

How can America be destroyed without resorting to nuclear weapons?

By Walter L. Williams

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The United States of America could be destroyed in several ways, but it would have to be a coordinated campaign to weaken society along numerous fracture points at once. Most empires in history have fallen not because of conquest by another outside power, but because of economic collapse due to internal divisions and military overspending.

One possible scenario might go like this, which is written as a means to warn off such an event:

1. Arouse anti-immigrant sentiment. Secretly pay some right-wing anti-immigrant politicians to warn of upcoming foreign terrorist attacks on patriotic Americans, and to encourage gun-carrying protectors to surround and occupy endangered sites, for example the annual meeting of the American Conservative Union. But instead of an immigrant army attacking and killing anti-immigrant activists, a secret mortar attack on a patriotic symbol like Mount Rushmore might be done, hopefully at night when few if any people would be killed. Then an anonymous letter could be publicized on the internet, claiming responsibility for the mortar attack by a secret band of immigrants mobilizing to wage war on anti-immigrant politicians. The purpose would not be to kill people, but to arouse the ire of xenophobic Americans. In a fit of anti-immigrant hatred, the U.S. government would respond in a heavy-handed way, making immigration much more difficult and wasting huge amounts of money investigating innocent immigrant-rights groups. The real purpose of this secret campaign would be to intimidate potential immigrants from coming to the United States. Since immigrants have been the secret economic boost to the American economy since the very beginnings of the nation's history, a sudden decline in foreigners seeking to immigrate would set off an economic catastrophe. Fewer foreign young workers would arrive to replace the older generation of Americans as they reached retirement age. Deductions from workers' monthly paychecks to fund Social Security would drop precisely at the time when payments to retired Americans would be increasing. Older Americans would protest any cutbacks to their Social Security benefits checks. Society would be fractured along generational lines, with young and old Americans fighting against each other, well as anti-immigrant activists fighting against immigrants' rights groups.
2. Start a new war. Even more damaging would be the destruction of basic infrastructure, such as explosions disabling the electrical grid, major ports, satellite or internet operations. As politicians have so often done in the past, they might respond to such an attack by massive military mobilization against another country. Military contractors and other corporations that profit from war would lobby Congress in favor of such responses. Sooner or later, the drain on the economy of war production would become too great for the government to bear. Increases in deficit spending would only temporarily put off an economic impact.
3. Increase animosity against activists on both sides of controversial social and political topics. For example, a fake organization of radical feminists, with an outrageous name like "Feminist United Coalition (FUC)", would make a proclamation on the internet that for every woman who came forward with evidence that they were denied an abortion due to legislative restrictions in their state, the offices of local anti-abortion activists would be attacked in some unspecified way. The

purpose, here also, would be to set one group of Americans against another, while also increasing fear and insecurity on all sides, so that people would be occupied with outrage against their local enemies on intractable topics.

4. Establish a highly-publicized "Soak the Rich" political internet website to lobby for a vast increase in taxation on the wealthy, and then an opposing group "American Taxpayer Union" that would oppose any increase in taxes for the rich. This latter group would appeal for donations from rich people, to fund an anti-tax campaign. But the donations would actually be used to fund research for a chemist to invent a new recreational drug that could be easily and cheaply produced and inhaled through the nose so that it would require no incriminating needles, bongs, or other drug paraphernalia. This drug would produce a sedative and highly pleasurable effect, but would be severely addictive. As more and more (mainly young) people became addicts, they would drop out of the job market and become non-productive. This trend, combined with the reduction in immigration, would mean even fewer young adult workers in their productive labor years, and a correspondingly large drain on the economy as older Americans reached retirement age. Social Security and Medicare would become insolvent, especially as more old people voted for politicians who promised not to reduce retirement benefits.

As domestic turmoil increased under such internal divisions and strains, the United States would fracture. States on both the liberal and conservative ends of the political spectrum would likely seek to separate themselves from the national government, either by proclaiming specific federal laws to be nullified within their state, or by declaring their full-fledged independence.