

## **WOKE AND CANCEL CULTURE: TERMS, TOPICS, AND EXAMPLES** **(Focus on Indigenous, Black, and Sex / Gender Issues) \*\***

Stupid people can create problems, but it often takes brilliant people to create a real catastrophe. They have already done that enough times – and in enough different ways – for us to reconsider, before joining their latest stampedes, led by self – congratulatory elites, deaf to argument, and immune to evidence

Quote by Thomas Sowell

Background: The recent uptick in the social and racial justice obsession emanating from the left, and rooted in Marxist philosophy, appears to have caused major fissures within North American society. At this point much of the academic, entertainment and corporate worlds find themselves walking on egg shells knowing that an innocent email or “tweet” can result in digital mobs demanding their firing (cancellation). There exists an expectation that one will be “woke”, and if one does not conform to the party line (that which is currently politically correct) then there will be “consequences” facilitated by the availability of the many digital platforms. This “cancel culture” phenomenon can ruin a 20 - year spotless reputation in a day.

The most alarming of these recent trends is the proliferation of “diversity, equity and inclusion” (DEI) course and seminar presentations, which are frequently required “training” for government executives, corporate executives, as well as administrators and teachers at all levels in academia. Many institutions have their own “in house” DEI officer. I had originally thought about entitling this work, “Die, DEI, Die” - but restrained this impulse. These are remarkably similar to the re-education programmes established by Communist commissars to re-educate dissenters. Here there is no opportunity to critique anything said in these mandatory indoctrination sessions – those who have tried received censure and, in at least one instance, demoralized the person to the point of committing suicide (see later). The “cultural shift” (current craziness) has been gaining momentum and continues to accelerate without any brakes (checks and balances).

In a very short period of time, with the fall of Communism (except in North Korea, Cuba and a very few other bastions of the “old order”), the left has shifted focus from class struggle, to matters of social identity with an emphasis on the contribution of individuals and groups identified as “marginalized” or “oppressed”. The institutional climate then became ripe for the development of new disciplines such as Chicano Studies, Queer Studies, Gender Studies, Disability Studies, African American Studies, and Asian American Studies in colleges and universities. Movements arose to push for more diversity in these “institutes of higher learning”.

The philosophies of postmodernism, postcolonialism and critical race theory emerged and expanded. “Classic” departments in universities from Language Studies to Physics began to feel the push for “reform” and to become more aligned with the up - and - coming new vision of things. Even science and objective truth were being questioned, and seen as being products of the White

colonialist narrative. Truisms such as “race is a social construct” began to yield to identity politics. Systemic changes in academia included responses to the swelling ranks of those attending post – secondary institutions, such as a vast expansion of university administrators and employees such as “student affairs officer” (both serving as conformity police) skyrocketed while the number of professors declined. As an example, university administrators are 12 times more likely to identify as liberal rather than conservative. This laid the groundwork for the monumental changes that followed in academia.

However, it was social media, with platforms such as Tumblr, Tic Toc, Facebook and Twitter, that drastically changed the landscape from about 2010. Here online identity groups, or ideology communities were formed. By 2016 White liberals had developed distinctly negative views of White people in general. Blogs and various liberal websites emerged; and the legacy media such as The New York Times in America and The Toronto Star in Canada became purveyors of the liberal autocracy – particularly when their digital versions became the primary source of media expression. While this was occurring, therefore, true objective journalism diminished in the service of reporting on topics that fit the awakening. Once obscure terms, such as microaggression, went mainstream. Also, as the “old guard” began retiring, the new hires mirrored the radical leftist views of “Identity synthesis” they had absorbed while in university. The new employees were well versed in the effective use of social media and would not be averse to “going after” their employer for say bigotry of some sort, and quickly learned how to strong arm their views into the sinews of the organization for which they worked. Employers soon became intimidated fearing a critical tweet that would go viral

By 2020, even if you were a Baby Boomer born say 1965, still employed in legacy media, you now knew that it was either “go woke or go broke”. Therefore reporters (I fail to see them at this point as journalists) were more or less compelled to report what was basically propaganda for leftist causes. If you were an editor then only “uncontroversial” letters to the editor and opinion pieces would be allowed to see the light of day in print or digital online format. I personally learned the truth of this, to my dismay, in relation to Indigenous issues, from the year 2020 onward. For further information on how we got here so quickly once the process was ignited by Tumblr, see Mounk (2023) for a very comprehensive history of all these changes.

In the same way even very powerful corporations such as Coca-Cola and Disney felt the wrath of the mob and quickly became woke.

Universal values, meritocracy and other beliefs of our Western democracies – out the window. Illiberalism and intolerance surged – “if you are not with us, you must be against us, so conform or prepare to be cancelled”.

Recently some few brave souls in academia, journalism and the corporate world have begun to push back, attempting to override belief – based assertions by using facts, evidence and scientific studies. It is easier for those of us who are retired. Being retired offers immunity from the risk of

being “cancelled” and ultimately losing our livelihood by the relentless “outrage” of a crowd on some social media platform.

A dictionary definition of “**woke**” is, “*aware of and actively attentive to important societal facts and issues (especially issues of racial and social justice)*” – see [here](#). It emerged from the Black experience in the United States. With this understanding, those termed “woke” (e.g., White folks who buy into the assertions) are seen as having become aware, and are in tune with, issues of inequity and injustice that allegedly characterize current Black life in America. The word has experienced significant “creep” and now encompasses a myriad of related terms. There is also the expectation that the woke will become “social justice warriors”, who support those causes that left – leaning (often Marxist inspired) spokespersons (e.g., university professors) have deemed to be “correct” dogma, and develop a readiness to work to stamp out dissenters who challenge “incorrect” positions. A clean crisp definition of “woke” is provided by Hanania (2023) who said, “*Wokeness can be understood as a series of recurring moral panics [e.g., false belief in deaths hidden from the public and burials in unmarked graves at Indian Residential Schools] backed up by state power [e.g., the Prime Minister of Canada ordering the flags on Parliament Hill to be at half - mast for 6 months in response to the false belief]*” (p.221).

John McWhorter, an author and a teacher of linguistics from Columbia University, who happens to be Black, uses the term “The Elect” for “The woke”. He argues that these self - proclaimed arbitrators of the new truth (since 2015) are the pastors of a new religion he calls Electism, with a new “national creed” for which there is no debate, since to disagree is to commit heresy. Their efforts to suppress dissent are witch hunts or inquisitions, with the goal of, for example, callously destroying the careers of those who dare to disagree, since free speech is “irrelevant”. A tool that they frequently use is to call a person a “racist” in a highly public venue – whether or not there is even a remote shred of evidence to support the claim. According to McWhorter, “*They are, in this, medieval with lattes*” (p.59). I might take this a step further, seeing wokism or Electism as a cult with multiple and diverse leaders such as DiAngelo, Crenshaw and Kendi.

If you are “woke” then almost certainly you are a member of, and participant in, “**cancel culture**” (sometimes termed “call – out culture”). Cancel culture is defined as, “*the practice or tendency of engaging in mass canceling as a way of expressing disapproval and exerting social pressure*”. Further, it is “*a tool to stop offensive and harmful behavior, while others find it problematic and toxic*” – see [here](#). In his book “Cancel Culture”, Harvard Professor Alan Dershowitz provided a very compelling overview, “*Cancel culture causes more problems than it solves. It falsely accuses; it applies a double standard of selectivity. It fails to balance or calibrate vices and virtues. It has no statute of limitations; it provides no process to challenge cancellations. It is standardless, unaccountable, not transparent, and often anonymous. It hides personal, ideological, and political agendas. It can be abused for revenge, extortion, and other malign motives. It is un – American to the core. It must be stopped lest it destroy the heart, soul, and values of our nation*” (p.124).

Among the most recent definitions is that of Lukianoff and Schlott, as follows, “*the uptick beginning around 2014, and accelerating in 2017 and after, of campaigns to get people fired, disinvited, deplatformed, or otherwise punished for speech that is – or would be – protected by First Amendment standards and the climate of fear and conformity that has resulted from this uptick*” (p.31).

Furthermore, Nierman & Sachs have identified six “core elements” in cancel culture, involving 21<sup>st</sup> century witch hunts:

- Collective considered victim of the crime
- Arising and accelerating quickly
- Nature of the offense is trivial or fabricated
- Disproportionate response
- Everyone is afraid to defend the accused
- Moral absolutism by those doing the canceling

Five of the above six elements will qualify for the use of the label (p.13).

It is not only living individuals that cancel culture may chose for their invective – historical figures are highly vulnerable. The father of Confederation in Canada, Sir John A. Macdonald, has been deemed an acceptable target for cancelation – particularly since he was a cis heterosexual White male and so is not in any of the protected categories identified by the activists on the far left. No debate. No discussion. The views of the inquisitors are beyond reproach and are the truth. Stamp him cancelled. Remove all statues of the man, re – name buildings that once carried his name, publish a false narrative, and in little more than a heartbeat, a revered figure in history is consigned to the dustbin.

Cancel culture has also had a severe impact on the entertainment industry, for example comedy. A January 2024 article entitled, “*The evolution of cancel culture in comedy*” addresses the effect of PC in this venue (see [here](#)). A recent article outlining how cancel culture, “*has introduced a climate of caution in the realms of scriptwriting and casting*” can be seen [here](#). A HuffPost article exploring how celebrities avoid being cancelled can be found [here](#). An excellent example of an outlandish cancellation is Chris Harrison, host of “The Bachelor” for 19 years. As the franchise attempted to “diversify”, in an interview with the former “Bachelorette” Rachel Lindsay (who is Black), Harrison said that a White contestant, Rachael Kirkconnell, who attended an “Old South” antebellum party when she was a teen, should be given grace (some understanding) considering her age, and he did not denounce her actions as “racism”. Ms. Lindsay was critical of his response; and the “twitiverse” exploded in horror. The bottom line is that this one single statement was sufficient to demolish a career spanning 19 uncontroversial years. It is highly ironic that Ms. Kirkconnell went on to be the winning candidate and become engaged to the first – ever Black “Bachelor” star. This clearly indicated that she was anything but a racist, and that Harrison was correct in his assessment. No matter, he had to go – see the December 2023 Hollywood Reporter article [here](#).

An excellent example of how this toxic culture focusing on what is fashionable at present has permeated the art world can be found in a podcast of January 2024, entitled, “*The arts are now full of ideological landmines*”, noted [here](#). Examples of cancel culture in the corporate world will be peppered throughout this essay.

Returning to academia, where this cancel culture “phenomenon” is most pronounced, if one does not adhere to the ethos pushed by these leftist progressives (who are not liberal but illiberal) then the result will be an attempt (often via social media platforms) to silence or discredit the miscreant. This will be carried out by cancelling their voice through, for example, demanding that someone be fired from their position (e.g., as a university professor). Any “non conformists” may feel that they need to tip toe around every day in fear of saying something that will be perceived as unacceptable, and the initiation of a campaign to cancel them. Even a single word, without context, can be sufficient to set this process in motion.

Since university student bodies are now typically from 4 to 1 liberal to conservative ranging up to 17 to 1, it is very easy to ramrod liberal causes and concepts (e.g., intersectionality; all Whites must acknowledge that they are racists imbued with White fragility) down the throats of students. The climate on campus with its emphasis on student “safety” (words not physical violence) have fostered the emergence of entities such as “bias reporting systems” where students can anonymously inform administrators of a professor or student that made them feel uncomfortable. This approach is not far removed from the methodology used in Stalin’s purges, and Nazi era schemes of having neighbour “turn in” neighbour for perceived words or actions against the regime. Today, instead of being sent to “the camps” (re – education or even death), the reprobates of the institution are sent to bias lectures or DEI indoctrination sessions (if lucky), or often they are simply cancelled (fired or contract not renewed).

Ultimately the goal is to ensure that these “moral reprobates” (being not of the woke persuasion, I have been called worse) are sent to oblivion and become irrelevant. The outcry, typically via social media, is loud and intense enough to ensure that for example a person with an academic position will be fired by administration, who, even if they strongly believe in fostering free speech, are intimidated by the voices of “social justice” crowd. The upshot is that frequently the reputation of the academic will be irretrievably destroyed. Occasionally an abject apology will suffice if the offender prostrates themselves sufficiently, and assures others that they have seen the error of their ways. Presumably the goal here is to make others think twice before making statements inconsistent with what the enlightened “twitterati” have deemed to be “correct thinking”. While the “enlightened” may get off in the power dynamic where they show they can destroy someone should that be their will – what pray tell do they actually DO in relation to changing things? Feeding the homeless, volunteering to help establish a library in an underprivileged area of the city? No, that is not part of the agenda – just creating agitation and chaos, and personal harm by selecting someone they don’t like, doing a little archaeological delving into their social media accounts, then create twitter storm or turn up to shout down a person who is trying to present their

work to university students who are actually interested in what they have to say. I can only guess at the smug satisfaction that these SJWs must feel when they see their “target” go down in flames.

However, there are some such as Dr. Jordon Peterson of the University of Toronto Psychology Department who have weathered the storms (including those coming from the regulatory body for Psychology) to the point that they have become virtually immune to the woke mob and yet still retain their prestigious academic positions. The relentless efforts to cancel Dr. Peterson only seem to have made him stronger (although surely the process of constantly having to defend oneself must take a toll).

A fine example of how far this craziness has penetrated into the regulatory bodies in Canada, of even medicine, is seen in the following example from the Royal Society of Physicians and Surgeons, *“A new model of CanMEDS would seek to centre values such as anti-oppression, anti-racism, and social justice, rather than medical expertise”*. One might be tempted to view this as some sort of parody or joke – but, alas, no. Some sane doctors have reacted thus, *“For a medical society, or a medical school, to prioritize ‘social justice’ over medical expertise is to declare themselves unfit for their professional roles”* was the reaction of Dr. Jeffrey Flier to the CanMEDS proposal” – see 28 December 2023, “Toronto Sun”, article [here](#).

In relation to the situation in the United States, the *“product of the woke crusade will not be a less racist America but a more polarized one. That’s because the woke crusade is not truly about reducing racism; it is about attacking fundamental institutions, American history, and our very culture of rights. All the things we share must be eviscerated. So we will share nothing. And then the ugliness begins”*. Despite the evidence, governmental agencies (Federal, State, local) have largely bought into the Program and established laws reflecting the woke perspective. *“From government guidelines giving nonwhite patients priority for scarce COVID drugs to basic income programs reserved for trans people, government institutions have started to adopt schemes that explicitly distinguish between citizens on the basis of their membership in particular identity groups”* (Shapiro (b), p.56).

Mouk (2023) terms the woke and cancel culture movements now entrenched in all facets of society as, “the identity trap”, and offers a solution to its toxic effects (See his chapter on, “How to Escape the Identity Trap”). In summary, Mouk asserts that, *“We should keep striving for a society in which categories like race, gender and sexual orientation matter a lot less than they do now because of what each of us can accomplish – and how we all treat each other – no longer depends on the groups into which we were born. We must not let the identity trap lure us into giving up on a future in which we have in common finally comes to be more important than what divides us”* (p.286). He emphasizes the importance of free speech and universal values.

Much of my concern relates to what children are being taught in school, and whether it is age - appropriate. A further worry comes from the apparent downgrading of critical thinking of students in most university departments – not just philosophy, sociology and political science; but also

medicine, physics and the law. This, coupled with the re-emergence of Marxism being seen as a viable social force, has resulted in mass group think, creating a rigid “party line”. Academia is now infested with self - righteous administrators, faculty and students who have pre-ordained that which is considered to be correct and irrefutable. There is much more to consider relating to this worldview, as we shall see below. See a January 2024 article published in “The Hub” ([here](#)), where a senior administrator at a major Canadian university, who feels compelled to remain anonymous due to serious concerns over the repercussions to her career if she reveals her name, provides a crystal clear insider view of the recent detrimental changes to Canadian universities. A January 2024 article in the “National Post”, by a Professor at Concordia University (my alma mater), provides a path forward to reversing the toxic changes endemic in academia today – see [here](#).

Recommendations as to how to avoid being cancelled, or how best to react to cancellation attempts, are found in Donehue (2022), and Nierman & Sachs (2023).

A very relevant question arises, and must be addressed. How many in the general population are actually “woke” or support “woke” values. The answer, in terms of Canada, is that only a very small minority hold views that conform to the “work” world view. The details are summarized in a February 2024 article in “The Hub” entitled, “Canadians aren’t actually ‘woke’: Polling proves they dislike the ideology just as much as Americans and Brits do” – see [here](#). For example, *“Canadians largely reject the woke ideology. For instance, they oppose the idea of separating pupils in class by race—assigning whites as privileged and minorities as oppressed—by a whopping 92 to 8. By 85-15, they reject the idea of teaching children that “There is no such thing as biological sex, only gender preference.”* The author, Eric Kaufmann, concludes that, *“The key takeaway is that culture war issues are far less settled than a lot of mainstream commentary would have Canadians believe. Polling irrefutably shows that Canadians are as inclined as Americans or Britons to disagree with a lot of the woke shibboleths that are present in the media, universities, and other major institutions. As for the political implications, these findings may represent a glaring opportunity for conservatives and a glaring risk for progressives”*.

Goal of the Present Work: In the “woke world” there are dozens of terms and topics that are in some way linked to the expected mind set of adherents. The history of how we got to “this place” is well illustrated in the work of Rufo (2023) who describes the history of the cultural revolution from the inspiration of Karl Marx and his “Communist Manifesto”, to the neo – Marxists of the 1960s in Herbert Marcuse, the Black Panthers, and Angela Davis. He methodically shows how despite the obvious failure of all attempts to put Marxist dogma into practice (e.g., Chairman Mao, Joseph Stalin and Fidel Castro), these utopian idealists, idealizing Black Lives Matter, persist in attempting to overthrow the present system in order to introduce yet another kick at the can. The most glaring example is, after the death of George Floyd in 2020 at the hands of the police in Minnesota, the virtually all White Seattle, Washington enacted a “defund the police” and series of other alleged progressive changes only to see utter chaos and pandemonium emerge with their own governmental system (e.g., CHAZ). For those interested in the genesis of the woke and cancel culture movements, there is no better overview than that provided by Rufo.

The author has yet to see a compendium of the various terms and topics associated with work and cancel culture, with examples. Hence, in the present essay I will explore the terms (words) that are bandied about within the “woke world”. These terms generally represent more abstract concepts which will be described with a definition. There are also a number of topics that are intimately related to woke and cancel culture which will be considered here. These will be illustrated with examples.

Some Considerations: If an author wishes to comment on this social trend, and to be credible, they should have credentials, and even ancestry suited to the topic under discussion, as well as direct first - hand experience with the topics being discussed. These stipulations are pertinent with “wokeness topics” due to racial – ethnic sensibilities that are embedded in much of what is discussed. The subject matter though ranges widely, to include, for example, controversial biosocial matters such as transexual rights, Indigenous issues such as residential school “genocide”, and matters related to the North American Black community including “reparations” for the descendants of slaves.

#### Credentials:

- 1) Ph.D. Medical Sciences (Human Development), 1985, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario.
- 2) M.A. (Distinguished) Psychology, University of Guelph, Ontario.
- 3) B.A. (Honours, Cum Laude), Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec.
- 4) Also studied at the post – graduate level Physiology and Experimental Surgery, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta; Psychology, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec.
- 5) Registered Psychologist (Retired), Ontario (Practice in Forensic Psychology – Child Protection).
- 6) Registered Psychologist (Retired), Alberta (Practice in Neuropsychology – “Criminally Insane” Ward 9B Unit, Alberta Hospital, Edmonton).
- 7) Certified Genealogist (Retired).
- 8) Co-owner of an international D.N.A. testing firm (Retired).
- 9) Volunteer Archaeological Conservation Officer, Southern Grand River Valley, Ministry of Culture and Recreation, Ontario (Retired).

#### Ethnicity and Gender Identity:

English Canadian (English, Irish, German and Dutch United Empire Loyalists), as well as more recent immigrants from Britain. In addition, genealogical and DNA verified Indigenous (Haudenosaunee, Mohawk) and Black (African – American) ancestors. I am a straight male in possession of an X and a Y chromosome – as verified by karyotyping and numerous DNA/ genetic tests.

So, boiling it down, the author is (in today's parlance), a cisgendered old more or less White male, a little right of center on the liberal – conservative political spectrum, and living in a conservative rural county in Ontario where his ancestors have resided for 10 generations; as well as Orange County, California.

### Direct Experience:

Although there are dozens of events with a “woke theme” that could be described, two examples of my direct experience with the terms and concepts to be discussed later will suffice:

- 1) 1969, the 9<sup>th</sup> floor of the main building at Sir George Williams University in Montreal, Quebec was purposely set on fire. The destructive fire emanating from the computer center, caused \$2 million in damage. In addition, thousands of computer punch cards were thrown out windows (these being the data for other student theses). It is believed that the act of arson was set by rioters in support of Black students from the West Indies who, after failing the course, accused the instructor of “discrimination” (i.e., “racism”). The professor was cleared of all charges by university administration. In fact, grades were assigned based on automated multiple - choice test scores. The matter started in May of 1968 and, despite many well – intentioned attempts to defuse the situation, everything seemed only to enflame the matter. The public at large, and most of the students, supported the professor and the university (e.g., in seeing the black smoke emanating from the building, chanting, “burn ni\_\_ers, burn”), expressing anger at the “thugs” being allowed into the country. See [here](#) for further information. As with many other students at “Sir George” (now Concordia) University, my life was severely disrupted – and it is here that I first directly learned of Black activism, saw the damage caused by deploying “the race card”, and the injustice created by those who, without evidence, claimed that they were victims. I saw the damage first hand, and still harbour anger toward these foreign students.
- 2) 2014, at the southern end of the only bridge crossing the Grand River in my hometown of Caledonia, Ontario I stood alone for 30 minutes. This action temporarily stopped an illegal parade (no permits) which was completely disrupting all commercial activity and movement through Caledonia. They were headed to Douglas Creek Estates / Kanonstaton, land ceded (surrendered) to the Crown in 1844 by 47 Six Nations Chiefs, but claimed as “unsurrendered” by activists. Despite the documented surrender, many somehow believed that it was still Six Nations land. The parade was organized by White Marxist - Antifa graduate students from York and Sir Wilfred Laurier Universities who were Indigenous “allies”. I had earlier contacted the supervisors of these students to warn them (the supervisors) that I would hold them responsible if their student committed any illegal or seriously disruptive act. Only a handful of Six Nations militants showed up, including a Hereditary Chief in the car leading the march (this would not be the last vitriolic incident that I had involving this particular Chief). Those in the event also included Canadian Union of Public Employee members bussed in for the occasion, and others such as people waving

Palestinian flags. Despite the many locals present, I was the only one who stood to block the oncoming parade. I was told later, by those standing nearby, that while they wanted to join me, they were too afraid of the consequences.

Although admittedly conservative, I have tried to remain rooted within the bounds of my scientific training, where facts trump unsupported beliefs and opinions.

#### Abbreviations:

BIPOC – Black, Indigenous, People of Color

DEI – diversity, equity and inclusion

GPR – ground penetrating radar

IRS – Indian Residential School

LAC – Library and Archives Canada

PC – politically correct

OPP – Ontario Provincial Police

SJW – social justice warrior

In this article the current author will use the first person “I” to avoid the clumsiness resulting from terms such as “current author”.

#### Woke Terms and Topics with Examples:

##### **General**

- 1) Politically correct – The Oxford Languages definition of this term is, “*conforming to prevailing liberal or radical opinion, in particular by carefully avoiding forms of expression or action that are perceived to exclude, marginalize, or insult groups of people who are socially disadvantaged or discriminated against*”. Ruth Perry of MIT has reported that the term, “*starts in the 1960s, when Black Power advocates, along with what she called the New Left movement, used "politically incorrect" to mean people were out of step with the movement's orthodoxy*”. Over time “politically correct” has come to mean the, “*view that people were overly concerned with multiculturalism and diversity at the expense of rigorous education and free thinking*”. Politicians on the right such as former President Trump, and comedians such as Bill Maher who had a TV show titled, “Politically Incorrect”, are noteworthy for using the term on a frequent basis – see the NPR site [here](#). In many ways “politically correct” is more of an umbrella term today, as the related vocabulary has expanded, PC having been to some degree supplanted by other terms such as “woke”.
- 2) Multiculturalism – This term refers to a country of society that is not homogeneous, but is one where cultural plurality is established. A short definition is that it, “*refers to the existence of differences among a population in terms of racial, ethnic, religious, and other cultural characteristics*”. This awareness may lead to pressures for assimilation into the

dominant society (not necessarily forced). In the Northeast of the United States for many generations the dominant group (numbers and power) derived from the earliest colonial settlers there, the British. Later migrants to these shores frequently assimilated in a seamless way to merge with the dominant group. For example, the large 1709 migration of Palatine Germans to New York were, within three generations, virtually indistinguishable from their British - in - origin neighbours, and with intermarriage they became one people. However, Africans arrived as an enslaved people, and were largely marginalized – although there was “mixing”, and mulatto offspring over time blended into the general population – such was the case with my ancestors.

This assimilation process was challenged, for example, in the opening years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century as large numbers of immigrants from Eastern Europe and countries such as Italy arrived and tended to reside close to others with their background, forming ghettos in places like New York City. More recently in both the United States and Canada people from around the world have come to North America to the point where the numerical advantage of the descendants of early arrivals has diminished dramatically. John Clayton reported that, *“Based upon this recognition of social and cultural diversity, multiculturalism is also a version of political integration which acknowledges the rights and needs of minority groups within the political mainstream the practical adoption of which varies considerably between places and nations.”* The resulting diversity is not welcomed by all. As Clayton noted, *“While multiculturalism emerged as a popular way of dealing with the challenges of social and cultural diversity including inequality and racism, many nations who originally adopted this stance are currently beginning to shift back toward an assimilationist agenda. This has called into question the manner in which diversity should be managed, how issues of multicultural inclusion should be approached, but also how notions of personal and collective identity may be conceptualized and defined in a context of globalisation and postcolonialism”* – see the Multicultural description in Science Direct [here](#).

In Canada, multiculturalism is official government policy. *“With the adoption of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms (the Charter) in 1982, the multicultural heritage of Canadians was recognized in the Constitution. Section 27 of the Charter states: “This Charter shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the preservation and enhancement of the multicultural heritage of Canadians.”*

Within my lifetime, for many years, the French, English and Indigenous were known as the founding peoples of the country. It was believed that others such as Italians would simply assimilate into either the English or the French populations. However, over time, as the demographics changed, the concept of multiculturalism came to the fore as Canada became more diverse. *“This increased diversity is evident from the data from the 2016*

*Census carried out by Statistics Canada, in which more than 250 different ethnic origins or ancestries were reported. The most common reported ancestries were Canadian, English, Scottish, French and Irish, followed by German, Chinese, Italian, First Nations, Indian (from India), Ukrainian, Dutch and Polish. The census data also found that 21.9% of the population was born outside Canada – the highest proportion since the 1921 Census. In 2016, the largest number of immigrants was from Asia, representing 48.1% of the population born abroad. The visible minority population – that is, the non-white population, excluding the Indigenous population – accounted for 22.3% of the total population, up from 4.7% in 1981*". Immigration has now become a contentious topic since the Trudeau Liberal Government is allowing around one million “New Canadians” into the country (typically immigrants have tended to vote Liberal) – without the housing or infrastructure to support the rapid increase – see Financial Post article [here](#).

Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau has repeatedly asserted, without providing evidence, that, “diversity is our strength”. However many are now questioning the “wisdom” of this philosophy, seeing social problems emerging due to the policy decisions. For example, “*Granatstein implicates official multiculturalism and political correctness in the death of Canadian history, both in schools and among Canadian youth in general. He claims that a number of studies in schools and at post-secondary levels of education show that Canadians are learning less and less about their history and cannot pass relatively basic tests about historical events or personalities. Granatstein also argues that multiculturalism policies have helped spread the idea among immigrants and even native-born Canadians that Canada, particularly English-speaking Canada, has no culture and identity of its own*” – see the Library of Parliament site [here](#). Alas, Grantstein and even his then critics have been “cancelled” by the far left, who now control the teaching of history in most if not all of Canada’s universities. Sadly, these are “*ideological radicals who deploy the language of inclusion but are ultimately only motivated by ideological conquest*” – see a December 2023 article in The Hub [here](#).

- 3) Identity politics – The Vox site describes this term as follows, “*‘Identity politics’ is a very vague phrase, but it generally refers to the discussion of and politicking around issues pertaining to one’s, well, identity. The focus typically falls on women, racial minorities, immigrants, LGBTQ people, and religious minorities, such as Muslim Americans. All the social issues you may have heard of in the past several years — same-sex marriage, police shootings of unarmed black men, trans people in bathrooms, the fluidity of gender, discussions about rape culture, campus battles about safe spaces and trigger warnings — are typically the kinds of issues people mean when they refer to identity politics*” – see [here](#).

There is a special focus on White people – which apparently need to learn to identify as such, and to accept that this means buying into the general philosophy of identity politics – including the “fact” that they have been the recipients of “White privilege”, and

experience “White fragility”. As with all simplistic concepts, it does not in any way account for the reality that there are a growing number of mixed - race individuals, some of whom “look” White, and some less so. Furthermore, many who are of Northern European background, find very little in common with those who are from say Greece, let alone being part of the same identity group. So to lump all Europeans, or those with a white skin, or even of European ancestry, into the same category is a procrustean fit.

The term “identity politics” is, in a way, an umbrella term for many of the other topics discussed in this essay – and has been addressed in the introduction above.

- 4) Shift to the Left in Academia – It is believed that upon the retirement of professors who had been members of the Greatest Generation, largely White men who had served in WWII, the Baby Boomer generation arrived after experiencing the movements for social change in the 1960s, and those who entered the humanities and social sciences were more socially progressive, and leaned to the left. Data shows a trend between 1999 and 2016 (when relevant data was available) 20% of professors self – described themselves as politically conservative; and 40% were in each of the Middle of the Road, and Far Left or Liberal categories. More recently the figures are as follows, 10%, 30% and 60% respectively. It is therefore evident that leftist professors far outnumber the 1 in 10 in the conservative category, and therefore there is a lopsided skewing where there is now very low political diversity in most universities at present (Lukianoff and Haidt, pp.110-112).

It might be hoped that students would at some point accept that the route to the truth is via objective fact and evidence and the scientific method. Harvard Psychologist Steven Pinker has stated that, “*The dogma that human nature does not exist, in the face of growing evidence from science and common sense that it does, has led to contempt among many scholars in the humanities for the concepts of evidence and the truth*”. As Shapiro has stated, “*For the most radical, this means attacking the scientific process itself, robbing it of its objectivity, and deriding objectivity in science as a fanciful notion*”.

Clear statements of the rejection of the scientific method can be seen in recent quotes from academics, such as, “*Computational biologist Laura Boykin recently told Wired magazine, ‘Science is at its core systematically racist and sexist’*. Donna Hughes in *Women’s Studies International Forum* ... stated, “*The scientific method is a tool for the construction and justification of dominance in the world*” (reported in Shapiro (a), p.32). These statements are jaw droppingly absurd to “real scientists” such as myself – but they are supposedly popular among the supposed enlightened left. In addition, science, “*has been supplanted by the politics of grievance, wherein results that do not meet with the approval of the Disintegrationists are simply shouted down, and their purveyors blackballed*”. In response to this nonsense, in 2017 a group of Portland State professors submitted hoax articles for “publication”. Among those which were successful included an article suggesting how dog

parks represented, “petri dishes for ‘canine rape culture’”; and another showing how bodybuilding was “fat – exclusionary” (Shapiro (a), p.33). The ridiculous nature of these “submissions” is only surpassed by the evidence this provides as to how far left academia has moved since 2013 or even before, and into the realms of anti – scientific thinking.

This approach was simply non – existent when I received my Ph.D. in Medical Sciences in 1985. It is not progressive, it is regressive, harking back to earlier times when true science, reflected in the views of Galileo, had to conform to prevailing views such as the sun revolved around the earth – or there would be consequences – in this case house arrest for life. However, the abrogation of the focus on the need for medical schools to emphasize the scientific method to train generations of skilled, competent, intellectually curious physicians of the future has devolved into inculcating social justice principals. There are ongoing efforts to, “*do away with their merit – based measures, like the GPA and MCATs, in favor of more equitable ones*” – in other words those which will ensure more minority and marginalized students will gain admission. For example, Deans of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, defended their “new direction”. Now, “*Diversity, equity and inclusion are important factors in our decision. We believe that the quality of medical students and future physicians is reflected in their lived experiences, intersecting identities, research accomplishments, commitment to social and racial justice, and a set of set of core values that are aligned with those of our school*”. The selection of students now weigh heavily on an essay on DEI that each applicant must write – apparently their commitment to DEI is of equal or more importance than critical thinking skills and knowledge of subjects such as biology. Precisely the same criteria are used now at better known medical schools such as those at Stanford and Columbia (Lukianoff & Schlott, pp.197-203).

Where did we go wrong? It comes down to questions such as, “would you rather have the most committed social justice warrior or the most highly skilled individual chosen based on a merit – based criteria do a craniotomy to remove a tumor in your frontal lobes; or for that matter, someone chosen on loosened merit criteria in order to accommodate their intersectional characteristics (e.g., Black, female, gay) to fly you and your family in a Boeing 747 jet across the Continent?”

With the left – leaning atmosphere prevalent in university these days, it is hardly surprising that most students reflect their professor’s viewpoints and have no understanding of, or empathy towards, those who disagree with them and demonstrate a conservative stance toward the topics of the day. The numerical strength of leftist professors leads to confirmation bias, and group think in their students. Hence, the fact that Marxist – inspired woke and cancel culture are firmly embedded in academia today is anything but surprising. Neither is the sudden and ubiquitous spread of conceptual frameworks such as diversity, equity and inclusion “training” for indoctrinating school teachers and corporate executives.

There is as yet no scientific evidence that this programme does anything but sooth the egos of those who insist that it is a must in order to bring to an end to societal disparities. For example, true or untrue adherents to this system maintain that, *“Skin color and ethnic identity often serve as predictors of life outcomes, with Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) consistently lagging their White counterparts”* – see the DEI Program Action Team site [here](#). There is ample statistical evidence that this statement is a distortion if not entirely false (as we will see later).

A succinct statement as to what universities in both the United States and Canada have become as of December 2023 is found in a National Post article where the author states, *“professed liberals espouse illiberal ideas, tolerance is intolerant of divergent views, equity mandates unequal treatment, anti-racism enforces racism, intellectual honesty is a dangerous rarity, diversity and inclusion promote homogeneity and exclusion and anti-semitism is masked as anti-colonialism and anti-Zionism”*. Furthermore, *“Now, academia is not only complicit in the erosion of ethical values, it is leading the way with woke social engineering activism. Teachers indoctrinate students with an illiberal ideology that is hostile to objective research, ideas that deviate from conventional orthodoxy and anything that smacks of conservatism”* – see [here](#). Sad but true.

In the realm of politics, Democrats by in large ascribe to the concept of equity – this includes President Biden and Vice – President Kamala Harris. As the later asserted, *“I’m proud to stand with and by President Biden as we make equity one of the cornerstones of our vision for our administration”*. With statements such as these, prioritizing equity over equality, is it really any wonder why conservatives have turned to an otherwise unsuitable candidate who is a vengeful self – absorbed narcissist and dictator in waiting as their “savior”?

- 5) The disappearance of investigative journalism – This topic is pivotal to understanding why our culture has been allowed to tilt to the left, and to embrace only a single view of topics of the day. It is becoming crystal clear that journalists, as found in bygone eras, have gone the way of the dodo bird and the dinosaurs - they are extinct. This unfortunate circumstance can perhaps best be seen in the reporting of anything relating to the Indian residential schools in Canada.

First it is important to acknowledge the contributions of true journalists over time. A great example is to be found in the movie "The Post" with Meryl Streep and Tom Hanks where the decision was made to publish the content of the Pentagon Papers during the Vietnam War era. I was spellbound at the dedicated, leave no stone unturned, bulldog approach of journalists in that day (the 1970s). The goal was to uncover the truth, irrespective of political or other pressures. The Washington Post was soon to follow up with the ground

breaking and risky reporting of Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein of the Watergate scandal during the Presidential years of Richard Nixon. These journalists were lionized for their ethical approach and dogged determination, and subsequently the applications for admission to schools of journalism skyrocketed.

Today most of the articles written by those who do not buy into the woke social justice approach are, for example, from fields such as economics, or they are retired academics. Journalists (e.g., at the Toronto Star or Hamilton Spectator) do nothing more than report what someone (e.g., an Indigenous activist) said, with no attempt to seek facts that would support, or falsify, the statements that were made. I ran directly into this “phenomenon” when a large number of so – called journalists (reporters) were present at the blockade established by the Ontario Provincial Police to keep “the public” from interfering with the wanton destruction of property (e.g., a tire fire set at the base of a wooden pole with a hydro transformer on top). This was at that moment being perpetrated by activists and allies from the Six Nations of the Grand River Reserve located one mile to the west. They were protesting since their belief was that the land was never ceded back to the Crown and still belonged to them. The reporters interviewed numerous people, including myself. I pleaded with them that the only aspect from my interview which I hoped would appear in print was the date of the surrendering of the land by 47 Hereditary Chiefs – 14 December 1844 - which could be verified by documents in the Library and Archives Canada Indian Affairs Collection. A photojournalist at one local paper, “The Haldimand Press”, did publish a photo of myself holding a sign with the above date inscribed on it but without further details. Only the opinions of the spokespersons from the Indigenous people appeared in print in the newspapers from larger centers such as Hamilton and Kitchener - Waterloo. I knew at that time that we were in trouble – these journalists were only there to obtain the views of those considered marginalized, not those of local residents unless these statements were neutral or supportive of the BIPOC individuals, and certainly not to do any investigation to uncover the truth – even when it was placed in their hands.

In 2020, New York Times columnist Bari Weiss was maligned from both outside and inside the newspaper, although in no way a conservative or right leaning individual, there were some “problematic” comments among her eclectic points of view which irritated the “wokerati”. She was hounded into resigning, and in her letter of resignation she said, “*a new consensus has emerged in the press, but perhaps especially at this paper: that truth isn't a process of collective discovery, but an orthodoxy already known to an enlightened few whose job is to inform everyone else*”. As Shapiro says, “*Which leaves those who wish not to be purged with two simple choices: Stand up together against this round of Maoist purification, or hang separately*” (Shapiro (b), p.114).

By 2021 investigative reporting had collapsed to an all time low. As an example, a reporter from the Hamilton Spectator who on 25 September 2021 wrote an article on the upcoming "truth and reconciliation" day (30 September) and what we should be doing to commemorate it. This is a day where we are to reflect on the "horrors" of the Indian residential school history of Canada, as well as of "genocide" and "colonialism" of a flawed Canadian society. This reporter said that the reason we should all be doing this is, "*the confirmation of unmarked, mass or otherwise undignified graves of Indigenous children and youth connected to residential schools*". As we will see later, there is not a shred of real evidence to support this statement – no "confirmation" what – so - ever. Clicking on the author's name here provided a two - sentence biographical sketch wherein is found the statement, "*She brings her queer perspective to equity and inclusion issues*". So apparently knowing that this reporter is queer is more important than knowing their academic credentials. How far and how fast we have fallen.

Today schools of journalism crank out clones of their woke and BIPOC professors who have completely lost sight of their mission - in the service of political correctness. It seems unlikely that this "state of affairs" will change any time soon, thus we will be spoon fed Marxist - inspired leftist propaganda while the truth is disparaged if it does not comport with the currently accepted political views - as opposed to the objective verifiable evidence demanded by journalists "in the old days". As Steve Paikin (respected Canadian journalist) reported in a January 2024 "The Hub" interview, today journalist schools teach students that their role is to pick a side and then become an advocate for that side. This is in sharp contrast to previous times when the role of a journalist was to objectively, empirically and using provable facts, present a story and allow the reader to arrive at their own conclusion. Paikin advises the journalists of today to get out of the "outrage business" – see [here](#).

Unfortunately, newspaper editors have been subject to the same pressures to conform to the woke mob. In 2020 my opinion piece about the virtual war – time conditions we in Caledonia were suffering through was published by the Hamilton Spectator – see [here](#); as was as a follow up article by a friend who is a lawyer in my County – see [here](#). Since 2020 I have submitted letters to the editor and other opinion pieces to newspapers across the country about this and other matters involving Indigenous people – however not one was published, and at this point I realize it is a hopeless cause since it is clear that I do not espouse the party line woke doctrine.

The situation is no different for newspaper cartoonists. In 2017 a local cartoonist included a cartoon showing an Indigenous man and his son, both masked, and the father saying to the son while holding a tire, "*Using the traditional lighter, you ignite the traditional tire, before adding it to the traditional road block*". That was so right on, but it would never, ever be "permitted" today.

I not only suffered through the endless tire fires at road blockades in Caledonia since 2006, but was directly impacted by the 1990 “Hagersville Tire Fire” which was known even to relatives in England as it burned for weeks creating an ecological disaster. Hagersville was my hometown at the time (same county in which I still reside). It was ignited by youth from the nearby Six Nations of the Grand River Reserve. But we must not speak of these things ...

- 6) BIPOC – this term stands for Black, Indigenous, People of Colour. If you are not White then you are a member of this broad community, and the assumption is that you have been marginalized by the supposed White colonial settler establishment in North America. Objectively defining this group can be problematic but those who use it are seldom going to split hairs – if you are not of European descent then you are BIPOC. If one were to probe the simplistic version of the definition it is not clear where, for example, Arabs and East Asians fit into this mold since objectively many are “whiter” than many Europeans. However, South Asians (e.g., India and Pakistan) are among those defined as BIPOC. Thus the term cannot (should not) mean a simple skin colour definition. It is not difficult to see a BIPOC = good; and White = bad perspective in those who chose to deploy this term. See the WebMD site [here](#) for further information.

Radical leftists in the Democratic Party in the United States have gone so far as to say, “*The concerns of people of color should be driving politics today and into the future*” (Shapiro (a), p.xxv). Is it any wonder that many old stock rural Americans (e.g., from the Red States) have turned to the far right and Donald Trump, an otherwise deeply flawed individual, since he is the only one with thechutzpa to say exactly what many White Americans are thinking. In other words, that they have been demonized by the left for believing in America, and thinking that for example, “taking a knee” or not standing for the Anthem is deeply disrespectful (Shapiro (a), p.xxvi).

- 7) Allyship – The Inclusive Employers site defines this term as, “*someone who is not a member of a marginalised group but wants to support and take action to help others in that group. Allyship in the workplace is crucial for inclusion and equality*”. Futhermore, “*the most widely used definition comes from Nicole Asong Nfonoyim-Hara, the Director of the Diversity Programs at Mayo Clinic, she says ‘when a person of privilege works in solidarity and partnership with a marginalized group of people to help take down the systems that challenge that group’s basic rights, equal access, and ability to thrive in our society’*”. Also, “*You could be an ally to different racial and ethnic groups, religions, LGBTQ+ identities, disabled people, anyone for who society has created barriers*” – see [here](#).

The author's experience with Indigenous allies was noted above. A very interesting example of the behaviour of allies relates to very unpleasant activities at Evergreen State College near Seattle, known for its "quirky progressivism". Here, in 2017, the College, "slipped into a state of anarchy". The offbeat aspect of the College, went from "zero to sixty" in a heartbeat in what can only be described as a very bizarre series of events. However, in terms of self – described (White) allies of the "marginalized" students on campus their actions showed how quickly they could turn on the supposedly oppressed students. During the protest where truly strange demands were made, such as when a campus police officer who was trying to de – escalate the situation complied with student demands; come back unarmed. When she complied she was greeted with "expletives and slurs". Then some of the "students of color" spoke in support of the teacher who was the target of the protesters acrimony, and asked to hear from other students who were not protesters. As a consequence, they were "*shouted down and called 'race traitors'*". In other words, they were not showing suitable appreciation for the allies who were "fighting on their behalf". White students who were not protesting "were not allowed to speak" (Lukianoff and Haidt, pp.114-116). Although initially there was no media interest in the matter, until one of the professors spoke about his experiences on the Tucker Carlson show on Fox TV. Almost instantly there was a frightening backlash from the right, with online threats of rape and death, to protesters and other supporters, and the "I know where you live" kind of intimidation emerged. Therefore, a great deal of ugliness ensued from both the far left and the far right in connection with the events at Evergreen College.

- 8) Critical race theory – As a definition, Education Week provides the following, "*Critical race theory is an academic concept that is more than 40 years old. The core idea is that race is a social construct, and that racism is not merely the product of individual bias or prejudice, but also something embedded in legal systems and policies*" – see [here](#). This view, as put forward by Robin DiAngelo, asserts that racism is ubiquitous in the United States, and can be found as systemic racism (see later) within each element (e.g., politics, the legal establishment) of American society causing racial disparities. The current issue in relation to this theory is whether it should be taught in the classroom to our children as the truth, and not up for debate. Former President Trump issued an Executive Order banning the teaching of CRT in the classroom. CRT is intimately intertwined with the 1619 Project and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion teaching. It is another divisive issue with "progressives" and "conservatives" at loggerheads in how, or whether, to put CRT into the school curriculum. In 2022 Florida Governor Ron DeSantis put into law the banning of teaching CRT in the K-12 schools in the State – see the WUSF Tampa NPR site [here](#). Many State educators, however, assert that it has never been taught in the Florida schools.

Not all Blacks are onboard with this “theory” either. For example, John McWhorter describes it as a, “*fragmented, performative ideology, one that ... to explicitly reject linear reasoning, traditional legal theory, and even Enlightenment wisdom*” (p.63).

- 9) White guilt – This is a concept encouraged by the “wokerati” which asserts (overtly or covertly) that White people should feel strong pangs of guilt for the supposed sins of their ancestors. Merely having been born White in North America, according to this line of thinking, means that you are a settler colonialist. The ante is upped of course if for example one has a slave owning ancestor of 7 generations ago - this should elicit guilt in descendants today – to the point where they would for example “see the wisdom” (become woke) in offering reparations to descendants of slaves. It appears that few White people are able to name even one great grandparent so it would come as a great surprise too many to learn that their ancestors owned slaves (as was the case with myself). Therefore, apparently just by being White, one should shoulder some sort of guilt by proxy.

Many Whites do in fact feel guilty over racism and related topics. This may result in a form of “Stockholm syndrome”. This strong empathic guilt - ridden identification with BIPOC individuals and their supposed struggles may lead some White people to try to assuage their guilt by becoming allies. Of course the guilt can never totally disappear since one’s skin colour is a forever marker. An extreme example is Rachel Dolezal, a White female who for years attempted to “pass” for Black, and become a vocal advocate for Black causes. It has been said that she was so obsessed with racism and social justice that she “over – identified” with Black people – see the Washington Post article [here](#). There may be a link to the problem in Canada which has recently come to the fore – pretendians – those who identify so strongly with Indigenous people that they take on an Indigenous persona. The most high - profile case, one that came to light only recently, is that of Buffy Saint Marie. She is a Canadian icon who over her long career claimed to be a Cree from Northern Canada, whereas the very strong evidence uncovered by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation shows that she was born in Massachusetts to an Italian – American family – see [here](#).

- 10) White fragility – This concept is related to White guilt, but positing a purported built - in defect of White people where defensiveness is shown by them when the topic of racism is discussed (for example in DEI training sessions – see later). Here they are forced to confront the unpleasant realities of their own part in for example systemic racism and the culture of White supremacy (see above) in which they were raised, which has contributed to the marginalization of BIPOC individuals or groups. Those who wish to learn more about this concept can read an article, using as an example the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, by Robin DiAngelo, a White woman who has written extensively on this subject – see [here](#). A very thoughtful critique of the entire concept of white fragility, and

DiAngelo's take on it, as dehumanizing condescension, and a "racist tract", is provided by John McWhorter, a Black academic whose views can be seen [here](#).

- 11) White supremacy – This concept that can cut two ways. The term might be used by far right or fascist groups who believe that White people are superior to, and should dominate, all others. It has provided a justification for the Jim Crow laws in the United States, and apartheid in South Africa. The belief is closely associated with groups such as the Ku Klux Klan and the Proud Boys. The concept is without a modern scientific foundation, however the belief in White supremacy remains intact among members of far - right groups to this day. Objectively the concept stands on shaky ground since, for example, DNA testing has revealed that a minimum of 20% of those who identify as Whites in the Southern United States have some Black ancestry.

However, the term White supremacy also has a different meaning, one which underpins much of what the social justice warriors on the left believe. Frances Lee Ansley, who is a legal scholar, defines the concept thus, "*By 'white supremacy' I do not mean to allude only to the self-conscious racism of white supremacist hate groups. I refer instead to a political, economic and cultural system in which whites overwhelmingly control power and material resources, conscious and unconscious ideas of white superiority and entitlement are widespread, and relations of white dominance and non-white subordination are daily reenacted across a broad array of institutions and social settings*" - see the Faculty of Education York University (a very illiberal Canadian institution) site [here](#).

- 12) Whiteness – Here is what is found on the above website in relation to the concept relating to this term, "*Whiteness refers to the construction of the white race, white culture, and the system of privileges and advantages afforded to white people in the U.S. (and across the globe) through government policies, media portrayal, decision-making power within our corporations, schools, judicial systems, etc.*" – see the Portland Community College site [here](#).

I have difficulty in relating to anything found in this statement since I was raised in a region in Canada where there was "only Whiteness". We were taught that Canada had two "founding peoples", the English and French, and later First Nations were added to the mix. I did not see a Black person until I was in High School – and he was not there for long. What the social justice warriors on the left fail to realize is that for many of their parents and grandparents, at least in French and English Canada, there was "only Whiteness" and so they need to adjust their assumptions to fit the correct data – unless ignoring Baby Boomers is de rigeur. It was only as a teenager working at Expo 67 in Montreal, and in university, where I was exposed to "people who did not look like me". I was, however, well familiar with the Indigenous Mohawk of what was then called Caughnawaga and now

Kanawaki on the other side of Lac St. Louis where I resided. In moving back to my ancestral County in Ontario as an adult, there was nothing “different” from my early Quebec experiences other than a large group of recent Dutch immigrants and an Indigenous population directly across the road. In visiting Toronto as an adult, I was aware of Black, South Asian and East Asian populations which resided in that vicinity – but that was not my “lived experience”. When I later learned that I was a descendant of African American individuals I embraced this revelation. I have written extensively on these ancestors after making this discovery, the documentary evidence confirmed later by DNA testing.

- 13) White privilege – A definition here is, “*The unquestioned and unearned set of advantages, entitlements, benefits and choices bestowed upon people solely because they are white. Generally white people who experience such privilege do so without being conscious of it*” – see the Alberta Civil Liberties Research Center site [here](#). There is an assumption that if you are White, and successful economically, this is because you enjoyed the advantage of having been born into a group who for generations have been able to use their “Whiteness” to climb the ladder of success without the barriers that must be surmounted by BIPOC folk. This concept does not fly well in many areas of North America – primarily those that are rural (and for example Trump supporting). If one wants to see examples of “White underprivilege” it only takes a visit to any of the counties in East Kentucky, such as Owsley, which, although they are almost exclusively composed of White people, are the poorest areas in the country – with grinding poverty built into every aspect of their lives. Recently (mid December 2023) a CNN reporter attended a “Redneck Christmas Parade” in rural Louisiana and interviewed many of those present. This is also an area of dilapidated houses and beaten - up trailers – homes to the townspeople. If there is worse poverty surely it would be hard to find. Interestingly, in response to the question of who they would vote for, all (including a Black resident) said, “Trump”. Many acknowledged that he has flaws but believe that he “cares for them”. They see Joe Biden as having created the economic doldrums that they find in their community – despite objective evidence to the contrary. However, perception is one’s reality.

If White privilege was true, as seen by leftist progressive activists, it is surely difficult to explain why Whites are NOT at the top of the income ladder. The 2020 American Census shows that the highest income earners are Asians, either East Asians (Chinese, Korean, Japanese) or South Asians of Indian ancestry. Males in the latter category earned more than \$39,000 a year more than White males. It is likely no coincidence that members of these non – White groups outnumber White males in the halls of the upper – tier universities. If the social justice warriors were interested in true justice, they would explain why they rail against Whites when the evidence “out there” completely demolishes their assumptions.

14) Hating Whites – This, according to one author, is the new “national sport” despite the fact that there are many Blacks and other BIPOC groups who dislike Whites (e.g., because of slavery, White privilege, etc.) – but this is seldom mentioned. The over-riding belief is that Whites hate Blacks (and certainly some in fact do), but the converse cannot be true. A cursory examination of the literature emanating from the BLM should quickly dispel this one-sided belief. The word “cracker” or “honkie” leveled by Blacks against a White person are not a neutral-terms. There are haters among every group (see Brodow, 2023).

What is perhaps most surprising is that the White hatred extends to White people. Yes, many Whites are angry and embarrassed that nature took the turn it did and made them irretrievably White. They hate being White (something they cannot change – although Rachel Dolezal made a concerted attempt) and turn their anger both inward against self, and outward against other Whites who they perceive as not respecting their “favourite” protected group. As noted above, in discussing White guilt, somehow by becoming an “ally” of a marginalized group it must help to allay their self-loathing. By identifying with this protected group they likely feel some sort of kinship with them, and no matter what the issue, come to their defense, thereby feeling better about themselves and their Whiteness.

In an article in the Washington Examiner we find the following, “*The Left's rhetoric has been replete with racist, and just plain racist, anti-white rhetoric, which has really picked up in the last five years. This includes all the insinuations that whites living today are privileged and thus culpable for racist violence by other whites, both living and long dead*”. Furthermore, “*According to the FBI Crime Data Explorer, hate crime offenses with an anti-white bias have reached their highest levels in 20 years. There were 1,072 such hate crime offenses last year — the most since 2000, when there were 1,088. These hate crimes tend to go under the radar because the media, politicians, pundits, academicians, and other “experts” tend to play up such stories only when they advance a leftist narrative about the ubiquity and danger of white supremacy*” – see [here](#).

Some of the most egregious examples of hating Whites, are from “high ranking” individuals, such as, Nikole Hannah – Jones, the creator of the influential “1619 Project” (see below in this essay). She stated that, “*The white race is the biggest murderer, rapist, pillager, and thief of the modern world*” – over the top? See Brodow, p.6 for seven similar quotes from other luminaries.

15) Cancelling history – In the days of my youth I was taught to be proud of my country and the contribution of my ancestors to our history. Today’s “progressive left”, in particular the young (e.g., teenager Greta Thunberg) whose frontal lobes have yet to fully develop (which occurs in their 20s), seem convinced that they have all the answers. Many believe that our

culture, history and traditions are an embarrassment, built upon the actions of generations of racists and colonialists, all orchestrated by aged White males. They appear to have no awareness that history means change and moving forward, and so will apply their norms and standards to a time when the world was a very different place, and fail to realize that their belief systems of today simply would not have worked “in days of old”. They use emotional rather than rational thinking and denounce those who do not meet their standards, and who deserve to be “knocked off their pedestal” (often literally). During these witch hunts, they do a cursory examination of history and cherry pick out those events or statements which fit their pre – conceived notions of who is “acceptable” and who is not. They are the arbitrators here – judge, jury and executioners. Discussion or debate are unnecessary.

Later I will discuss many different examples of those who failed to meet the litmus test of quality expected by these smug arrogant set of individuals. Their goal is ultimately to “purify” and “diversify” history – never accepting it for what it was, warts and all, but what it “should have been”. As in the days of the Bolsheviks, the purges begin. Statues to those who history, and many of us who understand history, revere or even dare mention, receive a “knock on the door”. Their images are dragged away to be unceremoniously, for example, dumped in a harbour, or sprayed with red paint, toppled, and demolished. There is seldom any consequence for this criminal act, so they are emboldened to continue – next victim please. That would be Queen Victoria, Sir John A. Macdonald, or Egerton Ryerson in Canada. The first of these is a bit of an anomaly since she was a woman, but the others are old White dudes and so no controversy here.

Even when the claims of the “progressives” are outlandish, they will be believed by many if they fit the current viewpoints such as Canada being a “genocidal” country. For example, the claim that the Hudson’s Bay Company distributed smallpox – infected blankets to Indigenous people makes no sense what – so - ever to anyone who has even a cursory understanding of history. The Indigenous people were the reason why some of the investors of the HBC became rich – it was the beaver and other animal pelts brought to the HBC “factories” that enriched the Company. Would they really kill the “golden goose”?

The upshot is that the long arm of the Marxists will demand, and get, for example, a museum to “decolonize” its collection to reflect the requirements of the mob. Meanwhile the average Canadian or American is left wondering what has happened to our respective countries since 2020. In this year COVID and the death of George Floyd while in police custody in Minnesota seem to have pushed an existing agenda to the forefront. In Canada 2020 saw the reported discovery, using ground penetrating radar, of unmarked graves of children who attended an Indian Residential School. Now one single actual body has yet been unearthed – but that does not matter since facts and evidence do not matter, only beliefs).

Clarion calls have gone out from the far left to “cancel Canada Day” and even “cancel Canada” due to nothing more than a belief that non – specific marks on a GPR screen represent actual remains of children buried some time in the past by nefarious Church or Government officials anxious to cover up a secret.

It is a blessing that recently there has been pushback – even by historians – against this ill use of history. The following is from a December 2023 article from the Financial Post, “*Canada has plenty to celebrate. And we should do so more often. We should also examine our mistakes in honest fashion in order to better grasp how and why they occurred and ensure they don’t happen again. Popular history that distorts the actual evidence to produce a cadre of aged villains marked for censure and deletion won’t make Canada a better place to live today. Just emptier. And a land without ghosts can never truly be alive*” – see [here](#). Also see Milke (2023).

In the United States Ben Shapiro has been in the forefront of those who warn of the “disintegrationists”, the political leftists such as Bernie Sanders and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, who believe that, “*The America of the past had to be left behind. American philosophy was corrupt and exploitative; American culture was racist and cruel; American history was a litany of abuses, punctuated only by sporadic revolutions directed at overthrowing her philosophy and culture*”. Furthermore, they claim that, “*America’s traditional history is a myth; that the true story of America is a story of exploitation, that the ideals of the Declaration of Independence were a self – flattering parody when written, that the Constitution of the United States was meant to enshrine power hierarchies, as well as bigotry of all forms. America has been an imperialist monster hell – bent on world domination, a propagator of rapacious capitalism, a false democracy ... The American flag itself represents nothing more than a cynical joke*” (Shapiro (a), pp.xix-xxi).

Both American and Canadian history are under assault at this time.

- 16) Systemic racism – The definition given by the National Institutes of Health (PubMed) website is, “*Systemic racism is said to occur when racially unequal opportunities and outcomes are inbuilt or intrinsic to the operation of a society’s structures. Simply put, systemic racism refers to the processes and outcomes of racial inequality and inequity in life opportunities and treatment. Systemic racism permeates a society’s (a) institutional structures (practices, policies, climate), (b) social structures (state/federal programs, laws, culture), (c) individual mental structures (e.g., learning, memory, attitudes, beliefs, values), and (d) everyday interaction patterns (norms, scripts, habits). Systemic racism not only operates at multiple levels, it can emerge with or without animus or intention to harm and with or without awareness of its existence. Its power derives from its being integrated into a unified system of racial differentiation and discrimination that creates, governs, and adjudicates opportunities and outcomes across generations. Racism represents the biases*

*of the powerful (Jones, 1971), as the biases of the powerless have little consequence (Fiske, 1993)” – see [here](#).*

This term is seen or heard in many contexts on a daily basis, typically with assertions about the under or over – representation of Blacks or Indigenous people. Some, including Blacks, don’t happen to agree with the “skewed evidence” that racism is embedded “everywhere” (see Thomas Sowell, 2023), and so deem it as unproductive to explore this concept further, but rather will focus on more specific terms and concepts often linked in some way to the assertions of “systemic racism”.

- 17) Affirmative action – The Oxford Languages definition of this term is, “*in the context of the allocation of resources or employment ... the practice or policy of favoring individuals belonging to groups regarded as disadvantaged or subject to discrimination*”. The Cornell University Legal Information Institute, in looking at the origins of this programme, states, “*While the concept of affirmative action has existed in America since the 19th century, it first appeared in its current form in President Kennedy's Executive Order 10925 (1961): ‘The contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, creed, color, or national origin’*”. An example is, “the University of Michigan's Undergraduate Admissions Office using a points - based system in its admission process. The office added points for an applicant who was an underrepresented minority” – see [here](#). As with so many well – intentioned programmes, ultimately it resulted in unintended consequences.

In a nutshell, this approach values quotas over merit as a means of selecting those who are for example admitted to a university.

In relation to affirmative action in academia, Thomas Sowell, the well – respected Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institute, Stanford University, who happens to be Black, noted that, “*Many social policies help some groups while harming other groups. Affirmative action in academia manages to inflict harm on both the students who were not granted admissions, despite their qualifications, and also many of those students who were admitted to institutions where they were more likely to fail, even when they were fully qualified to succeed in other institutions*” (p.126).

It is one thing to admit more “under – represented” group members to elite institutions such as UCLA, and even turning cartwheels to ensure that they graduate, but these positive optics must be assessed in relation to what comes next. For example, these students in law at elite schools will have to face the bar exam, where they may falter. However, most Black and Hispanic students admitted to UC Berkley, thanks to the affirmative action policy, on the basis of S.A.T. tests barely above the National average, failed to graduate. Meanwhile,

White students admitted with scores 200 points above the National average, and Asian Americans with even higher scores, were likely to graduate. Therefore it can be considered as “cruel”, setting students up for failure, where affirmative action policies dictated that, whatever adjustments were required, more Blacks and Hispanics had to be admitted to these upper tier schools. Alas, these “minority” students, due perhaps to arriving at university from under – funded, under – performing schools, they were simply not prepared for the challenges ahead and so fell back, and many dropped out of university. It seems very unfair since these students may have done well in middle - of - the - road universities. In other words, if there is a mismatch between student preparedness, and the college to which they are admitted, there is no magic system which can compensate for this reality and “make it all better”.

While the focus here has been on affirmative action in academia, a much more comprehensive consideration of the topic is found in the book by Thomas Sowell noted below. It is replete with data on the spectrum of social justice fallacies.

Affirmative action as a policy in college admissions was struck down in a July 2023 ruling of the Supreme Court; having violated the Equal Protection clause in the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the Constitution – see Mediaite article [here](#).

- 18) Equal opportunity versus equal outcomes – This concept on the surfaces is relatively simple. It is the position (as reflected in Title IX of Federal Law) that all students at educational institutions who receive Federal funds must provide equal access or opportunity for men and women to prevent discrimination. In terms of sports, it was mandated that the athletic interests and abilities of both sexes be equally accommodated. The concept evolved by 1996 to emphasize the expectation of equal outcomes. This put pressure on schools to achieve something in the order of gender balance, which frequently meant cutting men’s sports programmes to ensure that the objectives were attained. The evidence, however, clearly shows that from an early age boys and girls do not show equal interest in sports – with boys and men showing much higher interest in both watching and playing sports than women – however men and women show equal interest in obtaining physical exercise, but less interest in playing team sports among the latter. Of course some women are considerably more interested in team sports than some men – but this is not the average. There is really no equivalent to Friday Night Football at American High Schools (all players being male). Perhaps someday there will be a cultural shift towards softball (a sport where women show interest and ability) but it is not yet on the horizon. If the interest factor in relation to sports was in fact equal then equal opportunity and equal outcomes could come to fruition, but as it now stands attempts to force the issue is a procrustean fit and it does perhaps more harm than good.

Here I have emphasized sports as an example to illustrate the differences between opportunity and outcomes – where the Federal regulations at the time were placed. However, the concept can be easily co-opted for many other circumstances and groups. Social justice activists (SJWs) have run with the concept to assert that what must happen is that educational institutions and occupations must have equal outcomes that reflect the demographics of the population – so that half will be female, 15% African American and 15% Latino (Latinex in current parlance). *“Any departure from those numbers means a group is ‘underrepresented’, and underrepresentation is often taken to be direct evidence of systemic bias or injustice”* (Lukianoff and Haidt, p.225). An example of this belief is found in a statement by Vice – President Kamala Harris. In a video she asserted that, *“emphasized that equity is attained only when there are equal outcomes — when both the privileged and disadvantaged get to the top of the mountain. The video summed up the position of many progressives: Replace the goal of “equal opportunity” with the goal of “equal outcomes”* – see The Hill [here](#).

This is not what the originators of the concept meant, but it is consistent with the SJW view of the world. In order to attain these goals society would have to start from square one and ensure, for example, that the number of Black males being raised in single parent home led by a woman (mother or grand mother) would be equivalent to that seen in White families. It has long been known that children (Black or White) raised in two parent homes do much better on average in scholastic endeavours (for example). However since about 1965 when, thanks to government intervention, a woman’s income would increase with each child in the home, the number of Black single parent homes has been increasing. To expect equal outcomes in the face of these realities is simply unreasonable. Equal outcomes are attainable, but not until a vast array of societal changes take place. In other words not in 2023. This is not “racism”, this is “reality”. See Lukianoff and Haidt, or the Stanford University site [here](#), or the Department of Education side [here](#), for a more thorough treatment of the matter.

- 19) Diversity, Equity, Inclusion – This programme is also known simply as DEI. It is now widely found in the corporate world, and more concerningly has made significant inroads into the academic sphere. It has even impacted local governments. Our very rural and culturally homogeneous County has recently hired a DEI Officer. Why? Diversity means, *“Differences among people with respect to age, socio-economic status, ethnicity, gender, physical and mental ability, race, sexual orientation, spiritual practices, and other human differences”*. Equity means, *“refers to the policies, practices, attitudes, and cultural messages that are representative of all members of society, such that each member has access to resources that eliminate differential outcomes by group identity”*. Inclusion means, *“A state of being valued, respected and supported”* (see [here](#)). Clearly there are

immense pressures in current society to buy into this increasingly powerful “movement”, which on the surface seems quite innocuous.

It is now expected, if only for reasons of optics, that any group in society show that it is supportive of DEI – otherwise there will be a perceived price to pay. The apparent goals are to ensure that there is greater representation of groups considered as marginalized or under – represented. This includes women, BIPOC individuals, LGBTQIA+ people, religious groups, cultural groups, the disabled, the neurodiverse – pretty well any except cisgendered White males (who are the target audience of the re-education sessions). The latter are to be convinced that they need to relinquish their advantages to others more deserving – or else.

An example well worth describing in detail relates to a DEI professional development presentation by a Black woman, Keki Ojo – Thompson, founder of the KOJO Institute, to school educators. When she said that Canada was more racist than the United States a respected Principal, Richard Bilkszto, had the audacity to question this statement which had been provided without evidence. The presenter bullied and badgered this Principal saying (on audiotape) that he was an example of “White supremacy resistance”. She made comments such as, “you and your Whiteness”. The upshot is that the teacher was distressed with the lack of support from his colleagues, his firing (contract not renewed), and the negative attention and continued bullying from Ojo - Thompson, such that he committed suicide. The “presenter” showed no empathy or understanding of Bilkszto’s perfectly reasonable question, and some would say that she has blood on her hands. It was at that point, and listening to the drivel presented by a person who appeared to be much more racist than anyone in her audience, that I have now become a vocal opponent of any and all aspects of the DEI as it now exists. See Conrad Black’s article in The National Post [here](#).

At the root it is clearly a Marxist – inspired indoctrination programme masking as a progressive approach to perceived (in some cases manufactured) problems. There is little evidence that DEI programmes are successful except to the financial bottom line of the industrial complex built up around promulgating this rapidly spreading movement.

Calls to dismantle DEI have intensified since the appearance of three presidents of prestigious American universities at a Congressional hearing in December 2023. All refused to denounce calls on campus for Jewish genocide. As I was writing this essay, an article appeared in the “The Orange County Register”, by David Pan, a professor at U.C. Irvine, entitled, “*DEI programs only lead to divisiveness, bigotry*” - see [here](#). He, for example, maintains that, “*While the focus on diversity at colleges may be well intentioned, such policies are not only harmful in the way that they promote bigotry. They also divert*

*our attention from the real source of our problems in failing primary and secondary schools”. Therefore, “improving the percentages of Black and Hispanic students at universities, we would need policies such as school choice to give parents the ability to take their children out of failing schools and find better ones for them”.*

A clear example of how many Canadians now see DEI is to be found in a January 2024 Letter to the Editor of the “National Post” by William Clancy. The summary statement reads, “*D-diversity censors free speech. E-equity rejects merit. I-inclusion is segregation. One need look no further than our backyard to see what happens to a country governed by DEI rot. Canada, a once proud and prosperous nation, is now divided without a moral compass and soon to be financially bankrupt. The sooner DEI dies, the better*” – see [here](#).

There are encouraging signs that DEI is beginning to wither on the vine. As Joe Oliver has said in relation to the situation in the USA, “*a crucial battle against institutionally entrenched interests has started, aiming to abolish “diversity, equity and inclusion,” a divisive, essentially racist ideology that undermines excellence, integrity and productivity in academia and the workplace. That battle has not really begun yet in Canada*” – see January 2024 Financial Post article [here](#). The situation viz a viz the business world in the United States is reflected in the January 2024 article in “The Hill” seen [here](#). The summary statement is, “*Most Americans want our corporate institutions to move away from extreme ideologies. It’s time to return to the American formula of producing great products and services, not pushing agendas*”. The fact that DEI does not work, and is even counter productive can be seen in a February 2024 article in “Aristotle Foundation” aptly entitled, “*DEI Should Die*” seen [here](#).

While it is understandable that DEI has permeated humanities and social sciences departments, as well as legal studies at many if not most universities, the infiltration of STEM departments (e.g., engineering, mathematics) is puzzling. These include basic sciences such as physics and chemistry, as well as (and this is truly troubling) medicine. In a February 2024 article in the “National Post”, a tenured chemistry professor, Leigh Revers wrote an article entitled, “*Even U of T’s [University of Toronto] scientists are captive to the irrational ideology of DEI: Professors subjected to diversity-based performance evaluation, lab agreements encoding ‘power’ hierarchies as identity politics takes over*”. The author notes that, “*the remorseless onslaught of critical social “justice” driven by the diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) commissars who now pervade our universities’ administrations long ago approached the gates of the science, technology, engineering and medical (STEM) disciplines, and have now, Odysseus-like, smuggled a Trojan horse into the walled city of reason that was built on the foundations of the western Enlightenment. A hostile takeover is imminent*”.

Furthermore, *“Amid the febrile ideological skirmishes that have begun to break out across Canadian university campuses, the impartial observer would quickly conclude that dark clouds are gathering over our modern society when they notice academic scientists contemplating ushering such counter-rational notions as “Indigenous science” into their classrooms. The thought that a new generation of physicians in Canada might qualify in the profession believing the ancestral knowledge and value systems of the Inuit and Métis should play as much a role in your diagnosis as an MRI scan seems at once risible and regressive to most Canadians. But, if you trace that doomsaying prediction back to today’s university quadrangles, you soon realize that it is merely a logical consequence of what we ungovernable, outspoken academics are now planning to teach”* – see [here](#).

This is a truly frightening prospect. I am familiar with these so – called “Indigenous ways of knowing” which are rooting in inconsistent belief systems. How can we, “regular” North Americans, stand by and allow this to happen. This is what my children and grand children will be exposed to – taking precious time and effort away from valid world – wide accepted systems of science – based diagnosis and treatment. As a medical scientist, it is beyond belief to me that supposedly rational members of the medical community would tolerate this atavistic step back towards the Middle Ages.

At the University of Toronto, some very nefarious changes in the name of DEI are being imposed on professors (most of whom are not on a tenure track and so highly vulnerable in their position). Professor Leigh Revers lays out the future within academia, reporting, *“At the town hall, meanwhile, new concerns arose. The dean, Prof. Nicholas Rule — a newcomer to campus who has been described to us as “a stalwart advocate of equity, diversity and inclusion” — for the first time has required all faculty to supply him with a DEI statement this year as a part of our annual performance evaluations. Several of us are nervous, and perceive this new bureaucratic requirement as an ideological litmus test, knowing that we might well be drawn into a lie to ensure our continued good standing in the eyes of the watchful administration. And so we listened attentively”*. Absolutely Orwellian!

- 20) Deplatforming – Among the best definitions of this concept is that of Wikipedia, which states the following, *“Deplatforming, also known as no-platforming, has been defined as an ‘attempt to boycott a group or individual through removing the platforms (such as speaking venues or websites) used to share information or ideas, or the action or practice of preventing someone holding views regarded as unacceptable or offensive from contributing to a forum or debate, especially by blocking them on a particular website”*. In addition, this concept extends to, *“Controversial speakers invited to appear on college campuses have faced deplatforming attempts to disinvite them or to otherwise prevent them from speaking”* – see [here](#).

Apparently since 2000 there have been 469 attempts on American campuses to deplatform speakers who had been invited to speak on a subject. In addition to organized social media attempts to discourage others to attend any such presentation, if the speaker makes it to the university and begins to speak, their voices will be suppressed by a crowd of protestors (usually with placards) blocking the speaker's route, or loud heckling in the auditorium making it impossible for the speaker to be heard. An example from 2019 is that of the "No Safe Spaces" presentation by two speakers who were advocating for free speech involving censoring and groupthink on campus. An example being, "*a school district removes the word "chief" from job titles because it might offend indigenous peoples*" – they documented and made a video of their "deplatforming" – see [here](#) for the "National Review" description.

An example very close to home for me is the deplatforming of the late Christie Blatchford, one of Canada's last true investigative reporters (the Bob Woodwards of North America have largely vanished). She investigated the "insurrection", or "domestic terrorism" which the residents of my hometown of Caledonia, Ontario were exposed to by Indigenous activists who maintained (falsely) that land there was unsurrendered and still owned by Six Nations. As a consequence they occupied a housing development in southern Caledonia in 2006 (and still occupy to this day). We were subject to violence, vandalism, arson, theft and just about every anti – social behaviour one might imagine. The OPP were unable to contain the situation so we were required to find our own way to manage our day - to - day life among all this chaos. In 2010 Ms. Blatchford published a book about our struggles and suffering, entitled, "*Helpless: Caledonia's Nightmare of Fear and Anarchy, and How the Law Failed All of Us*". She told the truth. The local Indigenous people, and particularly their White allies, found it offensive. I well recall when she was asked to speak about her book at the University of Waterloo, and student activists sprung into action, and she was "disinvited" due to supposed security concerns. How dare she speak the objective truth!

21) Free speech – The definition of this term from the website of California State University at San Marcos is, "*Freedom of speech is the right of a person to articulate opinions and ideas without interference or retaliation from the government*" – see [here](#). In addition to "government", clearly one could add "academia". A hallmark of modern democracy is free speech. It is enshrined in the American Constitution as the First Amendment. The "deplatforming" noted above largely boils down to suppressing free speech.

Among the best sources for this subject is Greg Lukianoff (e.g., 2023) who is president and CEO of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) whose focus is on free speech in higher education. Of all the universities in the United States, Harvard is dead last in terms of its tolerance of free speech – no surprise considering recent developments involving former Harvard President Claudine Gay a crown jewel of the DEI appointees.

It is very encouraging that some American universities, in contrast to the abysmal record of Harvard University in recent years, have redoubled the efforts to assert that their institution promotes free speech and the exchange of diverse ideas in an open environment. The University of Michigan Board of Regents created, “*updated principles that were drafted by university faculty and officials, who said the principles reemphasize the university’s commitment to freedom of expression and diversity of thought*” – “The Detroit News” January 2024, see [here](#).

- 22) Antifa – These letters stand for “anti – fascist”. It would be admirable to be anti – fascist if it meant someone who was against Nazism in all its forms. However on university campuses it means someone who has bought into Marxist philosophy and believes that politicians, the police, White males etc. are inherently fascist by espousing and protecting capitalism and the oppression of minority groups and the proletariat. Therefore, at any march or parade supporting, for example, “trans rights”, they are likely to show up. However in the past members of Antifa have inserted themselves in positions where they orchestrate the activities of the march, and are often associated with the vandalism and violence which frequently breaks out at protest marches, as they intentionally create the chaos which reflects what they believe is needed for change to occur. They are often members of the “Black Bloc” who wear all black, including coverings of their face to disguise their identities. They are the most violent of the protestors.

Antifa members frequently become “allies” of Indigenous groups, such as those “allies” spawned from the graduate student bodies at York and Wilfred Laurier Universities who were found at most of the protests in Caledonia in support of the false land claims by Six Nations activists – and I have had very direct experience with most of them at one point or another.

- 23) Marxism and the “New Left” of Marcuse – It is interesting that Karl Marx was of a Jewish background on both sides of his family. Jews are a group that today is the target of the not only of far- right bigots, but also the “progressive left”. Antisemitism is becoming rampant on university campuses and elsewhere. Dr. Jordan Peterson (University of Toronto, Harvard) said the following, “*The universities and the idiot, cowardly and delusional academics, administrators and students who inhabit them have gone over, en masse, to the land of the postmodern nihilists and their pathological meta-Marxism*” – see the National Post article [here](#).

Marxism with the emphasis on the “struggle” between the proletariat (workers) and capitalists (owners of the means of production) has returned with a vengeance despite its obvious fatal flaws. The works of Marx such as “Das Capital” and “The Communist Manifesto” have been very influential to leftist causes. The SJWs clearly have not studied

history at any depth or they would have noted the bitter struggle of Eastern Europe to rid itself of the Marxist – Communist – Bolshevik curse. This system had created a society that no one except the rich commissars who pulled the puppet strings of the “proletariat” would wish on any society that values freedoms. Think North Korea.

During my time as an undergraduate student, I studied the works of Marx, Lenin, Trotsky etc. and found their assumptions for a “better” society seductive at the theoretical level, but absurd and unrealistic when attempting to put forward an actual plan that would create this utopian society. The Soviet Union and China were hardly places most would tout as “utopian” in any way, shape, or form. I did visit China in the year 2001 as a tourist and was impressed at the progress (e.g., in Shanghai) seen since allowing a modified capitalism to prevail there.

Marxism underpins much of the philosophy of the leftist social justice warriors. However, the “father of the New Left” is Herbert Marcuse, a German Marxist who “revived” Marxist philosophy, with the left – the oppressed being the new proletariat; and the right - (business leaders, military), the party of hate, being the new capitalists. He believed that the best way to restore freedom of thought was via a revolution, a reversal of the power dynamics requiring professors to indoctrinate their students to ensure success of the supposed noble goal. This is precisely what is happening in the academic world today, and leads to popular leftist movements such as intersectionality (noted elsewhere) that have infiltrated not only faculties of education and the social sciences, but also are impacting STEM programmes and legal studies.

As someone who spent 11 years in university, it is haunting to see what is going on in academia today, when there are close parallels in modern history which led to massive societal upheavals, death and destruction – both the far - right fascists and far - left communists used the same tactics. The Communist Revolution led by “Chairman Mao” saw the arrests of all “intellectuals” and hence potential subversives with pro – capitalist sentiments. Ultimately students formed the Red Guard to root out any elements of those who might hold bourgeois and capitalist values, and who were successful in life. They ultimately turned on their teachers, who were interrogated, tortured and imprisoned (if not killed outright). Ultimately any “intellectual”, which included university administrators, would be dragged off to be re – educated (if they were lucky). Then friends, relatives, colleagues were encouraged to spy on and report any instances of anti – Communist activity or sentiments. It became virtually impossible to speak in support of anyone identified as a subversive, since their supporter too would be tarred with the same brush. One might wonder how far off we are today from something of this nature developing out of the radical leftist cancel culture of today. The chaos or anarchy is exactly what Antifa wants in their attempt to overturn the current capitalist order in North America, and they

would likely be willing to do the “dirty work” needed to bring this about. How far will things have to go before the rational elements in society demand that the brakes be put on what seems to be an out - of - control far left take - over of the media, academia, and to some extent the corporate world.

See the Lukianoff and Haidt (2018) for further details relating to this topic.

24) Safetyism – “refers to a culture or belief system in which safety has become a sacred value, which means that people become unwilling to make trade – offs demanded by other practical and moral concerns. ‘Safety’ trumps everything else, no matter how unlikely or trivial the potential danger” (Lukianoff and Haidt, p.30). This links up to the topic of “trigger warnings” (see below). Unfortunately, many Gen Z people come to university after the coddling of parents and expect not to feel anything unpleasant or which they interpret as emotionally dangerous. Here words are perceived as dangerous. Many of the older generation would say, “suck it up buttercup – wait until you get out in the real world where all these ‘safeguards’ will not be available”. So should we prepare young people for the world as it is, or cater to their (and those of the allies) demands to be free of being uncomfortable. Research has shown that they will become more fragile, less resilient and more likely to feel like a victim. There is a growing awareness that if we cave to these “demands” we will be doing a disservice to young people. However, in today’s political climate they may be given what they demand due to the otherwise bad optics experienced by those who fail to provide these services.

25) Safe space – This term “links to “safetyism” above, with some students now claiming that due to words that other students or professors might utter, they do not feel safe on campus and need a place to retreat to. It seems that only Gen Z is making these demands, but they are being supported by their professors of all generations – such is the creep or infection that has emerged in our “halls of higher learning”. Gen Z is the most coddled generation – who are likely to take offence to a single word or gesture which makes them feel uncomfortable and they demand to be protected. I am not talking about feeling safe from campus shooters, a very valid concern today, but words. The expectation used to be that words could challenge students, and a healthy debate and resolution would ensue. Now, especially those who fall into some “marginalized” category, want to be bubble wrapped to allay their worries about what might be said on campus. This of course does not prepare the students for life in the wider world – there are no safety rooms in the workplaces where they will find themselves situated in a few years. The concept of safetyism is dealt extensively in the book by Lukianoff and Haidt (2018). For example, they give the example of Brown University offering, “rooms with cookies, colouring books, bubbles, Play-Doh, calming music, pillows, blankets, and a video of frolicking puppies, as well as students and

*staff members purportedly trained to deal with trauma*” (p.28). Unbelievable, totally counterproductive, but it is what it is.

This concept has morphed to include what amounts to supporting a return to the days of the Jim Crow laws, and civil rights before the movement led by Dr. Martin Luther King. As a child I recall visiting the American South and seeing “Whites only” signs, and water drinking fountains for “Coloured”. These were the “bad old days” – but unbelievably they have returned, and racial segregation is being promoted at universities in 2024. An article entitled, “*Black-only swim times, Black-only lounges: The rise of race segregation on Canadian universities*” in the “National Post” the author provides concrete evidence that racial segregation is still part of the landscape, but is seen as “progressive” and placed under the banner of “safe spaces” – see [here](#). These initiatives are found at the University of Waterloo and the University of British Columbia. Profoundly disturbing.

- 26) Trigger warnings – Imagine attending university and being hypervigilant and constantly scanning the environment to find those things that can “trigger” emotional experiences and thus putting your “safety” in danger. This “triggering” could happen by walking by a statue of someone (likely a dead White male) who they associate with some particularly salient topic such as racism; or in attending a lecture where the professor said a word that elicited a most uncomfortable feeling. These negative emotional reactions in coddled students often result in the student seeking a safe place (which some campuses offer – as seen above). This context can hardly be conducive to learning, especially if such learning might involve debates and the exchange of opposing views.

The recognition of this reaction in some students has resulted not only in the creation of “safe spaces”, but also extending far outward to the media where now many television shows are preceded by “content warning” statements to the effect that the content could (although often not) contain violence or sexual material that some could find upsetting. Therefore, the warning expresses the possibility that the viewer might be offended or be upset (triggered) by what is seen in the programme. No doubt this phenomenon, seen only in the last few years, relates to the possibility of being sued by someone with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or having experienced (or worried about) a perceived traumatic event (e.g., the school bullying the author was subjected to daily as a child). Now instructors in the classroom are advised to provide trigger warnings in their syllabus or red flag a lecture that may include emotionally sensitive content. Many would see this a further coddling the Gen Z students who cannot tolerate being upset over most anything. Much more detailed information is available from the [my trigger warning to conservatives – it is mostly leftist content] University of Michigan site [here](#).

27) Words are violence – In but another example of “concept creep” where labels are changed or even reversed in order to suit the views of the “progressives”, the term violence has now, in some quarters, come to mean something very much “out in far - left field” – words can be violence. So with this understanding, mere speech that one does not agree with can be a threat to feelings of safety. At one time this could lead to productive debate and exchange of ideas, but today words can be as daggers to the mind and emotions of those who are hypersensitive. For example, a seminar might be arranged at a university on how BLM demands and protests have led many police officers to be hesitant to enter and interact with those living in minority areas, which in turn results in those people being more vulnerable to crime. It is difficult for many to see how this could be harmful to attendees – since for one thing, there is the option of simply not attending. However, the activists on the left will hear nothing of this – the words spoken could cause “damage”, so the seminar cannot be allowed to proceed. Calls go out on social media to “mobilize” and “shut it down”. There will be statements such as, *“Engaging with her, a white supremacist fascist supporter of the police state, is a form of violence”*. In the past few years this scenario has frequently played out with radicals blocking entrances, pulling fire alarms, using bull horns to drown out the voice of the speaker, and even putting up a blockade to stop the speaker from leaving – as in “de – platforming” above. These hypocrites then have erected a firm dichotomy where words that support “our cause” are always acceptable, words that do not support their position are a form of violence.

Some instances of this leftist driven attempt to muzzle all those who believe that words can equate to violence, that Whites are evil, and that these holders of “ultimate truths” seem to be complete insanity and only likely to be found in a dystopian novel. However, this is all too real on the university campuses of today. At Reed College in Portland, Oregon a group of student activists attempted to cancel a humanities course focusing on the ancient thinkers of Greece (who had a profound effect on society even down to today). The reason. These classical scholars were those considered to be White, and so their views were irrelevant or dangerous. The students made the professor’s attempts to teach futile since they would, for example, often hold placards and make aggressive and even vulgar statements while positioned near her. Her requests for students to be respectful of her health since she suffered from PTSD were met with derision. The college administration did not come to her defense so she was on her own to cope as best she could. As this gay, mixed – race woman said in a Washington Post article (behind a paywall so see [here](#)), *“No one should have to pass someone else’s ideological purity test to be allowed to speak. University life – along with civic life – dies without the free exchange of ideas. In the face of intimidation, educators must speak up, not shut down”*. Furthermore, *“If I, like so many colleagues nationwide, am afraid to say what I think, am I not complicit in the problem?”*. This brave educator, however, by taking a stance for rational free speech, is liable to be “cancelled” – removed from her post – since the administration is petrified of the consequences of failing to support “the mob”.

These “progressive” students continue to test the limits, and each time they meet with success they are emboldened, and with the help of their enablers in administration, they will “up the ante”. Where this is going to end up nobody knows – but at present things are not looking bright for those students who are interested in getting an education, and a degree, without constant distractions meted out by the radical element.

So the old, “sticks and stones may break my bones but names will never hurt me” that was prevalent in my time at school and university have evaporated with the coddled students now on the constant lookout for something, things people say (words), that may cause them to believe that they are being exposed to violence. Once again, the Lukianoff and Haidt book provides many more examples.

28) Snowflakes – A word which can mean someone who is hypersensitive and abreacts to any perceived slight or circumstance which makes them feel uncomfortable. It can also mean someone who considers themselves or their cause as uniquely important, who due to their exceptionality (see below) should receive special consideration (also see the “joke” at the end of this essay).

29) Exceptionalism – A dictionary definition of this term is, “*the idea that a person, country or political system can be allowed to be different from, and perhaps better than, others*” – see the Cambridge Dictionary site [here](#).

In the “lived experience” of myself, the group who put forward this view most frequently and most vociferously, is the Indigenous population living closest to Caledonia, Ontario. Since 2006 they have shown that they believe that they are different from the rest of us to the point where they can flagrantly violate the law and expect, and receive, no consequences. Their belief that the land where Caledonia sits was never surrendered to the Crown is false. The land was ceded by 47 Chiefs on 17 December 1844. The upshot was that their belief was that they had the right to disobey Canadian law and occupy (violently) two housing developments in the south of town. Since then they have used a cut hydro tower to drag across the highway and entrance to the town, set tire fires across the roads, and torched the Stirling Street Bridge. They also stole \$2 million of heavy equipment in order to trench the main roads and the railway tracks – but no consequences since not only they consider themselves to be exceptional, but so does the Ontario Provincial Police who are supposed to serve and protect us. At the worst of times the OPP established “no go” zones and any non – Indigenous person residing “across the line” was at the mercy of these domestic terrorists who required them to show a concocted ID card to be able to go to their own homes. The wanton vandalism and destruction was simply ignored by the OPP who seemed helpless to intervene.

In a recent court ruling relating to the occupation of yet another housing development site, where laws of every description were flagrantly ignored in a manner that no non – Indigenous person would ever escape time in the Barton Street Jail, the judge made an unbelievable ruling. It was based on a narrative given by a McMaster Native Studies instructor who explained how mitigating factors are the “Two Row Wampum” treaty need to be taken into consideration. This item is in fact a 300 – year - old trade agreement between two Dutch traders and a handful of Haudenosaunee individuals, and physically represented in a wampum belt with parallel lines. It was not by any stretch of the imagination a ”treaty”, which was the conclusion of 13 of 14 academics writing on the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this concept. However, this historical document “explained” in court, meant that the actions of the perpetrators were justifiable, according to the Native Studies “expert” witness. I am still shaking my head in disbelief that the major players were allowed to continue walking the streets – no jail, no fines. If that is not an example of “exceptionalism” I don’t know what is. See the article in “Two Row Times”, a newspaper on the Six Nations of the Grand River Reserve, [here](#).

During the protests at the “1492 Land Back” site (McKenzie Meadows) the OPP established detours since the local roads were trenched. The author, in taking this detour came within a whisker of being killed in a head on collision where a car bolted away from a stop sign while their vision was blocked by an 18 - wheeler truck which was struggling to get across the tiny detour bridge. I was furious, and I am still angry. These “protestors” almost cost me my life, and if I am not experiencing PTSD, I should be. I would consider filing a law suit but because of the two – tiered law system I would be doomed to failure.

30) Virtue signaling – The Cambridge Dictionary defines this term as, “*an attempt to show other people that you are a good person, for example by expressing opinions that will be acceptable to them, especially on social media: Virtue signalling is the popular modern habit of indicating that one has virtue merely by expressing disgust or favour for certain political ideas or cultural happenings*” – see [here](#). The most classic examples, in my experience, involves the behaviour of the Canadian Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, a former drama teacher. Despite being seen in Black face and exhibiting examples of cultural appropriation, he has become the “Canadian apologist in chief”. When the unverified find of the supposed graves of over 100 children who supposedly attended the Kamloops IRS, he was virtually on his knees begging for forgiveness of the part of Canada for this behaviour. Under pressure, he agreed to call this “genocide” (despite no tangible evidence and the obvious misuse of this term). He ensured that the flags at Parliament were at half mast for half a year, and he expressed his embarrassment on behalf of the Canadian people. So he was virtue signaling – “look what a good and woke person am I – I have done the right thing by caving to every demand of every pressure group”.

There is as yet no objective evidence (3 years later) that would justify his behaviour at the time – but he hoped that this acknowledgement would get Canada and himself off the hook in terms of being seen as a genocidal country. The result was that this fed into movements to assert (wrongly) that Canada had committed “genocide” with the IRS situation. When many took exception to this ill usage of the term, it was changed to “cultural genocide” a neologism to express the view that it was Canada’s attempt to divest all Indigenous people (only about 1/3 of whom at the time attended an IRS) of their language and culture. There is no objective evidence that this is true at all such schools, despite the rewriting and cherry picking that ensued to justify the use of this word. Words matter – apparently Canada’s reputation on the world stage does not matter to these virtue signalers.

31) Microaggressions – An NPR site provides the following definition of this term, “*Conversations with coworkers, friends and family are essential to pushing back against racism. While it's important to understand the history and systemic factors that play into racism, it's important to also confront what's known as "microaggressions." These are the thinly veiled, everyday instances of racism, homophobia, sexism (and more) that you see in the world. Sometimes it's an insult, other times it's an errant comment or gesture*” – see [here](#). Admittedly, there are times when I have deployed the “stink eye” in looking at someone, but it is not reserved for members of any particular group. However, there is no way of knowing whether the “target” even perceived this “message”. If the “target” happened to be a member of a “protected group”, it might lead to an ugly scene. This concept of microaggression, however, is a set up for all walking on eggshells, and a formula for avoiding social interactions particularly with individuals or groups most likely to be offended. The hyper – awareness of microaggressions offers but another tool to place in the social warrior’s vocabulary, to drive but another wedge between groups in society. The message here is that it is safest to “hang with” members of your own group – why risk problems that could lead down the road to cancellation.

32) Cultural appropriation – The National Institutes of Health site states the following, “*Ethnic hairstyles. Sports mascots. Runway fashion. We’ve all seen examples of cultural appropriation. Yet, the difference between cultural appropriation and appreciation is not always clear. Think of cultural appropriation as the ‘selecting of certain aspects of a culture, and ignoring their original significance.’* In March 2018, the Oxford English Dictionary defined cultural appropriation as: “*The unacknowledged or inappropriate adoption of the practices, customs, or aesthetics of one social or ethnic group by members of another (typically dominant) community or society*” – see [here](#). Apparently these days one is expected to stay in one’s cultural lane. Celebrities such as Katy Perry have found that ignoring this dictum could have a detrimental affect on one’s career. Her “crime”, she dared to put her hair in cornrows – which apparently is only an option for Black women. She did enough grovelling and so this all passed with time.

Indigenous people are in danger of becoming irrelevant in the mind of the general public. Attempts to removed the name “Cherokee” from a beloved 4 – wheel drive vehicle, and insisting on the expunging of the name of sports teams such as the “Washington Redskins” could backfire. No longer are kids allowed to dress up as Indians at Halloween. Out of sight out of mind.

Prime Minister Trudeau dared to wear an India Indian costume (he was a drama teacher) which did not get him in as much hot water as when he (twice) dressed in “black face”. Now authors have to be careful in choosing characters to put in their work. As one author has said, this would mean that Shakespeare could only speak about glove makers in Stratford – Upon – Avon, England. In particular, White people are advised not include Black characters in their novels since that is “not their experience” (O’Neill, 2018).

It occurs that a Canadian example does not seem to have received the scrutinizing one might expect. In the years before COVID a rock blasting specialist appeared in the TV reality show, “Highway Thru Hell”. This programme features stories of about the work of “heavy iron” tow truck operators in helping keep Highways in British Columbia open especially during periods of intense snow activity. At times rock slides after heavy rains drop giant boulders on the asphalt, too large to be moved by standard means. At this point an explosives expert known as “Rasta Blasta” is called in to use dynamite to shatter the rock into more manageable chunks. In the world of today, especially since 2020, he is at risk of being accused of cultural appropriation since his long dreadlocks are characteristics of Rastafarians of Jamaica (think the late Bob Marley). Perhaps, he identifies as Black, or perhaps he just “likes the look”. He has not appeared in recent episodes of the show – perhaps he is now perceived as “problematic” (only one of many possible reasons).

The fact is that humans have thrived when “borrowing” from other groups since the Stone Age. It is a process that has been around since our species first emerged, and what we see today is an amalgam of the absorption of cultural influences from around the world. I would venture to say that until very recently no one considered this cultural borrowing anything but positive. The influence of Black Gospel music in that of Elvis Presley is unmistakable, and he had no trouble in acknowledging those who contributed to his unique style. Anyway, I promise not to wear a sombrero.

- 33) Intersectionality – This is a term denoting an us versus them theory where there are the privileged and the oppressed, and where the primary axes of oppression point straight to the one address – straight White males. Also, “*intersectionality is the concept that all oppression is linked. More explicitly, the Oxford Dictionary defines intersectionality as ‘the interconnected nature of social categorisations such as race, class, and gender, regarded*

*as creating overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage'. Intersectionality is the acknowledgement that everyone has their own unique experiences of discrimination and oppression and we must consider everything and anything that can marginalise people – gender, race, class, sexual orientation, physical ability, etc. First coined by Professor Kimberlé Crenshaw back in 1989, intersectionality was added to the Oxford Dictionary in 2015 with its importance increasingly being recognised in the world of women's rights" – see [here](#). Crenshaw's views on Intersectionality as of 2017 can be found on the Columbia Law School site [here](#). The concept is closely linked to Critical Race Theory today.*

One of the serious problems with this approach is that it is fostering a simplistic dichotomy. Today's students are being taught that the top of the series of intersecting lines is privilege (e.g., White, Upper Class, Cisgender, Able – bodied), and below is oppression (e.g., Poor, Female, Transgender, Disabled). It is framed as a power structure, seemingly immutable, where the ultimate transgressor is a cisgender, White, male. It is us (the good ones, always the oppressed) versus them (the bad, always the privileged). So students who buy into schemas such as this will always side with those they perceive as oppressed such as the Palestinians; and will demonize those they perceive as privileged such as the Jews.

34) Victimization – Today it seems that just about everyone who can, identifies as a victim of something or other (e.g., bad parenting; being a member of a “marginalized” group). It seems as if, whatever the circumstances, there will be a group to help with one's “victimization”. Blacks frequently believe that as a group they are victims of White police brutality and even singled out for “driving while Black”. The truth of those statements without caveats is up for debate. Hispanic people in East Los Angeles frequently complain of being targeted by Hispanic police officers – country of origin playing a role. Many Indigenous people (by no means all) play the “victim card” with abandon, believing they are victims. Over the years many Canadians have bought into the Indigenous = victim belief to the point where allies come to their defense even when their cause is outlandish or does not relate in any way to an issue within their own territory. The victim card can and is used to avoid responsibility (e.g., crimes where White Canadians would be sentenced to jail terms by the Justice system) and to “get stuff”. Victims have a priority in their ability to loosen the purse strings of the Federal and Provincial Governments. Lately, on three occasions, government agencies have handed over millions of taxpayer dollars to search for the bodies of children who are allegedly buried near our local IRS (Mohawk Institute). No matter how many false blips appear on the GPR, and digs done by archaeologists which came up with nothing, the Six Nations demand, and are given, money for even more work. When is enough enough?

35) Islamophobia – Over the past few years, as more Muslims have emigrated to Canada and the United States, there has been a backlash largely due to the well documented numbers of those in this religious community who have, for example, blown themselves or others up with a body bomb. No other culture goes to that extent – plus all the terrorist attacks, especially in Europe, but one cannot forget 9/11 in New York City. One only has to think of the author Salman Rushdie who wrote “Satanic Verses” which resulted in a “fatwa” issued by an Imam – basically “kill him if you get the chance”. Then there is the violent fall out from the “Charlie Hebdo” cartoon in France with 32 dying during violent rioting – all because the cartoonist dared to include an image of the Prophet Mohammed (an extreme no – no for observant Muslims).

Therefore there is a good reason why many North Americans are hesitant about Muslims. We have learned of many Imam – inspired terror plots foiled by agencies such as the FBI. So why should the descendants of old stock and other North Americans wish to have other potential terrorists waiting in their midst. If a man who is standing on the right in front of an American citizen (old stock or recent immigrant), and is dressed as an Imam or wearing a Palestinian keffiyeh; and a man on the left is dressed in a business suit – would it be in any way unusual if the American felt that he or she might have more to fear from the man on the right? Would it really be wrong for me to feel uncomfortable at a rural conservation area where I have always felt a special connection seeing a woman in a black canvas sack with only a slit for her eyes, or a chador which is a cloth covering the entire body of a woman head to toe? Why would this site not strike a negative cord in myself? My immediate reaction is to question whether she is sporting this garb voluntarily or via “persuasion” from the patriarchy of her culture.

It is not politically correct to even mention what is the truth if it may “unfairly” stigmatize one group – but what about what is true – is the scenario above true or not true? A problem is that clothing can be an indicator of “otherness”. However, I want to make it perfectly clear that there are many Muslims and people from the Middle East who are just as Canadian as anyone here. They celebrate their Canadian identity and Canadian culture. However, across the world most identify first as Muslims well before any adopted national identity.

A phobia is an “irrational fear”, mediated by the amygdala embedded in the temporal lobes of the cerebral cortex. I would argue that it is not in the least irrational to be fearful or anxious due to the above circumstances. We would be naive not to be wary. Now the left want to make “Islamophobia” a crime that can be prosecuted and punished via criminal law. What is two faced and hypocritical is that currently the primary target of hate in North America are Jews. Is there no “Jewophobia” identified. Leftists carrying Palestinian flags and LGBTQ banners are supporting the former, yet ironically the culture in the Middle East is extremely anti – gay. Why have the social justice warriors not rallied to the defense

of the Jews who at the time of this writing are finding enemies from the left and right (shortly after the October 7 atrocities in Israel perpetrated by the Jew - hating Palestinian Hamas organization).

Those interested in further information on this subject, complete with statistical analyses (e.g., on the numbers of people on the terrorist watch list world – wide with almost all being from Muslim dominant countries) see the works of Concordia University professor Gad Sudd (2020).

- 36) Antisemitism - It is more dangerous in North America to be a Jew, who are currently targets of assorted extremists. Antisemitism is rampant. There is nothing to suggest that there is anything that American or Canadian citizens have to fear from Jews. There have been Jews in North America since Colonial times. There is no instance where, for example, a Jew has blown themselves and others up via a body bomb. The difference is likely that the Jews tend to be highly successful and therefore not on the leftist victim list of protected individuals. Yet I can think of no other group who, for the last 2,000 years, has been the targets of oppressors and victimized through pogroms, and banishment or genocide by groups such as the Kings of Europe who owed them money – see [here](#). The fact is that situations such as we see now with 7 October, brings out the rabid and crazed from the woodwork – including Jewish self – haters such as pro – Palestinian Norman Finkelstein (ironically the son of Holocaust Survivors) who viciously condemns everything about Israel in the most abhorrent terms – see [here](#).

Most university students (perhaps over 80%) are left leaning, and the overwhelming support being shown for the Palestinians despite the objective evidence that Hamas, the government of Gaza, is one of the most brutal groups on the planet and committed unspeakable atrocities on 7 October. There are campus protests, with overwhelming support on almost all of them for the Palestinian “cause”. One might suspect that the few in number conservative colleges such as Liberty University in Virginia would be less likely to turn in this direction – but the radical ideas of the left have permeated so deeply into the halls of academia – one wonders if they too will “fall into line”.

As these pro – Palestinian protests intensified on university campuses across North America, and students began calling for genocide against Jews, the United States Congress established a committee to look into the matter. Three presidents of the most prestigious universities were called to testify. They were asked whether their university condemned the call for Jewish genocide. All equivocated in their answers, inserting qualifiers. While they squirmed and wiggled a lot in their seats, they refused to give an unqualified yes or no response. These women did their utmost to avoid answering what was a very simple yes or no question. Clearly they were “infected” with the politically correct dogma of the day, and the realization that there were large pro – Palestinian movements on campus who

would probably attempt to “cancel” them if they denounced any and all calls for a Jewish genocide – see National Post article [here](#).

Our ultimate saving may be the fact that there are at least a few in academia, and more step forward daily, who are willing to risk going against the Marxist – Marcuse “party line” and support the State of Israel’s right to exist, and call – out the barbaric Hamas “freedom fighters”.

Recent events, however, show that there is a backlash against the support of Hamas on both American and Canadian universities, for example coming from potential employers in the legal field. Basically these corporate executives are asking for lists of those students who signed the pro – Hamas petitions submitted to university administrators. For example, *“In October, billionaire hedge fund chief executive Bill Ackman and other U.S. business leaders demanded that Harvard release the names of students whose organizations had signed a petition solely blaming Israel for the deadly Oct. 7 attacks by Hamas, in order to ensure that the signatories were not hired “inadvertently” by their firms”*. Thus, *“The result was instantaneous — and revealing. Many of the erstwhile “progressive” pro-Palestinian students suddenly had their come-to-Jesus moments, claimed confusion and asked that their names be removed from those letters. The sacrifices they had undertaken to obtain admission to Harvard quickly superseded the political cause du jour.”*

As Howard Levitt stated, *“Canada is now having its Harvard moment.*

*“I have written previously about the anti-Semitic petition signed by 74 law students at Toronto Metropolitan University’s Lincoln Alexander School of Law denying Israel’s right to exist and blaming it for Hamas’ Oct. 7 atrocities”*.

*Our firm and others, I wrote, had been asking TMU students whether they had signed the petition in order to avoid hiring those that did, informing them that a false answer would be cause for discharge if discovered. As I noted in the column: “What law firm would want to hire a racist, let alone a student whose name would now feature prominently when it is searched on Google, thereby causing embarrassment to the firm that employs them?”* – see Financial Post article [here](#).

TMU is Toronto Metropolitan University, which up until the previous year, was known as Ryerson University. This university was named after Egerton Ryerson the founder of public - school education in Ontario, and great friend to the local Ojibway people – an entirely uncontroversial figure until 125 bogus or unsubstantiated “graves” of students who attended an Indian Residential School in British Columbia were “detected” by ground penetrating radar (but no tangible evidence) in an orchard on the Reserve on which the IRS

was situated. Leftist historians “discovered evidence” (failing to take into account the broader narrative) that Ryerson was associated with the founding of these schools so he had to be cancelled. Petitions were signed, and violent acts occurred on the campus, such as toppling the statue of Ryerson (see later). Caving in to pressure from students and others, the university was re – named to the abysmally unimaginative, Toronto Metropolitan University. The names of all these student protesters can be obtained, and employers have every right to deny employment to someone who engages in acts that would violate company policy. So their ill – considered actions may come back to bite these students in their respective asses.

It would seem ludicrous if not entirely true, but university teaching assistants in all departments at York University in Toronto are being advised to teach students about “Palestinian liberation” rather than course relevant material. Specific quotes from a January 2024 article in the “National Post” include, *“Let us collectively divert this week’s tutorials to teaching on Palestinian liberation,” reads the 15-page document circulated by CUPE 3903, the union representing York’s contract and part-time faculty.*

*The document adds that tutorials should be diverted to condemnations of the “Zionist Israeli state” regardless of the course that the TA is supposed to be discussing.”* This is hardly surprising to myself based on my experience with York graduate students and CUPE back in 2014 during the “parade” noted earlier in this manuscript. Of course the mandatory accusatory statements of the “genocidal Canadian colonial settler state” will be found in their “recommendation” statement. See [here](#) for full article.

It is not only in academia which have been swamped by antisemitism, but also as far as Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his government, where only crickets have been heard from his office in relation to the frightening scenario of escalating antisemitism. As Rex Murphy stated in a National Post article of December 2023 relating to an anti – Jewish protest, *“the affair at the Eaton Centre — the “I’ll kill you” soliloquy, which was and was meant to be menacing, which crowded a store shouting ‘Zara supports genocide’ (as far as I know they didn’t smear it with red paint — maybe Canadian Tire was out of crimson) was clearly outside the range of peaceful normal Canadian protest. But all is still and silence from the PMO. I presume, as no one’s pronouns were offended, or Pride banners defaced, all is well as far as the government is concerned”* – see [here](#).

The antisemitic streak in the political sphere is apply demonstrated in the reaction of the British Columbia New Democratic Party “leadership” in relation to a single statement by a long – serving Education minister, Selina Robinson, a Jew. As described in a February 2024 article by Rahim Mohamed in the “National Post” (see [here](#)) Robinson commented on X that Israel was built upon a “crappy piece of land”. This is objectively true considering

the powerhouse state Israel is today, but insulting to the descendants of those living there when Israel was created in 1948. Hence there was a massive Palestinian – Muslim protest to which the government caved. The Premier accepted the resignation of Ms. Robinson (allowing her to be cancelled) – despite her apologies. This is the same Premier of the Province who, on Holocaust Remembrance Day, “Tweeted” his solidarity with the “Muslim Community” of the Province. Seems highly hypocritical, but bashing Jews and supporting Muslims has apparently become official Canadian government policy. Once again an excellent source for this subject is Gad Saad (2020) who is a Lebanese Jewish person, who is a refugee of the wars in his home country, currently a professor at Concordia University in Montreal.

37) Institutional “problematic” cultures – In many instances accusations are made that the entire workplace “culture” is tainted with all the tropes noted above and so defy neat classification. In one of the most outlandish examples of this phenomenon, the entire recent issue of the “Canadian Military Journal”, involving 13 essays, was devoted to a scathing criticism of the Canadian military. The content is but one of the reasons why I am glad that one of my sons retired early on as a pilot in the Canadian Forces. The Canadian Forces have been chronically underfunded for years now, and are an embarrassment known world – wide. The problem can be laid at the feet of the current “woke” Federal Government, whose priorities are with issues which allow virtue signaling (e.g., climate) rather than defending the borders of the country. My father and my mother both served as sergeants in the Canadian Army during WWII where Canada played a highly significant and widely recognized role in helping to stop the Nazi steamroller.

Now we focus on amplified cultural ills within the military – those which are in keeping with the DEI world – view as reflected in the content of the most recent issue of “Canadian Military Journal”, a journal which is typically concerned with military history, strategy, new technology and the like. However, as seen in the summary of this issue, posted in a January 2024 issue of the “National Post”, we find: *“Eichler paints a picture of a “problematic military culture” that is shot through with “patriarchy, colonialism, white supremacy, heteronormativity, ableism, and classism”.*

*After devoting extended paragraphs to each cultural infraction, Eichler concludes that the Canadian Armed Forces must be remade via an “anti-oppression framework” of “feminist, decolonial, critical race, queer, critical disability, and critical political economy theories.”* See [here](#) for the National Post article, and [here](#) for the entire journal online.

Virtually all of the above woke terms, concepts and topics rolled up into one issue of a military journal – and the Canadian military wonders why it has a serious recruiting problem? After reading this issue of the Canadian military’s most prestigious publication,

what cisgendered White male from rural Saskatchewan or Haldimand County, Ontario would give serious consideration to signing up with an organization which demonizes them from the get go? The inevitable effects of this new politically correct thrust in the Canadian military is well described in a February 2024 article in the “National Post” entitled, “*Turns out, open hostility to white men isn't great for military recruitment: Identity-driven policies and rhetoric only serve to alienate the military's biggest pool of recruits*” – see [here](#).

### Indigenous

- 38) Reconciliation – The prevailing belief is that there is a need for, “*Building a renewed relationship with Indigenous Peoples based on the recognition of rights, respect and partnership*”. This will involve learning about the Indian Residential School (IRS) System, listening to the “lived experiences” of Native peoples, addressing past harms and healing, fostering the development of strong and healthy communities (e.g., addressing chronic water issues), and advancing self – determination – see Government of Canada site [here](#).

I have absolutely no interest in “reconciliation” until I receive a sincere apology for all the suffering and crimes perpetrated against myself and other people of Caledonia by members of the Six Nations of the Grand River Reserve (and their allies) between 2006 and today!

- 39) Truth and reconciliation – Many of the other topics in this essay have emerged out of the Truth and Reconciliation Report by Sinclair et al. The Government of Canada website states the following, “*The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) provided those directly or indirectly affected by the legacy of the Indian Residential Schools system with an opportunity to share their stories and experiences*”. Furthermore, “*Between 2007 and 2015, the Government of Canada provided about \$72 million to support the TRC's work. The TRC spent 6 years travelling to all parts of Canada and heard from more than 6,500 witnesses*”. Also, “*In December 2015, the TRC released its entire 6-volume final report. All Canadians are encouraged to read the **summary** or the final report to learn more about the terrible history of Indian Residential Schools and its sad legacy*” – see [here](#). The serious problem here is that the Summary completely ignores objectivity and the need to include an impartial analysis of what appears in the other volumes. Anyone who only reads the Summary will be indoctrinated to believe that only horrible things ever happened at IRSs. There are lies and gross distortions also. It is strange that the Summary does not accurately reflect the content of the full report, and ends up being nothing but what is apparently a biased and politically motivated document.

It is seriously upsetting that Canadian academic historians have abjured objectivity in the service of being allies to the “Native perspective” irrespective of fact and evidence. The once prestigious Canadian Historical Association (CHA) has now, it would appear, almost entirely given in to the woke analysis of history. Therefore historical figures like Edward

Cornwallis and Egerton Ryerson have become targets of their politically motivated animosity – completely ignoring the need for nuanced and contextualized narratives. In the words of Christopher Dummitt in a February 2024 article in “The Hub”, “*a politically lopsided historical profession has (by and large) simply allowed woke myths and half-truths to run rampant*” – see [here](#). So the question becomes, “to whom can we look to provide a fact – based and objective analysis of historical events and figures?” There does not seem to be a viable answer.

40) Indian Residential Schools – The definitions of an IRS generally incorporate the warped information from the T&R Summary. Here follows a description of IRSs by the University of British Columbia Arts Department website. It is worth quoting in full. “*The term residential schools refers to an extensive school system set up by the Canadian government and administered by churches that had the nominal objective of educating Indigenous children but also the more damaging and equally explicit objectives of indoctrinating them into Euro-Canadian and Christian ways of living and assimilating them into mainstream white Canadian society. The residential school system officially operated from the 1880s into the closing decades of the 20th century. The system forcibly separated children from their families for extended periods of time and forbade them to acknowledge their Indigenous heritage and culture or to speak their own languages. Children were severely punished if these, among other, strict rules were broken. Former students of residential schools have spoken of horrendous abuse at the hands of residential school staff: physical, sexual, emotional, and psychological. Residential schools provided Indigenous students with inappropriate education, often only up to lower grades, that focused mainly on prayer and manual labour in agriculture, light industry such as woodworking, and domestic work such as laundry work and sewing*” – see [here](#). This version is what the public is being fed, uncritically.

There were 139 Federally supported, and generally Church operated (primarily Catholic and Anglican), Indian residential schools in Canada. They were frequently established by the request of the Indigenous people, such as the Hereditary Chiefs and Clan Mothers at the Six Nations of the Grand River Reserve in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. In addition, most treaties included a provision for the establishment of a school if the Band requested it. They were in operation from 1828 to 1997 – see [here](#).

The impoverished belief that nothing good ever came out of the residential schools, only physical and sexual abuse, and genocide with continued suffering in various forms by “Survivors”, their descendants and their communities has prevailed in the media. The facts are that there are numerous descriptions of the benefits of the schools by those who attended, and ironically many of these can be found in the Truth and Reconciliation report (but not the Summary version). All of those attendees known to me have said that what is being accepted as the truth for all was simply not their experience.

I well recall a meeting on our local Rez where a very “intense” young White woman from Eastern Ontario asked to speak to us. Unfortunately we were unable to assist in her quest to find someone with a particular surname not familiar to any of us. There was general agreement among those in the room who had attended the Mohawk Institute IRS that the matter was highly controversial at Six Nations. However, as one woman reported, “*at (residential) school we got three meals a day, we were sometimes beat [physically disciplined], and we learned something; at home we were hungry, we were sometimes beaten, and we learned nothing*”. Those present were thankful to receive an education at the IRS which provided the opportunity for them to become successful in life. Saying these things now (6 years later) would result in censure and possibly threats – so people have learned to simply remain quiet, at least in our area of Canada.

Sometime myths, and the perpetuation of lies, surround the story of individual students – these distortions having been perpetuated by, in some cases, high profile or “culturally significant” celebrities. One such example is the story of Charles (“Charlie”) Wenjack who tragically died in 1966. Books have been written, buildings and university “spaces” named after him, as well as cross Canada walks and other homilies have been enacted as a tribute to Charlie who is seen as a “classic” example of the suffering of children who experienced the Indian Residential Schools. However, Robert MacBain (2023) has used primary sources to show that the story of Charlie’s death is false; and further that the IRS he attended (actually he only slept there and went to day school), and the staff who worked there, were beloved by at least some students, and their parents.

One of the most egregious examples includes a book entitled simply, “*Wenjack*” by the well – known “Indigenous” author, Joseph Boyden. He reports that Charlie “spoke to him”, in other words he maintained that it was Charlie who wanted his story to be told, and was directing him (Boyden). The book is sheer fantasy, nothing beyond what might be termed an imaginative novel. Boyden paints an absolutely horrid tale of supposed suffering by this little boy, some of it lurid and highly disturbing. However, any bit of research will find massive inconsistencies with the “channeling” tale, and the factual record. It would have been difficult for a Catholic Priest to commit abominable acts in the “special room” with a mattress stained yellow and brown. Charlie stayed at Cecilia Jeffrey Indian Residential School which was run by the Presbyterians! This misguided literary work is among the books recommended for our children to read (with books by Classic Greek authors to more modern White authors losing their place on the shelves).

Another example of a distorted story focused on Charlie Wenjack is, “*Seven Fallen Feathers*” by Tanya Talaga. Once again, Robert MacBain has exposed many large and small untruths in this book (e.g., about a fence being around the Cecilia Jeffrey IRS). This book is now on the mandatory reading list for Grade 11 students in some Canadian school

jurisdictions. The truth means nothing in the face of telling a “good story” which is in keeping with current beliefs.

It is noteworthy that, in terms of Mr. Boyden, he has recently been exposed as yet another “pretend Indian” where his claimed ancestry is not supported by any genealogical documentation, as seen in the Aboriginal People’s Television Network article of 2016 [here](#).

The Wenjack case reflects the trend where only the “horror stories” (true or untrue is unknown because of lack of evidence) attract the interest of the media.

**Please read the Clifton and DeWolf (2021) book entitled, “*From Truth Comes Reconciliation*”; as well as Champion and Flanagan (2023), “*Grave Error: How the Media Misled us (and the Truth about Residential Schools)*” before coming to any conclusion in relation to the IRSs and unmarked graves in Canada.**

- 41) Unmarked and mass graves – On 27 May 2021 CBC News reported the following, quoted here in full, “*Preliminary findings from a survey of the grounds at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School have uncovered the remains of 215 children buried at the site, the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation said Thursday.*

*The First Nation said the remains were confirmed last weekend near the city of Kamloops, in B.C.'s southern Interior.*

*In a statement, Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc said it hired a specialist in ground-penetrating radar to carry out the work, and that its Language and Culture Department oversaw the project to ensure it was done in a culturally appropriate and respectful way. The release did not specify the company or individual involved, or how the work was completed.*

*"To our knowledge, these missing children are undocumented deaths," Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Kukpi7 (Chief) Rosanne Casimir said in the statement.*

*"Some were as young as three years old. We sought out a way to confirm that knowing out of deepest respect and love for those lost children and their families, understanding that Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc is the final resting place of these children" – see [here](#).*

On 11 January 2022 Professor Jacques Rouillard wrote a justifiably scathing article in the “Dorchester Review” entitled, “*In Kamloops, Not One Body Has Been Found*” – see [here](#). To the date of the writing of the present essay, this statement still remains true. It is also true for each and every other IRS in Canada, including our local Mohawk Institute.

It must be noted that the Kamloops IRS is on the Reserve, so parents would have been aware of what was going on at the school. Also if there are graves, why have parents or family members not come forward to demand the return of their loved ones? It is entirely possible that there is not one single grave in that orchard but nothing further will be known until an archaeologist digs the site, and a physical anthropologist examines any bone that is potentially human.

Many continue to believe, despite the lack of scientific evidence, that the grounds of the IRS sites hold the bodies of unrecorded children who died while at school and lie in unmarked graves. The belief is that they were disrespectfully interred outside consecrated ground (despite the administrators of most schools being the Catholic or Protestant Churches), often to hide a secret.

The media whipped the Canadian public and the world at large into a frenzy of Canada – bashing. The Chinese and the United Nations were only too happy to castigate Canada for this supposed human rights violation. The Canadian Prime Minister became the “groveller in chief”, and apologies flew in from various Church leaders including the Pope. Canada Day in 2021 was virtually cancelled, flags were at half mast, orange shirts proclaiming “Every Child Matters” (in support of the Indigenous community) abounded, memorials to the dead and missing students and little shoes were placed on the steps of the IRSs. This was done before any investigation as to the number and circumstances relating to the deaths at IRSs, or verification of the “preliminary” GPR findings – it did not matter. The party line was that Canada was guilty of heinous crimes. I blame both the T&R report and the Chief of the Kamloops First Nation on which the IRS and supposed graves were located. The author called out this Chief as soon as the GPR findings were reported as “graves” of children – knowing that anomalies on a screen do not equal graves, but are more likely to be for example tree roots.

Some journalists even used the term “mass graves” as being found at Kamloops, bringing up images of what happened during the Holocaust in Eastern Europe during WWII. One wonders how they could ever use this term in a situation with zero evidence. Clearly they must be ignorant of true mass graves of those required to stand in it or on top of others already dead, and wait to be gunned down. *“On September 29 and 30, 1941, more than 33,000 Jews were executed in the Babi Yar ravine near the Ukrainian capital Kyiv – one of the largest mass murders in the Holocaust”* – see [here](#).

I located all the available burial records relating to the Mohawk Institute, our local IRS, and participated in a multi – disciplinary, multi – agency study of the matter. As noted elsewhere, I reside and have resided close to the Six Nations and the Mississauga of the Credit Reserves. None of the people I knew who attended the IRS had anything horrible to

say about it worse than I have to say about the day schools I attended. The fact that huge reparations sums were available to all who attended an IRS (and later even a day school) ensured that many would “keep a low profile” and that the truth would be subverted to more worldly issues.

It is reported that, “*The Canadian government has agreed to pay more than \$2 billion to hundreds of Indigenous communities to settle a lawsuit centered around nearly a century of abuse suffered by children who attended Indian residential schools*” – see more [here](#), including an array of woeful distortions.

Only the voices of those who see themselves as victims, survivors and entitled to even more compensation are heard now. As noted above, the Canadian government (see the Canadian Government site [here](#) for the framework of these payments) has already spent billions of dollars in compensation / reparation payments based on the number of years a person was in attendance. More will become available to those who come up with the most lurid of tales (e.g., the “lived experience” of seeing small children roused from their beds in the middle of the night to dig graves for other children). There is no requirement for cross validation or any “facts” in a claim that, to say the least, has little face validity. Similar claims of horrendous events resulting in burials in a church basement were made by someone at Pine Creek Residential School in Manitoba. Ground penetrating radar (GPR) of the basement found 14 “anomalies” and each was archaeologically excavated. Absolutely nothing untoward was found – only rubble and junk. Irrespective, more money will be provided as per the schedule outlined in Clifton and DeWolf (2021).

Soon after the initial report of supposed graves being discovered, a wild spree of vandalism began. Ultimately 43 churches were burned, mostly those serving Indigenous residents (no one has been charged), and the statues began to tumble based on a narrow or incorrect reading of history. Down came Queen Victoria in Winnipeg, and Sir John A. Macdonald, the “Father of Canada” in Kingston – his head having been severed. Egerton Ryerson, the founder of public schools in Ontario, and adopted member and great friend of the local Mississauga of the Credit, was somehow connected to the “cultural genocide” (more on this later) that the “Survivors” (more on the use of this term later) of residential school education described. The Marxist – Antifa activists at Ryerson University in Toronto lobbied for a name change to their school – the name Ryerson was tainted by a smear campaign based on nothing but warped hyperbole. Now these woke activists are stuck with the uninspiring and meaningless name, “Metropolitan University”. To add salt to the wound, the activists tore down the statue of Egerton Ryerson after spraying it with red paint. It made sense to tear down the statue of the sadistic dictator Saddam Hussein in Bagdad, but a pioneer of the Ontario educational system ..... To add insult to injury, the

Ryerson statue was broken apart and the red stained head was put on a pike at the entrance to the McKenzie Meadows development in Caledonia, Ontario a mile from my home.

I will ask a question to the self – hating White intellectuals who believe they have the right to interpret history to fit their 21<sup>st</sup> century world – view, and justify vandalizing and destroying statues of people who they deem to have committed unpardonable sins. Do you self – righteous arrogant privileged individuals realize that your actions are remarkably similar to the behaviour of ISIS? They used sledgehammers to destroy Syrian 2<sup>nd</sup> century statues because, “*the centuries-old objects violated ISIS’ radical interpretation of Islam*” – see [here](#) for the 2015 CNN story. These people were crude barbarians – perhaps an apt description of the “purveyors of the truth” dictating the narrative about Ryerson, who considered it their right to destroy the statue of the founder of the Ontario Public School system – a person who was far ahead of his time in being aghast at the idea of using corporal punishment on students.

This act of wanton violence in destroying Ryerson’s statue was never punished since the Ontario Provincial Police and the Ontario justice system have a two – tiered approach to these matters with one standard for “Natives” (and allies who are linked at the hip). The procedure here, treat with kidd gloves. There is another set of rule for those who are not in possession of a “status card” (e.g., White locals). The full weight of the law would fall on the latter but the crimes of the former are dismissed in the service of sensitivity for a perceived victim or marginalized group, which in the case of the Six Nations of the Grand River Reserve is patently ridiculous.

It makes sense to wonder if any journalist has read the full 3500 - page T&R report. Based on their reporting, it appears that at one point, all relied only on the Summary. They have, until very recently, not questioned the “evidence” that was creating such a stir. They simply took what an Indigenous person (or one of their allies for that matter) said as the gospel, and did not do their homework to check facts and sources. The result was virtually unqualified support for the conclusions about the IRSs and “unmarked graves”. Criticism tended to come from brave souls in academia, and columnists from various walks of life who wrote articles in one of the few newspapers that would publish anything other than pro – Indigenous views – The National Post.

The most recent book published on this subject is, “Grave Error: How the Media Misled us (and the Truth about Residential Schools” (2023) edited by Champion and Flanagan. The conclusion of the 18 contributors is that, “*no persuasive evidence has yet been offered by anyone for the existence of unmarked graves, missing children, murder, or genocide in residential schools*” (p.17).

42) Intergenerational trauma – The WebMD site gives the following definition of this term, “*If you have ancestors or older relatives who went through a very distressing or oppressive event, their emotional and behavioral reactions could ripple through the generations of your family and affect you. This is called intergenerational trauma. You might also hear it called generational trauma, historical trauma, or multigenerational trauma*”. And further, “*It may stem from personal trauma, such as child or domestic abuse, or from trauma that a specific cultural, racial, or ethnic group endured. It’s been tied to major events like wars, slavery, the Holocaust, and colonial violence against Native Americans. It might even result from natural disasters like a flood, earthquake, or pandemic*” – see [here](#).

The effects might be, for example, anxiety, depression, substance abuse, domestic violence, aggression, low self – esteem, heart disease, and damaged cultural identity. Many, however, do not appear to be impacted in any negative way by the experiences of their ancestors.

As to the process through which this concept might express itself, the focus is largely on the direct impact that ancestors, through their personal behaviour, relationship skills and so on have on descendants due to modelling and other environmental factors. It is also possible that epigenetics play a role since it is known that through the interplay of histones, the expression of the genes could be impacted by the way in which they are “wrapped” through the process of methylation, a process which can be inherited from ancestors just as DNA is inherited – see [here](#). Whether environmental or genetic, the supposed effects could be the same.

“Intergenerational trauma”, however, could be used as an excuse for social ills. The fact is that only 1/3 of Indigenous children in Canada ever attended an IRS – even if it was only for a year. There are more parsimonious explanations that have nothing whatsoever to do with the IRS system (e.g., community dysfunction through isolation and significant changes in the culture – e.g., dog sleds to snowmobiles). The alleged impact on Indigenous communities must also be questioned by examining those whose ancestors were true survivors of genocide. Even the wildest off - center definition of this term as it relates to Indigenous individuals and groups could not possibly approximate other historical examples. As should be general knowledge, 6 million Jews were killed directly by SS Nazi bullets and dumped in mass graves (often dug by the doomed themselves); by being in a work camp and literally worked to death by not being given adequate clothing and food; and by the hideous, but “efficient”, method of “showers” in what were gas chambers and the ovens that awaited – after any interesting patches of skin with tattoos were removed.

So each generation on Canadian Reserves is seen to be tainted by the experiences of previous generations. Therefore, is this the cause of, for example, the adults in a remote Indigenous community at Davis Inlet in northern Labrador supporting the Canadian Government’s decision in 2000 to remove their children to a safer place on the mainland

since virtually all were huffing gasoline fumes to get high – see CNN site [here](#), and the CBC site [here](#). I cannot find evidence that children from this community attended an IRS.

In rebutting the belief that the IRSs are responsible for the severe dysfunction on Canadian Indian Reserves one might ask a question. If the concept of intergenerational trauma as current conceived is correct, then why have most of the descendants of Jewish Holocaust survivors thrived and become successful citizens, with rock bottom levels of drug abuse, crime and other social ills. There are instead mostly success stories. Their ancestors experienced true genocide as described above, with Survivors having suffered the most intense imaginable impact from the horrors of the Holocaust, yet the Survivors were able to make a productive life for themselves among the diaspora, or by migrated to Israel. Their children and grandchildren have typically become outstanding members of society and, for example, are over – represented (relative to their percentage of the population) in the fields of medicine and the law. So, either being a descendant of a Holocaust survivor had no (negative) effect, or it made them strong and resilient. Why is this not so for IRS attendees and their descendants who suffered nothing remotely resembling the Holocaust?

43) Survivor – The Oxford definition of “survivor” in the context it is used in relation to the IRS is, “*a person who survives, especially a person remaining alive after an event in which others have died*”. An example is, “*he was the sole survivor of the massacre*”. This is a highly charged term today, and somehow anyone who attended school in an Ontario day school at an IRS on a Reserve, or in particular attended an IRS where they slept overnight, is termed a Survivor (with a capital S). If you were on the Titanic and lived to tell the tale you were a survivor. If you were housed in a Nazi death camp where at any time you could be taken to the gas chambers, or even work camp where the death was certain due to exhaustion and malnutrition, and you lived – you are a survivor. It is outlandish and degrading to real survivors to term IRS attendees as “Survivors” (with a capital “S”) since the death rate for children there was only marginally higher than in the Canadian populace at large. No instance is recorded where an individual was one of a few who managed to live when most or many others died. However, without a shadow of a doubt, I will be roundly criticized for again denying something that the progressive Marxist left has decided is an indisputable fact. By insisting on using the term “Survivor” for anyone who attended an IRS these radical leftists have served to exaggerate the situation at an IRS and set the stage for further “compensation” for all the supposed, but highly debatable, suffering.

44) Genocide and cultural genocide – Once again referring to the Oxford language site that Google uses as the first item in searches, genocide is a term that means, “*The deliberate killing of a large number of people from a particular nation or ethnic group with the aim of destroying that nation or group*”. It is now widely accepted, even by the Canadian

government recent viewpoint, that the Indian Residential Schools involved a programme designed to commit genocide against Indigenous people. However, there is not a shred of evidence that there were any deaths at any of the schools due to “genocide” – only tuberculosis and other diseases and misfortunes that could affect any child in Canada.

It is a horrendous insult to people who were truly subject to state approved programmes to eradicate a designated people. Examples include the Armenian genocide by the Turks at the time of WWI, or the Hutu militias who murdered over half a million minority Tutsi people in Rwanda. The most destructive genocidal programme was instituted by the Nazis and carried out by SS units from the late 1930s to 1945. The Jewish people of Europe and parts of Asia, to the tune of at least 6 million, were systematically murdered in the Nazi death camps or shot in ravines after digging their own graves. This is all fully documented with film footage, and the results were witnessed by both the Red Army moving west from Russia, and the Allied Army moving east across Germany. There were 44,000 concentration camps established by the Nazis across Europe. However, names such as “Mauthausen, Sachsenhausen, Stutthof, Auschwitz I, Ravensbrück, Lublin/Majdanek”, for example, are infamous since they contained gruesome gas chambers – names people must remember so it never happens again. The horrors experienced by the Jewish people, to the point where few residing in North America did not lose family during this Holocaust, cannot be minimized. The goal of the Nazis was to exterminate every Jew (who they deemed to be sub – human). Please see the website of the Holocaust Memorial Museum [here](#).

How the term genocide was allowed to creep into the residential school discussion can only be explained by those with an agenda – which in turn would gain support and momentum by using such loaded words to the point of equivalency when there was never any documented instance (e.g., letters to be found at Library and Archives Canada – where the author has viewed the entirety of the extensive RG10 Indian Affairs collection). There is nothing. Government officials were concerned that Indian people would fall far behind other Canadians and would never have a chance to move beyond the Stone Age. In addition, schools were mandated by many of the Treaties, and parents requested or demanded that their children be allowed to go to school – however only 1/3 of Indigenous children attended an IRS. If circumstances were so bad why did the Chiefs and Clan Mothers at Six Nations plead with the Government not to shut the Mohawk Institute in 1970? They would have been well aware of any genocide since the school was on the Reserve – as was the case at Kamloops where the situation exploded with the news that 215 supposed graves of children who attended the IRS there were discovered in an orchard. This is only an inference based on anomalies on a commonly used device (GPR) in archaeology that is never used to “diagnose” what is under the ground, only what might be worth further

investigation. If there were any graves near the IRS they are to be found in the Catholic Cemetery nearby – where children from the school were known to have been buried.

The only documented verified case of genocide in what is today Canada was perpetrated by the Haudenosaunee (including, I expect, some of my ancestors) who during the “Beaver Wars” of the 1640s and 1650s exterminated the Attiwandaronk (Neutral), Wenro, Erie in the Lake Ontario and Lake Erie region and came within a whisker of the complete annihilation of the 20,000 Huron (Wendat) people – but a few hundred were able to make it to Quebec and to the Ohio country. Their colonialist imperialist ambitions took them to the mouth of the Susquehanna River and to the American Midwest in the attempt to remove the occupants and obtain power and control over this vast region. The associated genocide involved unspeakable crimes against humanity including torture (fingernail removal, finger removal, slow burning of the person, first partially then in whole – and cannibalism). The evidence is found in the Jesuit Relations, the archaeological record, and accounts by many White captives who were able to escape and report what they had seen and experienced. It would be hard to supersede this atrocity – and to equate the treatment of children at the IRS with the Holocaust and the Beaver Wars is beyond inappropriate.

If “genocide” might be a term that over states and offends, then perhaps “cultural genocide”, a type of “forced assimilation”, will initiate at least a somewhat toned - down outcry in those who might be uncomfortable with the word genocide. It can be defined as, *“Cultural genocide, or ethnocide, is the attempted destruction of a group's culture, religion, and identity. It is a coercive act imposed by a dominant group upon a weaker or minority group. Cultural genocide has been associated with imperialism and with settler-colonialism. It is particularly associated with forced religious conversion and with forced assimilation policies, including child removal and the outlawing of cultural expression”* – see the Rider University site [here](#).

This includes the idea is that the priests and government officials wanted to “remove the Indian from the child” by for example not allowing them to speak their Native language. This again was not common practice across the board, as can easily be seen by any who examine the primary documents and testimony in the T&R full report. This was certainly true at some IRSs (MacBain, p.220), and it appears that some teacher - nuns were exceedingly cruel, and enforced “English only” rules at the end of a stick. What occurred at other IRSs, however, where the instructors were licensed teachers, was very different. During class time, the students were required to speak English (as is the correct procedure in, for example, a French immersion programme today). However, when they were on the playground or back in their dorms there was no disapproval of whatever language they chose to speak. Many staff learned to speak the language of their students – hardly a situation if the goal of all staff was to ensure that the child spoke only English. Indeed, it

is true that the children were given uniforms – a policy in many Catholic schools to this day. This was a blessing since many came to school in little more than rags. The people who actually attended an IRS or were staff in the facility have written honest reports of their own experience, and to take matters beyond the T&R report it is essential to read their validated experiences (e.g., see the Clifton and de Wolf, 2021).

45) Residential school deniers – In Googling this term the answer, as to definition, is as follows, “*a strategy used to manipulate and undermine the realities of Indigenous Peoples' painful experiences under Canadian colonialism to protect the status quo*”. In other words if you question the evidence used to assert that residential schools were all bad, then you are a denier and should be subject to “punishment” such as criminal prosecution – see [here](#).

To illustrate how far we have fallen from an evidence – based approach to pet projects of the far left, it is instructive to read the epistle put out by one of our “prestigious” universities - The University of British Columbia – see [here](#). This document is frightening in the scope of its castigation of Canada and the churches, pointing the finger also at “settler colonialism”. Oddly the rebuttal to this leftist document is found within the body of the Truth and Reconciliation report which contains direct experience denials by those who attended the schools, and the staff and administrators there.

This concept has been kicking around for some time by Marxist – Antifa “allies” of Indigenous people “demanding” that those who dare question the belief that residential schools were genocidal “houses of horrors”, be punished. This is of course without any empirical foundation since not one single body of a child has been found in the alleged “mass graves”, or unmarked grave sites. There is no evidence of physical abuse beyond what was seen in other schools or institutions in Canada operated by the Catholic Church – there can be no doubt that some priests and some nuns behaved in a cruel brutal manner in all these settings. Apparently though, the denial that any good was to be found in the residential schools is perfectly acceptable – despite the evidence to the contrary.

We live in a world where now facts and evidence are meaningless unless they support the political dogma that the purveyors of “right think” say is the only correct viewpoint. This phenomenon is to be found embedded in many of the topics in this essay since it has slithered into so many of the institutions of our once democratic society in the attempt to groom young minds to accept the Marxist take on society, and what must be done to change it. See the National Post article [here](#) for a further elaboration of this concept. The author also includes the statement by a student who attended the Brandon IRS, and stated that her IRS school days were, “*some of the happiest days of her life.*” Many attendees must by definition be “deniers”, and so should they be prosecuted? More likely they will be persecuted for daring to speak in positive terms about something that has been judged by current beliefs of the vocal minority to be “shameful”, or some other word to that effect.

Recently there have also been calls by Indigenous groups to make residential school denial a crime in Canada. This would be one possibly effective way to silence any dissent from the party line. Thus, in theory, I could be jailed for daring to state what is fact and the truth – that many who attended an IRS recall their experience fondly. Many Indigenous individuals known to me realize (they have told me) that where they are in life today is in large part a function of having learned valuable things within the framework of an IRS. To many of us, to deny an Indigenous person the chance to go to a school where they are given the opportunity to learn skills they need in life off the Reserve would be criminal. Thanks to the IRSs many have become successful and productive members of society, without having to suffer any diminishing of their Native identity.

- 46) Compensation – The Oxford languages definition of this term is, “*something, typically money, awarded to someone as a recompense for loss, injury, or suffering*”. The Canadian Government has been very, “compensatory”, offering mega dollars for this or that to Indigenous people. The concept is rather similar to that of “reparations” which we will explore later. To the year 2017 something in the order of \$4.7 billion has been paid out to IRS “survivors” – see National Post article [here](#). Who knows what the final tab will be after the Day School attendees class action settlement is included (students who attended an IRS but did not sleep there) – but another \$3.1 billion seems to be in the offing. A minimum payment is \$10,000 and the maximum is \$200,000 (if severe abuse occurred) – see [here](#). The Canadian taxpayer is of course bearing the burden of this outpouring. This is the tip of the iceberg if one includes other settlements such as that for other alleged abuses such as, “*The Final Settlement Agreement (FSA) is intended to compensate First Nations children and families who experienced discrimination due to Canada’s underfunding of the First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Program and narrow application of Jordan’s Principle*” – see [here](#). Payments here to date are, \$23 billion!

A very poignant question that might be asked is whether the billions upon billions paid to Indigenous people over the years has made a significant positive improvement in the quality of their lives. The answer can be seen in the current endemic issues on Reserves, particularly in the North, such as social dysfunction including alcoholism and family violence; as well as infra structure matters such as the dilapidated houses and clean water issues surely the answer is crystal clear. As with many lottery winners, the money is soon gone, and there is little to show for it. The answer to these problems must lie elsewhere. Compensation is but a temporary fix.

- 47) Lawyer induced memories – It is only human nature that when substantial amounts of money are on the line, that they may distort circumstances in order to obtain a better settlement. There are examples to be found in the lawyers who specialize in, for example,

auto accidents (ambulance chasers). The severity of the client's condition is in direct proportion to the amount of money the court is likely to award. Therefore it is in the best interest of the lawyer (who gets 10% of the insurance company settlement), and their client, to put the most "heart wrenching" spin on the effects of the accident – and thus recover more money for both. It is up to the court and expert witnesses to assess the merits of the case before the monetary award is made. In the process it would not be unreasonable to suspect that the lawyer will ask the client questions about the effects of the incidents that will serve to exaggerate both the physical and psychological effects.

In the case of the IRS attendees (who will certainly be termed "Survivors" in a courtroom), under the pressure of lawyers, or other "Survivors", some will be carried away by the circumstances. They may then make more and more fantastical statements about what they recall to the point where they honestly "recall" seeing, for example, young children being awoken in the middle of the night and sent outside to dig graves for other students who have died. In the context of reality, without a doubt staff or other attendees would have "blown the whistle" - reporting this incident to the police or their parents or to somebody (the info would have leaked out). However, in a climate where every "lived experience" must be accepted without the requirement of further factual or cross validating information – it must be believed. This has the effect of ensuring a larger monetary settlement, and spreads out to further convince many in Canada that the IRSs were repositories where the worst psychopaths and reprobates prowled unchecked.

This conceptualization ties in with the "false memory syndrome" discussed later.

48) Settler – this term might be used in a benign way to describe, for example, someone who homesteaded in the Canadian West in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. However, it is a word that is used in a derisive fashion by the far left progressives to mean someone who is associated with colonialism and who descends from someone who purchased land from an Indigenous person (the author has viewed many such deeds of sale from LAC), or someone who merely squatted on Indian land and later received a Crown Patent for their surveyed lot. "Settler" is, to the author, a "sneering" term meant to demean those who are not Indigenous – but is oddly most often used by White Indigenous "settler allies". Recent immigrants do not seem to fit into this mold so they are not discussed – and besides, they are often BIPOC and a member of a protected marginalized class.

49) Colonialism and settler colonialism – The first Googled definition of colonialism is as follows, "*the policy or practice of acquiring full or partial political control over another country, occupying it with settlers, and exploiting it economically*". The idea here is that Canada is a colonized land, having been stolen from the Natives and largely replaced by Europeans. Many books have been written that refute this entire concept (e.g., Biggar,

2023). “*Settler colonialism can be defined as a system of oppression based on genocide and colonialism, that aims to displace a population of a nation (oftentimes indigenous people) and replace it with a new settler population. Settler colonialism finds its foundations on a system of power perpetuated by settlers that represses indigenous people’s rights and cultures by erasing it and replacing it by their own*” – Cornell Law – see [here](#).

There is considerable evidence that there was always a constant movement of people across the North American landscape. Some examples follow. The Apache and Navaho were originally Dene people from the Yukon who, during the Middle Ages, migrated the American Southwest and Mexico. Once they obtained horses, the Commanche chased virtually all other people to the far corners of the land they came to possess. There were Sioux (Lakota) at one time in Northwest Ontario and on the seacoast of the Mid – Atlantic Ocean. The Tuscarora of the present Six Nations arrived from the American southern coastal area to the land of the Haudenosaunee in what is today Upstate New York circa 1721, and settled near the Oneida (see Flynn – Paul, pp.186-188).

Using the word “colonial”, the message to Canadians and Americans is that, “you are living on stolen land”, “this is not your land”, “go back to where you belong”. Those who buy into this assertion are bound to feel guilty and more prone to opt into concepts such as “land acknowledgement” (see below). This issue is also very salient in the Hispanic world, as seen in the 2023 article “*Woke culture and the history of America: From colonization to depersonalization*” [here](#).

Were it not for colonialism the Indigenous people would be living in the Stone Age without all the amenities that are now taken for granted (e.g., medical care, insulated homes). Those who own an orange “General Robert E. Lee” car from the “Dukes of Hazard” TV show (Confederate flag and all); a high lift “Rez Edition Z71” Chevy Silverado (items I have seen on our local Rez) would be using a canoe or pulling travois to get from place to place. There is no reason to criticize the owners of these “toys”, they admittedly make life that much more comfortable, enjoyable and safe. However, those who use the term colonialism need to consider the fullest implications.

50) Indigenous science – The idea that “Indigenous science” is equivalent to the science (e.g., botany, paleontology) that evolved since Classical times and recognized world – wide as the best way to understand the world and beyond (e.g., astronomy), is without any rational foundation. The “Indigenous way of knowing” is little more than current myth and belief handed down from who knows whom under circumstances that are unknown. It will vary from group (tribe, Nation) to group, and region to region – there is no one “Indigenous science”, but many. This is antithetical to everything I have learned as a scientist. If one wishes to use the term “Indigenous knowledge” to refer to a specific place and time, then

that may be worth at least considering – but it is not science by any stretch of the imagination, nor is it in any way comparable.

The Government of Canada has given some degree of legitimacy to this pseudoscience approach. The following is their definition of “Indigenous science”: *“Indigenous science is a distinct, time-tested, and methodological knowledge system that can enhance and complement western science. Indigenous science is about the knowledge of the environment and knowledge of the ecosystem that Indigenous Peoples have. It is the knowledge of survival since time immemorial and includes multiple systems of knowledge(s) such as the knowledge of plants, the weather, animal behavior and patterns, birds, and water among others”* – see [here](#). A recent critique of the concept is found in the January 2024 National Post article [here](#). See also “Decolonization” below.

51) Land acknowledgement – The definition of this term from Northwestern University, is, *“A Land Acknowledgment is a formal statement that recognizes and respects Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories”* – see [here](#). Hence the “land declaration” before reporting the news, or home sports games. An example of the latter is that before Edmonton Oilers hockey games. It takes the form of, for example, announcing that, the stadium is on, *“Treaty 6 territory. This land has been the traditional region for homelands of the Metis people of Alberta, the Inuit and ancestral territory of the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, Saulteaux and Nakota Sioux people since time immemorial. The recognition of our history on this land is an act of reconciliation and we honour those who walk with us”* – see [here](#). It appears that those who accept this approach could come up with a list of the most recent Indigenous occupants, but sometimes the history is more complicated. It is correct that since chasing out the Haudenosaunee from the lands they obtained by conquest from the Huron – Wendat in 1696, the Mississauga / Ojibway people have a valid claim to the land in Southwestern Ontario – but only from the last 326 years.

The author took a flight with Air Canada about two years ago whereby they provided an extensive land acknowledgement of the territory we would be flying over. This statement coming from our entertainment screens seems to have faded out on flights since that time. Perhaps the moans and groans of passengers were heard by these devices (or the flight attendants). Some academics are now ensuring that their websites and the articles they write reflect the “need” for a land acknowledgement. An example is that written by the author referred to under the “decolonization” category below, *“The author acknowledges with gratitude that the land she lives and works on is the original homelands of the Anishinaabe: the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Botawatomi. She acknowledges the painful history of genocide and ongoing colonialism on this land of Detroit or Waawiyatanong and commits to honoring and respecting the diverse indigenous peoples, while learning how to*

*be a better steward of the land*". This statement might be considered as somewhat overboard and groveling by the unwoke among us.

52) Decolonization – This recent movement has the stated goal of removing colonialism, but could mean many things. To some Indigenous in Canada it might mean sending all the “settlers” packing back to their homelands. Many African nations were decolonized with the post WWII withdrawal of for example Belgium (colonizer) from the Belgian Congo (the colonized) thus allowing for self – determination of the latter. However today, the term is more likely to refer to what museums, art galleries and other cultural institutions have begun to do to pay homage to Indigenous or other marginalized groups. This could involve, for example, replacing the works of the culturally significant “Group of Seven” artists (whose landscapes for many reflect, in the strongest way, an important part of the Canadian identity) to be replaced by items that better reflect the multi – cultural society that was made the “official policy” in the Canada of today (as noted above).

Rufo (2023) describes the process of decolonization as, “a transfer of power from parents, families, and citizens to the bureaucratic class: administrators, counselors, consultants, specialists, advisors, and paper – pushers” (p.166). This, “entails ridding the educational system of the repressive influence of ‘whiteness’ and infusing it with the liberating influence of ‘blackness’” (p.173).

Today decolonization might be reflected in actions such as, for example decolonizing an art gallery, replacing what is presently seen on the walls (and viewed by generations of Canadians wishing to learn more about their identity) with works of art reflecting the “lived experience” of a recently arrived Nigerian immigrant. The concept is so broad it can even include the attempt to “disinfect” knowledge systems perpetrated by colonial powers and recognize Indigenous ways of “knowing”. Therefore the European scientific method would be seen as only one way of assessing the truth of something. This would mean putting Indigenous knowledge or belief systems on an equal footing with that which the entire world has accepted as the tried and true method of objectively searching for the truth via the scientific method. The latter is based on facts and evidence and reports subject to peer review. So, what Western academics have termed “creation myths”, such as the world being created on the back of a turtle, could have an equivalency of the big bang theory which is backed up by countless studies in subjects such as physics and astronomy. If one is skeptical about the possibility of this movement or process impacting the STEM fields, one only has to look to Concordia University which has decided to decolonize the Engineering Department by introducing Haudenosaunee ways of knowing aligned with (in some manner) the “traditional” Engineering programme. Insanity at best, and as the author of a recent article in the “National Post” (noted in the Krauss article below) suggests, you may want to avoid Concordia if you are serious about becoming an engineer.

Decolonization apparently intersects with just about every social justice concept and term found in the present work. Those who wish to understand how this post – modern complexity impacts medicine and health across the world might wish to read the article by Black Detroit physician Dr. Ijieoma Opara - see [here](#). The current author, however, admits that he is at a loss to understand what she is eloquently trying to say.

## **Black**

53) Oscars so White; Advertising so Black – The 2015, 87<sup>th</sup> Oscar awards brought to a head the observation that Oscars in the acting category were overwhelmingly awarded to White person. This led to #OscarsSoWhite with an emphasis on fostering diversity and equality within the industry. The movement soon spread to other social justice venues. The current author is not in a position to assess the merits of the decisions of the Oscar committees. However, the author can comment on the evidence that after the George Floyd incident in 2020, advertisers began tripping over themselves to “over compensate” by completely reversing the previous demographics in relation to the percentage of each racial – ethnic group. It would be reasonable to portray the true demographic racial percentages of the population of North America – one does not have to be a woke social justice warrior to see this as fair and reasonable. Anecdotally, it seems that before the George Floyd incident in 2020 that the numbers of Blacks and Whites in commercials at least roughly portrayed their percentages in the population at large. However, since 2020, it has now been rare to see a White person in any commercial on TV.

Blacks make up about 12% of the population of the United States and so in a “proportional world” should be featured in about 10% to 15% of the commercials on Television. Many others have noted the almost overnight switch to a situation where it is rare to see Whites depicted in commercials – now about 10% “White” – see [here](#), or [here](#) for the some of the proposed dynamics behind Black over – representation in commercials. Some of the reports come from highly anti – liberal sites (e.g., in viewing other information on the site about, for example, Biden or mask mandates). None the less, one claims to have used a four – month log of TV commercials, and their findings are very similar to those collected by myself over a three - year period. They observed that 94.3% of commercials employed Blacks. Black males at 5% of the American population were found to be found in 89.7% of ads. White males, the largest segment of the viewing audience, were found in 4% of the commercials (Brodow, p.24). Social conscience does not seem to play into the decision to include more Blacks in commercials. Northeastern University conducted an excellent academic study which clearly showed that the decisions were based on the way in which TV viewers reacted to ads after the Floyd incident (central versus peripheral processing). This interesting and apparently objective study can be viewed [here](#).

The author noted this shift shortly after the George Floyd incident in 2020 and from then to November 2023 recorded the number of Black, White, Hispanic, South Asian and East Asians shown in commercials – males, females and children. The full dataset will be available on the author’s website after statistical analysis. What the present author can say, based on 3 years of collecting data on many hundreds of advertisements in the United States (AT&T in California) and Canada (Rogers in Ontario), is that Whites in ads almost “disappeared” almost overnight, while Blacks made up a majority far beyond their numbers in the general population (see APPENDIX below). This runs entirely against the data put forward in Forbes (see [here](#)) collected between 2021 and 2022. However, where we all may agree is the lack of Black representation in the corporate board rooms – but that is an entirely different matter.

In addition, when White males do appear in commercials the households are generally shown with a Black wife and their bi – racial children at a rate that is vastly beyond the marriage reality “out there”. There are virtually no Hispanics or South Asians to be found on our TV screens, and a miniscule number of East Asians (exact numbers to follow soon). As to children, Black – White mixed individuals predominate. Hispanics make up close to 20% percent of the American population yet are invisible in TV ads – they don’t seem to exist in the United States or Canada. There is virtually no difference in the profiles between the United States and Canada despite, for example, Blacks making up only 4% percent of the total population in Canada.

It only takes a drive through Brampton or Mississauga, Ontario or counting the number of Hindu and Sikh temples in urban areas to know that South Asians are, as with Hispanics in the United States, fast becoming a predominant group in the population – but where are they in commercials (less than 1%)? The only conclusion is that despite the untruths being told by social justice warriors, Black males, females and children are vastly over – represented in television commercials and, despite Whites still maintaining a majority in each country, they have almost disappeared on our TV screens showing ads for commercial products of every description. Apparently most people who engage in back - county offroading, skiing, or renting upscale resort rooms in Hawaii are Black or mixed – race families. Really, is this reflecting the true picture or is it a politically correct move on the part of advertisers who, concerned with the optics, are virtue signaling their support of diversity, equity and inclusion - and are willing to distort reality and alienate their potential White customers who are none too happy with seeing on TV what they don’t see in the “real world”. It would seem to be time that, for example, South Asians and Hispanics act to remedy this inequity, which is basically a slap in the face.

54) 1619 Project – This concept is based on a 2021 book by Nikole Hannah – Jones. The book is found online [here](#). This viewpoint posits that the real history of America can only be

understood by recognizing that since 1619, one year before the Mayflower arrived, the first Black slaves arrived and that slavery and racism are at the root of understanding how the country emerged. According to Hannah - Jones, this is the history that should be a major part of the curriculum taught to children in the classroom. It has been met with an immensely divisive reception in the United States, and the White backlash from the right has been intense.

- 55) Reparations – This term reflects the belief that those who benefited from slavery should be responsible for making restitution in the form of cash payouts to the descendants of enslaved people. As one might expect, this concept has received intense pushback from for example the Southern “Red States”, and sympathy from the more liberal (left) among those in “Blue States”. A recent research article on this subject, included data such as the fact that 58% of Democrats support the concept, while 18% of Republicans support this divisive issue – see Reuters site [here](#).

In my view, it would be difficult to know where to start with enacting any of the procedures to put this “suggestion” in place. For example, people such as myself have remote enslaved ancestors but no “Black experience” to link us to most Black people today. Also many of us (myself included) have ancestors who were slave owners, some owning hundreds, some only one enslaved person. It seems likely that in the unlikely event that anything of this nature comes to fruition, States or the Federal Government would have to develop a formula for who gets what, and then foot the bill (which could be in the multi – billions at a time when the country is in debt up to its ears). Only California seems to have taken the matter seriously and has proposed to move forward in some manner – not only with reparation for slavery but also current perceived injustices meted out to Black people (e.g., based on the incarceration rate). If the proposal ever took off in Canada, it is an even “messier” situation. Here the majority of Black people are immigrants (or their children) directly from Africa; and some have ancestors who were enslaved in places like Jamaica – not Canada. Of course, any such action in North America would be followed by abject apologies by politicians – especially in Canada where such actions at the highest level occur for any perceived injustice.

- 56) Black Lives Matter – with or without the #, this “movement” (BLM) emerged in 2013 out of the Black Power and earlier Black Panther groups of the “Hippie era”. Since the death of George Floyd in 2020 while in the custody of Minnesota police officers, BLM has seen a resurgence, with a focus on police brutality and movements such as “defund the police”. It is accused of being firmly rooted in radical Marxist philosophy, believing in the “liberation” of Black people by whatever method. BLM has received millions of dollars in donations from a variety of sources (much from “guilty Whites”). It has a less than stellar reputation since, for example, the leadership allegedly purchased a \$6 million home within

a White community in California using BLM donated funds. A particular focus in support of Black trans women emerged. The influence of this group has crept into other “progressive” causes, and frequently “leads the charge” in confrontations - protests.

It would seem that, as with the #MeToo movement (see later) where if a woman claims to have been the victim of sexual abuse, even 20 years ago, they must be believed. The same holds true for Indigenous people in Canada – good luck in challenging the statement of any leader (even self – appointed). The same holds true for Blacks. So, “*any claim of racism a black person makes must qualify automatically as valid because ... they are black and speaking from ‘their experience’*” (McWhorter, p.62). BLM does not appear to recognize that to question does not mean to deny – simply, tell me more, and point me in the direction of some validating evidence.

57) Cancelling historical figures, re-naming streets, vandalizing and destroying statues deemed offensive to Blacks (and White allies) – Few people would agree that there was any good in the trans – Atlantic slave trade – it was a horrid abomination. However, one of my professors who was from the Southern United States maintained that the Blacks there were “better off” in the days of slavery (I still wince at that one). In the last few years (since about 2015) some students, apparently with a lot more time on their hands than I ever had, have made a point of digging into history and cherry pick information that is consistent with their world – view. Granted that the trans – Atlantic slavery involved a horrible mistreatment of fellow human beings – the Arab slave trade was much worse than the European version. Once again, in association with the unrest initiated by the George Floyd arrest, in 2020 some students decided that the 1895 statue of Edward Colston that had quietly stood looking over Bristol Harbour in England had to go. He was associated with the slave trade so the statue was deemed “offensive”, even though it was his philanthropic endeavours which led to the creation of the statue in the first place. The plinth was vandalized and the statue was toppled into the Harbour – I am sure much to the orgiastic delight of the demonstrators, who were showing their solidarity with the supporters of BLM. There were no statues to the dozens of Blacks who sold their people to traders such as Colston, that could be pulled down. The question is, would that have ever happened if the statue was of a Black man?

It was inevitable that this new focus on the old institution of slavery should make its way to Canada. The target, Henry Dundas. While there is a statue of Dundas, it is in Edinburgh, Scotland and not an easy candidate for tumbling into the waters. Dundas did not support the abolition bill of 1792, but not because he was pro – slavery, but quite the opposite, he was an abolitionist. Dundas believed that the time was not right and proposed a slower more gradual approach to the same end, but which would have a much better chance at achieving the results he and many others desired. Finally in 1807 the slave trade was ended. Perhaps it is questionable to honour Dundas, but attempting to re-write history or remove

anything pertaining to him from view cannot be right. A street extending across Southern Ontario, as well as a town near Hamilton, are named after Dundas. There has been a concerted effort to rename Dundas Street in the last couple of years, and it seems that at least within Toronto the street is still in the process of being given a new name Despite the lies versus the facts, and the truth – see National Post article [here](#). Dundas has been cancelled by those who “need” a White male upon whom they can spew their venom.

What is entirely hypocritical is that no one has proposed that the statue to Captain Joseph Brant Thayendanegea (a Mohawk Haudenosaunee Chief) in Brantford, Ontario (and elsewhere) be torn down, or that Brant County or the Joseph Brant Hospital in Burlington, Ontario be given new names. Joseph Brant was the largest slave owner in Canada in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. He had about 40 enslaved Black and Indian people as well as indentured servants. “Mohawk Warriors” from Tyendinaga and Six Nations were among those who demolished the statue of Egerton Ryerson through a misreading of history. There is no wiggling out of the fact that Joseph Brant was a slave owner and I will ask the question, “why did Indigenous people and their allies never turn their attention to the most blatant enslaver in all of Canada”? Actually the answer is very simple. While it is perfectly acceptable for the woke and cancel culture mob to do away with all vestiges of an innocent dead White man, a member of the BIPOC group, particularly an Indigenous one, is within a “protected group” who sins will never be recognized by the woke. The statue in Brantford has never seen even a small act of vandalism (e.g., splashing water soluble red paint), let alone any attempts to topple it. I am very pleased that this is the case, particularly since Joseph Brant has a close connection to my family.

What needs to be stressed vigorously, despite the rhetoric on the left, is that Britain was a world leader in the abolishment of the slave trade. However, the facts (as with Joseph Brant above) do not accord with the woke world – view which has its slate of devils, and Britain is number one. This is ironic considering fact and evidence (of little interest to the self – righteous “wokites”. A February 2024 article in the “National Post” tackles this matter head on. It is entitled, “*Britain should be given credit for ending the transatlantic slave trade: That the major leaders of the abolition movement were British is an inconvenient truth for many people today*” – see [here](#).

### **Sex / Gender**

58) [#MeToo](#) – “*awareness movement around the issue of sexual harassment and sexual abuse of women in the workplace that grew to prominence in 2017 in response to news reports of sexual abuse by American film producer Harvey Weinstein*” – see [here](#). Few could deny that this spike in awareness was a long time in coming. However, as a scientist who looks for cross validation of claims, sometimes these are unavailable but the ethos here is that if a woman says anything about sexual abuse it is to be believed. This is something of a difficult subject for me since I was in practice at the time that the “false memory syndrome”

was exposed – already having ruined the lives of many men falsely accused of a crime they did not commit. We found that a better term from what we have been seeing was, “therapist induced memory syndrome”. This only refers to a subset of women, but the call to “always believe a woman” is well – intentioned but naive. Women lie. Men lie. People lie.

Controversy surrounded the accusation of Brett Kavanaugh, who was a Trump appointee to the Supreme Court, when Christine Ford accused him of having grinded on her when he was 17 years old. This was problematic for a number of reasons including the delay in reporting and the lack of evidence relating to her allegations. In this essay I discuss “false memory syndrome”, but we must consider the nature of human memory. The fact is that over time memories change (e.g., seen via the game of “telephone”). It would be entirely different if Ford had offered clear and convincing cross validation. Clearly “America’s dad”, Bill Cosby, was a sexual predator – the sheer number of women who said “me too”, and provided strong evidence, made his conviction a given.

Unfortunately, although most of the women’s allegations of sexual assault are likely true, some are false. Many men (number unknown) have been falsely accused of sexual assault and they have been cancelled or worse. This happened to a member of my family with a completely innocent question to a woman asking if she needed help moving a ladder. Fortunately, the employer conducted a thorough investigation and determined that the allegations were based on a misperception – nothing whatsoever sexual was involved.

59) False memory syndrome – *“is caused by memories of a traumatic episode, most commonly childhood sexual abuse, which are objectively false, but in which the person strongly believes. These pseudomemories usually arise in the context of adult psychotherapy and are often quite vivid and emotionally charged”*. I was forced to confront this difficult topic many times in the course of my psychological practice. Frequently, although the “memories” seemed strong and convincing, there were inconsistencies and red flags. On the other hand, there were many instances where validation could be obtained, or where the evidence that what I was hearing was objectively true. Parsing out truth from fiction was very demanding at a time when many fathers were being accused of having sexually abused their daughters, and in some cases were jailed until it could be determined that the memories were “therapist induced”. I listened to audio – taped therapy sessions where women were told that, for example, their symptoms of depression were usually caused by incest, and could they recall any such events. If the answer was “no”, the therapist (often, in my experience, a Jungian psychoanalyst) then kept “badgering” their patients with, “you need to think harder” and so on until the patient “gave in” and began to reveal an instance of sexual abuse, first often just touching, then with the therapist’s help, the abuse stories became more lurid. Ultimately when the therapist was convinced that a breakthrough had occurred – then the legal procedures were instituted. It is very fortunate that memory

experts such as Dr. Elizabeth Loftus from the University of California Irvine studied the phenomenon and was willing to testify in court in a number of landmark cases. This leads into a topic which was addressed above – “lawyer induced memories”.

- 60) Transphobia, and boys can be girls – One of the “protected” groups for the social justice warriors are transsexuals / transgender individuals. In other words, we are speaking of individuals who in earlier years and the earlier editions of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Illness would be diagnosed as having “Gender Dysphoria”. This was the case when I was working as a psychologist. Many others have noted the, “*significant increase of people who are saying they’re transgender in recent years*” (Lukianoff & Schlott, 2023, p.202).

This “protection” comes with a set of “unchallengeable” beliefs. The fact that biological males can now walk into women’s change rooms, and compete in women’s sports is a given (except among the majority of the population including many women’s groups) is a concerning development. Identifying as a female is the same as being a female in the minds of many progressives. A troubling question, for which there is as yet no clear answer is, “*Do you ever wonder about the significant increase of people who are saying they are transgender in recent years?*” (Lukianoff & Schlott, p.202). It almost seems “fashionable” to claim to be transsexual – there will certainly be many progressives who will leap to defend the rights of those who only have to make the claim of being transsexual. Lukianoff & Schlott (pp.202-7) provide many examples of professionals who dared to challenge (and accordingly suffered) for their questioning or publishing studies which challenged the “accepted” view. It appears that “trans activists” are particularly effective in deploying cancel techniques against their “enemies”.

The term “transphobia” means the “irrational fear” of transsexuals – which falls into the ridiculous category. No matter how one looks at the “problem” it has nothing to do with fear or anxiety – discomfort perhaps.

As someone who was not only a psychologist, but also a medical scientist, and owner of a DNA testing firm, I can say unequivocally that there are biological males and biological females, and some exceptions present from birth. Males have 22 pairs of autosomes and one pair of sex chromosomes – and X chromosome and a Y chromosome. There is no way to become female even using CRISPR technology of gene editing to change this reality. The SRY gene on the Y chromosome dictates the sex of the child – the “fall back” if something goes wrong in development is a phenotypic female. Biological females have two X chromosomes – there is no way to, later in life, obtain a Y chromosome and become male. There are genetic exceptions that appear at conception including Turner’s syndrome (XO) where there is only an X chromosome present so the individual is phenotypically

female but with some anomalies including infertility. XXY is Klinefelter's syndrome where the extra X in a phenotypic male creates anomalies such as micro phallus. Another condition is XY but with androgenic insensitivity syndrome. Here a phenotypic female actually has the chromosome display of a male but, due to a genetic problem, her body cannot respond to androgen which otherwise produces male features (the testis are within the abdominal cavity). Thus while having relatively minor issues such as a short vaginal barrel (corrected by surgery), many have a normal female phenotype and will marry males, but unfortunately will be infertile.

As most will know, on average males are born with significantly more muscle mass than females, and therefore for someone to claim they are female and participate in women's sports will give them a biological advantage. The fact that some of these individuals, after committing crimes, have been sent to women's prisons is positively frightening. I will say unequivocally that a trans woman is not a woman. If you are a celebrity such as Bruce Jenner who in mid – life decided to transition, you can play the part of a female and call yourself Caitlyn Jenner but that is the extent of it. However, in the woke world, to even say the name Bruce Jenner is known as “dead naming”.

For reasons that are unclear to myself, trans people have captured the imagination of the progressive left – in North America and Europe. Trans people appear to represent a group that is under siege, and deserving of concerted “protection” by allies. This obsession with the trans group meant that the ever - vigilant purveyors of “right think” in the UK accused Maya Forstater, a tax expert, of uttering, “offensive and exclusionary” language. She had dared to tell the truth, tweeting, “*men cannot change into women*”. This “crime” resulted in her being fired (cancelled). After appealing her firing, a court called her speech, “*incompatible with human dignity and the fundamental rights of others*”. The judge adjudicated that freedom of expression must take a back seat when, “*involving violating others' dignity and creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating, or offensive environment for them*”. The astoundingly bizarre interpretation of a valid correct statement caught the attention of J.K. Rowling, who authored the “Harry Potter” series. She was well aware of biological sex and leapt to the support of Ms. Forstater, tweeting, “*Dress how you please. Call yourself whatever you like. Sleep with any consenting adult who'll have you. Live your best life in peace and security. But force women out of jobs for stating that sex is real?*” Of course to this day Ms. Rowling has been tainted by her stance in protecting a woman under attack, and the truth – and to this day she is known as “transphobic”.

Then there is the controversy over the use of “preferred pronouns”. The American, Equal Opportunity Commission has deployed Federal Law to fine businesses who fail to comply. Crazy or not? (Shapiro, pp.91-93).

An article in December 2023 edition of The National Post, by Adam Pankratz (see [here](#)) reported that, The University of Pennsylvania where Lia Thomas swam, is one of the worst

“offenders” in terms of DEI going off the rails. *“Thomas .... is the transgender swimmer who dominated at the NCAA’s women’s swimming championships despite howls of protest over the unfair nature of allowing a transwoman to compete against biological women. Sixteen of Thomas’ teammates at the time sent a letter of complaint to Penn, but did not stick their names to it for fear of reprisal within the university. One of Thomas’ former teammates, Paula Scanlan, revealed her identity in 2023, only after graduating to confirm the one-sided, silence-inducing pressure on anyone opposed to Thomas’ inclusion in women’s sport”*. Pankratz said, *“It’s time to dismantle the corrosive apparatus of DEI”*. Amen!

It is tragic that some parents have become enablers, insisting that their 3 year old child be allowed to explore an identity that only emerged because of childhood curiosity – where that will lead, other than down the garden path, is frightening to contemplate.

In a December 2023 edition of the “National Post”, the “Quote of the Day” is, *“I support the right of transgender people to live dignified lives, but this does not mean that I will be espousing the imbecilic positions that ‘men too can menstruate’ and ‘men too can bear children.’ ”* – see [here](#). In a similar vein, a January 2024 article in the “National Post” by Amy Hamm states, *“Twenty years ago, no one would have batted an eye if a health care professional said that only women can give birth, or that women do not have penises. Today? You’ll get hauled into a disciplinary tribunal for daring to say so. And just because I’ve insisted on loudly repeating these facts – it’s obvious that human males don’t birth offspring, whatever gender-obsessed “queer” activists think – I am called divisive, by detractors and supporters alike. That’s wrong. What’s divisive is our culture, with its increasingly pathological aversion to basic truths”* – see [here](#).

Among the more outlandish examples of Sex / Gender issues of today is a male shop – industrial arts teacher in Oakville, Ontario who sports massive size Z “prosthetic” breasts, and a long blonde wig. The fact that he teaches shop actually makes this behaviour truly unsafe (e.g., presence of circular saws). But despite parent protests, he continued in the classroom for months. She / he claimed, without evidence, to be intersex. It was only after his behaviour was noted world – wide, and the Washington Post wrote an article on the “situation”, that he was put on paid leave. It was determined (a neighbour reported) that he did not always wear this get up outside the classroom, so no “trans rights” or anything of that nature would be violated – see [here](#). There seemed to be a lack of concern about any consternation (if not trauma), in young High School students who don’t understand why he is doing this. Perhaps he is just a “simple” cross – dresser who is being enabled by the school board to engage in his “hobby” in public. This would never, ever have been permitted in schools in my day – and actually I doubt that anyone would have the audacity to dress in that manner and expect not to be ridiculed. Times have changed, but, in many respects, not for the better.

It is of concern as to what children are being taught in the classroom, and what is written in the curriculum. A January 2024 article in the “National Post” (see [here](#)) provides an answer in relation to Canadian schools. Here the policy is outlined, and the rationale is full of the other woke tropes. Specifically, *“A new, federally-funded, “Trans-Affirming Toolkit” for teachers loaded with poor scholarship and ideological preaching. The toolkit’s stated purpose is to teach teachers about transgender-identifying students, but its nearly-100 pages are dripping with social justice theory, leftist identity politics and various false claims about biology, history and sex”*. Furthermore, the rationale of this “toolkit” is that, *“Gender binary is a colonial and white supremacist structure rather than a natural and indisputable truth”*. This is profoundly disturbing since this “progressive” position is being crammed down the throats of young impressionable children especially when contrarian points of view (those with scientific support) are not presented.

As I was writing this essay there was a news article that a woman in her late 20s who transitioned from female to male at age 19 was now transitioning back. She had a double mastectomy and perhaps other procedures to enhance her “maleness” in her teens. She is very brave, but faces a long road to return to what her chromosomes have dictated – see [here](#).

The Provinces of New Brunswick, Saskatchewan and most recently Alberta are attempting to find suitable compromises to the situation involving parental notification if a child says that they wish to change their names and pronouns, the age at which hormonal “therapy” and genital surgery would be acceptable are hotly debated topics. To see the current status of the situation in Alberta, see the February 2024 article subtitled, *“The political and culture-war motivations with this issue are too strong to keep politicians on the straight and narrow and compassionate”*, in the “National Post” [here](#).

See Lukianoff & Schlott (pp.202-207) for many examples of scientists and physicians who have been “cancelled” over “wrong think” in relation to transsexuals.

Conclusion: It is high time that our schools and institutions of higher learning return to their mandate of teaching students relevant fact – based material. Alas, critical thinking went out the window some time past. Currently students are being indoctrinated by Marxist – inspired people to think one way – the correct way according to the current leftist progressive purveyors of what is correct thinking. Facts, data, evidence and the objective truth are being brushed aside to allow corrosive and toxic programmes such as “diversity, equity and inclusion” to be crammed down the throats of not only those in academia, but also the corporate world. Streams of outright lies and distortions of the truth are being touted as correct, and anyone who disagrees will be cancelled, deplatformed or have their life made a living hell by those who are certain that their firmly held beliefs are essential food for the masses. In some cases there are calls to criminalize those who challenge sacred concepts such as the belief that no good came from the Indian Residential

Schools. Off to jail with them if they dare ask for, or point to, evidence beyond the grotesquely biased Summary of the Truth and Reconciliation report. What needs to be cancelled are the anti – fact, anti – science, untruths swirling around society at large, which are being digested by young or naive minds. Wokeness and cancel culture need to be seen as the manifestation of the malicious Marxist wickedness that characterize them. Their concerted attempt to create chaos, divisiveness and robotic obedience in North American society have succeeded to a very concerning degree. We have come well beyond the dystopian society of George Orwell’s “1984”. It is time for a very thorough sweeping and disinfecting in all corners of the halls of academia and the board rooms of the corporate world – while there is still time.

Recent polls strongly suggest that Americans, Canadians and those in the UK overwhelmingly reject the entire “woke package”, as seen in the February 2024 article in “The Hub” entitled, “Canadians aren’t actually ‘woke’: Polling proves they dislike the ideology just as much as Americans and Brits do” – see [here](#). It is likely that over time, the entire DEI self – serving industry will collapse and turn to dust. However the damage created by this minority of Marxist inspired, communist movement, cannot be underestimated. For example sweeping York University of this toxic ethos will require more and more brave souls to step forward and challenge the focus on social justice issues in all of academia, from Kindergarten on, and a return to the “three R’s” and appreciation of the advancements occasioned by modern European (White) Western Enlightenment that has brought unparalleled prosperity and stability to the world.

List of the Most Recent Individuals to Make the Cancellation List: Since the first edition of the current essay, people continue to be targeted for cancellation. The are as follows:

- 1) Jesse Brown. Role: Publisher of Canadaland. “*Crime*”: standing against antisemitism in academia, the corporate world, and what is supposed to pass as journalism in Toronto; and standing by Israel in its war against Hamas terrorists who murder babies, children and the elderly, rape women in their own homes, shoot civilians in the genitals, torture and mutilate their captives, and destroy everything in their path – remember 7 October 2023, a day of infamy! – see National Post article [here](#).
- 2) Paul Finlayson. Role: Marketing instructor at University of Guelph – Humber, Ontario. “Crime”: Criticizing Hamas, a brutal terrorist organization as noted above. His story is profiled in a February article entitled, “*John Ivison: University instructor fights back after being suspended for daring to denounce Hamas*” – see [here](#).

APPENDIX – BLACK REPRESENTATION IN TV ADVERTISING

A) United States:

Category	Percentage in USA in 2020	Percentage in California in 2020	Percentage in TV Ads	Sample Size: N =
White	60%	35%	34%	238
Hispanic / Latino	19%	40%	02%	11
Black	12%	5%	61%	429
South and East Asian	6%	15%	03%	22
				700 Total

B) Canada:

Category	Percentage in Canada in 2022	Percentage in Ontario in 2016	Percentage in TV Ads	Sample Size: N =
White	69.8%	48.6%	43%	428
Hispanic / Latino	1.6%	< 1%	0.2%	2
Black	4.3%	7.5%	51.8%	510
South and East Asian	14.8%	36% (approx.)	5%	45
				928 Total

Notes:

- a) Time interval when data was collected: 1 March 2022 to 15 September 2023.
- b) Number of TV ads surveyed: USA = 466; Canada = 596.
- c) Data collected but not reported here: the number of males, females, and children in each category, as well as details re number of “racially mixed” families (the later will be included in a later update).
- d) Location of data collected: USA = Los Angeles / Orange County, California: Canada = Greater Toronto – Hamilton region.
- e) Venue: AT&T in USA and Rogers in Canada on regular TV (not on streaming services)
- f) Omissions: Any ad re prescription medications – reason, to many individuals and too difficult to follow.
- g) I don’t begin to represent the above as a “scientific study”, it is only a preliminary observational work.

Assessment: Clearly Blacks are vastly over – represented in television advertising; whereas Hispanics / Latinos and Asians are extraordinarily under – represented in this venue. In the language of the Oscars when it was deemed that Whites were overwhelmingly over – represented in the awarding of trophies and resulted in the hashtag #OscarsSoWhite. Therefore it would be fair to use the following hashtag in relation to television ads - #TVAdsSoBlack.

### REFERENCES, SOURCES and NOTES

First, it is important to note that many of the references in the body of this text are from the “National Post”. This is the ONLY legacy media outlet that at this time (2023 and 2024) which will publish articles reflecting anti – woke views – such is the pathetic state of affairs in Canada today. In addition to the many articles online and noted above, I offer the following books as recommended reading. I have included two works that I would see as reflecting a far - right approach (e.g., anti - mask mandate) however I do not believe that they should be “cancelled” or ignored simply because I strongly disagree with some of their outlooks. They both include information which I see as important and so are included here:

#### General

Brodsky, Katherine, “*No Apologies: How to Find and Free Your Voice in an Age of Outrage: Lessons for the Silenced Majority*”, Pitchstone Publishing, North Carolina, 2024.

Dershowitz, Alan, “*Cancel Culture*”, Skyhorse, New York, 1921.

Donehue, Wesley, “*13 Rules for Surviving Cancel Culture: And Other Crises*”, Lioncrest, 2022. This book is focused on providing advice to individuals and groups that wish to avoid being “cancelled”. Donehue uses his successful campaign to revive the reputation of SeaWorld, which have been demolished by PETA and the documentary “Blackfish”, to show the methods and procedures that could have been used to deflect the damaging attack.

Hanania, Richard, “*The Origins of Woke: Civil Rights Law, Corporate America, and the Triumph of Identity Politics*”, Broadside Books, New York, 2023. The author is an unabashed Republican and apparently a Trump supporter. He believes that only under a Republican administration with a Republican President can the anti – woke forces expect to have any impact. The book best illustrates how the undeniably positive 1964 Civil Rights Act has been used and abused in the creation of new policies and government mandates never intended by those whose efforts were primarily directed toward undoing the anti – Black Jim Crow laws in the South. The legal underpinnings of actions taken since 1964 are extensively discussed.

Lukianoff, Greg & Rikki Schlott. “*The Cancellling of the American Mind: Cancel Culture Undermines Trust and Threatens Us All – But there I a Solution*”, Simon & Schuster, 2023.

Lukianoff, Greg and Jonathan Haidt. “*The Coddling of the American Mind: How Good Intentions and Bad Ideas are Setting up a Generation for Failure*”, Greg Lukianoff and Jonathan Haidt,

Penguin Random House, New York, 2018. One of the very best books (highly evidence – based) touching on the subjects of the current essay

Mounk, Yascha. “*The Identity Trap: A Story of Ideas and Power in Our Time*”, Penguin Press, New York, 2023.

Nierman, Evan & Mark Sachs. “*The Cancel Culture Curse: From Rage to Redemption in a World Gone Mad*”, Skyhorse Publishing, New York, 2023.

O’Neill, Brendan. “*Anti Woke*”, Connor Court, Redland Bay, Australia, 2018. This work is somewhat extreme, certainly beyond my right of center world view.

Rufo, Christopher F. “*America’s Cultural Revolution: How the Radical Left Conquered Everything*”, Harper Collins, New York, 2023.

Saad, Gad. “*The Parasitic Mind: How Infectious Ideas are Killing Common Sense*”, Regnary Publishing, Washington, D.C., 2020. The author is a Lebanese Jewish refugee who teaches at my alma mater (Concordia University in Montreal). While I am in almost complete agreement with what he reports in his book, I draw the line at his unwavering support of Donald Trump, which is, frankly, disconcerting.

Shapiro, Ben (a), “*How to Destroy America in Three Easy Steps*”, Broadside Books, New York, 2020.

Shapiro, Ben (b). “*Facts Still Don’t Care About Your Feelings: A Collection of Columns from 2015 to 2020*”, Creator’s Publishing, Hermosa Beach, CA, 2020.

### **Indigenous**

Biggar, Nigel. “*Colonialism: A Moral Reckoning*”, William Collins, 2023. Biggar demolishes the commonly held belief that colonialism since the Industrial Revolution was an unmitigated disaster to the countries impacted by this process – bringing a more balanced perspective into view.

Champion, C.P. and Thomas Flanagan (Eds.), “*Grave Error: How the Media Misled us (and the Truth about Residential Schools)*”, Dorchester Books and True North, 2023. A fact and evidence – based book with 18 contributions that illustrate in the clearest way, the point that no one has yet provided a shred of credible cross – validated evidence that there is any truth in the saga about children who attended Residential School having been murdered or buried in any unknown unmarked grave.

Clifton, Rodney A. and Mark DeWolf (Eds.), “*From Truth Comes Reconciliation: An Assessment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report*”, The Frontier Centre for Public Policy, Winnipeg, 2021. This is a “must read” book for those who see the Summary to the T&R Report as representing both the content of the full 3500 pages, and the truth.

Fynn-Paul, Jeff. “*Not Stolen: The Truth About European Colonialism in the New World*”, Post Hill Press, New York, 2023. Flynn – Paul shows how the current anti – Western anti – White dogma relating to American history was far more nuanced and complex that the current social justice warrior ideology have done their best to destroy.

MacBain, Robert. “*Lonely Death of an Ojibway Boy*”, Robert MacBain Books, Toronto, 2023. This book uses primary source documentation to refute the deeply entrenched beliefs that one young boy who attended an Indian Residential School is the “poster child” for the others who attended. The author provides clear and direct evidence that many children who attended these schools were thankful for the opportunity, and profited from the experience which allowed them to succeed in life.

Milke, Mark (Ed.). “*The 1867 Project: Why Canada Should be Cherished Not Cancelled*”, The Aristotle Foundation for Public Policy, Calgary, 2023. The book provides substantive reasons to reject the recent attempts by far left “progressives” to cancel Canada – to degrade and demean the history of the country in the service of their destructive and erroneous interpretation by ignoring fact and espousing beliefs based on lies and distortions.

### **Black**

Brodow, Ed. “*The War on Whites: How Hating White People Became the New National Sport*”, Ed Brodow / TousDroit Publishing, 2023. Although this book includes many fine insights and examples, the author’s MAGA / Trump political stance can be off-putting to those who seek a less skewed perspective.

McWhorter, John, “*Woke Racism: How a New Religion Has Betrayed Black America*”, Penguin Random House, New York, 2021.

Sowell, Thomas. “*Social Justice Fallacies*”. Basic Books, New York, 2023. Written by a Black author, this monumental book chocked full of facts and statistics which bolster his conclusion that, for example, the belief that endemic “White supremacy” has hobbled minority groups is not backed up by the available data. For example, East Asian male students consistently out – perform White males on college entrance exams, and Asian males in general earn considerably more than their White counterparts.

### **Recent Relevant Newspaper Articles:**

- a) As noted above, but worth repeating here is the article entitled, “*Blame idiotic Marxism for the demented antisemitism oozing out of universities*”, Jordan Peterson, National Post, 7 December 2023 - see [here](#). Peterson provides a clear analysis of the changes in the universities he has taught at, describing their devolution from institutions of higher learning where critical thinking and rational discussion have given way to places of leftist – Marxist indoctrination into the cult of accepting an oppressed and oppressor dichotomy with the

identified victim always being the perceived (politically correct, accepted by group think) oppressed.

As I have noted, I saw the same phenomenon in the universities, where facts, evidence and the search for the objective truth have all been jettisoned out the window in the service of Marxist inspired acceptance by students, faculty and administrators of the “correct” belief system. All this takes is discovering who is the victim (always a marginalized group), blaming the patriarchal, colonial establishment (or whatever target group seen to wield the power), then becoming “allies” of the identified victim, and, importantly, keeping everyone in line to ensure there is no dissent in the ranks, and if this is discovered then the perpetrators must be “dealt with” (e.g., cancelled; shamed).

At one time I belonged to the same professional regulatory group in Ontario who are trying to silence Dr. Peterson. I did not have any difficulty, except an argument that living in California and being ineligible to practice psychology I should not have to pay the same fee as when I resided in Ontario. However, a mentor and a best friend both lost their licenses to practice. One would see the license returned only after specified “training and supervision” was completed. The other had broken a code of conduct, and therefore saw little chance of regaining the license. There are all entirely valid concerns of the regulatory body. However today the woke – cancel culture elements have inserted themselves into the regulation of our profession. There seems to be no justification to hound Dr. Peterson in relation to matters unrelated to his professional conduct as a psychologist.

- b) Joel Klotkin, “National Post”, February 2024, “*‘Decolonized’ universities dividing Canadians: Higher education goes Medieval*” - see [here](#).
- c) Lawrence M. Krauss, “Quillette”, February 2024, “*Concordia University ‘Decolonises’ Engineering: This will mark out the university as a place to avoid if you’re hoping for a serious education*” – seen [here](#).
- d) John Von Heyking, “The Hub”, February 2004, “*Reforms to actually fix Canada’s ‘sectarian’ universities*”: The case for establishing schools of civic and economic leadership - see [here](#).
- e) Harrison Lowman, “The Hub”, February 2024, “*Journalism schools are failing a generation of students: Today’s “new journalism” education has students increasingly view the world through a social justice lens and question the idea of objectivity*” – see [here](#).
- f) Eric Kaufmann, “National Post”, February 2024, “*Conservative politicians who bend the knee to woke norms fail us all: Most Canadians don’t agree with ‘woke’ policies — and the Tories don’t have to, either*” – see [here](#).
- g) Carson Jerema, “National Post”, February 2024, “*Recruiting for the war against nonsense: Much of the left now holds views not all that different from anti-vaxxers and flat Earthers*” – see [here](#).

- h) Philip Cross, “Financial Post”, February 2024, “*Conservatives warned that wokeness was coming. Liberals didn't listen: More traditional left-liberals are trying to untangle themselves from woke identity politics, which voters don't like*” – see [here](#).
- i) Eric Kaufmann, “*The politics of the culture wars in contemporary Canada*”, Macdonald – Laurier Institute, February 2024 - see [here](#). This 86 page document uses survey data to depict the current attitudes towards various woke issues in Canada, as well as the UK and US (e.g., the belief that there is no biological sex) across various demographics (e.g., left versus right; younger versus older). The bottom line is that, “*the public leans 2 to 1 against the woke position*” and more effort is needed to ensure that the minority ultra left culture warriors do not control the narrative, and policy decisions be it in government or academia.
- j) Jordan Peterson, “National Post”, February 2024, “*The awe-inspiring conservative counter-offensive against woke nonsense: From Pierre Poilievre to Danielle Smith, Canadian conservatives are finally pushing back against the snakes*” - see [here](#).
- k) Howard Levitt, “Financial Post”, February 2024, “*Young people are rejecting the woke status quo and that spells trouble for the Liberals*” – see [here](#).
- l) Char Adams and Nigel Chiwaya, “NBC News”, March 2024, “*Map: See which states have introduced or passed anti-DEI bills: Republican lawmakers have introduced hundreds of bills this session to quell diversity and inclusion programs at colleges, industries and the government*” - see [here](#).
- m) Zachary Paterson, “The Hub”, March 2024, “*University ‘decolonization’ is a threat to academic freedom: Political neutrality is essential to the mission of truth-seeking in the academy*” - see [here](#).
- n) Bloomberg News, March 2024, “*Wall Street’s DEI Retreat Has Officially Begun*” - see [here](#).
- o) Derek Burney, “National Post”, March 2024, “*We need more academics willing to stand up to the woke establishment: The president of the University of Florida is trying to reinvigorate higher education by giving students the skills they need to succeed*”– see [here](#).
- p) Tatiana Walk-Morris, “BBC News”, “*DEI is a lightning rod for controversy – but the practice isn't dead*”– see [here](#). This article is supportive of DEI.
- q) Amy Hamm, “National Post”, March 2024, “*Wokeness is no match for Sydney Sweeney's undeniable beauty: We've been pressured into pretending everyone is beautiful, except for those who actually are*” - see [here](#).
- r) Sharon Kirkey, “National Post”, March 2024, “*Leaked discussions reveal doctors' concerns about treatments for transgender children: Doctors question whether children and adolescents can fully understand the long-term consequences of the treatments they're embarking on*” – see [here](#).
- s) Mike Ramsay, “The Hub”, March 2024, “*Divisive DEI ideology is harming our students. It's time to ditch it: Ontario's education system is now completely captured by the counterproductive diversity, equity, and inclusion ideology*” – see [here](#).

- t) Mark Milke, “Financial Post”, March 2024, “*Opinion: Why almost everyone is wrong about racism: In a racist Canada, people of Japanese and Korean ancestry wouldn't have higher-than-average incomes or professional status (which they do)*” – see [here](#).
- u) Joe Miller, “Financial Times”, March 2024, “*Biggest US law firms hired fewer diverse candidates amid DEI backlash: Data shows a decline in number of ethnic minorities hired last year as legal challenges to diversity schemes mounted*” – see [here](#).
- v) Christopher F. Rufo, “City Journal”, March 2024, “*Giving DEI the Pink Slip: Major institutions have started rolling back their diversity bureaucracies*” - see [here](#).
- w) Max Abelson et al., “Bloomberg News”, March 2024, “*Wall Street’s DEI Retreat Has Officially Begun*” - see [here](#).
- x) Zachary Patterson, “The Hub”, March 2024, “*University ‘decolonization’ is a threat to academic freedom: Political neutrality is essential to the mission of truth-seeking in the academy*” - see [here](#).
- y) Matt Cole & Chris Nicholson, “The Hill”, March 2024, “*DEI killed the CHIPS Act*” – see [here](#).
- z) Niquel Terry Ellis, “CNN”, March 2024, “*What is DEI and why is it dividing America?*” - see [here](#). This article presents a very rosy picture of DEI without an analysis of the way it is being deployed (indoctrination and blatant anti - “Whiteness”), nor its Marxist roots.
- aa) Julian Mark, “The Washington Post”, March 2024, “*Next front in the attack on affirmative action: State diversity programs*” - see [here](#).
- bb) Donna Ferguson, “The Guardian”, March 2024, “*‘Inclusivity shouldn’t be controversial’: will a radical art rehang give Cambridge an unwanted ‘woke’ row?: Fitzwilliam Museum keen to avoid kind of criticism that has hit Tate and National Portrait Gallery with shake-up of displays*” – see [here](#).
- cc) Daniel Hannah, “The Telegraph”, March 2024, “*The Church of England is replacing its Christian nature in a fit of woke frenzy: A new holy trinity of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion has usurped the old*” – see [here](#).
- dd) Tristan Hopper, “National Post”, March 2024, “*FIRST READING: How Canadian governments are quietly rewriting the English language: At all levels, government communications are being purged of 'gendered' language like 'mother' or 'woman'*” – see [here](#). This is not a joke! It is a sick initiative that is metastasizing.
- ee) John Ivison, “National Post”, March 2024, “*Canada's Air Force ends pilot training as Ottawa’s spending priorities grow more unbalanced: Indigenous Services Canada used to get less than half of the defence budget. This year it will receive two per cent of GDP*” – see [here](#).
- ff) Hannah Sparks, “New York Post”, March 2024, “*‘Woke’ people more likely to be unhappy, anxious and depressed, new study suggests*” - see [here](#).
- gg) Ross McKittrick, “Financial Post”, March 2024, “*Western societies must stop the spread of Marxism: The source of our current problems? 'It's the political economy, stupid,' especially the idea that people are either oppressors or oppressed*” - see [here](#).

- hh) Leigh Revers, “National Post”, “*I am a professor at U of T, and I was sanctioned for encouraging debate: Asking students anything more serious than what they like on pizza was deemed too stress-inducing and wholly inappropriate*” - see [here](#).
- ii) Allister Heath, “The Telegraph”, “*Western civilisation is being driven to oblivion by the false prophets of ‘diversity’: The woke revolutionaries reject real equality in favour of a permanent revolution against fairness and merit*” - see [here](#).
- jj) Monica Harris, “National Post”, March 2024, “*The unjust firing of Ontario librarian who challenged DEI orthodoxy: Viewpoint diversity is not 'right wing' propaganda*” - see [here](#).
- kk) National Post View, “National Post”, March 2024, “*Time for woke judges and Trudeau Liberals to end the soft-on-crime experiment: The guilt-ridden judiciary has put feelings before community safety for too long — and it's costing people their lives*” - see [here](#).
- ll) Rahim Mohamed, “National Post”, March 2024, “*Gender critical nurse wins public opinion battle against woke activists: Thousands show support for Amy Hamm who is facing disciplinary hearing in B.C. for 'I love J.K. Rowling' billboard*” - see [here](#).
- mm) Shaun Harper, “Forbes”, March 2024, “*Black Athletes Could Upset March Madness And End Attacks On DEI*” - see [here](#). This author says, “I am an expert on diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) expert”. This “expert” apparently sees Black athletes as the key to fighting the anti – DEI trend among institutes of higher learning in various states such as Florida which have banned DEI.
- nn) Jordan Peterson, “National Post”, March 2024, “*Our rotten, rotting universities: 'Elite' institutions are whale carcasses filled with parasites*” – see [here](#).
- oo) Jamie Sarkonak, “National Post”, March 2024, “*Woke teachers openly preach as common-sense colleagues are silenced: Promoters of decolonization, social justice and 'anti-oppression education' enjoy the support of the education system*” – see [here](#).
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“Joke Reflecting the Truth” - Below is a relevant politically incorrect joke sent to me by a relative while I was writing this essay. I wonder how many readers will laugh, and how many will feel some sort of anger born of supposed “righteous indignation”:

**Subject: Snowflakes**

It snowed last night...

8:00 am: I made a snowman.

8:10 - A feminist passed by and asked me why I didn't make a snow woman.

8:15 - So, I made a snow woman.

8:17 - My feminist neighbor complained about the snow woman's voluptuous chest saying it objectified snow women everywhere.

8:20 - The gay couple living nearby threw a hissy fit and moaned it could have been two snow men instead.

8:22 - The transgender man..women...person asked why I didn't just make one snow person with detachable parts.

8:25 - The vegans at the end of the lane complained about the carrot nose, as veggies are food and not to decorate snow figures with.

8:28 - I was being called a racist because the snow couple is white.

8:31 - The middle eastern gent across the road demanded the snow woman be covered up .

8:40 - The Police arrived saying someone had been offended.

8:42 - The feminist neighbor complained again that the broomstick of the snow woman needed to be removed because it depicted women in a domestic role.

8:43 - The council equality officer arrived and threatened me with eviction.

8:45 - TV news crew from BBC showed up. I was asked if I know the difference between snowmen and snow-women? I replied "Snowballs" and am now called a sexist.

9:00 - I was on the News as a suspected terrorist, racist, homophobe sensibility offender, bent on stirring up trouble during difficult weather.

9:10 - I was asked if I have any accomplices. My children were taken by social services.

9:29 - Far left protesters offended by everything marched down the street demanding for me to be arrested.

By noon it all melted

Moral: There is no moral to this story. It is what we have become, all because of snowflakes

QED

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17 December 2023; Most Recent Edited Version: 14 May 2024.

**\*\*This manuscript is a draft and will be updated at regular intervals.**