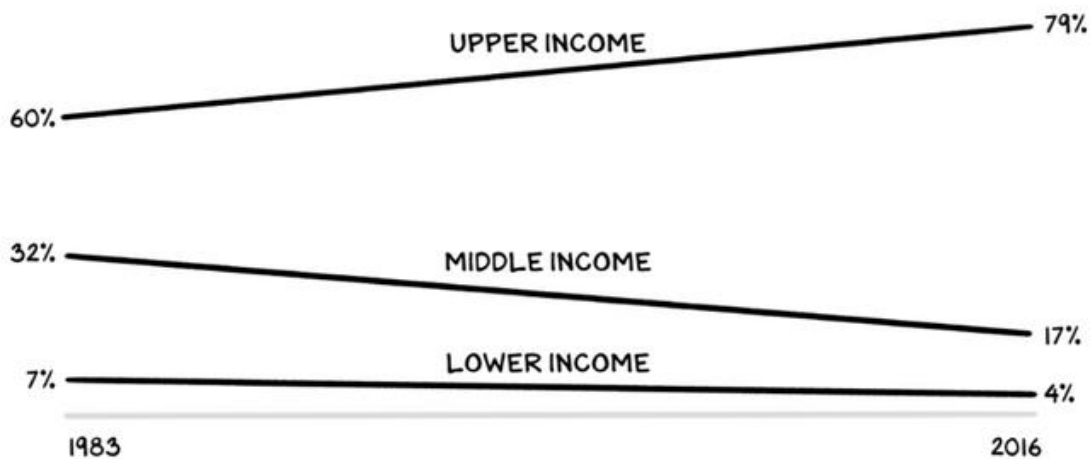
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Preface – Constitutional Purpose Is the Health and Wealth of the 99% – the Public

Hans Morgenthau, in *Politics Among Nations*, speaks to national power being almost totally rooted, when all is said and done, in the health and wealth of the population at large. Not the health and wealth of the 1%, but the health and wealth of the 99%.

SHARE OF U.S. AGGREGATE WEALTH



SOURCE: PEW RESEARCH CENTER ANALYSIS OF THE SURVEY OF CONSUMER FINANCES.

Your objective as President, as you go about brilliantly restoring the Republic and decapitating what one author, Scott Galloway, calls “the crony class,” is to grow a middle class comprised of skilled blue collar and white collar workers who can support families on one income so as to restore full-time parenting, and to assure that this class has the most political power commensurate with its wealth – 66% at least. That class must be educated and engaged in politics. That class must not be fat nor may life-style and cronyism-led diseases such as diabetes be allowed to break the health of the public or the treasury of the Republic.

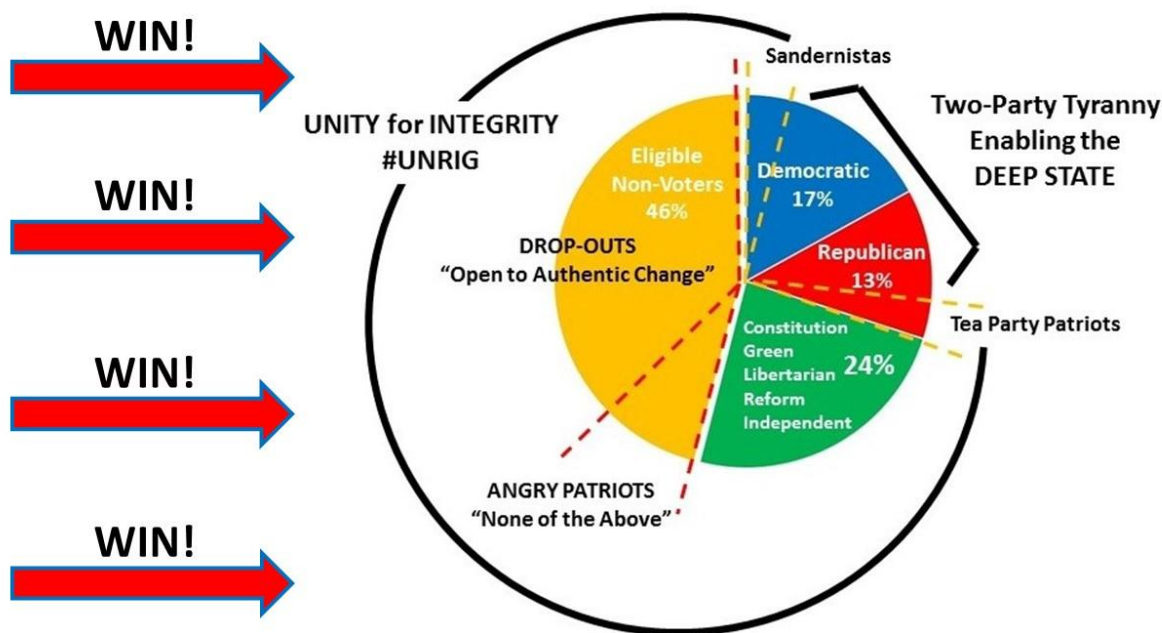
The “ends” of the Republic are clearly stated in the Preamble to the Constitution. That is your mission statement going forward.

to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity

As you formulate your plans for reconstructing the US economy, I urge you to leverage what is not available to you now: holistic thinking, true cost economics, and Open Source Everything Engineering (OSEE). My most recent three books are on *Reinventing National Security*, *Reinventing Intelligence*, and *Reinventing Engineering*. With these, you can achieve your worthy objectives in a fraction of the time and at a fraction of the cost of system we need to replace. I seek to serve toward these ends.

Background. You have been utterly brilliant in pre-empting the real pandemic with a medical crisis, and using the media fear-mongering to achieve objectives that would have been impossible without this mass medical simulation. While there are many that are very anxious about our wrecking a \$20 trillion dollar economy over a few really big lies and flawed models, others see both the value of the creative destruction and the reality that you have all the money and power you need to resurrect America. The purpose of this memorandum is to suggest that you not limit your attention to an economic reboot, but rather be the Founding Father for the second 200 years, and do a systemic reboot, if that is not already part of your grand plan for Making America Great Again.

Election 2020. You were elected by 27% of the eligible voters (Barack Obama was elected by 26% of the eligible voters). The voting demographics are moving slowly but surely against you. To win the Mother of All Landslides in November 2020 you need to embrace #UNRIG – election reform – and attract to your support a large percentage of blacks and urban women, a percentage of Independents, Libertarians, #WalkAways, and others. You are in danger of Joe Biden’s embracing the big ideas I have been offering (#UNRIG, coalition cabinet, balanced budget, end of the federal income tax) before you, which will make you a copycat rather than an original. Then there is the matter of Biden’s early commitment to having a black female Vice President. There is only one top black female in the US with name recognition and that is Dr. Cynthia McKinney who wants to be on your team (and is known to Herman Cain). Regardless of where she might end up, bring her in for a talk and drive Democrats and the media nuts.



Mindful that you have your own plan and I don’t know what you know, I would put forward two thoughts on securing your re-election so that you have a strong national following for your re-invention of the USA in your second term:

01 The biggest carrot you have is #UNRIG – electoral reform. Offering to assure 100 seats in Congress for individuals who are neither Democrats nor Republicans – along with the other reforms itemized below, could radically increase your votes from outside your base in November 2020. The twelve

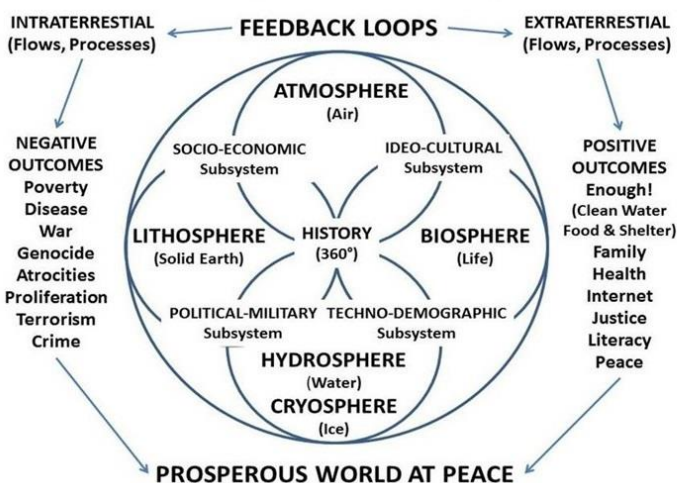
recommended elements of the Election Reform Act of 2020 include: universal registration, voters validated by SSN, end illegal alien birthright; dual citizens ineligible to vote, free & equal ballot access; tightly drawn districts based on US citizens not counting illegal aliens and foreigners; public funding, overturn CITIZENS UNITED; free & equal media access, end social media censorship & manipulation; inclusive debates including Cabinet-level debates; primaries open or not funded by public; election day holiday and free public transport; paper ballots counted publicly on site (or Bill Binney can secure the electronic machines); end winner take all with Instant Run-Off; end legislative secrecy, all legislation online in advance, line item veto for affected publics and President; achieve economic democracy in workplace including restoration of unions. The graphic can be seen/downloaded at <https://unrig.net>.

02 Dr. Cynthia McKinney wants to be part of your team. Apart from being Vice President, she could serve in other ways, the most obvious being as your direct representative for election reform and outreach to everyone that is not now addressed by your existing campaign (which is blowing the blacks big time). She and I have been talking about the need for a national conversation. She could lead that. I have turned #UNRIG over to her.



In my view she represents a three-fer: blacks, women, and progressives. As a former six-term Congresswoman from Georgia, and a former nominee for Presidency from the Green Party, she cuts across so many lines that I consider her a unifier. With her PhD in Leadership, and her vast network inclusive of 7,000 black churches, I consider her a national treasure.

Holistic Analytics and True Cost Economics. Your government does not do either. The Cabinet stinks at the process of intelligence (requirements definition, collection management, all source processing, multi-domain analytics, coherent decision-support and visualization) and the secret intelligence world does not do domestic compare and contrast (e.g. for trade competition) a point made by Ellen Seidman of the National Economic Council in the 1990's). You cannot do these today for all threats, all policies, all costs, and in order to have a legacy that will last 200 years, you need to be able to do this BEFORE you start reconstructing the economy. You cannot reform the failed system; you must replace it as a whole.



COTTON T-SHIRT

Water 570 gallons
Energy 8 kWh, 11-29 grams fuel
Emissions Nox, SO₂, CO, CO₂, N₂O +++
Toxins: 1-3g, metals
Children: 50 cents per day, 17 countries
Tax Cheats: most
Human Rights: most

The above right hand-held application is what Apple and Google should be doing, rather than creating a mass surveillance protocol that will label everyone diseased based on 80-85% false positive tests.

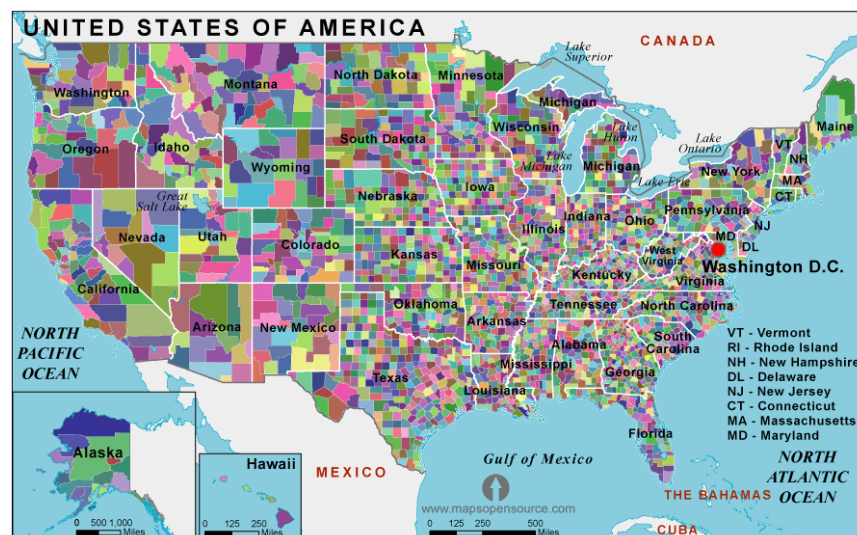
01 Cut the secret intelligence community by up to 70%. Both the secret intelligence community and the commercial data communities have gone down the technology and financial fraud rabbit holes, and we have lost touch with reality as well as the proven process of intelligence. Bill Binney and I are agreed that up to 70% of the secret world can be cut (you can immediately apply the savings elsewhere) and that the surviving pieces should be consolidated in a single revitalized CIA that controls all classified sources and methods and processing and analysis.

02 Create an Open Source Agency (OSA). Twice approved by OMB in 2000 and 2010 – at \$125M IOC \$2B to \$5B FOC – this is how you personally get a grip on all information in all languages all the time, and how you personally then are able to educate the public, dominate the media, inform Congress, and make evidence-based decisions at all levels of analysis (strategic, operational, tactical, and technical) while sharing relevant information (of generic interest) and intelligence (decision-support tailored to your specific concerns) with President Vladimir Putin, General Secretary Xi Jinping, and others.

To be the greatest President ever you must be the most informed President ever. To this I now turn.

White House Restructuring. You have made great strides in down-sizing the National Security Council (NSC) but your war-time command capabilities are lacking in several key areas. The below graphic addresses three critical needs that you can achieve instantly to great political and publicity effect.

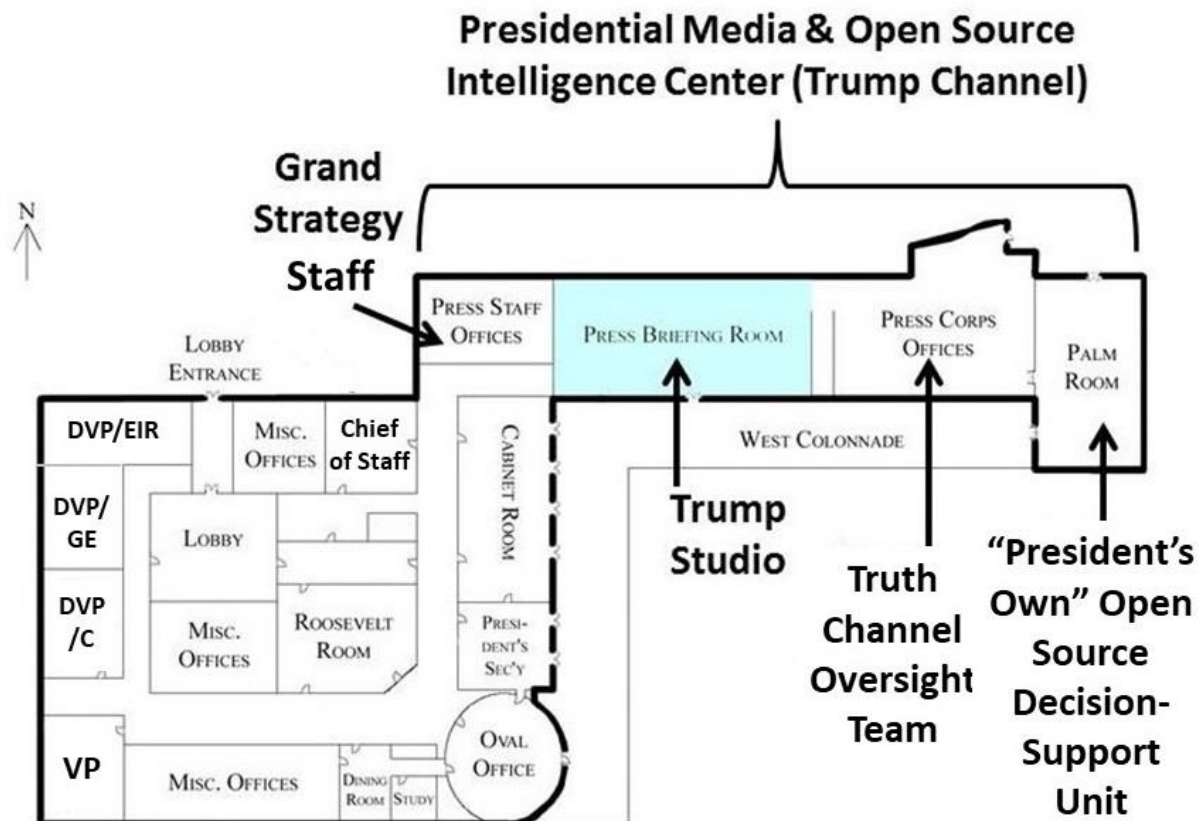
01 Appoint three Deputy Vice-Presidents, with or without Congressional approval, for Commonwealth, Global Engagement, and Education-Intelligence-Research. If they have to be called Advisor to the President for Policy so be it. The bottom line is that you are too important and too busy to be dealing with individual Cabinet officers, it's time you restructured the White House to have a working Vice President and three substantive subordinate Vice Presidents. Not shown here are two related ideas, a **Governor's Council**, and a **Mayor's Council**. A third idea is in gestation, **United Counties of America**, such an organization exists but without funding, it could give you a bottom-up grip not now available to you.



My graphics on this complex topic can be viewed at <https://tinyurl.com/POTUS-IDEAS>.

02 Create a Grand Strategy Staff, no more than twelve people, who are your personal think tank, totally loyal to you, with the ability to look at Whole of Government (WoG) operations, all threats, all policies, all costs, all alliances, in a holistic fashion with a total grasp of true cost economics, history, and futures.

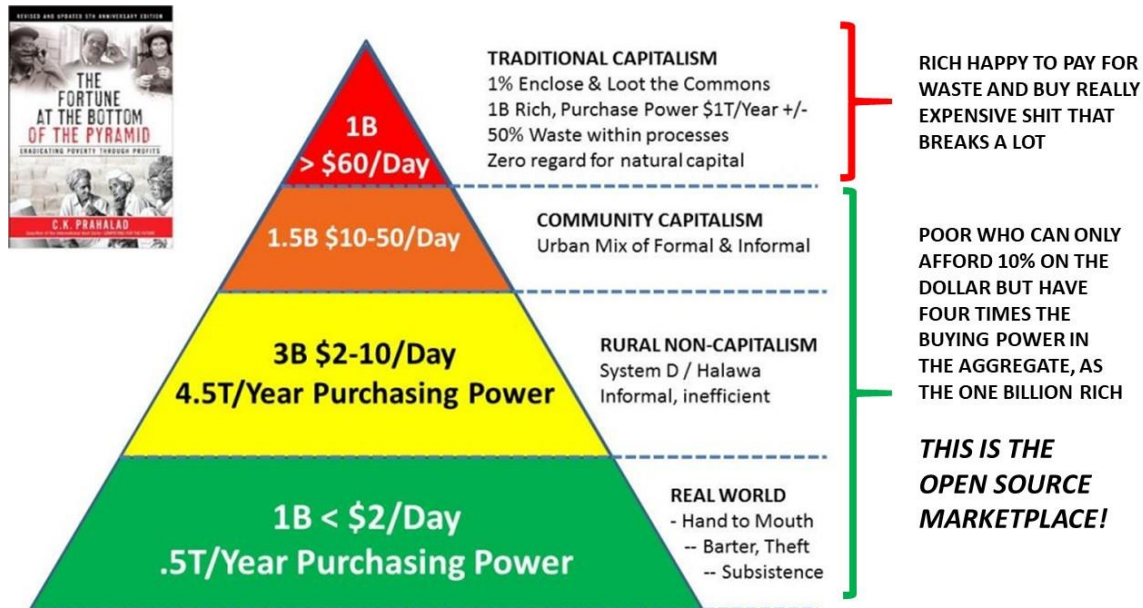
03 Clear Press Area for Trump Studio & Command Center. This will allow you to dominate national communications and have a two-way communications ecology with the public.



An Open Source Agency (OSA) would be a tri-fecta for your legacy construct: it would support a new Director of National Intelligence (DNI) in purging and radically restructuring all the secret agencies – Mike Flynn is the obvious choice for that job when you are ready to make deep changes; it would radically enhance evidence-based decision-making by your Cabinet officials as well as Governors and Mayors whom you could hold accountable by having a superior grasp of all relevant information; and it would be the foundation for your defeating every threat, modernizing every policy, and reducing every cost associated with the operation of your “building” known as the USA. Mike Flynn has all the details.

The OSA could have an Information Bureau and an Engineering Bureau. The information bureau would have the objective of establishing near-real-time access to all information in all languages all the time, something no one else has including Putin and Xi, while providing decision-support to every official as well as every citizen. The engineering bureau would enable bottom-up innovation across the country by creating self-sufficient manufacturing accessible to every county, while helping existing US

manufacturing make the leap to low-cost open source offerings that cost 20% to 10% of what they offered before, while creating the world's first total export concept for reaching the five billion poor whose aggregate income is four times that of the one billion rich. Put another way, the USA becomes an exporter to China and India and all other countries, while enabling its farmers, butchers, and all others reconstruct the economy at local scale, totally self-sufficient, with zero waste and – this is counterintuitive but very real – more profit for those doing hands-on manufacturing – banking theft is ended and the financialization of the economy forbidden in the new sustainable Trump legacy economy.



Jobs, Rent, & Groceries. The hard facts are that we are on our way toward 40 million unemployed; 3 out of 5 workers do not have unemployment compensation, and one third of all rents were not paid in April. If this lockdown goes past 1 May we could be dealing with a wave of suicides, domestic violence, and active shooters that will over-shadow your accomplishments. Your staff is under-estimating the anger. Many of the jobs that have gone down may never come back. That is not necessarily a bad thing.

01 Announce a hard date for re-opening. I provided you, via the White House comment line on 8 April 2020, with the following list of contrarian doctors who share my contempt for Gates and Fauci, I continue to recommend that you bring all of them in, and feature three a night for a week running, to educate the public on how the models were all wrong (created by the same people that created the Trump Dossier), the testing is not working and not relevant, and how we now need to get back to work. All of the below contrarians need to be heard by you and by the public before you announce opening.

[Arthur Firstenberg](#)
[Dr Joel Kettner](#)
[Dr John Ioannidis](#)
[Dr Peter Goetzsche](#)
[Dr Pietro Vernazza](#)
[Dr Sucharit Bhakdi](#)
[Dr Wolfgang Wodarg](#)
[Dr Yanis Roussel](#) et.al.

[Dr Yoram Lass](#)
[Dr. David Katz](#)
[Dr. Eric Berg](#)
[Dr. John Ioannidis](#)
[Dr. Rashid Buttar](#)
[Dr. Ron Paul](#)
[Dr. Shiva Ayyadurai](#)
[Dr. Thomas Cowan](#)

[Frank Ulrich Montgomery](#)
[George Carlin](#)
[Jon Rappoport](#)
[Michael T. Osterholm](#)
[Paul Doyon](#)
[Peter Diamandis](#)
[Prof. Hendrik Streeck](#)
[Robert F. Kennedy Jr.](#)

02 Get 5G Radiation Sickness, and CoVFeVe, on the Table. I was the first to publicly connect 5G and the current medical challenge; most but not all of the above will tell you that 5G lowers immunity, creates radiation sickness, and in a worst-case scenario, can be used to trigger nanoparticles that induce lethal biological effects. This is not something Big Pharma, the CDC, or the telecommunications companies want discussed openly. You and your staff can find the [seventeen page summary of *The Invisible Rainbow* online](#). From the Spanish “Flu” onwards, most influenzas have been about radiation sickness from radio, radar, then microwave, the viruses are excretions, not contagions, and the vaccines are massive medical fraud and kill people. **It is vital that DoD – the US Navy particularly – grasp that the “spread” of this alleged virus is actually some combination of normal flu and radiation sickness**, and there are specific things that can be done to remediate these contagions even in the close quarters characteristic of military bases and platforms.

Until you get the truth on the table, no matter how ugly it is, you are not in a position to deal with it.

CEO as cited by Ben Gilad in [Business Blindspots](#)

There are weak signals that China finally got a grip on its problems by turning 5G off. I have no direct knowledge but if I were in your shoes I would certainly force the issue of turning 5G off at the same time that I exposed the massive medical simulation that New York has been undertaking. I am assuming that you have your own needs in relation to the clearing of underground tunnels and the rescue of children, we are now at a point where it is vital that you slam down on all forms of lying to the public about this.

Now I know you know that 5G can be made safe – your tweet on CovFeFe did not escape me – but the public needs to know that you are on the job and have a grip on this. It would also be helpful if your Space Force announced a commitment to cleaning up all the debris, and your Administration made a public commitment to eliminating electromagnetic pollution both on Earth and in the Heavens.

03 Close our bases overseas, restructure DoD. Bring our troops (and their wallets, and all the support jobs that now go to foreigners overseas) home. This crisis will not only allow you to terminate the endless wars, but also close the 1,000 plus military bases that are used as lily pads by the CIA and private military contractors (PMC) and some rogue military elements, to smuggle children, drugs, guns, gold, and cash.

It is clearly established, for example by David Vine in [Base Nation](#), that overseas bases cost twice as much as they would if at home and the reality is that we are paying for so much tail we cannot afford effective and globally-mobile tooth. War is a racket – the military-industrial complex in peace is a bigger racket. We can transform the military in a manner that is politically neutral – job and revenue neutral across all state and local jurisdictions – but as Commander in Chief you have to demand that transformation.

04 Implement the Ronald Reagan DoD-Labor Retaining Plan. Bringing our military home will allow you to rebuild the military from the bottom up at the same time that you implement the

Reagan era [DoD-Labor Retraining Plan](#) created by then Deputy Secretary of Labor Del Spurlock, who is ready to serve you today (he lives near me in Oakton, VA).

In a worst case scenario you can induct all unemployed people into DoD, waive military training and grooming, pay them, retrain them, and relocate them. You need every bit of DoD home for this war.

There are FOUR threat classes that need FOUR Whole of Government (WoG) forces. I address this in easily readable form in my recent [NATO 2040: Intelligence \(Decision-Support\) as Root for Transformation](#). The primary purpose of the below graphic is to emphasize that a transformation of how we organize for national security offers virtually unlimited possibilities for gainful employment across the country.

CINCWAR	CINCSOLIC	CINCPEACE	CINCHOME
Strategic NBC	Small Wars	Diplomacy & Development	Intelligence & Information Sharing
Big War(s)	Constabulary	Peace Corps / Peace from Above	Border Patrols & Restored Values
Reserve	Ground Truth	Economic Aid / Village Micro-Cash	Port Security
Top Secret NATO	Reserve	Environment (True Cost Economics)	Cyber-Security & Data Integrity
Secret Multinational Intelligence		Peace Navy, Free Energy & Water Desalination Plants	Public Health & Integrity Restored to Big Pharma
Public Multinational Education, Intelligence & Research			

Your military lacks intelligence, integrity, and imagination. Restructuring intelligence is the first step toward not only transforming everything, but eliminating the 50% waste and getting everything you want at a fraction of the cost that would be charged by the failed predatory economic networks.

A voluntary universal draft could be introduced without age or fitness limitations – after a universal boot camp that emphasizes fitness, all volunteers could opt for a stint in armed forces, peace corps, first responders, or green/infrastructure or civilian conservation corps with reserve options thereafter.

Health. There are two graphics on the next page. The first one puts the current crisis in context and the second offers a new approach to health. Core point: most of our health-issues are built

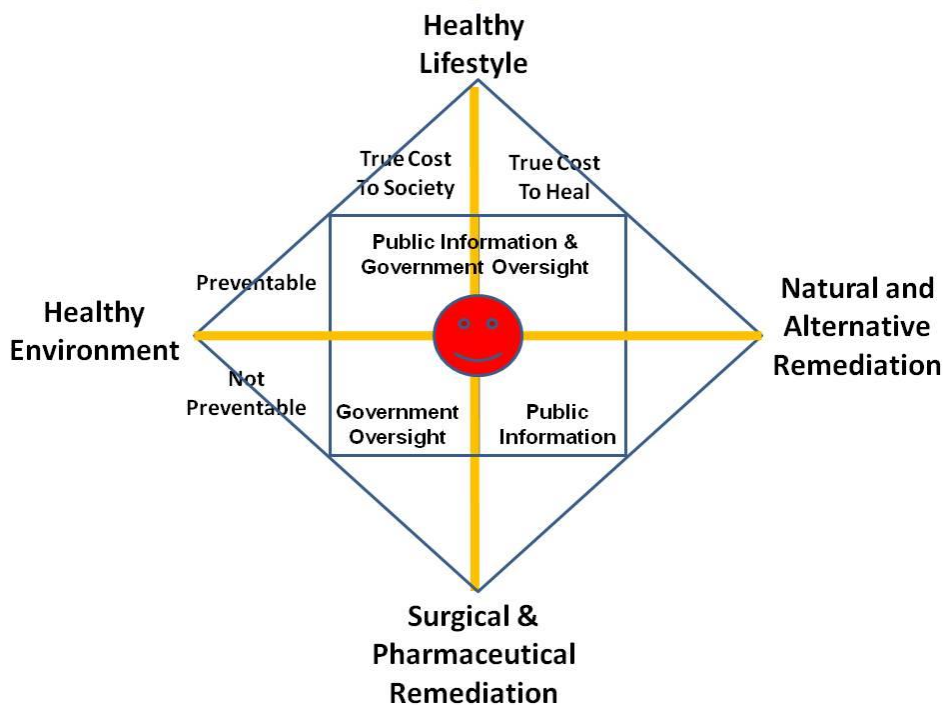
into a very sick system that has monetized disease and demonetized health, at the same time that no one is held accountable for poisoning our air, water, land, and food.

LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE USA		
CAUSE OF DEATH	NUMBER (2017)	PERCENTAGE
1. Heart Disease	635,260	23.10
2. Cancer	598,038	21.70
3. Accidents	161,374	5.90
4. Chronic Respiratory	154,596	5.60
5. Stroke	142,142	5.18
6. Alzheimer's	116,103	4.23
7. Diabetes	80,058	2.90
8. Flu & Pneumonia	51,537	1.88
9. Kidney Disease	50,046	1.80
10. Suicide	44,965	1.64
11. Blood Bacteria	38,940	1.42
12. Chronic Liver	38,170	1.39
13. Murder	15,498	0.60
14. Heroin	10,000	0.45
15. HIV	7,000	0.30
16. Starvation	At Least 5,000	.25

NOTE: US GDP: 20 Trillion – Crash Economy for 685 Dead?

FAKE PANDEMIC CORONAVIRUS COVID-19		
Alleged Cause	Number Dead	Percentage
Super-Virus	685	0.00034
WHAT ELSE DO WE KNOW?		
Disposition		Percentage
Self-Healing		80.00
False Positive Tests		80.00
False Death Attribution		99.00
TRUE COST OF NATIONAL LOCK-DOWN		
Cultural	Loss of Faith in Government	
Economic	Depression – Banks Buy It All Up	
Political	MASSIVE Corruption	
BENEFIT OF A NATIONAL LOCK-DOWN		
Economic	Restore Local Self-Sufficiency	
Military	Make Some Key Arrests	
Spiritual	Ascension Christianity	

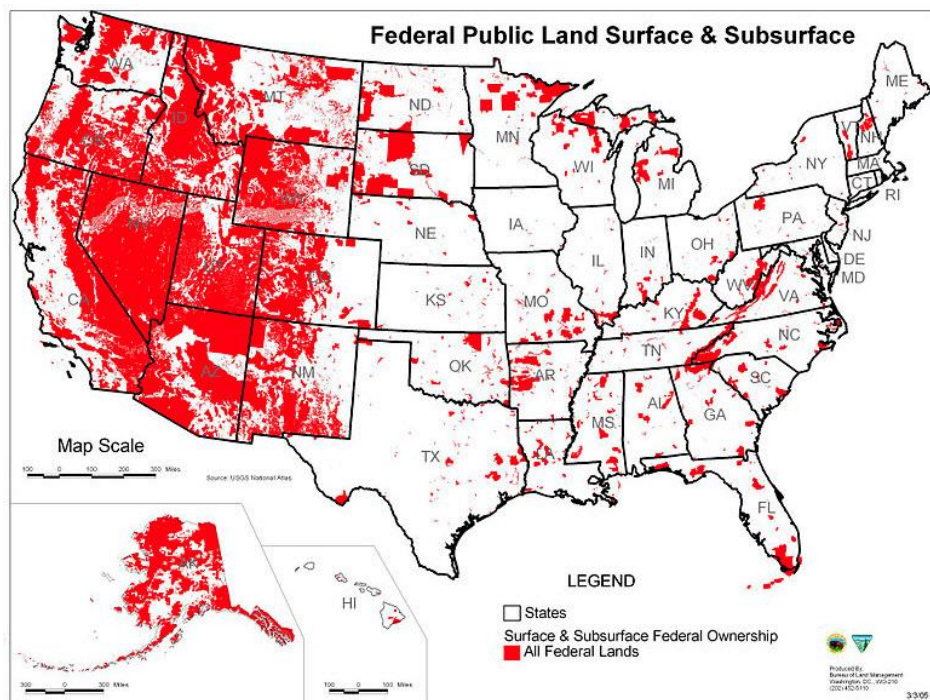
NOTE: 2 Trillion in Hand-Outs Against Crashed 20 Trillion Economy?



If you want to reconstruct the economy in favor of We the People, start with a commitment to public health and the termination of poverty, disease, and environmental degradation as profit centers. Ending geoengineering, fluoride in the water, and electromagnetic pollution would be a good start. Eliminating all untested vaccinations and restoring our reliance on herd immunity would be good also.

Land, Food, Water, Energy. This crisis – creative destruction under your leadership – has terminated the myth of globalization and shown the vulnerability of the pernicious “just enough just in time” supply chain that assumes that transport, communications, and finance will always be stable. I have been publishing [Gray Swan Reports](#) for some time, with a particular emphasis on the vulnerability of our food supply. Right now you have farmers who are still under six inches of water and not planning the next crop; and you have complex combinations of food production suffering just as much as the auto makers are suffering. Nassim Nicholas Taleb, who achieved a 4,000 return on investment from this crisis, is a favorite of Dr. Ron Paul’s, and America’s leading proponent for localization. His book [Anti-Fragile](#) joins Nobel Economics Prize winner Elinor Ostrom’s book [Governing the Commons](#), as a manifesto for returning to Thomas Jefferson’s vision of an agrarian society, a distributed self-sufficient society in which community is defined by humans interacting with one another, not by a massive grid of anonymous remote supply chains and mindless entertainment in which everyone can “tune out” and not be accountable as members of a community.

01 End most federal ownership of state lands, and absentee ownership of land. You have the power to create a “new frontier” where new communities can be established that enjoy free unlimited renewable energy and practice what I call [Christian Collectivism](#). No sane person can look at this graphic without wondering why this situation is allowed to continue. Hopefully you now have a grip on the underground bases and tunnels and can see the need to turn most of this land back over to the states for sustainable pro-America development. We also need to end absentee ownership of land – land belongs to locals by Natural Law right of stewardship.



02 Rebuild the foodshed. Philip Ackerman-Leist, author of [Rebuilding the Foodshed: How to Create Local, Sustainable, and Security Food Systems](#), is immediately available to you and could lead a rapid response team to propose very specific and immediately actionable steps for you to

approve. The Open Source Agency (OSA) can fund pilot projects using Open Source Everything Engineering (OSEE). A major aspect of all of this is the termination of all federal regulations designed by lobbyists to destroy local food growth and processing – small butcher shops, for example, have been put out of business by onerous regulations designed to be impossible for the family or community-level businessman to satisfy.

03 Water. This graphic illustrates the potential of water as a political as well as economic tool, particularly if you open new frontiers in the West as suggested above, and sponsor a nation-wide move to terminate absentee land ownership, at least in relation to farming. Free energy makes unlimited desalinated water available at scale, but so also does Open Source Everything Engineering (OSEE). Using OSEE we can create hundreds of plants offering 5 million gallons per day, at a cost of \$3M each instead of 25M each. The aquifers are running dry and will refill with seawater if we do not declare a “Manhattan Project.” Water is life. In combination with the new land frontier and the new foodshed, your initiatives along these lines will galvanize the Western voters and the many unemployed and underemployed toward creating new farm-centered communities with full Internet connectivity and localized manufacturing. Fort Huachuca in Arizona and the surrounding communities are in desperate straits – as are over 30 towns across Texas and all tribal lands in the south. This is a huge legacy opportunity.

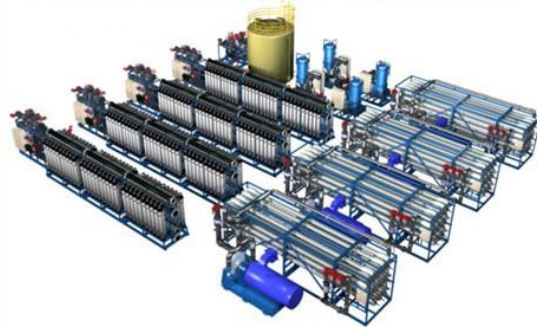


Open Source Agency (OSA)

- Legislate now! Can start as executive initiative.
- IOC \$125M FOC \$2B/Year
- Alternative C5ISR / Threat Support to Joint Acquisition, Based at Fort Huachuca
- Makes Arizona global hub for open source engineering and open source intelligence
- Agriculture (Senator Roberts) as joint sponsor – creates intelligence and engineering agency to support Whole of Government strategy, PPBES
- Mandate energy and water self-sufficiency for new DoD/USG installations, enables \$25M/year set-aside for desalinated water into Arizona.

- OSA has been called for since 1969
- Keith Hall (D/NRO) defined budget in 1997
- Sean O’Keefe (DD/OMB) first approved in 2000
- Rob Simmons (R-CT-02) championed 2006-2008
- SOCOM, NATO, PACOM particularly require
- Could help SASC define 450-ship Navy, long-haul Air Force, air-mobile Army, cut 30% waste
- Creates OSINT/OSE for Whole of Government including all Congressional jurisdictions
- Three benefits for Arizona’s economy
 - Water (just over 1% of total OSA allocation)
 - Open Source Technology corridor
 - Regional (cross-border) stabilization – water sharing plan with northern Sonora

Pre-Built Solutions Can Be Fielded Quickly



5MGD added each year toward 50MGD

04 Energy. You know more about energy than I ever will. There is one point I would make in relation to food: we are spending 10-20 times more energy “units” than we are creating food “units.” The degree of energy waste is at least 50% in terms of “spilled” energy and probably another 30% in terms of mis-applied energy. There is also a huge health aspect to energy, starting

with the reality that we have been torturing the black poor in the inner cities with pollution that should not be tolerated by your Administration.

From where I sit “free energy” is real and is here now and needs to be unleashed. You have filled the strategic oil reserve, your economic restructuring plan should be rooted in the release of free energy and the creation of self-sustainable communities at the county level across the USA, eliminating over the course of four to ten years all dependence on imported energy – not just imported at the national level, but imported at the state and local levels.

Climate change is a fraud – it is also a treasonous scam intended to further the globalization agenda. Educating the public on all threats, all policies, all costs should lead to your approval rating being >70%.

Justice. You are probably very familiar with Sidney Powell’s book, [*Licensed to Lie*](#) and perhaps familiar with Matt Taibbi’s books, [*Griftopia*](#) and [*The Divide*](#). I urge you to consider Sidney as a replacement for Justice Ruth Ginsberg. Matt Taibbi’s work documents the collusion between a totally corrupt Congress and a totally corrupt judiciary, to which we can add the bribery and blackmail – much of the latter associated with pedophilia entrapment and adrenochrome addiction – that causes local prosecutors and judges to turn a blind eye to predation by the rich and to monetization of the poor, to including drugging the elderly so as to make them wards of the state and strip them of their estates. What we do to blacks – to include arresting them for standing on the sidewalk at midnight in front of their home with no one else present – their crime being “obstructing pedestrian traffic” – and how crooked judges are channeling youth into prison and stripping the elderly of their estates because they are paid “by the head” or are licensed to steal – all demand scorched earth remediation. Not only is the traditional justice system broken perhaps beyond repair, but there is no justice system that applies in cyberspace, where Amazon, Facebook, Google, MeetUp, Twitter, YouTube and others can censor with impunity, digitally assassinate not only conservatives but also progressives challenging the Deep State Fake News narrative (how they are handling the current crisis is instructive), and manipulating search results. It is documented that Google probably swung 3-6 million votes in 2016 and their target for 2020 is the swinging of 15 million votes against you.

I must make mention of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and its deeply embedded culture of criminality. As you probably know, J. Edgar Hoover was a pedophile, accepting small children as gifts from the mafia, and he also pioneered political blackmail. I have come to the conclusion that the FBI is worthless as a national counterintelligence agency, and compromised as a national law enforcement agency, because that is how Congress wants it. Until we clean up Congress, we cannot get the rest of the government to work as it should, Of, By, and For We the People.

Which brings me to the National Security Agency (NSA). Bill Binney and I communicated to Jefferson Sessions, then Attorney General, a memorandum on how to rapidly process 100% of the NSA database (rather than the 1% that is processed today), so as to map and then eliminate all traitors, all elite pedophiles, and all white and black collar criminals.

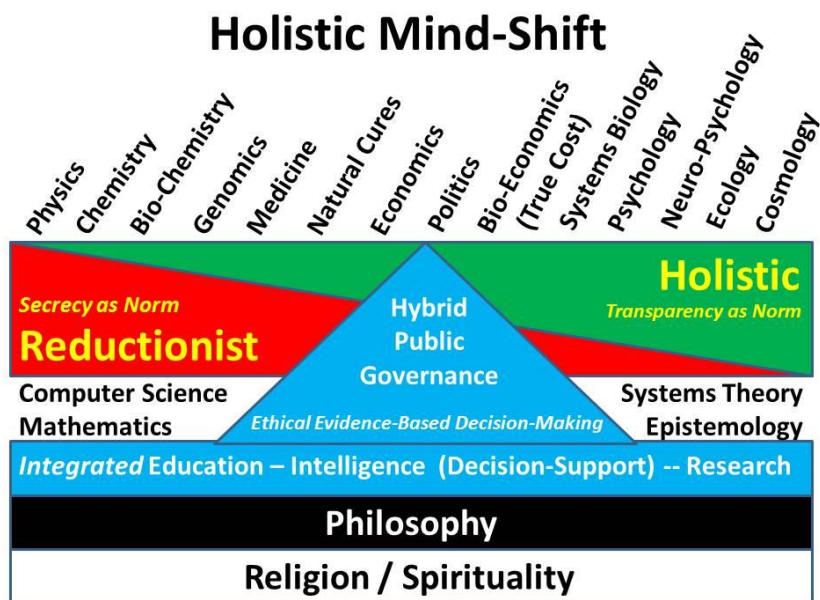
If you give Bill Binney a chance to leverage all existing NSA data, we can help you map and then eliminate all traitors, all elite pedophiles, and all organized white and black collar criminals.

Education. From a Presidential perspective, education of the public is the whole point of the job. Plato likened the education of the public to being the most important responsibility for any leader, because it is education – including ethical and physical and creative education – arts and music both of which advance one’s ability to do nuanced engineering and mathematic reflections – that determines the near and long term state of the nation – the strength and agility and triumph of the nation.

If the truth at any cost lowers all other costs, then a public able to discern the truth matters. If trust lowers the cost of doing business, then creating an ethical culture rather than a cheating culture matters.

We are now suffering from siloitis, and from not being held accountable for being wrong. We are awarding PhDs to people who know everything about a very small slice of nothing, at the same time that our young adults are emerging from college not knowing any more than a high school graduate in the 1950’s, and worse, so brain-washed with virtue signaling and political correctness and “safe space” moronics as to raise the real specter of the USA becoming a third world country.

We are on the left end of the below spectrum, and completely corrupt – we are both reductionist and stupid, both scattered and censored.



Robert David STEELE Vivas Building on Monica Anderson: Science Beyond Reductionism

The President must get a grip on education, intelligence, and research. Education should be free but advancement based on merit; intelligence must be comprehensive; and research must be beneficial to the public, not simply a means of experimenting with evil or funneling taxpayer funds to criminals.

01 Restore civics, physical training, art, & music. The schools have been gutted to create docile beasts of burden who spend eighteen years in soft prisons designed to make them raise their hands and never question authority. We are raising serfs and cubicle rats. Civics and civic engagement must become central to what it means to be an educated (and engaged) citizen.

02 Re-center education on learning to think and create. The schools – including colleges – have become truly disgusting enterprises – by design – that advance individuals based on rote memorization and conformity. They have become a vocational pipeline and are failing to teach the art of conversation, of engagement, of innovation, of commitment, of loyalty, or principled philosophy.

03 Purge the universities, fund the universities. We must purge the universities of all those who seek to censor and bias our children and our citizens, while also fully funding universities and freeing them from dependence on commercial funding or ideological mandates.

04 Create a Smart Nation by integrating education, intelligence, and research. I have entire books on this topic. The President's potential legacy could be contemplated in three parts: creating a Smart Nation; unrigging the system starting with Congress; and resurrecting the US economy in a new form that eliminates rote jobs associated with globalization and restores localized jobs with meaning.

Economics. The separation of politics and economics has led to the grotesque corruption of both. Politicians have no concept of business as you do – Jack Welch praised you to the skies for that – and economics has been allowed to become a financial Ponzi scheme. You know this. #UNRIG is intended to de-criminalize Congress as well state legislatures and county boards. Below are five specific “enablers” for unleashing the American entrepreneurial spirit after first eradicating the chains of slavery that the criminal banking system has imposed on all of us.

01 Reconnect ends, ways, and means. I believe you are already on your way toward getting a grip over the financial system but the public does not see that yet. OMB and GAO and GSA are all dysfunctional. They don't actually do real audits or return on investment analysis, or true cost economics, or even serious Inspector General examinations. Bob Gates said this once, one of the few things he ever said that I agree with: no one in the US Government is ever held accountable for failure – nor are programs ever challenged or terminated. Here are your ends, from the Constitution, and some ways and means.

Grand Strategy - Ends, Ways & Means

ENDS

- Form a more perfect union
- Establish justice
- Insure domestic tranquility
- Provide for the common defense
- Promote the general welfare
- Secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity

WAYS

- Cut federal government by one third before 2024, a second third by 2028
- Terminate entitlements less public health and social security
- Localize, autonomize, implement Open Source Everything Engineering (OSEE)
- Public education, hand-held True Cost application instead of micro-regulation
- With public education, put a stop to 5G, geoengineering, corporate toxins, etc.

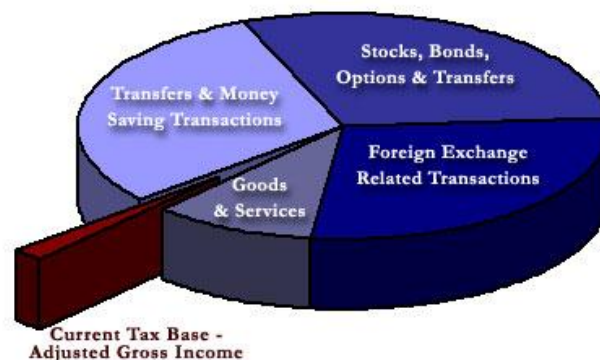
MEANS

- Terminate federal income tax & all other taxes except tariffs
- Implement Automated Payment Transaction (APT) tax
- Get Federal Government out of the weeds and back in the box!

02 End the income tax, implement bottom-up transaction tax. Professor Edgar Feige of Wisconsin is still alive. His transaction tax eliminates the burden on the wage-earners, distributes the burden in a tiny fractional way across all elements of society – and particularly inclusive of stock and currency transactions now blatantly exempt, as well as corporate supply chain transactions that are characterized by massive amounts of import and export tax fraud – and enables a bottom-up tax collection strategy, from point of sale, that empowers counties that provide funds upwards to states, and states that allocate funds to the federal government, which is supposed to be a service of common concern, not an imperial power.

Illustrated below, this transaction tax has the added advantage, if implemented in this way, of being set by the public, such that wars are unaffordable unless the public agrees that the wars are needed, on their merits.

THE SECRET: EXPANSION OF THE TAX BASE



03 Debt jubilee – students, elderly, small business. You are well on your way toward a debt jubilee but it would be helpful to formalize this as your intention. The debts of students for worthless degrees; the debts of the elderly for health costs that should never have been imposed on them; and the debts of small businesses struggling to survive in a rigged system, are all ripe for total forgiveness. All these debts could be moved to the books of the new Special Purpose Vehicles as was done with the toxic mortgage-backed securities of the banks after 2008.

04 Congress shall make no law – nor should the bureaucracy. Mr. President, your smashing of the bureaucracy and regulations and protocols etched in stone to the advantage of the Deep State, has been exemplary. Regulations have been used by the various complexes to rig the system – small butchers, small farmers, small manufacturers have all been burdened by regulations covering every aspect of what should be a free marketplace. You should end Executive law-making, the province of Congress. Some would urge you to cancel all Executive Orders but that may be a stretch. States and localities should have the option of rejecting all federal regulations when their products and processes are intended for local consumption and not being put into the inter-state commerce ecology. There should be no bar placed on any local entrepreneur who seeks to serve or sell to a local market.

05 Instead of regulation, education: true cost economics. Regulations are too easy to buy and corrupt, and regulators are too stupid and lazy to keep up with reality. Instead of regulation,

consider a national true cost economics database that enables a consumer at the point of sale to see the true cost of any products in terms of water, fuel, toxins, child labor, tax or regulatory avoidance, key manager indictments, and so on.

06 Universal Basic Income. I have mixed feelings about this, but the Lord's Prayer, "give us our daily bread," takes me over the top. We have an economy and a society that produces broken people who cannot earn an income – we are producing too many dysfunctional illiterates. Our country is as strong as its weakest link and we have too many weak links. I believe we can and should consider all possibilities as we put an end to a school system and an economic system that create human debris by design. For this reason and with a tip of the hat to Ellen Hodgson Brown, I recommend you consider this initiative as a transitional vehicle if not a permanent policy.

Ascension Christianity, an American Gospel: Christian Collectivism?

As I was wandering in the wilderness, a US patriot appeared who wishes to remain anonymous but can be known as Veðrfölnir. He gave me as a gift to share with others his original and well-documented work [Ascension Christianity](#), a work I did not fully grasp until after I read David Ray Griffin's [The Christian Gospel for Americans – A Systematic Theology](#), and also watched America the Beautiful melt down under a massive information war in which the Deep State has used every bit of government, media, academia, and non-government that it can control — that I was moved to finally recognize the missing piece in what I have called The [Second American Revolution](#).

You cannot buy your way out of a societal collapse. Time is the one strategic variable that cannot be bought nor replaced — every day that passes in quarantine is going to translate into a week or month — depending on the fragility of the links being broken — of recovery time.

Now is the time for the President to be a spiritual and "home town" leader, not just a "war commander" at the national level.

Now is the time to lay the foundation for a new American economy that is localized, self-sufficient in all respects, and deeply spiritual.

Christian collectivism as I and Veðrfölnir have discussed would be private, mutual, voluntary and based on Christian concepts of service to family and local communities (local). The organizational structures already exist: co-operatives, mutual insurance companies, credit unions, grange societies, and now, community supported agriculture, community gardens, crowd funding and local capital raising structures.

Localized Christian Collectivism is the perfect implementation architecture for using Open Source Everything Engineering (OSEE) to rebuild America the Beautiful at a fraction of the price of the failed Western model of predatory capitalism that is 50% waste and 90% profit for the banks.

Throw in unions and honest government making evidence-based decisions in the public interest, and we just might Make America Great Again – Keep America Great – at a bargain price!

God Bless America. And God Bless the President of the United States of America.

APPENDIX A: The Paradigms of Failure

Chapter in [*ELECTION 2008: Lipstick on the Pig*](#) (Earth Intelligence Network, 2008)

All of America's institutions have failed us, without exception. They have failed because they have been constructed and managed under paradigms of failure, paradigms that supported mind-sets oblivious to the "true cost" of our policies, our practices, and behavior at home and abroad, and our budget, a budget that is supposed to be of, by, and for We the People, but that has instead been hijacked by corrupt political parties, corrupt corporate chiefs, and corrupt dictators around the world, all but two "best pals" with the incumbent President and Vice President.

Failure of Government

Henry Kissinger, among many others, is on record as saying that our government has failed to adapt to the modern era. It has failed to be innovative. It has failed to apply the best available technologies. It has failed to attract and engage the best and the brightest. It has failed to come to grips with reality by ignoring 96% of the information that is freely available in 183 languages we do not speak. The federal government has become a monstrous irrational insolvent mess, and we will not get into the future with the old government paradigm that got us to this point. While it is a documented fact that Washington is operating on 2% of the relevant information necessary to establish sustainable peace and prosperity, we must destroy the old paradigm of elite misappropriation of the people's treasury before we can have a Smart Government.

Failure of the Military

The failure of our military-industrial complex is now well-understood, and the recent publication of a thoughtful essay on the failure of generalship marks the end of an era of military bureaucracy, dogma, parochial services, and a greedy sharing of the spoils among the services without regard to what is actually needed. Sam Nunn had it right: to establish the military budget, you must first understand the threat in all its forms, then devise a strategy to meet that threat, then define the capabilities, both hard and soft to address each threat in detail and then—only then—authorize, appropriate, and allocate the people's blood, spirit, and treasure. This applies to law enforcement as well. Many of us did this in the 1990's. Many of us understood the imminence of asymmetric warfare, the importance of belief systems, and the urgency of getting a grip on all information in all languages all the time. The generals and admirals and senior executive civilians did not want to hear it. Like Henry Kissinger, whom Daniel Ellsberg warned personally of the dangers of becoming "like a moron," listening only to internal secrets and disdaining to listen to external experts, they went deaf, dumb, and blind in practical terms.

Failure of Law Enforcement

Law enforcement has failed in multiple ways. Law enforcement cannot deal with anarchy, nor can it deal with organized crime when organized crime has financial incentives including tax avoidance that give it better equipment, better intelligence and counter-intelligence, better and more disposable armies of street people, and a legal environment that not only makes marijuana illegal, but that has created an entire prison-slavery complex that is an eternal shame to all who believe in the spirit of liberty. The Republic has become a cheating society, where cheating is the norm rather than the exception. This moral bankruptcy is not the fault of law enforcement, but rather of the policy-makers who chose to allow illegal immigration, to allow rote learning that is 50 years out of date, to allow corporate white collar crime to steal billions from the individual investors,

who allowed Congress to become a crony of the President rather than the separate branch responsible for the power of the purse on behalf of We the People.

Failure of Business

Lee Iacocca is but the latest voice to be heard on the corruption of our corporate CEOs. Despite the fact that 90% of all businesses are small businesses, managed by earnest and proud individuals with dignity, Wall Street and the top CEOs have not only failed to be intelligent and develop holistic 360 degree commercial intelligence, they have looted their companies with exorbitant and unwarranted compensation packages at the same time that they have pillaged the pension funds, stabbed the middle class in the back, enlarged the number of working poor and illegal workers, bribed foreign elites, and looted the natural resources of the Third World. Immoral Capitalism, Capitalism 2.0, replaced its predecessor, and substituted financial and legal shenanigans for real innovation. Everyone loses, including the looters, who will be held accountable in the future as their crimes become more apparent to the many whom they have impoverished. Financial managers have stolen one-fifth of the value from owners, and derivatives have created a global nightmare of fraud, waste, abuse, and loss.

Failure of Academia

Elementary education is a total failure in one third of the individual cases, those who drop out, and a substantive failure for another one third of the individual cases, those who are the best and the brightest but tune out of all the non-digital rote instruction. These “digital natives” recognize their teachers for the anachronisms they are, and reject, at a very important point in their lives, the opportunity to acquire a liberal education in the purest sense of the word. The middle third, the ones who abjectly accept the school prison and learn to excel, are in fact learning to be the drones that will manage all of the institutions in the Republic, lacking both the imagination of the Digital Natives, and the compassion needed to help the drop-outs reintegrate into a vibrant and constantly learning society. Academia has become, at all levels, a factory for sale to the highest bidder, and it has completely lost sight of its deep vital role as the foundation for informed engaged democracy and moral capitalism.

Failure of the Media

Many books document the failure of the media, which is dying and being reborn as we speak. The greatest and most recent failure of the mainstream media, both print and broadcast, was in relation to the unjust war on Iraq. The media, now five large conglomerates, refused to investigate the lies being told by Dick Cheney and others, and it refused to accept fully-funded \$100,000 full-page information advertisements outlining all the known reasons why invading Iraq was not only idiocy, but would bankrupt America financially, morally, and strategically. Digital media is making great strides, but as long as Amazon, Google, the Internet Archives, and Wikimedia refuse to work together for the good of all, we must await a new platform to harvest the global grid and create infinite wealth through social sharing of information and open space dialogs that can harness the Collective Intelligence of the people at every level of society.

Failure of Foundations

Foundations have failed to earn their tax-exempt status. Despite their compliance with a minimalist standard that they spend 5% or so of their endowments on public good, all too often they use this to fund programs that are nothing more than lip-service, and that are not validated

by any oversight authority, nor coherent in the larger scheme of things. A Global Range of Gifts Table, and a requirement that 50% of their spending be within that globally-validated needs statement, would be helpful. Think tanks are a separate sub-set of this group, and virtually all of them are fraudulent, substituting dogma and opinion for research and dialog.

Failure of Civil Societies

The failure of civil societies, consisting of political parties, citizen advocacy groups, labor unions, and community-oriented religions, is about to come to an end. The Democratic and Republican party machines and party Mafioso are “running on empty” and have bankrupted the Republic while also making us the most hated imperial power on the planet, guilty of virtual colonialism, unilateral militarism, and immoral capitalism aided by our government’s continued support for forty-four dictators. The two party machines are also guilty of destroying democracy by displacing the League of Women Voters and managing campaigns so as to exclude all other parties such as the Greens, Reforms, Libertarian, and Independents. Not only must this monopoly over the debates end and be placed online, but we must end the foolishness of electing one person who then picks his or her cronies. From today onwards, presidents must select and announce their Cabinets before-hand, and those individuals must be elected individually at the same time. We must also end the winner take all system, with an instant run-off to assure majority winners, and a transpartisan approach to governance in which leadership positions in Congress are allocated proportionally to parties represented, and the Cabinet is selected by the people on merit and without regard to what party anyone belongs to. Transpartisan governance will be a success. Citizen advocacy groups are not a failure, and are about to explode, with Reuniting America and WISER (World Index of Social and Environmental Responsibility) being the two most prominent examples of scalable success. Joining them soon will be the Transpartisan Policy Institute and the Earth Intelligence Network, which will also sponsor the EarthGame and EarthBudget (within the EarthGame). Corporations destroyed unions after corrupting the government and legalizing their crimes against the dignity and minimum wage needs of the people, at the same time that they deliberately and with malice aforethought provided every incentive for illegal immigrants to enter, stay, suck the life blood out of our local governments and societies, and eventually be paid to accept amnesty and then vote. Winston Churchill is weeping in his grave over the loss of our Christian English-speaking Nation. The states are fighting back, and we should take the 27 secessionist movements seriously. Finally, we have the religions. Between the Catholic Church preying on children and the Islamic imams in the US calling for the murder of Americans, and the extreme right-wing fundamentalist Christians all too eager to spark a war in the Middle East, whose reading starts with rote memorization of the Bible and ends with the fictional Left Behind series, we have forsaken God and the heaven on earth that respect for God can create on Earth in the form of communities that adopt the Golden Rule and make love rather than war their primordial principle.

Good News

There is good news. Senator John Kerry would have been a placebo President. George Bush in all his idiocy, and Dick Cheney with all his amorality and his high crimes and misdemeanors (all twenty-five of them itemized in my reviews [of One Percent Doctrine](#) and [VICE: Dick Cheney and the Hijacking of the American Presidency](#)), were in my view a necessary evil, an evil so blatant, so visible, so odorous, as to awaken the public. The public is now focused. As soon as the public is brought together by the transpartisan meme epitomized in Reuniting America, we will once again be America the Beautiful, America the Good, America the Inspiration. **St.**

APPENDIX B: Pre-Conditions of Revolution in the USA Today

	Political-Legal	Socio-Economic	Ideo-Cultural	Techno-Demographic	Natural-Geographic
Perception	Isolation of elites; inadequate intelligence	Concentration of wealth; lack of public disclosure	Conflicting myths; inadequate socialization	Acceptance of media distortions; inadequate education	Reliance on single sector or product; concentrated land holdings
Identity	Lack of elite consensus; failure to define priorities	Loss of economic initiative; failure to do balanced growth	Loss of authority; failure to provide and honor national myth system	Failure to accept and exploit new technologies and new groups	Failure to integrate outlying territories into national system
Competence	Weak or inefficient government; too much or too little bureaucracy	Breakdown of fiscal, monetary development, or welfare policies	Humiliation of leaders; loss of confidence by population	Failure to enforce priorities, with resulting loss of momentum	Failure to prepare or cope with major national disasters
Investment	Ego-centric or parochial government	Excessive or insufficient mobility; lack of public sector	Cynicism; opportunism; corruption	Failure to nurture entrepreneurship or franchise all groups	Failure to preserve or properly exploit natural resources
Risk	Elite intransigence; repression; failure to adapt	Failure to deal with crime, especially white collar crime	Failure to deal with prejudice; desertion of intellectuals	Failure to develop national research & development program	Failure to honor human rights; failure to protect animal species
Extroversion	Ineffective tension management; failure to examine false premises	Structural differentiation; lack of national transportation network	Elite absorption of foreign mores; failure to deal with alienation	Failure to develop communications infrastructure; shared images	Failure to explore advantages of regional integration
Transcendence	Foreign control of government; arbitrary or excessive government	Loss of key sectors to foreign providers; loss of quality control	Media censorship; suppression of intellectual discourse	Failure to control police, army, or terrorists; failure to employ alphas	Failure to respect natural constraints or support organic growth
Synergy	Failure to assimilate all individuals or respond to all groups	Status discrepancies; lack of economic motivators	Absence of sublimating myths; failure of religion	Failure to provide program and technology assessment	Failure to distribute benefits between urban and rural
Complexity	Garrison, industrial, or welfare states	Unstable growth; excessive defense spending	Cultural predisposition toward violence	Excessive urbanization, pollution, or development	Lack of land for expansion; inefficient use of land

APPENDIX C: Legitimate Grievances Domestic & Foreign

The primary purpose of including this 2008 material from my earlier book is to emphasize how fragile our Republic is under its present illicit construct, and how vital President Trump's endeavor to restore the Constitutional Republic is to our future.

[Election 2008 Chapter: Legitimate Grievances](#)

Introduction

Secession, in the context of this book, is presented for deep reflection because when any political community is moved to organize itself toward the goal of secession from the larger political entity of which it is yet a part, any reasonable person must regard the undertaking as being representative of deep legitimate grievances, with secession being a "last resort."

Following this first part on US-based secessionists, I summarize Anti-Americanism around the world, relying on non-fiction books and providing a description of grievances without specifics.

American exceptionalism in my view, is totally justified and laudatory only—ONLY—when America lives up to the ideals of its Founding Fathers and eschews intimate relations with dictators, predatory immoral capitalism, and unconstitutional spending and aggression.

I am indebted to Kirkpatrick Sale, author of [Human Scale](#) and founder of the [Middlebury Institute](#), for teaching me about the urgency and relevance of the secessionist movements.

The Chattanooga Declaration of 2007

The Chattanooga Declaration was drafted and approved by delegates to the Second North American Secessionist Convention on 4 October 2007.

We, the delegates of the Secession movements represented at the Second North American Secessionist Convention, acknowledging our differences, yet agree on the following truths:

1. The deepest questions of human liberty and government facing our time go beyond right and left, and in fact have made the old right-left split meaningless and dead.
2. The privileges, monopolies, and powers that private corporations have won from government threaten everyone's health, prosperity, and liberty, and have already killed American self-government by the people.
3. The power of corporations endangers liberty as much as government power, especially when they are combined as in the American Empire.
4. Liberty can only survive if political power is returned from faraway and self-interested centers to local communities and States.
5. The American Empire is no longer a nation or a republic, but has become a tyrant aggressive abroad and despotic at home.
6. The States of the American union are and of right ought to be, free and self-governing.
7. Without secession, liberty and self-government can never be sustained, and diversity among human societies can never survive.

The Burlington Declaration of 2006

We, the participants in the First North American Secessionist Convention, though representing many different and diverse groups and constituencies, agree on the following principles as representing the truths of natural law and historical experience:

1. Any political entity has the right to separate itself from a larger body of which it is a part and peaceably to establish its independence as a free and legitimate state in the eyes of the world.
2. Governments are instituted among peoples, deriving their just powers from the consent of their citizens, and whenever any form of government becomes destructive of the legitimate goals of life, liberty, prosperity, and self-determination, it is the right of the people in democratic fashion to alter or abolish it, and to institute new government in such form as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness.
3. Any government formed by and dependent upon a constitution to regulate its actions and affairs has certain legitimate powers delegated to it, but any powers not so delegated are reserved to the people of that state and their democratically chosen political bodies.
4. Nations once independent should engage in peace, commerce, good will, and honest friendship with all nations, and observe good faith, justice, and harmony toward all, but establish entangling relationships with none, nor engage in colonial dominance, political or economic, over any.
5. Direct democracy, with one vote for each and every citizen (as the polity shall designate citizenship), has proven to be a desirable form of governance among people, but it can operate with justice and equality only when at a small enough scale that each person may be known to every other person; when representative forms of government are undertaken, they should likewise best be established at a scale small enough so that each representative can be informed of the opinions and beliefs of the general run of the people in the constituency or community which that person is chosen to represent.

It is within this body of principles that we ask all governments to operate and it is by them that we ourselves, individually and the organizations we represent, intend to be guided.

The Logic of Secession: Three Tines to a Trident By Kirkpatrick Sale

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead, who died on this day in 1978, coining the secessionists’ creed.

Because, let’s face it, many people initially regard secession as quite an outlandish idea—they tried it once before and it didn’t work, goes the refrain—and it’s not always easy to convince people of its validity as a political strategy, I want to lay out the powerful three-pronged logic of secession that can be used to dispel those doubts and dismissals.

The first tine of the logic of secession emerged for me from a conference that I put on with Thomas Naylor in Middlebury, Vermont, in the fall of 2004, just after the presidential election, designed to figure out what kind of action could a person take who was seriously interested in

working for a fundamental alteration of the national government we suffer under. Let me tell you how it went.

We began the discussion with the time-old idea of electoral politics, the traditional panacea of voting for a better Democrat or Republican, in Congress, in the Presidency, wherever, but it took no time for us to reject that as futile: the two main parties, after all, had proved time and again how beholden they were to the corporate masters who pay for their campaigns, and vote. (And they just had just held an election between a goof and a conman that showed how ineptly that system works.) And we also took little time in rejecting the reformist lobby-Congress trap that so many environmental and liberal-cause groups spend so much money and effort on, since that was, just trying to influence those same bought elected officials.

Next we considered the third-party alternative, thinking of Perot's and Nader's influence on national politics, and concluded that they did so poorly, despite considerable money and media attention, because the two major parties had essentially rigged the system so that outsiders couldn't win. Besides, launching a party and fighting an election on a national scale if it stands any chance at all involves getting money and support from the same kinds of people and organizations that contribute to the other parties, and in the process becoming beholden to them.

So if reformism in all its guises is rejected, what other means of action for serious change? There's always revolt and revolution, of course, but it didn't take much deliberation to decide that there was no way, even if there were trained militia bands and some weaponry smuggled in by separatist sympathizers in Canada, that a serious revolution could be mounted in this country today. And no reason to doubt that Washington would use its most potent weaponry to crush it if it arose.

And so that leaves secession—instead of reforming or attacking the corrupt and corporatist system, leave it. At first glance, it seemed like a crazy idea to many, and maybe as dangerous as a revolution—after all, the last time anybody in this country seceded, they were ruthlessly attacked and their society eventually destroyed. But the more we considered it the more it seemed like a reasonable option, particularly if it was done peaceably and openly, with full democratic support of the people.

It is, to begin with, in the grand American tradition—the war of the colonies against the British empire was not a war of revolution, for no one wanted to take over London, but of secession, for leaving the empire; and there was even a peaceable tradition of it afterward, for Maine seceded from Massachusetts peaceably, Tennessee from North Carolina, and Kentucky and West Virginia from Virginia.

It also could justifiably be seen as legal and constitutional, since three of the colonies wrote provisions allowing them to secede before joining the Union, there is nothing in the Constitution forbidding it, and the fact that Congress considered passing a law against it in 1861 but failed to do so indicates it was not then considered unlawful. (There is the uncomfortable fact that, in *Texas v. White*, in 1869, the Supreme Court did declare that the union was indivisible—but that was a decision, rendered in the heat of the time just after the war, that totally ignored history and precedent, and could be overturned by any halfway skillful argument, if the justices were allowed to vote honestly.)

It could be done practically and democratically, either by a vote among all citizens of voting age with, say, a two-thirds majority, or by a two-thirds (or other large) vote of the legislature of a state. Upon such a vote and a declaration of independence delivered to Washington, a seceding state could immediately appeal to the world, apply to the United Nations, and seek diplomatic support particularly from the fifteen republics that seceded from the Soviet Union and the seven nations that seceded from Yugoslavia, plus Norway (which seceded from Sweden), Belgium (from the Netherlands), Singapore (from Malaysia), Slovenia and the Czech Republic, plus all the colonies that declared independence from European empires.

And its especial attraction would be that not only does it allow a state (or region) to remove itself from the taxes, regulations, entangling alliances, bloated bureaucracy, militarized culture, and corrupting forms of governance of the national government, it allows a state to regain some measure of democracy, some hands-on control over the decisions that affect its life.

We ended our conference with a strong feeling that secession was a very powerful tool for promoting self-determination, democracy, and independence, but also a powerful idea that could spread widely throughout this continent, as it has spread widely throughout the world since 1945.

And that is the second prong to the logic of secession: the separatist/secessionist movement is the most important and widespread political force in the world today and has been for the last half-century, during which time the United Nations, to take one measure, has grown from 51 nations in 1945 to 193 nations in 2007. The break-up of the Soviet Union and the former Yugoslavia are recent manifestations of this fundamental trend, and there are separatist movements in more than two dozen countries at this time, including such well-known ones as the Basque country, Catalonia, Scotland, Lapland, Belgium, Sardinia, Sicily, Sudan, Eritrea, Congo, Kashmir, Sri Lanka, Chechnya, Kurdistan, Quebec, British Columbia, and among several of the Indian nations of North America. (Indeed, economist Milica Bookman wrote a decade ago that no more than 25 nations were free of secessionist or territorial disputes!)

It is also growing in the United States. The Middlebury Institute was created in the wake of the 2004 conference—the first think tank in North America devoted to the study of separatism, secession, and self-determination—and according to its survey there are already at least 31 separatist organizations in this country. The most active seem to be in Alaska, Cascadia, California, Texas, Hawai'i, Vermont, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, and the South as a whole, but there are nascent nuclei of organizations in Kentucky, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania, and probably others that we don't yet know about. We have just completed—the thought of such an event would have been extraordinary only a decade ago—the Second Secessionist Convention—a convention, not a conference because it was attended by about 20 delegates from 15 ongoing secessionist groups in 25 states, as well as attracting something like 40 observers, something on the order of a dozen members of the press, and generating more than 50 TV and radio interviews.

Some other measures of this growing movement:

1. A poll taken by the University of Vermont in February of this year found that 13 per cent of the state's residents came right out and said "it would be a good idea for Vermont to secede from the United States and become once again an independent republic as it was from 1777 to 1791."

Thirteen per cent—that may not seem a lot at first, but it translates to 64,400 people of voting age in the population at large—and it is up from 8 per cent in the previous year.

And another question from the UVM poll indicates that there is more fertile ground for it. When asked, “Has the United States government lost its moral authority?” a surprising 74.3 per cent said yes, an indication that attachment to the government is clearly eroding. It was the loss of moral authority that played a large part in the downfall of the apartheid government in South Africa, the communist regimes in Eastern Europe, and the Soviet Union itself. When the center cannot hold—allegiance, loyalty, moral authority—things fall apart.

2. The *Washington Post* in early April carried an op-ed article by two distinguished Vermonters, entitled “The Once and Future Republic of Vermont,” arguing that Vermont should again be an independent republic as it was in the 18th century before joining the union. According to an editor there, it was the second-most read piece in the entire Sunday paper (12,000 hits on-line) and garnered more than 200 emails, considered a high rate of response. It was syndicated cross-country and exploded with 21,000 entries on the internet.

3. A *Daily Kos* poll on April 2 asked, “Should states be allowed to secede from the union peaceably?” and 65 per cent answered affirmatively—which is interesting especially because it is conventional liberals, of the kind that this blog mostly attracts, who usually believe in working within the system—they like government, and want to control it—and are not often fans of secession. A previous poll in 2005 showed only 53 per cent in favor of secession.

4. A poll of Americans by the Opinion Research Corporation and broadcast by CNN in October 2006 found that an amazing 71 per cent of Americans said that “the system of government is broke and can’t be fixed.” No reformists there: can’t be fixed. And an additional 11 per cent agreed it is broke but thought it might be fixed. That’s almost three-fourths of the American public that does not believe this country is working and cannot get working by any means available. What is that but a latent horde of secessionists?

So there is a movement, and it is growing, but I would not argue that it will be easy to win our fellow citizens to secession despite the overwhelming logic in its favor. It will be a difficult transition for many, it will take a period of scholarship and investigation, a period of laying out our dreams in concrete form, a period of testing popular waters, a period of simply selling the soundness of the goal and the sense of its achievement.

But it well may be—I am convinced it will be—that the three impending disasters of peak oil, climate change, and a collapsing dollar will work in our favor and provide the third tine of the logic of secession. Peak oil and \$10-15-a-gallon gasoline prices will bring to an end the era when goods from overseas or even from distant parts of the country can be shipped economically. It will mean that the national economy will be essentially irrelevant, and people will have to live within a smaller compass, share with neighbors, and create economies that are heavily dependent on state or possibly regional self-sufficiency—just the conditions which favor independent states.

Add to that the effects of climate change, and the whole fossil-fuel binge will have to come to a halt, coastlines will become flooded and the national government will be helpless to do anything about it, agriculture will have to adjust to very different local temperatures and conditions, and

severe weather will create crises that (as Katrina made clear once again) can be attended to only at a local and state level—again, just the conditions which favor independent states.

The third predictable crisis is the collapse of the American dollar, squeezed by a national debt of almost \$9 trillion that shows no sign of declining—in fact rising enormously since 1995 and precipitously since 2002—and by a trade deficit of \$545 billion that a weaker dollar is not going to do much to change. Whether the trigger will be China's switch to euro investments, or Iran and Saudi Arabia's opting for a petro-euro instead of a petro-dollar, or a general worldwide distrust of the American cockeyed economy, is hard to say—but it could be one or all, and our economic bubble will collapse in a heap. And then the only useful currencies will be those based on real worth, calculated at a basically local level, and precious metals, which are primarily useful at local levels as well.

So there it is—and I am not the only one thinking this way, I hasten to say (just Google peak oil, for example)—a fairly wide circle of analysts who are predicting that, one way or another, and in the near future of say 15, 20 years, some kind of serious social collapse is likely and a weakened national government will in many respects become basically irrelevant. Given that, doesn't it make sense to be prepared for it by working now for secession and planning viable states that can stand on their own—proudly, safely, and securely on their own? That is, again, the overriding logic of secession.

And lastly, let me repeat a thought that always works for me in convincing others of the logic of secession: the only way to leave this country, this increasingly odious, inept, militarized, and repressive country, and still to live in the home and community you love... is secession.

In Defense of Vermont's Secession from the Union by Keith Brunner

"...Whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of [Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness], it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness."

Declaration of Independence, 1776

Living in Burlington, the largest city in Vermont with a population of 40,000, it is easy to forget that I am part of the richest, most powerful nation in the history of the planet. Summer is almost here—sailboats are once again catching the breeze, musicians are performing on Church Street, the Intervale is attracting both new and experienced farmers eager to grow their own food, and hikers are exploring the nearby Green Mountains after a long winter. It's an idyllic scene, until the silence is shattered by four F-16 fighter jets screaming over the landscape, very quickly on their way to a training sortie where they will be training to fight...Canada? Plattsburgh? Who is going to attack tiny, peaceful Vermont?

Snap back to reality—when I pay my taxes, I am funding a United States government that has proclaimed global military hegemony, a government that doesn't even try to conceal its devotion to private-sector interests, a government that has ignored any attempt at curbing major climate change, and a government that is running itself into the ground--and taking the rest of the world

with it. I'm tired of it, and so are many of my fellow Vermonters. Given that the government of the U.S. has lost its moral authority, given that the nature of the capitalist system on which it relies is inherently unsustainable, and given that attempting to take state power at this time is implausible, I will argue for Vermont's secession from the union as the most reasonable attempt at dissolving the empire and providing the citizens of Vermont with a better opportunity for a life of liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The American Empire—Military Power

The United States of America is undoubtedly an empire, and furthermore it is the largest empire that has existed in the history of humankind. Its military budget exceeds the total military budget of the next 25 nations (Naylor 2003)—as Chalmers Johnson has recently pointed out, “defense-related spending for fiscal 2008 will exceed \$1 trillion for the first time in history” (Johnson 2008). As of 2005, it officially had 737 military bases located on foreign soil, and 2.5 million U.S. military personnel spread across the planet (Johnson 2006). As Johnson interestingly points out,

“The thirty-eight large and medium-sized American facilities spread around the globe in 2005—mostly air and naval bases for our bombers and fleets--almost exactly equals Britain's thirty-six naval bases and army garrisons at its imperial zenith in 1898. The Roman Empire at its height in 117 AD required thirty-seven major bases to police its realm from Britannia to Egypt, from Hispania to Armenia (2007).”

Notice that Johnson described American facilities around the globe. This is the first time that an empire has truly held global power. Something else that sets the U.S. apart from past empires is the fact that we are open about our imperial ambitions. In 2002, the Bush Administration “announced its National Security Strategy, which declared the right to resort to force to eliminate any perceived challenge to US global hegemony, which is to be permanent (Chomsky 2003).” The key word here is “perceived”—if the Bush Administration “perceives” that a country is challenging U.S. hegemony, it will eliminate that challenge, or that government, or perhaps just drop one of our 3,696 operationally deployed strategic nuclear warheads on their capital city (2007 Annual Report on Implementation of the Moscow Treaty). The US government “perceived” that Saddam Hussein was a threat to our power, and responded by invading Iraq, dismantling his government, and imprisoning him. In hindsight, it has become clear that Hussein was not harboring or even building weapons of mass destruction, nor was he connected in any way with al-Qaeda, as U.S. government propaganda led its citizens to believe. What has also become clear is the enormous amount of profit being made by oil companies and defense contractors (many of whom have direct connections with the Bush Administration), and the tremendous debt that this war has cast upon the country. Nobel Prize winning economist Joseph Stiglitz believes that ultimately, this war will cost the United States over \$3 trillion (Stiglitz 2008).

The American Empire and the Planet

It seems that those in charge of our country have forgotten the basic fact that any economic system that does not benefit the natural community on which it is based is inherently unsustainable (Jensen 2007). Let us take a look at the economy's effects on our natural world. I believe that Kirkpatrick Sale (2008) sums up the situation quite well:

Science is in agreement that all the important systems upon which human life depends are in decline and have been for decades: the erosion of topsoils and beaches, overfishing of every ocean fishery, deforestation, freshwater and aquifer depletion, pollution of water, soil, air, and food, overpopulation, overconsumption, depletion of oil and minerals, introduction of new diseases and invigoration of old ones, extreme weather, global warming, rising sea levels, species extinctions [on a scale not seen for millions of years], and human overuse of the earth's photosynthetic capacity (Sale, 2008).

I don't need to go any further. As long as people have the view that nature is there as a commodity and not a community, this trend towards a barren earth will continue. A species of plant or animal goes extinct every 20 minutes. As the global empire and the culture with the highest level of consumption, America is responsible for vacuuming the oceans of life. We are responsible for the chaos that climate change is already beginning to bring us—droughts, food shortages, environmental refugees, etc. We are responsible for the sixth great mass extinction in the history of life on our planet. There are close to seven billion people on this earth, and everyone wants the right to consume like the Americans do. As Barry Commoner points out, we view nature as the tap and the sink—we harvest the natural world, convert it into something that is unnatural, and dump our useless waste back into the ecosystem (Commoner 1971).

The American Empire and Capitalism

When viewing civilization from a modern perspective, one can see the ebbs and flows of empires, for example the militarism and slavery of the Roman Empire, then the mercantilism and colonialism of the British Empire, and now the global capitalism of the American Empire. Empires have always been about a certain amount of people gaining wealth and power at the expense of other people and the natural world, and the American Empire is surely no different.

Since the 1980's, U.S. internal and foreign policy has mostly been dominated by the Washington Consensus, which calls for the repeal of governmental regulations, in favor of a hands-off, laissez-faire approach to economic decisions. These regulations that are being axed were put in place after the stock market crash and resulting Great Depression in the 1930's to provide a social net for workers and to prevent another devastating crash. They were an attempt to solve what has become known as the Polanyi Problem, which is the fact that unregulated capitalism makes for intolerable social conditions and is therefore unsustainable. Now that this social net is being removed, the United States is seeing the highest levels of income inequality since the 1920's--right before the crash. Through agreements such as the North American Free Trade Agreement, the U.S. government has pushed other governments to eliminate trade barriers and regulations in order to promote the uninhibited flow of goods and services.

This trade is free only for those who have the power, however. Regulations were there for a reason, and their removal has pushed many people in the US and abroad into poverty, as heavily-subsidized U.S. crops flood foreign markets, and American jobs are sent overseas. John Maynard Keynes pointed out that unregulated capitalism tends toward wild financial speculation, creating a setting in which financial bubbles grow and burst. The removal of regulations on financial markets has allowed for financial speculators to gain an unprecedented hold on the domestic and global economy, allowing them to have an influence in such diverse fields as the housing market,

food prices, and even currencies markets—and this financialization creates a wildly unstable market. This unprecedented push towards a socially intolerable and financially unstable consolidation of power has been aided and defended by the U.S. government, at the expense of its own citizens as well as the rest of the world.

Renowned M.I.T. professor Noam Chomsky decided to name his 2003 bestseller on American foreign policy *Hegemony or Survival*. He fears that the current empire threatens the whole of humanity on our planet (and, I would add, most of the non-humans as well). We have a choice: either we end, dissolve, destroy (insert your own verb here) the American Empire, or we watch as humanity, as well as the natural world, falls into chaos.

With or without active participation in its demise, the American Empire is on its way out. Every single empire that has ever existed has eventually collapsed or deflated, and ours will prove to be no different. Given the destructive nature of this empire, and the fact that every day that it continues to exist it pushes more and more species to extinction and puts more and more people below the poverty level with the intent of increasing the wealth and power of a small few, we cannot sit around and wait for it to collapse on its own. We must take it down. We have not inherited the land from our ancestors; rather, we are borrowing it from our grandchildren. The longer we wait to take down this destructive system, the worse off those grandchildren will be.

As one of fifty states in the union, Vermont holds tremendous power in and over the United States. What would happen if our entire state decided that it has had enough, and left the empire to form its own nation? We have governed ourselves before—I believe it's high time we start thinking about it again.

Secession as a Direct Action

Direct action is a form of political activism which seeks immediate remedy for perceived ills, as opposed to indirect actions such as electing representatives who promise to provide remedy at some later date (Wikipedia).

The citizens of Vermont have elected representatives who consistently speak out against the Iraq war, yet the occupation continues. One of Vermont's Senators has introduced the most progressive climate-change bill in the Senate, yet it is not taken seriously. Vermont has joined with California in supporting states' rights to make their own greenhouse-gas- emissions laws for automobiles, but legal roadblocks continually pop up to stall the effort. I am not alone in my belief that it's time that Vermont informs Washington that we've had enough, and we are leaving to form our own country. In the words of University of Vermont professor Frank Bryan, "Vermont didn't join the Union to become part of an Empire" (Bryan 2007)"

This idea of secession is not as outlandish as it may seem at first glance. For one, Vermont was its own country from 1777 to 1791, when it agreed to become the 14th state in the union. For those 14 years of political independence, Vermont "issued its own currency, ran its own postal service, developed its own foreign relations, grew its own food, made its own roads and paid for its own militia" (Bryan 2007). We've done it before, and we can do it again.

Professor Bryan and I are not alone. Two months ago, the 2008 Vermonter Poll done by the U.V.M. Center for Rural Studies found that 11.5% of Vermonters favored secession

(vermontrepublic.org 2008), and the year before it was 13 per cent. As the empire of which it is a part of continues to fall apart, those numbers will surely grow.

Vermont's secession from the United States of America would serve a dual purpose. First, it would be a direct action against the American Empire. The act of Vermont's citizens collectively standing up and saying "We've had enough" would make many U.S. citizens in other states think long and hard about Washington's legitimacy, and it is my belief that this would inspire movements for major change across the country. When a state has decided that things are so bad that it wants out, you can be sure it will be recognized by the other 49 states. Secession would also show the rest of the world that there are major chinks in America's armor. Given America's enormous military, breaking down the empire from within may be the only feasible option at this time.

Secondly, and just as important, Vermont's secession would provide a better life for Vermonters than is currently possible under U.S. domination. Right now there are people working to push three bills into law in the Vermont Statehouse: one legalizing industrial hemp, one allowing the sale of farm-fresh meat, and one allowing the sale of farm-fresh milk. The bills are necessary because these three things are either prohibited or heavily restricted under U.S. law. I would like to know: who is Washington to tell me where I can and cannot slaughter my family cow? These restrictions were created by big agribusiness to keep citizens from growing their own food so they stay dependent upon the present economic system and fuel corporate profits.

Vermonters should be free to implement whatever kind of health care they desire, without having to answer to Washington. The same can be said about education, about drug laws, about same-sex marriage, about the death penalty, about abortion rights, and especially about sending their sons and daughters off to fight in an unjust war. In the U.V.M. 2008 poll, 77% of Vermonters agreed that the United States has lost its moral authority—and I, for one, do not want to be governed by a body without morals.

When I bring up the idea of secession in conversations, people often point to the Civil War. "It's illegal" they say, "look at what happened when the South left the Union." I will take the opportunity right now to say that these people are ignorant. First and foremost, the U.S. constitution does not forbid withdrawal from the Union. According to the Tenth Amendment, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." As Thomas Naylor of the Second Vermont Republic think tank points out, nowhere in the Constitution or in the state ratification documents is there any renunciation of sovereignty to the national government—which means that states can leave any time they please (Naylor, 2005). Second, when the Confederate states were in the process of leaving the Union, there were three proposed amendments to the constitution that would forbid secession. These did not pass, but that makes it clear that it is fully constitutional to secede. And lastly, when the Union army withdrew from the South, it forced the Confederate states to sign a clause forgoing the right of sovereignty. This clearly implies that states which have not signed this clause--Vermont being one of them—have the full right to secede from the Union.

The idea of secession is not new, and it is not limited to Vermont. As I write this, sixty native Hawaiians have occupied the Iolani Palace in downtown Honolulu, stating that they are the true

government of the Kingdom of Hawaii, and will begin governing immediately (Associated Press, 2008). What makes Vermont's secession movement stand out, however, is the very real possibility that, if necessary, the state could govern and feed itself. Arguably, the transition to self-governance would be easiest in Vermont, where almost all of the state's 237 towns convene once a year in a town meeting to vote upon issues of importance within the town. This is direct democracy in action, normal citizens getting together to make decisions for themselves, with no room for lobbyists and special interests to get in the way. Switzerland, with its 26 cantons, or small states, each with a good deal of autonomy, provides a working example of what Vermont could look like in the not-so-distant future. The cantons are small enough for the citizens' voices to be heard, and most of the country holds to traditional agrarian values, which are encouraged by the government. With prosperous Switzerland as an example and a rich history of direct democracy under its belt, Vermont could surely govern itself.

The question of providing enough food to sustain the population is a bit more complex. Before addressing this, I would like to point out that food self-sustainability would be necessary only in the event of total economic sanctions placed upon Vermont, or the event that the global or continental food system totally collapses. Noted author Bill McKibben addressed this issue in September 2007, and while he did not specifically give a "yes" or "no" answer, he makes it clear that in his opinion Vermont could make the transition to feed itself if it became necessary (McKibben 2007). I personally live in a cooperative, where I pay around \$120 a month for food that has been grown and produced as close as possible to Burlington. This summer, I will be attempting to grow all of my own food, and sustain myself as much as possible by my own efforts. I know this opportunity does not currently exist for all Vermonters, but if it came down to it, anyone can tend a garden. Our state is currently "at the center of a renaissance of farmers' markets, farm stands, and other forms of direct sales from farmers to consumers" (Timmons 2006). Local food has become part of the culture, as Vermont has the highest per-capita direct sales in the country. As oil prices skyrocket, prices of local organic foods will become more and more competitive with heavily subsidized yet oil-dependent industrial agriculture, and the greater demand for local food will bring down the price even further.

U.S. Reaction

Should Vermont secede, the United States would be faced with a number of options, ranging from diplomatic to quite violent action. Given that our government, through its own National Security Strategy, is willing to eliminate even "perceived" threats to its power, its reaction must be carefully thought out and planned for.

The first question that comes to mind is that of invasion or attack. If the 625,000 people of Vermont get together and decide to leave the Union, will Washington respond with violence? It could. Even though from an economic viewpoint Vermont exists solely for dairy, tourism, and maple syrup, the audacity of its people for even considering secession might push the U.S. government to respond militarily. Of course, Vermont would have no chance fighting back against the U.S. military (and probably wouldn't even try), but even with that certain defeat the state has still accomplished one of the two goals it set out to accomplish. It would be noticed, both domestically and internationally, and it would probably find a surprising level of support. After all, it has been the norm for only half of the United States population to vote these

days—I have an inkling that many of those who don't vote do it for a reason, and the news that one of the states tried to secede may galvanize them into action.

Another scenario is the U.S. allowing for secession, thanking the Vermont Republic for its time with the Union, and both entities go on their way. I have some doubts that this would occur. I think that the most realistic scenario would be a combination of both the violent and the nonviolent—the U.S. would develop a package of economic sanctions and place an embargo on Vermont, then lean on other countries like Canada to also adopt the embargo. Given that we share a border with Canada, the question of whether they would bend to U.S. pressure or continue to trade with Vermont is quite important.

As I have said before, I am not alone in calling for secession. The Second Vermont Republic is a secessionist citizen's network that has been around for five years, publishing editorials and appearing on prime time news networks. The Middlebury Institute for the study of separatism, secession, and self-determination has been convening conferences with separatist groups from all over the country since 2004, and is dedicated to looking at the policy implications of secession. And the Vermont Commons, a self-described online and print forum calling for independence, has been gaining steam since its introduction in 2005, with 13,000 copies of the last issue circulating all over the state. This is a movement that will continue to grow in the coming years, and it's my belief that it can't grow fast enough.

Conclusion

We are on a sinking ship. The American Empire is economically, politically, culturally, and especially environmentally unsustainable, and far from fixing itself, it is just getting worse. When a government of people who have no moral authority are in the possession of enough nuclear weapons to destroy the world many times over, in the position to dominate the global economy for their own interests, and continually and foolishly place the needs of the "economic system" above the needs of the natural world, the time for action cannot be put off any longer. Someone, or something needs to stand in front of U.S. progress with an enormous red STOP sign. Vermont's exodus will prove to be just that.

We are an anomaly among the fifty states of the Union. We are a peaceful, ecologically responsible, and mostly agrarian state in a country dominated by big business, industrial agriculture, and big impersonal governance. It is time that we once again step up to the world stage and return once again to be a self-governing republic. On behalf of the citizens of Republic of Vermont, I would like to say *"Thanks for the hospitality, Uncle Sam. The past 217 years have had their ups and downs, and after a long time together, we will now be on our way. We bid you adieu."*

General History of Secessionist Movements in the USA¹

Attempts or aspirations of [secession](#) have been a feature of the politics of the United States since the country's birth. The line between actions based on a constitutional right of secession as

¹ This entire section is lifted from Wikipedia, which varies in quality from the superb to the mediocre to the maliciously idiotic. This section [online](#), which is quite helpful, is followed by a roster of existing active secessionist movements, most with short descriptions of their cause, in their own words. Online notes have been retained in this text and are active in the online version of this book at www.oss.net/PIG [broken link].

opposed to actions justified by the extraconstitutional natural right of revolution has shaped the political debate.^[1]

Except for the American Revolution which created the United States, no such movement, revolution or secession, has succeeded. In 1861 the [Confederate States of America](#) attempted, and failed, to achieve secession by [force of arms](#) in the [American Civil War](#).

A 2008 [Zogby International](#) poll revealed that 22% of Americans agree while 73% disagree that "any state or region has the right to peaceably secede and become an independent republic."^{[2][3]}

American Revolution

The second paragraph of the [Declaration of Independence](#) opens with one long sentence:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to affect their Safety and Happiness^[4]

Historian Pauline Maier writes that this sentence “asserted one right, the right of revolution, which was, after all, the right Americans were exercising in 1776.” The chosen language was [Thomas Jefferson](#)’s way of incorporating ideas “explained at greater length by a long list of seventeenth-century writers that included such prominent figures as John Milton, Algernon Sidney, and John Locke, as well as a host of others, English and Scottish, familiar and obscure, who continued and, in some measure, developed that ‘Whig’ tradition in the eighteenth century.”^[5]

By some theories the [American Revolution](#), in which [thirteen British colonies](#) successfully fought for independence from the British Crown, was a secession, as opposed to a [revolution](#).^{[6][7]}

History of secession in relations to the United States

Wikipedia provides a distilled history of secession in relation to the United States, with links.

Recent efforts in the United States

Examples of both local and state secession movements can be cited over the last 25 years. Some secessionist movements to create new states have failed, others are ongoing. Visit Wikipedia to reflect on the thousands of secessionist movements world-wide, as assemblages of individuals realize that the Treaty of Westphalia was a mistake and its artificial boundaries illegitimate.

City secession

There was an attempt by [Staten Island](#) to break away from [New York City](#) in the late 1980s and early 1990s (See: [City of Greater New York](#)). Around the same time, there was a similar movement to separate [Northeast Philadelphia](#) from the rest of the city of [Philadelphia](#). [San Fernando Valley](#) lost a vote to separate from Los Angeles in 2002 but has seen increased attention to its infrastructure needs (See: [San Fernando Valley secession movement](#)).

County secession

In US history many counties have been divided, often for routine administrative convenience, although sometimes at the request of a majority of the residents. During the 20th Century over 1,000 county secession movements existed but since the 1950s only three have succeeded: [La Paz County, Arizona](#) broke off from [Yuma County](#) and the [Cibola County, New Mexico](#) effort both occurred in the early 1980s, while during 1998-2001 there was a transition by [Broomfield, Colorado](#) to become a separate jurisdiction from [Boulder County](#). Prior to these, the last county created in the U.S. was [Menominee County, Wisconsin](#), in [1959](#).

The [High Desert County, California](#) plan to split the northern half of [Los Angeles](#) and the eastern half of [Kern](#) counties, was approved by the California state government in 2006, but has never been officially declared in force.

State Secession (Secession within a State)

Several towns in [Vermont](#) including [Killington](#) recently explored a secession request to allow them to join [New Hampshire](#) over claims that they are not getting adequate return of state resources from their state tax contributions.

Advocates in the [Upper Peninsula of Michigan](#), with off and on intensity, have called for it to become a separate 51st state (sometimes with northern Wisconsin and Northeast Minnesota) called "Superior". Similarly some in the [Little Egypt](#) region of Illinois want to separate due to what they consider Chicagoan control over the legislature and economy.

In November 2006, the [Supreme Court of Alaska](#) held that secession was illegal, [Kohlhaas vs. State](#), and refused to permit an otherwise proper Initiative to be presented to the people of Alaska for a vote.

In March 2008, the comptroller of [Suffolk County, New York](#) once again proposed for [Long Island](#) to secede from [New York State](#), citing the fact that Long Island gives more in taxes to the state than it receives back in aid.^[32]

In 1977, the islands of [Martha's Vineyard](#) and [Nantucket](#), tried to secede from the [Commonwealth of Massachusetts](#) (they also tried to secede from the United States and become an independent nation).

In [Florida](#) there have been calls in the past and present to separate the state into north (a more southern culture) and south (a more northern culture).

With the decision of the [United States Supreme Court](#) to hear [District of Columbia v. Heller](#) in late 2007, an early 2008 movement began in Montana involving at least 60 elected officials addressing potential secession if the [Second Amendment](#) were interpreted not to grant an individual right, citing its compact with the United States of America.^[33]

Recent State Secession from the U.S.

On July 13, 1977, the City Council of [Kinney, Minnesota](#), led by [Mayor Mary Anderson](#) wrote a "tongue in cheek" letter to Secretary of State [Cyrus Vance](#) informing him of the city's secession from the Union to form the [Republic of Kinney](#). Vance never acknowledged the letter.

The mock 1982 secessionist protest by the [Conch Republic](#) in the Florida Keys resulted in an ongoing source of local pride and tourist amusement.

The group [Republic of Texas](#) generated national publicity for its actions in the late 1990s. There have been repeated attempts to form a Republic of [Cascadia](#) in the [Pacific Northwest](#). The [Hawaiian sovereignty movement](#) has a number of active groupings which have won some concessions from the State of Hawaii. Founded in 1983, [The Creator's Rights Party](#) seeks to have one or more states secede in order to implement "God's plan for government" and is fielding political candidates in 2007 around the United States.

Efforts to organize a continental secession movement have been initiated since 2004 by members of [Second Vermont Republic](#), working with noted [decentralist](#) author [Kirkpatrick Sale](#). Their second "radical consultation" in November of 2004 resulted in a statement of intent called [The Middlebury Declaration](#). It also gave rise to the [Middlebury Institute](#), which is dedicated to the "study of [separatism](#), secession, and [self-determination](#)" and which engages in secessionist organizing.

In November 2006 the same group sponsored the [First North American Secessionist Convention](#) which attracted 40 participants from 16 secessionist organizations and was (erroneously) described as the first gathering of secessionists since the Civil War. Delegates included a broad spectrum from [libertarians](#) to [socialists](#) to [greens](#) to Christian conservatives to [indigenous people's](#) activists. Groups represented included [Alaskan Independence Party](#), [Cascadia Independence Project](#), [Hawai'i Nation](#), [The Second Maine Militia](#), [The Free State Project](#), [the Republic of New Hampshire](#), the [League of the South](#), [Christian Exodus](#), the [Second Vermont Republic](#) and the [United Republic of Texas](#). Delegates created a statement of principles of secession which they presented as the [Burlington Declaration](#).^[34] The [Second North American Secessionist Convention](#) in October, 2007, in Chattanooga, Tennessee received local and national media attention.^[35]

Additionally some members of the Lakota people of Montana, Wyoming, and the Dakota region are also making steps to separate from the United States.^[citation needed] The self-proclaimed [Republic of Lakotah](#) has made a point to say that their actions are not those of secession, but rather an assertion of independence of a nation that was always sovereign and did not join the United States willfully. They note a failure of the United States government in honoring treaties, and abuse of Native peoples throughout its history. A statement of independence was released as of January 2008, and the United States government has not commented on the issue.

Registry of Active Secessionist Movements in the USA

[Alabama League of the South](#)
Alabama: [Free Alabama](#)
[Alaska Independence Party](#)
[Alberta Republicans](#)
[American Secession Project](#)
[California: A State of Mine](#)
[Californians for Independence](#)
[Cascadia Independence Project](#)

Cascadia: [Republic of Cascadia](#)
Cascadia: [Republic of Cascadia](#)
[Christian Exodus](#)
[Confederate Legion](#)
[Free State Project](#)
[FreeAlberta.com](#)
Georgia: [Dixie Broadcasting](#)
Georgia: [League of the South](#)

Georgia: [Southern Party of Georgia](#)
Hawaii Kingdom [Hawaii'i Nation](#)
Hawaii: [Free Hawai'i](#)
Hawaii: [Institute for the Advancement of Hawaiian Affairs](#)
Hawaii: [Ka Lahui Hawai'i](#)
Hawaii: Ka Pakaukau
[League of the South](#)
[League of the South Institute](#)
[Louisiana League of the South](#)
Maine: [Free Maine](#)
Maine: [The Second Maine Militia](#)
[Middlebury Institute](#)
[New England Confederation Alliance](#)
[New Hampshire Liberty](#)
NH: [Republic of New Hampshire](#)
New York [Independent Long Island](#)
NC: [Southern Party of North Carolina](#)
[Novacadia Alliance](#)

Ohio: [The Ohio Republic](#)
[Patriots for Liberty](#)
[Puerto Rico Independence Party](#)
Quebec: [Parti Quebecois](#)
[Secession.Net](#)
[Southern Caucus](#)
[Southern National Congress Committee](#)
[Swiss Confederation Institute](#)
[Texas Nationalist](#)
[Texas Secession](#)
Texas: [United Republic of Texas](#)
[The Living Nation](#)
[The Peoples Republic of the North Star](#)
[United Micronations Multi-Oceanic Archipelago](#)
[Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization](#)
Vermont: [Free Vermont](#)
Vermont: [Second Vermont Republic](#)
[Vermont Commons](#)

Anti-Americanism

As a commercial intelligence practitioner, I oversaw a study on *Strategic Communication* across the twenty-seven countries that are of interest the U.S. Central Command (USCENTCOM). At the time, this was essentially all of Africa except for the Horn of Africa, plus the Middle East, and Central Asia including Afghanistan.

We found that foreigners—and most—regardless of their educational or financial status—tend to be much more conscious of international affairs and even more knowledgeable about the USA than most Americans, (many of whom cannot identify the three branches of government nor the states whose boundaries are adjacent to their own)—most foreigners clearly understand the difference among the following:

1. President and Vice President occupying the White House, and their appointed team
2. Congress of the United States
3. Government of the United States as a world power
4. Government of the United States as a bureaucracy following political orders
5. U.S. Military as a combat force
6. U.S. Military as a combat force following political orders
7. U.S. foreign aid and other forms of assistance
8. The U.S. public as a whole, generally viewed as both good-hearted and oblivious
9. The territory of the USA, the physical aggregation known as America the Beautiful

I take the time to make these distinctions for two reasons:

1. The policies, behavior, and investments ordered by the President and Vice President can be disowned by the American people, or they can be tacitly accepted as being “in our name.” The

larger foreign public, in my own direct experience, remains astonished that the American people have allowed their political representatives to wreak havoc on Iraq and Afghanistan while ignoring all other threats.

2. We can fix this. We can restore the Constitution, reconsecrate the Republic, and get back to the business of being a moderate Nation that wages peace rather than war, peace which exports prosperity rather than munitions.

In this section on anti-Americanism, I am going to provide an outline of the thoughts and findings of other authors. The first section of the Annotated Bibliography addresses this topic, and in the online version of this book, each book is linked directly to my full review at Amazon, allowing the inquiring reader ready access to my full review; to the many excellent reviews by others; and to the Amazon ordering page for the specific book being cited. Amazon has reached critical mass, and between the lists of books and the reviews and the comments from readers who are completely engaged in the world of non-fiction—which is to say, the real world—it is now possible for any person to absorb a rich spectrum of views and facts simply by browsing reviews and lists and comments at Amazon. Neither candidate has done this.

A harvest of lies and a complete lack of intelligence (Tim Weiner in *Legacy of Ashes*)

Always, without exception, failure to invest in peace in the aftermath of war

Axis of Evil #1: poverty, disease, and ignorance (George Soros)

Axis of Evil #2: US support for 42 of 44 dictators, idiocy on the other two (Cuba, North Korea)

Blind to the inevitable “coming home” of all sources of pestilence overseas.

Blind to the reality that our run is over—what matters now is how we influence China and India

Blindly accepting of the Treaty of Westphalia and the artificial concept of political sovereignty

Blindly characterizing terrorists as irresponsible, when they tend to be middle-class and educated

Blindly ignorant of the rich tapestry of cultural, tribal, and family networks across all boundaries

Callous indifference to impact of sanctions on infants and the poor

Contracting (out-sourcing) of covert intelligence and paramilitary and subversion functions

Excessive faith in hard power—military force—without respect for soft power—all else

Explicit preference for dictators over humanity

Foreign operations “hatched on the fly, delivered at random, and operating without instruction”

Historically, a “web of deceit” and a “legacy of ashes” as the twin attributes of US foreign policy

Historically, a bone-headed blindness to the costs of war at home in lost education, trade, etc.

Historically, allowed corporations to become powers unto themselves

Historically, allowed corporations to commoditize people and ignore social obligations

Historically, consistent willingness to send the poor to war without regard to merits of the war

Historically, from the Native Americans to American colonialism, no regard for indigenous peoples

Historically, myopic (and often uneducated) US leaders have exaggerated external threats

Historically, no accountability to the public for incompetence, hubris, and criminal misbehavior
Historically, no moral qualms about ignoring or enabling the murder of millions
Historically, US leaders have believed they (the elite) can make policy without regard to public
Historically, US leaders have enjoyed secrecy as a means of deceiving their own public
Historically, US leaders have favored pragmatism of the moment over long-term values
Historically, US leaders have felt privileged to lie to the public as a means to a “higher” end
Historically, US leaders have given Israel excessive favor without regard to Palestinian merits
Historically, US opposed wars of national liberation because Soviets were on humanity’s side
Historically, US spawned Islamic fascism and radicalism against communism
Ideology consistently triumphs over ideas, in part because the debate is secret, not public
Ignorance of reality including true costs of war
Intellectually impoverished appreciation for the role of morality and legitimacy in foreign affairs
Naiveté makes our humanitarian interventions part of the problem, fostering corruption & crime
No inter-agency operational oversight and orchestration
No inter-agency planning, programming, and budgeting
Oblivious to the fact that we have used terrorism as a tactic throughout our history, as has Israel
Oil has been a narcotic, an addiction, which has addled our brains and led to very bad behaviors
Perennial refusal to craft a grand strategy or do cost-benefit analysis—bravado instead of brains
Pervasive ignorance of both foreign history and foreign cultures at the tribal level
Refusal to engage with dissident groups
Separation of church and state has gone too far, role of morality and values absent from state
Too willing to take Embassy and media reports at face value, even though third hand in nature
Too willing to take foreign government assurances at face value, with no eyes actually on target
War as a profit-making enterprise that enriches the few at cost to the many
Wrong leaders, wrong strategy, wrong military (says Robert S. McNamara)

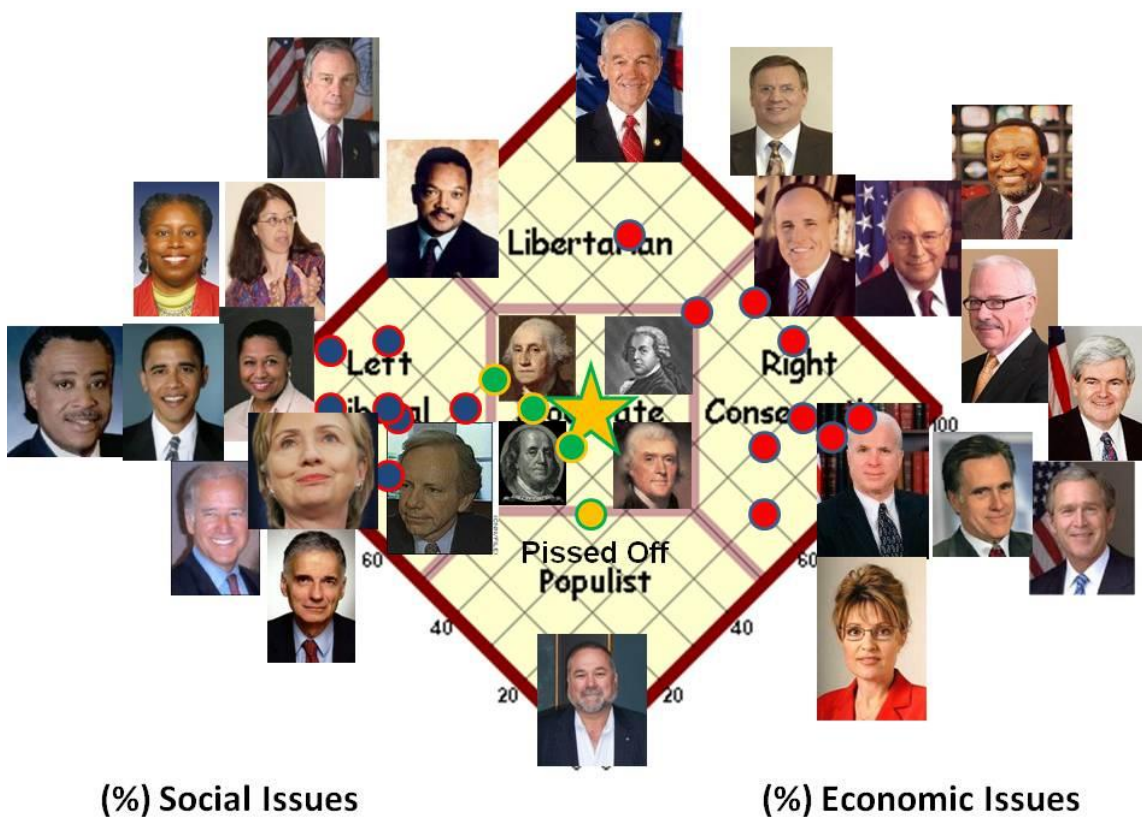
APPENDIX D: Overview of Competing Political Positions on Core Policy Issues

Although dated to 2008, this information is included for three reasons: first, to provide the keywords and context for each of the main issues that concern all citizens; second to use the positions of the candidates in 2008 to illuminate the generic position of the two-party tyranny and the outliers that do not change; and third, to honor and point to [On the Issues](#) by Jessie Gordon, a priceless national asset.

The two “leading” candidates, John McCain and Barack Obama, have offered us platitudes and promises that have no foundation in a balanced budget, and no acknowledgement that both of them, as Senators, have failed to pay attention since August 2006 when *Business Week* first suggested that a major recession was coming.

A whiff of recession smoke seems to have entered the room, and those of a pessimistic bent can already see the flicker of flames outside the window. Nouriel Roubini, an economist at New York University who was worried about a global recession in 2004, is now predicting that “the U.S. is heading toward a sharp recession by early 2007.” In his view, “current economic and financial conditions in the U.S. eerily resemble those that led to the stock market crash in October, 1987.”²

Below is my illustration, followed by tables, both from the superb online source, [On the Issues](#), with permission. I do not include [Joe Biden](#) and [Sarah Palin](#), or others, because what matters here is the range of differences among partisan groups, not individual preferences. “Proposed” is my common sense middle ground pro-populist recommendation. Visit [On the Issues](#)!



² Michael Mandel, [Economic Futures](#), *Business Week*, AUGUST 21, 2006

Quotes on Moderation³

"I was no party man myself, and the first wish of my heart was, if parties did exist, to reconcile them."

George Washington

"I never submitted the whole system of my opinions to the creed of any party of men whatever in religion, in philosophy, in politics, or in anything else where I was capable of thinking for myself. Such addiction is the last degradation of a free and moral agent. If I could not go to heaven but with a party, I would not go there at all."

Thomas Jefferson

"There is nothing which I dread so much as a division of the republic into two great parties, each arranged under its leader, and concerting measures in opposition to each other. This, in my humble apprehension, it to be dreaded as the greatest political evil under our Constitution." **John Adams**

"Be temperate in wine, in eating, girls, and cloth, or the Gout will seize you and plague you both,"

Benjamin Franklin

"The middle of the road is all of the usable surface. The extremes, right and left, are in the gutters."

Dwight D. Eisenhower

"Extreme opposites resemble the other. Each believes that we have only two choices: appeasement or war, suicide or surrender, humiliation or holocaust, to be either Red or dead."

John F. Kennedy

"On human rights, civil rights and environmental quality, I consider myself to be very liberal. On the management of government, on openness of government, on strengthening individual liberties and local levels of government, I consider myself a conservative."

Jimmy Carter

"Most Americans are sensible, good-hearted, and prudent. The issue, then, is whether there is a political party [to suit them]. "

Paul Tsongas

"When we put aside partisanship, embrace the best ideas regardless of where they come from and work for principled compromise, we can move America not left or right, but forward."

Bill Clinton










On the following pages, all active links lead to very good background information at [On the Issues](#).

³ With thanks to the [Moderate Party](#). Ben Franklin quote from [The Electric Ben Franklin](#).

Economic Issues

Budget & Economy Proposed: Balance Budget, End Debt, Close Federal Reserve, Gold.








Key Terms: Balanced Budget Amendment (BBA); Budget deficit; Consumption taxes; Corporate income taxes; Corruption; Death tax; Debt; Defense spending; Discretionary spending; Duties; Entitlements; Federal Reserve; Federal revenue sources; Fiscal policy; Gold Standard; Ignorance; Income taxes; Individual income taxes; Interest; Monetary policy; Mortgage crisis; Non-discretionary spending; Off-budget; Other taxes; Oversight; Progressive tax; Regressive tax; Regulation; Sales taxes; Social insurance (FICA); Social Security Trust Fund; Supplemental spending; Usury; Wall Street greed

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Roll back tax cuts	 Huckabee: Cut federal spending; defer to states	 Paul: Return to gold standard; deregulate economy
 Clinton: Balance budget; pay down debt	 Keyes: Limit spending	 Romney: Cut deficit; reduce pork; cap spending
 Obama: Pay-as-you-go; regulate mortgages	 McCain: Balance budget; Lockbox.	 Nader: Human economy is not booming

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Government Reform Proposed: Balanced budget, line item veto, office of strategy, two deputy vice presidents (one for national security, one for commonwealth), end winner take all in Cabinet and in Congress (proportional leadership assignments, no party line voting)










Key terms: Amendment X to the US Constitution; Balanced Budget Amendment; Block Grants; Campaign Finance; Reform; Devolution; Devolution to States; Election Reform; federal matching funds; Hard money; PAC money; Reinventing Government; Soft money; Term Limits (including judges); Unfunded Mandates

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Limit lobbyists; public cmpn finance	 Huckabee: Strengthen states; term limits	 Paul: No earmarks; close non-Constitutional agencies
 Clinton: Soft-money ban; govt not solution	 Keyes: Decrease campaign \$; more disclosure	 Romney: For line-item veto; against McCain-Feingold
 Obama: Public campaign finance; limit lobbyists	 McCain: Anti-influence peddling	 Nader: Remove corporate influences

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Social Security This is the greatest single reason to keep federal government. Proposed: Restore and protect while increasing retirement age to 75, adding 3 month sabbaticals every six years, and incentivizing multi-generational families and neighborhoods including mobile assisted care and rapid response non-emergency assistance for the elderly.










Key Terms: Account Separately (de-politicize); Earnings Test (remove); IRAs; Lockbox; Medicare and Medicaid; Off-Budget; Privatization; Retirement Accounts; Social Security Investment; Social Security Trust Fund

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Protect it; no diversions	 Huckabee: Personal accounts but not privatized	 Paul: Personal accounts; let young opt out
 Clinton: Preserve protections	 Keyes: Privatize; Lock-box	 Romney: Private accounts; honor commitments
 Obama: No privatization; raise cap	 McCain: Lockbox & privatize	 Nader: Against privatization

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Tax Reform Proposed: end individual income taxes, tax financial transactions, have high-end consumer taxes; reduce estate tax; tax currency transactions heavily; end corporate fraud (different books for IRS and stockholders, income-export tax fraud).

Key Terms: Amendment XVI to the US Constitution; Capital Gains Tax; charitable deduction; Death Tax; estate tax; Faith-based organization; Flat Tax; Flat Tax & Sales Tax; Inheritance Tax; Marginal Tax Rates; Marriage Penalty; Married Filing Jointly; mortgage interest deduction; National Sales Tax; Tax Rates; Tax Surplus; Value-Added Tax; VAT










Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Repeal tax cuts for rich	 Huckabee: Supports FairTax; simplify taxes	 Paul: End income tax; but no flat tax
 Clinton: Say no to GOP tax cuts	 Keyes: Abolish IRS & income tax	 Romney: Tax cuts raise revenues; fees ok
 Obama: End Bush tax cuts; keep estate tax	 McCain: Simplify & reduce taxes	 Nader: Keep progressivity; raise corporate taxes

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Technology & Infrastructure

Proposed: Internet neutrality, Open Spectrum, Free/Open Source Software, regulate Google, provide end-user control of their own content, anonymous banking; recapitalize all forms of infrastructure but wind down communities in flood plains and cities in desert, capitalize growth in The Empty Quarter.⁴

Key Terms: Bridges, Dams, & Tunnels (collapsing infrastructure); Computer and Internet Usage; Digital E-Government; Electrical grid (collapsing); E-rate; High-Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP); Human Genome Project; Intel vs. FTC; Internet access in classrooms; Internet access in schools; Internet Issues; Internet Sales Tax; iPatriot Act; Microsoft vs Java; Microsoft vs Netscape; Millennium Bug; Napster; Triana Satellite; V-Chip; Weather manipulation; Y2K Bug; warrantless wiretapping










Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Promote Internet	 Huckabee: Tax Internet; TV indecency rules	 Paul: No network neutrality; no Fairness Doctrine
 Clinton: Bridge digital divide	 Keyes: Regulate TV; fund NASA	 Romney: Invest in infrastructure; expect change
 Obama: More R&D \$; invest in transportation	 McCain: No Internet tax; yes porn filters	 Nader

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Welfare & Poverty

Proposed: Stabilize dollar, limit interest rates, end individual taxation, strive for 100% union membership (60% in four years), learnfare & workfare, control borders and stop giving expert worker visas to foreigners taking high-tech jobs away from citizens.

Key Terms: Charitable Choice; Deductibility; Entitlement; Faith-Based Organizations (FBO); Food Stamps; Lifetime limit; Poor; Reform; Tax-exempt; Welfare load; Welfare-to-Work; Work requirements

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Cities Rising: \$ for EITC	 Huckabee: Charitable Choice & faith-based providers	 Paul: No faith-based initiatives; yes Section 8
 Clinton: Raise minimum wage	 Keyes: Solve social ills with family & faith	 Romney: Supports workfare
 Obama: Help welfare recipients; engage faith	 McCain: Pro workfare; pro block grants	 Nader: Pro-union; anti-big business

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⁴ Canada, that big part spanning central Canada to Alaskan border.

Social Issues

Abortion Proposed: Strongly support pro-life choices, but woman ultimately decides. Praise Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas for his *Stare Decisis* judgment on Roe v. Wade. Life does begin at conception; mother's rights end with start of second tri-mester.

Key Terms: Clinic Access; Cloning; health issue (pro-choice); Human Life Amendment; Human Life Bills; informed consent; Judicial Activism; moral issue (pro-life); Parental Consent; Partial-Birth Abortion; Right to Choose; Right to Life; rights of the mother; rights of the unborn; Roe v. Wade; RU-486; *Stare Decisis*; States' Rights; Stem Cells; Strict Constructionism; viability' of the fetus

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Right to choose; partial birth ok	 Huckabee: Outlaw all abortions	 Paul: Life begins at conception; no stem cells
 Clinton: Safe, legal & rare	 Keyes: Strongly pro-life	 Romney: Sanctity of life; but was pro-choice
 Obama: Yes on Roe; yes on stem cells	 McCain: Pro-life	 Nader: Let women decide

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Corporations Proposed: home rule, boycott, eat local, fair trade, end personality fraud










Key Terms: Export volumes; Farming Issues; Globalization; Government payments; Inflation; Labor Issues; Minimum wage; Union membership

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Attack corporate indifference	 Huckabee: Support marketplace	 Paul: Supports bankruptcy reform
 Clinton: Limit bankruptcies; end corporate welfare	 Keyes: Protect workers against elite	 Romney: Close loopholes; protect smaller companies
 Obama: Close loopholes; reward domestic jobs	 McCain: Restrict corporations some	 Nader: Shift power to consumers

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Education Proposed: Redirect \$20 billion a year from secret intelligence to free online & fully-funded Head Start, K-12, and college on a competitive basis. Apprenticeship & civics every year. No bi-lingual education—three months intensive English free for all immigrants, English language competency required for both access to education and to government employment at all levels.










Key Terms: Bilingual Education; Goals 2000; Phonics; School Prayer; School Vouchers; Smaller Class Size; Social Promotion; Straight A Act; Student Testing; Teacher Pay; Teacher Testing

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: No vouchers; more teachers	 Huckabee: Teach character; support charters	 Paul: Close Dept. of Ed.; tax credit for parochials
 Clinton: Support public schools; no vouchers	 Keyes: No public monopoly; yes school prayer	 Romney: Vouchers over teachers' unions
 Obama: Merit pay; free college	 McCain: More testing; more prayer; vouchers	 Nader: Invest in public education; teach citizenship

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Families & Children Proposed: Support families, design neighborhoods, one *good* job per family, with no taxation of family or on healthy food and beverages, get TV out of kid's lives










Key Terms: After-school; Anti-male bias; Child Deductions; Child Support; Day care; Deadbeat Dads; Deductions; Family Leave; Fatherhood rights; Internet Smut; Pre-school; Social effects; Tax Credits; TV Ratings; V-Chip

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Help working parents	 Huckabee: Covenant marriage; teach morality	 Paul: No state overriding parental decisions
 Clinton: It takes a village to raise a child	 Keyes: Moral breakdown of families	 Romney: Strengthen families
 Obama: Teach sex-ed; listen to evangelicals	 McCain: Labeling for parents; blame media	 Nader: Corporate TV hurts kids

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Health Care Proposed: Tax unhealthy good and services, eliminate toxins, provide all necessary information on lifestyle, environment, natural cures; fund evidence-based medicine.










Key Terms: Active Euthanasia; Alternative Medicine; Asbestos; Chinese Medicine; Consumer Choice; Death with Dignity; Elective Surgery; Euthanasia; Evidence-Based Medicine; External Appeal; Indian Medicine; Generally accepted practices; Healing; Health insurance; Health reform; HMO; Involuntary Euthanasia; Legal Liability; Managed Care; Marijuana; Medical Necessity; Natural Cures; Passive Euthanasia; Patient's Bill of Rights; Physical Assisted Suicide; Prevention; Public health; Right to Die; Safe Air; Safe Food; Safe Water; Scope of Coverage; State Regulation; Tobacco Settlement; Toxins in Products

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Cover every child; anti-HMOs	 Huckabee: Focus on prevention & consumers	 Paul: Against mandated insurance & managed care
 Clinton: Universal coverage	 Keyes: No right-to-die; no health I.D.	 Romney: State-based plans with mandates plus market
 Obama: Focus on affordability; focus on AIDS	 McCain: Patient rights; limit HMOs	 Nader: Cradle-to-grave non-profit system

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Principles & Values Proposed: Restore Constitution, eliminate individual income taxes, transparent budgets and all legislation and budgets online one week in advance of voting; character through school, apprenticeships, and mandatory national service twice: after high-school and at mid-career (each time a shared boot camp, then three tracks: Armed, Peace, and America Corps).

Key Terms: Centralizing power; Centrist; Conservative; Conservative; Constitution' Decentralizing power; Economic views; Fiscal frugality; Government intervention; Green; Leftist; Liberal; Libertarian; Local not federal; Natural Law; Political philosophy; Populist; Reform; Reforming existing institutions; Religious rights; Rightist; Social views; Socialist; Strength abroad








Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Two Americas	 Huckabee: Character IS the issue; support culture of life	 Paul: No dictating behavior; yes limited government
 Clinton: New Democrat	 Keyes: Unalienable rights under God	 Romney: Learns from mistakes; ran Olympics; Mormon
 Obama: Yes we can; Audacity of Hope	 McCain: Set an example	 Nader: New Populism: power corrupts

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Domestic Issues

Civil Rights Proposed: Quality education is *the* right; civil unions, churches decide marriage.


Key Terms: Affirmative Action; Amendment I to the US Constitution; Article 9 Clause 2 of the US Constitution; Bilingual education; Civil Union; Confederate Flag in Public Places; Disabilities Act (ADA) & Handicapped Access ([Health Care](#)); Disabled Rights; Domestic Violence; Driving While Black; Equal Pay for Equal Work; FISA; Flag-Burning Amendment; Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (FISA); Funding for NEA; Gambling, Prostitution, Pornography; Glass Ceiling; Guantanamo: Habeas corpus; Hate Crimes; iPATRIOT ACT; Kidnapping for Rendition; Mental Illness Discrimination ([Health Care](#)); Minority Rights; PATRIOT Act; Racial Profiling; Redlining; Religious Rights; Rendition for Torture; Reverse Discrimination; Right to Privacy (see [Technology](#)); Same-sex marriage; School Prayer (see [Education](#)); Secret Renditions; Secret wiretapping; Ten Commandments in Public Places (see [Principles & Values](#)); Texas v. Johnson (flag burning); Torture; victimless crimes; Waterboarding; Women's Rights

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Aff. Action; no DOMA	 Huckabee: No civil unions; no affirmative action	 Paul: No affirmative action; no Marriage Amendment
 Clinton: Pro-gay rights & women's rights	 Keyes: Anti-gay rights & affirmative action	 Romney: No gay marriage; help women & minorities
 Obama: Strong civil unions & affirmative action	 McCain: Anti-quota; for Flag protection	 Nader: Pro-gay; pro-privacy; pro-women

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Crime Proposed: End death & three strikes; legalize marijuana & hemp, full employment.










Key Terms: 114; 119; Amendments V and VIII to the US Constitution; Broken Windows' Laws; Capital Punishment; Community intelligence networks; Community Policing; Hate Crimes; Intelligence-led policing; National Guard role as community intelligence center watchstanders; Three Strikes' Laws; Tort Reform

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: No 3 Strikes; death penalty ok	 Huckabee: Ok on death penalty; not 3 Strikes	 Paul: Against death penalty; against hate crime laws
 Clinton: 3 Strikes ok; DNA required	 Keyes: Death; no hate crimes	 Romney: Death penalty; One Strike you're out
 Obama: Alternate sentencing; restrict death penalty	 McCain: Death; more prisons; less parole	 Nader: Focus on prevention; no death penalty

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Drugs Proposed: get CIA and DEA out of drug business; burn banks for laundering, invest in free education and full provision of clean water and clean energy in Afghanistan, Mexico, and the Andean countries where all the drugs are produced and are—for now—vital to those economies.










Key Terms: Alcoholism; Amendment XVIII and XXI to the US Constitution; Death penalty; Demand; Drug war; Effects; Legalization; Medical marijuana; Needle Exchanges; Prohibition; Self-harm; Supply; Treatment; War on drugs

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Drug courts; reasonable sentences	 Huckabee: Punishment over education	 Paul: War on Drugs is a failure
 Clinton: Treatment & drug courts	 Keyes: More penalties	 Romney: Fight for drug war
 Obama: Understand drug abuse	 McCain: More border; more penalties	 Nader: Stop prohibition

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Environment Proposed: Zero Waste, Natural Capitalism, Green to Gold, Biomimicry, expose true costs of all products and services via bar codes and online free data, mandate clean air and disease-free air in all buildings and public transportation including airlines and trains.










Key Terms: Acts of God or Man; Alternative Energy; Amendment V to the US Constitution; ANWR: Arctic National Wildlife Refuge; BLM: The Bureau of Land Management; Brownfields; BTU Tax; Clean Air Act: (CAA); Clean Water Act: (CWA); Climate Change Treaty; coastal wetlands; Command-and-control; Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standard; Cost Control; Deregulation Crisis; Devolution; drop in Great Lakes water levels; drought in the Midwest; Effects on the US; eminent domain; Endangered Species; Endangered Species Act (ESA); Energy; Energy Conservation; Environmental degradation; extreme storms; Federal Lands; FWS: The Fish & Wildlife Service; Global Warming; Greenfields; Greenhouse Gas Treaty; Greenhouse gases; Kyoto Protocol; Land Trusts; NPS: The National Park Service; Pollution Control; Rio Treaty; States; Suburban Sprawl; Superfund; Takings; temperature rise; toxic waste sites; Urban Redevelopment; USFS: The US Forest Service; winter rain; Wise Use

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: No forest roads; reduce CO2	 Huckabee: Conservation; caretaking; clean up	 Paul: Focus on property rights; ban Yucca ads
 Clinton: Fund EPA & clean air	 Keyes: Marketable pollution credits	 Romney: Tough on Big Dig; focus on clean environment
 Obama: Protect National Parks; reduce mercury	 McCain: End farm subsidies; expand CWA	 Nader: More funds; more rules

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Gun Control Proposed: Right to bear arms is non-negotiable less felons still on probation. Concealed permits not required—felons who have paid their debt to society need only carry a card certifying their restoration to full citizenship status—states may not abridge felon rights once court’s sentence has been completed. Achieve accountability with barrel printing and cartridge signatures—anyone can kill, be identified, and if wrong, held accountable.










Key Terms: Amendment II to the US Constitution; Background Checks; Brady Bill; Child-Safety Locks; concealed carry; gun lobby; Gun Ownership; Gun-Show Loophole; instant background checks; juvenile access to guns; licensing; Militia definition; National Rifle Association (NRA); open carry; registration; right of self-protection; Right to Bear Arms; Second Amendment rights; sportsmen's rights; Trigger Locks; US v. Miller; waiting periods

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: 2nd Amendment with rules	 Huckabee: Supports 2nd amendment fully	 Paul: No gun bans; allow concealed carry
 Clinton: More restrictions	 Keyes: No more laws; more morals	 Romney: Ok to ban some lethal weapons
 Obama: Restrict guns; allow suing gun makers	 McCain: More gun laws; more gun rights	 Nader: More restrictions; some bans

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Jobs Proposed: end absentee ownership of farms; 60% union membership; limit interest to 10%; make full employment the law and the outcome; raise minimum wage to achieve quality of life at last highest point. Limit CEOs to 100X wages of lowest worker they employ; mandate same books for IRS as for stockholders; impose severe penalties on short-term investments.

Key Terms: Annual Leave; Benefits; Citizen rights; Equal Pay; Farm subsidies; Guest workers; Living Wage; Minimum wage; Overtime; Pay Gap; Sick Leave; Training; Uncompensated overtime; Union membership










Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Raise min. wage; protect unions	 Huckabee: Subsidize farms; unions over CEOs	 Paul: No minimum wage increase; no farm subsidies
 Clinton: Living wage	 Keyes: No gov't jobs; yes family farms	 Romney: Farm subsidies; incentives for training
 Obama: Living wage; support unions	 McCain: No subsidies; yes workfare	 Nader: Reduce pay gap

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International Issues

Energy & Oil Proposed: Tax externalized costs (\$12 per gallon); two-way grid, do it all.

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Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Higher CAFE; no ANWR	 Huckabee: Increase oil; Kyoto was mistake	 Paul: No to CAFE; yes to ANWR drilling
 Clinton: Ratify Kyoto; use hydrogen	 Keyes: Exploit ANWR; end Kyoto & CAFE	 Romney: Drill ANWR; develop nuclear & coal
 Obama: Increase CAFE; alternative energy	 McCain: No ANWR; no on Bush energy plan	 Nader: More funds; less cars

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Foreign Policy Proposed: Shift \$200 billion from waging war to waging peace; multilateralism; provide all dictators with a five-year exit strategy; make human rights and fair trade the foundation for all commercial relations; stop exporting military weapons.









Key Terms: Afghanistan; Africa; ASEAN; Asian Economic Crisis; Asian Miracle' countries; Asian Tigers; bioterrorism weapons; Brazil; Chechnya; Children's Fund; China; Development Programme (UNDP); East Timor; Economic and Social Council; European Union; General Assembly; Human Rights Commission; India; Indonesia; International Civil Aviation Organization; International Monetary Fund; Iran; Iraq; Israel & Palestine; Japan; Kosovo; Lebanon; North Korea; peacekeeping operations; Refugees (UNHCR)[Russia; Security Council; South American Union; Syria's Golan Heights; The International Court of Justice; treaty-based organizations; UN dues; UN System; United Nations; Universal Postal Union; Venezuela; War on Terror; Wild Cards; World Bank; World Court; World Health Organization

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Focus on open society	 Huckabee: Non-intervention; support Israel	 Paul: Humble foreign policy instead of empire
 Clinton: Focus on peace	 Keyes: "Anti-China, Anti-UN"	 Romney: Foster democracy with resolve, not arrogance
 Obama: Strengthen NATO; more foreign aid	 McCain: Assertive multilateralism	 Nader: Interventionist with support, not arms

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Free Trade Proposed: Fair trade not free trade. Reveal “true costs” of all goods and services. End slavery in America first, then in the rest of the world.









Key Terms: Americas; Anti-Dumping Laws; anti-globalization; Canada; Chile to join NAFTA; Countervailing Duties; Dumping; East Asia combined for about 15%; Europe combined for about 20%; Fast-Track; Free Trade; free trade zone; General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs; Globalization; human trafficking; Mexico & Japan; MFN; Most Favored Nation; NAFTA; North American Free Trade Agreement of 1994; open borders; override national law; protests; secrecy of WTO proceedings; Side Agreements; slavery; standards; Trade Deficits; trade in women & children; Uruguay; World Trade Organization

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: No NAFTA; but PNTR ok	 Huckabee: Trust marketplace; subsidize farms	 Paul: Sovereignty instead of NAFTA & WTO
 Clinton: Humanization plus globalization	 Keyes: Out of WTO; defend sovereignty	 Romney: Open markets abroad
 Obama: No CAFTA; fair trade	 McCain: Open trade; WTO ok	 Nader: Pro-immigrant; anti-globalization

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Homeland Security Proposed: Make Stephen Flynn the Secretary with mandate to close it down in four years; restore FEMA; redirect \$20 billion from spies to water and food infrastructure and safety; fund Citizen Intelligence Networks (\$30M per state per year).








Key Terms: Aegis defense system; Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM); Bio-chemical; Hollow Military; intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM); Loose Nukes; Mutually Assured; National Missile Defense (NMD); Nuclear Test Ban Treaty; Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty; Star Wars; Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START); Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI); submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBM); Terrorists; Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: More \$; no base closures	 Huckabee: Expand armed forces; close Guantanamo	 Paul: Protect habeas corpus; avoid draft
 Clinton: Ban nuke tests; SDI ok	 Keyes: Less entangled; SDI; strike terrorists	 Romney: Wiretap mosques; double Guantanamo
 Obama: Close Gitmo; address VA; grow military	 McCain: More pay; SDI; more engaged	 Nader: Reduce weapons & overseas troops

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Immigration Proposed: increase Border Patrol to 30,000; state & local crack-down on visa violators; withdraw all forces from overseas; create four forces after next including \$200 billion peace force; fully fund global free education online in 183 languages, work with Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Russia, and Venezuela to give free cell phones to poor and educate them, world-wide, one cell call at a time. Peace comes from prosperity, and prosperity comes from education *one question at a time*—the 5 billion poor don't have eighteen years to waste.




Key Terms: Bilingual Education; Border Patrol; California 40% of all illegals; Canada as transit zone for terrorists; clemency; Foreign born 8% in 1990; census; Hispanic; Illegal; Immigration; Immigration Act of 1990; Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS); Immigration Advocacy; Latin America 20% after Mexico; Legal; Mexico 55% of illegals; Official English status; promote diversity; racism; restricting immigration; wall across the border

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Earned legalization	 Huckabee: Send illegals home; but not kids	 Paul: Bilingualism yes; amnesty no; border fence yes
 Clinton: Comprehensive reform & guest workers	 Keyes: Defend borders; oppose amnesty	 Romney: No tuition breaks; but no job enforcement
 Obama: Path to citizenship; comprehensive reform	 McCain: Comprehensive reform	 Nader: Pro-immigrant; anti-globalization

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War & Peace Proposed: Stay the course in Iraq, create fifty-year peacekeeping force with open checkbook for restoring Lebanon as Paris of Middle East and raising two generations of Palestinians and Israelis within mandated co-existence, Jerusalem as an international open city. Redirect \$100 billion a year from war to peace, create multinational decision support center and Global Range of Gifts Table to orchestrate \$1 trillion a year in individual giving.

Key Terms: Afghanistan; Balkan; Central Asia; Colombia; Cuba; Iran; Iraq; Israel; North Korea; Palestine; Persian Gulf; Somalia; War on Terrorism

Democrats	Republicans	GOP/Green
 Edwards: Voted for Iraq; get NATO involved	 Huckabee: Stay in Iraq; talk to Iran; fight jihadists	 Paul: Iraq war is illegal; talk to Iran
 Clinton: Authorized Iraq war; redeploy now	 Keyes: Win in Iraq & war on terror	 Romney: Stay in Iraq until secret withdrawal
 Obama: Leave Iraq carefully but quickly	 McCain: Yes on Iraq war; then & now	 Nader: Iraq war is for oil

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