

Addenda #30 – January 2025

Re: Ch. 7, Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)

Re: Addenda #15 – January 2024: *Digital Identities / Government Abuse of Power*

How to bypass the Second Amendment in New York state, ‘control’ (Ban) gun use and eventually ownership.

➤ *Environmental, Social and Governance and gun ownership/use*

While the main focus on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) has been applied to pressuring major corporations to adopt ESG “Metrics” on climate and the environment, gender diversity and inclusion and racial “equity”, it has also been used to monitor peoples’ personal activities and “punish” those who engage in activities that are not deemed “socially acceptable.” Of course, the actual definition of socially acceptable depends on who is doing the defining.

In Chapter 7, I listed many of the “Metrics” of ESG, which include purchases of firearms and ammunition. Progressive Democrats have been against individual ownership and use of firearms for decades and have tried numerous times to control or ban the purchase of guns and ammunition. The National Rifle Association (NRA) has led the defense of the Second Amendment and private gun ownership, which has been upheld by the Supreme Court on several occasions.

In 2008, the District of Columbia had one of the strictest gun laws in the country. The law made it illegal to possess an unregistered firearm, prohibited new registrations of handguns and mandated that all guns had to be kept unloaded and disassembled or secured with a trigger-lock. The D.C. law was basically banned the ownership of handguns. Richard Heller, a D.C. special policeman who carried a gun in federal buildings but was refused registration of a handgun to keep in his home believed the law made it impossible for him to defend himself in his home and that the law violated the Second Amendment, so he sued. The suit was dismissed by the D.C. District Court and eventually wound up in the Supreme Court.

In *District of Columbia vs. Heller*, the Supreme Court ruled that the District of Columbia violated the Second Amendment and ruled that the Second Amendment protects the individual right to possess a firearm *unconnected* with service in a militia, and to use that arm for traditionally lawful purposes, such as self-defense within the home.

It’s ironic that the District of Columbia sought to restrict the rights of lawful individuals to prohibit the possession of handguns and prohibit their registration, when the crime rate in Washington DC is higher than in almost 95% of all U.S. Apparently Progressive Democrats believe it is OK for criminals to possess firearms but not lawful citizens trying to protect themselves, their families and homes.

When it comes to gun ownership, ESG Metrics have led to lawmakers at the federal and state levels to pass legislation aimed at “tracking” those who own guns and making gun

ownership more difficult and costly. The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is an international non-governmental organization that sets global standards for goods and services. The ISO is highly involved with the World Economic Forum. ISO Secretary-General, Sergio Mujica, is an Agenda Contributor to the WEF and attends WEF conferences regularly. (Note: ISO headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland, just 265-miles from WEF headquarters in Davos)

Google the ISO website, and the headline on its home page promotes the release of its updated *Environmental, social and governance (ESG) implementation principles* which *guide businesses in adopting sustainable and ethical practices, helping to create a future where your purchases not only perform excellently but also safeguard our planet.*

ISO website homepage at <https://www.iso.org/home.html>

One of the ISO “standards” initiated by the ISO in 2022 was the implementation of a new merchant category code (MCC) specifically for gun and firearm sales. By giving transactions involving firearms and ammunition purchases a separate transaction code, anyone with access to purchase data from credit card companies can monitor who is making these purchases, it becomes part of their “digital identity.” Credit card companies initially paused initial implementation of the new code, but Progressive Blue states immediately began drafting legislation that would require (Mandate/Force) the use of the merchant code.

California was the first state (no surprise) to require the use of the merchant category code for firearm and ammunition dealer transactions. Governor Newsom approved a Democrat lawmakers’ proposal in September 2023 to amend the states Financing Law to include a special Firearms Merchant Category Code, to track the sale of handguns, firearms, ammunition and any attachments and attachment devices. Assembly Bill No. 1587 was passed by lawmakers and signed into law on July 1, 2024.

New York state always follows the lead of California, so in October 2023, Democrat lawmakers drafted a similar bill. S8479, requiring the use of the merchant category code for firearm and ammunition dealer transactions, was passed by a partisan vote in the Senate and Assembly in June 2024 and signed into law by Governor Hochul. But this was not the first attempt by lawmakers to bypass the Constitution and restrict gun rights in New York.

➤ *SAFE Act*

Following the Sandy Hook Elementary School Shooting in Connecticut in December 2012, New York lawmakers passed the *New York Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement Act of 2013* (NY SAFE) into law. Democrat governor Andrew Cuomo promoted the law as “the toughest gun control law in the United States.” The SAFE Act widened the definition of assault weapons, allowing more of them to be banned from sale in New York state. The Act also banned the sale of “high capacity” magazines of more than seven rounds, which was found to be unconstitutional, and required firearm dealers to conduct background checks for all purchases of ammunition and keep records of firearm dealer customers.

The bill also added a mandatory reporting provision for mental health professionals if the individual was likely to engage in conduct that would result in serious harm to themselves or others. This was the precursor to New York's Red Flag law six years later.

➤ *Red Flag Law*

Twenty-one states and the District of Columbia have adopted red flag laws, that permit a state court to order the temporary seizure of firearms (and other items regarded as dangerous weapons, in some states) from a person who they believe may present a danger. This order of seizure was hardly used when first passed in New York in 2019, but the number of orders issued soared in following years following the 2022 mass shooting at a Buffalo area Tops supermarket. Between May 2022 and June 2023, 8,327 “Extreme Risk Protection Orders” were filed by family members, healthcare workers, school officials or law enforcement officials in New York state.

In September 2023, Governor Hochul signed legislation making the application process easier, by waiving the \$210 application fee. Facing state budget deficits totaling \$22.2 billion over the next three fiscal years, Governor Hochul waived the filing fee that brought in \$1.7 million in income, over the past year alone. Fiscal responsibility took a back seat to political ideology when it came to an opportunity to increase restrictions on gun ownership.

While gun violence statistics have decreased dramatically since 2020 (they increased just as dramatically from 2019 to 2020), they are still above pre-COVID levels. And the fact that they are coming down gives no comfort to the family of Brexiale Torres-Ortiz, who was killed in a drive by shooting in Syracuse in January 2023. One of the shooters, 16-year old Deckyse Bridges, was on furlough from a downstate juvenile facility at the time of the shooting. Law enforcement officials petitioned Family Court judge Julie Cecile to suspend his furlough privileges after social media posts showing Bridges brandishing a handgun in the company of known gang members, but Cecile allowed the home visits to continue.

A member of the Judicial District Equal Justice for All Think Tank, Cecile had just been reelected to a second 10-year term to the Onondaga County Family Court on the Democrat and Working Families Party lines. During her reelection campaign, Cecile cited her experience working with traumatized youth and juvenile delinquents. This was a perfect example of how New York state's Red Flag law should have worked. A juvenile with a long criminal history, bragging about his relationship with known gang members and handling an illegally obtained firearm. But a Progressive Democrat judge refused the request of law enforcement to end Bridges unsupervised home visits, and 11-year old Brexiale Torres-Ortiz died because of her political ideology.

With the full approval of Governor Kathy Hochul, New York Democrats ramped up legislation for gun control in 2024, passing several new bills that would indirectly make owning firearms more expensive and lead to reduced ownership.

➤ *Senate Bill S8479A*

This bill amends existing general business laws to require payment card networks to use certain merchant category codes for dealers of firearms and ammunition. (Previously noted)

“On and after May first, two thousand twenty-five, each merchant acquirer [credit card company] shall assign to each dealer of ammunition and dealer of firearms in this state the merchant category-code for firearms and ammunition businesses established by the international organization for standardization on September ninth, two thousand twenty-two.”

“Whenever the court shall determine that a violation of this section has occurred, the court may impose a civil penalty of not more than ten thousand dollars for each violation and reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred in investigating and bringing an action under this section.”

A Merchant Category Code (MCCs) is a four-digit code used by credit card companies to classify merchants and businesses by the type of goods or services they provide. It has been a long process, but Democrats are finally getting credit card companies to create an MCC specifically for gun and ammunition dealers. The promoted purpose seems noble enough: the proper tracking of suspicious credit card usage will prevent mass shootings and help identify criminal activity, such as terrorism and money laundering.

There's only one thing wrong with this assumption. A 2023 report issued by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) showed that legally purchased guns can change hands and end up being used in crimes. Between 2017 and 2021, more than 1 million guns were stolen from owners who purchased them lawfully.

That is just the number known to law enforcement, because there is no federal requirement to report a stolen firearm and many states don't have requirements either. The report noted that over 80% of mass shooters at K-12 schools stole guns from family members.

What anti-gun advocates will never admit is that criminals do not follow laws! So any law requiring a MCC specifically aimed at firearm dealers will not have the stated effect on gun violence. This bill will have the intended effect in New York state of being able to track the purchase of firearms and ammunition by lawful gun owners, who may be targeted at a future date for confiscation. It will also have the effect of creating liability for firearms dealers as well as purchasers.

In 2012, twenty-six people were killed at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. The shooter, 20-year old Adam Lanza, took a firearm legally purchased by his mother Nancy and shot her four times in the head. Lanza then took two other legally purchased semi-automatic firearms, drove to Sandy Hook Elementary School in his mother's car, shot his way through the school's locked entry door and killed 20 students and 6 adults before killing himself.

Fact: Adam Lanza suffered from several mental health issues.

Fact: Adam stole legally purchased firearms, killed his mother and 26 other people.

Nine families of the victims of the shooting filed a class-action lawsuit against Bushmaster (the manufacturer of the semi-automatic rifle), Remington Arms (the manufacturer of the ammunition used), and two gun dealers where the firearms were legally purchased.

Remington Arms filed for bankruptcy protection after settling a multi-million dollar lawsuit, closed its Ilion, NY factory and moved its manufacturing business out of New York state. Remington, the nation's oldest gun-maker, made firearms in New York for two centuries and had employed as many as 1,300 workers at its Ilion plant. No more...

Intended consequences.

➤ *Senate Bill S4976A*

This bill amends the existing Environmental Conservation Law to prohibit the use of lead ammunition in the taking of wildlife on state-owned land and on land contributing surface water to the New York city water supply. Since steel shot can cost as much as 30% more than lead shot, this bill will substantially increase the cost of legal gun ownership and perhaps “encourage” (nudge) people in the direction of not owning a firearm.

“Let’s be clear, due to increased costs, lack of available alternatives, and reduced effectiveness, this legislation is about canceling hunters, not protecting the environment. They will stop at nothing to eliminate hunting, and protecting the environment is political eyewash to that end.”

Todd Adkins, Sportsmen’s Alliance vice president of government affairs

Intended consequences.

➤ *Senate Bill S8461B*

This bill established the “sporting range good neighbor act” requiring skeet shooting fields at shooting ranges to be certain dimensions; prohibits them from including wetlands or open water sources; directs the department of environmental conservation to promulgate rules and regulations regarding environmental stewardship and lead ammo material reclamation. Many existing sportsman clubs simply do not have the available land to comply with this new law, requiring each shooting range to be 300 yards by 600 yards, the equivalent of five football fields long and wide.

The Sporting Range Good Neighbor Act would also “totally eliminate” the popular sports of trap and skeet shooting in New York, said Jonathan Karp, legal counsel for the New York State Amateur Trapshooting Association. “It’s going to kill a lot of small clubs... I don’t think compliance with it is going to be possible for a lot of clubs.”

It's not just club members who participate at the range, but also school trap teams... As of 2022, almost half of school districts in St. Lawrence County had an active skeet and trap shooting club...

“This legislation would directly affect their futures, especially at our club... It really depends on the definition of wetlands. They also don't specify what constitutes a backdrop. We know it's meant to keep lead out of wetlands but there is no definition.”

Norfolk Rod and Gun Club president Jason Collar

Officials say shooting ranges already have to meet restrictive guidelines to operate safely, costing them up to \$100,000, and that restrictions will cost thousands of dollars more.

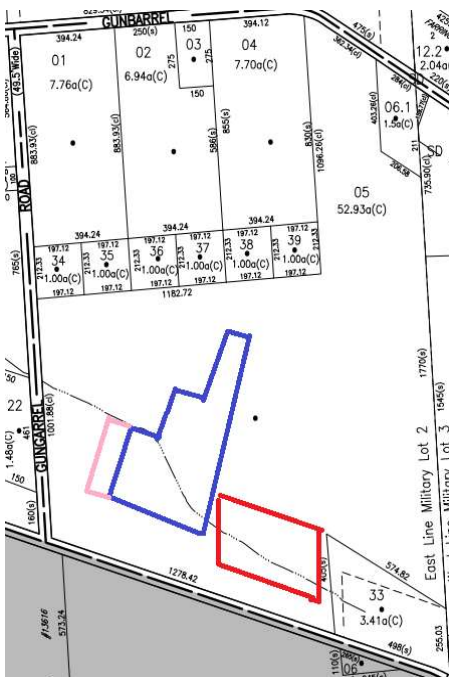


This is an aerial view of the Baldwinsville Rod and Gun Club in Baldwinsville, New York.
(Property outline is in Yellow)

The club is run by members who volunteer their time to manage club activities and provide maintenance to the fields and buildings.

Local law enforcement agencies use the range for target practice as well as member shooting competitions.

The club includes two trap shooting fields and one skeet shooting field, outlined in **red** below, three rifle ranges, outlined in **blue** below, and an archery range, outlined in **pink**, below on the Onondaga County tax map.



Each shooting field is 16-yards wide by 34-yards deep.
The large rifle range is 25-yards wide by 220-yards deep.
The medium range is 25-yards wide by 50-yards deep.
The small rifle range is 25-yards wide by 15 yards deep.
The archery range is about 11-yards wide, 75-yards deep.

Under the “sporting range good neighbor act”, none of the existing fields will meet the new dimension criteria.

The new mandate states all shooting/rifle ranges must be 300-yards wide x 600-yards deep.

There is not enough physical space on the property to place one shooting range, let alone replace the six existing ones.

The existing property consists of 5 acres being used for club activities and just under 49 acres of woodland and wasteland buffer zones.

A new facility to allow for replacement of existing club shooting ranges, clubhouse and parking would require 1,339 acres of land, almost **25 times** the size of the current property.

The Baldwinsville Rod and Gun Club will be forced to close its existing facility under Senate bill 8461B. There is no way they will be able to purchase a property large enough to contain six shooting ranges, plus an archery range, plus a clubhouse following the new mandate.

Intended consequences.

Note: This bill is still “in Committee” in the NY Senate. It has not been voted into law.

➤ *Senate Bill S6649*

This bill requires firearms dealers to post and provide written warnings to purchasers of dangers posed by access to weapons in the home. Similar to the tobacco warning labels mandated by the federal government, these labels are meant to scare people from becoming gun owners. They're also meant to encourage anti-gun activists to potentially sue lawful gun owners.

Oh, Paul, that's just too much! How can you even believe that something like this could possibly happen?

Really?

In 1965, the Federal government mandated that cigarette packs have a warning on them from the surgeon general, to alert the public about the harmful effects of smoking.

In 1970, the initial law was amended to label cigarettes with a new warning.

"Warning, The Surgeon General has determined that cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health and may cause lung cancer or other diseases."

The 1970 law also banned cigarette advertising on radio and television.

Federal and state governments increased excise taxes on tobacco products in an effort to make smoking an expensive habit, and "encourage" consumers to quit smoking. I can remember back in the 1980's, I could buy a pack of cigarettes for under \$2.00. Today, the average cost per pack averages \$12.00. New York state charges a \$4.35 cigarette tax on every pack of cigarettes sold.

The Clean Indoor Air Act banned the smoking of tobacco products indoors in 1989 and many municipalities enacted legislation to prohibit smoking in outdoor public areas in the years that followed.

The minimum age to purchase tobacco products was raised from 18 to 21.

Financial penalties, legislation and "nudging" people to make behavioral changes.

In the 1970's scientists discovered a link between secondhand smoke and cancer.

The phrase "secondhand smoke" is defined as the smoke that is inhaled by persons other than the individual actually smoking. If the person sitting next to you is smoking and you are forced to inhale both the smoke coming from their cigarette and exhaled out of their mouth, then these would be examples of secondhand smoke. Once secondhand smoke had become identified as a health hazard, lawyers lined up to file lawsuits on behalf of the offended nonsmokers. Nonsmokers have brought personal injury lawsuits or filed secondhand smoke nuisance lawsuits against employers, landlords and neighbors.

In *Reinhard vs. Connaught Tower Corp.*, the purchaser of a cooperative apartment in New York City in 2006. The plaintiff proved that cigarette smoke from an adjacent apartment infiltrated her apartment, preventing her from living there. She was awarded an abatement judgement in excess of \$120,000 plus reimbursement of her legal fees.

Imagine how eager antigun activists will be to capitalize on this highly publicized "threat" to their safety by neighbors who own firearms. Imagine how eager antigun politicians will be to capitalize on this "threat" from legal, law abiding gun owners.

According to the new bill, gun retailers must post the following notice at the entrance to the store, and at counters where weapons or firearms are sold saying:

“WARNING ACCESS TO A WEAPON OR FIREARM IN THE HOME SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASES THE RISK OF SUICIDE, DEATH DURING DOMESTIC DISPUTES, AND/OR UNINTENTIONAL DEATHS TO CHILDREN, HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AND OTHERS. IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE IS EXPERIENCING DISTRESS AND/OR DEPRESSION, CALL THE NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFE-LINE AT 988.”

The law also mandates that each customer be given the same notice when they make a firearm or ammunition purchase. Failure to comply with any provision of the bill is a violation punishable by imprisonment of up to fifteen days and/or a fine of up to one thousand dollars with each day that a violation continues to be deemed a separate offense.

The question you should ask, is: *Do red flag laws, mandatory background checks and other “gun control” legislation actually save lives?*

➤ *“Mass Shootings” – with lone shooter and 20 or more casualties*

* Sparetime bowling Alley and bar, Lewiston MN, 2023 – 18 killed 13 wounded or injured. Robert Card (40) was found to have traumatic brain injury from his Army career, and his behavior provided sufficient evidence for the local sheriff's office to have obtained a "yellow flag" order to seize Card's guns (legally obtained) in September 2023, yet they failed to do so.

* Star Ballroom Dance Studio, Monterey Park CA, 2023 – 10 killed, 9 wounded or injured. Huu Can Tran (70) had a history of domestic disturbance incidents and harassment incidents, opened fire with a legally purchased and registered semi-automatic handgun.

* Club Q, Colorado Springs CO, 2022 – 5 killed, 26 wounded or injured. Anderson Lee Aldrich (22) opened fire at employees and patrons in a gay bar with an AR-15 style rifle. Aldrich held his grandparent's hostage and threatened to murder them when they revealed plans to relocate to Florida two years earlier. Aldrich also threatened to blow up the house and surrounding neighbors houses. The day before the hostage standoff, Aldrich's grand-aunt contacted the FBI to report Aldrich was planning to kill Christians and government employees. Although Colorado had a red flag law, authorities never petitioned for an Extreme Risk Protection order to remove his weapons.

* 4th of July Parade, Highland Park IL, 2022 – 7 killed, 48 wounded or injured. Robert Eugene Crimo III (21) opened fire on parade watchers from the roof of a building with a legally obtained semi-automatic rifle. In 2019 Crimo threatened to kill his family members and police seized 16 knives, a dagger and a sword. Illinois' red flag law was never invoked on Crimo. Four months later police approved a firearms permit and Crimo passed background checks in 2021 and 2022 for firearms purchases.

* Robb Elementary School, Uvalde TX, 2022 – 21 killed 18 wounded or injured.

Salvador Ramos (18) shot and wounded his grandmother at their home, then drove to the school where he entered a classroom and shot former classmates and teachers with a legally purchased AR-15. Ramos messaged a Facebook friend in Germany three times, telling the 15-year old girl he was going to shoot his grandmother, that he shot his grandmother, then he was going to open fire at an elementary school. The girl replied, "cool".

* Tops Market, Buffalo NY, 2022 – 10 killed, 3 wounded or injured.

Payton Gendron (18) entered a Tops Friendly Market in Buffalo and opened fire with a legally purchased AR-15 semi-automatic rifle, which *he* illegally modified to accept high-capacity magazines. Most of the victims were black, and law enforcement found a hate filled manifesto at his home. One year earlier, Gendron was investigated by police after telling a teacher at his graduation ceremony, "I want to murder and commit suicide." He was referred to a hospital for mental health evaluation and counseling but was released after being held for a day and a half. Gendron described the comment as a "well-orchestrated bluff."

* NY City Subway, New York NY, 2022 – no deaths, 10 wounded, 19 injuries.

Frank James (62) donned a gas mask, threw two smoke grenades and fired a legally obtained Glock 9mm handgun 33 times while riding the subway in Brooklyn. James had an extensive police record, including charges of making a "terroristic threat." He was never convicted on any felony charges, enabling him to legally purchase weapons.

* Ned Peppers Bar, Dayton OH, 2019 – 9 killed, 17 wounded.

Connor Betts (24) opened fire with a legally obtained AR semi-automatic pistol, illegally modified to take high capacity magazines. Betts, who considered himself a "leftist" and supported Antifa, was suspended from Bellbrook High School in 2010 after he made lists of other students he wanted to kill and rape. The "hit list" resulted in a police investigation but no further action followed.

* Walmart store, El Paso TX, 2019 – 23 killed, 22 wounded or injured.

Patrick Wood Crusius (21) opened fire with a legally purchased semi-automatic rifle, primarily targeting Mexicans.

* Borderline Bar and Grill, Thousand Oaks CA, 2018 – 12 killed, 16 wounded or injured.

Ian David Long (28) entered a country-western bar he frequented and opened fire with a legally obtained semi-automatic pistol, firing 61 rounds before killing himself. Long, a US Marine Corps veteran possibly suffering from PTSD, had been visited by police and a mental health crisis team a year earlier for his behavior but they decided not to detain him at a psychiatric facility. A former high school teacher alleged that Long had issues long before his military service, including physically assaulting her as a student.

* Parkland High School, Parkland FL, 2018 – 17 killed, 17 wounded or injured.

Nikolas Cruz (19) shot his way into the school with a legally obtained AR-15 semi-automatic rifle and opened fire on students and teachers. Law enforcement had received more than 20 calls about Cruze over the previous ten years including an anonymous tip in 2016 that Cruz had threatened to shoot up the school, and a tip on November 30, 2017, that

he might be a "school shooter in the making" and that he collected knives and guns. On September 23, 2016, a peer counselor notified the school resource officer of his suicide attempt and intent to buy a gun, and the school indicated it would do a "threat assessment." On January 5, 2018, less than two months before the shooting, the FBI received a tip on its Public Access Line from a person who was close to Cruz, who provided information about Cruz's gun ownership, desire to kill people, erratic behavior, and disturbing social media posts, as well as the potential of him conducting a school shooting.

* First Baptist Church, Sutherland Springs TX, 2017 – 26 killed, 22 wounded or injured. Devin Kelley (26) entered the Church and opened fire with a legally obtained semi-automatic rifle and semi-automatic pistols. Kelley had a lengthy disciplinary record while in high school, including seven suspensions for falsifying records, insubordination, profanity and a drug-related offense. During his post-graduation service in the Air Force, Kelley was brought up on court martial charges for assault on his wife, aggravated assault on his stepson, two charges of pointing a loaded gun at his wife, and two counts of threatening his wife with an unloaded gun. Kelley eventually received a "bad conduct" discharge from the Air Force, three years before the shooting. The Air Force never reported the conviction to authorities, enabling Kelly to legally purchase the weapons and ammunition.

* Harvest music festival, Las Vegas NV, 2017 – 60 killed, 411 wounded or injured. Stephen Paddock (64) opened fire from a 32nd floor hotel room window, using fifteen legally purchased semi-automatic rifles and firing more than 1,000 rounds during the ten-minute attack. Paddock spent considerable time researching the music festival and points of fire before the shooting and stayed in the Mandalay Bay Hotel and Casino for five days finalizing his plans. Paddock had run a successful real-estate business with his brother and was an avid gambler but had recently been drinking and taking Valium for bouts of depression. Paddock legally purchased over 55 firearms, the majority of them rifles, in the 12 months before the shootings.

* Sandy Hook Elementary School, Sandy Hook CT, 2012 – 27 killed, 2 wounded or injured. (See Red Flag laws, previously detailed)

I could go on, and on. In these fourteen cases which I took the time to look up and do additional reading on, 245 people were shot and killed and an additional 636 were wounded or injured.

The first common thread is that in each of these mass shootings, the weapon was obtained legally, and the shooter passed the required background checks.

The next common thread is that prior to the shootings, there were warnings about the mental state of the shooter, some included multiple reports taken by law enforcement and/or mental health professionals. Even so, **nothing was done** to take weapons away from them or prevent them from obtaining weapons.

What was the purpose of even having Red Flag laws and Extreme Risk Protection Orders? But with each new shooting event, Progressive Democrats call for more gun control laws even though it is proven that they have not prevented the same mass shooting incidents they were supposed to prevent.

"Today, we are taking swift and bold action to protect New Yorkers. After a close review of the NYSRPA vs. Bruen decision and extensive discussions with constitutional and policy experts, advocates, and legislative partners, I am proud to sign this landmark legislative package that will strengthen our gun laws and bolster restrictions on concealed carry weapons."

NY Governor Kathy Hochul, June 6, 2022

Reference: S51001 restrictions for carrying of concealed weapons in "sensitive spaces", prohibits concealed carry of weapons on private property without permission, restricts concealed carry permit applications, requires background checks on all ammunition purchases

Reference: S9458 ban on semi-automatic rifles by anyone under the age of 18.

Reference: S9407 prohibiting the purchase of body armor by ordinary citizens.

Reference: S9113 expanding list of who can file Extreme Risk Protection Orders.

Closes "Other Gun" Loophole; Requires Microstamping of New Semiautomatic Pistols; Eliminates Grandfathering of High-Capacity Feeding Devices

"Gun violence is an epidemic that is tearing our country apart. Thoughts and prayers won't fix this, but taking strong action will. In New York, we're taking bold steps to protect the people of our state. I am proud to sign a comprehensive bill package that prohibits the sale of semiautomatic weapons to people under 21, bans body armor sales outside of people in select professions, closes critical gun law loopholes and strengthens our Red Flag Law to keep guns away from dangerous people—new measures that I believe will save lives.

NY Governor Kathy Hochul, October 12, 2024

Reference: S6649 gun dealer "Warning Signs"

Reference: S7365B pistol converter devices

Reference: S3340 notification for extreme risk protection orders

Reference: S9760 requirements for child access prevention and safe storage of firearms.

* Even though none of the shooters in the fourteen cases above were under the age of 18, Governor Hochul imposed that mandate in her legislation.

Governor Hochul, virtually every shooting carried out by dangerous people, under the age of 18, with semi-automatic weapons is carried out by criminal gang members, who won't follow your laws anyway. Let's target **them**, not law abiding, legal gun owners.

* Even though New York has had a Red Flag law in effect since 2019, and two of the fourteen cases above happened after it was in effect, Governor Hochul felt it necessary to "strengthen" that mandate in her legislation.

* Even though New York already has Extreme Risk Protection Order legislation in place, Governor Hochul felt it necessary to "strengthen" that mandate in her legislation.

* Even though New York state already has had a law prohibiting the sale of semi-automatic weapons and high-capacity magazines in effect since 2013, Governor Hochul felt it necessary to "strengthen" that mandate in her legislation.

Gun control laws do not work, because people do not report offenders. People do not report offenders for fear of being sued for defamation, fear of being labeled a snitch, lacking confidence in a weaponized justice system or mistrust of law enforcement. Instead, gun laws, pushed by only the Democrat Party, are implemented to restrict individual rights.

Although universal background checks may sound appealing, the private sale of guns between strangers is a small percentage of overall gun sales. Worse, the background check bills are written so broadly that they would turn most gun owners into criminals for innocent acts — such as letting one's sister borrow a gun for an afternoon of target shooting.

Gun-control advocates have been pushing for a ban on assault weapons for more than 25 years. This proposal is essentially a political gimmick that confuses people. That is because the term is an arbitrarily defined epithet. A federal ban was in place between 1994 and 2004, but Congress declined to renew it after studies showed it had no crime-reducing impact.

Finally, before adding new gun regulations to the legal code, policymakers should remember that several mass murders in the U.S. were prevented because citizens used firearms against the culprit before the police arrived on the scene.

The Costs and Consequences of Gun Control – the Cato Institute, December 1, 2015

Since the 1970's, Chicago and its surrounding municipalities have enacted some of the strictest gun control laws in the nation, yet the homicide rate per 1,000 residents is significantly higher than it was a decade ago. Gun control advocates point to increasing availability to deadlier firearms as an excuse for laws banning the purchase of semi-automatic weapons, high capacity magazines and devices that can enable weapons to fire like machine guns. But Democrats are not talking about getting criminals, gang members and drug dealers off the streets and putting them in jail where they can't shoot themselves or innocent bystanders, like Brexiale Torres-Ortiz.

Instead, Democrats talk about systemic racism in the judicial system, criminal justice reform, cashless bail, reclassifying and reducing criminal offenses, “second-look” sentencing, and “defunding” the police. This policy push intensified after the deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor in 2020, and many cities implemented policies like these. The results were predictable. Between 2019 and 2021; The homicide rate in Chicago increased 62%. In New York City, the number of homicides increased by 52%, Philadelphia, 58%, Los Angeles, 56%, Washington D.C., 36%, New Orleans, 67%.

All of these cities have been run by Progressive Democrats for decades. All have strict gun control laws. And all have high rates of poverty, crime and gang activity. Some might consider me to be a “black and white” type of person when it comes to statistics, but these statistics scream to me that the problem is not created by lawful gun owners. It's with criminals. Criminals don't follow laws. They don't care if there is a ban on semi-automatic weapons or high-capacity magazines, they'll get their hands on these weapons regardless.

And as shown by those mass murder cases, the problem is with people who are mentally disturbed and not given the proper treatment or supervision. It's not with law abiding citizens who purchase firearms legally. But Progressives don't care about the facts or the truth. They only care about CONTROL.

Addenda #12 – January 2024, UPDATE

Re: Ch. 9 Modern Monetary Theory – Fueling Unlimited Debt and Dependency, and Control

➤ *Income Inequality and Raising the Minimum Wage*

One year ago, in Addendum #12 I noted the trend to combat income inequality by raising the minimum wage.

In January 2021, twenty states raised minimum wage levels as much as \$1.50 per hour.

In January 2022, twenty-one states raised minimum wage levels as much as \$1.25/hour.

In January 2023, twenty-two states raised minimum wage levels by as much as \$2.00/hour

To add to those numbers, in January 2023, twenty-seven states and forty-one cities and counties raised minimum wage levels by as much as 8.2% from the previous year. Then in 2024, twenty-five states raised minimum wage levels as much as 16.6% in Hawaii.

Washington D.C. has the highest minimum wage in the nation, at \$17.00, Washington state is second at \$16.28, with California and New York close behind at \$16.00. Interestingly, New York (No. 2), the District of Columbia (No. 3) and California (No. 7) rank the highest in inequality of incomes. These states also rank in the highest 50 percentile in poverty rates in the nation as well, so apparently it is not the minimum wage that is the problem. But facts and the truth don't prevent Progressive Democrats from doubling down on increasing the minimum wage as the answer to income inequality.

Washington state has an economy that has grown more than twice the national rate... until recently. The largest concentration of 'STEM' (science, technology, engineering, math) workers reside in Washington state. Major manufacturers that have boosted the state's economy include Boeing, Microsoft, Nintendo, Amazon, Expedia, Costco and Nordstrom. Washington's population increased 15.5% between 2010 and 2022. More than 23% of residents have a bachelor's degree while almost 15% of residents have a Graduate Degree. Bureau of Labor Statistics data shows that the average salary of state residents is \$72,350, the third highest in the nation. Washington state residents are well educated, well paid and rank low in poverty and income inequality. But this comes at a cost.

Budgets in Washington state tighten as population growth slows

KNOW radio / npr, October 1, 2024

It's budget season in Washington state, and lawmakers are looking at cuts.

There are lots of reasons for these tight margins — including ones you've probably heard a lot about, like inflation — but there's one driver you likely haven't heard much about: slowing population growth.

People aren't moving to Washington as much as they have been in the last half-century...

Yet in 2024, faced with declining tax revenue collections (projected state revenue through 2029 to decrease by \$400 million), looming budget deficits (projected operating budget shortfall between \$10 billion and \$12 billion over the next four years), lawmakers raised the minimum wage in Washington yet again for 2025.

In 2024, lawmakers raised the minimum wage by 3.43% to \$16.28 per hour. For 2025, the minimum wage will be going up again, by another 2.33% to \$16.66 per hour. Over the past five years, Washington state has increased the minimum wage by 23.41%. But some municipalities like Seattle have raised the minimum wage even higher, for those who work within the city limits.

In 2024, the minimum wage for workers in Seattle was \$19.97 per hour. Small employers (500 or fewer employees) were given a break by being able to include employer contributions for medical benefits and employee tips towards the \$19.97 wage.

A small business owner, say a bar/restaurant, might pay a worker \$17.25 per hour and the balance of the wage, \$2.72 per hour, would be made up with tips the worker received or employer payments to their health insurance plan. This is known as the Tipped Employees adjustment to hourly wages, which varies from state to state.

Example:

Freddie's Tavern 123 Main Street Seattle, WA 98109					Earnings Statement		
Employee		Pay Period			Pay Date		
John Smith 1250 5th Ave N, Apt 201 Seattle, Washington 98109		Dec 26, 2024 to Jan Jan 1, 2025			Jan 4, 2025		
Earnings	Rate	Hours	Total	YTD	Taxes / Deductions	Current	YTD
Regular Earnings	\$17.25	30.00	\$517.50	\$25,875.00	Federal Withholding	\$51.75	\$2,587.50
Tips Earned	\$2.72	30.00	\$81.60	\$4,080.00	FICA - Social Security	\$32.09	\$1,604.25
					FICA - Medicare	\$7.50	\$375.19
					State Withholding	\$0.00	\$0.00
					Paid Family/Medical Leave	\$4.14	\$207.00
					Workers Comp	\$10.00	\$500.00
					Total Deductions	\$105.48	\$5,273.94
Gross Pay			\$599.10	\$29,955.00	Net Pay	\$493.62	\$24,681.06

John Smith, a server at Freddie's Tavern in Seattle Washington, works five, 6-hour shifts per week and makes the 2024 minimum wage (\$17.25 per hour) for working in Seattle. In addition, he makes an additional \$2.72 per hour in tips, for a total hourly rate of \$19.97. His Gross weekly wage is \$598.10. After payroll tax deductions, John's Net (take home) pay comes to \$493.62.

Over the course of a full year (assuming 30-hours a week for 50-weeks), John's total Gross Wages for 2024 come to \$29,955, with total Net Earnings after taxes of \$24,681.

A Clear and Present Danger – Threat #3 – The Great Reset

The owner of Freddie's Tavern pays 10 workers the same wage for the same number of hours each week and fills out a Payroll Statement showing the total payroll expenses.

Freddie's Tavern
123 Main Street
Seattle, WA 98109

Pay Period
Dec 26, 2024 to Jan Jan 1, 2025

Pay Date
Jan 4, 2025

Employee Payroll

Employee	Salary	Tips	O.T.	Subtotal	Employer Burden	Rate	Amount
John Smith	\$517.50	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$599.10	FICA - Social Security	6.20%	\$371.44
Kathy Franklin	\$517.50	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$599.10	FICA - Medicare	1.45%	\$86.87
Betty White	\$517.50	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$599.10	FUTA	6.00%	\$359.46
Bill Freed	\$517.50	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$599.10	CA Unemployment	0.80%	\$47.93
Susan Baker	\$517.50	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$599.10	Workers Compensation	\$33.00	\$330.00
Amanda Taylor	\$517.50	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$599.10	Paid Family/Medical Leave	0.00%	\$0.00
Heather Locklear	\$517.50	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$599.10			
Joan Wright	\$517.50	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$599.10			
Shirley Henderson	\$517.50	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$599.10			
Fred Derf	\$517.50	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$599.10			
Employee Expenses	\$5,175.00	\$816.00	\$0.00	\$5,991.00	Taxes Owed		\$1,195.70
					Total Wage Expenses		\$7,186.70
Year To Date Payroll Wages Total					Year To Date Payroll Tax Total		
	\$258,750.00	\$40,800.00	\$0.00	\$299,550.00			\$59,784.98
					Year To Date Payroll Expenses, Total		
							\$359,334.98

The employers' total wages paid to the employees comes to \$5,991.00 each week. In addition, the business owner pays a FICA tax, federal unemployment tax (FUTA), state unemployment tax and set workers compensation fee for each employee. The employer has to pay these taxes to the state department of taxation to help pay for benefits the employee may receive in the future. They are not withholdings from gross wages paid, like with the employee, they are an *additional cost* the employer must pay! The owner's total payroll cost per week comes to \$7,186.70. For 2024, the owner's payroll expenses total \$359,334.98.

In 2025, the minimum wage rate for workers in Seattle increases to \$20.76 per hour for *all* employers, regardless of size. Small employers will no longer be able to count tips and/or payments toward an employee's medical benefit plan toward an employee's minimum wage total. They must pay each employee the full \$20.76 per hour under Seattle's new Minimum Wage Ordinance.

A Clear and Present Danger – Threat #3 – The Great Reset

Freddie's Tavern

123 Main Street
Seattle, WA 98109

Earnings Statement

Employee		Pay Period			Pay Date		
John Smith 1250 5th Ave N, Apt 201 Seattle, Washington 98109		Jan 2, 2025 to Jan Jan 9, 2025			Jan 11, 2025		
Earnings	Rate	Hours	Total	YTD	Taxes / Deductions	Current	YTD
Regular Earnings	\$20.76	30.00	\$622.80	\$31,140.00	Federal Withholding	\$62.28	\$3,114.00
Tips Earned	\$2.72	30.00	\$81.60	\$4,080.00	FICA - Social Security	\$38.61	\$1,930.68
					FICA - Medicare	\$9.03	\$451.53
					State Withholding	\$0.00	\$0.00
					Paid Family/Medical Leave	\$4.98	\$249.12
					Workers Comp	\$10.00	\$500.00
Total Deductions						\$124.91	\$6,245.33
Gross Pay			\$704.40	\$35,220.00	Net Pay	\$579.49	\$28,974.67

John Smith now makes Gross Earnings of \$704.40 each week, an increase of \$105.30 or 17.58%. After taxes are deducted, John brings home an additional \$85.87 each week, an additional \$4,293.61 for the full year.

The owner of Freddie's Tavern pays 10 workers the same wage for the same number of hours each week and fills out a Payroll Statement showing the total payroll expenses.

Freddie's Tavern

123 Main Street
Seattle, WA 98109

Pay Period

Jan 2, 2025 to Jan Jan 9, 2025

Pay Date

Jan 11, 2025

Employee Payroll

Employee	Salary	Tips	O.T.	Subtotal	Employer Burden	Rate	Amount
John Smith	\$622.80	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$704.40	FICA - Social Security	6.20%	\$436.73
Kathy Franklin	\$622.80	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$704.40	FICA - Medicare	1.45%	\$102.14
Betty White	\$622.80	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$704.40	FUTA	6.00%	\$422.64
Bill Freed	\$622.80	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$704.40	CA Unemployment	0.80%	\$56.35
Susan Baker	\$622.80	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$704.40	Workers Compensation	\$34.32	\$343.20
Amanda Taylor	\$622.80	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$704.40	Paid Family/Medical Leave	0.00%	\$0.00
Heather Locklear	\$622.80	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$704.40			
Joan Wright	\$622.80	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$704.40			
Shirley Henderson	\$622.80	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$704.40			
Fred Derf	\$622.80	\$81.60	\$0.00	\$704.40			
Employee Expenses					Taxes Owed		\$1,361.06
					Total Wage Expenses		\$8,405.06
Year To Date Payroll Wages Total					Year To Date Payroll Tax Total		\$68,052.90
					Year To Date Payroll Expenses, Total		\$420,252.90

In the space of one week, the employer's payroll cost for the ten employees increased almost 17%, an additional \$1,218 per week! That's an increase in expenses for the business owner of \$60,918 for 2025.

The business owner now has three choices for the additional \$1,218/wk, \$60,918/year increase in business expenses:

1. Raise prices on the goods/services they provide to stay profitable, by the same 17%.
2. Avoid raising prices. Instead, they 'absorb' the 17% decrease in net profit.
3. Cut the number of hours each employee works or the number of workers the business employs, in order to reduce costs, stay profitable and remain in business.

If the employer chooses solution #1, the workers have increased their pay by 17.5%, but the goods and services they purchase from any other business that also has to raise wages increase by 17%. The worker is not much better off now, than they were before the increase.

If the employer chooses solution #2, his own household income is reduced by 17%, and they are also paying higher prices at the businesses they purchase from. Every business in Seattle must raise the wages they pay, and the prices they charge to compensate for that. The owner's household is worse off now than they were before, they can't afford the lost profit from the wage increase.

If the employer chooses solution #3, the workers are *worse* off. Not only is their income reduced, but they are paying higher prices on all goods and services they purchase.

Or the business owner could choose solution #4. They close due to higher costs of doing business in the city.

Two West Seattle eateries shut doors, citing strain from new \$20 minimum wage

Small business owners are making difficult choices.

KING5 – TV, Seattle WA,

After the city's minimum wage requirement increased to more than \$20 an hour on New Year's Day, two eateries in West Seattle have permanently closed: Bel Gatto, a bakery in Fauntleroy, and Bebo Waffle Shop, a longtime small business on California Avenue.

Unlike previous years, Seattle's minimum wage increase is applicable to all employers, regardless of size or benefits offered. In some cases, workers are getting a \$3 per hour raise starting this month.

After 11 years, Corina Luckenbach of Bebo Waffle Shop has decided to shutter, citing the strains she says were made worse with the latest minimum wage boost. She said it was daunting to come up with an extra \$32,000 a year to give her employees a raise.

"I'm a teeny, tiny business. Where do I make up that money?" said Luckenbach. "There's gonna be a lot of closures this year... I'm already seeing places close."

And she's not alone; other owners are making difficult choices, like Peter Levy, owner of Bel Gatto.

They posted a sign on their door this week that reads, in part, "Our revenues, unfortunately, are not able to cover the close to 20% increase in mandated wages, salaries, and payroll taxes put into effect by the Seattle City Council."

On the other hand, many workers feel the boost is warranted and fought in favor of the wage hike, citing a higher cost of living.

"Those who earn the minimum wage have struggled in meeting their basic needs, buying food, groceries, utilities, rent," said Charlie Lapham in a public testimony at a Seattle City Council meeting over the summer.

"Democrats should expand the Amazon tax to help struggling small businesses cover this increase in January instead of attacking workers," said Shirley Henderson, a public commenter at a council meeting in July.

Another testifier named Joan Wright said, "Why not pass commercial rent control to keep rent costs down for smaller businesses?"

Corina Luckenbach told Seattle TV station KCPQ "This is financially just not going to make sense anymore. Because, just for me, the increase would cost me \$32,000 more a year."

The Washington Hospitality Association predicts restaurant closures in Seattle will rise by 5 to 8 percent this year because of higher labor costs. "It's just not sustainable," Anthony Anton, president and CEO of the Washington Hospitality Association

This is just another example of the ignorance of politicians and the general public, when it comes to the simple economics of running a business. Business owners do not stay in business with the intention of losing money year-to-year. The whole purpose of opening your own business is to make a profit and provide a living for your family and your workers. This balance between the price you charge for goods and services is even more critical for small business owners.

The Seattle City Council, who approved the minimum wage increases and change in tipped workers wage, has consisted of nine Democrats for decades.

It is their Progressive policies that have made the cost of living in their city unaffordable for people like Charlie Lapham.

It is their Progressive policies that have made the cost of doing business in their city unaffordable to people like Corina Luckenbach and Peter Levy.

It is the ignorance of Seattle voters that return Progressive Democrat politicians to office every four years, cheer the double-digit wage increases they get, then cry about how unaffordable Seattle is to live in...

Useful Idiots

Addenda #12 – January 2024, UPDATE – January 2025

Re: Ch. 9 Modern Monetary Theory – Fueling Unlimited Debt and Dependency, and Control

➤ *Income Inequality and Raising the Minimum Wage*

In Addenda #12 I noted the minimum wage increases in Progressive states like California and New York. In California, the minimum wage for most workers increased from \$15.50 to \$16.00 per hour in January 2024, healthcare workers at larger facilities will see their minimum wage go up to \$23 an hour on June 1 and increase by \$1 annually for the next two years until it reaches \$25. Wages for food service workers at larger “chain restaurants” will increase to \$20 per hour.

When the wage increases for 2024 were announced in August 2023, there were numerous media articles about employer layoffs and outsourcing jobs to other private companies out of those industries. The articles noted that thousands of employees might lose their jobs as a result of the large wage increases. Here we are, a year later and I wanted to see if those announcements were factual or just negative press by the healthcare and fast food industry.

Kaiser Permanente, founded in Oakland California in 1945, is a for-profit healthcare company that manages hospitals and medical offices and provides medical care and health insurance to more than 12.5 million members in eight regions in the United States. In their 2023 Annual Report, Kaiser Permanente listed 235,785 employees, including technical, administrative, and clerical employees, nurses and nonphysician caregivers. If you go to the company’s website today, they still mention serving 12.5 million members. But the number of employees is now listed as 223,883, a decrease of 11,902 workers as of September 30, 2024.

Kaiser announces second round of layoffs with 115 additional job cuts

Kaiser Permanente plans to reduce its workforce by 115 positions across the country in its second wave of layoffs this fall, primarily affecting IT workers in Northern California.

San Francisco Chronicle, December 12, 2023

Kaiser lays off IT workers for a second time in 4 months

Kaiser Permanente confirmed Tuesday via email it had cut 72 information technology positions as part of an ongoing effort to reduce costs across the organization.

HealthcareDive, March 5, 2024

Kaiser laying off 76 in California

Becker’s Hospital Review, May 7, 2024

Kaiser Permanente to Close Last Nursing Home, Cut 249 Jobs

Kaiser Permanente announced the permanent closure of its last nursing home in California, resulting in 249 job losses across various roles.

Skilled Nursing News, September 11, 2024

Kaiser to lay off 43 employees across multiple California locations

The layoffs are the result of continued operations and services evaluations and will primarily affect information technology and finance positions within the health system. No direct patient medical care positions were affected, a spokesperson for Kaiser said in a Sept. 27 statement shared with Becker's.

Becker's Hospital Review, September 27, 2024

Kaiser to lay off more California workers

Oakland, Calif.-based Kaiser Permanente has shared plans to lay off 20 employees across multiple California locations, effective Dec. 6. The layoffs are primarily in the technology and business function departments.

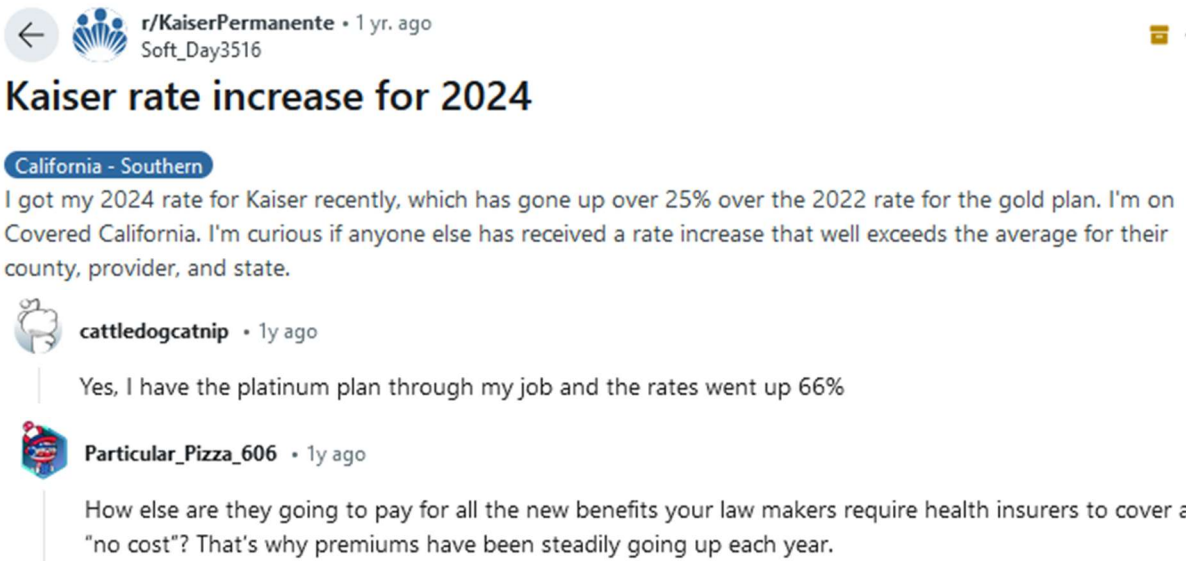
Becker's Hospital Review, October 14, 2024

Large companies that employed 25 or more workers in the healthcare industry had to increase the hourly minimum wage they paid their workers by \$0.50 on January 1st, and another \$7.00 on June 1st. That's an increase of \$7.50 or 48.38% year-over-year. Kaiser had three options for dealing with the \$7.50 wage increase they would have to pay beginning June 1st.

1. Raise prices on the services they provide, to stay profitable, by that same 48%.
As if healthcare was not expensive enough already!
2. Raise prices by a smaller amount, or not at all. Kaiser would absorb some or all of the wage increase plus additional payroll tax burden.

Note: At \$7.50 per hour, for every 1,000 employees Kaiser employed in California, their payroll would increase by \$15 million and the labor burden; payroll taxes and insurances another \$1.329 million. That's an additional cost year-over-year of \$16.329 million.

3. Cut the number of hours employees work or the number of workers employed, and/or find other cost reduction measures.



https://www.reddit.com/r/KaiserPermanente/comments/171jrh6/kaiser_rate_increase_for_2024/?rdt=34841

Unintended consequences...

The other industry in California that received a significant increase in minimum wage for 2024 was the fast-food industry. Again, there were numerous media articles claiming that thousands of these employees might lose their jobs as a result of the large wage increases. Politicians and the California Hospital Association ‘pushed back’ on the claims, promoting the benefits for workers and saying claims to the contrary were false. Was this just propaganda by businesses not wanting to increase workers’ wages, or was there truth to the claims?

California minimum wage shocks fast food workers as restaurant closes: 'Only the beginning,' ex-manager warns

Another California small business and its workers have seemingly suffered at the hands of the state’s newly enacted \$20 minimum wage.

When making their way to work Monday morning, Navarro and her team learned upon arrival that the restaurant owner had made the decision to close its doors for good. The owner, Loren Wright, told local Fox affiliate KMPH that this was the "last thing" they wanted to do, but knew by Friday night the business likely wouldn’t be able to absorb the wage hike and didn’t "want to ruin their Easter Sunday."

Fox Business; April 4, 2024

Restaurant chain shuts down nearly 50 locations in California following minimum wage hike

Rubio’s Coastal Grill, a California Mexican restaurant chain, announced the closure of 48 restaurants in the Golden State amid rising business costs. It’s following a trend of companies taking similar actions after feeling the stress of having to balance higher labor costs.

The company confirmed the closures in a statement to several news outlets, attributing the decision to "the rising cost of doing business in California." California recently raised its minimum wage for fast-food employees from \$16 to \$20 in a move that has been celebrated by workers and decried by restaurant operators.

Fox Business; June 4, 2024

The Unintended Consequences Of California’s \$20 Minimum Wage For Fast-Food Workers

California’s minimum-wage law, which went into effect in April 2024, currently requires that fast-food restaurants with 60 or more locations nationwide increase their workers’ pay to \$20 an hour, which is \$4 higher than the state’s minimum wage.

Although the bump in pay is intended to help improve the standard of living for more than half a million fast-food workers, there may be unintended consequences that could do more harm to these employees, including restaurant closures, job cuts, reduced hours and increased deployment of automation to bring down expenses.

A major Burger King franchisee in California confirmed plans to install kiosks at all locations in response to the \$20 wage, Business Insider reported. "We are installing kiosks in every single restaurant," Harsh Ghai, who owns 180 fast-food restaurants in California, including about 140 Burger King locations and numerous Taco Bell and Popeyes restaurants, told BI in an interview in early April.

Restaurants like McDonald's, Shake Shack, Panera Bread are deploying self-service kiosks that allow customers to place orders themselves, reducing the need for human cashiers.

Some restaurants are cutting employee hours, having fewer workers per shift to control labor costs, while others are letting go of staff.

Michaela Mendelsohn, the CEO of Pollo West Corporation, one of the largest franchisees of California restaurant chain El Pollo Loco, who was also appointed to Newsom's Fast Food Council, confirmed to Good Morning America in April that El Pollo Loco had to cut employee hours by 10% to reduce costs.

Some franchisees have reconsidered plans to open new locations in California due to the wage hike. Existing restaurants may close or pause hiring if they cannot sustain profitability with the increased labor costs.

Forbes; July 26, 2024

California Fast Food Restaurants Shed Thousands of Jobs after \$20 Minimum Wage Hike Approved

National Review – Economy & Business, December 5, 2024

California's fast food industry shed more than 6,000 jobs after Democratic lawmakers passed a bill mandating a \$20 minimum wage for most fast food and counter service restaurants in the state, according to a new analysis of labor data.

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data show that between September 2023, when California governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill 1228, and June 2024, Golden State fast food employment dropped from 570,909 jobs to 564,743. That's a loss of 6,166 jobs, or 1.1 percent, according to an analysis by the nonprofit Employment Policies Institute.

During that same period a year earlier, California fast food restaurants added 17,528 jobs, a 3.1 percent increase over those ten months in 2022 and 2023, the data show.

A spokesman for California governor Gavin Newsom's office, accused EPI and others of cherry picking data "to push a narrative."

Gov. Newsom's Office Continues to Fib About Fast Food Job Losses – Claims Job Gains

'Newsom is stretching the truth to obscure that his fast food minimum wage hike has been a disaster'

California Globe, August 20, 2024

Interestingly, their PR tactic is to continue the lie, and skew and manipulate data, even in the face of more and more fast food restaurants closing in California, cutting staff, adding more automation and cutting overtime.

Rather than taking my word for it, or believing your own lying eyes, the Globe spoke with Economist Rebekah Paxton for her analysis of Gov. Newsom's claims. Paxton, who holds advanced degrees from Boston University in Economics and Political Science, is the research director at the Employment Policies Institute told us in June: "Newsom is stretching the truth to obscure the obvious: His fast food minimum wage hike has been a disaster. Thousands of workers have lost their jobs, hours are being slashed, and restaurants are closing at an alarming pace. The public isn't fooled by Newsom's statistical spin."

This remains true today.

“He is using the non-adjusted data set,” Paxton said in an interview with the Globe Tuesday. “He went after other groups for using these last time around. But as of July, California is still down 3,000 fast food jobs since January 2024.”

There have been historical fast food job losses because of the increase to the \$20 per hour minimum wage. And the governor and his PR staff don’t appear to care that people are losing their jobs – they’d rather gaslight minimum wage workers and claim fast food jobs are up.

Rebekah Paxton was correct. Gavin Newsom and Progressive politicians in California, and other states, do not care that people are losing their jobs when radical increases to the minimum wage are passed. They only care that their core supporters are satisfied and will continue to vote them back into office. California’s attempt to “lift up” minimum wage fast food workers with large minimum wage increases did exactly what I knew it would do. But it wasn’t just fast-food workers who were affected by minimum wage increases.

The minimum wage for workers in other industries increased from \$13.00 per hour in 2020, to \$14.00 in 2021, to \$15.00 in 2022, \$15.50 in 2023, \$16.00 in 2024. That’s a 23% wage increase over four years, an average of 5.8% per year. ⁽¹⁾ Inflation increased right along with wages, as the California Consumer Price (inflation) Index increased 19.5% over the same time period, an average increase in prices in the Golden State of 4.9%. ⁽²⁾

1. State of California Department of Industrial Relations / Labor Commissioner’s Office / Minimum Wage

2. State of California Department of Industrial Relations / California Consumer Price Index (1955-2024)

Increased labor costs for businesses didn’t just cause prices to increase, it also caused higher unemployment. The unemployment rate in California climbed to 5.4% in November 2024, from 5.1% in November 2023, with 61,545 more workers unemployed. A two-year comparison is even worse, with the unemployment rate climbing from 4.3% in November 2022 to 5.4% in November 2024, with 223,813 more unemployed workers. ⁽³⁾

3. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics / California Labor Force Data

Not being known for backing off a position when confronted with adverse facts, California officials are reportedly considering a further increase to the minimum wage for fast-food workers. The California Fast Food Council, created by Governor Newsom in September 2023 to regulate working conditions and wages for fast-food industry workers, proposed an additional 3.5% raise for industry workers at its very first meeting in August 2024, just four months after the 25% jump in wages began in 2024.

The raise request was prompted by a letter from the California Fast Food Workers Union, which in part noted restaurants have cut their hours in response to the wage increase, all but offsetting the bump in wages. Even after [the increase in] April, fast-food workers still face "impossible" choices between paying rent or phone bills, the union said.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/sanfrancisco/news/fast-food-workers-urge-more-minimum-wage-increases/>

Calif. Fast-Food Workers Want Another Raise as Owners Say They Can’t Afford the Last One

California Insider, August 9, 2024

The California Fast Food Workers Union—representing thousands of cashiers and cooks— sent a letter to the council before the most recent meeting calling for another bump in pay.

“We know that truly transforming fast food into a fairer, more sustainable industry takes more than a onetime raise,” the letter read.

On the other side of the issue, the owner of a Sacramento-based Arby’s franchise said the recent minimum wage hike—to \$20 per hour from \$16—is “significantly impacting” his business. Since then, he told the council, he raised prices and cut hours while trying to maintain profitability.

“That impacts our customers,” Tegvir Toor said during the hearing. “Families are already struggling to make ends meet, and so raising prices is an extremely difficult decision to make, but for the survival of our business, we had to consider it.”

Toor said sales have decreased by as much as 23 percent over the past three months.

The minimum wage increase apparently has not worked, either for the workers, the employers or the customers! Workers have had their hours reduced or have been laid off. Employers are struggling with increased labor costs on top of higher costs for business related expenses. Customers are cutting down on fast food purchases, as prices climbed. The website *Eat This, Not That!* Posted a list of prices for 9 major U.S. cities having the highest McDonald’s prices. San Diego, \$7.09, and Los Angeles, \$7.49, came in at numbers 4 and 3 respectively for a Big Mac. A Big Mac bought from my neighborhood Fairmount NY location, on the other hand, cost \$5.59.

<https://www.eatthis.com/highest-mcdonalds-prices-2024/>

Newsweek ran two news articles about population change in California last December. In the first article dated December 20, the author noted from 2023 to 2024, the number of residents increased by 233,000 people.

<https://www.newsweek.com/california-sees-surge-people-moving-state-its-not-all-great-news-2004296>

In the second article, also dated December 20, the author noted that more Americans left California between 2023 and 2024 than any other state across the country, a total loss of 239,575 residents to other states, the largest net domestic migration loss in the country over the past year.

<https://www.newsweek.com/california-suffers-exodus-over-200000-americans-leave-state-one-year-2004043>

Taken together, the data from these two articles shows a total net outward migration of 6,575. Although the demographic information for those leaving the state is not available, the second Newsweek article says, “California Cities See Exodus Of College-Educated Americans”, and notes the “population drain” is due to “people’s desire to live in more affordable places.”

Elections have consequences. Gavin Newsome was elected governor of California in 2018, receiving 61.95% of the vote. Following his widely publicized misbehavior during the COVID-19 pandemic, voters forced a “recall election”, which Newsom survived by more than 3 million votes. Then in 2022, Newsome was reelected by smaller 59.18% of the vote. Newsom will not run again in 2026 due to the limit of two terms. But he has left a long-lasting legacy of debt, higher prices, higher unemployment and population loss. Newsom does have his sights set on a Presidential run in 2028, however. I’m sure he wants to bring his “California model” to the rest of the country if elected.

Addenda #32 – February 2025

Re: Ch. 3, The World Economic Forum

Ch. 12, A New Form of ‘Fascism’ for the 21st Century –
The World’s Premier Organizer

Every January, Global Elites meet in Davos Switzerland for the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting. This year, Davos 2025 was held January 20 – 24.

Our mission:

We bring together government, businesses and civil society to improve the state of the world
[2020 version]

The Annual Meeting 2025 convenes global leaders to address key global and regional challenges. These include responding to geopolitical shocks, stimulating growth to improve living standards, and stewarding a just and inclusive energy transition.

Leaders at Davos Economic Forum Vow to ‘Stay the Course’ on Climate Action

“Europe will stay the course, and keep working with all nations that want to protect nature and stop global warming... The Paris Agreement continues to be the best hope for all humanity,”
Ursula von der Leyen, European Union chief

“The world is undergoing an energy transition that is unstoppable. Last year alone, over \$2 trillion was invested in the transition [to clean energy]. And that compares to [\$1 trillion] in fossil fuels,”
Simon Stiell, United Nations climate chief

“... the world is full of uncertainty after yesterday even more, and maybe tomorrow there might be even more uncertainty. Let’s please, as Europeans within the European Union, not add to the uncertainty by creating ambiguity on our goals.”
Alexander De Croo, Belgium Prime Minister

“For us, who have been on the bumpy train ride for a couple of years, we are discovering year by year how we actually not only can succeed to deliver to the Paris Agreement but actually how it benefits business.”
Jesper Brodine, IKEA Chief Executive Officer

“We’re already collaborating at a scale where no one can stop, you know, not one country, not one leader making a decision...”
Damilola Ogunbiyi, special representative of the U.N. secretary-general, CEO of *Sustainable Energy for All*

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines “steward” as, “one who actively directs affairs”. Well, it seems like the Global Elites of the WEF are all atwitter about their ability to “actively direct” this year, vowing to double down on the “clean energy transition” and refusing to allow any one leader or country stop what *they* feel will “improve the state of the world.” Global Elites of the World Economic Forum have actual disgust for and look down on elected governments, because in their opinion, elected governments are guilty of faulty policy making. The people elect representatives and then the representatives do the *wrong* thing, at least in the eyes of the Global Elites.

They have borders, believe in nationalism and legal immigration. They believe in a fair system of taxation and not redistribution of wealth. They believe in free market capitalism, are opposed to diversity, equity, and inclusion and ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) Any one leader or country who shares these views is a *threat* to their objective.

“The Forum engages the foremost political, business, cultural and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas”

The “theme” of Davos 2024 was on restoring “collective agency”, and “reinforcing the fundamental principles of transparency, consistency and accountability among leaders”, a seemingly much more positive message. In contrast, Davos 2025 ended on almost a frantic note of defending policy and attacking those who disagree with it. What changed in one year?

For one, voters in the 27-nation European Union had elections to choose new leaders in the European Parliament in June 2024, with the outcome showing a clear shift to “the right”. Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni of the right-wing Brothers of Italy political party more than doubled the number of her party’s seats in the assembly. The Social Democrat party of German Chancellor Olaf Scholtz lost seats to the Alternative for Germany right-wing populist party. France’s National Rally anti-immigration party drew more than double the share of President Emmanuel Macron’s liberal Renaissance party, prompting Macron to dissolve the French parliament and send voters back to the polls for a “do over”. Overall, right-wing parties won almost 40% of the vote, forcing an even more significant shift further to the right on migration and climate by the European Parliament led by President of the European Council António Costa (WEF Agenda Contributor) and President of the Council of the European Union Ursula von der Leyen (WEF Agenda Contributor).

On day three of the Davos 2025 meetings, Argentina’s Libertarian president Javier Milei addressed WEF Elites with a message they were not used to hearing.

... we are an example of a new way of doing politics, which is about telling people the truth to their faces and trusting that they will understand.

I have found allies in this fight for the ideas of freedom in every corner of the world – from the amazing Elon Musk to that fierce Italian lady, my dear Giorgia Meloni; from Bukele in El Salvador to Viktor Orbán in Hungary; from Benjamin Netanyahu in Israel to Donald Trump in the United States – slowly an international alliance has been forming among all those nations which, like ours, want to be free and believe in the ideas of liberty.

See: Addenda #17 – January 2024

This message shook the Davos Elites because it ran directly opposite to their beliefs about representative democracy, and highlighted that nations are slowly breaking away from the thinking of Global Elites at Davos and the United Nations.

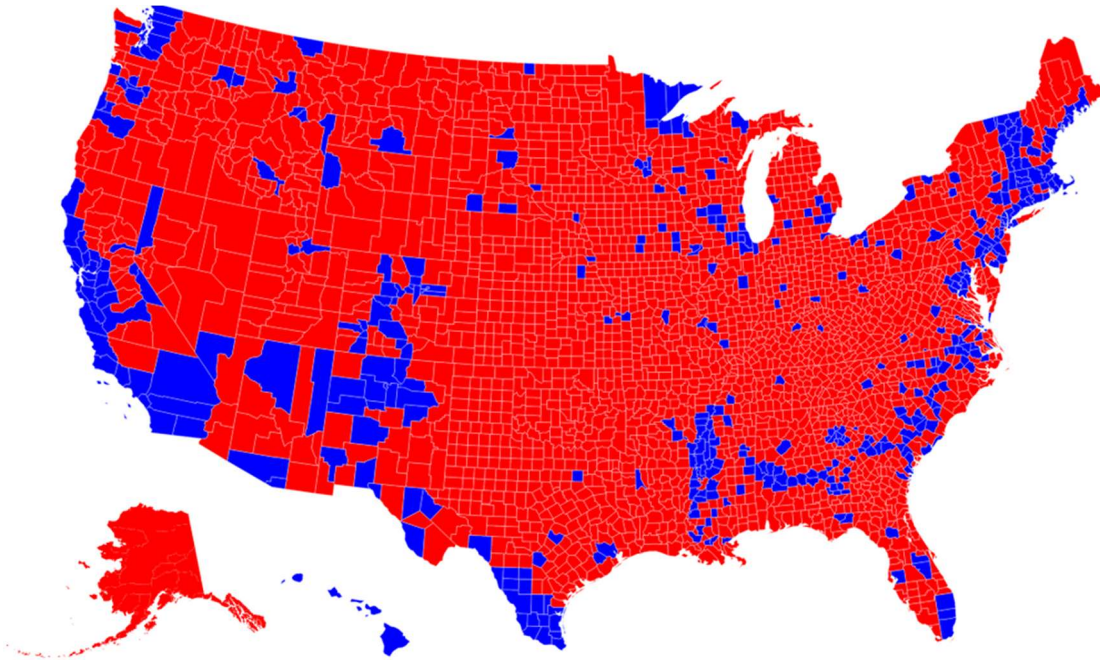
And slowly, what once seemed like the absolute global hegemony of the woke left in politics and educational institutions, in the media, in supranational organizations, or even in forums like Davos, has begun to crumble. And I hope for the ideas of freedom is starting to emerge.

If Javier Milei put those in attendance on the defensive with his remarks, the next speaker sent them into a panic. As newly inaugurated U.S. President Donald Trump was introduced by founder Klaus Schwab, the room erupted in applause to welcome its newest world leader to the Forum. As he spoke via teleconference, the applause ceased, and Global Elites began to express their disappointment at what he had to say.

Well, thank you very much, Klaus. And hello to everyone in beautiful Davos.

This has been a truly historic week in the United States. Three days ago, I took the oath of office, and we began the golden age of America. The recent presidential election was won by millions of votes and all seven — every one of them — all seven swing states. It was a massive mandate from the American people like hasn't been seen in many years. And some of the political pundits, even some of my so-called enemies, said it was the most consequential election victory in 129 years. That's quite nice.

On November 4, 2024, Donald Trump defeated Kamala Harris decisively. His 312 Electoral College votes was the highest total for a Republican candidate since 1988 as he swept all seven key “battleground” states by a combined 761,304 votes, flipping six of those states from the results in 2020. His 77.3 million popular votes were the most cast for a Republican candidate ever; 2.284 million more than Harris received, and 14.3 million more than he received in the 2016 election. Republican candidates won a 220-215 margin of control in the House of Representatives and won an additional 4 seats to gain control of the Senate, 53-45. All things considered; this was a mandate by the majority of the American voting public, as more than 79 million voters (51%) rejected the left-wing policies she represented.



2024 Presidential election results by county

What the world has witnessed in the past 72 hours is nothing less than a revolution of common sense. Our country will soon be stronger, wealthier, and more united than ever before, and the entire planet will be more peaceful and prosperous as a result of this incredible momentum and what we're doing and going to do.

My administration is acting with unprecedented speed to fix the disasters we've inherited from a totally inept group of people and to solve every single crisis facing our country.

On January 20, President Trump's first day in office, he signed twenty-six executive orders **and actions**. Several of those were signed at the Capital One Arena immediately following his inauguration, in front of thousands of his supporters.

The first Executive Order he signed revoked approximately 80 executive actions that had been signed by former President Joe Biden. These included orders on gender identity, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and Accessibility in the Federal Workforce, climate crisis, Environmental Justice for All, and “clean energy”.

Also overturned was Executive Order 14010, dated February 2, 2021, which created a process to “managing migration throughout North and Central America.” This order aligned with the United Nations *Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean*. This executive order signed by President Biden two weeks after his inauguration, bypassed the Immigration and Naturalization Act to allow unregulated illegal immigration into the U.S. (see A Clear and Present Danger, Threat #2 – U.N. Agenda 21 / 2030, Addenda #46-May 2024)

Also overturned was Executive Order 14022, dated April 1, 2021, that terminated sanctions imposed against the International Criminal Court since June 2020, by then President Trump. The ICC had sought jurisdiction over the U.S. military in matters allegedly committed by United States military, intelligence, and other personnel in or relating to the war in Afghanistan, threatening to subject current and former United States Government and allied officials to harassment, abuse, and possible arrest. The ICC wanted to infringe on the sovereignty of the United States and take matters into its own hands as the one global entity in charge of investigating alleged infractions: genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and the crime of aggression, as the “court of last resort. President Biden gave the ICC jurisdiction to investigate, judge and punish American citizens instead protecting their 6th Amendment trial by jury rights in the United States.

President Trump's second executive action was to end government censorship of free speech. His third action was “Ending the Weaponization” of Federal Government agencies against the American public.

President Trump's fourth action was an Executive Order withdrawing the United States from the Paris Climate Agreement and to “immediately cease or revoke any purported financial commitment made by the United States under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.” This is a big one, because the United States paid \$2 billion into the U.N. Green Climate fund under President Obama and pledged \$11.4 billion *per year* in 2021 under the Biden-Harris administration.

See: A Clear and Present Danger, Threat #2 – U.N. Agenda 21 / 2030, Addenda #23 – November 2024

President Trump also signed an executive order withdrawing the United States from the World Health Organization.

The United States noticed its withdrawal from the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2020 due to the organization's mishandling of the COVID-19 pandemic that arose out of Wuhan, China, and other global health crises, its failure to adopt urgently needed reforms, and its inability to demonstrate independence from the inappropriate political influence of WHO member states. In addition, the WHO continues to demand unfairly onerous payments from the United States, far out of proportion with other countries' assessed payments.

See: A Clear and Present Danger, Threat #2 – U.N. Agenda 21 / 2030, chapter 17)

The United States is the largest “donor” to the WHO, contributing \$500 million annually. In addition to the proven assertion of mishandling the COVID-19 pandemic and other global health emergencies, the Biden-Harris administration was in agreement with the WHO being able to declare a global health emergency under the 2024 revisions to the *International Health Regulations* and the *WHO Pandemic Agreement*.

This agreement enabled the WHO to declare a global health emergency due to epidemics or pandemics over the authority and control of sovereign nations like the United States, and it gave the WHO emergency powers to seize control over 10% of the United States “pandemic related health products” and force the sale of another 10% of these products at prices deemed “affordable” by the WHO. The agreement also required WHO member nations to make annual monetary contributions in the amount to be determined by the WHO. The Biden-Harris administration agreed to waive the rights of the United States and give the WHO control over our actions or reactions to them.

President Biden totally lost control of what was going on in our country but, in particular, with our high-inflation economy and at our border. Because of these ruinous policies, total government spending this year is \$1.5 trillion higher than was projected to occur when I left office just four years ago. Likewise, the cost of servicing the debt is more than 230 percent higher than was projected in 2020.

U.N. and WEF member nations have been urged to spend whatever amount necessary to achieve implementation of the Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. The U.N.'s *Sustainable Development Goals Report 2024* shows that only 17 percent of their SDG targets are on track, nearly half are showing minimal or moderate progress, and progress on over one third has stalled or even regressed. Election results in the EU, Argentina and the United States will likely further slow progress on gender equality, affordable and clean energy, climate action, sustainable cities and communities, and responsible consumption and production. Maybe now these countries can direct assets to improve poverty and income inequality rates, food security, clean water and sanitation and health instead: something millions will directly benefit from!

The inflation rate we are inheriting remains 50 percent higher than the historic target. It was the highest inflation probably in the history of our country. That's why, from the moment I took office, I've taken rapid action to reverse each and every one of these radical left policies that created this calamity — in particular, with immigration, crime, and inflation.

On day one in office, President Trump declared a national emergency at the U.S. – Mexico border, vowing to deploy troops to the region to fight against foreign criminal gangs and cartels and stop the flow of narcotics and human trafficking. “As Commander in Chief, I have no more solemn duty than to protect the American people.”

President Trump also instructed the secretaries of Defense and Homeland Security to construct additional border barriers. He designated Mexican and Central/South American drug cartels as foreign terrorist organizations. He closed the U.S. – Mexico border to all immigration, migration and refugee entries for 90-days and terminated all parole programs for illegal immigrants from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua and Venezuela. The president also reinstated his 2019 “Remain in Mexico” policy, requiring asylum seekers to remain in Mexico until their immigration court date.

President Trump also ordered an immediate shutdown of the Customs and Border Protection CBP One app, which allowed immigrants to apply for entry into the United States and set up an Immigration Court hearing.

See: A Clear and Present Danger, Threat #2 – U.N. Agenda 21 / 2030, Addenda #65 – October 2024, Addenda #65 – November 2024, Addenda #65 Update – November 2024, December 2024 and January 2025)

“I’ve done all I can do. Just give me the power. Give me the border patrol. Give me the people. The judges. Give me the people who can stop this and make it work right,”

President Biden responding to a reporter’s question on the border, January 30, 2024

<https://twitter.com/i/status/1752362014477824172>

Joe Biden could have done all that. But the people controlling him didn’t want him to.

I terminated the ridiculous and incredibly wasteful Green New Deal — I call it the “Green New Scam”; withdrew from the one-sided Paris Climate Accord; and ended the insane and costly electric vehicle mandate. We’re going to let people buy the car they want to buy.

See: A Clear and Present Danger, Threat #2 – U.N. Agenda 21 / 2030, Ch. 7, 8, 9 and 11 and multiple Addenda’s.

I declared a national energy emergency — and it’s so important — national energy emergency to unlock the liquid gold under our feet and pave the way for rapid approvals of new energy infrastructure. The United States has the largest amount of oil and gas of any country on Earth, and we’re going to use it.

The development of clean, renewable energy and achieving U.N. 2050 net-zero targets has been a priority for Global Elites of the World Economic Forum for years, and even more since reports showed that the global energy transition plateaued in 2023. The United States backing out of its pledge to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, cancelling the mandate to electrify the federal fleet, cancelling the 2024 EPA Final Rule on Emissions, which would have forced auto manufactures to begin large-scale production and sales of EV’s by 2027 forcing the American public to buy them is causing Elites at Davos to panic.

See: A Clear and Present Danger, Threat #2 – U.N. Agenda 21 / 2030, Addenda #67 – November 2024 and Addenda #68 – November 2024

After four long years, the United States is strong and sovereign and a beautiful nation once again. It's a strong, sovereign nation.

That, was not what Global Elites wanted to hear! They don't want a strong, sovereign nation, thinking for themselves. They wanted the compliant United States with a globalist view, like they had under Joe Biden.

In addition, I'm pleased to report that America is also a free nation once again. On day one, I signed an executive order to stop all government censorship. No longer will our government label the speech of our own citizens as misinformation or disinformation, which are the favorite words of censors and those who wish to stop the free exchange of ideas and, frankly, progress. We have saved free speech in America, and we've saved it strongly.

President Trump has made restoring free speech a priority, signing an executive order on inauguration day to end the Biden administration practice of colluding with social media platforms to promote “fact checking” of posts that run contrary to the governments position on issues. Example: In an August 2024 letter to the House Judiciary Committee, Meta (Facebook) CEO Mark Zuckerberg detailed how senior Biden administration officials leaned on the company to censor certain posts about Covid-19, including humor and satire, and “expressed a lot of frustration” when it resisted. Zuckerberg also expressed regret for Meta’s “fact checking” posts and restricting sharing of the New York Post article about Hunter Biden ahead of the 2020 election, after the FBI warned staff members that “there was a lot of Russian propaganda in the 2016 election.”

“It's since been made clear that the reporting was not Russian disinformation, and in retrospect, we shouldn't have demoted the story” Zuckerberg wrote.

See: Ch. 4, Government Abuse of Power and Addenda #27 – October 2024

The European Union, on the other hand, has implemented the Digital Services Act, which requires the removal of “illegal content” on social media platforms and scours platforms looking for “misinformation” and “disinformation”.

“In recent months, we have seen how Elon Musk and his social network X have become the main promoter for the far right by supporting Donald Trump and Alice Weidel's AfD party through fake news and hate messages.

“We have also witnessed Mark Zuckerberg's decision to remove fact-checking programs on Meta as an act of complicity with lies and manipulation... We must ensure the effective application of our rules and we must sanction those who break the rules.”

Iratxe Garcia; European Parliament member and leader of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats, January 24, 2024

My administration has taken action to abolish all discriminatory diversity, equity, and inclusion nonsense — and these are policies that were absolute nonsense — throughout the government and the private sector. With the recent, yet somewhat unexpected, great Supreme Court decision just made, America will once again become a merit-based country. You have to hear that word: merit-based country.

And I've made it official — an official policy of the United States that there are only two genders, male and female, and we will have no men participating in women's sports, and transgender operations, which became the rage, will occur very rarely.

So much for the United States helping the U.N. achieve its Gender equality goal.

See: Addenda #24 – July 2024: U,N, Gender Mainstreaming for Gender Equality Results

... we've accomplished more in less than four days — we have really been working — four days — than other administrations have accomplished in four years, and we're just getting started...

Under the last administration, our nation has suffered greatly, but we are going to bring it back and make it greater, bigger, stronger, better than ever before.

I want to thank everybody for being with you. I would have been there myself, except the inauguration was two days ago. I thought it might be a little bit quick to make it the first stop, but we'll get there one day. We hope to get there.

As I stated in Chapter 12, the World Economic Forum (and the United Nations) is the world's premier organizer of society. World government leaders, world financial and economic leaders, world climate policy leaders, world trade union leaders. All favoring a “reset” of existing global systems, emphasizing climate change, sustainability, fairer outcomes [equitable and redistributive] and additional taxation to reset and reimagine social and economic systems. But those people in power fear anyone who pose a legitimate threat to their reign of control. This is the reason the global Elites desperately want to impoverish the middle class and make America (and the world) a society of extremes: Extreme poverty (us) on the one hand, and extreme wealth (them) on the other.

The United States, with its Constitution and Bill of Rights, when properly enforced, represent the ultimate threat to the success of the World Economic Forums *Great Reset*. For the past four years, the Biden-Harris administration has done its best to enable this plan to advance in the U.S. The executive actions of President Trump stand in stark contrast to the actions of newly elected President Joe Biden.

At the November 2020 meeting of the World Economic Forum, U.S. ‘Climate Envoy’ John Kerry was asked by panel host Borge Brende whether the World Economic Forum and other Great Reset supporters are “expecting too much too soon from the new president, [Joe Biden] or is he going to deliver first day on these topics?”

Kerry responded, “The answer to your question is, no, you’re not expecting too much.” “And yes, it [the Great Reset] will happen. And I think it will happen with greater speed and with greater intensity than a lot of people might imagine.”

Davos 2025: Special Address by Javier Milei, President of Argentina, Jan 23, 2025

<https://www.weforum.org/stories/2025/01/davos-2025-special-address-javier-milei-president-argentina/>

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT TRUMP AT THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

The White House, January 23, 2025

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/remarks/2025/01/remarks-by-president-trump-at-the-world-economic-forum/>

President Trump full speech virtually at World Economic Forum

World Economic Forum Annual Meeting, Davos Switzerland, January 23, 2025

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s_ivBaYhpvU

Addenda #33 – March 2025

Re: Ch. 9 Modern Monetary Theory – Fueling Unlimited Debt and Dependency, and Control

Governor Hochul unveiled a balanced budget for FY 2026 that contains record investments that support New Yorkers without raising income taxes.

The Executive Budget will deliver more than \$5 billion in tax cuts, credits and refunds to New York families, while making record investments in education and health care and keeping \$21 billion in reserves.

Office of the Governor Press Release, January, 2025

In her FY (fiscal year) 2026 Budget, titled *Your Family is My Fight*, the Governor promises.

- ✓ a balanced budget
- ✓ “record investments” = record spending increases
- ✓ more than \$5 billion in tax cuts, credits and refunds = revenue reductions
- ✓ no income tax increases
- ✓ no spending of reserves

My “accounting brain” says there’s something disingenuous about these promises...

The FY2025 budget was only “balanced” because the governor approved the issuance of \$7.9 billion in state supported debt. Let’s see how she funds her promises to voters this year.

Bear in mind that New Yorks 2026 fiscal year ends in June, just as Kathy Hochul will be ramping up her reelection campaign. *This*, is why there will be record investments, tax cuts and refunds given to working New Yorkers: spending “bribes” for votes...

Whoever makes or offers to make an expenditure to any person, either to vote or withhold his vote, or to vote for or against any candidate; and

Whoever solicits, accepts, or receives any such expenditure in consideration of his vote or the withholding of his vote—

Shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than one year, or both; and if the violation was willful, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than two years, or both.

Reference: 18 U.S. Code § 597 – U.S. Code - Unannotated Title 18. Crimes and Criminal Procedure § 597. Expenditures to influence voting

Ok, so this provision of the law applies to bribes by politicians targeting individuals, not the general electorate, so governor Hochul is not in direct violation of U.S. Criminal Code. But anyone with critical thinking skills and capable of reading between the lines knows this is exactly what she is doing.

Governor Hochul currently has a negative 39-47% favorability rating, and she has a 44-48% job approval rating. 57% of voters – including 41% of Democrats – would prefer ‘someone else’ as their next governor. Her running mate, Lt. Governor Antonio Delgado, announced

in February he won't be on the ticket in 2026 and instead will run against Hochul in a Democrat primary. In response, Hochul banished him from his office on the same floor as hers in the state Capitol in Albany. She also took away his offices in New York City and the Hudson Valley, confiscated his state-issued electronic devices and is reassigning much of his staff. For the next twenty-two months, Hochul will be governing the state all by herself. Autocratic leadership, exactly what she wants. No wonder she is so unpopular.

Hochul's additional budget spending only serves to reinforce the growing culture of government dependency in the state. New York has the fourth highest number of welfare recipients in the nation. In 2023, 2.89 million residents of the state relied on welfare programs to meet their basic needs, that's almost 15% of the population of the state. California was the next closest state, with 13.3% of their population receiving welfare benefits. Contrast that from 2020 when 2.04 million New York residents were receiving benefits, or 10.5% of the state's population. Not a growth record to be proud of!

The COVID-19 pandemic provided the largest boost to stimulus spending since the Great Depression. Individuals gladly accepted federal money, whether they needed it or not. I can tell you from personal experience as a certified tax preparer, about the level of complaints I heard after the three rounds of stimulus payments ended in March of 2021. Government got people hooked on "free money" and there is no going back from that.

In my State of the State address last week, I made a commitment. Together, we will build a state where housing is more affordable, where our streets and subways are safer, and where rising costs are brought under control. As I told hardworking New Yorkers: "Your family is my fight."

I encourage you to read my Budget proposal in depth. You will see that my administration is focused on common sense solutions that create opportunity for millions of families—while maintaining a balanced budget without cuts to essential services or added burdens on taxpayers.

So, let's see how "balanced" the governor's budget really is...

The following financial plan table comes from the FY2026 NY state Executive Budget Financial Plan. It can be found on the states Division of Budget website under [FY 2026 Executive Budget Financial Plan](#).

<https://www.budget.ny.gov/pubs/archive/fy26/ex/fp/index.html>

Financial Plan Tables > All Government Funds – Total Budget > Annual Change from FY 2025 to FY 2026 > T-26 (page 208)

A Clear and Present Danger – Threat #3 – The Great Reset

CASH FINANCIAL PLAN ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS (millions of dollars)

	FY 2025 Projected	FY 2026 Projected	Annual \$ Change	Annual % Change
Opening Fund Balance	65,912	69,232	3,320	5.0%
Receipts:				
Taxes	115,419	112,098	(3,321)	-2.9%
Miscellaneous Receipts	32,755	38,740	5,985	18.3%
Federal Receipts	98,502	93,091	(5,411)	-5.5%
Total Receipts	246,676	243,929	(2,747)	-1.1%
Disbursements:				
Assistance and Grants	192,239	197,311	5,072	2.6%
State Operations:				
Personal Service	17,448	18,788	1,340	7.7%
Non-Personal Service	9,279	9,250	(29)	-0.3%
General State Charges	10,759	11,402	643	6.0%
Debt Service	3,163	2,318	(845)	-26.7%
Capital Projects	10,493	12,956	2,463	23.5%
Total Disbursements	243,381	252,025	8,644	3.6%
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Transfers from Other Funds	60,771	58,149	(2,622)	-4.3%
Transfers to Other Funds	(61,015)	(58,554)	2,461	4.0%
Bond and Note Proceeds	269	367	98	36.4%
Net Other Financing Sources (Uses)	25	(38)	(63)	-252.0%
Excess (Deficiency) of Receipts and Other Financing Sources (Uses) Over Disbursements	3,320	(8,134)	(11,454)	-345.0%
Closing Fund Balance	69,232	61,098	(8,134)	-11.7%

First observation. FY2026 spending is proposed to increase by \$8.644 billion. A 3.5% increase in spending doesn't sound outrageous since "core inflation" was 3.2% at the time this budget was being put together.

Second observation, the governor's budget model projects that FY2026 tax receipts will be \$3.321 billion lower, a decrease of 2.8%. Why? The third paragraph of the governor's Budget Message stated, "Bolstered by *increased revenues*, New York is in a strong financial position." Is this not really the case, are things not as optimistic as the governor portrays? Budget models are notoriously unreliable. Assumptions for future tax revenue and spending can be "adjusted" to favor policy agendas, and future budget outcomes depend on a mix of economic, demographic, and legislative factors. Any significant changes to any or all outcomes can completely blow up financial assumptions.

In October 2024, the state Budget Director published a mid-year update for the FY2025 Budget, which showed that *General Fund* receipts were \$1.2 billion higher than previously forecast. The update attributed this to an improving economy, which led to higher employment, which led to increased personal income tax, sales tax and business tax receipts.

As a result, the governor increased total receipts across all future year budgets, projecting (assuming) the increase would continue in future years.

Receipts have been increased by more than \$2 billion annually across all years of the Financial Plan in recognition of continued positive variances in PIT withholding and estimated payments, as well as updated economic indicators.

This appears to be good news. The economy is improving, and receipts are projected to increase. Theoretically, this will lead to lower budget deficits in the future and perhaps even a truly balanced budget, without having to borrow money. But no, this will never be allowed to happen. Once additional money becomes available, politicians always find a way to spend that money, instead of attempting to be fiscally responsible with it.

Spending estimates across all years of the financial plan have been revised to reflect upward revisions to estimated Medicaid spending... and higher operational costs as agencies continue to restore workforce levels.

After the mid-year update to the FY2025 Financial Plan was published, There were two ways to handle the “good news” about increased revenues.

1. Be fiscally responsible. Pay down high levels of existing state debt and make an effort to reduce future year deficits by keeping spending in check.
2. Be fiscally *irresponsible*. Don’t worry about the existing debt, spend even more money and borrow to cover it.

Governor Hochul chose the second option.

The Executive Budget will deliver more than \$5 billion in tax cuts, credits and refunds to New York families, while making record investments in education and health care

At a time when the FY2026 Budget Financial Plan showed total receipts were projected to decrease by \$2.7 billion, Governor Hochul proposed a \$5 billion *increase* in “giveaways” to residents; “record investments” in programs an increasing number of New Yorkers have become dependent on. Remember, if you rely on the government to provide healthcare, housing, heating and cooling assistance, nutrition assistance, childcare financial assistance, *if you own nothing*, you will be *totally controlled* by the government.

The Department of Health had the largest spending allocation in the FY2025 state budget, with total disbursements of \$101.490 billion.

In the FY2025 budget, spending for FY2026 was projected to be \$106.587 billion.

That’s an increase of \$5.097 billion or 5.02% year-over-year.

But after the ‘good news’ from the mid-year update, the allocation for spending by the DoH was “revised...upward” to \$114.015 billion. That’s an increase of \$7.428 billion (6.9%) from the original budget allocation and an increase of \$12.525 billion (12.3%) from projected spending in the FY2025 budget.

Note: Going forward, all budget years will be referred to by the end year only, ie. 2025.

Spending figures come from 2026 spending projections in the FY2025 state budget, revised spending shown in the FY2025 mid-year budget update, and finally from spending projections shown for 2026 in the FY2026 budget.

New York states *Essential Plan* is a comprehensive health insurance plan that covers not only medical expenses, preventative care, maternity coverage, physical, occupational and speech therapy, and transportation costs as well as dental, vision and prescription drugs. The Essential Plan has low or no co-pays, no deductible and there is no monthly premium. *Children's Medicaid* and *Child Health Plus* are the equivalent health insurance plans for children under the age of 19. Eligibility for free coverage is based on household income levels. These health insurance plans combined, are known as *Medicaid* health coverage.

New York state's allocation for Medicaid spending in the 2025 budget was \$14.1 billion. In the 2025 budget, spending for 2026 was projected to be \$14.651 billion, an increase of \$551 million or 3.91% year-over-year.

But after the 'good news' from the 2025 mid-year update, the allocation for Medicaid spending for 2026 was "revised...upward" to \$16.406 billion, an increase of \$1.755 billion (11.98%) from the original budget allocation and an increase of \$2.306 billion (16.35%) from projected spending shown in the 2025 budget.

Note: Spending on all Medicaid programs in 2019 totaled \$5.61 billion. In just eight years, New York's Medicaid spending has almost tripled, while the population of the state has only increased by 2%. Does this sound like New Yorkers are becoming *less* or *more dependent* on the government?

The Executive Budget will deliver more than \$5 billion in tax cuts, credits and refunds to New York families, while making record investments in education...

The Department of Education (Pre-K thru Grade 12) has the second largest spending allocation behind the Department of Health. In the 2025 budget, spending for 2026 was projected to be \$45.482 billion, a decrease of \$2.833 billion or 5.86%.

After the 'good news' from the mid-year update, the allocation for spending for the DoE was "revised...upward" to \$46.292 billion, an increase of \$810 million (1.78%) from the original budget allocation, but still a decrease of \$2.023 billion (4.19%) from projected spending shown in the 2025 budget.

Questions I ask.... How can a *decrease* in spending be called a *record investment*?

You will see that my administration is focused on common sense solutions that create opportunity for millions of families

The Department of Social Welfare had the third largest spending allocation in the state budget, with an allocation of \$14.794 billion for 2025. The 2025 budget projected spending of \$13.602 billion for 2026, a decrease of \$1.174 billion or 7.94%.

After the 'good news' from the mid-year update, the allocation for spending by the DoSW was "revised...upward" to \$14.776 billion, an increase of \$1.156 billion (8.49%) from the original budget allocation but still a decrease of \$18 million (0.12%) from projected spending shown in the 2025 budget.

Each year the Office of the New York State Comptroller publishes a Financial Condition Report for the state, which includes a section on Public Welfare. The 2019 Financial report contained the following statements:

- *The average monthly number of public assistance recipients in the State decreased to its lowest level in recent history, largely due to fewer FA recipients in New York City and fewer SNA recipients in areas outside of New York City.*
- *Compared to the prior year, the average monthly number of recipients of public assistance in New York State decreased by 33,024 (6.1 percent) to 508,946.*

The report issued by the Comptroller in 2023 had a totally different message from 2019...

- *For SFY 2022-23, the average monthly number of public assistance recipients in the State increased by 68,614 (14.5 percent) to 540,656, following near-record-low caseloads in SFY 2021-22. The number of public assistance recipients increased every month since September 2021, reaching 574,154 in March 2023 – its highest level since October 2015.*
- *Public assistance spending increased in SFY 2022-23 by \$392 million (19.9 percent) from the previous year, mainly because of an increase in SNA expenditures in New York City.*

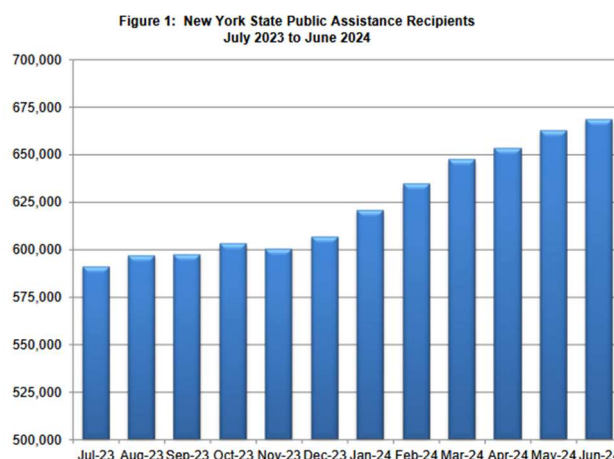
The Comptrollers report for 2024 is not yet available to update these numbers. However, the 2024 Statistical Report On the Operations of New York State Public Assistance Programs published by the NY State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance in June of 2024 shows the increase in NY state public assistance recipients and spending on welfare programs continuing to increase.

Recent Public Assistance Recipient Trends

Figure 1 illustrates the trend in total PA recipients for the July 2023 to June 2024 period. During this time, the total recipient count increased by 77,584, from 591,119 to 668,703 or 13.1%.

This increase follows the 11.4% increase observed in the previous report year.

Caseloads statewide have continued to increase over the course of the reporting period. There was a 33,387 or 9.4% increase in the number of recipients in the family case category, which increased from 356,440 recipients to 389,827.



Questions I ask...

*If, the number of public assistance recipients in the state continues to *increase* at record numbers, why does Governor Hochul's 2025 budget show a *decrease* in spending on this?*

If you rely on the government to provide healthcare, housing, heating assistance, nutrition assistance, childcare financial assistance, if you own nothing, you will be totally controlled by the government.

Together, we will build a state where housing is more affordable, where our streets and subways are safer...

In the 2025 budget, the Department of Public Protection and Criminal Justice had a spending allocation of \$8.438 billion. The 2025 budget projected spending of \$7.904 billion for 2026, reflecting a decrease of \$534 million or 6.33% year-over-year.

After the ‘good news’ from the mid-year update, the allocation for spending by the DoPP and CJ was “revised...upward” to \$8.555 billion, an increase of \$651 million (8.24%) from the original budget allocation and an increase of \$117 million (1.39%) from projected spending shown in the 2025 budget.

Questions all New Yorkers should ask:

* If public safety remains the “cornerstone” of Kathy Hochul’s agenda, why did her original 2025 budget cut spending by 6.3%?

* If Governor Hochul’s budget is “making record investments in education”, why was the original 2026 budget allocation 5.8% lower than in 2025?

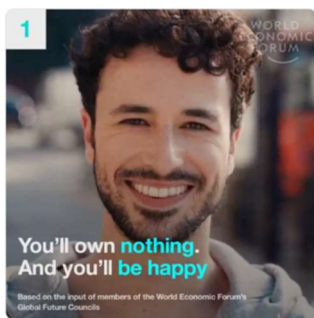
* If Governor Hochul’s administration is “focused on common sense solutions that create opportunity for millions of families” and having “less worry in their lives”, why was the original 2026 budget allocation for the department of Social Welfare 7.9% lower than 2025?

* If the economy is improving, if employment is higher, if people are doing so well, why does spending on Medicaid have to be increased by 16.35%?

* If the economy is doing so well, if employment is higher, if people are doing so well, why does spending for Local Government Assistance have to be increased by 10.15%?

* If the economy is doing so well, if employment is higher, if people are doing so well, why does spending for Social Welfare have to be increased by 8.5%?

* If education is so important to our governor, why are “record investments” in Education only being decreased by 4.19%?



Welcome to 2030. You'll own nothing. And you'll be happy... Whatever you want you'll rent... "

Welcome to 2030. I own nothing, have no privacy, and life has never been better... Everything you considered a product, has now become a service. We have access to transportation, accommodation, food and all the things we need in our daily lives. One by one all these things became free, so it ended up not making sense for us to own much.



It's All About Control...

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Chapter 11, Public Welfare (page 13)

<https://www.osc.ny.gov/files/reports/finance/pdf/2019-financial-condition-report.pdf>

State of New York Financial Condition Report for Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2023

Chapter 11, Public Welfare (page 13)

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2024 Statistical Report On the Operations of New York State Public Assistance Programs

Recent Public Assistance Recipient Trends (page 2)

<https://otda.ny.gov/resources/legislative-report/2024-Legislative-Report.pdf>

Addenda #34 – April 2025

Re: Ch. 3 The World Economic Forum

Re: Ch. 4 The Fourth Industrial Revolution - Digital Identities and the Social Credit System

Davos 2025: Special address by Pedro Sánchez, Prime Minister of Spain

January 22, 2025

We need to create a common front that unites all who believe in democracy – regardless of their political ideologies – and take bold measures to tackle this bold threat.

Today, I would like to advance three ideas. Three measures that I will propose to all European leaders in the next formal council meeting that will take place in Brussels.

First, I propose putting an end to anonymity on social media. In our countries, no-one can walk the streets with a mask on their face, or drive a car without a licence plate. No-one can send packages without showing an ID, or buy a hunting weapon without giving their name.

And yet, we are allowing people to roam freely on social networks without linking their profiles to a real identity. This is paving the way for misinformation, hate speech and cyber harassment. Because it is facilitating the use of bots, and it is allowing people to act without being held accountable for their actions.

Such an anomaly cannot continue. In a democracy, citizens have the right to privacy – not to anonymity or impunity. Because with those two, social coexistence would be impossible. That's why I believe we must push forward the principle of 'pseudonymity' as the functioning element of social media, and force all these platforms to link every user account to an European Digital Identity Wallet.

Prime Minister Sánchez wants to mandate that all users must be identified by a digital identity wallet in order access any online platform. (See Ch. 4, The Fourth Industrial Revolution, Digital Identities), enabling the government to know all there is to know about every individual. There will be no anonymity, no way to keep your activities from the prying eyes of the government.

"Welcome to 2030. I own nothing, have no privacy, and life has never been better"

Ida Auken, Member of Parliament of Denmark, November 12, 2016

"Big Brother is Watching You"

George Orwell, 1984

This way, citizens could use nicknames if they want, but in the case of a crime, public authorities would be able to connect those nicknames to real people and hold them responsible. Because accountability is not an obstacle to freedom of speech; it is an essential complement to it. One social media user, one real ID. This is the only way to really ensure that minors do not access inappropriate content, that people who commit crimes are banned or prosecuted from social networks, and that the millions of fake profiles that exist and influence the public conversation are removed.

By using the noble premise that digital identities and Real ID's will be use to protect minors from online threats and to identify criminals and hold them accountable, Prime Minister Sánchez is creating an excuse for massive intrusions on individual privacy and civil liberties. I'm sure the European Commission's interpretation of crimes, especially "hate speech", and "fake news" may differ substantially from mine.

My second proposal is to force open the black box of social media algorithms, once and for all. The values of the European Union are not for sale. Safeguards like content moderation and fact-checking are both legal and moral requirements that must be followed by all. That's why I think we have to fully enforce the Digital Services Act, making it clear to big companies that its provisions are non-negotiable, and strengthening sanctions for those who do not comply.

Note: The 2022 EU Digital Services Act regulates online social networks and other platforms to “prevent illegal and harmful activities online and the spread of disinformation.” The European Union Commission supervises compliance, investigates allegations of violations and assesses fines and penalties against the provider found guilty of violating the rules.

Of course, there is no point in holding social media users and employees accountable if their owners are not. Especially considering that they are among the richest and most powerful people in the world.

So that's my third and final proposal – that we make sure that social media CEOs are held personally accountable for noncompliance with laws and norms in their platforms – just as it happens in other sectors. For instance, the owner of a small restaurant is responsible if their food poisons customers. Social media tycoons should be held responsible if their algorithms poison our society.

Social “norms” are what a society determines the behavior and actions of people within a particular group, culture, or structure. An “enlightened society” like the European Union, can determine that gender identity is a “norm”, and that anyone who refuses to acknowledge a person’s “pronouns” and publicly disagrees with gender ideology or gender affirming care on an online platform, is guilty of violating the rules of the European Commission and subject to individual penalties.

Jordan Peterson, a professor emeritus with the University of Toronto psychology department, was found guilty by an Ontario court of personal misconduct for his social media posts about his views on women, masculinity and gender identity, namely refusing to use people's preferred pronouns.

The College of Psychologists of Ontario ordered Peterson to undergo a media training program, saying some of his tweets may be “degrading” the profession. Failure to comply could mean the loss of his license to practice psychology in the province.

EU sues several countries for not properly implementing Digital Services Act
Reuters; May 7, 2025

The European Commission said in a statement it had decided to take the Czech Republic, Spain, Cyprus, Poland and Portugal to the Court of Justice of the European Union for failing to implement the Digital Services Act (DSA) effectively.

It said these countries had failed to designate or empower a national Digital Services Coordinator (DSC) and to lay down the rules on penalties applicable to infringements under the DSA.

Welcome to the Agenda of the European Union... You will have no privacy, the government will know everything about you. You will be monitored on everything you say and do. You will be punished for not following the laws and norms.

Addenda #35 – April 2025

Re: Ch. 3, The World Economic Forum

Ch. 12, A New Form of 'Fascism' for the 21st Century –
The World's Premier Organizer

World Economic Forum Announces Governance Transition

Geneva, Switzerland, 21 April 2025 – Klaus Schwab, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the World Economic Forum, has informed the Board:

“Following my recent announcement, and as I enter my 88th year, I have decided to step down from the position of Chair and as a member of the Board of Trustees, with immediate effect.”

The Board acknowledged the outstanding achievements of the retired Chairman and Founder of the World Economic Forum, Klaus Schwab. He created the leading global platform for dialogue and progress, and the Board expressed its gratitude for his 55 years of relentless leadership at the helm of the Forum.

At a time when the world is undergoing rapid transformation, the need for inclusive dialogue to navigate complexity and shape the future has never been more critical. The Board of Trustees of the World Economic Forum underlines the importance of remaining steadfast in its mission and values as a facilitator of progress.

The World Economic Forum showed its gratitude for the years of service founder Klaus Schwab gave the organization and the “outstanding achievements” he has overseen. The WEF Board of Directors also emphasized that the job of seeing the Great Reset Agenda is not yet complete, that continuing to be “the facilitator of progress” is its top priority.

Schwab's reason for resigning was not due to his age, but due to allegations of financial misconduct and abuse of power.

Klaus Schwab Resigns from WEF Amid Ethics Investigation

Sweden Herald; April 23, 2025

Klaus Schwab – the founder of the World Economic Forum (WEF), which annually holds the so-called Davos meeting – has resigned. He is being investigated by the WEF since a whistleblower sounded the alarm about ethical and financial transgressions, reports The Wall Street Journal.

WEF's board received the whistleblower's allegations in a letter last week, in which the 87-year-old Klaus Schwab and his family are alleged to have mixed their private business with WEF's finances, according to the newspaper's sources. This is said to include the use of luxury villas, cash, and travel arrangements financed by WEF.

The whistleblower has also sounded the alarm about how Klaus Schwab, and WEF under his leadership, have treated female employees.

On the World Economic Forum website section “About us”, the Forums Code of Conduct states; *The World Economic Forum adheres to the principles of independence, impartiality, moral integrity and intellectual integrity.*

Klaus Schwab also promotes the achievements and reputation of the World Economic Forum in his Message of the Chairman... *“Today, I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved collectively at the Forum... The cornerstone of our great achievement has been our team spirit and impeccable reputation, which continue to inspire trust in our constituents and remain true to our vision”*

Apparently, Schwab considers himself and his family to be exempt from the “moral integrity” and “impeccable reputation” promoted by the World Economic Forum. Schwab and his wife allegedly misused WEF funds for personal benefit, including luxury property, travel, cash withdrawals and private massages, in violation of the organization’s governance rules. The WEF was already under investigation for alleged workplace harassment and discrimination of employees. The allegations included,

- * Discrimination against pregnant women, with reports of at least six female employees being fired during pregnancy or after returning from parental leave.
- * Multiple women reporting inappropriate behavior from top supervisors, including allegations against Schwab himself.
- * Black employees reportedly facing unfair treatment, including being singled out, denied access to the forum or passed over for advancement opportunities.
- * Internal complaints about white managers using racial slurs around Black employees.
- * Schwab singling out employees over the age of 50 years old and instructing his human resources chief to get rid of them all, in order to lower the average age of the workforce.

Established in 1971 as a not-for-profit foundation, the Forum received the status of an international organization for public-private cooperation from the Swiss authorities in 2015. It engages organizations and leaders through dialogue, debate and commitments for action in the service of building more future-ready, resilient, inclusive and sustainable economies and societies.

Our Institutional Framework; World Economic Forum About Us webpage

The World Economic Forum leader and its top executives are guilty of violating the very principles the group has claimed to be promoting and protecting in its Great Reset Agenda. There’s nothing “inclusive” about pregnancy discrimination, sexual harassment, racial discrimination or harassment or age discrimination. This comes as no surprise to me as I have stated all along that the WEF Agenda has nothing to do with achieving “better outcomes.” It has everything to do with power and control.

Many of the worlds political, financial, business and educational leaders are members of the WEF, hold positions on the WEF Board of Directors, and are “Agenda Contributors”, all in positions of power required *“to shape global, regional and industry agendas.”* The agendas these multi-millionaires and billionaires work to implement are supposed to improve skills, health, education, employment, reduce poverty and address climate change, all to make a better and more inclusive society and to “improve the state of the world”, it would appear that the oligarchs who lead and support the Great Reset Agenda are the ones who benefit the most and have the least concern for the rest of society.

Remember, it’s all about control!

Addenda #36 – April 2025

Re: Ch. 3, The World Economic Forum

Ch. 12, A New Form of 'Fascism' for the 21st Century –
The World's Premier Organizer

Mark Carney named as Canada's prime minister-elect amid US trade war

Justin Trudeau announced his intention to resign on Jan. 6.

abc News; March 9, 2025

Mark Carney sworn in as Canada's PM after Trudeau steps down

CNN World; March 14, 2025

The Liberal Party of Canada (LPC) has held power in Canada for much of the twentieth century. The office of the Prime Minister and the governing body in Parliament, has been under control of the LPC since December 2015. Canada and the European Union have similar government structures and share similar political, economic, and cultural values. Their approaches to fighting climate change, ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) regulations, mass surveillance, “digital transition” and central bank digital currency, are also very similar. Canada has followed the World Economic Forums Great Reset playbook to the letter under former Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the Liberal Party of Canada for the past nine years. But Trudeau's reign came to an end in January 2025.

Public approval ratings due to the increasing cost of living, the deteriorating economy, housing shortage and immigration policies, dipped below 30 percent, showing that Canadians had lost faith in Trudeau and the Liberal Party. Trudeaus handling of the trade tariffs imposed by President Trump and budget spending, led to the resignation of deputy prime minister and finance minister Chrystia Freeland in December 2024, leading to senior LPC party members calling for Trudeau to resign before the general election in 2025. Mark Carney was appointed party leader and interim prime minister following Trudeaus resignation and then became the prime minister and leader of the country when the Liberal Party won the popular vote and gained seventeen more seats in the Parliament.

The 29-point swing in voter support for the Liberal Party and its social liberalism policies is particularly puzzling, since it was that party's leadership that have created the current economic and social problems facing Canadians. Supposedly it was the trade war launched by President Trump and his constant denigration of Trudeau, and rhetoric suggesting that Canada should become the 51st U.S. state, that riled up the nationalism of the citizens of Canada. Pierre Poilievre leader of the Conservative Party and a populist like Trump, looked to be a shoo-in to become Canada's next prime minister and lead the Conservatives back into power for the first time in a decade. Instead, the Conservative Party lost the election by 482,000 votes and the Liberal Party retained leadership role for another four years.

Mark Carney will now lead Canada for the next four years. So, who exactly *is* Mark Carney?

- > Mark Carney received a bachelor's degree in economics from Harvard University in 1987. Harvard's reputation as being one of the most "progressive" universities in the U.S. is well known.
- > Carney then attended the University of Oxford, earning a master's degree in 1993 and doctorate in 1995. Oxford has the reputation of being the second-most 'radical progressive' university in the UK.
- > Carney worked for Goldman Sachs as co-head of sovereign risk department during the time that the Russian financial crisis of 1998 and the collapse of Long Term Capital Management hedge fund occurred. Sachs profited from the collapse of LTCM and may have "did things in markets that might have ended up hurting LTCM" according to former Goldman co-CEO Jon Corzine. During the 2007-2008 financial crisis, Goldman Sachs was vilified for its role in the housing bubble and sub-prime mortgage crisis which brought on bank failures and the crisis itself.
- > Carney then headed the Central Bank of Canada and later the Central Bank of England. A big banker in charge of monetary policy, Carney oversaw the \$114 billion bailout of the Canadian banking system while Canadians lost their jobs, houses and declared bankruptcy just as Americans did. The banks survived while many businesses and individuals didn't.
- > Mark Carney is a member of the Group of Thirty (aka G30), a global body of economic and financial leaders from the public and private sectors and academia. In a 2019 speech to a gathering of global central bankers, Carney called for a new global monetary system to replace the U.S. dollar as the world's reserve currency. This would have a tremendous impact on dollar denominated investments and lead to a global digital currency.
- > Mark Carney is the current U.N. Special Envoy for Climate Action and Finance, working hard to ensure successful transition to a net-zero economy.
- > Mark Carney is an "Agenda Contributor" to the World Economic Forum and a member of the Foundation Board of the WEF, which "serves as the guardian of the World Economic Forum's mission and values."

The new Prime Minister of Canada, Mark Carney, was elected on his globalist resume and anti-Trump MAGA platform, accusing Trump of seeking to "destroy the Canadian way of life."

America wants our land, our resources, our water, our country: never. But these are not idle threats: President Trump is trying to break us, so America can own us."

Although Carney is a globalist and an active World Economic Forum supporter, one of his campaign promises was to have a "balanced approach" to immigration in Canada. Few countries embrace immigration like Canada. With nearly half a million newcomers arriving each year, Canada has one of the highest immigration rates per capita in the world. This steady influx of immigrants has shaped the country's economy, culture, and demographics, making it a global model for managed migration.

Since the United Nations *Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration* was signed in 2018, Canada has welcomed almost 2 million immigrants into the country. At the end of 2024, there were more than 9 million immigrants living in Canada making up 22% of the total population. Canada has experienced the same difficulties resulting from large-scale immigration over a short period of time as Europe and the United States have, including significant cost increases in healthcare and social services and a shortage of housing.

Despite ever higher costs of living and shortages of services faced by countries and their citizens, the World Economic Forum still pushes the global migration policy. A May 2024 opinion article on the WEF website titled *Migration is a global strategic asset. We must not undermine it*, claimed immigration was a benefit to all countries. “The evidence is clear. The long-term trend data speaks for itself: migration is a major driver of human development globally... The reality is that migrants and diaspora are remaining on trend to positively contribute to the delivery of the sustainable development goals more than any other group of state and non-state actors.”

Ironically, or maybe predictably, the focus of the article was revealed in the first paragraph. “International remittances have increased massively over time, rising from an estimated \$128 billion in 2000 to reach around \$831 billion in 2022. The flows to low- and middle-income countries have trended up to reach around \$650 billion...”

Global Elites at the World Economic Forum (and the United Nations) see migration as a tool of income redistribution. Immigrants making money in a foreign country send a significant portion of those earnings back to their native countries, improving the situation in poorer nations and reducing economic growth in the host nations. Redistribution of wealth from richer nations to poorer nations, just like the sustainable goals of the U.N. intended. The result for Canadians, Europeans and Americans, however, have been higher healthcare and social services costs, higher budget deficits, housing shortages and increased poverty and crime in an immigrant population that is unable or unwilling to assimilate into the host country society. These outcomes have not been well accepted by the Canadian population.

Emigration from Canada to the U.S. hits a 10-year high as tens of thousands head south
CBC News [Canadian Broadcasting Corporation]; May 30, 2024

Tens of thousands of Canadians are emigrating from Canada to the United States and the number of people packing up and moving south has hit a level not seen in 10 years or more, according to data compiled by CBC News.

The real estate agents and immigration lawyers who help Canadians make the move say the surge is being driven partly by a desire for a more affordable life.

But there are also people who say they have lost faith in Canada under Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's leadership and want to pursue the American dream instead

Canadians are leaving their home country for a variety of reasons. The CBC article listed the higher cost of living, the Canadian universal healthcare system, high taxes and increasing crime, all as a result of Liberal Party policies under former prime minister Trudeau, and the pro migration policies the party embraced originating from the U.N. and the WEF.

But one of Carney's campaign promises emphasized a balanced approach to immigration while still being a welcoming nation. The "new Liberal Party" platform suddenly took a turn to the right, in response to the polling before the Trump tariffs were announced. The "new Liberal Party" announced plans to limit new permanent resident admissions at less than 1% of Canada's population annually beyond 2027. Based on the 2024 estimate of 41.5 million residents, that would equal an allowance of around 415,000 new residents allowed or just 49,000 fewer than entered the country in 2024.

To build back better, we must reinvent capitalism. Here's how

World Economic Forum; July 13, 2020

An inclusive and green recovery is vital if we are to create more resilient economies and a world in which business can thrive, not just now but long into the future.

A true recovery from COVID-19 will not be about putting things back together the way they were: we need to 'build back better', to 'reset'...

The *Great Reset* envisioned by Global Elites of the World Economic Forum, included the same Build Back Better framework that was touted by Joe Biden during his campaign for president in 2020. Biden laid out his economic agenda for the country at the same time the WEF made public their Build Back Better agenda, no coincidence there! Bidens BBB agenda called for three massive spending bills to help the United States Build Back Better from the COVID-19 pandemic.

- * The American Rescue PLAN - \$1.90 trillion

- * The American Jobs Plan - \$2.65 trillion (later the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act)

- * The American Families Plan - \$1.75 trillion (later the Inflation Reduction Act)

At a total spending request of \$6.69 trillion, which exceeded the federal budget spending request for fiscal year 2020, the Biden Build Back Better framework outlined spending on pandemic stimulus payments, infrastructure, social policy initiatives and climate change remediation. Bidens Build Back Better spending promised to create 1.5 million jobs a year and reduce the debt by \$500 billion over the plans ten year spending window. The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, a public policy organization that analyzes and comments on federal spending, said in November 2021 that the Inflation Reduction Act would cost twice as much as originally promised and increase federal deficits by \$2.8 trillion if sunset expirations were allowed to become permanent.

Note: Republican and Independent Congress members eventually whittled down total approved spending of \$3.585 trillion on the three bills.

When candidate Biden announced his Build Back Better agenda spending, U.S. Debt held by the public was \$20.583 trillion. The day that President Biden left office, the Public Debt had grown to \$28.845 trillion, an increase of 39% in his four years in office. The Presidents final federal budget noted that by the year 2030, the end of the 10-year Build Back Better spending window, U.S. Public Debt would reach \$38.139 trillion, an additional 32% increase. Despite promises of the Inflation Reduction Act, deficit reduction failed to materialize.

Mark Carney wasn't much more serious about getting government spending under control either, announcing \$129 billion in additional spending over the next four years in his own version of the World Economic Forums *Build Back Better* framework during his campaign in the spring of 2025. Carney described his plan in terms of solving “the biggest crisis of our lifetime”, referring to President Trump policies as, “rupturing the global economy.” Hmmm.... Another “crisis”, requiring massive spending... Sounds familiar...

Carney insisted that spending \$129 billion more would bring government spending “under control.” Canada's net national debt reached \$1.37 trillion Canadian dollars (\$980 billion US dollars) in March 2025, and while a majority of Canadians feel that government spending is too high, yet the Liberal Party government postponed debt-reduction goals multiple times. Carneys Build Back Better plan proposes additional spending on infrastructure, healthcare, affordable housing, and funding for a transition to “digital infrastructure.” Carney claims that Canadians can trust him to “prudently manage public funds” that his policies would be more beneficial than those of his party under Trudeau.

*We'll be fighting in the streets
With our children at our feet
And the morals that they worship will be gone
And the men who spurred us on
Sit in judgment of all wrong
They decide and the shotgun sings the song*

*I'll tip my hat to the new Constitution
Take a bow for the new revolution
Smile and grin at the change all around
Pick up my guitar and play
Just like yesterday
Then I'll get on my knees and pray
We don't get fooled again*

*Meet the new boss
Same as the old boss*
Peter Townshend, The Who - 1971

Addenda #33 – March 2025, Update – May 2025

Re: Ch. 9 Modern Monetary Theory – Fueling Unlimited Debt and Dependency, and Control

Addenda #33 main points of discussion

Governor Kathy Hochul’s negative ratings going into the 2026 election cycle resulted in:

1. Record spending in FY2026 budget, plus
2. Billions in middle-class “tax cuts”, plus
3. A “tripled” child tax credit, plus
4. inflation “relief” (1x stimulus checks), equals
5. a “Deficiency” of Receipts over Disbursements of -\$8.134 billion
6. new debt issuance of \$9.852 billion to cover the “Deficiency”
7. total debt outstanding of \$65.09 billion that has to be repaid to borrowers, plus
8. interest paid to debt holders of \$2.318 billion (included in budget expenditures)

This budget is neither balanced nor fiscally responsible.

“I promised New Yorkers to fight like hell to put money back in their pockets and make our streets and subways safer. That’s exactly what this budget will do. Working with our partners in the Legislature we’ve reached an agreement to pass a balanced, fiscally responsible budget. Good things take time, and this budget is going to make a real difference for New York families.”

Statement by Governor Kathy Hochul, April 29, 2025

The FY2026 New York state budget as passed, includes a \$1 billion tax cut for middle-class and low-income residents, \$2 billion in Inflation Refund income-based stimulus payments, doubling the Empire State Child Tax Credit, extended childcare subsidies, an \$1,800 “birth allowance” for parents receiving public assistance, free breakfast and lunch for every K-12 student regardless of family income, free community college for qualifying students, billions in additional infrastructure upgrades and “a record \$1 billion investment in climate priorities.” ^{[1][2]} Sounds like Governor Hochul has her own Build Back Better framework going on in New York state!

The governor’s budget proposal called for \$252 billion in spending. The Democrat state legislature increased spending by an additional \$2 billion, for record spending of \$254 billion. The original budget showed a deficit of \$8.1 billion and required the issuance of \$9.9 billion in debt to finance the shortfall and interest payments to service the states \$65 billion in outstanding debt. State debt issuance will have to be increased in order to fund Democrat legislators additional \$2 billion in spending and interest. “At \$254 billion, this is the largest and one of the most irresponsible budgets in state history” ^[3] Not what I would call a “balanced, fiscally responsible budget” governor.

A recent study done by the American Institute for Economic Research (AIER), ran a comparison of welfare benefits paid by each state to a theoretical household. The figures represented the amount of benefits a family consisting of a single parent and two dependent children can receive annually from multiple welfare benefits programs.

In 1995, New York state paid total welfare benefits of \$53,923 per household, adjusted to 2023 dollars for inflation. By 2013, payments had increased to \$57,124, and by 2024 payments had increased to \$78,785.

The study also found that in all 50 states, total welfare benefits not only “greatly exceed the federal poverty level but pay more than the state median income, plus they are tax-free. These benefits are greater than the take home pay a worker would receive from an entry-level, minimum wage job, giving welfare recipients a massive incentive *not* to work.” [4][5][6]

People receiving welfare benefits are actually “punished” by giving them up and tend to choose not to work in order to maintain those benefits and maintain “leisure over labor.” The result of this is that economic growth decreases, tax receipts are reduced and those who work are forced to shoulder the burden of those who choose not to. The report also notes that welfare benefits “infantilizes the poor,” because, “in most cases, the payments are made directly to providers. The person being helped never even sees the money.”

Infantilize: to treat someone as if that person were a child, with the result that they start behaving like one

I’m a statistics person. So many of the opinions I have formed over the years are based on statistics, with the caveat that statistics can be manipulated (figures lie, liars figure). But I feel I am pretty good at sorting out bad stats and uncovering the real data. So here is some data on poverty in New York state...

- > In 2024, 13.6% of all state residents lived below the poverty level including 18% of all children under the age of 18. [7]
- > In 2024, 31.1% of all New York households in 2024 lived below the ALICE threshold used to measure the working poor. [7]
- > Since 2014, poverty rates in New York have surpassed the national average.
- > Since 2014, Democrats have controlled the state Assembly.
- > Since 2014, Democrats have controlled the state Senate for 6 of the 11 years.
- > Since 2014, Democrats have controlled the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General in New York state.
- > The FY 2014 state budget requested \$139.42 billion in total spending. Spending on Public Health, Medicaid and Social Welfare totaled \$49.612 billion, 35.6% of total fiscal year budget expenditures. [8]
- > The FY 2024 state budget requested \$231.604 billion in total spending. Spending on Public Health, Medicaid and Social Welfare totaled \$97.278 billion, 42.0% of total fiscal year budget expenditures. [9]
- > A 2024 study on poverty in the United States showed that of the 20 poorest U.S. cities, three of them; Rochester #4, Buffalo #6 and Syracuse #10 are in New York state. [10]

My interpretation of those statistics is that all this spending, proposed and approved by Democrat leadership, has done little to lift New Yorkers out of poverty. In fact, one may conclude that all this spending on social welfare and benefit programs has, in fact, created a greater sense of dependency on state government, a “welfare state”, just as the AIER study claimed! Dependency on the government has translated to more votes for politicians, increasing *their* wealth and power, but not those who they were elected to serve.

In addition to all the “free stuff” Democrats are giving away going into the 2026 campaign, Democrats included several amendments into the budget to protect *their* own earnings and position of political power. ^[11]

The first amendment delayed imposing a cap on lawmakers outside income by an additional two years. The income cap was passed in 2022, placing a limit on how much money lawmakers in the state Legislature could earn in addition to their government salary, in an effort to eliminate outside conflicts for legislative votes. Earnings in excess of the cap would result in a fine of up to \$40,000 on lawmakers, forfeiting their state salary and their vote in the legislature. By delaying the cap a second time, lawmakers get to make more money and retain their voting power.

The second amendment authorized the state to borrow \$8 billion from state “Reserves Funds” to pay off loans it took from the federal government to help pay pandemic-era unemployment claims. The state has been repaying the debt through higher taxes imposed on businesses but was still years away from fully repaying the loans. ^[12]

Labor unions and business lobbyists had pressured governor Hochul to pay off the loan so the higher SUI taxes imposed on businesses would finally end, which would benefit both business owners and their employees. Paying off the balance of the loan also allows unemployment benefits to be raised, as the state unemployment insurance fund deficit forced benefits to be frozen at 2019 levels.

Note: New York is one of 31 states that does not meet the recommended minimum solvency standard for state UI trust funds, and ranks #49 on the Department of Labor solvency chart for U.S. states. (California ranks last at #50) ^{[13][14]}

The third amendment authorizes borrowing \$10 million to fund a “legal defense fund” which would pay fees for private attorneys that state employees retain to handle probes “initiated after January 1, 2025, by the United States government. Coincidentally, this defense fund was created just as the Department of Justice is investigating New York Attorney General Letitia James for mortgage application fraud.

Background information, case #1:

On August 30, 2023, James purchased a 3-bedroom, 1-bathroom 1,450 square foot home in Norfolk, Virginia, for \$240,000. James applied for a \$219,780 mortgage, listing Letitia James and her niece Shamice Thompson-Hairston, as co-owners in “joint tenancy with right of survivorship as at common law,” granting both parties as having equal ownership rights. James signed a document, appointing her niece as Power of Attorney to purchase the home on her behalf. That notarized mortgage document signed by James contained the statement, “We declare under penalty of *perjury* that the foregoing is true and correct.”

At the beginning of this mortgage document the following declaration was stated; “I HEREBY DECLARE that I intend to occupy this property as my principal residence.” Letitia James stated that her Norfolk residence would be her principal residence in order to secure more favorable financing terms (interest rate) on her mortgage. And then she signed the document stating that all the information was “true and correct”, under penalty of perjury. ^{[15] [16] [17]}

Note: Since standard mortgage requirements for owner-occupied, principal properties typically offer substantially lower interest rates than second home investment properties, James could have realized savings of more than \$160,000 over the life of this mortgage. The problem with swearing to the correctness of the document, was that at the same time Letitia James signed the document, she was serving as Attorney General of the state of New York and living in a Brooklyn townhouse she purchased in 2001. The state A.G. must maintain their principal residence in New York state while serving in office, so James knowingly lied on that 2023 mortgage application.

Background information, case #2:

When James purchased a four story 2,631 square foot property in Brooklyn in 2001, she financed the purchase with a mortgage loan that stated the property was a one or two family dwelling. James subsequently refinanced the property in 2003, listing the property as a “Dwelling only – 4 family” and again in 2007, listing the property as a “Dwelling Only – 1 Family.” ^{[17] [18]}

James then refinanced the same property again in 2011, applying for a Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP) loan. James applied for the HAMP loan on a “hardship claim” and received a 2.7% federally backed loan, which was specifically for owners of properties with four units or less, *not* for landlords with more rental units.

The problem with those mortgage filings was that the 2001 Certificate of Occupancy issued by the NY City Department of Buildings, stated that the building was certified as a five family dwelling. James misrepresented the building classification to the original bank lender in 2001, two subsequent lending companies in 2003 and 2007 and again to the federal government in 2008. James saved hundreds of dollars on mortgage taxes and thousands on the reduced HAMP interest rate. James also benefitted from the ability to rent out the additional four units for income as landlord.

That HAMP loan James applied for was designed to help families at risk of foreclosure. At the time, James was making in excess of \$126,000 serving on the New York City Counsel plus rental income on the property, yet she filed a “hardship claim” in order to be approved for the loan.

Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) Director William Pulte referred James to the Justice Department for criminal investigation when the documents were uncovered saying, “Spanning the last two decades, Ms. James has consistently misrepresented the same property as only having four units in both building permit applications and numerous mortgage documents and applications... It appears that Ms. James may have listed the Brooklyn, NY property as four units instead of five units in order to meet the conforming

loan requirements and thus receive better interest rates. “At the time of the 2023 Norfolk, VA property purchase and mortgage, Ms. James was the sitting Attorney General of New York and is required by law to have her primary residence in the state of New York — even though her mortgage applications list her intent to have the Norfolk, VA property as her primary home.” James could face criminal charges, including wire fraud, mail fraud, bank fraud and making and false statements to a financial institution.

New York Democrats created a \$10 million legal defense fund for elected officials, with language in the amendment stating that state officials can use money from the legal defense fund if the official has previously had interactions with the U.S. government or a U.S. government official in the course of their official duties. Since the Trump administration may well take James to court on criminal charges stemming from the two mortgage applications, James can use money from the defense fund because she has had previous “interactions” with both the president and his administration. James has indicated that she will use both private and public state funds in her defense of the charges.

I find it incredibly sad that the top legal officer of the state of New York, the person elected to enforce our laws and represent the public interest in an unbiased manner, has systematically broken laws to benefit herself financially in ways that most citizens she represents are not able to. In a similar case, former state’s attorney for Baltimore, Marilyn Mosby (Dem) was convicted by a federal jury in 2024 for perjury and mortgage fraud. Mosby was sentenced to 12 months of home confinement, 100 hours of community service and three years of supervised release.

Mosby was the sitting AG at the time she was investigated and lost her reelection bid in the Democrat primary after being indicted. Letitia James is the sitting AG of New York as the FBI begins a criminal investigation into her mortgage fraud charges and would likely run for reelection in 2026. Will New York voters send James packing as well? You would think so, but maybe not. New York voters have a history of reelecting prominent Democrat politicians who have been accused of offenses like James has.

> NY Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver (Dem) was reelected to office in 2014, receiving 82% of the vote even though he had been accused of 41 criminal charges over a 12-year period. Two months later, Silver was indicted on wire and mail fraud charges and using his office for extortion. Silver was found guilty on seven counts in 2015 and removed from office.

> NY Comptroller Alan Hevesi (Dem) won reelection in 2006 with 56% of the vote, while being investigated for defrauding state government by using state employees to provide services and care for his ailing wife. Hevesi was forced to reimburse NY state \$90,000 and resign two months after being reelected as part of a plea deal with prosecutors.

> NY Governor Andrew Cuomo was forced to resign from office after eleven former staffers came forward accusing him of sexual harassment in the workplace. Previous to that scandal, his administration was under investigation for covering up the true death toll in nursing homes and assisted living facilities from COVID-19, after Cuomo issued an

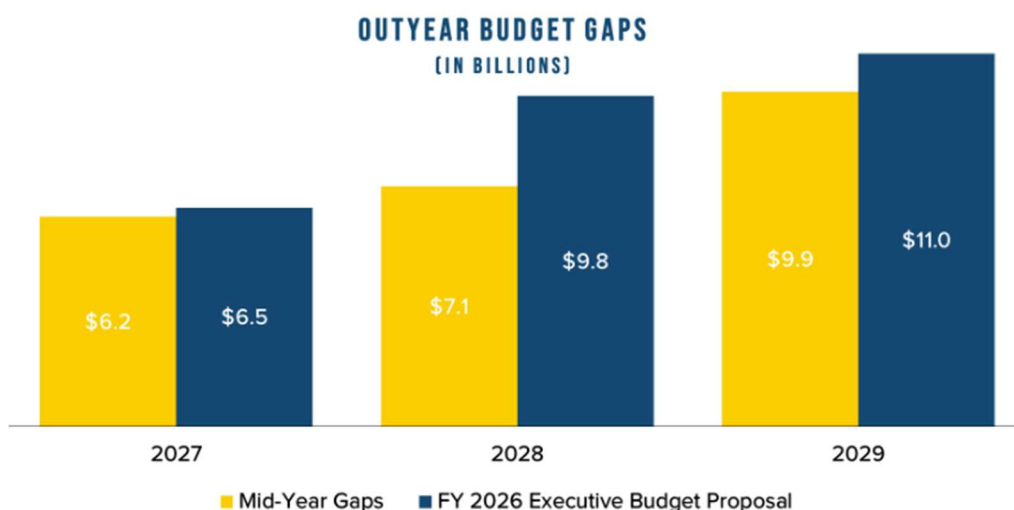
executive order forcing nursing homes to admit recovering patients in order to free up hospital beds. As many as 15,000 nursing home residents in New York died from COVID-19 during the time period that Cuomo's order was in effect, but the state health department undercounted the number of COVID-related deaths by as much as 50%. Cuomo rescinded the executive order, then removed all traces of the initial order from state records in an attempt to cover up his part in the scandal. In March 2025, Cuomo announced he was running for mayor of New York City, to replace the embattled incumbent Eric Adams. Cuomo has already raised \$4 million for the November election and is the first choice of nearly four in ten likely Democratic primary voters in latest polling. In NY Cities ranked choice voting system, Cuomo breaks the threshold in the fifth round where he receives 53% of likely Democratic primary voters compared to 29% for his closest competitor and goes on to win in the sixth round with 60% of the vote.

How ironic that NY City was the epicenter of the COVID-19 pandemic, with more than 45,000 deaths attributed to the virus including more than 6,200 nursing home patients. So what is their criteria for a new Democrat mayor? 74% of New York City likely Democratic primary voters want the Democratic candidate for mayor to try to oppose President Donald Trump as much as possible. It doesn't matter that he sexually harassed women. It doesn't matter that he was responsible for the deaths of thousands of nursing home patients. It doesn't matter that he gave family special treatment during the pandemic that the rest of New Yorkers weren't privy to. It doesn't matter that he told New Yorkers to refrain from having family gatherings at the holidays while he ignored those rules. It only matters that he will oppose Donald Trump! This, is how liberal New Yorkers think and vote... Only time will tell if Letitia James will be rewarded the same way.

New York State's fiscal year 2026 budget was signed into law on May 9, more than a month after the official April 1st deadline. Critics of the budget say that the delay resulted from Governor Hochul's inclusion of criminal justice priorities in the negotiation process, which left only a few days for lawmakers to discuss the fiscal risks facing the state from the governor's budget. ^[19]

What we know, is spending was increased by \$2 billion during the budget negotiations with Democratic leadership. Republicans have no seat at the table in negotiations due to the stranglehold Democrats have in the legislature, having a 102-48 majority in the Assembly and a 42-21 majority in the Senate.

We know that the legislature authorized a \$10 million appropriation to fund that legal defense fund for elected officials facing federal investigations. That leaves an additional \$1.99 billion in increased spending inserted into the budget during the negotiating process. We also know that since receipts can't magically increase to cover the additional spending, the state will either have to increase taxes and/or user fees, borrow from the states Reserve Fund, or issue \$2 billion more in state guaranteed debt than originally projected. Regardless of the method used to cover the additional spending, the state "multi-year projections" already show budget gaps (shortfalls) continuing to increase due to unsustainable spending and will grow by 73% to \$11.2 billion by 2029. ^[20]



“The outyear budget gaps are the result of a structural imbalance between forecasted levels of spending growth and available resources.” [21]

Total outstanding debt for New York state is projected to rise from \$56.5 billion at the end of the 2025 fiscal year, to \$96.3 billion in 2030, a 70% increase in state debt in just *five years*. Increased debt will require increasing interest payments to borrowers of the debt, \$3.2 billion in 2025 to \$8.7 billion in 2030, continuing to fuel the downward spiral. [22]

Both Andrew Cuomo and Kathy Hochul have relied on budget maneuvers and gimmicks to “balance” the budget for years. As long as investors can be found to buy bonds issued by the state, the debt will continue to grow. This method of debt financing avoids voter approval and keeps taxpayers in the dark about how bad the states financial situation really is.

In addition to known level of outstanding debt shown in the state budget, New York also has total unfunded government related liabilities of more than \$116 billion. These liabilities are for current and future payments to state government and SUNY employees for health insurance and pension benefits to retirees. The accumulation of debt and unsustainable borrowing and spending practices put residents and taxpayers at risk, giving New York state a well deserved low rating for fiscal irresponsibility.

Final Thoughts

Governor Kathy Hochul has continued to promote the culture of dependency in New York that Democrat leadership began decades ago. Hochul has also continued to burden taxpayers and businesses in New York with her expensive and oppressive climate policies while at the same time helping to change the states criminal justice system into one that excuses and protects criminals. Under Democrat leadership, New York state continues to rank at the bottom financially and economically and at the top for its tax burden on residents. Since 2014, New York state has also been one of the states with the highest numbers of residents moving to other states. As higher income taxpayers continue to leave the state, their places are being taken by those relying on government handouts to sustain them.

Welcome to New York State in 2030. You’ll own nothing. And you’ll be happy
It’s All About Control...

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Addenda #37 – June 2025

Re: Ch. 9 Modern Monetary Theory – Fueling Unlimited Debt and Dependency, and Control

Ref: Addenda #12 Progressive Democrat cities anti-business policies

‘This is catastrophic’: Seattle payroll tax revenues \$47M short as jobs leave city
KIRO News 7, March 25, 2025

*Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell released his **payroll expense tax** (PET) report for 2024 Tuesday, and its projections came up nearly \$50 million short. “Today’s announcement that PET revenues collected in 2024 were \$47 million lower than projected requires action to ensure our budget remains balanced,”*

The payroll tax is levied on large corporations in the city, like Amazon and Expedia. Such a steep revenue forecast error suggests high-paying companies or their jobs are leaving the city.

*It’s precisely why KTHH host Jason Rantz called the news “catastrophic” in a **thread on X**. What people haven’t realized yet—but soon will—is that the sharp drop in payroll expense tax revenue means jobs are leaving Seattle,” Rantz explained. “The whole point of the PET was to squeeze ‘free’ money out of businesses because the city arrogantly assumed it held all the cards. But what did PET actually do? It pushed Amazon jobs to Bellevue, kept employees working from home (and out of Seattle), and helped fuel layoffs at companies hit hardest by the tax—like Expedia... “This decrease in revenue is aligned with recent reports of major employers moving thousands of high-paying jobs out of Seattle to other cities in our region.”*

The Payroll expense Tax was established to fund policy initiatives put into place by the left-wing City Council and Mayor in 2021. (The Mayor and eight City Council members ran for election as Progressive Democrats. The ninth council person is a member of the Socialist Alternative party)

Companies with payrolls of \$7 million and larger, are taxed on pay to employees making more than \$150,000 per year, with the tax rates ranging from 0.7% to 2.4%. This affects the largest businesses and therefore the largest employers in Seattle, like Amazon, Boeing, Microsoft, T-Mobile, Expedia and Facebook. The payroll tax resulted in employers having to pay the city \$231 million in its first year, helping fund the new *JumpStart Seattle* program created by the city council.

“... it’s important to the broad coalition of housing advocates, labor unions, small and large businesses, equity-based organizations, food security advocates, immigrant and refugee organizations, and more, that we fulfill our commitment to prioritize JumpStart investments equitably and in line with the spending plan,” council member Teresa Mosqueda stated. The JumpStart spending program created to build new affordable housing, provide “food security” to low income families, support small businesses, and aid Seattle’s 16,000 plus homeless population, third largest in the nation. JumpStart spending was also budgeted for supporting the city’s large immigrant and refugee community, which exceeded 1.2 million by 2023. Tax revenue was also used to support “climate and environmental injustice” programs established by the *Green New Deal for Seattle* initiative.

Payroll expense Tax revenue fell in 2024 from a forecast of \$406.78 million to \$360.03 million. Seattle leaders are now faced with an estimated \$260 million budget deficit, caused by soaring city workers' wages and growing social program costs. The city council approved a multi-year double digit pay increase for more than 7,000 city workers and a 23% pay increase for Seattle's 1,200-member police union.

Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell blamed the shortfall on corporate greed, saying that "Large corporations should pay their fair share, and we should be wary when they use job placements to avoid paying funding that our communities rely on..." At issue, is the fact that Harrell had been using revenue from the JumpStart program to fund city budget expenditures, not keeping it specifically for the capitol projects the program was created for.

JumpStart revenue also depends on a small number of businesses, that can easily move to more business friendly locations, to avoid the payroll taxes. The fact that the city council approved an increase in the minimum wage in 2025 to \$20.76 per hour, after awarding a 3.4% increase in 2024 and a 6.8% increase in 2023. The sudden large decrease in payroll expense tax revenue indicates that businesses are indeed cutting jobs in Seattle, in response to progressive tax policies. Amazon opened two new office towers in Bellevue Washington in 2023, while closing two of its buildings in Seattle. The move involved 2,000 higher paid Amazon workers. The company also cut jobs and laid off employees that fought the companies return-to-work policy.

The May 2025 Monthly Employment Report showed that private sector jobs in Washington state were 7,600 fewer than one year ago and the number of employed Washington residents decreased by 12,099. The unemployment rate in King County, where Seattle is located, rose above 4%. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics shows Washington, driven by Seattle's job losses, is currently 2nd worst in the nation for unemployment per actual job openings. Only California is ranked lower.

Mayor Harrell stole \$200 million from the \$315 million collected by the JumpStart program to fund progressive policy initiatives and close a \$230 million deficit for the 2025 budget. Now the city is facing a \$260 million deficit for the 2026 budget that may have to be closed with cuts to health services, public safety and the criminal justice system. Washington state Governor Bob Ferguson is facing a similar problem, recommending cuts in programs and services to close a \$12 billion budget shortfall over the next four years. Democrats in the state legislature believe it will take new sources of money like a wealth tax or a high-earner payroll tax to address the shortfall.

Note: On February 11, 2025, 63% of Seattle voters passed Proposition 1A, a ballot initiative put together by House Our Neighbors (HON), a community social housing advocacy group. Proposition 1A establish a new tax of 5% on "excess" annual compensation above \$1,000,000 paid in Seattle to any employee in order to fund social housing. Since Seattle is the home of more than 54,000 millionaires, there is a plentiful base to fund social housing...

Addenda #12 – January 2024, UPDATE – July 2025

Re: Ch. 9 Modern Monetary Theory – Fueling Unlimited Debt and Dependency, and
Control: Income Inequality and Redistribution of Wealth

Ref: Addenda #12 – January 2024, Update June-2024

Study shows that California's \$20 minimum wage hike cost state 18,000 jobs

California fast food sector lost 18,000 jobs while the industry grew nationwide
Fox Business; July 26, 2025

A new study published by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) this month found that California's 2023 minimum wage hike cost the state thousands of jobs.

Researchers found that the state's \$20 minimum wage fast food hike has cost the fast-food sector 18,000 jobs since it went into effect in April 2024, representing a 3.2% decline in that sector compared to fast-food sectors in other parts of the country.

"Our median estimate translates into a loss of 18,000 jobs in California's fast-food sector relative to the counterfactual," researchers Jeffrey Clemens, Olivia Edwards, and Jonathan Meer wrote in their paper.

This is a 'shocker'... NOT!

I first reported on the unintended consequences of substantial and continued minimum wage increases in Addenda #12 – January 2024, noting that both New York and California have implemented multi-year minimum wage increases equaling 55% over 8-years in New York and 6-years in California. In Addenda #12, I detailed job losses in Californias healthcare and fast food industries, both of which had a pending 48% wage increase, approved by progressive Democrat politicians. Even though the start date for the increase was four months away, employers were already announcing layoffs and outsourcing jobs to mitigate the cost burdens to their businesses.

California Increases Minimum Wage, Protections for Fast-Food Workers

"California is home to more than 500,000 fast-food workers who – for decades – have been fighting for higher wages and better working conditions. Today, we take one step closer to fairer wages, safer and healthier working conditions, and better training by giving hardworking fast-food workers a stronger voice and seat at the table."

Office of Governor Gavin Newsom, Press Release September 28, 2023

"Research shows that higher wages for the lowest-paid workers has the potential to help nearly 4.6 million people out of poverty and add approximately \$2 billion to the nation's overall real income. Additionally, increasing the minimum wage does not hurt employment nor does it retard economic growth."

Six policies to reduce economic inequality; The Othering & Belonging Institute, University of California, Berkeley; September 10, 2014

I followed up on the effects of the minimum wage increase to the fast food and restaurant industry, with an Addenda update six months later, they were predictable. Reduced working hours, layoffs, significant price increases and restaurant closures. Similar results happened in Seattle and New York City as their minimum wages increased at the same time.

This month the National Bureau of Economic Research put the exclamation point on the argument for drastic minimum wage increases; they do result in job losses and business closures, regardless of what progressive Democrat politicians and media outlets claim.

We analyze the effect of California's \$20 fast food minimum wage, which was enacted in September 2023 and went into effect in April 2024, on employment in the fast food sector. In unadjusted data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, we find that employment in California's fast food sector declined by 2.7 percent relative to employment in the fast food sector elsewhere in the United States from September 2023 through September 2024.... Our median estimate translates into a loss of 18,000 jobs in California's fast food sector relative to the counterfactual.

* Governor Newsom stated that this law would result in “fairer wages.”

* Assemblymember Chris Holden (Dem) stated, “We helped a father or mother feed their children, we helped a student put gas in their car and helped a grandparent get their grandchild a birthday gift.”

* President of SEIU California David Huerta stated the law would bring “billions of dollars into working families’ pockets.”

In reality, the segment of California’s fast food and full-service restaurant industry that were subject to AB 1228 wage increases, larger chain restaurants with at least 60 establishments nationwide, cost workers 18,000 jobs since it took effect in April 2024. At the same time, employment in the same industry *increased* around the rest of the country.

Note: NY City mayoral candidate Andrew Cuomo has called for an increase in the cities minimum wage to \$20 an hour, from the current \$16.50 per hour. The democrat socialist candidate, Zohran Mamdani, is calling for an even more drastic increase to \$30 per hour.

As the Wall Street Journal Editorial Board stated in their article about the NBER report, “There’s no such thing as a free fast-food lunch... These guys will never learn because they don’t want to see the world as it really is.” In addition to the thousands of fast food and full-service restaurant workers that lost their jobs and had to start over again in other positions, menu prices have skyrocketed to make up for the increased payroll costs for those businesses.

Food and beverage data collection firm *Datassential* collected menu prices for fast food restaurant chains across the country and released a report in January 2025 that showed menu prices in California rose by almost double the rate of all other states since April 2024. Besides the increase in food prices, menu prices in California rose by 13.1% while all other states prices increased 7.2%. This is directly attributed to the increased minimum wage for California workers. The Datassential report showed a month-over-month price increase of 8.7% in menu prices for September 2023, before AB 1228 was signed into law.

In April 2024, when the law went into effect, the month-over-month menu price increase was 34.6% in California, vs. 6.5% in all other states. In July 2024, the non-profit Employment Policies Institute published a report titled, *Crisis in California, A Survey of Fast Food Employers' Responses to California's \$20 Minimum Wage*. The report found that 98% of California restaurant operators had already been forced to raise prices as a result of the wage increase, while other operators downsized their operations, reduced staffing levels or closed down altogether. *This new data is just more evidence that California's wage hike is killing the state's fast food restaurant industry*, the report stated.

Source: Crisis in California, A Survey of Fast Food Employers' Responses to California's \$20 Minimum Wage; Employment Policies Institute, July 2024

A large number of fast food employees have traditionally been teenagers working their first jobs during and after high school. The minimum wage pay scale of the industry reflects their lack of education and experience at this stage in their lives. As teenagers gain more education and experience, their “value” to business owners increases and they are rewarded for this with higher wages. As the level of education attainment grows, so does the opportunity to find better paying jobs. Teenagers typically move on from retail and fast food jobs and are replaced by the next cohort of teens beginning *their* work experience; 40% of all restaurant and food service workers are age 24 or younger. This group is supplemented by older adults who have never completed high school or attended college. They don’t have the experience or education to qualify for higher paying jobs or must work a second job in order to support themselves or their family. 57% of all restaurant and foodservice workers are age 25 to 64 and 60% of this group are servers, cooks or food prep workers who are paid minimum wage.

Source: Restaurant Employee Demographics; National Restaurant Association, Data Brief – April 2024

The Bureau of Labor Statistics latest Employment Situation report (July 2025), showed an overall unemployment rate of 4.2%. For workers that had earned a bachelor’s degree or higher, the unemployment rate was 2.7%. For those workers who had earned an associate’s degree or had at least some college education, the rate was 3.0%. For workers who graduated high school but never attended college, the rate was 4.4%. But for workers who failed to earn a high school diploma or GED equivalent, the rate of unemployment was 5.5%. During economic downturns, the difference in unemployment for un and under-educated workers is even more pronounced. Coming out of the pandemic induced recession in the spring of 2021, while unemployment was 6.1% overall, the unemployment rate for those with no high school degree or equivalent was 9.6%.

The restaurant employee demographics report shows that employees in the restaurant industry have a lower educational attainment than workers in the overall economy; 55% of all restaurant and foodservice workers have no college degree and are not currently enrolled in school; their ability to work anything other than a minimum wage job is nonexistent. If they lose their job due to downsizing or layoffs, they’ll be forced to work in another service type job where the minimum wage is as much as \$3.50 per hour lower than the foodservice industry. So much for higher, fairer wages and helping people out of poverty!

Not only did the minimum wage increase adversely affect thousands of industry workers and business owners, it affected the millions of low-income customers that buy food from those fast food restaurants or dine-in at the full-service restaurants. Data released by the U.S. Census Bureau shows that in 2023, nearly one-third of residents lived in or near poverty in California and approximately 7.3 million state residents were unable to afford basic needs. Not coincidentally, 9.6 million Californian's, almost 36% of residents age 25 and older have no college degree or experience. California has the highest child and family poverty rate in the nation, and the increased menu costs has done nothing to lower that.

Unintended consequences... Democrat politicians promise free benefits for constituents in order to gain their vote and retain power. Free universal preschool and community college. Free single-payer universal healthcare. Higher wages and better working conditions for California residents. Government intervention into the free market economy. These promises earned Gavin Newsom 6.4 million votes and reelection as governor in 2022 but have come back to bite him after AB 1228 went into effect. Not to mention the effects Assembly bill ABX2-1 is also having.

Ref: *A Clear and Present Danger Threat #2*, Addenda #69 – November 2024 and Update – June 2025

Governor Gavin Newsom's progressive policies have resulted in the state of California having the lowest affordability and safety ratings nationwide with a cost of living that is 50% higher than the national average and the highest child and family poverty rate of any state. (Californias poverty rating has doubled since 2021) California also makes the top of another list, the largest 'outbound' migration of workers to other states. Since 2020, California has lost 803,000 residents to other states, a significant number of who are higher-income college educated households that contribute to the state's tax revenue.

Ironically, the unintended consequence of this out migration, is that California lost one Electoral College vote and one Congressional seat following the 2020 census and is on track to lose four more votes and Congressional seats after the 2030 Census. New York stands to lose 3 votes and Congressional seats and Illinois 2 votes and seats, due to migration outflows having to do with those states progressive policies as well.

It's not just Gavin Newsom and California progressive democrats that refuse to learn from their mistakes. There's a very good chance that the next New York city mayor will be Zohran Mamdani, a member of Democrat Socialists of America who has been campaigning on "free stuff" for lower income residents, higher taxes on the wealthy and a rent freeze on stabilized apartments. [Ref: *A Clear and Present Danger Threat #1*, Addenda #8 – July 2025]

Senator Elizabeth Warren visited New York City recently to campaign for Mamdani, speaking in glowing terms about his campaign platform. When a reporter asked Warren, "Progressive socialism -- is this what the party should look like?" Warren's response was, "Yes, you bet!" This is the path that progressive democrats are following; farther left and more radical. The lower income citizens of New York City and other Democrat led cities and states will continue to experience the same income inequality and lack of affordability as long as the politicians they support embrace this mindset.

Addenda #38 – August 2025,

Re: Ch. 8 Money and Debt, Sovereign Debt, U.S. National Debt

Throughout history, there have been sovereign debt crises when individual countries found themselves unable to meet liabilities as they came due. Significant sovereign debt crisis in recent history include the Latin American debt crisis which lasted from 1982 to 1989, and the Euro-zone debt crisis which began in 2008 and lasted until 2015.

The Latin America debt crisis dated back to the 1960s as countries began to turn away from protectionist policies and embrace modernization, industrialization and international trade, funded by loans from foreign banks and governments. Authoritarian regimes that controlled many Latin American countries were more concerned with short-term economic gains instead of sound fiscal management and took on substantial amounts of debt. By the end of 1978, total outstanding debt from all sources had skyrocketed by more than 400% to \$159 billion. By 1982, the debt level doubled again to \$327 billion. As central banks raised interest rates in an attempt to bring global inflation under control during the 1970s, Latin American countries suddenly found their debt burdens ‘unsustainable’ as banks began to shorten re-payment periods and charge higher interest rates for loans.

One by one, countries notified lenders that they were unable to meet interest payments on their debts, and by the end of 1982, sixteen Latin American countries had rescheduled the terms of their debts with lenders. Eventually, it became clear that these countries would never be able to repay their loans and between 1989 and 1994, private lenders forgave \$61 billion in loans, about one third of the total outstanding debt. In exchange for the debt forgiveness, countries agreed to economic reforms which included raising taxes, reducing government spending and devaluing their currency.

Sources: Latin American Debt Crisis of the 1980s; Federal Reserve History | Forty Years of Latin America’s Economic Development; National Bureau of Economic Research White Paper, July 2009

The Euro-zone debt crisis was precipitated by the bursting of the ‘housing bubble’ in 2007 and the subprime mortgage crisis and financial crisis that followed. Trillions of dollars in ‘subprime’ loans were sold to borrowers with lower and in many instances, no credit, that could not qualify for a conventional mortgage from banks and lenders. These subprime loans typically had low initial interest rates which reset to much higher rates at a future date, leading to widespread defaults and foreclosures. The initial lenders sold the loans to investment banks, which bundled them with hundreds or thousands of other subprime loans into “mortgage-backed” securities, which were then purchased by investors for the higher returns the subprime mortgages would produce.

As the Federal Reserve began to raise interest rates in 2004 and the housing market began to slow down, borrowers with subprime mortgages could no longer refinance at lower rates. Housing prices declined dramatically, and many borrowers now owed more on their homes than what they were worth, so selling was no longer an option either.

By September 2012, approximately 1.4 million homes, or 3.3% of all homes with a mortgage, were in some stage of foreclosure in the U.S. alone. The contagion spread to countries around the world as global banks all owned “toxic” debt securities. Central banks printed money in response to bank failures and the economic downturn that followed. In 2009, Greece’s budget deficit more than doubled and its sovereign debt soared to 113% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In exchange for the bailout, the government unveiled an austerity plan which would reduce Greece’s budget deficit, including tax increases and a freeze on public-sector wages. Portugal, Spain, Ireland, Cyprus, Italy and other EU countries followed Greece into crisis situations, requiring hundreds of billions of dollars in central bank bailouts, budget cuts, wage freezes, unemployment rates as high as 27% in Greece and Spain, and increases in poverty and income inequality. After a period of stability, sovereign debt soared again following the COVID-19 pandemic, reaching a high of \$320 trillion at the end of 2024, a 50% increase from 2011.

Sources: Financial Crisis of 2007-2008; Britannica Money | European Sovereign Debt Crisis; Wall Street Oasis Academy, December 23, 2024

The United States has had short-term debt-ceiling crises as the statutory debt limit, or debt ceiling, was reached in 2011 and again in 2023. In both cases, the federal government had reached the limit of money it was allowed to borrow and needed Congress to increase the ceiling to fund further government spending. The Republican led Congress approved an increase in the debt ceiling in both situations, in exchange for spending caps or cuts in future years. (more on this later) The debt ceiling issue hit again in December 2024, when it was projected that the federal government would reach the current federal debt limit of \$36.1 trillion in January 2025 and run out of cash to pay its bills sometime between mid-August and September unless Congress acted to raise the ceiling. On July 8, Congress agreed to a \$5 trillion increase, bringing the new statutory limit to \$41.1 trillion. These crisis situations and the inability of Congress to cut spending, led to rating agency Moody’s to downgrade the United States’ sovereign credit rating from Aaa to Aa1. For the first time ever, all three major credit rating agencies rated U.S. debt *below* the top-tier AAA status, which could increase the cost of borrowing money from investors to fund government spending.

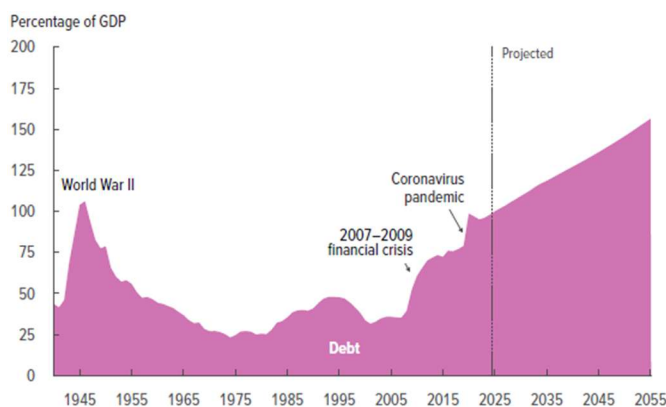
How America's Debt Spiral Could Spark The Next Crisis, is a YouTube video about the current debt situation in the U.S., created by CNBC from independent analyses done by the Wharton School of Business, Yale University and the Congressional Budget Office. The video features special guest speakers including former Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, macro investor Ray Dalio and Former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mike Mullen. Kent Smetters, professor of Business Economics and Public Policy at the Wharton School of Business flat out says that U.S. fiscal policy is unsustainable, and there is so much debt that bond markets will collapse within the next 20-years. Smetters says that the U.S. won’t default on its debts, like Latin America did in the 1980s. Instead, it will resort to “printing” more dollars to pay for that debt, which will result in higher inflation.

Reference on money printing; Chapter 9, *Modern Monetary Theory – Fueling Unlimited Debt and Dependency, and Control*

Ray Dalio of the investment management firm Bridgewater Associates believes that there is more than a 50% chance that there will be a crisis in as little as three years. Dalio believes the crisis will occur when investors finally become concerned about the amount of debt the U.S. Treasury must borrow to cover government deficit spending, *and* the ability of the U.S. to repay that debt. When investors start getting “jittery” about too much debt flooding the bond markets and the risk of higher inflation, they’ll insist on get paid higher rates to buy our debt. This has already happened here in the U.S. In the mid-1980s, when investors were concerned about the \$200 *billion* budget deficit, the yield on 10 and 20-year Treasury bonds exceeded 13.5%. Today, levels of debt are ten times that, which could result in another spike in bond yields which could cause a recession.

Individuals, banks, institutions and foreign governments buy U.S. Treasuries as an investment for the interest they pay. The amount of interest is determined by the rate, or yield, the bond is assigned when it is issued for sale. The higher the rate, the more interest the investor earns. *Credit quality* plays a significant role in determining bond yields. Bonds issued by a corporation or agency with a higher credit rating are considered to be less risky and have lower yields. Bonds issued by a corporation or agency with lower credit ratings are considered higher risk and have higher yields to compensate investors for this risk. These higher yields, demanded by investors, are exactly what will cause the bond market to crash according to Smetters and Dalio.

The Congressional Budget Office noted in *The Budget and Economic Outlook: 2025 to 2035*, that deficit spending will continue to grow over the next ten years, driven by the growth in spending on Social Security and Medicare and increased interest payments on the debt. Deficit spending was already projected to grow from \$1.9 trillion in 2024 to \$2.7 trillion in 2035. This will be even larger now that provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 were extended. Net interest paid to finance deficit spending will grow by more than 100% over the next ten years, crowding out other discretionary spending.



Federal Debt Held by the Public; CBO Report, January 2025

Debt held by the public, the debt we owe to investors who bought Treasury bonds, will increase from 100 percent of GDP to 118 percent—an amount greater than at any point in the nation’s history. The federal government will have to issue even more bonds to finance increased deficit spending and convince investors to buy that debt.

The United States is in a ‘debt spiral’, a situation in which ever increasing levels of debt and debt interest eventually become unsustainable and lead to a default crisis. Mandatory spending programs; Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, federal government pensions and a handful of other programs, are responsible for 60% of all government spending. Net interest payments are responsible for another 13% of all government spending. Combined, mandatory spending is 73% of all government expenditures. There is little political will to announce cuts to those mandatory programs or restrictions on eligibility, yet maintaining these levels of spending just pushes us closer to a default crisis.

Note: The disability and retirement trust funds in Social Security and the Postal Service Fund are “off-budget” programs that cannot be cut without Congressional legislation.

Over the next ten years, mandatory programs and net interest payments will be responsible for 78% of all government spending and the budget deficit will increase by 42% to \$2.7 trillion by 2035. As Ken Smetters and Ray Dalio describe in *How America's Debt Spiral Could Spark The Next Crisis*, there will come a point when investor concern about U.S. debt will result in investors demanding higher rates for the risk they are taking. Higher rates would be bad enough, but the possibility that they will refuse to buy more of our debt would be even worse.

In both prior debt ceiling crises, Congress passed bills to deal with the budget deficits. The Budget Control Act of 2011 and the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 cut or capped spending, resulting in a combined \$2.4 trillion reduction in long-term deficits. But these were reductions in discretionary spending only. Mandatory spending continues to drive deficit spending to levels that will eventually result in a debt crisis in the U.S. The longer politicians take to address the spending problem and the deficit, the worse the crisis will be and the more painful the fix will be.

- * Spending cuts will have to be deeper, hurting the most vulnerable.
- * Inflation will rise (as it did in 2022), hurting middle-income households the most.
- * Businesses will have less money to invest, resulting in slower wage growth and layoffs.
- * Unemployment will rise, hurting all workers.
- * Interest rates will rise, affecting mortgage rates, auto loans and credit card payments.
- * Taxes will have to be increased, hurting middle-income households the most.

The result of will result in reduced economic growth and a reduced standard of living for all Americans for generations to come.

In the meantime, Republicans continue to push for tax cuts while Democrats continue to push for more spending. Neither party will acknowledge the severity of the problem or propose any meaningful solutions for it, and most voters have no idea how deeply in debt the U.S. really is. No one wants programs or services reduced. No one wants to see taxes increased or tax credits reduced or eliminated. No one wants to see their retirement benefit of medical coverage cut. But this is what will happen when we finally reach that tipping point and enter a debt crisis. A debt crisis is inevitable; the question is not if, but when...

Addenda #39 – September 2025

Ch. 12 A New Form of ‘Fascism’ for the 21st Century
Americas “Threats” Against Tyranny and Fascism

Preface:

This is not a partisan promotion of the greatness of Donald Trump! Although I voted for him in the past three elections, and support and approve of most of his agenda, this is a story about how those in power, who had everything to lose, mounted a campaign against the one man who was the greatest threat to them achieving the agenda they put forward; The Great Reset.

At the beginning of each Clear and Present Danger “Threat” publication, I made the following statement:

In my view, there are three distinct threats to our individual liberties and freedom today. Progressive Democrat Marxism, the United Nations global Agenda 21 AND, The Great Reset.

So, what exactly is *The Great Reset*? In a June 2020 announcement, the World Economic Forum (WEF) gave the world the answer to that question in an article titled, *Now is the time for a ‘great reset’*

“COVID-19 lockdowns may be gradually easing, but anxiety about the world’s social and economic prospects is only intensifying... To achieve a better outcome, the world must act jointly and swiftly to revamp all aspects of our societies and economies, from education to social contracts and working conditions. Every country, from the United States to China, must participate, and every industry, from oil and gas to tech, must be transformed. In short, we need a “Great Reset” of capitalism.” ^[1]

The vision of the WEF was a total do-over of society; financial, business, education and especially global thinking about climate change. This wasn’t an announcement that came from the President of the United States or any other country. It didn’t come from the United Nations or any other international body tasked with achieving international peace and security. Who and what was the World Economic Forum?

Membership in the WEF is limited to the world’s wealthiest and most powerful global Elites. They are multi-millionaires and multi-billionaires. They are corporate business leaders in the financial, insurance and banking industries. They are presidents and prime ministers of countries and global organizations. They are the heads of Elite, private academic institutions. They are not middle and lower-income, blue collar workers, yet they claim they want to “revamp” society for the betterment of that class of people.

Have you ever looked at something that, when taken at face value, appears to be a reasonable and just idea, but still, it leaves you with a sense of unease?

An idea or a cause that makes you feel like there’s something more to the story, something just under the surface that just doesn’t feel right. Something that you just can’t seem to put your finger on?

Every step the WEF has taken to implement this ‘Great Reset’ has removed a few more of the basic freedoms we have enjoyed and benefitted from for decades. They promote vaccine mandates and vaccine passports, digital identities and social credit systems. They promote “socially responsible” lending to businesses and individuals. They support the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals and carbon taxes. The WEF was a promoter of Diversity Equity and Inclusion policies and designed a universal set of ESG “metrics” to be imposed on global corporations and their customers. The WEF even promoted Modern Monetary Theory as a method of “shaping the New Economy and society.” Supporters of the Great Reset include Progressive politicians like former Vice President Al Gore, former Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau and former U.S. President Joe Biden, all of whom have made substantial policy changes to help the WEF in its efforts to achieve the Great Reset.

I think I’ve written enough on these topics by now to show just how detrimental they have been to individuals while significantly benefitting global Elites. Despite the hundreds of billions of dollars in pandemic stimulus payments to families and businesses in 2020 and 2021, income inequality continues to rise around the world. Neither the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations nor the Great Reset have been able to reverse income inequality. Instead, these policies have caused people to fall further behind in achieving their goals and dreams.

The *Report on the Economic Well-Being of U.S. Households in 2024*, published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve said that while most adults said their family's monthly income increased in 2024 compared with a year earlier, the share of adults who said their spending increased from the prior year was even greater, making their financial situation worse, not better. A 2024 report by the Pew Charitable Research Foundation titled, *The State of the American Middle Class*, states that “Americans are more apart than before financially.” The share of Americans living in lower-income households continues to increase, while the share of Americans in middle-income households continues to fall. ^[2]^[3]

As the world’s premier “organizer” of society, the World Economic Forum and the global Elites that follow and promote the Great Reset cannot allow anyone to stand in their way of achieving those ultimate goals. Our U.S. Constitution is a “threat” to those global Elites, this is why there has been so much talk about “expanding the Court” to dilute the conservative majority that uses our Constitution to base their decisions on. Our justice system is a “threat” to global Elites as well, this is why millions of dollars have been spent to elect progressive judges at state and local levels who support their agendas. A strong and well-informed middle-class has provided one of the best methods of checks and balances over history, removing politicians from office who don’t act in the best interests of the voter or the country and electing new ones to office. This is what threatens the interests of the global Elites the most and why so many of their policies and plans have resulted in the shrinking of the middle-class and “shaping” their education in progressive public universities.

On June 16, 2015, Donald Trump announced his candidacy for President of the United States. One of the biggest obstacles to achievement of the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals and the World Economic Forums Great Reset suddenly emerged...

Our country is in serious trouble. We don't have victories anymore... When do we beat Mexico at the border? They're laughing at us, at our stupidity. And now they are beating us economically. They are not our friend, believe me. But they're killing us economically. The U.S. has become a dumping ground for everybody else's problems... When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending their best. They're not sending you... They're sending people that have lots of problems, and they're bringing those problems with [them, to] us.

A lot of people... can't get jobs. They can't get jobs, because there are no jobs, because China has our jobs and Mexico has our jobs... Our enemies are getting stronger and stronger by the way, and we as a country are getting weaker... you need somebody, because politicians are all talk, no action. Nothing's gonna get done... I've been on the circuit making speeches, and I hear my fellow Republicans... I like them. But I hear their speeches. And they don't talk jobs, and they don't talk China.

So I've watched the politicians. I've dealt with them all my life. If you can't make a good deal with a politician, then there's something wrong with you. You're certainly not very good. And that's what we have representing us. They will never make America great again. They don't even have a chance. They're controlled fully... they're controlled fully by the lobbyists, by the donors, and by the special interests, fully.

We need a leader that can bring back our jobs, can bring back our manufacturing, can bring back our military, can take care of our vets... We need -- we need somebody -- we need somebody that literally will take this country and make it great again. We can do that... So ladies and gentlemen I am officially running for president of the United States, and we are going to make our country great again.

This, is what the global Elites feared, even back in 2016. Donald Trump was a businessman with a bachelor's degree in economics. He ran a real estate business, acquiring and building skyscrapers, hotels, casinos and golf courses. He hosted a reality TV show, filed business bankruptcies six times and rarely spoke about politics. He was a registered Republican whose political views developed over two decades and five party affiliation changes. He was an outsider running against career politicians for leader of the world's most powerful nation. In addition to the sixteen candidates in the Republican primary, Donald Trump faced opposition from former Republican presidents and cabinet members, Republican governors, Senators and House Representatives. He faced opposition by former Department of State and Department of Defense officials, National Security and Department of Justice officials that had been appointed to positions by Republican Presidents. ^[4]

Radio and television host Glenn Beck made a recent disclosure about a meeting he had with then President George W. Bush in 2008. Beck was called to the White House over criticisms he had made in a radio broadcast on how badly the Iraq war was going. Beck described the

conversation with the president... “I get there... and the first thing the president says to me is, “You know, a lot of people think they know how they could be the F-ing president. Well, they have no idea how to be the F-ing president...” After it was all over and he had it out of his system, we stood up at the end... He said, trust me, Glenn, whoever comes into this office, no matter which party they're in, they are going to sit behind this desk, and they're going to realize, because they're going to be advised by exactly the same people that have been advising me, that they really have no choice. This is what they have to do. And then he said, have a good day” [5]

That, is the perfect example of how politics work in Washington DC, “this is what they have to do”, with no deviation. Trump ran for president on a pledge to “drain the swamp”, to change the way things had always worked. And the establishment did not like that! Establishment Republicans did not want Donald Trump to become president, and when he did, they actively worked against his attempts to change the way government operated. Establishment Democrats fought Trumps efforts even harder. Global organizations like the United Nations and World Health Organization did not like Trumps nationalist policies to weaken their control over the United States. Environmental activists did not want Trump to change policies they had been able to put in place under the Obama administration. “Drain the swamp”, was the central topic of Trump’s campaign; and it resonated with voters who were fed up with partisan politics and the same results, election after election.

➤ *The Real Election Interference*

There was a coordinated attempt to ensure Donald Trump would not become the next U.S. president as soon as he showed himself to be a legitimate contender by winning seven of eleven states on “Super Tuesday”, March 1, 2016, and then taking five of six states on March 15. In April 2016, the Hillary Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee hired the research firm Fusion GPS to continue “opposition research” on Donald Trump. Fusion GPS had hired former British MI-6 agent Christopher Steele to research any Russian connections to Trump and his campaign. Between June and December 2016, Steele provided 35 pages of memos full of accusations against Trump from anonymous sources, none of which could be substantiated. Out of this dossier came the allegations that Trump was “a Russian agent” and that Russian President Vladimir Putin personally ordered a Russian election interference operation to harm the Clinton campaign and ensure his victory in the election. Although U.S. intelligence agencies were skeptical of the claims, the Clinton campaign approved its release to mainstream media outlets that were supportive of her candidacy. The Russian collusion narrative had begun. [6]

➤ *The Election Results and Continued Opposition*

The voters did not buy the Russia-Russia hoax, and they did not buy into Hillary Clinton’s campaign either. On November 8, 2016, American voters went to the polls. Although Clinton received 2.8 million more votes than Donald Trump, Trump won 30 of 50 states and 306 Electoral College votes to win the election. But even before he took the oath of office, Donald Trump was under siege.

Democrats can't stop Trump nominees, but they can make confirmation very painful

CNN; December 1, 2016

Democrats to give Trump Cabinet picks the Garland treatment

Politico; December 5, 2016

Donald Trump Cabinet Update: Democrats Vow To Delay Confirmations For 'Unqualified' Appointees

International Business Times; December 5, 2016

It took 160 days for all of Trump's cabinet picks to be confirmed by the Senate, the longest time of any previous president. Even after cabinet members, appointees and staff were in place, the president fired dozens of administration insiders for leaking information to the press and working against his agenda. Dozens of other appointees resigned from positions as it became clear leaking, and insubordination was not going to be tolerated. Besides betrayals within the administration, Trump's policies led to Democrat state attorneys general filing 138 multistate lawsuits in attempts to overrule and stop his agenda. (For reference, the Obama administration was sued just 78 times over eight years, the Bush administration was sued 76 times over his eight years in office) Environmental groups filed hundreds of lawsuits against the Trump administration during his first term. The Center for Biological Diversity alone filed 266 lawsuits. California filed more than 100 environmental lawsuits against the Trump administration, at a cost of \$41 million to taxpayers over four years. ^[7] ^[8]

In September 2019, House Democrats opened an investigation into allegations that Trump requested the Ukrainian government investigate former Vice President Joe Biden and his son Hunter, in exchange for releasing \$400 million in U.S. foreign aid to that country. Trump denied he withheld military aid to pressure Ukraine to scrutinize Biden, a potential 2020 presidential rival. The scandal began when a CIA whistleblower filed a complaint that President Trump pressured Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenski to begin an investigation into Hunter Bidens activities and compensation on the board of Ukrainian energy company Burisma and connections with his father Joe Biden. Trump was doing his own "opposition research" on Joe Biden, just as Clinton did on him. Zelenski himself told reporters that "there was no blackmail" by Trump and he was unaware of any foreign aid being withheld. There was confirmation that the President did ask Zelenski to investigate Joe Biden stopping a corruption investigation into his son Hunter while he was Vice-President by threatening to withhold \$1 billion in foreign aid. Joe Biden himself confessed to doing this in a video interview during a Council on Foreign Relations discussion on January 23, 2018! But there was never any confirmation that Trump threatened to withhold aid to Ukraine in exchange for more information about this.

There have been multiple confirmed stories how Hunter Biden earned \$1 million per year for a position on the Board of Directors at Burisma Holdings, a Ukrainian energy company, despite having no previous experience in the industry. Hunter's only connection to the country was that vice-president Joe Biden was in charge of American policy in Ukraine. After Joe left the White House in 2016, Hunters compensation was cut to \$665,000 in 2017, and then \$498,000 in 2018. Hunters value to Burisma dropped dramatically as soon as his

father was no longer vice president. ^[9] Joe Biden claimed multiple times during the 2020 presidential campaign, that he knew nothing about his sons business dealings, either in the Ukraine or in China, and that "I have never spoken to my son about his overseas business dealings." This was proven to be a lie by sworn testimony from Hunters business partner Devon Archer to Congress in 2023, White House visitor logs showing Biden had meetings in the White House with at least 14 of Hunter Biden's business associates while vice president, and by emails found on Hunter Bidens laptop. ^[10]
(More on the laptop later)

Former FBI Director Rober Mueller was appointed as Special Counsel in 2017 to oversee the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential election. His report was submitted to Attorney General William Barr on March 22, 2019, and a redacted version of the 448-page report was publicly released by the Department of Justice on April 18, 2019. Although the commission did not have access to all communications and some testimony was false or incomplete, the report concluded that while there was Russian interference in the 2016 election, there was no evidence to conclude that members of the Trump campaign conspired or coordinated with the Russian government in any election interference activities. While the results of the Mueller Report did prevent House Democrats from calling for President Trump to be impeached in charges of collusion with Russia, they held numerous hearings over a three-month period and voted to impeach Trump on charges of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress, by partisan vote in December 2019. The Senate acquitted Trump on both charges, also by partisan vote, in February 2020. ^[11]

➤ *2020 Presidential Election Controversy*

Even though he received 11.5 million more votes than in 2016, President Trump lost his campaign for re-election in November 2020 by 7 million votes against Joe Biden. In all, 21.5 million more ballots were cast in 2020 than in 2016, an astounding 15.76% increase in total votes cast. The increase in registered voters and voter turnout was significantly higher in 2020 than in previous elections as Biden received 15.4 million more votes than Hillary Clinton (who would have been the first woman president) did in 2016 and 11.7 million more votes than Barack Obama (the first black president) in 2008. Joe Biden won all six “battleground states” by a combined 313,343 votes. Just a 44,000-vote difference in Wisconsin, Georgia and Arizona separated Biden and Trump from a tie in the Electoral College. The number of ballots cast for Joe Biden in Wisconsin was 18% higher than Clinton received in 2016. In Georgia, it was 32% higher and in Arizona, it was 44% higher.

There have been various theories put forward as to why there was such a large increase in voting in 2020. These theories include rampant hatred of Donald Trump, the expansion of mail-in balloting due to the pandemic, ballot harvesting and outright voter fraud. A 2023 poll conducted by Rasmussen Reports and The Heartland Institute revealed that 21 percent of mail-in voters surveyed admitted they filled out a ballot for a friend or family member; 19 percent of mail-in voters admitted that a friend or family member filled out a ballot on their behalf; 17 percent of mail-in voters admitted they voted in a state where they were no longer

a permanent resident; and 17 percent of mail-in voters said they signed a ballot for a friend or family member with or without his or her permission. ^[12]

Nine months before the election, Forbes published an article titled *Harvesting Votes to Win in 2020*. The editor made the point that voting in person typically requires a person to show photo identification or sign the registration poll record when casting a ballot in person. But unlike when voting in person, voting by mail almost never requires an ID. The article went on to say mail in ballots lack the protections that voting in person provides. The article also noted, “ballot harvesters can get aggressive, they can cut corners, and they can guarantee votes for the politician or group that hired them by taking physical possession of ballots and voting in place of the legal voter.” ^[13] While the number of actual voter fraud cases uncovered in 2020 may not support the “stolen election” theory, the combination of pandemic changes to states voting laws does cast reasonable doubt on the “fairness” of the 2020 election.

➤ *Deep State Election Interference in the 2020 Election*

Discounting any voter fraud, Joe Biden received plenty of help from the media and government agencies throughout his 2020 election campaign, just as Hillary Clinton did in 2016. Nothing proves the truth of this statement better than the Hunter Biden laptop saga.

In April 2019, Hunter Biden dropped off three damaged laptop computers at *The Mac Shop*, an Apple computer repair shop in Wilmington, Delaware. Biden asked owner, John Paul Isaac, to repair the laptops or if he can't, to recover data from their hard drives. Biden signed the work order but never returned to reclaim the laptops after repeated calls from Isaac. Isaac examined contents of the hard drive of one of the laptops and discovered evidence of suspicious monetary transactions, as well as a large number of pornographic images and emails to and from Hunter Bidens business associates and his father, Joe Biden. In October 2019, Isaac called a local FBI office to report what he had found on the laptop. In December 2019, the FBI seizes the laptop by authority of a Grand Jury subpoena. Agents that inspect the laptop determine that it did belong to Hunter Biden, and the contents of the hard drive did not seem to have been tampered with or manipulated. ^[14]

Isaac had made a copy of the contents of the hard drive before turning it over to the FBI, and after reading about a Senate Republican-led committee investigation into foreign influence-peddling by members of the Biden family, Isaac alerted Congress members to the existence of files on the laptop in September 2019. A copy of the hard drive was also given to Donald Trump's lawyer Rudy Giuliani, who shared files with the New York Post. On October 14, 2020, three weeks before the presidential election, the New York Post published its first article titled, *Smoking-gun email reveals how Hunter Biden introduced Ukrainian businessman to VP dad*, based on emails recovered from Hunter Bidens laptop. This is important, because Joe Biden had claimed multiple times that he had no knowledge of his sons foreign business dealings and the two never discussed Hunter business. ^[15] Immediately after the New York Post story aired, the Biden campaign “persuaded” 51 former intelligence officials to sign onto a letter to discredit the Post story as Russian

propaganda and the laptop to be “a Russian plant”, despite the FBI having determined the authenticity of the laptop ten months earlier. Top FBI personnel labeled the story “disinformation” and a “Russian hoax”. CIA director Mike Morell later admitted he organized the infamous letter after discussions with members of the Biden campaign, including key advisor Antony Blinken. Top CIA officials recognized that the statement was political but approved and expedited its release in a move that deviated from standard Prepublication Classification Review Board protocols. [16] [17] Mainstream media repeated the claims nightly. Social media suppressed the laptop story.

Joe Biden received 81.3 million votes in 2020. A Media Resource Center poll taken after the election showed that 17% of Biden voters would have avoided picking Biden if they knew of stories the media suppressed. That 17% equals 13.8 million votes. Biden beat Donald Trump by 7.06 million votes. The bottom line is, there was election interference in the 2020 election, perpetrated by mainstream media and “the Deep State”, that led to Joe Biden being elected President of the United States. This, led to claims by Donald Trump and his lawyers that the election was stolen and the debacle that followed on January 6, 2021. [18]

➤ *“Insurrection” at the Capitol – the Second Trump Impeachment*

“On January 6, 2021, the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C., was attacked by a mob of supporters of President Donald Trump in an attempted self-coup, two months after his defeat in the 2020 presidential election. They sought to keep him in power by preventing a joint session of Congress from counting the Electoral College votes to formalize the victory of the president-elect Joe Biden.”

January 6 United States Capitol attack; Wikipedia, September 14, 2025

Wikipedia has a “left-wing bias”. This assertion is backed up by Wikipedia co-founder Larry Sanger, who called Wikipedia “propaganda” for left leaning “establishment” views, in July 2021. Sanger also noted that right-leaning sources and views are systematically blocked by editors. *Influence Watch* notes “Wikipedia editors have engaged in editing and counter-editing on profiles dealing with contentious political and cultural issues”, mostly against the right. The Wikipedia article seeks to place the blame solely on Donald Trump for the events of January 6, and gives a biased opinion on the second impeachment of President Trump. President elect Joe Biden called the rioters “domestic terrorists”. Democrats called Jan. 6 “The worst attack on democracy since the Civil War”.

Mainstream media repeated the claims nightly. Social media did not block this story!

There are a number of video documentaries on YouTube that tell the story about January 6 from the opposite side; *The January 6 Stories the Media Doesn't Want You to Hear*, produced by Prager U, *What Really Happened on January 6th*, a podcast interview by Dr. Jordan B. Peterson, *Here's What Really Happened on January 6th*, produced by Tucker Carlson, and *What He Saw on Jan. 6 - Former Capitol Police Officer Speaks Out About Jan. 6 Protest*. I have seen all these videos, and I've read *Courage Under Fire: Under Siege and Outnumbered 58 to 1 on January 6*, written by former Capitol Police Chief Steven A. Sund.

These accounts from people who were at the Capitol on January 6, 2021, tell a different story about the events and why they happened that day. Law enforcement was aware there was going to be a significant protest the morning Congress was to certify the results of the 2020 election and that President Trump planned to speak to his supporters and encourage them not to accept the results. Top level administrators did not give all the intelligence information to the Capitol Police, who were responsible for security at the Capitol building. This resulted in an insufficient number of officers on duty that day to handle crowd control and security. Once Chief Sund realized how outnumbered his men were, he repeatedly requested permission from the House and Senate Sergeant-at-Arms to call for support from the D.C. National Guard. Sund stated his requests were denied due to concerns about “optics” of deploying the National Guard. In all, Sund’s requests of the Sergeant-at-Arms were refused six times. Sund also asked the Pentagon to provide backup for his men several times during the rioting. Senior Army officials delayed for more than three hours sending the National Guard to the Capitol.

Chief Sund had asked his superiors for more help even *before* the rally began. His request was refused. President Trump himself requested 10,000 National Guard troops to provide security at the Capitol on January 3. This request was never acted on.

Note: By Inauguration Day 2021, Democrats stationed more than 26,000 armed guardsmen in Washington, erected seven foot high riot fencing topped with razor wire, and closed the National Mall and inaugural viewing stands, claiming Trump supporters would attempt to interrupt the ceremony. Apparently, they had no problems about “optics” this time...

A suspicious person would begin to think the denials and delays were intentional, that those in power wanted a riot to happen. This would destroy any legacy left by Donald Trump and almost assure he would never be elected president in the future.

Adding to the suspicions, were allegations about FBI operatives helping to incite the crowd, armed police officers not only *not* telling people to leave the Capitol, but in some instances escorting them through hallways. I won’t go into any detail about the arrests and prosecutions of those who entered the Capitol grounds or building that followed, other than to say the Biden Department of Justice and the FBI made sure they were severely punished. The message was clear, do not oppose us or we will arrest you, seize your personal belongings, and charge you with multiple felonies that could put you in jail for as many as 80 years unless you sign a plea agreement. And in cases where people refused to admit what the DOJ wanted them to, they were held in prison in solitary confinement until their trials, lost their jobs, lost their finances. Their lives were destroyed, and they had to rebuild them.

In the words of Jan. 6 defendant John Strand, “... going to trial means you go before a DC judge and a DC jury because they wouldn't release jurisdiction of any of these cases. This is a district that voted 93% against Donald Trump. I say against Donald Trump because nobody voted *for* Joe Biden. People only voted *against* Donald Trump. They hate Donald Trump. They hate his supporters. They hate guys like us. Nobody stood a chance going to trial in DC, which is why they've gotten a 100% conviction rate for January 6 cases...”

“I pled not guilty because I am innocent. I knew the jury would convict me in advance anyway because it's DC. I said that publicly in advance. I was proven right. I continued to castigate a fraudulent system and a dishonest and very partisan judicial process, a weaponized government... when I finally got to sentencing, the judge was furious. He said it from the bench that I'm sending a message that this can never happen again. People cannot basically do what I had done, which was to speak publicly and criticize the government. They made an example out of you. Yeah. That's the textbook definition of fascism. The government said from the bench, he said, "I'm going to send a message." If you criticize the Washington DC court system, you go to prison for years is what happens."

Strand spend four months in solitary confinement waiting for trial, then was sentenced to two years and eight months in prison after a Washington, D.C., jury found him guilty of a felony charge of obstruction of an official proceeding and four misdemeanor violations stemming from the Jan. 6, 2021, attack at the Capitol. The Deep State continued to persecute Donald Trump and his supporters years after he left office. In June 2024, the Supreme Court ruled one of the charges brought against more than 330 Jan. 6 “rioters” to be inappropriate, leading the government to drop charges against them. And even though he was scheduled to leave office one week later, House Democrats brought impeachment charges against Donald Trump for a second time, for “incitement of insurrection”.

I personally believe that while Donald Trump was not responsible for inciting any insurrection, he let his anger and frustration at being defeated by Joe Biden cause him to exercise terrible judgement and make inappropriate statements, especially telling Vice-President Mike Pence he must stop the certification. I think he exercised bad judgement calling for his supporters to protest and then going to the Ellipse to address his supporters the morning of January 6. These acts certainly tarnished everything that he accomplished in his first term, and it gave the left even more reason to hate him and fight against a second Trump presidency.

➤ *The Truth Begins to Emerge*

* On November 21, 2022, two years *after* the election, CBS published an article titled, *Copy of Hunter Biden laptop data appears genuine, independent experts find*. “The laptop data we had analyzed showed no evidence it was faked or tampered with” CBS reporter Catherine Herridge reported. The media finally acknowledged what the FBI had determined in 2019, that the laptop was owned by Hunter Biden and had not been tampered with. ^[19]

* In September 2023, over 700 pages of whistleblower documents were released by the House Ways and Means Committee. The documents showed a series of meetings occurred between senior White House staff, Hunter Biden and his business associate Devon Archer, in the same year then-Vice President Biden made three visits to Ukraine. Committee Chairman Jason Smith stated, “House Republicans are determined to get to the bottom of the Biden family’s influence peddling scheme, and the American people have a right to know if then-Vice President Biden used his official government position to help his family’s overseas business operations... Thanks to the IRS whistleblowers we know President Biden

lied when he said he had no knowledge and was not involved in his son's business dealings. It now appears he in fact benefited. We will continue to follow the facts in this investigation and present the truth to the American people." [20]

* A September 27 press release posted on the House Ways and Means webpage stated, [21] *The scheme generated millions of dollars from foreign countries for members of the Biden family, channeled through a vast array of corporate entities and shell companies. The evidence also documents a campaign by the Justice Department to protect the Biden family from investigation, even as Hunter Biden attempted to evade paying taxes on income that came from foreign countries, including China, Ukraine, and others. That Biden protection effort was strongest whenever investigative steps might have led to or implicated actions taken by Joe Biden. During the investigation into his son, officials instructed investigators seeking a search warrant to erase any mention of a "Political Figure 1," who documents reveal to be Joe Biden.*

* On January 17, 2024, Federal prosecutors with the Biden Department of Justice confirmed that the laptop Hunter Biden dropped off at a computer store was in fact real, adding that the contents on the laptop matched what had previously been obtained through a search warrant on the president's son's Apple iCloud. This data was provided to the FBI by Apple in September 2021, but the FBI did not publicly acknowledge the authenticity of the laptop for another twenty-eight months! The Deep State continued to protect the Bidens for almost three years after Joe Biden was elected president! [22]

Everything President Trump had claimed to be true in October 2019, was finally proven to be true. The laptop was Hunter Bidens. The laptop contained emails showing that Joe Biden not only knew about his sons dealings in Ukraine and China, but he was responsible for Hunter being hired to the board of Burisma Holdings and Chinese energy firm CEFC China Energy. Emails on the laptop also showed that Burisma paid Hunter a salary of \$83,000 per month, and Chinese energy firm CEFC China Energy paid entities controlled by Hunter Biden or his uncle James Biden \$4.8 million over the course of 14 months beginning in 2017.

Another email on Hunter's laptop confirmed that CECF was expected to pay 20% of compensation to Hunter Biden, 10% to (Joe Bidens brother) Jim Biden and 10% would be held by Hunter for "the big guy", meaning Joe Biden himself. IRS investigators in the Hunter Biden tax fraud case were blocked by a senior prosecutor from pursuing any leads that involved President Joe Biden. "I would say that they limited certain investigative leads that could have potentially provided information on the president of the United States," IRS agent Gary Shapley said. [23]

Joe Biden repeatedly lied to the American public about his part in the Ukraine/China business dealings with Hunter Biden. High level officials in the FBI, CIA and other U.S. intelligence agencies lied to the American public about the authenticity of Hunter Bidens laptop and helped block the story from being published. Mainstream media outlets pushed those lies to the American people during the presidential election cycle. Allegations of influence peddling and corruption were blocked by the Justice Department and FBI, and nothing came of efforts by the Republican led committee to hold the Biden's accountable.

Note: FBI Director Christopher Wray refused to turn over an investigative memo alleging a bribery scheme involving Vice-President Joe Biden and a foreign national, to the House Oversight Committee in 2023. ^[24]

➤ *The Second Trump Presidency – Continued Persecution*

On November 15, 2022, Donald Trump announced his campaign for president for a third time. Seventeen other candidates also announced their intention to seek the Republican nomination for president. Ten candidates withdrew before the first primary on January 15, 2023, which Trump won by a landslide. Six of his seven challengers dropped out of the race after the Iowa Caucuses and his final challenger dropped out of the race on March 6. Donald Trump became the Republican nominee for the third consecutive election on July 15, 2024.

Once again, as Trump became a threat for the Democrat candidate during the primaries, the Deep State was at work trying to deny him victory. By March 4th, when the Supreme Court unanimously declared them to be unconstitutional, 35 Democrat controlled or ‘swing’ states, had filed challenges to keep Donald Trump off the November ballot, citing his alleged involvement in the January 6 “insurrection” as grounds for disqualification. This, was the entire reason why Democrats brought the second impeachment charges against him; they wanted to prevent Trump from running against Joe Biden in 2024! ^[25]

* In August 2020, New York Attorney General Letitia James, who’s 2018 campaign pledge was to sue former President Donald Trump and be a real “pain in the ass” to him, began an investigation into his business dealings in New York City. In September 2022, James filed a Civil lawsuit against Trump, three of his children, business associates and ten Trump business entities for engaging in “financial fraud”. The charge consisted of claims that the Trump organization “grossly inflated” property values in order to receive better lending terms with banks he had borrowed from publicly disparaging the court staff and himself as judge. In September 2023, Manhattan-based state Supreme Court judge Arthur Engoron determined that Trump and his company had committed fraud for years, and the trial could proceed. Engoron terminated the organizations business licenses and dissolved their LLCs. In February 2024, Engoron found the defendants guilty and ordered them to pay a \$454 million judgement. The judge set bail for Trump and his sons at \$4 million each and \$1 million for one of Trump’s business partner’s. ^[26]

Note: No local, state or federal funds were involved. Loans were fully repaid to lenders, with interest. Lenders were apparently satisfied with the terms in question, as they continued to loan money to Trump business entities. No one was harmed. The bail levels were later lowered by a New York Appellate Court.

Note: On August 21, 2025, a New York Appeals Court voided the judgement, which had grown to more than \$500 million with interest, as being “excessive”. Two of the four judges said the trial court was wrong to decide Trump committed fraud and the case should be retried. A fifth judge said New York Attorney General Letitia James should not have brought the case in the first place. Attorney General James vowed to appeal the case to the state’s highest court in an attempt to reinstate the penalty. ^[27]

* On August 8, 2022, the FBI executed a search warrant authorized by Attorney General Merrick Garland at Donald Trump’s Mar-a-Lago residence in Palm Beach, Florida. [28] The referral came at the request of National Archives and Records Administration head Debra Steidel Wall for violations of the Espionage Act regarding unauthorized retention of national defense information, destroying or concealing records “with the intent to impede, obstruct, or influence” federal government activity and illegal removal or destruction of federal government records. According to documents on file with the Committee, in February 2022, NARA requested a meeting with Committee on Oversight and Reform Democrats on this issue and failed to include Committee Republicans. This raised concerns that NARA had been treating the Trump Administration’s handling of presidential records as a partisan political issue. [29] The FBI labeled and seized multiple boxes holding some 13,000 documents, 102 of which were classified. The seizure resulted in the Biden Department of Justice filing multiple federal charges, which resulted in a trial date being set for May 20, 2024, five and a half months before the presidential election. After being indicted by a Grand Jury on June 8, U.S. District Court Judge Aileen Cannon dismissed the case, ruling that the Biden D.O.J. appointment of Special Consul Jack Smith violated the Constitution.

Note: Joe Biden also faced charges in late 2022 over the same classified documents situation that his D.O.J. brought federal charges against Donald Trump for. Instead of being secured in a locked storage room in his home, boxes of documents, including top secret documents, were photographed in Bidens garage, visible from his driveway through an open overhead door. In February 2024, at the same time it was pursuing criminal charges against Donald Trump, the Justice Department decided *not* to pursue criminal charges against Biden, despite finding evidence that he willfully retained classified materials.

“Our investigation uncovered evidence that President Biden willfully retained and disclosed classified materials after his vice presidency when he was a private citizen... We conclude that no criminal charges are warranted in this matter...” [30]

* In November 2022, Attorney General Merrick Garland appointed Jack Smith to lead a special counsel investigation into charges that Donald Trump had attempted to overturn the 2020 election. A Grand Jury in Washington DC, in which Trump had received just 4% of the vote in the 2016 presidential election and 5% of the vote in 2020, indicted the Republican candidate for president on multiple conspiracy charges, the most serious of which could have resulted in a 20 year prison term. The case was dismissed by the DOJ after Trump won the November 2024 election.

* On March 30, 2023, Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg presented a criminal indictment to a Grand Jury against Donald Trump, who was now the presumptive Republican nominee for president in 2024. Trump was charged with 34 felony counts of falsifying business records in order to conceal payments to porn actress Stormy Daniels to cover up a consensual sexual encounter that had occurred seventeen years before. In order to make the case more sensational, D.A. Bragg charged Trump on multiple counts for each of the twelve payments made and categorized them as “attempts to violate state and federal election laws”. Bragg made the claim that his case was about “election interference” by “conspiring to corrupt a presidential election” because Trump was concealing damaging

information ahead of the vote. Federal Prosecutors had already investigated this case in 2018 and chose not to bring charges against Trump under federal campaign finance law for the same scheme. Bragg was accused of “falsifying charges” and having no jurisdiction to enforce federal election laws. ^[31]

A Grand Jury in Manhattan, a county in which Trump had received just 9% of the vote in the 2016 presidential election and 12% of the vote in 2020, indicted the Republican candidate on all charges. The case would remain in the news all during the campaign cycle and resulted in another Manhattan jury finding Trump guilty on all counts in May 2024. Democrats repeatedly referred to Trump as “a convicted felon” during the campaign and the media cooperated by repeating the story and claims often.

* On August 14, 2023, a Fulton County Grand Jury, a county in which he had received just 27% of the vote in the 2016 presidential election and 26% of the vote in 2020, indicted Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump and 18 other defendants on 41 charges over alleged attempts to overturn 2020 election results in Georgia. The case was plagued with controversy as Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis acknowledged having a “personal relationship” with lead prosecutor Nathan Wade after previously denying the affair. Wade, who was paid over half a million dollars more than other special prosecutors on the case, resigned as special prosecutor in March 2024. Willis was disqualified from prosecuting the case by the Georgia Court of Appeals in December 2024, and the case was dismissed. Her appeal to continue prosecuting Trump was denied by the Georgia Supreme Court on September 16, 2025. ^[32]

Five criminal or civil cases were brought against Donald Trump during the four years after he left the White House and was later voted back into it. Each trial, if he was found guilty, would have resulted in a prison sentence or massive financial penalty. Similar to the Jan. 6 cases mentioned before, these lawsuits were a warning to Trump and/or an attempt to prevent him from running again in 2024. ^[33] The voters did not buy into the Democrat led criminal and civil charges, and they did not buy into Kamala Harris’ campaign either.

On November 5, 2024, Donald Trump was elected as the 47th President of the United States. This time, Trump won the popular vote by 2.284 million ballots, the Electoral College vote 312 to 226, and won all seven “battleground states”, flipping five of them from results in the 2020 election. Fifty-six percent of voters showed their opposition to a continuation of Biden-Harris administration policies, and eighty-eight percent of those voters cast their ballot for Donald Trump. His 77.285 million votes was the largest total ever for a Republican candidate. Suspiciously, 3.1 million fewer votes were cast in 2024 than in 2020 and Kamala Harris received 6.2 million fewer votes than Joe Biden received in 2020. These results once again led to questions about why there were so many ballots cast in 2020 for the Democrat candidate and overall, and where did the missing voters go in 2024?

➤ *The Aftermath*

Hillary Clinton was sure that she was going to be the 45th president of the United States and the first woman president. At the evening of November 8, 2016 progressed, key states were

called for Donald Trump; Ohio at 10:39 pm, Florida at 10:53 pm and North Carolina at 11:56 pm. I remember watching the election results on television and the CNN commentator was frantic... “*she’s got to do something*” the woman said. But nothing could be done...

At 1:35 am Wednesday morning, Pennsylvania was called for Trump and the outcome was sure. John Podesta, Clinton’s campaign manager refused to concede, even though Trump was leading in Wisconsin, Michigan and Arizona. At 2:30 am, Wisconsin was called for Trump, and it became official. Donald Trump was the 45th President of the United States.

Clinton refused to take any of the blame for alienation of voters and her loss to Trump. Several times in national TV interviews over the months and years that followed, she blamed FBI Director James Comey for his announcing eleven days before the election, that the FBI was reopening its investigation into her private email server during her tenure as Secretary of State. She blamed Russian President Vladimir Putin for election interference through cyber-attacks and spreading disinformation. She blamed Wikileaks for releasing hacked emails from her campaign. She blamed the media for how it covered her campaign and the FBI investigation. She blamed men in general stating that sexism and misogyny played a significant role in her defeat. [34]

Hillary Clinton had the support of the Deep State, and she lost the election anyway. How much support was never proven until just recently. In May 2023, Special Counsel John Durham released the final report of his four-year investigation into 2016 Russia election interference and the FBI’s “Crossfire Hurricane” investigation. Durham concluded that there was insufficient evidence to tie Donald Trump to Russian collusion and that the FBI investigation should never have happened. [35] The report stated that the FBI used “raw, unanalyzed, and uncorroborated intelligence,” to launch the investigation into Trump and Russia but used a different standard when weighing concerns about alleged election interference regarding her own campaign. This, in reference to the opposition research her campaign funded which produced the unsubstantiated and discredited “Steele Dossier.”

But an additional section of the Durham report, the now declassified *Classified Appendix*, was never released to the public until July 31, 2025. This redacted Appendix, “provides further factual background about the possible Clinton campaign plan” to discredit Donald Trump before the 2016 election. [36] [37]

Ref: Classified Appendix; 1. Section IV.C.1 – Investigative referral of possible Clinton campaign plan

The Appendix shows that Russian intelligence services hacked numerous U.S. public and private entities, including government agencies. Among the entities hacked, was the Open Society Foundation (OSF) of the notorious George Soros, and the Democratic National Committee (DNC). The Appendix reveals multiple emails between OSF Directors Leonard Benardo and Jefferey Goldstein, and DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman-Schultz. These emails and other “sensitive intelligence”, were provided to the FBI by unnamed officers in U.S. national intelligence agencies.

In a January 12, 2016 email, Wasserman-Schultz discusses her concerns about the FBI investigation into Hillary Clinton, with Goldstein. According to Wasserman-Schultz, “FBI, so far does not have “pervasive evidence” against Clinton because of the “timely deletion of relevant data from email servers.” Wasserman-Schultz reveals to Goldstein that the DNC and/or the Department of State has deleted documents pertaining to the Clinton Foundation. Because of this, the FBI has no evidence to prove corruption charges against the Clintons. Wasserman-Schultz goes on to implicate President Barack Obama in the coverup; “Obama has no intention to darken the final part of his presidency and “legacy” by the scandal surrounding the main contender from the Democrat Party (DP).”

Fact: Wasserman-Schultz stated that President Obama pressured the FBI *not* to investigate the Clinton Foundation, so “his legacy” will not be tarnished by his association with Clinton as Secretary of State and large foreign donations to her foundation.

Ref: Classified Appendix; 1. Section IV.C.1, page 3

In a March 5th email with OSF Director Bernardo, Wasserman-Schultz states, “In relation to the consensus reached among the Democratic Party leadership regarding the candidacy of Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama sanctioned the use of all administrative levers to remove possible negative effects from the FBI investigation of cases related to the Clinton Foundation and the email correspondence in the State Department.”

Clintons political director Amanda Renteria regularly receives updates on the FBI’s investigation from AG Loretta Lynch. Durhams report goes on to note that “A two-prong DP opposition is focused on discrediting Trump through debates and propaganda activities based on his weak points... Among other things, the Clinton staff, with support from special services, is preparing scandalous revelations of business relations between Trump and the ‘Russian Mafia.’

Fact: President Obama actively subverted any negative effects from the FBI investigation, and the Attorney General gave the Clinton campaign updates so they could be prepared to deflect any allegations.

Fact: The Clinton campaign had help from her supporters in “special services”, which refers to the FBI, CIA, DOJ, etc. (Remember the “51 former senior intelligence officials” who signed that letter stating the Hunter Biden laptop had, “all the earmarks of a Russian intelligence operation” just weeks before the 2020 election?)

Ref: Classified Appendix; 1. Section IV.C.1, page 4

On March 31, 2016, FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe, FBI Chief of Staff James Rybicki, FBI Deputy General Counsel Trisha Anderson, FBI Assistant Director for the Cyber Division James Trainor met with other senior “career officials” in the FBI and informed them that the FBI’s assessment of the information the Clinton campaign was preparing to use against Trump was “likely not credible.” Their assessment said the report had “multiple levels of hearsay, that sources “engaged in exaggeration”, the person who drafted reports (Christopher Steele) “may have engaged in editorialization or exaggeration, and finally, the reports “may be unreliable due to translation errors” from Russian sources.

Fact: The FBI came to the conclusion that the “scandalous revelations” the Clinton campaign were preparing to release to the public about Trump and Russia collusion were not credible for a number of reasons.

Ref: Classified Appendix; 1. Section IV.C.1, pages 5 & 6

Fact: FBI Deputy General Counsel Trisha Anderson told investigators that Attorney General Lynch was pressuring FBI Director James Comey not to continue the investigation into the Clinton Foundation or her email correspondence as Secretary of State, and this gave Comey additional reasons to doubt the Steele dossier and the Russia collusion claims.

Ref: Classified Appendix; 1. Section IV.C.1, page 6

Fact: Hillary Clinton personally approved the plan of her foreign policy advisor, Julianne Smith, to “smear Donald Trump by magnifying the scandal” that Russian special services attempted to hurt Clinton and benefit Trump. The same documents which Hillary Clinton knew herself were unproven and the FBI concluded were not credible. Smith’s plan envisioned raising the Russia collusion scandal to such a high level, that voters would be diverted from the FBI investigation into her email correspondence.

Ref: Classified Appendix; 1. Section IV.C.1, page 6

Note: The email correspondence refers to Clinton’s unauthorized use of a private, unsecured email server during her tenure as Secretary of State. The use of a private email server instead of an official State Department email account maintained on government servers, violated federal law. The FBI investigation determined that Clinton had sent 100 emails that would have been classified at the time they were sent, with 65 of those emails classified as Secret and 22 Top Secret. While Clinton claimed that she violated no laws because former secretaries of state also used private email accounts, she was the only one who used an unsecured, private *server*. FBI Director Comey decided *not* file charges against Clinton in July 2016. [38]

The Appendix also notes, “due to lack of direct evidence”, Julianne Smith decided to send the fake Russia collusion information to media outlets using “FBI-affiliated” cybersecurity companies. Smith felt this would give the “scandalous revelations” the impression of being factual, coming from companies linked to the FBI.

Ref: Classified Appendix; 1. Section IV.C.1, page 8

Fact: The Clinton Campaign deliberately sent discredited information to media outlets for publication, with the help of supporters inside the FBI. Although Trump declared the news articles were “a Hoax” and this was proven by both the 2019 Mueller Report and the 2023 Durham Report, Liberal media outlets claim Putin and Trump colluded to “fix” the 2016 election to this day.

➤ *Conclusions*

The *Classified Appendix* is 29-pages long so I could go on, and on, but the data obtained from the Hunter Biden laptop and the release of the Appendix is clear. It proves;

1. FBI insiders engaged in election interference in both the 2016 and 2020 elections.
2. FBI insiders withheld information from the American public that would have shown Joe Biden had engaged in a “pay-for-play” scheme, enriching himself and his family.

3. Joe Biden used his position as Vice-President of the United States, to enrich his family and himself, through business dealings with foreign governments and businesses.
4. Joe Biden lied multiple times to Congress and the American public, about his knowledge of and participation in his sons business dealings in the Ukraine and China.
5. Hillary Clinton, or her aides, deleted emails from her personal private server, to hinder the FBI investigation. The FBI also determined that aides physically destroyed “electronic devices” using hammers.
6. The Obama administration attempted to obstruct the FBI investigation into Hillary Clinton, the same charge that Donald Trump Democrats used during his first impeachment. The Attorney General of the United States personally attempted to stop the FBI investigation and President Obama himself sanctioned the obstruction efforts.
7. The Clinton campaign pursued a plan to tie Donald Trump to the Russian election interference operation, using the unproven Steele Dossier to “smear Donald Trump.” Hillary Clinton herself approved the plan.
8. Although top FBI officials determined the dossier was not credible, Clinton supporters inside the FBI helped her campaign by feeding the documents to news media for publication.

The Deep State, global Elites and their supporters, will stop at nothing to destroy anyone who stands in their way of achieving their goals. Donald Trump took up on day one, January 2025, right where he left off in 2021, with a flurry of executive orders on climate change, illegal immigration, free speech and censorship, DEI programs, and gender ideology. He once again stated that foreign policy would revolve around America First and withdrew from the Paris Climate Agreement and World Health Organization.

Global Elites met for the 2025 World Economic Forum meeting in Davos Switzerland just days after Donald Trump took office. Sixty heads of state met to analyze progress on *The Great Reset* and plan how to further their agenda. They emphasized use of their “Global Collaboration Village”, a cloud based virtual meeting platform defined as “the future of public-private cooperation” by the WEF. This digital technology is envisioned by global Elites as a way to “enhance global cooperation.” They were also quick to express criticism of Trump’s America First agenda and the U.S. pulling out of global organizations as part of this agenda. ^[39]

“The 2015 [Paris climate] accord remains the best hope for all humanity” stated European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, as she pledged that the EU will keep working to stop global warming. “We are witnessing a backsliding in democracy everywhere in the world, even in the most advanced democracy. It is a movement into the bad — in the wrong direction” stated Alain Berset, head of The Council of Europe, billed as the continents leading human rights organization.

Note: Berset criticized Trumps gender ideology policies saying, “There has been, not only a failure to advance, but a regression in gender equality” at the annual conference of the Gender Equality Commission on September 2025. Berset intermixes gender with sex,

claiming that people like Donald Trump are the reason that “half the population is being denied equal access to the public life.”

“We are here to develop the great narrative, a story for the future... In order to shape the future, you have first to imagine the future, you have to design the future, and then you have to execute it.”

Klaus Schwab, Great Narrative Meeting, 2021

➤ *Final Thoughts*

In order to “execute” their version of the future, global Elites need the full cooperation of the United States, which traditionally has been an independent nation. The Trump administration has no intention cooperating with that global vision. The 80+ million people who voted against the continuation of Biden-Harris administration policies have no intention cooperating with that global vision. Donald Trump survived betrayal by his own administration picks during his first presidency, persecution by the Deep State during two elections, collaboration of mainstream media, social media and tech companies against him, five criminal or civil cases brought by hostile law enforcement leaders, hundreds of lawsuits by states Attorney Generals and environmental groups, two impeachment attempts and two assassination attempts. And yet here he is, once again, president of the United States and putting up roadblocks to global Elites agendas, agendas that have done nothing to improve lives but instead further increase income inequality and lower the standards of living for millions. There is not a doubt in my mind that these persecutions, these attempts to prevent “execution” of the Great Reset will continue and they will be more and more violent.

Why Progressives Increasingly Support Violence

A new survey finds more than half of left-wing respondents believe assassinating Donald Trump could be justified.

City Journal; April 14, 2025

A new report from our group, the Network Contagion Research Institute, provides answers. Our research, based on nationally representative surveys and analyses of online activity, demonstrates the existence of online subcultures that support the murder of public figures like Trump and Musk. This “assassination culture,” incubated on social media, has migrated from the margins of public life into the mainstream.

We found that nearly one-third of Americans surveyed—and around half of those identifying as left-of-center—believe that the murder of certain public figures is at least somewhat justified. The figures are startling: 38 percent of respondents, and 55 percent of those left of center, said assassinating President Trump would be at least somewhat justified; 31 percent of respondents, and 48 percent of those left of center, said the same about Musk. Forty percent of respondents, and 58 percent of those left of center, deem it at least somewhat acceptable to “destroy a Tesla dealership” in protest.

Note: On September 10, 2025, five months after that article was published, Charlie Kirk was assassinated while addressing an audience on the campus of Utah Valley University in Orem, Utah, by 22-year old Tyler Robinson, who was in a romantic relationship with a transgender woman and told his parents, "there is too much evil and the guy spreads too much hate" when asked why he killed Kirk.

A Clear and Present Danger – Threat #3 – The Great Reset

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Addenda #40 – October 2025

Re: Ch. 4 The Fourth Industrial Revolution

➤ *Government abuse of Power*

Grassley Exposes Biden FBI for Targeting Nearly 100 Republican Groups and Individuals
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary; September 19, 2025

WASHINGTON – Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) this week released whistleblower documents revealing the Biden Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) targeted 92 Republican organizations and individuals as part of its sweeping Arctic Frost investigation against President Donald Trump. ^[1]

Timothy Thibault, a 30-year FBI veteran, was an Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the FBI’s Washington Field Office when he requested the opening of a new investigation on March 22, 2022. Thibault titled the investigation *Artic Frost*. Thibault detailed Trump’s so-called “fake electors” scheme—the plan to use alternate electors to challenge the results of the election in key battleground states. In an email to fellow FBI agent Michelle Ball, Thibault forwarded a draft of the opening statement he planned to use to open the investigation for her to review. ^[2]

As the FBI was investigating the Hunter Biden laptop story in 2020, senior FBI officials placed the findings of their investigation “in a restricted access sub-file” in order to obstruct and hide the investigation two months before the election. (See Addenda #39 – September 2025) Thibault ordered further investigation into Hunter Biden closed in October 2020 and the FBI then identified the investigation in the FBI database so that it would not be opened in the future. Stories about the laptop and Hunter’s overseas business dealings were downplayed by the FBI and labeled ‘disinformation’ in the weeks leading up to the election. ^[3]

The Justice Department investigated Hunter Biden for a number of potential crimes from 2020 through 2022:

- * Lying about his drug use on a 2018 pistol permit, for which he was convicted of three felonies in 2024.
- * A multiple law agency investigation into the illegal disposal of the .38 caliber revolver Hunter bought in 2018.
- * A federal investigation into his business dealings in China, Ukraine, and Kazakhstan dating to when Biden’s father was vice president, including charges of violating foreign lobbying laws, money laundering, and tax evasion.

As each of these allegations became public knowledge, the FBI and other federal agencies downplayed the severity of the charges and declared them to be ‘disinformation.’ According to FBI whistleblowers, Thibault ordered all investigations into Hunter Biden closed without providing a valid reason as required by FBI guidelines. ^[4] Based on documents obtained in the oversight investigation, it was proven that Thibault opened, and self-approved his own case, in violation of FBI rules. It was also shown that while he was hiding information

detrimental to Hunter Biden, and by association Joe Biden, Thibault was also posting anti-Trump social media posts under his true name and title. This should give everyone enough information about Timothy Thibault, to come to the conclusion that he was placed partisan politics above fact finding when it came to the *Arctic Frost* investigation as well. ^[5]^[6]

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) and Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations Chairman Ron Johnson (R-Wis.) were in charge of the oversight investigation into *Arctic Frost* in early 2025. As a result of their investigation, they released multiple documents relating to Special Counsel Jack Smith’s indictment of Donald Trump over the “fake electors” scheme. The documents showed that federal prosecutors “coordinated extensively with FBI agents in the Washington Field Office to plan, approve and execute Arctic Frost.” Thibault was the driving force in opening and advancing the Arctic Frost investigation, despite other agents’ concerns that the evidence only supported a limited preliminary investigation. Sounds similar to the original investigation into the 2016 Russian election interference allegations, which the FBI and CIA were ‘skeptical’ about from the beginning. ^[7]

While the main subject of *Arctic Frost* was to indict Trump on interference in the 2020 election, the investigation quickly widened to include political opponents of the Biden administration. The FBI targeted 92 Republican organizations and individuals as a part of its investigation. More than 150 interviews were conducted, and more than 400 subpoenas were served. Subpoenas were served to banks, including JPMorgan Chase, Wells Fargo, and Bank of America, to obtain records of individuals, political action committees and advisory groups. The FBI also obtained 66 search warrants for phones, electronic devices, iCloud, email and social media accounts. “This wasn’t just a case to politically investigate Donald Trump,” Chairman Grassley said during a Senate Judiciary hearing. “It was the vehicle by which partisan FBI agents and Department of Justice prosecutors could achieve their partisan ends and improperly investigate the entire Republican political apparatus.”

The targeting Republican and Conservative groups by Democrat administrations is not a new phenomenon. During the Obama administration, the IRS targeted dozens of conservative organizations, alleging that they were investigating the organizations tax-exempt status in the months leading up to the 2012 presidential election. ^[8] The Obama administration, which had denied for several years that the IRS did nothing wrong, was forced to admit conservative groups were targeted for political reasons after IRS whistleblowers came forward. The IRS was forced to admit guilt in 2018 and apologized for its actions while settling a \$3.5 million lawsuit with the groups it had targeted.

In a 2012 ‘working paper’ released by the American Enterprise Institute, researchers from Stockholm University, Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government, and the American Enterprise Institute concluded that a fully mobilized Tea Party, unhindered by IRS harassment, would have brought the Republican Party between 5 and 8.5 million votes. ^[9] Note: Barak Obama won the 2012 election by 4.98 million votes, so this also may have been another example of election interference by Democrats.

A Clear and Present Danger – Threat #3 – The Great Reset

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- A Clear and Present Danger – Threat #3; Addenda #29 – December 2024
- A Clear and Present Danger – Threat #3; Addenda #39 – September 2025

Addenda #41 – October 2025

Re: Ch. 4 The Fourth Industrial Revolution

➤ *Digital Identities / Government abuse of Power*

Global Elites, whether supporters of the United Nations *Agenda 2030* or the World Economic Forums *Great Reset*, had an agenda to implement. They could not allow resistance of uncooperative nations or individuals to stand in the way of that implementation. Some countries, like the United States, had strong cultures rooted in *nationalism*. These countries prioritized self-rule, independence from other nations and national sovereignty, maintaining traditional culture and values, and the importance of their own citizens above others. These countries were a problem for the global Elites and their vision of *globalization*, where there are no national borders, no restrictions on people, information and goods moving from one nation to another. These countries were also a roadblock for global Elites plans of a *one world government*, in which single bodies of authority; the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the World Bank, would implement a “one size fits all” system of authority and rule. If countries resisted the change, their society and culture had to be changed.

In 2018, the United Nations *Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration* laid out the policy for all member nations to encourage and accept mass migration into their nations. In the first full year of the plan, UNICEF reported it had assisted some 120,560 ‘refugees and migrants’ arriving in Europe, at a cost of \$27.5 million (US\$). From June 2018 through June 2023, the European Union saw net migration flows from non-EU countries totaling 6.883 million people. One of the U.N.s *Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plans*, targeted the United States for migration from Central and South America. The effects of this regional plan have been felt in the United States in increased crime, drug-related deaths and the cost to local communities. I also spoke about how progressive Democrats have been using the migration plan to permanently alter the demographics of the United States, to increase the Hispanic and poor migrant population in the U.S. It is a fact that the Hispanic population in general, has traditionally supported Democrat candidates. It’s also fact that people of all nationalities will support the party that promises to support *them* with lots of “free stuff.”

This ‘demographics for permanent change’ plan was being implemented in the European Union as well. In June 2012, U.N. migration chief Peter Sutherland told the British House of Lords that their immigration policy had to change, and that the future prosperity of developed EU states depended on becoming “multicultural.” Millions of migrants from Middle Eastern countries have entered European countries legally since the UN migration compact was implemented. Hundreds of thousands more have entered European countries illegally. They speak little or no English, most are not “skilled workers” and the majority refuse to assimilate into the culture of the country they’ve entered, bringing the culture of their home country into their host country. Mass migration from Muslim countries has imported the culture of Islam, legitimizing Sharia law, polygamy, child marriages, and honor violence.

The France government has identified more than 750 Sensitive Urban Zones (Zones Urbaines Sensibles or ZUS), as they are referred to, home to an estimated 6 million Muslims who are not assimilated into French society. In Germany, police have identified at least 40 so-called problem neighborhoods (Problemviertel), areas where there are large concentrations of migrants, high levels of unemployment and chronic welfare dependency.

Source: Immigration without Assimilation Endangers Europe's Future; Middle East Forum, Oct 6, 2023

Europe Shows a Clear Link Between Immigration and Crime -- Like the One the U.S. Seriously Downplays

RealClear Investigations; December 1, 2022

"...homicides have risen during the last decade across the European Union, from Hungary and Germany to Denmark and Finland. An analysis of EU and United Nations crime data by RealClearInvestigations shows that, as in Sweden, the broader crime wave is strongly correlated with immigration. "The country-level data for EU countries keeps track of immigration data that allows you to look at many different places over time in a way that we simply aren't able to do looking across U.S. states," said Carl Moody, an economics professor at William & Mary College who specializes in criminology.

Former Swedish Prime Minister Magdalena Andersson has said the country's growing problems of gangs and violence are due to its failure to integrate foreign-born residents, whose numbers have doubled during the last two decades to about two million people (or almost 20% of the total population).

The RealClearInvestigations report notes that while the vast majority of foreign-born residents and their children *are not* engaged in crime, each one percent point increase in each country's foreign born population, is associated with a 3.8% increase in the countries homicide rate. In the UK, citizens complain of feeling unsafe and "taken advantage of" by the Government's migrant dispersal policy. Migrants and asylum seekers have had an impact on housing availability and driving up rents, overcrowding in schools, and local services. *Councils reveal devastating impact of asylum crisis on local communities as 38,000 migrants in hotels*

GBN News; March 23, 2025

Wolverhampton City Council highlighted "significant impacts on local services, including housing, safeguarding, community cohesion, and resources."

East Midlands Councils suggested asylum seekers should receive education on behavioural expectations, noting "instances where individuals have acted inappropriately within the standards of expected behaviour."

Halton Borough Council reported: "We're seeing increased elements of criminality and neighbour nuisance."

I include all this information, just to reinforce what I stated in the opening paragraph of this Addenda. The chaos that mass migration has caused in the European Union and in the United Kingdom was *intentional*, just as it has been in the United States. The outcome, is what the designers of the migration plan had desired. Klaus Schwab once said, "Designing the future usually needs a common will of the people." But he recognized that people were

too self-centered and have become a roadblock to collectively getting this done. So he decided to surround himself with like-minded people of wealth, power and influence, in order to “shape the future.” The future Schwab and other global Elites envisioned, did not include the ability of common, ordinary individuals “to shape global, regional and industry agendas” themselves.

The future is built by us, by a powerful community as you here in this room...

Klaus Schwab, World Economic Forum founder, WEF annual Meeting, Davos Switzerland, May 2022

Think about that statement for a minute... How arrogant and egotistical is Klaus Schwab and the “powerful community” in attendance at that WEF meeting. Schwab and a group of more than 300 public figures, including heads of state and government, ministers, central bank governors, and leaders from international organizations, businesses and universities, had decided that *they* had the right to dictate change that would impact *us*. That they believed they were more educated and more enlightened gave them the right to redesign the future and transform societies and economies into their vision. And, of course, it would be to *their* benefit. The promotional statement for Schwab’s 2018 book *Shaping the Fourth Industrial Revolution* said, “We cannot let the brave new world technology is creating simply emerge. We must shape the future we want to live in.”

People, individuals, cannot be allowed to stand in the way of the Elites plan. A broad array of enforcement measures have and are still being implemented to steer people into cooperation and prevent dissent and non-compliance. Among these measures for control that came out of the pandemic, were digital vaccine passports. Digital proof of COVID-19 vaccination was implemented by governments to identify (track) those who had been vaccinated and would be less likely to become infected or infect others with the virus. Those who had digital vaccine passports, were allowed access to public spaces and events (restaurants, bars, concerts and sporting events) and public transportation, while those who did not have the passports were barred from these places.

While the United States did not have a federal level passport, ten Democrat controlled states did. Government issued COVID-19 vaccine record cards were required by certain employers, some private businesses and event promoters. Many public and private universities required vaccine cards as a requirement for in-person class attendance and on-campus housing. Digital vaccine passports and cards were an effective way to ensure compliance with government vaccine mandates. New York State created the Excelsior Pass, the first digital vaccine pass in the U.S. in March 2021, with almost thirty percent of New York residents applying for it. In October 2021, New York state went one step further, creating the SMART Health Card, to keep a digital record of vaccination history as well as a person’s medical and prescription records. Medical records are uploaded from providers and pharmacies to central servers at the SMART Health IT project in Boston. The good thing about this system is that all healthcare providers have access to a person’s complete medical history for testing, diagnostic and treatment purposes. The bad thing about this system, is that it is susceptible to security threats (hacking and data breaches) and privacy issues.

Another potential enforcement measure, is the increasing use of digital IDs to replace physical identification cards like drivers licenses or passports. In many places across the U.S., you can use your smartphone to legally prove who you are. Twenty-one states have already launched mobile driver's licenses, allowing residents to board flights, purchase alcohol, and present proof of identity to law enforcement using just their phones. States are now moving toward making physical identification cards obsolete, replacing them with digital identification on smartphones. My 'Google wallet' holds digital proof of event ticket purchases and can be linked to my bank account or credit card for instant payment. When I purchase movie tickets online, I show the digital ticket on my phone for admittance.

One of the features promoted for use of digital IDs, is they can't be counterfeited like a driver's license, and any changes to your identity can appear instantly. But this also means that the government that issued your digital ID can also make changes or impose restrictions. The recently launched *digital ID scheme* will be available to all UK citizens and legal residents by the end of the year. According to the government website, "A new digital ID scheme will make it easier for people across the UK to use vital government services." The digital ID, stored (accessed) by smartphone will be proof of identity for access to government and private sector services, including free childcare, welfare and other benefits. It will include personal information, name, date of birth, nationality and residency status and a photo for biometric security use. The government has also made the digital ID mandatory for employment in the country; you won't be able to be hired for a job without providing your digital ID to your employer. The official reason for implementing the digital ID, is to prevent illegal immigrants from getting a job and therefore entering the UK illegally. (See first two pages of this Addenda for this reasoning) For students, pensioners or others not seeking work, having a digital ID will be optional.

Note: Germany, France, Greece, Spain, Italy and Switzerland already require citizens and legal residents to have digital IDs.

The benefits of having a digital ID in the previous paragraph is allegedly to "make it easier for people across the UK to use vital government services." Besides the privacy issues of having a digital ID or health pass previously identified, if the digital ID can allow access to government services, it can also be used to deny access to government services. The "Digital ID scheme" is explained on the UK Government website...

A new digital ID scheme will make it easier for people across the UK to use vital government services. It will also be required for right to work checks to stop those with no right to be in the country from finding work. This is to send a clear message that if you come here illegally, you will not be able to work...

The form of identification currently used for employers is the National Insurance number, made up of three letters and six numbers, for example: QQ123456B. The National Insurance number facilitates the correct deduction of payroll taxes and tracks contributions towards state benefits and pensions, helping administer the social security system. Like a social security number, the National Insurance number is easily "borrowed" or stolen to use for illegal immigrants. The digital ID system will be designed with "state-of-the-art encryption

and authentication technology” according to the government. Proponents of the digital ID say the biometric identification of a photograph would make it much harder for identity theft to occur and prevent migrants from entering the UK illegally. The government has also said that, in time, digital IDs would make it easier to apply for services such as driving licenses, childcare and welfare. It said it would also simplify access to tax records.

But critics of the digital ID argue that there needs to be a national debate about its implementation. "Can we really trust [Labour] to implement an expensive national programme that will impact all of our lives and put additional burdens on law abiding people? I doubt it" Conservative leader Kemi Badenoch said. Civil liberties groups claim that even a limited digital ID could eventually result in a more intrusive system, raising concerns about privacy, data security and government overreach. Within two week of the government's announcement, more than 2.8 million citizens and residents have already signed the *Do not introduce Digital ID cards* online petition. The petition stated, "We think this would be a step towards mass surveillance and digital control, and that no one should be forced to register with a state-controlled ID system. We oppose the creation of any national ID system."

2024 was the worst year yet for healthcare data breaches in the United States. There were 720 data breaches affecting the medical information of more than 180 million people. More than 2,400 data breaches in the financial sector exposed billions of financial records in 2024, affecting individuals, banks and other institutions. Many, if not most, Americans have already had their Social Security number, address, driver's license number or other identity information exposed by data breaches. With a government digital ID scheme, everyone's data would be accessible through one location, government servers, instead of thousands of individual medical providers, banks, mortgage lenders and other companies. Although biometric data is unique to each individual, biometric data is a prime target for cybercriminals because of that uniqueness. Individuals have to trust the government to safeguard their most personal information, to protect them and act in their best interests. Look how well that has turned out in the past.

During the 2022 truckers' blockade in Canada protesting government vaccine mandates, the Canadian government invoked the Emergencies Act and ordered financial institutions to cease providing financial services to individuals associated with the protests. From 2013 to 2017, the Department of Justice pressured banks to terminate relationships with a wide variety of lawful and legitimate small businesses, who's operations did not meet the approval of the Obama administration. Gun and ammunition dealers, 'payday lenders', escort services, pawn shops, pornography entertainers and home based charities were among the businesses targeted by the Obama DOJ. During the COVID-19 pandemic, individuals who publicly protested vaccine and mask mandates had their banking services cut off due to public-private partnerships, and social media accounts suspended or closed, through pressure exerted on social media companies by the Biden administration. There is no reason to believe that the UK government, or the United States government would remain impartial to dissenters of their policies.

The current Prime Minister of the United Kingdom who unveiled the *digital ID scheme*, is Labour Party leader Keir Starmer. The British Labour Party platform emphasizes greater state intervention, social justice and strengthening workers' rights. They are full members of the Party of European Socialists and Progressive Alliance. Starmer is an attendee at World Economic Forum annual meetings and has his own web page on the WEF website. While former UK Prime Ministers have rejected the Davos crowd as representing the global Elites, Starmer has embraced them. In a January 2023 interview, Starmer was asked if he had to choose between Davos or Westminster (British Parliament). Starmer replied, “Westminster is too constrained. It’s closed and we’re not having meaning. Once you get out of Westminster whether it’s Davos or anywhere else, you actually engage with people that you can see working with in the future. Westminster is just a tribal shouting place.”

Starmer admitted his dislike of working within British Parliamentary democracy, in favor of working with global Elites, shaping and building the future that all citizens of the United Kingdom will live under. The 2.76 million people in the UK that have signed a petition demanding no digital ID are being ignored by Starmer. He refused to address the topic at the Labour Party’s Annual Conference this month and has doubled down on his support for the “scheme, stating that it will not be a criminal offence to not hold a digital ID and police will not be able to demand to see a digital ID as part of a 'stop and search.' British civil liberties organization, Big Brother Watch says the national ID system is a "serious threat to civil liberties." "Digital ID systems can be uniquely harmful to privacy, equality and civil liberties. They would allow the state to amass vast amounts of personal information about the public in centralised government databases. By linking government records through a unique single identifier, digital ID systems would make it very easy to build up a comprehensive picture of an individual's life." Starmer’s digital ID scheme is just the beginning of that future...

Progressive politicians are in full support of the World Economic Forum’s Great Reset plan because they benefit from it, politically and financially. Countries that have a strong, informed and influential middle class are a threat to that plan. Cultures built around independent rule, national sovereignty and traditional values have to be forcefully changed, in order for the Great Reset to succeed in their country, and the U.N. global compact for migration is a catalyst for that change. Mass migration over a short period of time, has had a dramatic effect on the demographics of Europe and the United States. The total population of the European Union has grown by 20.8 million (4.8%) from 2000 to 2024, but the “International migrant stock”, the number of migrants residing in the EU has grown by 31.3 million (98.2%). International migrants now make up 14% of the total EU population, almost double that of 2000.

The total population of the United States has grown by 58.9 million (20.8%) from 2000 to 2024, but the “International migrant stock”, the number of migrants residing in the U.S. has grown by 17.5 million (50.4%). International migrants now make up 15% of the total U.S. population, a 25% increase from 2000.

Source: Population, Total – European Union | Data / Population, Total – United States | Data World Bank Open Data; <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL?locations=>

Mass migration has permanently altered the population and culture of European nations, just as it has in the United States. History shows that Hispanics (in general) support Democrat candidates. Voting statistics from the 2000 through 2020 presidential elections, show 64% support of Democrat candidates by Hispanic voters. Data from the 2000 U.S. Census show 22.9 million Hispanic/Latinos of voting age lived in the United States. The 2024 U.S. Census estimates 29.1 million Hispanic/Latinos of voting age live in the U.S. As the Hispanic population of the U.S. has increased, that 64% support for Democrat candidates translated to 4 million potential votes for Democrat candidates.

Traditionally, the majority of lower income individuals and households, and those who receive some form of public assistance, support Democrat candidates. A 2012 Pew Research paper titled, *A Bipartisan Nation of Beneficiaries*, found that 59% of “low-earning adults” had received some sort of benefit from a poverty program: Medicaid, welfare, food stamps, or unemployment benefits. (50% of Hispanics had received assistance from one or more entitlement benefit programs) Another Pew Research poll done in April 2024 titled, *Partisanship by family income, home ownership, union membership and veteran status*, showed that 58% of registered voters that are considered “lower income”, vote Democrat or lean Democrat. (Lower income is defined as a person or household with income at or below the federal poverty level; \$15,650 for an individual in 2025, \$21,150 for a 2-person household and \$32,150 for a 4-person household) This should come as no surprise, since Democrat candidates have supported a variety of “free for all” policies over the past decade. Free college for all, free Medicare for all and free childcare for all policies appeal to those who will benefit from them, and no one benefits more than a migrant population that speaks little or no English, has little or no education and job skills suitable for minimum wage jobs.

Foreign born workers accounted for 19.2 percent of the U.S. civilian labor force in 2024, typically employed in construction and maintenance, food preparation and serving, housekeeping and other lower wage, entry-level jobs. Even if illegal immigrants are not legally eligible to receive federal government assistance, many receive benefits at the state level. In New York, refugees and asylees, lawfully present and “parolees” are eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Family Assistance (TANF), food stamps (SNAP), public housing assistance, Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance (CHIP) programs.

The *Replacement Theory*, considered a false conspiracy theory by those on the left, claims there is an ongoing effort to replace white populations in current white-majority countries, with non-white (i.e., Black, Hispanic, Asian, or Arab) immigrants. Eventually, the new non-white majority in those countries will be in a position of control and dilute or destroy the distinctive cultures and values of that nation. The theory claims that national governments and left-leaning domestic or international elites are behind these efforts.

"The future is not just happening. The future is built by us, by a powerful community as you here in this room.

Klaus Schwab, World Economic Forum founder, WEF annual Meeting, Davos Switzerland, May 2022

Conspiracy theory, or fact? I’ll leave that determination to you. I already know my opinion.

Addenda #42 – November 2025

Re: Ch. 4 The Fourth Industrial Revolution

➤ *Artificial Intelligence (A.I.)*

Billboard, a weekly magazine that covers the music and entertainment industry, also has a number of music charts that rank the most popular singles and albums in different genres. The rankings are based on the number of sales, streaming and radio airplay for each song and album. On November 13, the song “Walk My Walk” by Breaking Rust landed at No. 1 on Billboard's Country Digital Song Sales Chart as the most downloaded track in the U.S., with just over 3.5 million streams on Spotify. The artist, *Breaking Rust*, has other top streaming songs including “Livin' On Borrowed Time” and “Whiskey Don't Talk Back,” and an audience of more than 2.2 million listeners each month. Rust, whose image is that of a cowboy complete with long leather coat, hat and bandanna around his neck, is described as having “a husky, soulful voice à la Marcus King or Chris Stapleton.” His Instagram bio says he makes “music for the fighters and the dreamers.” But Rust is not a real person. He's a computer-generated outlaw blues-country singer.

AI country artist Breaking Rust reaches the top of a Billboard chart

As AI-driven music personas find commercial success, they are also facing intense criticism from within the entertainment industry.

USA Today, November 13, 2025

Breaking Rust is the creation of Aubierre Rivaldo Taylor, who also is responsible for AI generated country artist *Defbeatsai*, who currently has 59 AI generated songs listed on YouTube Music. Thousands of AI-generated songs are uploaded to streaming platforms every day and a November Ipsos survey revealed that 97% of listeners can't tell the difference between fully AI-generated and human made music. “Walk My Walk” has the same phrasing and melody style shown by Grammy-nominated country artist Blanco Brown in songs he's written for Britney Spears and Rihanna among other artists. But Brown won't be receiving any credits or royalties from this digital song or receive any Grammy nomination for “Walk My Walk.” Brown and other musicians will lose revenue from listeners that spend their time streaming and downloading “fake songs” instead of the real thing. They'll also be “targeted” by AI song generators who will take their unique music style and turn it into money making AI-generated songs, potentially violating copyright laws for “usage without payment.”

Taylor created a chart topping song, in the comfort of his own home, without having to “pay his dues” the way artists normally do. But he has a chart topping song for his efforts, beating out an actual country artist. AI artists won't have contract or recording demands that real human artists do, and at some point, this “bottom line” factor may determine whether a new artist receives a recording contract or not. “... *it is critical to re-evaluate the way in which AI is both designed and deployed to ensure that all affected stakeholders and communities reap the benefits of the technology.*”

A Blueprint for Equity and Inclusion in Artificial Intelligence; World Economic Forum, June 29, 2022

Addenda #43 – December 2025

Re: Ch. 4, The Fourth Industrial Revolution – Government Abuse of Power
Censorship

Commission fines X €120 million under the Digital Services Act

The Commission has issued a fine of €120 million to X for breaching its transparency obligations under the Digital Services Act (DSA)

European Commission Press Release, December 5, 2025

The Digital Services Act (DSA) was put in force in the European Union in November 2022 and was the culmination of four years of designing legislation to crack down on “illegal content” on online platforms (social networks, marketplaces, search engines, app stores, etc.). Originally proposed by Ursula von der Leyden during her bid to become president of the European Commission in 2019, the DSA was meant to address “illegal content” on digital platforms and the alleged harm it caused on society. “Illegal content” was defined as anything illegal under EU or national law, such as hate speech, the sale of dangerous counterfeits and deceptive advertising. Later changes to the legislation added rules for fighting “disinformation” and “misinformation.” Platforms were responsible for monitoring content posted on their own site and remove anything that violated EU laws. Platforms also had to respond to complaints filed by platform users and remove any content *users* found offensive. If the platform decided against the user, they could force the case to an out-of-court dispute settlement body to review the platform’s decision. The maximum fine for failing to comply with the DSA is 6% of the provider’s total annual worldwide turnover, or revenue, in the preceding financial year. In 2024, Meta (Facebook) annual revenue was \$164.5 billion, so a maximum fine imposed by the EU Commission would equal \$9.87 billion.

If this isn’t a textbook definition of censorship, then I don’t know what is. Hate speech is very often in the eye of the beholder, because it’s a very subjective opinion. In October 2022, the American Medical Association, the Children’s Hospital Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics sent a letter to Biden attorney general Merrick Garland requesting that the Department of Justice “investigate and prosecute” journalists, activists, and citizens critical of “gender-affirming health care” on online platforms. These organizations claimed criticisms of gender-affirming care resulted in threats and harassment of clinics that provide such care but failed to provide concrete evidence of such actions.

Canadian Jordan Peterson received a bachelor’s degree in psychology, a PhD in clinical psychology and was a professor of psychology at the University of Toronto. Peterson has posted numerous online YouTube and podcast videos in which he criticized gender-affirming care and pointed out that it was based on unproven science and can be harmful to those who are treated. The College of Psychologists of Ontario eventually ordered Peterson to complete a remedial program regarding professionalism in public statements, a decision later upheld by the Superior Court of Justice in Ontario.

On December 5th, the EU Commission fined X (formerly Twitter) €120 million Euros, equal to \$141 million US dollars, for the alleged “deceptive design” of its blue checkmark, a symbol used on social media platforms to indicate that an account's identity has been verified and is not a fake profile. The Commission claims anyone can pay X to obtain ‘verified’ status without meaningful verification of who is behind the account. This decision came two years after regulators first opened proceedings against X for failure to combat disinformation and misinformation, based on concerns of illegal content about the “Israel-Hamas conflict.”

The “conflict,” began with multiple attacks by Hamas in Israel throughout 2022, escalating to the October 7 invasion and attack. The October attacks led to the deaths of 1,195 Israelis and foreign nationals, many of whom were tortured, sexually assaulted, executed or burned to death. The EU Commission downplayed the attacks on the citizens of Israel, which were declared “crimes against humanity” by global human rights organization Amnesty International, while condemning the “massive increase in settler (Israeli) violence” against Palestinian civilians and calling for humanitarian aid for Palestinians, aid which in many cases was confiscated by Hamas. Hamas, an Islamic militant group which has governed the Gaza strip since June 2007, has been designated as a terrorist organization by the U.S. and dozens of other nations. Hamas refuses to recognize Israel's right to exist and has called for the obliteration or dissolution of Israel, while declaring the rest of the world should recognize Palestine as a free state. Global organizations like the World Economic Forum and the United Nations have condemned the Hamas invasion and attacks in Israel but refuse to label Hamas a terrorist group, instead calling it a “political movement.” Both organizations are more concerned about a regional war upsetting their environmental, social and governance plans, than they are about the Palestinians or Israeli's. According to the EU Commission, speaking out against Hamas and telling the truth about its corruption and terrorist activities is *disinformation*.

The Commission also claims X failed to provide researchers with access to public data from its platform. The DSA requires large online platforms to allow “independent researchers” access to platform data to identify and address “systemic risks” to society. (Systemic risks are defined as having negative effects on the exercise of fundamental rights, civic discourse, electoral processes, public security and negative effects in relation to “gender-based violence.” The EU Council defines gender-based violence as anything “that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering.” The two examples I gave earlier, qualify as gender-based violence according to the EU Council and would be a violation of the Digital Services Act, requiring Facebook, X or any other online platform to remove posts, podcasts, videos or promotions for books and personal appearances.

The *EU Charter of Fundamental Rights* claims to protect democracy, freedom and equal treatment for everyone in the EU, but the method they've chosen to protect these rights is global censorship of political and social discourse, targeting one political philosophy. *The future is not just happening. The future is built by us, by a powerful community as you here in this room.*

Klaus Schwab, World Economic Forum founder, WEF annual Meeting, Davos Switzerland, May 2022