

With Malice Toward All: The Decadence of the “Republican Party”

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**With Malice Toward All: The Decadence of the “Republican Party”**  
**Edward Ousselin**

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Cover image: *The Sleep of Reason Produces Monsters*

From: *Los Caprichos* (1799) by Francisco Goya

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To my mother, the Jewish Moroccan schoolteacher who taught me to read.

To my father, the French pharmacist who taught me to love America.

To American librarians, who do so much to disseminate knowledge and culture, and who are under attack by the Gop.

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## Introduction

I freely say what I think about all things.

Montaigne, *Essays* (II, 10)

### *The Coup Plotter and His Party*

In late October 1922, Benito Mussolini, leader of the National Fascist Party, launched the March on Rome. About 25,000 of his militarized followers headed for the Italian capital, openly intent on installing a fascist regime by force. For his part, Mussolini prudently did not participate in the march. When faced with the prospect of the streets of Rome being overrun by thousands of fascist thugs and demonstrators, well-known for their eagerness to resort to violence, the King of Italy caved: he appointed Mussolini as Prime Minister on October 30. Though it took several years for the new dictator to consolidate power and eliminate all political opposition within the country, he would remain *Il Duce* (“the leader”) for over two decades. Thus began the era of fascism in twentieth-century Europe.

Nearly a century later, on January 6, 2021, another would-be fascist dictator sent thousands of his deluded, fanaticized followers to storm the seat of the legislative branch of the United States federal government: the Capitol building in Washington, D.C., where members of Congress were gathered to certify the 2020 presidential election results. While Donald Trump, like his fascist predecessor, also did not participate in the march—or, more accurately, the assault—he had organized and incited, he gleefully watched the terror and mayhem on television, from the comfort and safety of the White House.

When he sent a riotous mob to prevent the completion of the normal electoral process, Trump had an obvious objective: to prevent the orderly transfer of power, after an election he had unmistakably lost, and thereby install himself as dictator. This was the first time in our country’s history that an American president tried to destroy the Constitution he had solemnly sworn to “preserve, protect, and defend.” Fortunately, even though the Capitol building was breached and vandalized, Trump’s attempted coup collapsed, thanks to the bravery and dedication of a small number of police officers.

Whereas Mussolini was successful at destroying his country's democratic institutions and installing himself as dictator, Trump has failed—at least for now. American democratic institutions survived the January 6 coup attempt, but barely, and they are still in danger, from Trump (who will certainly try again to shred the Constitution if he manages to get back into the White House), as well as from the many other extreme-right-wing politicians and thugs who are inspired by his neo-fascist rhetoric.

The fact that the coup plotter is not yet in jail, the fact that Trump is actively seeking to grab power once again, the fact that he is massively supported by what most of the corporate media persists in calling a “mainstream” political party, must lead us, as a country, to dismantle the power structure that nurtured a would-be dictator and allowed him and his henchmen to threaten an over two-hundred-year-old tradition of representative democracy.

### ***Why Use Quotation Marks?***

There are two problems with the term “Republican Party”: most of its operatives are not republicans, and it is not a political party. In a country with a Constitution based on democratic principles, a political party honestly presents its objectives or policies to the electorate, and then accepts the results of free and fair elections. If a party's candidates are consistently rejected by a majority of voters, the party will normally modify its objectives, instead of seeking to impose them by force or trickery.

Such established rules and practices clearly do not apply to the “Republican Party,” which has repeatedly sought to inflict lasting harm on our country, in the form of unpopular and regressive policies that are imposed through antidemocratic means. As will be detailed in the following chapters, in a country governed by representative democracy, a legitimate political party does not advance its objectives by supporting a leader who plainly wants to be a dictator, by glorifying and relying on violence, by using gangs of thugs to intimidate and silence citizens, by trying to prevent large numbers of citizens from exercising their right to vote, by manipulating and weaponizing governmental institutions, such as the Supreme Court, in order to impose the will of a brainwashed, radicalized minority, and by controlling a propaganda industry that continuously spreads lies, fear, and hate.

Today's "Republican Party" has strayed far from the idealism of its early years (it was founded in 1854 by anti-slavery activists). Now that it has discarded any pretense of idealism, its depraved current incarnation can be described in various ways: as a fanatical religious cult, as a ruthless criminal syndicate, or as a fascist power structure. However, there is no honest way to make it fit the description of a legitimate political party that functions fairly and respectably within the constitutional norms of a democratic society. Because it is neither republican nor a political party, because it is blatantly seeking to destroy democracy in America, the "Republican Party" has to be called something else. In the first chapter of this book, I explain why I call it the Gop, and its members Gopsters.

### ***Why Talk About Fascism?***

Numerous historians have studied the development and spread of fascism. Although there are still some ongoing debates over certain aspects of its political ideology and practices, its main characteristics are fairly easy to define:

- Ultrationalism: Fascism is not satisfied with ordinary patriotism. It demands total adherence from every individual to an extreme and aggressive form of hyper-nationalism or jingoism, which inevitably leads to war. According to fascist ideology, war and bloodletting, by focusing national energy against external foes, perform a useful regenerative function.

- The glorification of violence: Fascism needs enemies, both at home and abroad. They serve to unite the people in blind hatred and violence that are directed not against the privileged ruling class, but against minorities and foreigners. Enemies, real or perceived, are particularly useful as a justification for suppressing internal dissent or waging external wars of conquest.

- Rigid social norms: Fascism rejects individual choice and despises women and minorities. It demands a uniform social structure built on patriarchal family values. Brute strength and toxic masculinity are venerated. Such notions as feminism or sociocultural diversity are deviant movements that must be crushed.



- The rejection of Enlightenment ideals: Fascism is utterly opposed to the values that modern liberal democracies are based on. Peace, justice, liberty, equality: these are all signs of national weakness and degeneracy. For fascists, the age-old social hierarchy is inherently unequal and must be enforced by propaganda, coercion, and violence in order to bolster national power.

- The quasi-religious cult of a dictatorial leader: Fascism requires unquestioning obedience to a supreme leader (*Il Duce, Der Führer, or El Caudillo*) who uniquely embodies national greatness and unity. During difficult times, only an all-powerful savior, a man who seems to have been sent by divine providence, can unite the nation and solve its problems. By contrast, representative democracy, with its emphasis on the division of power and on checks and balances, along with its acceptance of individual choice, is the greatest enemy of a fascist state.

- Restoring past grandeur: Italian fascism sought to recapture the greatness of the Roman Empire through internal discipline and external conquest. Mussolini's campaign to make Italy great again required rallying the people, under the inflexible leadership of *Il Duce*, around a stirring and belligerent national goal. It is a blueprint that every successive fascist dictator would later follow.

As it spread throughout Europe during the 1920s and 1930s, fascist ideology produced several variants, most prominently in Germany and Spain, but also in other countries, such as Hungary and Romania. Later on, new forms of fascism appeared in countries as diverse as Argentina (under Juan Perón) and Russia (under Vladimir Putin). As a virulent political ideology, fascism does not belong to a distant past. As Donald Trump and his Gopster coconspirators have demonstrated, it has merely evolved and diversified since its inception in the 1920s.

While it did not start out as an explicitly religious form of ideology, fascism has consistently found reliable allies in religious institutions. Hitler's regime had excellent relations with both the Lutheran and Catholic churches. In Italy and Spain, Mussolini and Franco were staunchly supported by the Vatican (from 1939 to 1945, the Nazi-supported "Slovak Republic" was actually governed by a Catholic priest, Jozef Tiso). And of course, the Orthodox Russian church is fully behind Putin's neo-fascist regime.

In the United States, fascism is now firmly established under the guise of white supremacy and/or Christian nationalism, an outgrowth of the cynical political activism of several church organizations and their greedy, power-hungry leaders. Though not as centrally controlled as the early forms of fascism in twentieth-century Europe, fascism in America is now active and growing, and it is inextricably linked to the Gop.

### ***What Is the Purpose of This Book?***

As will be shown throughout this book, the Gop's policies are uniformly awful for the vast majority of Americans: coddling the megarich through tax cuts while defrauding the middle class; making sure no progress is made on the crucial issue of climate change; refusing to make any improvements to our outdated and deteriorating infrastructure; letting our educational standards decline; keeping healthcare costs as high as possible; destroying any programs (such as Social Security and Medicare) that have a beneficial impact on most Americans; reversing any progress made in terms of the rights of women and minorities; fomenting hatred against immigrants—in a country of immigrants; cozying up to foreign dictators, but waging an outright war on democratic norms and institutions in the United States.

If the Gop were merely an ordinary political party with uniformly awful policies, it would have almost no influence in our country. But then it is no ordinary political party, no matter how much the corporate media attempts to normalize it. It has become an entrenched fascist power structure that functions like a criminal syndicate ruled by a mob boss. Its goal is perpetual one-party rule, with rigged elections as window dressing. Many, if not most, of its prominent supporters are openly calling for that one-party rule to take the form of a theocracy, a Christian version of Iran or Saudi Arabia.

In order to achieve political domination, the Gop regularly uses intimidation and violence, enforced by paramilitary gangs of thugs modeled on Italian and German shock troops of the 1920s and 1930s. It is shored up by a lavishly financed propaganda industry that Andrei Zhdanov and Joseph Goebbels (respectively in charge of propaganda activities for the regimes of Stalin and Hitler) would have envied. The Gop is the opposite of what the Republican Party once was. Its goal is not the betterment of our country and its people, but the consolidation of power for the sole benefit of a privileged minority.

This book is obviously not a dispassionate essay. It is a political pamphlet. Its purpose is to raise the alarm, to state clearly that the Gop as a whole—and not just Trump—has become a menace to the United States. Regrettably, too many Americans currently remain complacent, even as the Gop’s drift toward outright fascism has become all too obvious. Too many Americans assume that our country’s well-established constitutional framework can withstand any and all assaults from political organizations, no matter how extreme and violent. Unlike most Europeans, who have learned the hard way, many Americans have a very limited awareness of how vicious and destructive a fascist dictatorship would be.

Because it is a political pamphlet, *With Malice Toward All* does not attempt to provide a balanced presentation, nor to maintain a continuity in tone. It combines analysis and denunciation, satire and hyperbole. To paraphrase the words of William Saroyan in the opening of his moving short story, “Seventy Thousand Assyrians” (1934): I am writing about a very serious issue. That is why I will at times be flippant. I should add in passing that a more accurate title might be: “With Malice Toward Almost All.” Gopsters bear no malice toward oligarchs, only toward the vast majority of the American people.

While a bibliography is provided, this book does not follow scholarly rules of attribution and annotation. Sometimes, it directly addresses readers and asks them to shake off intellectual laziness and easy-to-hold assumptions. This book also presupposes either some historical knowledge on the part of its readers, or the willingness to look up basic facts (preferably not from an online conspiracy source).

I am not naïve enough to believe that hardcore Gopsters—who in effect have been decerebrated after being exposed to decades of relentless extreme-right-wing propaganda—will seriously consider the arguments put forward in this book. My hope is to reach readers of various sociopolitical persuasions who understand that we are not living in normal times, but who may not yet have reached the conclusion that our republic is under attack by a well-funded and utterly ruthless power structure masquerading as a legitimate political party.

The Latin expression *res publica* (literally: the public thing, or public issues) has given us the word “republic.” Since its inception, our republic has been based on a system of representative democracy that incorporates *limits* on the power of one individual or faction. The Gop is now brutally attempting to remove those limits, to scrap representative democracy and replace it with

one-party, one-man rule. It is no wonder that most Gopsters admire the Russian dictator Putin. What the “Republicans” do not support is the American republic.

Even though most of the founders who gathered in Philadelphia in 1787 had a restrictive concept of who should participate in public affairs—white male landowners—the history of our country is partly shaped by the gradual expansion of the electorate. Over time, and through sociopolitical struggle, women and minorities have obtained higher levels of political participation and access to elective offices. It is this lengthy process of progressively greater inclusiveness that the Gop aims to reverse. In the Gop’s ideal America, rich Christian white males will, in perpetuity, dominate political, economic, and even cultural life.

Although the results of the 2022 midterm elections were not as terrible as expected, the clear and present danger posed by the Gop as a whole has not diminished. Even if Trump loses his current status as dictator-in-waiting, hopefully by being sent to jail, whoever takes his place will probably turn out to be even worse, in keeping with the Gopster tradition of steadily worsening moral depravity, a tradition established since the 1980s.

At the time of this writing, Trump seems fairly certain to be the Gop’s 2024 nominee for president, thus proving that Gopsters are incapable of learning from their mistakes. Whatever happens to Trump in legal terms, any other currently prominent Gopster boss, whether it be Ron DeSantis or Nikki Haley, can be expected to follow the same anti-democratic path as the last Gopster political con man who defiled the Oval Office. Sending Trump to jail for attempting to subvert the Constitution he had once sworn to uphold is extremely important, but so long as the Gopster cult continues to produce Trump-like fascists, it will be insufficient to protect American democracy.

In order to prevent our country from suffering the fate of Italy in 1922, the first step is to recognize the reality of what the Gop has become. The second step is to hold it accountable. In no other democratic country would there be no legal consequences for a political party if its leader attempted to stage a coup. So far, only the foot soldiers in the January 6 coup attempt have been tried and sentenced. Those who plotted the criminal assault on the Capitol building—Trump and his accomplices—are not only free but still allowed to participate in the political process. As for most of the Gop, its members see January 6, 2021 as an unfortunately failed attempt that merely needed better organization.

Even if Trump is no longer the de facto leader of the Gop, even if his habitual bluster and bullying are replaced by the less strident tone of a shrewder Gopster politician, the malignant power structure which still insists that the violent thugs who stormed the Capitol building were simply exuberant patriots can be counted on to continue to subvert democracy in the United States. The political history of the world is filled with examples of a fanatical minority imposing its will on a complacent majority. If America is to avoid such a fate, if democracy is to be preserved and enhanced, the Gop's stranglehold on our nation's political process must be broken.

### ***Who Is the Author of This Book?***

As a textually obsessed cinephile, my inherent proclivity is ordinarily one of prolixity. Notwithstanding that ingrained predilection, it is not without trepidation that I approach the current essayistic undertaking, which, in contradistinction to my accustomed loquaciousness, necessitates the unstinting application of all the succinctness and intelligibility I can muster. Such are the inexorable requirements for conceptual validity and expedited comprehension. And so, dear readers, as I endeavor to be perspicuous, I entreat you to be perspicacious.

That was voluntary, of course. As a (retired) professor of French literature and film, my natural tendency, when it comes to writing, is to be wordy, to produce complex sentences full of multisyllabic words, to strengthen and buttress my arguments by providing as many examples as possible, and, perhaps unsurprisingly, to quote numerous relevant sources. For the purposes of this book, however, concision and clarity are my main objectives. Readers will judge whether or not I have reached them. Readers might also want to know something about where I am coming from, both personally and politically.

When I was a child, my father would always talk about how much better America was, as compared to his native France. As someone who had lived through World War II and its aftermath, he saw France, and Europe in general, as representative of the past, whereas the United States represented the future. Everything was more modern, more spacious in America. The level of comfort and prosperity far surpassed what was found in the Europe my father knew. In the 1950s

and well into the 1960s, there is no doubt he was right. Even as a child, I noticed that during my family's trips and stays in America.

The postwar economic expansion that started in the United States spread throughout Western Europe and Japan. However, most of these countries had a long way to go before they could catch up to American levels of prosperity, in part because of the widespread destruction caused by the war. For about thirty years, the American economy, and to a large extent its society, was indisputably the most advanced in the world. It was that basic fact, along with my father's experiences, which shaped my early view of the world.

That view gradually evolved as I became older and started living, working, and traveling on my own. I was born in the United States and have lived here for most of my life. However, mostly during my childhood, adolescence, and early adulthood, I lived abroad, partly with my parents, partly on my own, in Senegal, Ivory Coast, Israel, and France. (As an aside, Donald Trump would probably call some of them "shithole countries.") To me, they were simply places I was happy to live in for varying amounts of time. The fact that I studied and worked abroad is not particularly unusual. Millions of other Americans have done so, and have usually experienced a similar culture shock (and reverse culture shock).

Seeing how people live in other countries is a useful, often eye-opening experience. It is natural to develop a comparative outlook, to see the advantages and disadvantages of each society. Over time, my initial view of the United States as the most advanced and most appealing country in the world became more nuanced. I also noticed how other countries were profoundly influenced by the American sociocultural model, not always for the better. To take an obvious example, McDonald's and other American fast-food outlets have become common sights in European cities. Consequently, rates of obesity have gone up, although they are still not as high as on this side of the Atlantic.

More broadly, I have often been impressed and encouraged by the fact that, roughly since the late 1970s, modernity and prosperity have become the norm in many parts of the world, including in the European countries which my father once saw as hopelessly outdated. Meanwhile, in some ways, the United States has unfortunately fallen behind.

It is quite an experience to take a high-speed train trip between two major cities in Europe or Japan and to find a modern, efficient urban transit system upon arrival. It is pleasant to walk through the downtown area of a major city and notice that it is clean, safe, and full of modern

amenities. It is a strangely pleasant experience to have easy access to high-quality medical services for a fraction of what they would cost in the United States. Needless to say, these experiences are mostly found abroad.

Also found in other countries are such things as longer paid vacations, better and cheaper access to childcare, safe schools and workplaces, and fewer visible extremes of wealth and poverty. What is most striking to me is that the infrastructure (particularly regarding transportation) has been modernized in Europe and much of Asia, while it has inexplicably stagnated or declined in the United States. The most extensive high-speed rail network is found in China. Morocco recently inaugurated the first high-speed rail line on the African continent. Meanwhile, options for travelers in the United States are basically limited to aging highways and airports, all of which are often overcrowded.

Surprisingly, many Americans still think of the rest of the world in much the same way I did in my youth. They do not seem to be aware that several countries have caught up with or even surpassed America in terms of modernity and prosperity. These are some of the issues that I would have liked to talk about with my father, were he still alive.

In any case, the respective sociocultural models found in various countries on the other side of the Atlantic or the Pacific really do have much in common with the United States, especially in the economic domain. There is no doubt that it is capitalism, or the free-market system, which has produced widespread prosperity around the world. The main difference between the United States and, in particular, most European countries is that the distance between the rich and the poor has become much wider here at home.

Additionally, many European countries have been more successful at maintaining a large middle class, whereas the American middle class has been shrinking. In short, economic gains tend to be somewhat more evenly distributed in many parts of Europe, even as the rich, privileged minority in the United States has become even richer and more privileged.

This social disparity between America and Europe did not develop by accident. It is the result of political decisions made since the Reagan regression in the 1980s. As readers will notice, one of my main points in this book is that Ronald Reagan and his Gopster successors deliberately set out to maximize wealth for the few and to impose scarcity for the many. By contrast, several European countries have adopted socioeconomic policies that are influenced, to varying degrees, by the Social Democratic movement.

Social Democracy is a broad democratic movement with several variants, whose roots can be traced back to the labor unions of the nineteenth century. For the purposes of this book, the Social Democratic tradition can be defined as a compromise between the productivity of free markets and the goal of social equality. European Social Democratic parties accept the fact that capitalism (which also has several variants) is the most efficient engine of economic growth, the best creator of wealth and innovation. Social Democrats also point out that unchecked capitalism allocates the fruits of labor and capital in extremely unequal ways, an undisputed fact that creates severe social tensions.

Countries with a Social Democratic tradition have gradually put in place a series of policies and institutions that aim to reduce the disparities of income and wealth, and that provide better access to services which are judged vital to national interests. Among the obvious examples: a more progressive income tax, with higher top marginal tax rates for the very wealthy; public investment in transportation and communication networks; low-cost access to higher education; paid parental leave and childcare subsidies; a national health insurance system that covers all citizens; access to low-cost housing for the poor.

Just as in the United States, entrepreneurs who start and/or manage successful companies in a Social Democratic country will become rich. By the same token, no country has been able to eliminate poverty. In every country, some people will destroy their lives (and those of others) because of crime, gambling, alcohol, or drugs.

Social Democrats have no illusions about creating a perfect society. Their movement does not carry the quixotic, utopian baggage that Communism once did, until its spectacular collapse. European Social Democratic parties are pragmatic, not rigidly ideological. Their more modest and limited goal is to provide a better quality of life for the majority of their citizens.

While this might be seen as nitpicking, Social Democracy in Europe is for the most part distinct from what is called Democratic Socialism in the United States. The ultimate aim of the latter movement is to reach Socialism through democratic means, whereas European Social Democrats understand the usefulness of free markets and have no plans to do away with the private ownership of the means of production. It is true that in some countries, a few industrial sectors are controlled by nationalized companies (nuclear power plants, or the railway system, for example), but that is, once again, for pragmatic and not ideological reasons.



I mention these issues not because I am an ingenuous enthusiast of Social Democracy, but because I have found that several prosperous countries with strong democratic institutions have a Social Democratic tradition. In these countries, most citizens feel free and safe, and the distance between the rich and the poor is not as great as in the United States. The result is a higher level of social stability and overall contentment.

Winston Churchill famously said that democracy is the worst of all forms of government, except for all the others. In my experience, Social Democracy creates the worst sort of society, except for all the others. In the social and political domains, the best we can realistically hope for is usually the least bad option.

In the same way, during elections, it is important to choose the least bad candidate. As I will argue in the following chapters, in the United States, given the realities of the two-party system, that almost always means voting for Democrats. As for Gopsters, they have vehemently demonstrated that they are always the worst candidates for our country.

The question American voters will have to answer this year is whether or not to hand the keys of the White House back to Donald Trump. Unless there is a large turnout in November, he may yet win the presidential election even as he loses the popular vote, due to the Electoral College. That is what happened in 2016.

If Trump goes back to the Oval Office, there is no doubt about what he will do: act as a fascist dictator. The Gopster policies that created huge inequalities of income and wealth will then be reinforced. Naturally, the Gop will cheer on Dictator Trump as he makes the world safe for oligarchy, theocracy, and patriarchy. Is that what most Americans want?

A few words about the front cover illustration: Francisco Goya's "The Sleep of Reason Produces Monsters" (1799) can be interpreted in several nuanced ways. It mainly strikes me as a warning about the dire consequences when a society lets reason and logic fade away, when it refuses to face reality and instead retreats into fantasies, when it relies mostly on negative emotions such as fear and hate.

## *Gopspeak: A Gopster Glossary*

- America:** the greatest country God ever put on the face of the earth; it is the exclusive property of rich White male Christians
- Billionaires:** those who are justly blessed by God (see Jesus); their power and privilege must be maintained from one generation to the next (especially through tax cuts)
- Blacks:** angry and resentful group (for no discernable reason whatsoever); always trying to shame and victimize others (see Whites)
- Climate Change:** a pseudoscientific theory invented by the Democrats for political purposes; it gets cold in the winter and hot in the summer, end of story
- Compassion:** see Empathy
- Confederacy:** a regrettably Lost Cause that cannot be criticized (see Slavery)
- Constitution:** a gift from Jesus to America (especially the Second Amendment); it is subordinate to the Gop's version of the laws of God
- Corporations:** they are people, my friend; in fact, they should have more rights than people; the largest corporations already have more power than most elected governments, and rightfully so
- Creation Science:** see Intelligent Design
- Democracy:** the worst kind of government; it must be destroyed—anything that gives some degree of power to people who aren't rich is unholy and dangerous
- Democrat:** emphasize RAT (and never say “democratic”); in the same vile category as socialist and communist; in league with elites, immigrants, and resentful minorities
- Democratic Countries:** decadent, unholy places where socialism reigns, poverty is rampant, and religion has largely disappeared
- Diversity:** a Democrat plot against Whites
- Elites:** non-Gopsters who know how to read (the term does *not* refer to ultrarich Gopsters)
- Empathy:** a laughable illusion for losers and whiners
- Entitlements:** any government program that benefits the many and not just the privileged few; for instance, it is important to make seniors feel guilty for benefiting from Social Security and Medicare (the same goes for the poor and Medicaid); entitlements must be eliminated and replaced by more tax cuts for billionaires

**Equality:** a dangerous term that threatens the Gop’s preeminence; it seems to imply that the Lower Classes might have some valid claim to dignity and a decent standard of living

**Equity:** even more pernicious than Equality; not to be confused with the highly meritorious term, “Stockholders’ Equity”

**Evolution:** another pseudoscientific theory invented by the Demonic Democrats for political purposes (see Climate Change); schoolchildren must not be exposed to it (for a Godly corrective to this insidious theory, see Intelligent Design)

**Fetus:** see Life

**Freedom:** the God-given power to oppress others; reserved for rich White male Christians

**God:** see Jesus

**Government:** the source of all evil and incompetence—therefore, only Gopsters should be in charge of it

**Governmental Deficits and Debt:** these are the perfect examples of why the Government is the problem—but they only matter when a Democrat is squatting in the White House

**Guns:** must be venerated and cherished; they have nothing to do with violence and mass murder

**Healthcare:** a source of private profit; the Lower Classes should not have access to it; the quicker they die off, the better

**Hispanics:** see Immigrants (unless they vote for the Gop)

**Homeless:** a lazy bunch of drug addicts and nutcases; must be kept away from good neighborhoods; should be left to die of cold and hunger in remote areas

**Homosexuals:** sick, twisted perverts; must be cured by prayer and medication

**Honesty:** see Empathy

**Immigrants:** always illegal; they only bring crime and diseases (of course, none of that applies to our own ancestors, and certainly not to Rupert Murdoch)

**Inclusion:** see Diversity

**Intelligent Design:** the Godly reality that schoolchildren need to learn

**Jesus:** a wholly owned subsidiary of the Gop; always on the side of the megarich and the gun lovers (forget the drivel about healing the sick and feeding the hungry)

**Jews:** devious and grasping group that must unfortunately be tolerated until the Rapture

**Justice:** must always favor the rich and well-connected (see Whites)

**Life:** must be protected at all costs and by any means necessary—but only before birth; after that, you're on your own

**Lower Classes:** includes anyone who is not immensely rich (see Billionaires); most of them must be kept in poverty and ignorance through propaganda, intimidation, and violence

**Money:** the visible God that sanctifies everything it touches, including malevolence and cruelty

**Muslims:** dangerous group; they are either terrorists or oil sheiks; at least most of them buy our weapons (and they know how to keep women in their place)

**Native Americans:** see Blacks

**Patriots:** Gopsters who rightfully threaten and carry out violence against non-Gopsters

**Police:** must only protect Gopsters against dangerous criminals (see Blacks and Immigrants); sadly, the Washington, DC police went rogue on January 6, 2021, when it tried to prevent patriotic sightseers from peacefully and meekly visiting the Capitol building

**Prisons:** we must keep building more and more of them, since we have so many enemies (Blacks, Democrats, immigrants, the homeless, transgenders, gay Teletubbies, lesbian M&M's, scientists, teachers, librarians, women who want to get an abortion, etc.)

**Religion:** can never be criticized (see Theocracy); the laws of God (as defined by Gopsters) are superior to any constitutional law

**Russia:** our friend, ally, and political model (as opposed to Democratic Countries)

**Slavery:** a benevolent jobs training program that was *not* the cause of the Civil War; slave owners have been unfairly maligned; the Confederacy was a just and moral cause; the Confederate battle flag is simply a cultural symbol

**Taxes:** only for the poor (see Lower Classes); it therefore stands to reason that the megarich (see Billionaires and Corporations) should never pay any

**Theocracy:** the only legitimate form of government (for its devilish archenemy, see Democracy)

**Transgenders:** see Homosexuals (also applies to drag queens, of course)

**Trump:** our King and Savior sent by God; our real President; the embodiment of our nation's Greatness; has been unfairly targeted by the Democrats, the liberal media, and reality

**Voting:** a God-given privilege that is reserved for Gopsters

**Whites:** the real endangered and victimized group (see Blacks)

**Women:** should not vote; their place is in the bedroom and the kitchen; since their main purpose is reproduction, they must be kept under control

## *An Immodest Proposal*

As we all know, the United States of America is the greatest country God ever put on the face of the earth. All other and lesser countries can only envy us for our unrivaled achievements. For instance, our for-profit healthcare system is by far the most expensive and one of the least effective in the developed world. In a related story, we can be proud of being among the developed countries with the lowest life expectancy. As an added benefit, our rate of infant mortality is among the highest.

And then there is the indescribable beauty and efficiency of our for-profit university system, the high cost of which forces most students to work long hours, thus leaving them little time to study and learn. This system also comes with a long-term bonus: it saddles large numbers of students with a level of debt that will keep them mired in poverty for decades, and thus unable to contribute to economic growth.

Most especially, thanks to our glorious Second Amendment, which regularly receives much-deserved praise from the Gop and the National Massacre Association, we clearly lead the developed world in mass shootings. It is yet another thing to take pride in: We're Number One! Unfortunately, in our great country, spectacular mass shootings have become so commonplace—in malls, workplaces, schools, and so on—that most of them are barely registered by the national media and are quickly forgotten.

This lack of recognition of the societal value of mass shootings is particularly regrettable in the case of school shootings, the steady recurrence of which has become emblematic of our national greatness. The right-to-kill movement not only instills useful terror among children and parents, but it also provides a necessary corrective to the pesky consequences of the right-to-life for the unborn.

Most of the people who live in more benighted, less Godly countries, “developed” though they may be, fail to realize just how backward they are. It is already bad enough that they do not worry about the possibility of going bankrupt due to medical costs. What is most galling is that parents in such primitive countries do not live with the gnawing fear that their children will be blown away while they are in school. No progress, and especially no profit, can be made if most citizens feel safe from regular outbreaks of mass violence.

We need to start capitalizing on the richly earned notoriety of school shootings, whose monetary value is, alas, still untapped. Well-intentioned but misguided patriots such as Alex Jones have tried to downplay their impact by denying the reality of a school shooting with a particularly high kill count. A different and more productive approach to pro-killing propaganda is now required. Mass shootings, especially those in schools, and the pervasive terror they generate must instead be highlighted and celebrated in order to maximize what justifies them in the first place: private profit.

It is not just the corporations that manufacture automatic weapons who profit from the magnificent carnage. The vast network of gun distributors and dealers also stimulates the economy and generates a considerable number of jobs. As for all the other businesses related to sudden death (morgues, cemeteries, forensic scientists, tabloids, etc.), where would they be without the steady influx of bullet-ridden cadavers? And how would the television industry cope if it couldn't flood the airwaves with innumerable shows that graphically depict brutal killings?

Simply put, dead bodies mean money, and lots of it. They can also mean entertainment. Sadly, school shootings have so far not lived up to their full commercial potential. Some weak-minded and fainthearted souls still feel queasy at the thought of viewing the mangled bodies of dead children. As usual, it is mainly the wimpy non-Gopsters who shrink away from the prospect of increasing the level of profitability of killing kids.

Let's briefly recall the fundamentals before stating our proposal. Life is holy and precious and must be preserved at all costs—until birth. Although fetuses are sacred, children, teenagers, and adults certainly are not. After birth, let's face it: there are simply too many unwanted, useless children who require costly upkeep. Most of them are from the Lower Classes (including the hordes of illegal immigrants from shithole countries, of course) and consequently will only sponge off our already-bloated welfare state. Like their loser parents, they are moochers and takers who contribute nothing and then usually become drug addicts and gang members, if and when they manage to grow up.

There is an obvious way to reconcile our love of shooting with the need to reduce the number of surplus children, all while generating profits: use kids for target practice—with live ammunition, of course. The supernumerary children produced by the Lower Classes could be stationary (tied to a post) or mobile (a running target is always a more exciting challenge). They could also be targeted one at a time, or in groups, which would logically entail the use of either

semi-automatic or fully automatic firearms (the manufacturers of guns and ammunition can be counted on to meet the new demand).

Each shooting event would be filmed in order to create unforgettably vivid memories for customers. Competitions could be organized, with prizes offered for the highest kill count. Local champions could compete for a national title, which would lead to lucrative endorsement contracts. Cities with the right historical symbolism and pathbreaking schools (such as Columbine, Sandy Hook, or Parkland) would each have the honor of hosting the first annual national championships. New opportunities would also arise for the gambling industry.

Nationwide bans on contraception and abortion will result in an abundant and reliable supply of the basic raw material: children. Gun lovers will then be able to satisfy their passion by aiming at various categories of targets (the kids will be ranked by age, height, running speed, etc.). As a result, new entertainment centers will quickly be open for business, allowing a new generation of entrepreneurs to cash in on the trendy and fun venues for shooting.

Activities with low profit margins, such as random school shootings, will thus be replaced by high-concept, high-value-added shooting ranges and ranches with live targets. Even poor and immigrant families will be able to benefit financially by selling off a child or two to the glamorous live-target entertainment centers (among the Lower Classes, children are easily replaced, since there are always more on the way, especially when we righteously deny women any reproductive choices).

This immodest proposal is obviously designed to set up an economic win-win. More broadly, it will open up a whole new market segment. At a societal level, its underlying rationale is solid and unalterable: thanks to the tireless propaganda efforts of the Gop and the National Massacre Association, we have collectively decided that the profit margins of gun manufacturers are far more valuable than the lives of children.

It is therefore only logical that we turn unpredictable and messy events such as school shootings into effective, dependable profit centers. After all, we wouldn't want kids to die in vain. Money isn't just more valuable than blood, it purifies and sanctifies. And speaking of money, by thinning the herd of poor and immigrant children, we will all save down the road in terms of wasteful welfare payments.

It should be noted that other proposals, which seek to achieve similar objectives, have been put forward, including one that pointed out the delicious culinary potential of the young children

produced in excessive numbers by the Lower Classes. Of course, no synergistic possibilities should be ruled out. Nevertheless, the current proposal of live-target entertainment centers is undeniably best suited to our national greatness. The fetishistic stroking of a gun, the tantalizing itchiness of a finger on the trigger, the thrilling sight of a terrified target, the post-orgasmic contentment that follows a kill, the moral satisfaction of having rid the world of a future drug addict or gang member: What's not to like?

Unavoidably, there will be outcries from the usual pathetic suspects—non-Gopsters—who will raise irrelevant “ethical” objections to the idea of making money from the killing of terrorized children. We should not be surprised to see bleeding-heart liberals whine about bleeding kids. However, all this proposal does is bring rationality and profitability, in the form of organized market-driven entertainment, where anarchy now reigns. The current pattern of random school shootings is woefully inefficient: the targeted children are not necessarily from the Lower Classes and the unpredictability of the shooting events reduces their profit potential.

When live-target shooting ranges and ranches become widely available, enthusiastic owners of automatic weapons will not have to worry about the troublesome logistics of entering a school at the right time—when it is packed with children. Nor will they need to fear that the local police force might not be as useless as in Uvalde. They will instead be able to channel their lust for killing into established and easily accessible entertainment centers.

Why seethe with impotent rage when alluring targets that can provide a cathartic release are visible in the crosshairs of an assault rifle, at an affordable price? Perhaps guns really do kill people after all. Nothing more satisfying than that. As for the manufacturers and distributors of military-grade weapons, they will simply be responding to the increased demand, in a country that already has more guns than people—another sign of our national greatness.

As several virtuous Gopsters have wisely pointed out, school shootings are simply something we all have to live with (well, except for the kids), if we want to preserve our sacred and unalienable right—guaranteed by the Bible and the Constitution—to own as many automatic weapons with high-capacity magazines as we can afford. It would be unholy, indeed satanic, to place any limits whatsoever on the hallowed sale of guns and ammunition. In fact, it would go against everything Jesus stood for. Let the little children come within shooting range, so they can enter the kingdom of heaven.



Therefore, since our great country has accepted and normalized the widespread killing of children, since we all recognize both the supreme value of money and the excessive numbers of undesirable juveniles, it is only logical that we bring for-profit order to bloody chaos. Let us reconcile our admirable values—guns are good; killing is virtuous; immigrants and poor people are expendable—with our predominant commercial interests. Thus will entertainment and greed help to dispel any lingering doubts about the morality of guns being more easily accessible than healthcare or housing in our great country.

We can all be thankful to the Gop and the National Massacre Association for having brought us to this high point of civilization. Around the world, we are already known and envied as the blessed country where superb mass shootings occur on a regular basis. It is time to show even more leadership and achieve still higher levels of greatness by turning random acts of slaughter into lucrative entertainment ventures. It's the patriotic and Godly thing to do.