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## Inflation versus Price Gouging

Let's get it straight. Normal inflation is something we experience from time to time; usually all the time. I like to call this natural inflation. As wages and salaries increase, the prices of consumable goods also increase. As each of us make more money, it is only human nature that we would want to buy and consume more than what we could at a lower salary. Suppliers and resellers see this increased demand and, so, they respond by increasing their prices to match consumers' greater buying power.

This is natural, healthy inflation. What we are experiencing at the moment, through the spring and summer of 2022 is not healthy inflation. In no uncertain terms, we are experiencing price gouging.

The question is, why is price gouging happening. More to the point, how do we differentiate between the two?

Personally, I am in the markets every day. I see what is happening. What is happening right now is not natural, or healthy. And all of it starts with oil.

The global economy is founded on oil. It is what drives the economy. It is what has been driving the global economy since the industrial revolution. So let's take a look at why oil and rampant inflation is driving the West's standard of living into the ground.

Inflation works on supply and demand. Inflation goes up when demand increases. The problem with this inflation is that demand is not going up. Supply is going down. Yet, the insane thing about all this is that the price of gasoline at the pumps has been going up not because demand has been going up; it is because supply is supposedly going down. But there is a contradiction in this simple formula when you look between the lines. Supply and demand is dictated by the free market system. The market sets the price. So why is it that while the price of a barrel of crude oil is going down, the price of automobile gasoline at the pumps is still going up?

If we look at the price of oil on the free market, it is actually less per barrel than it was in 2008. Yet, the price of automobile gasoline is higher now than it was when oil was more than \$147 per barrel. When oil peaked in July of 2008, gasoline was between \$3 and \$4 per gallon. In February of 2022, oil peaked at a little over \$100, but gasoline was still more expensive than it was at the beginning of 2008. When oil peaked in 2022 at a little over \$129 per barrel, consumers were still paying more for gasoline than at the beginning of 2008. At one point, gasoline prices were between \$8 and \$9 per gallon in some states; the national average being over \$5 per gallon.

My point is this: The free market system decides what oil and gasoline should be worth on any given day. In March, the market was saying oil is only worth around \$100 per barrel. So why were we paying so much more at the pumps compared to when oil was selling for \$147 per barrel in 2008? This is clearly not inflation. It looks more like price gouging.

Wheat is also less today than it was in 2008; around \$1,108 per bushel. Now it is about \$803 per bushel. Yet we are paying much higher prices for obvious wheat products sold in the grocery stores. As a result, bread and many wheat based products doubled compared to just a few years ago.

What is especially interesting to note is that grocery stores have been raising their prices steadily year after year, before there was even a need. Anyone who buys food should have noticed that over the years, even before the pandemic (known as Covid-19), prices in grocery stores were constantly going up, but in subtle ways that the grocers probably hoped their customers would not notice. I am talking merely of a packet of sliced ham selling for, perhaps \$5 per pound. Then the price goes up to \$5.50 and \$6. As if that were not bad enough, upon closer inspection we see that same packet is now considerably less than a pound (for a higher price).

The sad thing is, this was happening long before Covid-19 was dropped on our doorstep.

During the pandemic, many supply lines were disrupted. Items were scarce, especially such commodities as wheat. The grocery chains took advantage of that by raising the price for a loaf of bread considerably, over the course of a year. They expanded the price gouging to other areas as well, yet the disruptions seemed short lived; at least, that is what the so-called economic experts at the White House were trying to convince us. However, since Russia invaded Ukraine, the prices of groceries have sky-rocketed. Why now? Since the war in Ukraine, it is only one area of the world that is being disrupted, unlike the problems we had during Covid-19. Yet, prices have gone up even more just because these two countries are at war. It is no longer the entire world. It is merely the mindset of the thought of war that seems enough that retailers jack their prices up even more and remain justified for so doing, even while the commodities markets are telling us prices are coming down.

During 2019, before Covid was even heard of, the oil companies were raising their prices at the gasoline pumps, even though prices were still fairly low for a barrel of oil. Just in Canada, the USA's close neighbour to the north, while the price of oil per barrel on the world futures market was falling, gasoline was rising. This is the exact opposite of what the free market is supposed to offer. When the price of oil per barrel falls on the futures market, where the price for what the world pays is set, it is historically valid that prices at the fuel pump for automobiles also fall. The last time oil per barrel fell to 70 dollars, in Canada prices at the fuel pump fell to 70 cents per litre at the pump, which is smaller than a quart. In our beloved US of A, fuel fell to less than 2 dollars per gallon.

The point is that the global market dictates the price of gasoline at fuelling stations when we need to stop and fill our hungry cars' diminishing tanks.

Right now the global market has been telling us that a barrel of oil is still considerably less than what it was right before the 'Great Recession'. Yet, even back then, when a barrel of oil was over \$147, we were still not paying anything close to what we are now. And the madness of it all is that oil is still less on the global market—about \$93 per barrel during a recent low—than what it is today. So why are we paying so much more?

It is something that many of us do not hear about. But there is the occasional story that alludes

to this fact. Yet, those brief stories get brushed under the rug quickly in the hopes that not too many people question this strange phenomenon.

In some countries it is simple to resolve this strange diametric. Canada, for instance, is an example of gasoline prices being way out of wack since long before the war in Ukraine and inflation had come rushing in. Canada has a few industries that keeps it alive. The foremost industry is oil production. It is why so many taxes are levied on gasoline. The government has few resources to tap into, so they accordingly tax oil and fuel consumption accordingly. When oil dropped to 70 dollars per barrel in 2014, fuel prices dropped. The next time the world market said a barrel of oil was only worth 70 dollars once more, the government did not allow the free market system to work accordingly on its own. Instead, gasoline prices remained extravagantly high. This was a highly strange occurrence. It appeared to many that the free market system had broken down.

We might assume that because the recently elected government had promised all sorts of tax dollars to their electorate, if voted in, that they kept the price of oil higher than it should have been in order to reclaim those increased tax dollars to pay for their promises. Even the fuel and gasoline companies could not come up with a satisfactory reason for why gasoline was so artificially high. At first they claimed the extra cost was because refineries had to retool their facilities. Well, that is something they have to do regularly, but that is not a cost that consumers should be burdened with, especially given the vast profit oil companies deal with regularly. That cost should already be in the price.

The next excuse, after that did not sit well with consumers, was that it was because the price of the US dollar was so much higher than other currencies around the world. Yet, if you do a historic account of the dollar's value over the years that automobile gasoline has been fluctuating so wildly, that argument does not seem to hold any validity either.

I can understand why Canada has such insane fuel prices. It is one of the few industries the federal government has in order to make tax dollars. Beyond natural resources, Canada's main industries are banking and vehicles. At the moment, Canada and USA are trying to do away with gasoline vehicles all together. This begs the question, how are we going to get to work another 15 to 20 years from now. Hovercraft? Perhaps electrical helicopters or the Jetson's sky cars, just like in the cartoon. Of course, the cartoon never alluded to what powered those sky cars; clearly something for which we do not yet have the technology.

The truly sad aspect of all this is that even the suppliers (i.e. farmers) of the grocery stores are still selling such things as beef for roughly the same price they did five years ago. Yet, all the after sellers, such as meat packers and grocery stores, are still charging sky-rocketing prices even though the price of the product, whether food or oil, remains the same. It is all just an excuse to raise prices simply because people are being taught to believe prices should be more. And while all this mental conditioning is taking place, the free market is saying to us that the price of consumer goods should be less than what they were just a few years ago.

Richard Alexander  
25 July, 2022

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## What is Recession

It seems that after decades of economists defining a recession as two consecutive quarters of economic contraction, that suddenly we are now defining it as something else. As long as employment numbers are going up while the rest of the economic numbers are going down, that seems to be the new

definition of a booming economy. So after all these years of historical records indicating clearly that a recession is an economic retraction, now those numbers seem to mean little in the grander scheme of things.

Why is the White House trying to redefine the meaning of recession at such a time when we should be greatly concerned at the diminishing numbers? Yes, jobs are being filled each month. After two years of governments ordering their citizens to stay home during the Covid pandemic while being paid to stay home, it is only natural that all those millions (should I say hundreds of millions?) of people around the world would now be returning to work. Judging by the look of our traditional definition of a recession already being met, along with an inverted yield curve between the 2 and 10 year treasury bills, it is clear we are in a recession. It does not matter that the White House continues to say we are not; history is repeating once more. The old rules of a recession are telling us we are already there. Denying that simple fact does not make it untrue.

The reason people are returning to work is because the government is allowing it. They have eased their lock-down mandates so people can go back to making money and putting food on the table.

Uh oh, guess what. Just going back to work does not make it so. People are still having difficulty in paying for food, especially that they now have to pay extravagant gasoline prices to get to work each day. It turns out that new expense of paying sky-high fuel prices is now eating into their food budget. What is the average, middle-class family to do?

Thankfully, we are not in a recession. If the definition of a recession had not recently been reclassified, it could be much worse. The White House used to tout (not that long ago) that the prices climbing so high for groceries and oil was also a sign of a booming economy. It is strange that just a few months later, retail sales began to shrink. Did people just decide to stop eating and clothing themselves? Or, was it that they had to be much more careful with money in the wake of rampant inflation? Pumping 1.9 trillion dollars into the economy could not have possibly had anything to do with adding to that inflation. Oh, wait a minute, maybe it did! I know whenever I go to a grocery store or a Walmart, I no longer have to wait in line at the checkout stand. There are so few people in the stores now, compared to before the mandated, covid lock-downs, that shopping is actually now a pleasure. Yes, there may be cashiers standing at the sales registers, twiddling their thumbs and looking bored, but for people like me who thrive on getting in and out quickly, it has become a dream come true. I just hope those stores stay open. When the number of cashiers matches the number of shoppers, it may be a bit worrisome to some economists who have not yet received the memo. You know, the one concerning the new world order.

Richard Alexander  
28 July, 2022

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### Climate Change (Global Warming?) and How to Combat It

There is a large divide right now. It separates the environmentalists from the pragmatists. Throughout history, scientists have demonstrated how global warming is a natural occurrence that has led us into an ice age. This is based on regular cycles of the planet and the sun, which take eons to come to fruition. Yet, we currently seem to be throwing money at recyclable energy in order to save us from rampant inflation and crippling recession.

This is the way it seems to me...

If global warming is being caused by industry and carbon emissions, why did we have global

warming over 150,000 years ago when there was no industry and just plants and animals. According to real scientists, before the last ice age the average temperature of the earth was increasing every year by minuscule increments. This might have meant nothing during any given year, but over a protracted period the phenomenon had a profound affect on the environment.

During a time when there were Woolly Mammoths afoot, global warming caused an ice age and affected every living thing on earth for thousands of years. Despite these proven cycles, in which we now find ourselves in the midst of one, some of our governments are pouring insane amounts of money into technologies they believe will change the natural cycle. It is like trying to save a drowning man by throwing him a bag of cement (unlike the traditional, floating life preserver), then standing back to see what happens.

Unfortunately when there is inflation, no single president can change that through a magic wave of a wand or, by passing a bill that pumps more money into various industries. It is well known by economists that printing money and pumping more money into the economy is akin to throwing gasoline on an already raging fire.

Reducing inflation by pouring hundreds of billions of dollars more into the economy is not going to cure the disease. Economists have shown over the years that printing money does nothing but increase inflation. So, these multi-billion and multi-trillion dollar spending bills are contributing to inflation. Taking more money away from the oil industry by way of cancelling drilling permits and pumping money into a renewable energy source that has been shown over the decades to be far more inefficient than traditional sources of energy will not only raise inflation even more, it will fund and subsidize renewable energy companies at tax payer expense. Some of those turbine contractors have freely admitted they think our government is crazy for their spending when the same amount of money invested in nuclear power would yield hundreds of times more kilowatts, compared to wind turbines and the like. Many of those turbine companies first came from Europe, so at the same time they were delighted with the business. Sadly, the business model has shown over the past that renewable energy can only succeed if it is subsidized by the government, which means taxpayer dollars.

Apparently, most Americans like this arrangement, which is why Biden was elected. The arrangement, however, entails the average consumer paying foreign companies to come over and install their products, then to have to pay those renewable generating companies higher rates for their electricity in order to turn those mighty turbine blades. Incidentally, those blades are so large and heavy, they could only turn efficiently during a hurricane. This is why we, the consumer, must pay higher electricity rates in order to keep those blades turning. Has anyone ever wondered why wind turbines still turn during a completely still day when there is no wind to push them along? The answer for that is simple. The consumer is paying extra money to their utility company in order to turn those blades, and it's likely that they are not producing enough power for the community to justify their expense, let alone break even.

Here is the thing. Renewable energy may have become cheaper, though the technology has not changed much since the 1970s—this is mostly due to slave labour in impoverished countries building the stuff for little or no pay—but if North America went back to harvesting their own fossil fuels, which would last for centuries, it would be much cheaper than it is right now. It would also produce millions of kilowatt hours more in electricity than passive wind and solar, which can not always be relied upon.

Unfortunately, too many governments discovered, through the Kyoto Accord, that it is easy to impose a new, very large, tax on people if they are conditioned to believe it is for a good cause. No Western government wants to give up on renewable energy implementation because it is netting them astronomical amounts of money. As long as those carbon taxes far outweigh the taxpayer funding for installing so-called green energy, the governments continue to laugh all the way to the bank.

The reason there is such a divide between those who believe in climate change and those who

do not believe it is real, is that there is no way to prove it. When something is real and proven by science, mathematics is customarily used to show something is real and can exist. No one questions quantum mechanics, though most of us do not see things on the quantum level. Yet, if science proves its existence through math, everyone accepts it as a fact. The problem is there is no math or science to prove global warming is due to gases coming from factories or energy plants. Real physicists have seen no proof through traditional means that the two are connected.

Many scientists who become climate change advocates do so because climate change science does not rely on mathematics to prove its existence. It largely exists because those who want to be a scientist but who are not very good at math choose to go into climate change science so as not to have to deal with mathematics to prove anything. No proof exists that there was a hole in the ozone layer, just like there is no proof that human beings are causing global warming through carbon emissions. There were no carbon emissions before the last ice age and science—real science—has shown that astrophysics determined there was an increase in temperatures over a very long period before those temperatures triggered an ice age.

When the next ice age does happen, what are we going to use to keep ourselves warm. Coal, nuclear and fossil fuels will be banned, supposedly, which will leave only wind and solar to heat the entire world population. Wind and solar can not even supply the energy needs of a single country.

Why is it that when one of the few real scientists quits the governing body of climate change researchers, while saying that the climate change scientists are lying to the public, the story gets quickly brushed under the rug. No one hears anything more about it.

It is also interesting to note that so-called climate change science has only been around, roughly, since the 1970s. Why do we have climate change scientists when such things were always the forte of ecologists, meteorologists and geologists. Apparently, climate science does not include traditional science. It is a brand new thing that physics seems ill equipped to handle, or so it seems.

In the end, climate scientists take their best guess in order to predict a world in chaos. The reality is that predicting anything is nothing more than a guess. But if one truly wants a best guess as to whether the earth will continue to warm over the coming years, they are better off asking an astrophysicist, rather than a new age climate scientist. And based on what has already happened in the past, there will most likely be an ice age. The sad reality is there is nothing we can do on earth (literally) that will stop any of those things from happening. The only way to do that is to go into space and change the laws of astrophysics, much in the way they are trying to change certain laws here on earth. Perhaps it is better that we change our view and accept our inevitable fate.

Richard Alexander  
28 July, 2022

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### World War III has Already Happened

I find it odd that since Russia invaded Ukraine, all the speculators and strategists talk about is if this will lead to World War III.

The problem with this is WWII has already happened. Does no one remember the biological agent that was released into the world, which has since been designated as Covid-19?

During the 1970s, there were many retired generals and military strategists who wrote books and papers on what form the next world war would take. Most dismissed the possibility of a third war taking the shape of a nuclear bombardment. Instead, most in the know detailed a much more likely scenario taking the shape of a war that was either unleashed by releasing chemical or biological agents

into the world.

Well, in case no one was paying attention, that form came in the shape of a biological agent designated as coronavirus. Many of these strategists detailed how a number of countries, at the time, were busy developing chemical and biological weapons of mass destruction. This was considered a more practical way of reaping havoc on one's enemies than in destroying the entire world. The question is, how did this biological agent come about.

We do know that there were some shady dealings going on in Wuhan, China. I have actually had acquaintances publicly state that they worked at the lab in Wuhan where Covid-19 was allegedly developed. According to these people, tests were conducted on unsuspected citizens. Once Covid-19 was in the world and people were dying from it, a number of the lab technicians who developed coronavirus in Wuhan began to disappear or allegedly showed up dead under mysterious circumstances. Was this a strategy to bolster plausible deniability?

Critics in the USA had hoped that when Biden met with Xi Jinping, China's so-called president, he would press them on Wuhan and the development of the biological agent. Unfortunately, Biden let that one go, preferring not to make any waves with the same country who has netted he and his family tens of millions of dollars in shady deals. There have been infectious disease experts who have stated that Covid-19 bore the traits of a biological agent that had not developed in nature. One, in particular, Kristian Andersen, wrote in a paper that, 'One has to look really closely at all the sequences to see that some of the features (potentially) look engineered.'

We have already seen chemical weapons used by such infamous types as, Saddam Hussein, against his own people, and the sarin gas attacks in Tokyo perpetrated by the terrorist group, Aum Shinrikyo. It is not a stretch to imagine or see a biological agent eventually used for warfare as well.

A biological assault on the world may be a bit difficult for some people to digest but the fact is that, along with cyber-warfare, it is the new shape and changing dynamic of war as we know it. It leaves us to wonder, what is next?

Richard Alexander  
20 August, 2022

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### The Aftermath of Covid (A New Dawning)

So, the CDC has admitted that they did not know what to do during Covid-19. It was mostly guess work. Dr. Fauci may as well now lay his head upon the chopping block and take his licks. Many are demanding he be fired along with the head of the CDC, Rochelle Walensky. A large portion of American citizens want Anthony Fauci and Walensky held accountable for the millions of people who lost their job and those businesses which have been destroyed due to his recommendations, reckless mandates and the subsequent authoritarian rule adopted by government.

Studies have been done, by such countries as Spain (one of the hardest hit countries during the beginning months of the pandemic), which have shown that all the mask mandates, lock-downs and social distancing did not have any affect at slowing the contagion. The governments of many countries have now admitted that they all got it wrong. All those destroyed business and employees who lost their jobs should find small consolation in that. We are still suffering the aftermath of what many have called a war.

It is almost laughable how some political leaders are dealing with the fallout. I point a finger to the city of Toronto in Canada, where the mayor, John Tory, is pleading for people to come back to work.

The fact is, many people who were told to stay home during the pandemic have taken up remote jobs from home. They no longer have to commute to work. Yet Tory is now telling people to go back to work because it is affecting gasoline sales, something which governments in Canada are heavily reliant upon. If people use less gasoline commuting to work, governments do not get all their revenues, in the form of heavily taxed fuel. Tory was even crying about the diminished use of the transit system for people going to work. That means another form of revenue for the governments has been severely crippled. This is a stark contrast to the year of 2020, when Tory was freely handing out \$1,000 ticket fines to people who were observed in parks or on streets talking to one another, rather than socially distancing. It appears those fines were not enough to offset the lack of use in public infrastructure that is such a mainstay for any city government.

Richard Alexander  
24 August, 2022

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### The New World Order

I am not the only one who has found North America's changing foreign policy extremely bewildering. For one thing, why would we pay billions of dollars to Iran, a known terrorist state, in order for them to stop their nuclear weapons program? We know they are going to develop the weapons anyway and that a large portion of that money will go to fund future terrorist assaults on our continent.

The other thing that is very strange is how the current Biden regime is sidling up to China so eagerly. Xi Jinping seems to be Joe Biden's best friend. China steals Western technology, persecutes their own people and are known for their end goal of taking over the entire world. Japan may have owned Taiwan up to the end of World War II, when they then turned it over to China to oversee, but that does not make it any more Chinese territory than Tibet was when they invaded and took control of it.

It is true that Biden gets a lot of money from China. The democrats do love their money. When the current White House regime pushed for their 1.9 trillion dollar, Covid relief bill—the so-called American Relief Plan—apparently only 20% of that money went to Covid measures. Many are still asking where the rest of that money went. We do know some of it went to friends of Biden and the democrats, and some went to organizations who are friendly to the DNC. Still, it seems inconceivable that the current White House administration could be sacrificing the well being of the American people, and democracy itself, just to get rich...sorry, I mean *richer*! Pumping that amount of money into the system surely exacerbated inflation. If denying oil drilling companies new permits sent oil higher, then the extra money being pumped into the economy surely put the last nail in the coffin for consumers already struggling with high inflation.

Another 900 billion dollars spent on the ridiculously named 'Inflation Reduction Act—something that will have the opposite effect—is akin to throwing gasoline on inflation in order to drive it up even further. Now, by pumping another 300 billion dollars into the system to alleviate the debt many students have taken on in order for a higher education, things are going to become even worse.

All of this is unprecedented spending, which I have never in my life seen, seems like a recipe for disaster. In fact, it appears designed to be the end of democracy.

To put it into perspective, imagine paying someone 1 million dollars every day since Jesus

Christ was crucified. Today, that would still be roughly under \$738,030,000,000. So, in the 2022 years since then, 1 million dollars per day would still not add up to 1 trillion dollars. Yet, Obama spent between 2 and 3 trillion dollars on stupid initiatives that caused greater harm than not doing anything at all. (It is widely known that if Barack Obama, while president of the USA, had not imposed all kinds of government controls over the economy, businesses and jobs would have come back much more quickly following the 'Great Recession' than what they did, according to economists. Books and papers were written on how Obama was the worst president in US history, for crying out loud!) Now it looks as though his VP at the time, Joe Biden, is looking to unseat him for that title.

Let's look back a couple of years. Watching the campaign trail back then seems to paint a clear picture. The following is my own interpretation.

Originally, during the 2020 presidential campaign, the DNC—the Democratic National Committee—had Bernie Sanders as their front man and hopefully the next US president after Donald Trump. However, after assessing the campaign trail, the DNC found that Sanders came across as too socialist for many would-be voters. The switch was then made to have Joe Biden as the front runner, believing him to be less radically left than Sanders.

All I can say is that if Joe Biden is less left and socialist than Sanders, if good old Bernie had been elected we would now most likely be a Russian or Chinese state.

While the Biden family is making millions from China, it seems that the US president has a notion that China will take over the world. Make no mistake, what we are seeing in US policy and the bills being passed is a clear road to socialism, which is what the democrats have often touted. The rich should give their fair share to the rest of the people. That is a mantra they have been touting since Obama. It is also the central theme of communism. Let us face it: Socialism is a dictatorial regime that is designed to oppress the people, as well as any notion of free speech. Socialism eventually leads to communism. Communism is a dictatorship. I have known people who fled Ukraine during Russia's previous occupation and they say what is happening in our country now is exactly what the communists did when they last invaded.

Could it be that Biden sees China taking over the world and has simply accepted the fact while trying to reap as many rewards from his relationship with that country in the meantime. If all goes according to plan, maybe Xi Jinping will keep Biden in power, running the country of the USA as a puppet government of the Chinese empire.

This seems to be the direction the current policies are taking, as they position themselves to be accepting of Russian and Chinese invasion further down the road. After all, Biden would only give limited arms to Ukraine when Russia invaded. Russia warned Biden not to equip Ukraine with the fighter jets they desperately needed, which they felt could turn the war against Russia. Heeding Russia's warning, they did not supply any fighter jets. Biden went even further by warning other NATO countries not to supply jets either. The administration lent the illusion they wished to help Ukraine defend itself, but only to a point. It was for the sake of politics and appearing humanitarian. But they would not supply so many arms that it could actually turn the tide of the war against Russia. Biden seems determined to stay in Russia's good books. At the moment, he is definitely in China's good books.

If this is the way it has been designed, maybe we should all resign ourselves to one day being communists under a world wide regime of oppression. It did not work for the USSR and it did not work for Cuba. Maybe China will be different. Maybe the US will be different as well (but not in a good way).

Richard Alexander  
25 August, 2022

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## Future Power Source

For most of my life I have thought there must be a better way to power our existence. Burning fossil fuels seemed like something so simple that there should be something better. In my mind I always felt we were missing the big picture on how to heat and protect ourselves from the immediate elements. At the time, I did not even entertain the notion that solar and wind were capable of that. Such things as wind were a means to power certain things hundreds of years ago in places like Holland and other parts of Europe (and it has even dated back thousands of years before). We soon discovered all those years ago that such simple minded efforts were simply not enough. We needed more. Such was the move to the next feasible means of energy within our grasp. That was coal and oil and, later down the road, natural gas. If you think about it, the first means of transportation that did not involve a horse, was burning wood and coal in order to create a machine we would later come to call an engine.

Essentially, all we are doing now is powering our engines with a more refined type of fuel to burn. Considering the industrial revolution did not even happen until 1760 to 1840, I think we are still managing with a fair degree of ingenuity. We may have plateaued while getting incrementally better, but at least we have not fallen back to pre-industrial times when European countries tried to power their lives with windmills. Oh,...wait a minute, I think we have, or are, or did.

Wind did not work as an effective power source back then, and as the 1970s proved, solar has not worked any better.

My big concern is this: Should we not embrace the energy sources that have made our lives so better over the past one to two hundred years, rather than impulsively shut it down completely for a dream of renewable energy that we are far from mastering. Even during the 70s, scientists, as well as economists, said that to switch to a new source of energy, it should be done slowly, over a reasonable time, so as not to destroy the fabric of our lifestyle and the way of life to which we have become accustomed. Even if we did manage to harness a new source of power that actually proved efficient, we could not simply shut down the existing infrastructure, upon which so many of our jobs rely. Instead, we would have to integrate it gradually while spending decades transitioning; maybe even centuries. Only by doing it incrementally would the economies of such willing nations bear the least amount of pain.

It would be highly irresponsible of any modern, Western leader, of any country, to force a radically divergent source of power upon the entire populace without reaping havoc on the nation. Books, papers and movies have been authored on how devastating such a swift jump could be to any given economy. In North America, governments have been telling their out of work oil and coal workers that they will be paid to learn solar and wind technologies instead. Yet, many of those out of work people have never been given a job for a new technology. The result is reflected in diminishing GDP and CPI. Instead, the technology is usually farmed out to foreign companies that already exist.

This is the quandary in which we find ourselves. That any leader of the USA could brazenly disregard the right of their people to a decent standard of living, for the sake of their own, political agenda, should be reason for a vote of no confidence. In other words, impeachment, though that has become an ugly, improperly used word of late. That some states wish to ban all gasoline driven vehicles by the year 2035 is not only criminally negligent, it is also ignorant, insane, ludicrous, delirious, delusional, uneducated and down right moronic.

As for global warming, that is an effect of astronomical physics, which could not possibly be changed by a billion radical green militants, unless they suddenly figured out a way to restructure the entire universe, along with all its physical laws of reality.

Richard Alexander

10 September, 2022

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## Anarchy Remembered

I do have British Ancestry, so I am fairly sympathetic to the passing of our Monarch, Queen Elizabeth II. This is September 9, 2022, so we, as Americans (and North Americans), pay homage to the many who lost their lives during those terrorist attacks in 2001.

With understandable remorse, I do feel a great degree of empathy for those innocent souls who simply wanted to make a good life for themselves and their families. With love and devotion, they would make their way to the Twin Towers every day to secure that way of life in the pursuit of happiness. The memory of such unnecessary waste plagues many of us to this day.

Today was especially remorseful. Not only did those of us who grew up with the Queen see the end of an era, we were also reminded of that great loss many of us suffered during 9/11.

But the message was clear. This day was one of unification. Immediately following the destruction of the Twin Towers, we saw nothing but unity across the USA. There were no longer Democrats. There were no Republicans. There were no other political parties either. Anti-partisanship dissolved. We were all united. It was a message echoed during our recounting of the Queen's passing. It is very unfortunate that when Hillary Clinton was interviewed on CNN today that she took the opportunity to do some politicking by running down her adversaries and making it about the upcoming mid-term elections, rather than honour the memory of our fallen brethren.

I hear many people saying there is no point to having a Monarchy any longer. It is an outdated notion, they say. To many of our younger generation it makes little sense (unless they have been educated). This is why education is so very important.

Luckily, for my own sense of perception, my mother was a history teacher. It is ironic that history was one of my least favourite subjects during high-school. I simply did not see the relevance. But my mother explained it to me. So, to this day, I have a very significant takeaway from all the rhetoric. History teaches past mistakes so we can learn from them and not repeat them. That is the most simplistic explanation for the importance of why we should pay attention to history. Unfortunately, human nature and simple greed inevitably leads us down the same trail time after time.

The mid-terms for the House and Senate are upon us. Yet, the message is clear. The Democrats are clearly dividing the electorate once more by attacking the Republicans. Most likely out of pure defence, the Republicans are doing likewise. There is no message of unity from the White House, despite Joe Biden's promise to unite the country and no longer be divisive. There is more call to arms by the left, than ever before.

Now, I know as well as anyone who stays informed that the Republicans were blamed for the incursion on Capitol Hill, January 6, 2020. There was an avalanche of rhetoric from the media saying that outgoing President Trump incited the whole thing. The truth is there was nothing in his departing words to his supporters that they should violently raid Capital Hill in order to overturn the election; just to object and call for a recount. There would have been reporters from every News Agency covering that speech, while others from the same agency were covering Capital Hill. If Donald Trump had told his supporters to storm the Capital, there would have been video recordings of it all over the news. But there were none. In all likelihood there were some zealots who took advantage of the situation. We all know that when peaceful demonstrations turn violent it is because there are ideological fanatics who take matters into their own hands.

But, since that day, all we have heard from the Democratic party is that the whole thing was un-American.

Here is the irony of it all... America was founded on revolution. The now United States rebelled from their governing power, which at the time were the British. They simply thought the government was too overbearing and tyrannical. The American settlers were after a better life, where everyone in the land had a voice. We may as well accept the fact that the English Monarchy, under King George III, was very tyrannical. However, times have changed and we no longer have that same antiquated methodology, which was a world apart from what Queen Elizabeth II has given us. The Monarchy we have today stands above politics and personal agendas. It stands as a beacon beyond petty grievance. Under Queen Elizabeth II, deals and peace negotiations between opposing countries were brokered which transcended politics in matters that may never have been settled through regular channels.

In that light, the Monarchy does have an importance, still to this day.

But during King George III's reign, there was not a true democratic voice because there existed none under such a system. People were still ruled by the privileged, whether of royal decent or just by political might. America wanted to break free of that tyranny. To this day, there is a vast difference in mindset between USA and Canada. The US broke free from their masters by going to war against the British, whereas Canada remained a colony under British rule (until finally granted complete independence on April 17, 1982).

It is remarkable that Canada has only been independent for the last 40 years, whereas the US has been independent for the last 200 years (as the War of Independence lasted from 1775 to 1782). This explains why USA looks to Canada's governmental system and still refers to it as a tyranny, rather than a true democracy. In truth, the US system of government allots much more power to the people than the governmental system of Canada, which can disregard the electorate's disapproval of their actions without repercussions. It is a much more democratic system, even though things are presently happening in the US that are circumventing Congressional approval; something that also carries legal implications.

There appears to be many middle-class families in the US, whom for the past 2 years have been growing increasingly dissatisfied with their present government. Government is becoming increasingly like it was during British rule over America. It is overbearing. It is dominant and it is telling the people who voted for them that they know better than they do of what is a good life. While the Biden administration is telling everyone they are doing such a good job and have provided the best economy for the American people than they have seen in decades (paraphrasing), the American people are currently facing the worst financial hardships they have seen since the 1970s. It is not a wonder that the American people are angry at their government. Yet, if they speak out in disapproval over their government's actions, they are labelled as anarchists.

The message now is that the government knows better than the people who elected them. If Biden has decided to destroy the American peoples' lifestyle for his own agenda of 'green energy' at the cost of everyone's pursuit of happiness, it is for a reason. The Biden family are multi-millionaires. They fly around in jets that cost millions of dollars a year to operate. If they have to spend an extra hundred dollars to fill up their SUVs, it means nothing. But we are told we have to suffer through it (in order that Biden builds all his windmills and solar farms, along with the appropriate kickbacks, supposedly) in order to have a better tomorrow. As far as that goes, I have already written previous articles on the matter. (We still do not know where all the billions of dollars in tax money went which Biden supposedly gave to Ukraine to help them fight a war.)

But here we are again. Two hundred years later we are looking at allegations that another insurrection is brewing, just as it was when the American settlers of the new world were considering a break from the English Empire. The electorate has come to find the existing regime too overbearing and unsympathetic to their plight, along with their loss of ability to sustain a happy life. The White House administration clearly senses this, but are unwilling to change their own desires for the sake of the public. So, the regime labels such disenfranchised as anarchists and insurrectionists.

At this point, what is the direction to take? Do we want another civil war? Or do we simply want what was promised us by our forefathers?

The answer is simple: Any elected president must go out of their way in order to protect the security and the way of life for their people. This is first and foremost. If there is ever a question as to whether or not a president is doing what they were elected for in the first place, this should be the defining answer before any other.

Richard Alexander  
11 September, 2022

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### Inflation is Insidious

Let us be realistic about inflation. It is laughable that Jerome Powell used to say, not very long ago, that inflation is transitory. From what I have experienced in my lifetime is that once inflation has taken hold, it is extremely difficult to get rid of it. Today's Consumer Price Index (CPI) numbers have shown that mantra to be true. I do realize the FOMC prefers to use PCE (Personal Consumption Expenditure) as their preferred measure of inflation, but let us be realistic. The market responds more directly to CPI numbers, simply because they are a true reflection of what is going on and how it impacts consumers.

The primary reason that resellers (ie grocery stores, rental properties, home builders, etc.) have been telling consumers that prices are going up are due to the cost of gasoline at the pumps. Yet, fuel prices have been coming down ever since the US administration and the Canadian government have agreed to waive their high taxes on fuel. Still, gasoline is nowhere as cheap as it should be. Consumers are still paying more money now that oil is less than \$90 per barrel when compared to when a barrel of oil was more than \$147 right before the 'Great Recession'. The numbers just do not make any sense.

We all know that in North America once Joe Biden was elected he declared war on oil companies and refused to renew drilling permits so that USA could remain flush with oil. He turned his back on the natural resources that we have relied upon for over a hundred years, to power our cars and heat our homes, just for the pipe-dream of renewable energy; something which is still decades, if not centuries, away from being feasible. So the US administration is sacrificing its peoples' ability to clothe and feed themselves for a personal agenda.

But let us forget about all that for a moment. The bigger question is, why are we still paying such ridiculous prices for food?

The grocery chains tried to explain that the reason they have been raising prices for foodstuffs we have always taken for granted is due to the high cost of gasoline and how much it costs to ship those foodstuffs. Fuel costs have come down significantly since March of 2022, yet the price of groceries are still going up. The government does not seem to have a problem with this. The obvious question is why?

What has been happening since 2020, and far before even that, is a trick of illusion. It is smoke and mirrors. Elections are coming up. The government has temporarily given up their beloved tax revenue from the oil companies (for now). But they have allowed grocery stores to continue to raise their prices regardless of these so-call efforts. The government still gets tax revenues from grocery chains. The higher those costs are, the more taxes the government rakes in.

It is not talked about or admitted to, but this is the reality. To this day, I have never understood

how costs for produce and meat could go up so much when the grocery chains tout how they buy foodstuffs from local farmers. Many of those local farmers are five to ten minutes away from the grocery chains, right where I live. So, the cost of shipping those particular items could not possibly be that much more than what they once were. Farmers are essentially still being paid the same as they were five years ago, despite shippers and grocery chains raising the prices so high. (See the article above, 'Inflation vs Price Gouging').

I like to do a little comparison. During the first fiscal quarter of 2013, Canada abolished the use of pennies. This was directly observable when buying groceries. If a number of items came to \$120.36, the grocery chains had a habit of rounding those totals *up* (rather than down). So, that total would automatically be rounded to \$120.40. An extra four cents seems insignificant. But in the larger scheme of things, it amounted to multiple millions of dollars each year. So the grocery chains were making millions of dollars more than normal for basically doing nothing. I believe people caught onto this and so the chains began fluctuating, sometimes rounding up, while at other times rounding down.

The point is that big business and governments collude with one another. Big business is more than happy to charge consumers with higher prices as long as the government gives their blessing and those chains realize they can get away with it.

So here we are, with shipping costs steadily going down at the pumps, yet the prices at grocery stores are still going up. They have the government's blessing, though the government will always deny it due to politics and wanting to get re-elected. What is even more frightening is what will happen to that rampant inflation once the taxes are put back on the price of gasoline and shipping costs rise once again. I have rarely seen a situation that after people get used to paying higher taxes at their retailers, that those retailers then lower their prices back to what they were five years, or so, prior. Greed is no incentive to lower prices.

Simply because the government has temporarily eased their taxes so that we can simply drive to work each day does not mean the world is going to become a better place. Many countries are teetering on recession. The US is already in a recession, whether Joe Biden will admit it or not. For many decades, the measure of recession has been two quarters of shrinking GDP. The only two developed Western countries that presently have at least two quarters of shrinking GDP is the US and the UK. Joe Biden can try all he wants to redefine what a recession is but if you deny a reality that is upon us, which is clearly dangerous, that danger will only amplify. Instructing the Fed Chairman (Powell) to echo such things during his speeches does not make them true. And in all reality, Jerome Powell should know better. If he truly does not, he should be removed immediately, rather than allow his denial to further infect the economy. And because the US is in a recession, raising interest rates is going to put it further into recession. This much we already know from history.

The lessons of the past are already there. It is a fool's folly to disregard them.

Richard Alexander  
13 September, 2022

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### Political Negligence

It is a horrible circumstance when your elected leaders say everything is fine, everything is getting better and we have the best economy that we have had in many decades.

The common man walks around the grocery stores and sees prices for basic necessities, such as food and baby formula, going up continuously. It is infuriating. There are so many jobs that are unfilled simply because people in the West have been getting conditioned over the last two years of

Covid-19 not to go to work. For that period, they have been getting paid by the government to stay home. It is true that jobs have been increasing since 2020, but when so many millions lost their jobs over the government lock-downs and being told not to go to work, it was inevitable that people, struggling to pay their bills under such conditions, were begging for their jobs back. Others simply chose not to work. Over those two years, many people lost their drive to make a decent living and to succeed and actually get somewhere in life. For those who have returned to work, they have found a completely different world. It is much harder now to make a living because the cost of that living has risen so much. The irony is that it has not risen due to Covid-19. It has risen due to rampant and reckless government spending.

Most economists, who I have heard, have warned that all these bills Joe Biden has been passing (mostly because the Democrats have the House majority since he was elected and everything is easy to pass) will only drive up inflation. It is ironic that when the new CPI (inflation) numbers came out September 13, 2022, and the numbers were much higher than anticipated, Biden was having a party at the White House, patting himself on the back for passing the ironically named, 'Inflation Reduction Act'. What is more ironic is that most of the spending in that bill was going to pay for more 'green energy' initiatives, along with what I am sure were plenty of subsidies for those green energy producers. Both tactics only lead to higher inflation.

Biden also claimed this week that the covid pandemic was over, even though hundreds are still apparently dying from it. Considering the White House was awarded a 1.9 trillion dollar spending bill that was supposed to be for the purpose of fighting covid, it is strange that only 20% of that money went to covid. Nobody seems to know what happened to the other hundreds of billions of dollars. There have been rumours that much of it has gone to organizations that are friendly to the Biden administration, which has nothing to do with covid. I hate to bring up the word, kickback, but it seems to be inherent over the last two years worth of shenanigans on Capitol Hill. When Obama wanted to spend even a trillion dollars after he was elected, Congress balked, never having seen such an astronomical figure during their tenure. Probably due to fear and due to never having been in such a situation, they pass it and the money asked for ended up expanding to two trillion. Biden has been spending at least 4 trillion dollars, so far, during his tenure and none of it seems to be helping the economy at all. All the spending is simply making matters worse.

It is an extremely dangerous situation when a country's elected officials are so out of touch with reality. Biden has already made more than 30 million dollars from deals his family has made with China, but the money he has likely made from being granted so many trillions of dollars by his administration must be staggering in comparison. It is no wonder he says things like, inflation only increased by one percentage point and that it is not a big deal. To someone as rich as he is, it simply does not matter. He is out of touch with the common man. Those who elected him expected a better life. He just does not care because it does not affect him the way it is affecting a large percentage of the voting public.

The monetary policy is also broken. The USA and UK are two of the most predominant Western countries who are officially in recession. The US has had two consecutive quarters of shrinking GDP, which economists have agreed upon for decades as the deciding factor of whether a recession is occurring. Simply saying the US is not in recession because hundreds of thousands of workers who lost their job due to covid lock-downs have been returning to work is a fool's quest. Inflation is rising much faster than wages. This means there is a severe disconnect. It is not a sign of healthy inflation. It is artificial inflation, caused by the government. All one has to do is look at a graph from the time Biden was elected. During the majority of his term, so far, inflation has been rising due to his misguided policies, such as declaring war on oil companies in order to bolster green energy. It was only near the peak of inflation that Russia's invasion of Ukraine propped it up a little bit more. Since then, the FOMC, under Powell's guidance, and I'm sure under Biden's direction too (even though many White House administrations say they never interfere with FOMC decisions), has been

raising interest rates. During several of the previous speeches from Powell, he has begun by echoing Biden's constant insistence that inflation is due to Russia declaring war on Ukraine. If Powell were any kind of economist, he would see clearly that inflation had been out of control long before that event took place.

The larger problem is that when you have all these officials running the country and they can not seem to admit what is at the root of the problem, that problem will never get fixed. Denial just breeds further suffering. And this is what it is going to be as we move forward. Economists are predicting another two years of pain. Every time more spending is introduced, it elongates the period of suffering we, the little people, will have to endure. As people suffer and find greater difficulty in supporting themselves and their families, Jerome Powell will be happy to keep raising interest rates, which will lead to more suffering and personal bankruptcies.

Even mayoral candidate Karen Bass admitted she had no idea about the crime her city of Los Angeles was suffering until her home was burglarized.

There are so many politicians out there who simply do not look at the problems affecting their people, whether it is the border crisis that ensued after Biden abolished Title 42 and declared the southern border was now open to anyone who wanted to cross into the USA, or not acknowledging the rampant increase of crime within the inner cities. As for the thousands of illegal immigrants who are crossing into the US each day, it does not seem to matter if they were refugees, drug cartels that were human trafficking, or simple terrorists. There has been no vetting done of any of the illegal immigrants who cross over daily.

Through all this, vice president, Kamala Harris, has been insisting the border is closed. But she does admit that the immigration system is broken. If she woke up she would see the system is broken because there is no longer any border control. Self-proclaimed sanctuary cities had said after Biden was elected, they would gladly take in all the illegal immigrants who were anticipated to enter the country. Now, however, the elected officials of those sanctuary cities are saying they do not want them in the same place they live. Yet, this nightmarish policy is creating death and illegal trafficking in human beings. This is what Biden wanted. He wanted to tear down the barriers and legalities that were preventing such criminal activities and now he has it in force. He is now responsible for the deaths of children and women who took his offer to illegally cross the border, often under the guise of drug cartels seizing an opportunity.

Talk is cheap. Perhaps the sanctuary cities thought the onslaught of illegal aliens would remain in states such as Texas, Arizona and Florida. When fifty immigrants arrive at Martha's Vineyard and several hundreds of others arrive in New York City, it seems attitudes change. As long as the problem is invisible or can be denied, there is no problem that exists. It is only a problem when it comes knocking at your door.

Biden and many of his people are saying the economy is strong and that inflation is not a problem. This is not the way the vast majority of hard working Americans see. If you are the President, or an elected official, and you are denying the most severe problems that are affecting the country, the degree of which I have not seen in my lifetime, there are two reasons for denying it. Either that administration is clueless as to what is happening around them (something I find hard to believe when there are all sorts of advisors to help a president who does not see things clearly) or, that administration simply does not care about its people. That could be for only one reason: They are serving their own wants and needs; not those of the voters who elected them in the first place in order to preserve their way of life. That is when it becomes a vote of no confidence or, a matter of impeachment, due to a clear lack of ability to run the country appropriately.

Richard Alexander  
13 September, 2022

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## FOMC (Mis)Guidance

Jerome Powell came out today to talk about forward guidance following today's 75 basis point interest rate hike.

All I can say is that Powell appears to be telling us, between the lines, that the Fed has no idea how to handle inflation. On one hand, he tells us that the job market is strong. Almost within the same breath, he tells us the job market is having problems, primarily because there are all sorts of empty jobs that employers are having a problem filling. No one seems to want to work anymore. After being told to stay home for two years, many people have gotten used to government handouts. Then, he tells us that the economy is strong. Powell says people have large savings at the moment. He touts how individuals have been saving money for the past two years.

Excuse me, did I miss something? Yes, he almost admitted the reason they have savings is because they have been told to stay home for two years and have been getting paid by the government to do so. Those are tax dollars paying those people not to work. Do those monies not have to be paid back? Perhaps there is there going to be another multi-hundred billion dollar bailout, like there was for college students, courtesy of tax dollars paid by working people? Even through all this nonsense, the reports I have been reading is that people have more debt now than they have had in years.

Of course they have debt! It is no wonder. People have been out of work for years and still have to pay their bills. But they have been trained not to go to work. This whole scenario seems ripe for socialism to take a firm hold.

People are out of work. Employers are having an extremely difficult time convincing people to come back to work. More and more people who once had jobs are not returning to work and they are now facing a difficult time paying for bare essentials like food, shelter and transportation. Is this really the right time to be raising interest rates? With the rise in interest rates, people will have a much more difficult time paying their mortgage. Any other monies they have borrowed are now subject to higher interest rates as well. I see a lot of defaults and bankruptcies looming on the horizon.

An economy that has been surging for many years and is now at the precipice of imploding, needs a healthy reset. That reset is recession. The USA has officially been in recession since the beginning of the year. It seems odd that the USA is the only country (other than UK) that is in a recession and are the ones raising their interest rates the most. Other Western, developed countries are not there yet, even though they are suffering even more in Europe.

During a recession, the last thing any central bank should be doing is raising interest rates. Leave the rates alone and let the free market system do what it does best; that is to self-adjust. A recession will lower inflation. During the 'Great Recession', as many economists like to call it, interest rates were not inflated. Recession caused prices to come down. This is the natural genius of the free market system. On many occasions, if it is uninterrupted, it jumps back on its own. Barrack Obama's eight year reign proved this. When Wall Street and main street were at the very bottom, all the then President had to do was step back and do nothing. Thousand of economists, as well as big business owners and small businesses alike, testified that the overbearing government regulation on the free market system impeded its recovery and made it last many years longer than it should have.

Every time I hear Jerome Powell blame inflation and the strong (but also weak) economy on Vladimir Putin, I feel extremely fearful and dismayed. If he truly believes Putin has been the sole cause of inflation, he needs to retire and have someone else come in to take over his position. Please do not let it be Janet Yellen! She has already admitted to being wrong about inflation being transitory. Powell needs to take a page from her own failed playbook and hit the reset button.

America the beautiful is in a recession. But that recession will likely last much longer than need

be due to the government's meddling and sheer ignorance.

Richard Alexander  
19 September, 2022

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### Indoctrination Education

What is it about the mindset? Why is it that when someone gets an idea in their head they want everyone else to identify with it?

There are ideas. There are ideologies. What is an ideology other than a belief; it is a belief that one or another wishes to impose on another. After all, if someone believes a certain train of thought, should not others feel this same awakening?

The reality is that I, or you, or perhaps even others, develop an idea. It may seem like a great idea at the time. Perhaps because it seems so original, others should consider this idea as well. The reception may be great by some; despised by others, so what does it mean? If it is such a great idea, should not everyone who hears the word embrace that same idea. Should not anyone who hears this great idea be a fool not to embrace that idea? If others do not embrace the sheer genius of what we have wrought, should they not be counted as foolhardy. Perhaps even ignorant, to the point of belligerent.

This is the problem. All of us harbour a certain belief and a certain way of doing things. We differ in our beliefs. Usually, however, those differences remain negligible. Most of us may differ, from time to time, as to what constitutes freedom of speech and true democracy. The majority votes for what ideals they share in their own belief system.

As of 2020, the majority voted that they would rather be told what to do and would rather sit back and be told what is best for their interests. Apparently, the majority of Americans wished to have a different life than the one to which they had become accustomed. The majority of citizens in the USA chose to be dictated to. They wished to have their elected officials tell them what the American Dream was. The irony is that many of those American citizens have decided after two years under dictatorial law that they would rather give up their rights and simply have their elected government tell them what is best for them.

Perhaps there is a reason for this. Perhaps after two years of being dictated to by their governments during the covid pandemic that they have become so tired and lethargic, and reminiscent of their lost livelihoods, that they have relented and are now hoping for their government to tell them what to do next. So many dreams were being built when covid suddenly took over all those lofty ambitions. And now those dreams, during a time when the economy was still booming, have been cross-checked and driven into boards of unconscious delirium. The Western society is a broken people. It is now a culture that has been rattled so badly they no longer know what in which to believe.

This seems to be the environment that has been built. During this constructed environment—a time when governments were all too freely eager to come in, close down small business and constrain people from being able to make an honest living—once eager and defiant individuals saw a dream and realized it as they built businesses from nothing. Those businesses were then swiftly crushed. The American dream was stomped upon. Any respect for the opportunity to excel at anything imaginable was crushed.

But this is the new reality. Deny individualism. The greatest sin is what we are lethargically witnessing right now. It is not bad enough that the old guard is currently being attacked. Now, the 'New Order' is aiming their sights on the youth of our nations.

This is the reality that history teaches: When dictatorships take over free thought and free speech, they then begin to impose their will on the next, upcoming generation. Once a government has conquered the minds of their people and have subdued their inclinations to free speech, they begin to indoctrinate. The first place to begin the process of indoctrination is at the school level, where young, eager minds are at their most susceptible.

I have seen how this goes. Our youth deserves a chance to be educated; not in political beliefs but in free will and the very basics that will enable them to survive and, yes, excel in this world. That means a proper education, which includes a sound knowledge of the English language, history (to prevent repetitive mistakes), geography (to teach us of our natural resources and our relationship with the rest of the world), and mathematics (which helps in many professions we have today).

Yet, the belief of the current government is that all youth must be saturated in the beliefs of the current government that rules over it.

That is not democracy. That is tyranny! That is dictatorship. It is what Fidel Castro had in Cuba, it is what the Russians thought they had, despite their proclamations that they are a free market system (while KGB still run the country), and it is what Communist China relies upon (a twisted reflection of capitalism that still imposes restrictions on all its peoples).

If a country, or a nation, wishes to instill and grow its political beliefs while its populace continues to struggle with their overseers' notions, the best way to do so is to educate their youngest targets with their beliefs. The parents may not agree with this strategy. They will oppose those agendas. The most simple recourse is then to destroy the parent's voice; to tell parents they no longer have a say in their children's education. If the government wishes to destroy a child's right to innocence by imposing sexual mandates upon them, the conscientious parent will oppose such moves. If the government shames the parents for not being open-minded, then the rule-book changes. Suddenly, at the behest of political correctness, the world is now fair game, not only to conquer, but to corrupt and defile.

Parents should always have the final say in how their children are brought up and educated in a proper environment. We are one of the few areas of the world where we still have that right. The last thing we should be doing is sitting back and letting our government take control of our children's mind. They deserve much better. Children deserve to have their parents look out for their best interest. It is a parent's responsibility to protect their children. It is not the government's mandate to indoctrinate the children of whatever families were short-sighted enough to vote them into power in the first place.

This is certainly not democracy. It is certainly not free will and creative thinking. This is the crushing of all creativity. It is the death of youthful vibrancy and ambitious revelation. It is also the world that has been allowed to be created, through nothing less than pure indifference.

Richard Alexander  
2 October, 2022

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## Rising Inflation and Recession

Why have financial analysts begun to say that we are not in a recession yet, but that a recession is coming?

After the second quarter numbers came out showing that GDP had shrunk for a second time, economists declared the USA to be in recession. This was based on the rule of thumb that has been established for defining a recession over decades of history, and it has always been accepted by economists as being the true definition. Joe Biden, who is by no means an economist (and barely a

Commander in Chief), immediately started saying the US was not in recession but actually was exhibiting the strongest economy in its history. Of course, he based that on people returning to the workforce following all his mandated Covid lock-downs. But at the same time, consumer spending was also decreasing. GDP has been shrinking and the general public has been decreasing their spending habits. If that is not a recession, then I do not know what is? Yes, people still have to spend money on gasoline and food. Without those two things, people are unable to make a living or survive, so they really have no choice. Biden can deny a recession and say everything is fine, but in his mind it is because these things do not directly affect him. He must be at least a multi-billionaire by now, considering all the trillions of dollars he has been printing, much of it not even reaching those for whom it was intended.

If the leader of a country is unwilling to acknowledge there is a serious problem, it will never be fixed. The FOMC has been raising interest rates with delirious abandon, after they were already proved wrong about inflation is the first place. Now, they are acting like deluded politicians by simply throwing money at the problem. It is a recipe for a massive disaster.

Boris Johnson, ex-prime minister of the UK (the only other G7 country that is also officially in recession) was booted out of office in a no-confidence vote. It is somewhat bewildering that Biden has not yet been removed from office, considering the lack of confidence the majority of Americans have in him at the moment. Barrack Obama was considered by many to be the worst president in US history, but I think the majority of people will look back and grant that historical (dis)honor to Biden. It is hard to believe but at the same time, very scary.

Addendum:

Following the above blog, I have to add this note simply because it is so obvious and should not be understated.

It is becoming more clear than ever that the policies of the Biden administration are failing the American people. Economists have been saying from the first 1.9 trillion dollars Biden solicited from Congress, that injecting more money would only drive up prices and fuel inflation to higher levels. Following the so-called 'Inflation Reduction Act', which poured another catalyst of fuel into the inflation problem, economists again warned that it would drive inflation higher. This was supposed to be another 500 billion dollars aimed at negating student borrowers' responsibility of paying back their debt, along with more money going towards 'green energy' initiatives. It is an irony to claim that pouring more money into the economy will reduce inflation when we all know it simply drives it up. What is even more harrowing is that many economists claimed the \$500,000,000,000 would actually likely rise to \$1,000,000,000,000. And that is one of the smaller injections so far that Biden has enacted.

That the FOMC keeps raising interest rates is having no affect on taming inflation. It is only creating further havoc for the American people. The policies of the FOMC, which seem largely influenced by Biden himself, and Biden's constant printing of money, are directly at odds with one another. It is like taking a garden hose to put out a fire while a water-bomber dumps thousands of more tons of fuel on top of it at the same time. Many of us are wondering, when will the madness stop?!

Richard Alexander  
12 October, 2022

Inflation is still out of control, as the latest CPI read from the US clearly demonstrated. Retail sales are shrinking at the same time. As I have stated in previous articles, healthy inflation is bolstered on rising wages. Wages are not rising; at least not significantly in order to justify the rise in prices levied on consumers by such retailers as gasoline stations and grocery store chains. Gasoline and food are the lifeblood of Americans, Canadians, Europeans and free market consumers all over the world. The only people these rises do not affect are those living in totalitarian and communist regimes. Even though gasoline has been coming down, the pumping stations where we fuel our cars in order to go to work are still out of wack with the free market system. According to what the world market pays for a barrel of oil, gasoline prices should be dramatically lower than what they are now. Just the fact that OPEC stated that beginning in November of 2022, they would be cutting oil production by two million barrels a day, the gasoline stations in Canada, alone, raised their prices by more than 20 cents a litre at the pump. Yet, the fuel at those stations had already been paid for at a much lower price. But I will get back to that later.

Grocery chains have been having a field day, laughing themselves all the way to the bank. It is akin to James Bond being granted a license to kill. The grocery chains tout the rising cost of gas as a way to justify their constantly rising prices while the size of portions of food divvied to the struggling consumer continue to shrink ('hence *shrinkflation*'). Yet, when gasoline prices went down for several months, or so, grocery chains continued to deliriously raise their prices, even though they could no longer blame shipping costs for their ridiculously high price hikes.

The adage has always been for many decades that when the USA sneezes, the rest of the world catches a cold. This time is no different.

Before Joe Biden was elected, he ran his campaign on getting rid of fossil fuels altogether and going completely to a green energy initiative; one that has been proven over past decades to be sorely inefficient.

True to his word, any graph in rising oil prices can be traced back to the year Joe Biden was elected. He promised to halt drilling permits to existing oil companies and shut down refineries. This is where it all starts. Gasoline prices at the pump have been rising constantly under the Biden administration. Most of the rise in prices occurred directly before Putin decided to invade Ukraine. The final push was right after that invasion, but the majority of that rise had already occurred. The last push after the war broke out was like an exhaustion burst, as is witnessed in stock markets when the last few traders try to get in on a trend that has already been happening for several years before then. To this day, analysts have been talking about the fall from that peak and how the slowing global economy will lead to the collapse of current oil prices. Yet, while oil falls on the world market, gasoline stations are once again raising rates. The reason is they know they can get away with it because the current US administration wants prices at the pump to be high. One of the most despicable things I have witnessed, of late, is when Biden went to Florida to witness the damage done to so many residential homes, along with their lost dreams. He took that opportunity to tout his green agenda and to blame the destruction on climate change, saying this was another reason to embrace green energy.

Really, Joe?! You could not put politics aside for just that moment to ease the suffering of those destitute victims?

Just like the hurricane was the worst, they said, in a hundred years, the so-called 'Great Recession' was also an event that only occurred every hundred years. I wonder if he blames the recession on climate change as well. Yet, he continues to urge people to buy electric vehicles in order to get out of their financial slump.

I once looked at the cost of going green, myself, just for my own home, and the cost of installing solar panels and getting off the grid was more money to break even than what I would eventually realize before dying of old age. The point is that green energy simply is not efficient. It does not work!

The problem is that everything starts with oil. We are a global economy based on oil. It is extremely negligent and foolhardy to shut down your main means of life and expect to wake up the next day with green energy powering everything at a lower cost. Green energy requires great amounts of funding and government subsidies. Even then it is not enough. Home owners end up footing the cost of those initiatives in taxes that go to subsidies to pay for green energy. A wind farm was installed close to my home a number of years ago and afterwards everyone's electrical bill skyrocketed. Why, you may ask? Anyone who has driven past a wind farm on a day when there has been absolutely no wind and sees the blades of those windmills turning can easily understand. Something must power those blades to turn. If there is no wind, it is the electricity, that we pay for, which turns the windmills. The utility companies expect that money to come from the consumers. They certainly are not going to pay for it themselves. They want to make money; not lose it. They would rather their customers lose the money rather than themselves. It is no different from having to charge up an electric vehicle. That electricity comes from coal plants that provide the electricity in the first place.

The current US government has created this mess. Many say that they planned on creating this mess before getting into power. Perhaps that is why Biden constantly says inflation is not a big deal and shrugs it off. This is where he wanted to be. All those voters who wanted this situation and are now complaining about the high costs that are attacking their livelihood have no one to blame but themselves. You can rarely have it both ways.

It is funny that just a few years ago the US was practically energy independent and energy costs were low (comparatively). Now the government is begging the very people they scorned over the years to lower the price of oil. Of course countries like Saudi Arabia are going to thumb their nose at us. The West and OPEC have been at odds since the 1970s. A fool would believe things have changed since then.

Because of all this, most of us in the G7 are suffering; some more than others. California is probably the hardest hit. Even with that in mind, the government of that state is trying to enact even more curbs that will drive the price of energy even higher. Yet, if you look to the north, Canada is paying even higher prices at the pump than Californians. Hard to believe, since they are a large oil producing country. Not long ago, consumers in Canada were paying well over 2 dollars a litre at the pump. What is a litre, you might ask. Basically, it is a shrunk down quart. When prices were \$2.20 CAD per litre at the pump that equated to almost \$10 CAD per gallon at the pump.

You may be also be asking, why do Canadians measure thing in litres. It is strange, considering Canada is a Commonwealth country of Great Britain. Great Britain (the UK) continues to use the empirical system of measurement, just like the US. It seems bizarre that it uses the metric system—a system adopted by the European continent, and something that has nothing to do with Canada.

As crazy as it sounds, there is a reason why Canada adopted such an arcane system of measurement. Then prime minister, Pierre Trudeau, Justin Trudeau's father, switched the system to metric during the 1970s, even though it was detrimental to their partnership with the US and the UK. This was during a time when we were also enduring an extensive oil crush thanks to OPEC. It was an initiative designed to fool the public into not noticing prices at the pump were being raised. Before then, Canada was just like the USA, measuring fuel in gallons. And it worked. Most Canadians thought the price of gas at the pumps had gone down when it had actually sky-rocketed.

It is no surprise that many in the US consider the government in Canada to be a tyranny. Any time a Liberal government obtains a majority in a given election, the rights of voters are essentially trounced under their feet. There is no accountability. Pierre Trudeau got away with it for well over a decade. As long as such a government holds a majority and continues to get voted in, they can theoretically stay in power forever. The electorate is simply slow to act and slow to realize they are being dictated to. I blame it on the cold. The freezing temperatures north of the border seems to dull peoples' brain to the point they simply fall into line like a flock of sheep being herded to the slaughter.

The reality is that the government system of the US, by way of Congress, gives more power to the people in order that their wishes can be accurately heard if they are unhappy with how their current government is representing them. But, then, Canada is a funny place. More consideration is given to the province—what amounts to the equivalent of a US state—of Quebec than most other provinces. In Canada, Quebec is essentially considered a foreign nation by the rest of the country. During Covid, when immigrants were flooding Quebec, they were pelted with rocks and garbage and called all manner of foul names. That one province alone regards themselves above all other province, even though most of the rest of the country can not even understand what they are saying half the time. They speak in some foreign dialect that is not even true French, while the rest speaks English. It is a bastardization of the language derived from France.

In the US, many call prime minister Justin Trudeau president 'Black Face', due to the current prime minister's demonstrated racist tendencies. He is from Quebec, after all, a foreign nation who does not tolerate those who are not of white, French-Canadian decent. And he is certainly a dictator, as was witnessed when the truck drivers of Canada drove to Ottawa, the nation's capital, to peacefully protest the vaccine mandate. Instead of facing the crowd and listening to their grievances, Justin Trudeau hid and enacted the Emergency Measures Act in order to label them terrorists, even though they had a clear constitution right to protest. No acts of violence were perpetrated, yet names were taken and all their assets were frozen. Years before, the Tamil Tigers protested in Toronto and shut down the streets, yet those foreign entities, who have demonstrated violent tendencies, were allowed to do so without repercussion.

This seems to be a sign of the times. Keep inflation high and hopefully, eventually, these totalitarian governments may finally persuade their electorate to embrace something other than democracy.

Richard Alexander  
18 October, 2022

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### Inflation Prices Deviating Wildly

I have been looking at the price of common goods at the grocery stores this week and was shocked at just how much prices are still rising. Beef is still through the roof when compared to just several years ago. In fact, it all seemed to start during just the past two years. Restaurants and grocery stores first blamed gasoline prices as the cause for the rise in food items. Now, however, it seems that while prices of fuel have been coming down, food prices are still going up.

For now, I will not even mention the disconnect between oil on the world market and the price of fuel at the pumps. I have already covered that in, 'Inflation versus Price Gouging'. The policies of the Biden era of restricting oil drilling on US soil can be largely blamed for the increase in that area. I have taken a look back, however, at some of the futures market prices, which cover a large area.

The most notable has been the price of beef. Steaks and roasts are at an all time high. Yet, if we look back at the commodities over ten or more years, we see that beef prices peaked on October of 2014, at a price of \$245. Today, that price is around \$174. What is strange is that we were paying much less for beef at grocery stores than what we are now. Then I looked at corn, which is used to feed a lot of the livestock that ends up in our refrigerators. The price of corn peaked in August of 2012, at a price of \$849. Today, it is about \$686. Wheat, which is used for a myriad of items, such as bread and pasta, peaked as far back as February of 2008. At that time, wheat futures were at \$1,981. Today, it is less than half that, now costing \$956 on the futures market.

Why should the futures market matter to us, you may ask. Simply put, it is an indication of what producers pay. The main purchasers of commodities and futures—in this case, food—are either those who are producing the food in the first place, using those futures prices as a hedge, and large institutions. These being the largest users of such markets, it is fairly simple to influence prices based on what they are willing to pay. So why are commodities going down while food prices are going up? Obviously, there are some players influencing the final price where there may be no reason at all for those prices being so high. As I have stated before, proper, healthy inflation usually comes about due to the work force's pay being on the rise. The problem is those wages have not been going up in lock-step with inflation. It is difficult to justify high prices due to supply chain constraints when most of the restrictions on those chains have already been lifted.

By now, we should realize that prices are mainly rising due to an irresponsible government, or governments, printing and pumping ridiculous amounts of money into the economy, inspiring end-sellers to raise their prices due to the influx of trillions of dollars. The type of spending by irresponsible governments has never been as out of control as it is now. It is time to turn back toward fiscal responsibility. There is no reason to raise interest rates if government spending gets reigned in. Any time the economy has been in such a sorry state as it is now, interest rates get lowered, not raised. It is just a matter of time before it all implodes.

Richard Alexander  
26 October, 2022

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### Gas Prices Rising (Again)

What is it about Canada? It is a large country full of natural resources. Where people do not live, there are plenty of rocks, minerals and oil reserves just pushing at the surface, aching to get out. Before Biden came along, Canada was the largest supplier of oil to the USA.

Earlier this month, Canada decided that the middle class had enjoyed enough of a break from high gasoline prices and jacked up the price, by roughly a dollar per gallon. That's a huge jump which happened in just a matter of one hour during the middle of the day. Was it due to OPEC stating they were going to cut 2 million barrels of production starting in November of 2022? Or was it that the federal government decided they needed more revenue by reapplying the taxes? It could not have been the same dynamics that drive the US. Just in New York state, prices are still less than half of what they are in Canada. Perhaps it is because the prime minister of the Canadian regime is not due for election any time soon. The primaries in the US, however, are less than two weeks away. Maybe that is why gasoline has only gone up in cents of late, rather than dollars, as it has in Canada. I am sure that once the election is over, the prices at the pumps in USA will also begin to swell.

Richard Alexander  
27 October, 2022

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What is Democracy

When USA gained their independence, it was a war against who they thought was their oppressor. That oppressor was the British Empire, ruled, at the time, by King George III. The empire, during those earlier days, was very much a tyranny. England conquered and ruled less resistant nations around the globe.

USA, unlike Canada, their neighbour to the north, wished for free speech and the exchange of ideas that would not be met with imprisonment or hanging. The ideal of the newly independent American nation was true democracy. It is strange that now, during these fairly insane times and contradicting ideals, that the ruling regime in USA is currently saying, in a roundabout way, that true democracy does not exist due to the differing ideals of the two main political parties. In other words, the ruling administration in the USA has been saying that if you disagree with their current ideas, then you are against democracy. This is fairly strange, considering true democracy is founded on free speech and differing ideas. To state that the ruling government's ideas are the only truly democratic ideas sounds like a complete contradiction toward those ideals on which the newly independent USA was founded upon.

Let us take a look at some of the new ideals.

First of all, education is no longer about education. It is no longer about learning history. It is not about being able to read proficiently, or even to be able to do quality mathematics. Education for children is currently about learning transgender notions and early sex education for children who are still in public school, or even kindergarten, and are not even aware of sex yet.

This is an interesting idea. When dictatorships take over a country's people, whether communist or true dictatorship—I should clarify, in that true dictators are just that, whereas communists are also ruthless dictators but camouflage themselves in an ideal that is supposed to make all people equal when actually it is an even more ruthless dictatorship—the first thing that is done is that all intellectuals and civil rights activists are incarcerated and eventually killed while in prison and being tortured. Dictatorships do not want educated people in the mix, inciting other disenfranchised citizens to stand up for their rights and rebel against the ruling regime. So, in a way, the current US administration is stifling future education and future generations that may be able to think for themselves. Instead, children are now being indoctrinated in schools in order that they are brainwashed to believe what their government is telling them.

Another bizarre occurrence is the way the radical left is trying to destroy all historic monuments and deny the racist acts that took place in the US when slavery was still prevalent. It is as if they are denying they were ever a bad people in a bad nation and that everything is lollipops and rainbows.

The very importance of history, no matter how bad it may be, teaches us not to repeat the same mistakes. By denying these things ever happened is to set up the next generation to repeat those very same mistakes. It was done by the Russian communists, along with every other totalitarian regime that has tried to deny anything bad ever happened in the past due to similar policies.

Because the mid-term elections are looming in the USA at the moment, the radical left Democratic party is doing their best to divert attention from such things as inflation, a suffering economy, rampant crime in the inner cities and drug cartels flooding the country by coming across the Mexican border (which has been opened up by the Biden administration). The DNC is not addressing any of the issues that are affecting most of middle-class America for one very simple reason. Biden, along with his policies, has created the mess the country is experiencing in the first place. They can not claim to have an answer to inflation simply because that would mean reversing their policy.

Inflation began in America for one very simple reason. Biden declared war on fossil fuels by shutting down new drilling initiatives in his own country. When the US was running out of oil as a result, the fearless leader, Joe Biden, begged Saudi Arabia for more oil. All he had to do was turn on the oil spigots in his own country again, but he refused to do that. Understandable, considering all the trillions of dollars he had at his disposal, regardless of whatever happened to that money. It certainly did not go to making the common man's life any better; just worse. He has no answer for the border

crisis, because he created that mess as well, along with rampant crime in major cities.

So, we know the cause of the problems and we know the DNC does not want to talk about those issues since they are responsible for them. Instead, they talk about democracy. Their latest narrative is that if you do not vote Democrat, you are against democracy, no matter how much the pursuit of happiness is being crushed under their power. I suppose the Democrats believe that if Joe Biden says gas at the pumps was already over \$5 a gallon when he took office, the voting public will be so stupid as to believe such a wild claim, when gas was actually under \$2.50 when he took office. Still, the Democrats are not worried about that because, in their mind, abortion and Roe v. Wade is the number one topic with which voters are concerned; not the cost of living or feeling safe in their own home.

Still, if you do not vote Democrat during the mid-terms, and instead vote Republican, you are a 'cockroach voting for Raid' as a host on The View recently said. Oh yes, and you are also against democracy, which means you are an anarchist.

This is the classic pattern of a dictatorship. You crush education, you insist that those you rule recite the regime's ideological line, and if you speak out against it...well, first you are derided. When things get really bad, you are snatched off the street for speaking out against the ruling party, and then most likely no one ever hears from you again.

Is this where we are heading? Is this the latest party line of the Democrats and Joe Biden and all his little foot soldiers?

Jerome Powell, of the FOMC, seems to have fallen under such a spell. He is faithfully towing the party line. During his latest press conference on November 2, he stated that the economy is strong, but in a later sentence he admitted the economy is suffering. He also replied to one reporter's query about yield inversions, stating there was no yield inversion between the 2 and 10 year treasury bonds. Is Powell now simply denying irrefutable facts in order that the Democratic party appears to have done nothing wrong? Every statement he gives continues to blame inflation on Vladimir Putin, rather than the rampant inflation that occurred before his invasion of Ukraine and due to Biden shutting down oil production in the USA.

The FOMC has always stated they act outside of politics but this is the most politically motivated chair of the FOMC I have witnessed in my lifetime. It seems that if Biden says something that refutes the facts and Jerome Powell does the same, we should all just agree with it. Not to agree would be against the ruling party, and they, along with their many legions, just do not wish to tolerate such dissent.

Richard Alexander  
1 & 2 November, 2022

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## The Big Disconnect

Perhaps it is because I was younger when many controversial things were happening in US politics, and I was simply too immature to understand it, that I am so shocked with what has been happening over the past two years. I really can not remember a time when the US president was so aloof to the plight of his people. There are so many US citizens, as well as citizens throughout the West, who are suffering because of what the president, Joe Biden, has done.

For argument sake, let us say that when Biden was elected on his platform of shutting down fossil fuels, it was indeed going to be an experiment. Never in my wildest dreams did I think he was actually going to cancel all oil drilling permits in his own country, cold turkey, for the sake of relying

on wind and solar, in order to power peoples' daily lives. Green energy is still a fairly new idea, but at least other countries in the West—mainly Europe—have gradually introduced green energy while still keeping their proven resources available to power homes, cities and cars, through the use of fossil fuels.

First of all, the technology for wind and solar is still highly inefficient when compared to coal or nuclear. I have had remarks from European wind farm installers saying that our government in North America is out of their minds when they hire them for billions of dollars to complete turbine farms. They state that we could be investing the same money in nuclear and coming out with 100 times more power than what a wind farm generates.

The problem is that eventually reality is going to sink in. Many countries in Europe have already decided to abandon their green initiatives in order to go back to relying on natural gas and coal. It just comes down to a matter of survival. A government may want to have renewable energy, but if their people are starving, due to high energy prices, or unable to go to work because gasoline is so high from a moratorium on oil drilling, they may want to rethink their ideas, along with their experiments at the cost of their own voters.

What is absolutely unbelievable in light of these events, which have been transpiring since Biden was elected, is that the current US administration clearly sees their policies are ruining the American Dream, along with a decent way of life for most people, while they continue their course to self-destruction.

Not even mentioning the fact that so-called 'global warming' or 'climate change' may not even exist, trying to change a nation overnight with a plan that was bound to cause inflation is nothing less than morally negligent.

The majority of the people have spoken. They do not like what is happening. It is causing them pain and they are crying out for help. Yet, despite all this, Joe Biden has publicly stated he is not going to waver from his failed policies. In fact, he recently announced the closure of every coal plant across the United States. The coal plants are what is powering all the wind turbines. If coal plants are closed and there is no electricity being produced to turn the wind turbines, there is not going to be any source of power left. Does the radical left not look at these things and take them into account? Should not a president's first responsibility be toward the well being of his voters?

There comes a time when a leader should just face reality. Nothing is working! Stop chasing a losing investment and reverse course. Europe has been around a lot longer than the settled continent of North America, so maybe that is why they are smarter than us by already deciding to open up the fossil fuel resources they always had.

During a mid-term election, when the foremost issue on peoples' mind is inflation and the cost of living, the Democrats have done nothing to admit they were wrong about everything. More damaging is that they completely skirt the most obvious problems people are facing and resort to calling those who vote for anyone but them, 'cockroaches' or stupid.

Richard Alexander  
6 November, 2022

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## World War IV

Today, we may very well be watching the beginning of World War IV—I say 'IV', simply because the Covid-19 assault on the world was most likely orchestrated—as Russian missiles hit grain establishments in Poland.

I can already see what the headlines will be: 'Russia claims missile attack on Poland was Unintentional', along with similar claims.

The truth is that missiles today are so accurate they can hit a dime several hundred, if not thousands, of miles away. This could very well be a test by Putin, as well as his allies, to see how willing the West and NATO are to respond to military attacks. Is it a coincidence that all three communist dictatorships, Russia, China and North Korea, have been test firing missile attacks at a time when friction between the East and West has escalated to a level not seen since the Cuban 'Bay of Pigs'? We all know how eager those three dictatorships are to take over the world. Who exactly will be the ultimate ruler under such a takeover is a guess. China seems most obvious, but could there exist a scenario where all three form a coalition as the free world disappears and is taken over by oligarchs and the new order. Say good-bye to free speech, freedom of expression and human civil rights.

China and North Korea have been positioning for years to take over the world. Russia now seems to be the poor cousin who simply wants in on the game. Could this be the reason Biden and the Democrats are so friendly toward China? While the Biden family reaps millions from doing business with the most cruel dictatorship on earth, they are also likely securing their future under the new, developing regime as it readies a three pronged attack on the rest of the world. It could be a strong reason why Biden has never asked China if Covid-19 was developed at their Wuhan laboratories. He probably already knows the answer. After Biden stated last month that Covid was over, he is now trying to bring back the lock-downs and mandates against the civil liberties of his people. Is it also a coincidence or a deliberate action to further suppress peoples' freedoms?

The current civil landscape in the USA and Canada already seems like a dictatorship. As any dictatorship does, it indoctrinates their young in order to better serve the regime and it stomps on education so that people are ignorant to what is happening under their very nose. Perhaps this is why Sam Bankman-Fried was funnelling millions of dollars of customers' money to the Democratic party during the mid-term elections. Perhaps this curious entrepreneur is also hip to the coming domination of the communists over the rest of the world and he was trying to buy himself a seat at the dinner table. Who knows for sure. It was evidently something serious enough for the 30 year old billionaire to decide to steal money in order to get himself on board with the rest of the new world order.

*Please note the above article is somewhat tongue in cheek; at least I hope it is.*

Richard Alexander  
15 November, 2022

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## US Energy and the China Connection

The Republicans have officially taken the majority in the House of Representatives. One of the first things they said they would do is to put a stop to the excessive spending of the White House that is driving up inflation. At least the courts have been trying to stop the \$400,000,000,000 Joe Biden has been intending to give to students so they do not have to pay back their tuition. As was proclaimed by critics of the mass spending bill, ironically called the 'Inflation Reduction Act', it appears such a move is both illegal and unconstitutional; not to mention economists have been saying the bill would be closer to one trillion dollars by the time all is said and done.

Now that the House is back in the hands of the Republicans, they intend to investigate the dealings of the Biden family and the communist party of China. The White House was quick to release a statement saying Biden wants the Republicans to ignore such pursuits and concentrate on helping the

people of the United States fight inflation and get back to a normal life. It is also ironic that those same citizens indeed had a normal life before Joe Biden took office. Since Biden took office, inflation has sky-rocketed, along with the price of energy. All this is thanks to Biden's restrictions on drilling any more oil on US land.

All problems with inflation began with oil. Denying oil companies permits for future drilling projects started the ball rolling. Shipping costs soared as the price of regular gasoline and diesel fuel rose steadily. This gave the oil companies and their gasoline stations the opportunity to raise their prices, which were suffered by the American consumer.

I used to think oil companies were the greatest opportunists when it came to pricing their product. Standing back and looking at things, I now think the grocery store chains are perhaps even greater opportunists. Just yesterday, I heard a news report coming from the two biggest grocery store chains north of the border, in Canada, warning consumers that inflation would continue to drive up the prices of food at their stores for some time to come. I thought this to be a strange warning, considering inflation has been coming down for food since August, when food CPI peaked in the USA. And the situation is not much different in Canada. In fact, inflation in Canada peaked in June of 2022; the same month energy inflation peaked in the US. The obvious question is, now that inflation has peaked and is coming down, why are the two big grocery chains in Canada telling their customers that food prices are going to continue to climb much higher now that inflation is diminishing. If anything, this is the time for those grocery chains to lower their prices. Oddly enough, they refuse to do so. It is not a surprise to see the owner of one of my local grocery stores driving a Mercedes Benz AMG; a very expensive car indeed. I remember a time when grocery store owners went to work in a pickup truck. Not anymore.

The bizarre thing is that all Joe Biden has to do to alleviate all this financial pain is to grant oil companies the right to drill oil once more on home land, rather than the ridiculous practice of buying oil from foreign, often hostile, nations. If he were really serious about relieving the hardship of the American people, that is all he needs to do. With the flick of a pen, life could go back to being normal, and bearable. It seems bizarre that he would refuse to make life better for the American people.

Perhaps there is a reason for all this.

Apparently, since the GOP took back the House, many things have come to the forefront. Hunter Biden's laptop, containing a map detailing areas in the USA that were going to be sold to the communist regime of China, so that they could drill American natural gas for themselves is indeed a troubling prospect. Already, Americans have been sounding the alarm over the Chinese communists buying up farmland right next to them. Why would the Chinese want to buy American property? Is this the reason why Biden's energy policies have been so damning to the rest of the country? Is it simply because he has promised all that oil and natural gas to the communist regime.

It could very well be a financially devastating event for the nation, not that it already has not been. But it could get much worse. The only people who stand to profit beyond wild expectations from such a radical departure would be those brokering such a deal, with the Biden family at the center.

When Donald Trump took office, the Democratic Party flooded the media with allegations of connections to Russia and tampering with the election results. That was eventually proven to be a complete lie, or what is more politely termed as disinformation. Many other allegations were also proven to be grossly false. It seems as though the DNC wanted all attention on 'fake news' in order that no one took the time to question their own sketchy dealings, which have come to light through recently noted fiascos such as the FTX collapse. While Bankman-Fried was giving tens of millions to the Democrats during the mid-term elections, millions went missing from the accounts of customers who had invested in the bogus company. Life savings of many who had thought this to be their retirement fund, were ravaged, at a time when most people thought things could not possibly get any worse. Then there is the Hunter Biden conspiracies, which if were ever realized, would mean the utter collapse of the American dream. But if China does eventually take over the US, the Biden family would be very well set up as one of the facilitators of the Chinese invasion. He and his family would become a

national hero of the Peoples' Republic of China, and he would be very rich in the process.

If a sitting president is displaying a conflict of interest when it comes to the security of their nation, that is surely a moment worth looking at while taking a big step back. It is a terrifying prospect to think how badly a US president has betrayed their own country.

Richard Alexander  
18 November, 2022

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### When is Government Regulation Simply Too Much

I was never a fan of Donald Trump. In truth, I never gave him much thought about anything. One thing I did know was that Barack Obama was probably the worst thing that ever happened to the United States in the history of presidents. To this day, I simply do not know how he was re-elected to a second term.

When Obama was in power, during one of the worst states of our economy during our present lifetime, all he had to do was *nothing*. If Obama had simply done nothing, the economy would have come roaring back with a vengeance following the 2008 bank fiasco. Instead, Obama chose to exacerbate things by taking the opportunity to impose overbearing government regulation so that those businesses that could have hired so many more people were simply unable to do so due to the excessive government rule.

After you have hit the bottom, there is nowhere else to go but up. It was natural that jobs came back eventually. After the economy slowly began to pick up those who had been laid off, though at a diminished rate, jobs increased. But they could have increased much faster and with higher numbers if the government would have simply stayed out of the affairs of small and medium size business (the biggest employers of new hires).

During Obama's first term, businesses were queried on their hiring outlook ad infinitum. Most businesses said the same thing: Obama was making new hiring very difficult and expensive. 'Obamacare' was one of the greatest stumbling blocks of the time. Businesses were coming off a great blow to their income, but when they were down and laying people off, Obama said they would have to pay even more money when hiring those people back. As a true socialist, Obama wanted businesses to pay for social services at a time when the government was on the verge of closing during repeated occasions due to their inability to pay for their grandiose vision. Like the communists of the now defunct *Union of Soviet Socialist Republics*, he expected the people of the United States to pay for the Socialist Ideal he had envisioned.

History has already shown us the failed endings of the communist agenda. At some point it always collapses. Look at Russia, Cuba and even modern day China. None of them can survive without embracing a capitalist agenda in order to keep their economy afloat. The centralized, government system simply does not work. It relies on others to break their backs under totalitarian labour mandates, while giving those rewards to the overlords that demand such back breaking work. If the tyrannical regimes do nothing to promote increased production by putting that money back into the system, it will always fail. Totalitarianism, like they have in antiquated USSR, Cuba, North Korea and even Canada, will always lead to decay.

What many Democrats in the USA and Canada do not want to admit is that when Donald Trump came into office it was a time during the Obama years when the vast majority of Americans said they had simply had enough! The American Dream was being stomped upon. They elected Trump because he portrayed a vision of America when it was still independent and defiant against the tyranny of the

world. Trump was not a politician. He was a businessman (which was something many American economic analysts at the time said we needed to put things straight again). The District of Columbia hated him for that. He was not part of the Washington clique and therefore, could not be controlled. Because he was not a politician he put things back in order, just as he said he would do, and quickly healed the sick that was infecting the USA, up to the point when the radical left took over with their dream of transforming the landscape into a socialist republic.

The radical left, along with the sympathetically left leaning media, has been trying to indict, impeach and basically arrest Donald Trump from the moment he took office. He was never given a chance by the Left. Yet, his achievements are undeniable. Joe Biden's achievements are also undeniable; but simply because he has managed to do greater destruction to the nation of the United States than even Obama. Joe Biden was clearly paying close attention to his mentor.

Socialism/Communism, Yes; Democracy No! This is to what it has come down.

When Trump took office, the GOP said they wanted to work with the Democrats in order to fix all the problems that had been done to the nation under Obama. Preceding the inauguration, the Democrats said the same. It soon became apparent after Trump took power that the main agenda for the Democrats was to discredit Trump and get him out of office in whatever fashion they could muster. They did not even attempt to work with the new governing party in order to make life better for the American people. Yet, Donald Trump, as distasteful as he may have been to many socialist, left leaning Democrats, accomplished a great service to his country.

It is ironic that a mere businessman could see the harm the Chinese and the Eastern Block was attempting to impose on the Free World, yet none of the radical Left could see it. For the many accomplishments Donald Trump managed, the radical left media never talks of those many accomplishments that were brokered under Trump's leadership. Perhaps that is simply because all those accomplishments were due to merely taking a democratic view of the state of the union. When has it ever been a popular view to embrace communist ideals in the Free World? It is not something that is embraced due to its contrarian values. But it is embraced by communist/socialist/dictatorial values for the simple reason that those ideals can never survive without a capitalist bent.

Richard Alexander  
20 November, 2022

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## The Rise of Communism

I find bewildering, what is happening today. When you look at the latest breaking stories coming from overseas, there are such events that would seem to indicate people who are oppressed by totalitarian governments and communist regimes are simply sick and tired of being dictated to.

Before I go any further, I should point out that the title of this piece should be, 'The Rise of Communism (in North America)'. This is because every indication has been showing us that the USA and Canada seem to want to embrace totalitarianism. It is a growing epidemic that began with Obama and is now being carried over by Biden. And, yet, history has shown us that a centralized government, such as communism, simply does not work.

The wall came down in East Germany. In that country, there is no East and West anymore, and there has not been for a long time. The USSR crumbled during Ronald Reagan's tenure as the Commander in Chief of the USA. Cuba failed as well, leaving their people to live in poverty and despair. History has shown us that these far left, idealist systems of government are simply not economically feasible.

Communism's answer to this, within the 21<sup>st</sup> century, has been to morph into a hybrid system of communism which also embraces capitalism. Communism, in its pure form, simply can not function for any prolonged period of time. Even now, with that hybrid form which communism has turned to, the people are rebelling and saying, enough already! They are fed up with being oppressed and dictated to, just as the recent riots and protests in China, during its oppressive Covid-19 mandated lockdowns has shown. Even Iran, a notoriously tyrannical system, is currently dealing with protests and riots over women being oppressed and systematically murdered, for wanting nothing more than freedom of expression (and basically just *freedom*)—freedom from fear and freedom from persecution.

As oppressed people flee to the West, in order to escape such things as secret police or 'morality police' picking them up off the street, never to be heard from again until their deaths during incarceration are announced, a very bizarre thing is happening here in the West.

Contrary to the rest of the world trying to escape despotic tyrants who rule their various countries, the government here in the West—specifically the USA and Canada—are eagerly embracing the notion of communism. When journalists journey onto college campuses these days to ask students their political affiliation, a frightening number proudly say they are communist.

These young, eager minds probably have no true idea what oppressed societies actually deal with from day to day. The youth of today have been educated to believe that it is better to have no civil or human rights while allowing their governing rulers to oversee their very existence. The youth of today seem to actually believe their governing officials are in a better position, than the rest of society, to dictate what is right and what is wrong. When governing officials tell their people they are better qualified to decide what is moral, rather than the majority of civilians, and those youths buy into such a notion, tyranny is not far away.

The problem is that our elected officials today are targeting the very young in order to push their authoritarian agendas. Those young individuals, who are already being influenced by far left leaning educators, simply do not know any better. While the radical left has been trying to erase all evidence of history, they are also imprinting impressionable young minds with their own beliefs.

Some may ask, how do we know big government is taking over. The answer is simple, just as any immigrant fortunate enough to escape a totalitarian regime will tell you.

When the rights of every citizen to express their beliefs and their opinions are taken away, that is just the beginning. Shortly after that, gun laws for average citizens are repealed, making it increasingly difficult to own a gun for lawful use. The criminals who are purchasing illegal weapons smuggled into the country from other nations are not even considered. It is the law abiding citizen whom they seek to disarm. If your people are disarmed, it is easier to take away their freedoms without rebellion or revolution. The independence of the USA was achieved by American citizens taking up arms against their oppressors at the time, the British Empire. This is why the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment has always been so important to the people of America. It keeps the governing officials honest, or at least somewhat honest.

As a people, we surely should shudder and fear the notion that merely uttering such opinions as not liking a certain race or religion should be cause for incarceration. I grew up being told 'sticks and stones may brake your bones, but words will never hurt you'. As a result, peoples' opinions never really bothered me that much. Freedom of speech has been trampled so badly that having an opinion that is contrary to the governing bureau is now considered a hate crime. It was always the act of perpetrating violence upon such people that was always the crime. Pretty soon, if someone even just 'thinks' they do not agree with another culture, that will be enough to be arrested and incarcerated, possibly never to be heard from again.

It is a terrifying Orwellian future that is now on our doorstep, waiting for us to fully embrace it. At the moment, the door is open and many are talking to it. But once that Orwellian oppression is invited into their home, all hope is lost.

Richard Alexander  
29 November, 2022