



ARE YOU READY
FOR THE REVOLUTION?

REVOLUTION!

(Really?)

Revolution is a pretty strong word for America's current political climate. What evidence is there to support such a claim?

- There is a growing divide between people with different beliefs. A sharp polarity quickly develops when two sides of an issue confront each other. There is no common ground remaining for discussion or debate, only two opposing sides to any issue.
- There is an increasing tendency toward intolerance of opposing beliefs. Differing views are no longer acceptable, but quickly escalate from accusation to aggression.
- There is evidence and acceptance of aggressive behavior toward those with whom one disagrees. Incidences of disruption, civil disturbances, and violence and destruction of property are increasing in frequency and intensity.
- Continuation and escalation could result in civil war: open continued aggression without immediate and apparent cause.

REVOLUTION!

Let's look at what may be contributing to the current climate of civil and cultural division and intolerance in America.

- What empirical evidence supports the existence of the divide?
- What conditions may be contributing to the divide?
- Who are the individuals or groups that are inciting, encouraging, or supporting the divide?
- Why has the division evolved so quickly and so extensively, and why has it become incorporated into our culture so widely and so deeply?

EVIDENCE

What empirical evidence supports the existence of a powerful civil, cultural, and/or political divide in America?

- Instantaneous escalation of a conversation into an argument and the end of discourse and/or debate.
 - Personal interactions on issues of importance to one or more of the participants.
 - Civil events such as town hall meetings, club meetings, peaceful demonstrations, or educational events.
- Intolerance of opposing views, shouting, shaming, name-calling, and blaming.
 - Most of this comes from the left: from Hollywood, the media, and from politicians.
 - Calling conservatives alt-right, white supremacists, Nazis, fascists, etc.
- Disturbance, disruption, civil unrest, destruction of property, and violence.
 - “By any means necessary” has been used as the mantra for those in opposition to a conflicting viewpoint.

EVIDENCE

- Trigger warnings, safe spaces, hysterical over-reaction to perceived offenses.
 - Evidence of the weakness and instability of the individual. It is no longer acceptable to defend oneself against a perceived bully; the imagined bully must be publicly blame-shamed into submission on social media.
 - Banana-gate is an example of weakness and instability.
 - Fascist panic at UC Santa Cruz is an example of the bully response.
- “Belief” in everything and belief in nothing.
 - All of us possess a longing to be a part of something. The Christian believes that this is a longing to be connected to God.
 - The secularist believes that this is a longing to be connected to some version of social justice or an organization.
- Political correctness (examples)
 - California has recently partially decriminalized the knowing transmission of the HIV virus to homosexual partners or in blood donations so as not to offend the diseased person.
 - The boy scouts have allowed the inclusion of girls in the organization.
 - And even more...

EVIDENCE



- The sudden rise of illegitimate “causes”
 - Black Lives Matter
 - Antifa (Anti Fascists)
 - BAMN (By Any Means Necessary)
- Presentism in lieu of respect for the lessons to be learned from even a flawed history
 - Historical revisionism to obliterate what are seen as flaws in our history.
 - Destruction or removal of symbols of our history (statues, Dixie flag, etc.)
 - Attempts to revise our Constitution to create an environment more conducive to revisions that meet current social perceptions.
- Public display of opposition (to something...) by public figures
 - Kneeling or sitting during the National Anthem
 - Fist-raising
- And even more...

CONDITIONS

What conditions may be contributing to the divide between people with different beliefs?

- Ethical / moral / spiritual division: Secularism has replaced moral constraints with coercive constraints. The avoidance of punishment has replaced personal responsibility.
- Social justice: Causes have been amplified and/or artificially created and elevated in order to cause a divide between individuals and groups.
- Economic conditions: Government programs and greed have created a dependency and a sense of entitlement. Addressing these programs causes division between the “haves” and “have-nots”.
- Racism in all its forms: Skin color, religion, national origins or other differences are being used as wedges to divide people; a divided people can be manipulated.
- The supremacy of change: Obama introduced the concept that change for the sake of change was somehow a good thing. This now persists throughout all aspects of society.

CONTRIBUTORS



Who are the individuals or groups that are inciting, encouraging, or supporting the divide?

- Media in all its forms
- Hollywood and television stars
- Public figures: sports, politicians, personalities
- External forces: world politics, Islam, North Korea
- The liberal left in all its forms and connections.

RAPID EXPANSION



Why has the division evolved so quickly and so extensively, and why has it become incorporated into our culture so widely and so deeply?

- Gullibility: without a moral compass, individuals are easily swayed into believing something without any logical challenge or critical thinking.

"Man, once surrendering his reason, has no remaining guard against absurdities the most monstrous, and like a ship without rudder, is the sport of every wind. With such persons, gullibility takes the helm from the hand of reason and the mind becomes a wreck." ~ Thomas Jefferson

- Generational differences: Millennials have been raised to be weak and susceptible, and are therefore more willing to follow a movement without question.
- An issue-based society: everything has become an "issue", and is judged by feelings and emotions rather than logic and reason.

RAPID EXPANSION

- Denial of history: there is an movement to ignore and thereby learn from the flaws of our history, because it makes us uncomfortable in light of our current belief systems.

"Progress, far from consisting in change, depends on retentiveness. When experience is not retained, as among savages, infancy is perpetual. Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." ~ George Santayana

- Infantilism: many people have adopted the philosophy that they need to be taken care of by somebody, rather than being self-reliant.
- Racism and x-ophobia in all its forms. While real discrimination is wrong, the word and the concept is being mis-applied and used as an attack against any perceived injustice in order to create an immediate and passionate response.

THE DICHOTOMY

There is a dichotomy between the two sides of the divide

- The autonomous vs. the dependent individual:
 - Self-sufficiency, ability, competence, and success vs. Insufficiency, inability, incompetence, and dependency

"True education makes for inequality; the inequality of individuality, the inequality of success, the glorious inequality of talent, of genius; for inequality, not mediocrity, individual superiority, not standardization, is the measure of the progress of the world." —Felix E. Schelling (1858-1945)

- Americanism vs. global culture
 - Multi-culturalism vs. multi-ethnicism
- The control mechanisms within the civil society
 - Moral collapse: Judeo-Christian values vs. secular humanism
 - Accountability: coercive constraints vs. moral constraints
- Legitimacy vs. passion
 - Adherence to what is right vs. adherence to what feels right
 - What are wants vs. rights

WHAT ARE THE THREATS?



- Geopolitical threats
 - Globalization
 - Socialism, Marxism, communism, fascism, and all the other -isms.
 - Islam
- National political threats
 - Liberalism / progressivism
 - Funded agents for the destruction of our form of government
- Military threats
 - North Korea
 - Iran
 - Terrorism
- Economic threats
 - Economic collapse and/or the collapse of the dollar

WHAT ARE THE THREATS?

- Environmental threats
 - Naturally-occurring events
 - Perceived climate change
- Personal threats
 - Politically motivated
 - Needs motivated
 - Hate motivated
 - Situational or event-related

PREPARATIONS



“If you are not prepared to use force to defend civilization, then be prepared to accept barbarism.” ~ Thomas Sowell

- Awareness and discernment
- Equipment and supplies
- Shelter
- Community
- Avoidance, response, and reaction

AWARENESS AND DISCERNMENT

- Be alert to events, situations, and language
 - Avoid events that may lead to confrontation
 - Be situationally aware at all times, particularly as tensions escalate
 - An example of how language can be used to create bias:
(excerpt taken from Hillary Clinton's book *What Happened*):
 - "Attempting to define reality is a core feature of authoritarianism. This is what the Soviets did when they erased political dissidents from historical photos. This is what happens in George Orwell's classic novel *Nineteen Eighty-Four* when a torturer holds up four fingers and delivers electric shocks until his prisoner sees five fingers as ordered. The goal is to make you question logic and reason and to sow mistrust toward exactly the people we need to rely on: our leaders, the press, experts who seek to guide public policy based on evidence, ourselves. For Trump, as with so much he does, it's about simple dominance."

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EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

- Equipment and supplies: be prepared to be self-sufficient for an extended period of time, as much as is reasonable for your circumstances.

SHELTER

- Shelter: consider what must be done if all utilities and communications suddenly cease to be available.

COMMUNITY



- Community: identify those on whom you can mutually depend, and establish an agreement on how and where you will come together and share resources and capabilities.

AVOIDANCE, RESPONSE, AND REACTION



- Avoidance:
 - Using planning as your tool, recognize developing situations that may result in your being at risk.
 - Using awareness as your tool, learn to avoid existing situations that put you at risk.
- Response:
 - Plan and prepare yourself and your family for responding to high risk situations.
- Reaction:
 - Practice how you would respond to critical situations so that you are prepared in advance and can react quickly.

PREVENTIVE ACTIONS



What actions for the future can be taken now?

- Education
 - Get involved in education; in your family, in your community, and in your state.
- Stand by what you stand for
 - When the situation allows, calmly share your beliefs. This will require preparation and boldness.
- Stand behind those that stand with you
 - Support those individuals and organizations that believe as you do; reject those the oppose you.
- Pray for renewal
 - There is [hope](#).