

WHERE ARE THE ADULTS?

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I am so tired of conservatives.

Conservatives have built up an industry to expose and discuss and decry all conspiracies against liberty and all problems but never to take any action that might solve them, because if the problems were solved, no one would need the conservative industry.

In the past few years this feckless conservatism has taken the road of radio talk show hosts and TV talking heads who, not much to anybody's surprise, *talk*. They are, after all, paid to *talk*, not act. They talk, they stir people up, they draw outrage, but they never do anything. If anyone threatens actually to do something, they ridicule and blacken him.

A few days ago I got an e-mail from someone urging me to read it because Obama is awful and “we are in danger of losing all our liberty.” Wow, I wondered, where have you been for the last 80 years? What were you watching during the years of Bush 2, Clinton, etc., etc.?

Where are the adults?

Where are the serious people?

Where are the people who understand that the current issue we face is nothing less than self-government and freedom itself, and no amount of superficial tinkering and fiddling will solve the problem, only serious and fundamental changes. The time for talk is past. The time for action has arrived. Nothing else will do but to re-assert our ancient rights, and that must begin with the states and the 10th Amendment.

The economic crisis has laid bare the basement truth that we already suspected:

- The U.S. federal government has lost all moral authority and
- The U.S has become unsustainable: economically, militarily and

environmentally.

The problem lives not in the details, but in the system itself. Adults and serious people understand and admit this.

All of us desire some broad outline of what the future holds. We face three possible outcomes for the present economic and social mess: the most likely, the least likely, and the best.

LEAST LIKELY OUTCOME: COLLAPSE

Least likely outcome is economic and social collapse, breakdown into anarchy.

Why least likely? Imagine yourself a cowboy, driving a giant herd of cattle from Texas to Omaha. Your job is to move with three other cowboys a gigantic herd of cattle that outnumber you 3000 to one. Do you want a stampede, or a nice slow walk to Omaha? Which is easier to control?

In precisely the same way, it is in the interest of the Establishment, of those who suck power and profit from controlling the economy and the government, to avoid a collapse at all hazards.

- Stability – the *Slow Burn*, as Catherine Fitts calls it – is the Establishment's daily goal.
- Besides, if a collapse occurs, all the balls of power would be thrown into the air, and no telling in whose hands they might land.

What if it did happen? What would collapse look like? John C. Calhoun said that anarchy is the one condition humanity cannot stand, so any collapse would be short-lived and followed by a strict tyranny.

A collapse implies that the *national* economy collapses. Unfortunately, for the last 100 years the national economy has been sucking the life out of local economies, so not much is left of them. A national economy means pervasive dependence on supplies from *outside* local economies, supplies of food, water, fuel, and electricity. A collapse would shatter all those supply lines.

Do you want to know what an economic collapse would look like? Merely forecast what happens when the present 5 to 7 day supply of groceries at Wal-Mart cannot be restocked. When the transportation system that brings your milk from California, your bread from Georgia, your fruit from Michigan, your meat from Florida, and your gasoline from Texas breaks down. When the electricity that comes from Nevada or Alabama shuts off. Where are the policed? Where is the government?

Ask the veterans of Hurricane Katrina.

To prepare for a collapse, answer these simple questions about sustaining your family's life:

- How will we protect ourselves?
- What will we drink?
- What will we eat?
- How will we cook it?
- How will we warm ourselves?
- What will we use for money?
- How will we travel?
- Where will we be safest?

Answer those questions and you will know how to survive. If the answer to the last question is, "Not where we are now," then you'd better think about moving.

But a universal collapse is not the most likely outcome.

MOST LIKELY OUTCOME: THE SLOW BURN

The *most likely* economic outcome is not collapse but a slow burn: where economic crisis and social unrest keep smoldering and smoking, but without ever breaking into flames. More and more areas of the economy gush blood, and the government tapes on more Band-Aids. Little by little the middle class loses jobs and homes to foreclosure. Those lucky enough to keep jobs will find themselves on limited work weeks, or furloughed for long periods. For everyone, but the very rich, living standards will plunge.

What causes this distress?

- Federal Reserve control of the money supply and
- Federal government meddling in the economy.

What cure will they offer? MORE meddling. None of Obama's Keynesian nostrums will work, any more than they worked for Roosevelt in the 1930s.

WHY GOVERNMENT 'HELP' DOESN'T

Adding agony to pain, government stimulus and bailout plans actually *make things worse*.

- Government interference props up bankrupt enterprises *that ought to fail for their incompetence*, or they 'invest' in projects and production that society does not want.
- The *worst* damage does not come from the inflation that finances them, although that is bad enough.
- Rather, government makes things worse by steering scarce resources and capital *away* from those who might use it productively. Government action literally *starves* the real economy, *i.e.*, the economy that produces something people really want.

Do you want a picture of central bank and government economic interference? Imagine a man diligently pounding money down a rat-hole ten hours a day. Or a traffic cop conscientiously sending all the traffic down a road that runs over a cliff.

The Obama regime and the Fed have already resorted to direct Fed financing of federal government borrowing. The Fed has become the buyer of last resort at federal bond auctions. Government then spends that new money into circulation. Given the \$8 trillion plus the Fed has already created or promised since March 2008, eventually that inflation will drive up prices. It's a trap.

- Either *hyperinflation*, which chokes the economy, or
- The Fed raises interest rates, which chokes the economy.

Some choice.

Forget all the propaganda about the Fed soaking up the earlier monetary injections. It's a trap. Anything they do to cool inflation, whether withdrawing

previous monetary injections or raising interest rates, will choke off economic recovery.

MORE HELP THAT DOESN'T HELP: SOCIALISM

Inflation is bad enough, to that add socialism and more government economic control.

- Fascism/socialism was installed between 1934 and 1946.
- Now Mr. Obama and his trolls, doctrinaire socialists, are determined to impose the ideology so that it can't be removed.
- Republicans also are doctrinaire socialists, but just 'conservative' socialists, *i.e.*, socialists for big business.
- All 'reforms' are just window dressing, reformulation without reformation. At the end, corporations are still in charge, and the Tapeworm Economy is unchanged.
- All reforms just add charcoal to the Slow Burn. Each will cost the economy billions, adding a colossal sea anchor, dragging down an already wallowing economy.

Get the picture? All the economic 'help' the federal government passes out in stimulus plans *and* all the other 'reforms' will suck the economy further into the furnace. They revel in crisis.

- They can afford to hire only the best help.
- Unlike you or me, they don't *care* about the dollar's purchasing power, or the size of the debt, or the long run.
- To survive, they only have to stave off collapse one day at a time.
- Finally, they have only one goal: *stability*. No collapse. And every morning about 5 billion people wake up trying to figure out how to hold things together just one more day, so inertia is on their side.

HOW WILL IT LOOK?

How will the Slow Burn look?

- Unemployment will be 1 in 3 or higher – much higher among younger workers.

- Homelessness growing by foreclosures.
- More bailouts for banks masquerading as help for busted homeowners.
- Harshly falling living standards and much lower earnings for those who do keep a job.
- Sporadic outbreaks of violence and urban riots, quelled by law enforcement that is harder and harder to distinguish from an army of occupation.
- Large areas of cities will fall out of government and into gang control.
- Local and state governments will run out of money as tax revenues shrink. Some loss will be made up by federal money, but local governments will raise taxes, especially property taxes.
- State and local government services will shrink.

Civil liberties will wither, especially free speech.

- Opponents of the regime will be demonized and dehumanized or branded secret terrorists.
- Anybody to the right of Obama will be profiled as a dangerous right-wing extremist and potential domestic terrorist. 'Constitutionalist' will become a new swear word.
- Gun ownership will come under heavy fire.
- Freedom to travel will be curtailed further, including some sort of internal passport, probably called a 'driver's license.'
- Forget about rights of free assembly, privacy, due process, and freedom from unreasonable searches.
- The Bush regime and the PATRIOT Act already buried those. Simply defining you *administratively and secretly* as a terrorist strips you of all rights in advance, including *habeas corpus*.
- *Controls will increase everywhere*, on health care, CO₂ emissions, flossing nightly, and the whole shabby panoply of self-righteous do-gooding, including shooting those who won't cooperate. Hell hath no fury like a philanthropist with a government job and a mission to save us from ourselves.

As distractions are used to justify more controls, emergencies will pop up.

- Terrorist threats
- Pandemics
- Witchcraft

- Armadillo invasions
- Wars
- For a closer idea of what the 'Slow Burn America' might look like, watch *Brazil*. It's no comedy.
- Or George Orwell: 'Boot stamping on a human face forever.'

The Slow Burn is a long, painful descent into tyranny and poverty. It remains the most likely outcome, *unless* embryonic opposition from left and right can grow quickly to adulthood. Changes, even huge, discontinuous changes, do occur. Empires fall. There are signs already, harbingers of resistance, but only signs.

THE BEST OUTCOME

One sign is the 10th Amendment movement, and its success is inevitable. There are not many leaders yet, but as the Chinese proverb says, “When the pupil is ready, the teacher appears.” They are out there hiding, too disgusted with the present regime to speak.

Face it: The America you grew up with, if it ever existed other than in your head, no longer lives.

- The U.S. is a tyrant at home and a bully abroad. It is a captive of special interests, the big banks, and corporations, or, more precisely, their owners. The U.S. is fascist.
- The U.S. Regime has lost all moral authority and credibility.
- The U.S. Is no longer sustainable economically, militarily, socially, or morally.
- The government is too big and meddlesome
- Voters have no input into government, and they know it.
- Government is for sale to the highest bidder.
- No wonder less than 50% of Americans bother to vote.
- Yet *inertia of belief* keeps Americans sending sons and daughters off to fight the wars of the empire.
- There is the *inertia of hope* for a government handout and,
- The *inertia of fear* of government handcuffs keeps Americans docile.

Since World War II by treaties and domestic policies, the federal government

has forced on America and the world a new economic model:

- Consumption financed by debt and
- Subjection of national interests to corporate interests.

This model has de-industrialized, de-capitalized and impoverished the U.S., the world's greatest economy at the end of World War II. Now that Tapeworm model has been transferred to other countries – China, India – like a rolling plague, but it will consume them too. Parasites always consume their hosts.

Today that U.S. Tapeworm economic model is failing. Over the past three decades its crises have become more frequent and more severe. Today's crisis threatens to engulf the whole world.

HOW WOULD IT PLAY OUT?

Does a constituency exist for states to stand on the 10th Amendment? Well, a constituency for secession already exists. Even in tiny Vermont over 11% favor independence. In the South, over the past 20 years, polls show 12 – 19% favoring secession. It may not be wholly serious yet, but secession talk has made headlines in Texas, Alaska, Hawaii and the Pacific Northwest. In the Southwest various radical Hispanic groups have long agitated for their own state.

What turns people to these measures? They know that the union can no longer be sustained:

- The union has demonstrated that it exists only to feed private interests at the people's expense.
- The union can no longer sustain civil peace or a stable economy.

When the government fails to fulfill its promises of pensions, welfare and security, when the Union adopts a moral evil as a way of life, patriotic Americans will find their loyalties irretrievably shifting. When your mother pulls a butcher knife on you and chases you around the kitchen, you begin to doubt her love.

Break-up of the national government means the break-up of the national economy. We must launch a huge economic restructuring geared towards reviving local economies and re-building industrial and agricultural production. Several principles are essential:

- Separating government and the economy.
- Separating government and banking.
- Outlawing fiat money and government-franchised fractional reserve banking.
- Repealing all legal tender laws.
- Abandoning the defunct right-left, conservative-liberal political paradigm.

All resistance is worse than useless unless the financial and monetary system is rebuilt at the same time. Without that, the present *apparatchiki* and 'operators' and bankers will simply re-impose the old, failed system of government control, fiat money, bank credit, and fractional reserve banking. The public and leaders *must* demand that all these engines of oppression be abolished and replaced with sound money and an honest financial system.

IMAGINE THE BEST, THE IDEAL OUTCOME

- Not collapse into slavery and poverty, but a chance to re-build and lay on these waste places a new foundation for generations.
- Governments are genuinely limited and genuinely responsive to the people. Some, like Vermont, no doubt, will be socialist, but at least Vermont's socialism can only damage Vermonters. Bernie Sanders will no longer be able to inflict it on us in Tennessee or Texas. And Arkansas will have to keep Bill and Hillary Clinton to themselves.

In spite of the last three decades of rolling financial bubbles, our states' economies could still prosper merely by taking care of our own needs rather than farming them out all over America and the world. The great secret of productive American economic success has been its vast internal market. Never exports. Yet *fiat* money and fraudulent finance have turned the nation's attention to speculation. The end, the point of exhaustion and death, has now arrived.

The dead cannot be raised. Something new must be born to take its place. We have the means in the 10th Amendment, but the question is:

Where are the adults? Will they stand up in time?