

C.S. Lewis and "Mere Politics": Some Shrewdly Hellish Political Advice from The Screwtape Letters

1

In an election year, can an over-focus upon the all-encompassing reach of modern politics pose a danger to a voter's soul? C.S. Lewis' Senior Devil Screwtape knew the answer to that one.

Each U.S. election year since at least 2016, a piece of sage advice from C.S. Lewis' celebrated 1942 epistolary novel *The Screwtape Letters* has resurfaced online, in which the book's narrator, a Senior Devil in Hell named Screwtape, pens instructions to his equally demonic nephew, a Junior Tempter named Wormwood, upon the general subject of politics. It contains guidance about how to ensure the future damnation of the particular human individual entrusted to Wormwood to corrupt and ruin ("the patient") by ensuring he becomes engrossed in temporal public affairs of state, not private affairs of his own immortal soul:

JCRMC PACKET

Be sure that the patient remains completely fixated on politics. Arguments, political gossip, and obsessing on the faults of people they have never met serves as an excellent distraction from advancing in personal virtue, character, and the things the patient can control. Make sure to keep the patient in a constant state of angst, frustration, and general disdain towards the rest of the human race in order to avoid any kind of charity or inner peace from further developing. Ensure the patient continues to believe that the problem is "out there" in the "broken system" rather than recognizing there is a problem with himself.

CRITICS MAGAZINE

Wise infernal counsel, perhaps. Yet the words are not actually C.S. Lewis' at all. The whole thing is a **proven Internet fake**. With November's presidential election looming, Screwtape's supposed letter will no doubt be dusted down and made to go viral once again. Counterfeit though it may be, it is still worth asking the question: "Does Screwtape's letter contain any truth to it nonetheless?" I should say it does.

Although many readers of his Christian apologetics and novels automatically presume otherwise, C.S. Lewis (1898-1963) was not actually a Catholic himself but an Anglican, an adult convert to the Protestant Church of England. Nor, as many likewise wrongly presume, was the noted Oxbridge don and **Inkling** colleague of such characteristically Anglo-Saxon writers as J.R.R. Tolkien actually English: he was born in Northern Ireland, then (as now) a hotbed of sectarian tension between Protestant and Catholic.

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Perhaps made wary by the fraught local politics of his upbringing, in adulthood Lewis rarely went out of his way to associate himself with specific political causes. In 1951, he was offered a CBE award from Britain's then-Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, but he **declined the honor** on the grounds that many of his secular critics believed his promulgation of the faith was simply "covert anti-Leftist propaganda" wrapped up in holy disguise. Thus, for him to accept a CBE would only "strengthen their hands" by making it appear he was being rewarded by the Establishment for preaching their desired faith to the masses in his many books, articles, and radio programs.

This does not mean Lewis had no interest in politics, however; it is more that his own specific expertise lay in the field of the politics of eternity. There is no need to concoct fake political quotes from *The Screwtape Letters*, as the real book contains several quite genuine ones, just not of a definite party-political line.

In his very first letter to his nephew, Screwtape warns Wormwood against the false belief that "[rational] argument was the way to keep him [mankind] out of the Enemy's [God's] clutches." Instead, thanks to the twisted way the demons had arranged human society down the centuries, political jargon had, by the time Screwtape was writing, become so debased that the average modern Westerner no longer primarily addressed any given policy or social issue by asking first and foremost whether it was "true" or "false" but, for example, whether it was considered "progressive" or "conservative" in nature.

Neither quality is innately good, in and of itself, at all times. Some things deserve to be conserved and some to be jettisoned and replaced. However, Screwtape and his ilk had managed to fashion such general principles into hard and fast dogmas for most human voters instead, which could often be highly damaging. Here, from his Letter 25, is how Screwtape's general scam works, with specific regard to political progressives:

Once they [men] knew that some changes were for the better, and others for the worse, and others again indifferent. We [demons] have largely removed this knowledge. For the descriptive adjective 'unchanged,' we have substituted the emotional adjective 'stagnant.'

Thanks to such rhetorical sleights of hand, adjectives like “progressive” and “conservative” become mere shibboleths, with persons on either side of the political divide adopting causes simply because they appear to be ones the rest of their ideological “tribe” happen to have adopted collectively.

A good current example would be the Western Left's sudden embrace of Hamas on the “progressive” grounds of their desire to “decolonize” themselves from Israeli rule. Looked at logically, Hamas' attitudes toward gay and women's rights do not seem *terribly* “progressive” in their nature, but so they have been emotionally labelled by today's warped political Screwtapes nonetheless: the illogical end result being banners bearing overt absurdities like “QUEERS FOR PALESTINE,” a place where all the queers in question would actually face **immediate execution**.

Part of the problem is that mankind, unlike incorporeal demons or angels, lives trapped within time and cannot experience past, present, and future all as one single contiguous whole. Of these three discrete temporal elements, explains Screwtape to Wormwood in his Letter 15, it is the future which can most easily be exploited along political lines. As Screwtape observes, “nearly all vices are rooted in the future. Gratitude looks to the past, and love to the present; fear, avarice, and ambition look ahead.”

After all, “the future is unknown to [humans], so that in making them think about it, we make them think about unrealities,” whether these be the unrealistic utopias they themselves hope to construct or the unrealistic dystopias they fear their opponents may construct in their turn. For Screwtape,

we want a man hag-ridden by the future—haunted by visions of an imminent heaven or hell upon earth—ready to break the Enemy's [God's] commands in the present if by so doing we make him think he can attain the one or avert the other.

By such methods, humans fixated excessively upon the political future can be persuaded to commit almost any crime, no matter how colossal, by treating the ends as far more important than the means. Remember all those mass murders in the name of the (never actually to arrive) future paradise committed by despots like Robespierre, Stalin, Lenin, Hitler, and Pol Pot, all of whom did believe sincerely in the genuine “social justice” of what they were doing.

Christians also may face the very same dangers from too firm a focus upon the political future, writes Screwtape in his Letter 23:

About the general connection between Christianity and politics...we do want, and want very much, to make men treat Christianity as a means...as a means to anything—even to social justice. The thing to do is to get a man...to the stage at which he values Christianity because it may produce social justice...Men or nations who think they can revive the Faith in order to make a good society might just as well think they can use the stairs of Heaven as a short cut to the nearest chemist's shop...You see the little rift? “Believe this, not because it is true, but for some other reason.” That's the game.

Just think of all those South American movements of so-called “Liberation Theology” of the 1960s-80s, where Marxism fused weirdly with Catholicism, hoping to produce a political New Jerusalem many years before the End Times appearance of the desired real thing, on the spurious grounds that Jesus Christ was supposedly some form of early premodern “proto-Communist.” As well-intentioned as many of the politicized priests involved may have been, did they really end up doing more good or more harm thereby? (Clue: it was definitely the latter.)

Now that democracy has been successfully subverted like this, Screwtape’s modern-day letter currently circulating online may actually be correct in its forged advice. Making mankind obsessed with devising impossible solutions for wider political problems over which he actually possesses next to no meaningful influence is indeed an excellent way to make him neglect certain other, more private, problems he *does* have some personal influence over: those of his own soul. As Lewis wrote in his popular 1952 Christian apologetic *Mere Christianity*:

If individuals live only seventy years, then a state, or a nation, or a civilisation, which may last for a thousand years, is more important than an individual. But if Christianity is true, then the individual is not only more important but incomparably more important, for he is everlasting and the life of a state, or a civilisation, compared with his, is only a moment.

The state is temporary, but the soul is immortal. As Lewis once had Screwtape put it elsewhere, “the real end [of obsession with collective political systems] is the destruction of individuals. For only individuals can be saved or damned.”

Of course, this does not mean Lewis felt any given individual voter, Christian or otherwise, should necessarily retreat away from the world of public politics into the private desert-cell of the soul forever. It is just that, as he wrote in his 1945 essay *Membership*:

A sick society must think much about politics, as a sick man must think much about his digestion; to ignore the subject may be fatal cowardice for the one as for the other. But if either come to regard it as the natural food of the mind—if either forgets that we think of such things only in order to be able to think of something else—then what was undertaken for the sake of health has become itself a new and deadly disease.

If so, what does it say about the current health of our own society that politics now obsessively intrudes its tentacles, unasked for, into almost every sphere of public and private life, even into those where, by rights, it has no rightful place, such as sports?

Perhaps the ultimate utility of Lewis’ political outlook will have been brought home to him on the day he died, 22 November 1963, the very same day JFK was shot dead in Dallas. Of the two figures, only one possessed the worldly political power of a Caesar during life. Yet, on their shared day of demise, each one’s soul would have stood equally naked and alone before the Throne of Judgment. I wonder whose, ultimately, would have gained the more positive heavenly assessment?

Steven Tucker

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The Vietnamization of Ukraine

RON PAUL • MAY 20, 2024 • 600 WORDS • 18 COMMENTS • 5 NEW

As Ukraine's defeat in the war moves closer, the neocons are desperate to draw the US further into the fight. Over the weekend, former US State Department official Victoria Nuland told ABC News that the US must help facilitate Ukrainian missile attacks deep inside Russian territory. The Biden Administration has to this point avoided involvement in such attacks, likely because Russian president Vladimir Putin has warned that Russia will strike any facility that supplies or facilitates strikes inside of Russia, wherever they may be.

It's a clear warning from a nuclear power, but as Nuland and her fellow neocons see their Ukraine project failing, they demand escalation. This is just what they did in their previous disastrous projects like the Iraq War, the attacks on Syria and Libya, and the 20-year occupation of Afghanistan. For them the failure is never because it was a bad idea in the first place, but that not enough lives and resources were poured into that bad idea to create a good outcome.

But Russia is no Iraq nor is it Libya. This time they are playing with World War III and nuclear destruction and no one in DC seems concerned.

Last Thursday the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Charles Q. Brown, said that NATO trainers deployed within Ukraine was inevitable. "We'll get there eventually, over time," he said. This, of course, is exactly how we got the Vietnam War, but Russia in 2024 is hardly late -1950s Vietnam. Russia of today is a country that can fight back and can project military power all the way to the source, which means the United States.

Is Nuland's Ukraine project worth dying in a nuclear war over?

The whole US involvement in this proxy war has been based on lie after lie. They said we had to help Ukraine defeat Russia because democracy itself was at stake. Then Ukrainian president Zelensky cancelled elections, so they told us we have to help Ukraine defeat Russia because Putin won't stop there – he'll soon be marching through Berlin, London, and maybe even New York!

Doesn't it remind you of how the neocons were warning us that Saddam was going to attack the US mainland with drones and that he was operating mobile weapons labs? Anything to get the public on board for their war.

The fact is the neocons and warmongers lie constantly. They will do whatever it takes to get their wars and sadly we do not have an independent media in the US to challenge them on their lies. Our media is so closely tied to the military-industrial complex that it is also a stakeholder in war profits, so they aren't about to rock the boat.

Anyone who thinks we cannot get sucked into another war like we were with George W. Bush's lie that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction is not paying attention. It is happening again, in real time.

The fact is we live in a deeply corrupt society dominated by individuals who do not believe in truth. When you don't believe in truth you will have no qualms about manipulating others to do your will. So unless they are stopped, neocons like Nuland will demand more attacks on Russia, more US troops in Ukraine, more escalation. Until Russia fights back. Then it will all be over. Is this what we want?

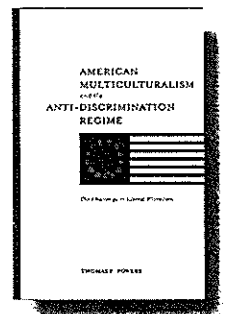
The Expanding Civil Rights Bureaucracy

The 1960s civil rights laws have metastasized into a network of agencies that police newfound forms of discrimination.

Chronicles

April 2024

by Alexander Riley



American Multiculturalism and the Anti-Discrimination Regime: The Challenge to Liberal Pluralism

by Thomas F. Powers
St. Augustine's Press
475 pp., \$40.00

MUCH INK HAS BEEN SPILLED—and pixels illuminated—on the unintended and far-reaching effects on American law and institutional practice of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1965 Voting Rights Act. Thomas Powers has now given us the definitive study on the transformative ramifications of the 1960s civil rights legislation. He meticulously plows through the myriad mechanisms used to regulate behavior, speech, and even thought.

The end result is a convincing exposé of the intellectual sources of this malevolent movement. Along with Philip Hamburger's work on administrative law (such as *The Administrative Threat*), Powers provides an expert summary of how radicals hijacked the corpus of American law during the course of the civil rights revolution.

American Multiculturalism describes how they imposed the antidiscrimination regime via a two-part campaign. First was the legal revolution that extended from those civil rights acts. The Supreme Court stretched the purview of civil rights to all corners of American law, and every level of government followed the relentless production of more laws that extended civil rights even further. But the legal regime alone was insufficient to carry the revolutionary day. Schools mobilized multicultural educational programs teaching the radical philosophical justification and cultural training required to make Americans more prone to accept this shift in American law.

Powers carefully summarizes the gist of the educational theory of James A. Banks, who he sees as the single most influential scholarly figure in transforming America into a multiculturalist country. Banks obtained massive influence because he avoided the muddleheaded verbiage of the postmodernist allies of multiculturalism. Instead, he wrote as a straightforward education theorist, endeavoring to make practical change in how children are taught about their society, culture, and identities.

His rhetoric often portrayed his work as merely reformist, but he aimed steadily toward a radically democratic and revolutionary end.

The multiculturalism Banks advocates constitutes a new moral order oriented around a new set of key categories: identity, inclusion, recognition, respect, and equity. Banks' vision is not really about diversity, despite his constant invocation of this term. It is about advancing a particular social and political order. In his vision, all discrimination is prohibited and vigorously eradicated by state power. The emphasis of the last sentence is on the word "all." It is irrelevant whether the discrimination takes place in the public sphere or the private sphere, whether the agent doing the discriminating represents an institution, the state itself, or is just an individual citizen. It matters not whether the discrimination can be empirically shown to produce any broad harmful effect on individuals or society.

The antidiscrimination revolution aims to legislate the philosophical principles of multiculturalism into reality. From the beginning, this meant injecting antidiscrimination law not only into public life but also into the private realm. Focusing solely on the public sphere would not have permitted the thoroughgoing transformation of American society desired. Antidiscrimination law thus necessarily reaches well beyond the empirical level of action and speech. It seeks to police the *thinking* of citizens as well.

Legislators and jurists are constructing a new form of law to complete this revolutionary transformation. Powers calls it "a hybrid of civil and criminal law." Mere criminal law stops at regulating external behavior. This new antidiscrimination legal realm extends intimately into the human personality. The goal is a kind of leftist Sharia, "a ... very Western, secular, and up-to-date alternative to a Ministry for the Propagation of Virtue and the Prevention of Vice."

Powers meticulously explains the march through the legal institutions. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act colonized the world of work. It quickly metastasized from the prohibition of discriminatory practices in hiring. Soon, it included myriad mech-

anisms for holding employers liable not only for virtually anything their employees might do that can be defined as discriminatory but also for the actions of contractors, vendors, and customers at work sites.

Next, a blob of diversity training and corrective-measures regulations emerged to engulf all employment in the U.S. It is the regime's method for giving employers ways to avoid at least the most severe sanctions by endlessly propagandizing their employees. Title IX engaged in a similar cancerous invasion of education. Antidiscrimination thus became the new overlord of the key American institutions of work and school.

In exacting detail, Powers walks the reader through the various governmental and legal layers of the antidiscrimination regime. He notes that Ibram X. Kendi's call for a Department of Anti-Racism betrays an ignorance that much more than this already exists. There is the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, the Civil Rights Commission, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission at the top of this apparatus. Four more layers spread out below this tip of the antidiscrimination iceberg, touching every single federal institution and agency. There is an office of civil rights in every federal agency.

A recent Biden administration executive order also created "Agency Equity Teams" to partner with those offices in antidiscrimination work. The Office of Federal Compliance Programs of the Department of Labor ensures that any business seeking federal contracts adheres to the maze of antidiscrimination law. Finally, the major federal agencies have an Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization that funnels money to businesses recognized as "disadvantaged."

But there's more. The Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights and other DOE agencies, such as the Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program, the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services, and the Women's Educational Equity Program, ensure the antidiscrimination regime's thorough colonization of the education sphere. Other antidiscrimination offices exist within the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Housing and Urban Development, Health

and Human Services, and numerous others. The Biden administration has recently added still more and is likely to push ahead in these efforts if it wins a second term.

The original civil rights legislation expanded to cover more and more protected classes. The thrust of this legislation was meant to be applied narrowly to blacks, especially in the South. In short order, the group expanded, first to the elderly, then to linguistic minorities, and then the disabled. Now this revolutionary ideological remaking of the American legal structure encompasses sexual identity minorities of every stripe. More than 30 kinds of discrimination are currently prohibited in America, including discriminating against people with criminal records, welfare users, and drug addicts.

The emergence of the bizarre, reality-rejecting doctrine of “disparate impact” after the passage of civil rights legislation was a singular moment in American legal history. Complicated reality gave way to crude moralizing. Any inequality along group categories is now sufficient to prove discrimination and, therefore, the need for remediation. The concept fits hand-in-glove with the theoretical emergence of notions of systemic or institutional rac-

ism. When evidence of empirical discrimination disappears, state power looks for it elsewhere, in a fantasy world of invisible structures and ghostly forces.

Disparity-as-discrimination spread throughout the American institutional sphere. Powers shows how Banks’ educational theory pushed hard in this direction. His work is key to the now-generalized effort in educational institutions to eliminate grades, standardized tests, tracking, school discipline, and truancy policies. The justification is that on all these measures blacks as a group perform poorly, and thus they are *de facto* discriminatory. One is not permitted to notice that blacks as a group adhere to norms of order and perform on meritocratic measures less well than other groups. In this new view, merit, responsibility, and accountability become nothing more than “white privilege.”

Perhaps the most troubling fact is that seemingly everyone in power agrees with the basics of the new civil rights regime. Virtually all elected politicians and leaders in business and culture eagerly expand its purview. The left, of course, is the most vigorous proponent of such expansion. But the mainstream right does all it can to avoid criticizing the status quo.

If one were to suggest the repeal of the Civil Rights Act in a public forum, one could be sure that the leading Republican “conservatives” would come after you with a vengeance just as fierce or fiercer than that of Democrats. Civil Rights is their Holy Writ. A contrary word cannot defile it without provoking a violent protective response.

Given Powers’ account of this massive apparatus and the nearly unanimous support it receives from elites, the reader may be forgiven for finding it difficult to see how he manages to end as optimistically as he does. “We are ... compelled to hope,” he intones, that the antidiscrimination regime can be thwarted. Yet he gives no real foundation for his hope.

He is nonetheless certainly correct. If we give up hope, our defeat is assured. Powers has given us a thorough and irrefutable analysis of the problem. Once we have sounded its depth, the only logical consequence is for each of us to do everything we practically can to stop it. If we fail, we lose everything.

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Putin Willing To End War Along Current Frontlines

The Ukrainian Foreign Minister said the Russian leader was sending “phony signals”

by Kyle Antalone May 24, 2024 at 12:10 pm ET News

As Russian forces are capturing more territory in eastern Ukraine, President Vladimir Putin is willing to end the war across the current frontlines, according to Reuters. Ukrainian officials rejected the offer.

Four sources speaking with Reuters said that Putin was prepared to freeze war along the current frontlines but was willing to keep fighting if Ukraine and its Western backers rejected the offer for negotiations. “Putin can fight for as long as it takes, but Putin is also ready for a ceasefire – to freeze the war,” one source said, describing Putin’s position.

When asked by Reuters about talks, Putin responded, “Let them resume.”

The sources speaking with Reuters say that the Russian leader is prepared to assess the territory that has been captured as a victory. “Putin will say that we won, that NATO attacked us and we kept our sovereignty, that we have a land corridor to Crimea, which is true,” one source said.

The offer for an end to the conflict comes as Ukraine struggles to find enough men to fight off the advancing Russian forces, and the West is unable or unwilling to provide Kiev with enough arms.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba quickly dismissed the idea of negotiations with Russia. “Putin currently has no desire to end his aggression against Ukraine. Only the principled and united voice of the global majority can force him to choose peace over war,” he said.

Since the start of the war in 2022, Russia has captured and annexed four regions in southern and eastern Ukraine. In April of that year, Moscow and Kiev nearly inked a deal that would have allowed those four regions to remain part of Ukraine in exchange for Kiev’s neutrality. However, President Zelensky, encouraged by his Western backers, refused the deal.

Zelensky later signed a decree banning any negotiations with Putin’s government.

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration day, started on May 30, 1868. The purpose of the holiday was to remember fallen Union soldiers in the . Due to the World Wars and other conflicts the holiday evolved to honor all those that died in combat and in 1971 the date was changed from May 30th to the last Monday of May. The origin of the holiday is not so clear, however, as there are other claims that occurred in the south and the north before, during, and after the .

In the United States we have not had to suffer a true war fought on American soil since the . As such, we honor our soldiers rather than the civilian victims of the combat. Arguably, this is because we have not incurred large civilian deaths as a result of war. Well, at least that was the case until now.

The campaign of biological and technological warfare conducted against Americans and the human race is catastrophic and is an ongoing holocaust. According to Dr. James Thorpe, M.D. the number of dead and inured from the COVID 19 injections estimates are mind blowing:

Best estimates are 585 million global citizens killed or injured from the COVID-19 "vaccines" and you have inflicted massive harm to pregnant women, preborn, and newborns on a global scale.

Estimates of the dead alone place the numbers at 17 million and higher. This would place the numbers at over 700,000 in the United States. This data is not static. It is dynamic. With each passing day more people get injured and die. Individuals are getting turbo cancers, heart attacks, strokes, autoimmune diseases, neurological problems, and the list goes on. Each year that passes the mortality rate will increase as will the incidents of all these diseases and health conditions. The problem will not go away. It appears that it will get worse with each year. There is a massive campaign to normalize this and convince people that all the illnesses and diseases developing are normal.

Pfizer whistle blower Melissa McAtee recently reported that another whistle blower Justin Leslie reported that mRNA is in the flu shots. This is an extremely serious problem as not only will many of the people getting the flu shots get injured, many others will get injured from the shedding. The shedding phenomenon is real and very well documented. Pfizer's own documents discuss shedding and the risk of the shedding. Many of the Pfizer documents can be read on PHMPT.org.

Dr. Ana Mihalcea, M.D., PhD. has repeatedly documented the self assembling nanotechnology in the blood from COVID shot victims, and victims of shedding.

Unfortunately, her research points to a distinct possibility that the shedding process may be ongoing as she has recording the self assembly in the blood of an eight month old cadaver. My understanding is that this technology is hijacking the energy of our cells and self replicating biosynthetic cells.

Not only is the continued shedding of this technology a problem as time goes on, so is the progression of the damage this technology does to the human body over time. There is no reason as far as I am aware to think that the damage caused is not permanent and will not progress over time. There are likely a myriad of factors to determine how bad the damage is and how fast the progression of illness will be for each individual.

Still, the reality is that life spans are being shortened and birth rates are going down. Simply giving someone an autoimmune disease shortens their lifespan. There is also no way to know how offspring will be affected by this technology. The full extent of the damage is incalculable. It appears that besides the obvious depopulation goal and transhumanist goals, one of the purposes of this campaign of biological and technological warfare is to weaken the human population to a condition that they are not only easily manageable, but also so sickly that they will need constant medical treatment of some kind to live.

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The truth is that it is necessary to engage in some speculation regarding the full scope of the agenda. There are simply too many moving parts. The global conspirators have multiple goals with each action they take.

The *military was targeted too*. Back in early 2022, Senator Ron Johnson's hearing revealed Defense Medical Epidemiology Database (DMED) data of some of the increases of multiple diagnosed conditions in the military as a result of the injections. These included increases in the following:

Hypertension - 2,181%

Diseases of the nervous system - 1,048%

Malignant neoplasms of the esophagus - 894%

Multiple sclerosis - 680%

Malignant neoplasms of digestive organs - 624%

Guillain-Barre syndrome - 551%

Breast cancer - 487%

Demyelinating - 487%

Malignant neoplasms of thyroid and other endocrine glands - 474%

Female infertility - 472%

Pulmonary embolism - 468%

Migraines - 452%

Ovarian dysfunction - 437%

Testicular cancer - 369%

Tachycardia - 302%

The reality is that if you are reading this you know people that have died from COVID 19 injections. You also know people that have developed serious diseases such as cancer, heart disease, autoimmune diseases, neurological conditions, and more. I speculate that the numbers are actually much higher than reported above because I think many illnesses and deaths are not being linked to the shots that should be linked to them. The heart attack or cancer death a couple years after the shots are not likely to be linked to the shots.

Still, if 700,000 Americans were murdered with biological and technological weapons in the form of COVID and mRNA injections, should we honor these victims of war?

Raising awareness to the fact that people are being murdered in mass is necessary or there will never be enough outrage to correct the situation. Honoring the victims of the

ongoing holocaust in an official capacity may help raise awareness and wake people up (9)
to the fact that their friends and family members have been murdered and are
continuing to be murdered by this mRNA technology.

Ideally, we would have a specific holiday for the victims of the COVID injection
holocaust. Until then, this Memorial Day, I will personally spend some time
remembering the victims of the COVID mRNA injection holocaust and the victims of
the deadly hospital protocols. These are all innocent victims of war.

You're Only For Free Speech If You Defend It For People You Hate

We should protect people physically, not emotionally



ALEX GUTENTAG AND MICHAEL SHELLENBERGER
MAY 01, 2024 ·

Pro-Palestine protests on college campuses around the country have inflamed debates
about free speech and antisemitism. Some Republicans and Democrats claim that
government oversight and censorship of hate speech is needed to address these protests.

Representatives Richie Torres (D-NY) and Mike Lawler (R-NY), for example, have
introduced the COLUMBIA Act, which will create “antisemitism monitors” at select
universities.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott, who in 2019 signed a bill to guarantee freedom of speech
in Texas universities, suggested that protesters should be arrested for their views.
“These protesters belong in jail,” he wrote about students at the University of Texas
Austin. “Antisemitism will not be tolerated in Texas. Period.”

And most recently, the House Rules Committee advanced the Antisemitism Awareness
Act of 2023, a bipartisan bill to expand the definition of antisemitism in Title VI federal
anti-discrimination law. The bill refers to the International Holocaust Remembrance
Alliance’s definition of antisemitism, which includes criticism of Israel, such as
characterizing the state of Israel as a racist endeavor, or applying double standards to
Israel’s conduct. Because all schools that receive federal funds must comply with Title
VI, the bill would lead to greater censorship of speech on campus.

All of these efforts are violations of freedom of speech and we condemn them
unreservedly. It’s once again time to remind ourselves and our fellow citizens that the
test of our commitment to free speech is when we demand its protection for our
enemies and for speech we hate, not for our friends and for speech we like.

[T]he legislator, according to the ideas of the ancients, bears the same relation to
mankind as the potter does to clay. Unfortunately, when this idea prevails, nobody
wants to be the clay, and everyone wants to be the potter.

– Frederic Bastiat, “Academic Degrees and Socialism” [1848]

Squatters' Rights

By Walter E. Block
 New English Review
 April 5, 2024

LEWROCKWELL.COM

You go on vacation for a month. You return home, glad to be back, but to your amazement and chagrin, there are strange people living in your house. You have never seen hide nor hair of them before this very moment. They leave the apartment. You pounce. You call a locksmith to change all the locks in your home. You, not these trespassers, are then arrested for unlawfully evicting tenants. According to New York law, if these squatters were occupying your home for 30 days, they are in effect tenants, even though you never signed a lease with them. In this jurisdiction, it takes about 20 months in landlord-tenant court for your case to even be heard and there is far from any guarantee you will prevail before the judge.

This nightmare was actually suffered by Adele Andaloro, owner of a million-dollar home in Flushing, Queens. Well, this might not be accurate. Perhaps I should say, instead, ex-owner of a house she had previously inherited from her parents.

Philosopher Norman Malcolm said of his teacher and mentor, Ludwig Wittgenstein, "On one walk he 'gave' to me each tree that we passed, with the reservation that I was not to cut it down or do anything to it, or prevent the previous owners from doing anything to it: with those reservations it was henceforth mine."[*].

Adele Andaloro is in grave danger of "owning" the house her parents gave her in the same manner as Norman Malcolm "owned" those trees. That is, not at all. Well, at best, partially. She still owns the home, but cannot legally occupy it. Rather, she is compelled to take on the role of a landlord, whereas she wishes to have access to her domicile as an occupant. And, at what level should the rent be? She might be "happy" to rent out her premises to these squatters for a million dollars per day, thus gaining access to her property once again, but if anyone thinks a New York City housing judge would go along with this "offer" we can sell them the Brooklyn Bridge.

What can we say about this New York law that allows vagrants to steal your home? What we can say is that it is subject to a whole host of reductio ad absurdum. Suppose, that on your month's vacation, you also leave your car unattended. Upon your return, you note that your automobile is not where you left it. It has been stolen, you surmise. You call the police. They duly trace it down. Unfortunately for you, if we can extrapolate from this home stolen by squatters, the new "owner" has been using your vehicle for 30 days. Bye, bye car for you. That is to say, car-jacking will have just been legalized. Perhaps your best bet is to steal someone else's automobile, since yours is now a goner.

But there are even more important pieces of property for most people than a mere domicile, or automobile. In many ways, our bodies are by far our most important possession. Let us extrapolate from this law which allows trespass in real estate to the case of this our more important possession.

Right now, happily, rape is against the law. However, if we generalize, this legal determination, too, is in danger. For what is rape other than the trespassing onto, or to be more exact, into, the private property of the victim. The rapist is in effect "squatting" upon his victim's property. Yes, a different kind of property than house or car, but a property nonetheless. A very important piece of property.

If we legalize rape, can murder be far behind? That merely constitutes squatting upon the victim's property in an even more deleterious manner, but it is still a trespass. Ditto, for slavery, yet another instance of a marauder taking control of the private property of the victim trespassing upon it.

The disturbing reality of how Christians are treated in the Holy Land

Thu May 16, 2024

Frank Wright



Though many American Christians see a 'blessing' in unwavering support for Israel, it is jarring to confront exactly how Christians are treated in the Holy Land.

(LifeSiteNews) — If you are a Christian who is happy to support Zionism, you should consider how the vanishing community of Christians, Christianity and Christ are treated by Zionists today.

Though many American Christians see a “blessing” in unwavering support for Israel, it is jarring to confront exactly how Christians are treated in the Holy Land.

The fact that Zionism began as a secular political movement without religious basis is not widely known. Nor is the attitude of the pope who first heard of the movement from its founding father, Theodor Herzl.

Yet the attitude of Zionists to Christianity, and of the Catholic faith to Zionism are both well established.

In a private audience with Herzl to discuss the request that the Catholic Church endorse Zionism, Pope St. Pius X said in 1904, “We cannot give approval to this movement.”

He went on to explain why:

... The soil of Jerusalem, if it was not always sacred, has been sanctified by the life of Jesus Christ.

Catholic Church considered ‘antisemitic’ for millennia?

Herzl was the “father of modern political Zionism,” a secular movement long condemned by religious Orthodox Jews to this day. Traditional Catholics, in the inaccurate, self-serving view of Zionists, are “antisemitic” for following a Church which has, according to the *Jerusalem Post*, been “... preaching anti-Semitism for more than a millennium.”

As we shall see, Zionist conduct towards Catholics and other Christians in the Holy Land today includes spitting, assault, desecration and even killing.

It is driving an exodus of Christians from the land of Christ’s birth, life and death.

As this report shows, Christians made up 11 percent of the population of what was Palestine in 1900. By 2022, this had fallen to 2 percent across Israel and the occupied territories. Why is this happening?

Spitting on the Via Dolorosa

Since last March, Israeli and other outlets have been warning of a rise in attacks on Christians in Israel, with the independent outlet *972 magazine* saying last summer that “the escalation [in Jerusalem] is frightening.”

According to their July 2023 report, “The city’s dwindling Christian community is facing a spike in hate crimes under the far-right government, with possible ramifications for Israel’s ties abroad.”

It further states that “[t]he Israeli government’s response to the attacks and harassment against Christians ranges from weak to non-existent.”

The claims are supported by the Israeli government-backed Rossing Center, whose inter-faith investigation marked “the increasing hostility towards Christians in the Holy Land” on July 17, 2023. You can watch the testimony of witnesses here.

Wadie Abu Nassar, coordinator of the Forum of Holy Land Christians, says that there is “no significant coverage” in the Israeli media of the “challenges faced by the Christian community,” despite his sustained efforts to supply details as the former chairman of the media committee for Catholic Bishops.

Systematic discrimination

Nassar also says the 47 Christian schools in Israel suffer “systematic discrimination” from the Israeli education system. The attempts of Church leaders to open dialogue about these issues with the Israeli leadership have fallen on deaf ears for at least nine years.

12

Nassar explains that since 2015, when “Church leaders sent a letter to Netanyahu asking for a half hour meeting to explain the problem, until today the answer didn’t come.”

Yet the situation for Christians has continued to deteriorate.

A report from February 2024 in the French *Le Monde* confirmed that “attacks on Christians continue to rise.”

In April 2024, the Abbot of the Benedictine Abbey of the Dormition in Jerusalem spoke to *The Jewish Independent* about the situation of Christians in Israel. Abbot Nikodemus Schnabel’s interview was reposted by an organization convened by the heads of Christian churches in Jerusalem, Protecting Holy Land Christians.

Schnabel said the escalating anti-Christian hostility was due to the presence of Zionist extremists – known as “Kahanists” – in the Israeli government.

“I can’t say the Israeli government is opposing hooliganism. Now the hooliganism is in the government, people with the Kahanist mindset are part of the government and we can really feel the change,” he said.

Is the Israeli government “Kahanist” – does it support the “Jewish supremacy” of a group described as “terrorists” by the CIA in 2004?

According to the Israeli media, yes. *Ha’aretz* said on February 5, “Kahanism’s spread in Israel is no longer any secret. Israel’s ugly Kahanist face was on display this week in the pages of the *Wall Street Journal*, which published an article about National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir that included an interview with him.”

The *Ha’aretz* editorial warned that this ideology not only dis-privileges non-Jews, but also threatens to destroy Israel.

“If they remain in power, Israel will continue deteriorating and its international standing will be destroyed.”

This is the Zionist state that so many Christians feel obliged to support without question. It is destroying the Christian presence in the Holy Land and may also destroy itself. Support for this state is described as a “betrayal” of Christians – by Christians in Israel.

A report from 2023 showed “How Evangelicals Betray Christians in the Holy Land.” In the video, Bethlehem Lutheran Pastor Munther Isaac says of the vast financial support from American Christian Zionists, “We are talking about millions of dollars and political support that is used to continue my oppression.”

The nature of this oppression is well documented, if not widely reported in the West. It ranges from “systematic discrimination” through assault, desecration of graves, false imprisonment and death.

Spitting on the footsteps of Christ

Today, militant Zionist occupiers or “settlers” of the Holy Land, spit at Christians on the Via Dolorosa, the route taken by Christ to His crucifixion, describing it as an unclean place due to His presence.

A group of religious Jews spit on nuns on the Via Dolorosa in Old Jerusalem yesterday
pic.twitter.com/THtpXXmODj

— منير الجاغوب (@MonirAljaghoub) April 13, 2023

A website which documents anti-Christian incidents recorded graffiti in Jerusalem appearing last December.

The blasphemous messages, written in Hebrew, are not being repeated in full by LifeSiteNews but are contained in a report (discretion is advised) by the Religious Freedom Data Centre. One of the messages appeared on the wall of the Mount Zion cemetery, and said, “Christian Mission is worse than the Hamas. Death to the missionaries. A missionary is a Nazi.”

Other incidents include the desecration of statues of Our Lord, and assaults.

Israel has become unwelcoming for Christians.

In March, two men attacked a priest with a metal rod in the Garden of Gethsemane. In February, an Orthodox Jew from the United States knocked over a 10-foot statue of Christ in the Church of the Flagellation on Via Dolorosa. pic.twitter.com/uiSPQodjtp

— Slawomir Bardski (@bardski) September 12, 2023

According to Israeli sources, and to clerics I have interviewed myself, Christians including priests, monks and pilgrims are spat at “every day” in Jerusalem, in observance of the “ancient Jewish custom” of spitting at Christians.

This report from Israeli newspaper *Ha'aretz* on October 4, 2023 said, “Every day, Christian pilgrims and members of the clergy face being spat at on the streets of the Old City. This is in addition to the assaults, cursing, humiliation and vandalism suffered by Christians and their institutions.”

The spitting is nothing new, it seems, but it has escalated under the current government. *Ha'aretz* continued, “While the spitting is not new – religious teens have been doing it in Jerusalem for many years – the city’s Christian communities agree that its frequency has increased markedly in the past year.”

Armenian Christians restaurant attacked by settlers

A January 2023 *Times of Israel* article on the increasing attacks on Christians in Israel included a video of a violent Zionist settlers attack on an Armenian restaurant at the New Gate in the Christian Quarter of the occupied city of Jerusalem.

Watch: Israeli settlers Thursday evening attacked an Armenian restaurant at the New Gate in the Christian Quarter of the occupied city of Jerusalem. pic.twitter.com/Tt6o4bJkTP

— Wafa News Agency – English (@WAFANewsEnglish) January 27, 2023

Later that year, *Aljazeera* published an article on the same development, titled: ‘*Death to Christians’: Violence steps up under new Israeli government.*

In June of last year hostile Zionist settlers told evangelical Christians at the Western Wall: “Go home, we don’t want you!”; “Evil, evil, evil!”; and “We don’t want you here!”

Here is another video of Israeli settlers assaulting a Christian abbot in Jerusalem.

Another video is from 9 years ago and features Catholic prelates talking about the vandalism and attacks they face at the hands of Israelis.

There is also footage of Israeli settlers vandalizing Christian graves in a Jerusalem cemetery.

And one year ago, even more alarming developments occurred when an Israeli envoy accused the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem of “blood libel” when he made known that the Israeli Defense Force (IDF) killed two women at a Catholic parish in Gaza.

Spitting at Christians a ‘Jewish custom,’ says Israeli Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir

The spitters feel they have the support of Israel’s extremist government, especially National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir.

Ben-Gvir responded to one infamous incident by asking whether “we have to observe every Jewish custom,” such as spitting on Christians. “The issue is why do we have to turn this into a criminal matter?”

Last November, a Christian woman evangelist was assaulted and had her spine reportedly broken whilst preaching the Gospel in Israel. The crack is audible in the video.

Attacks on Christians continue to escalate

Reports from April last year confirmed that “Holy Land Christians say attacks [are] rising in far-right Israel.”

The Head of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land, His Eminence Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, said at the time, “The frequency of these attacks, the aggressions, has become something new.”

Speaking during the Holy Week of Easter, he said the “political culture” of Israel was enabling anti-Christian action.

“These people feel they are protected ... that the cultural and political atmosphere now can justify, or tolerate, actions against Christians.”

14

Two days later, Christians were “violently beaten” by Israeli police during an annual Orthodox Christian ceremony held in Jerusalem’s Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

“הפקודה שקיבלנו לא אנהנו.” אומרת השוטרת לצליינים שביקשו להגיע לכנסיית הקבר. המשטרה מדברת על סדר ואבטחה, צליינים רבים נותרו מרחוק ומרגישים מתוסכלים. תמונות שאי אפשר להתגאות בהם pic.twitter.com/ZwzDYu9OOo

— Jack khoury. جاك خوري (@KhJacki) April 15, 2023

Then in September, disturbing footage emerged of a Christian woman being kicked and stoned by a group of Jewish children and adults in Jerusalem.

In December 2023, as mentioned above, two Catholic women were shot dead within the compound of the Catholic Holy Family Church in Gaza. They were killed by Israeli army snipers, in an assault which left three more wounded. It was confirmed directly to LifeSiteNews by the Catholic pastor there that it was IDF snipers who killed the women and wounded other parishioners.

The attacks on Christians have continued, following warnings last year that Israel was “failing to stop them.”

Jewish historian Michael Wolfsson condemned the disturbing trend in a February 13, 2024 report.

“Especially in Jerusalem, orthodox activists consider themselves exemplary Jews when they spit on or even beat Christians or Muslims,” he said.

His remarks came after a Benedictine abbot was spat on in Jerusalem in an unprovoked incident earlier that month.

Benedictine abbot attacked

The Times of Israel reported on a video, taken on February, 4 2024, in which Abbot Nikodemus Schnabel of the Abbey of the Dormition in Jerusalem says “shalom” into the camera before being approached by two youths who shout expletives about Christ in Hebrew and spit at him.

שני בני נוער יהודים נעצרו בחשד שירקו וקיללו איש דת נוצרי סמוך לשער ציון בעיר העתיקה בירושלים. לאחר הקירתם נשלחו למעצר [@VeredPelman](https://pic.twitter.com/2KU4sXk9QK) pic.twitter.com/2KU4sXk9QK בית

— @kann_news February 4, 2024

Speaking to the Catholic News Agency, days after the attack, Schnabel said, “Normally, I am used to the fact that people spit on me — this is a very daily experience, especially at Mount Zion [where the Dormition Abbey is located].”

Yet spitting on or at Christians and their priests is not a recent phenomenon.

An ancient Jewish custom

Is spitting at Christians an “ancient and long-standing custom” of Ashkenazi Jews? According to contemporary Israelis, yes.

On October 5, 2023, Israeli newspaper *Ha’aretz* lamented the fact that the “Ancient Jewish Custom of Spitting Near Priests Was Nothing Like This.”

It went on to explain, “Although the phenomenon by Ashkenazi Jews of spitting near a church or priests isn’t new, it has become an act of public defiance and humiliation of believers who belong to a minority group.”

So how has this ancient custom changed?

Ha’aretz explained that “In the 16th century Book of the Maharil, which is considered the authority on the customs of Ashkenazi Jewry, the writer Rabbi Yaakov Halevi Ben Moshe Moelin mentions a custom of spitting during the recital of the prayer “Aleinu Leshabeah” while saying the words referring to idol worshippers.”

This supports the Ashkenazi custom of spitting at “idol worshipping” Christians, with the article saying it also “mentions that it was customary to spit while passing near churches.”

The custom appears to be experiencing an enthusiastic revival. With the gunpoint arrest and detention of Palestinian Christian Layan Nasir in April, the treatment of Christians by Israelis now extends to imprisonment with neither warning nor charge.

At the time of writing, she is still in prison.

On a Saturday morning just like this 5 weeks ago, 23-year-old Layan Nasir, a Palestinian Christian from Birzeit was kidnapped by Israel from her parents home. We have near zero information about her. She is being held hostage in perpetuity under Israel’s legalized hostage laws... pic.twitter.com/VtWl09RTMA

— Assaf, MD (@SohiubN) May 11, 2024

In his 1904 audience, Pope St. Pius X concluded his refusal to Herzl’s appeal for the Catholic Church to support his Zionism, saying, “As the head of the Church I cannot tell you anything different.”

The customary recognition of Christians described above was not much observed, it seems, in 1904. Since that time the population of Christians in the region has shrunk by over 80 percent.

The customs by which Christ and His followers are now recognized in the Holy Land include spitting, desecration, insult, blasphemy, assault, murder and false imprisonment.

‘Whoever blesses Israel will be blessed’

Christian Zionists are fond of misinterpreting the line from the book of Genesis that says, “Whoever blesses Israel will be blessed, whoever curses Israel will be cursed.”

This Christian Zionist understanding of Israel as the state founded in 1948 is contrasted with the words of theologian Monsignor Joseph Clifford Fenton, who, in relaying Church teaching, explained that by Our Lord’s Passion and Death on the Cross, the Church, as a “new organization,” itself became the “faithful remnant of Israel.”^[1]

On October 11, 2023, 90 evangelical leaders published a joint statement giving “full support” to “Israel’s right and duty to defend itself against further attack... In keeping with Christian Just War tradition.”

Last week the *Wall Street Journal* said “authorities were losing count of the dead” in Gaza, with the United Nations announcing a “full-blown famine” on May 9.

Yet protest against this “just war” is framed as support for terrorism – an offense to the “best friends” of Israel – the 31 million Christian Zionists.

As the *New York Times* reported in October 2023, “There’s probably no greater friend to the state of Israel than American evangelical Christians,” said Daniel Darling, director of Land Center for Cultural Engagement at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.”

As one Israeli journalist who campaigns to keep Christian Zionists on Israel’s side remarked in February, “Evangelicals as a bloc are about the only friends that Israel has.”

One group, Christians United for Israel, boasts being “the largest pro-Israel organization in the U.S.” with over 10 million members.

It is noteworthy that these Christians remain such good friends with Israel, given the “blessings” Christians and Christ receive – especially in the city where He was put to death.

The current Zionist regime in Israel introduced a new concept of the nation state of Israel in a July 2018 law, which was condemned by the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem – the seat of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land.

According to *Ha’aretz*, “the new nation state law... reserves the right to national-self determination exclusively for Israel’s Jewish citizens.”

The Patriarchate responded:

The Christian citizens of Israel have the same concerns as any other non-Jewish communities with respect to this Law. They call upon all citizens of the State of Israel who still believe in the basic concept of equality among citizens of the same nation, to voice their objection to this law and the dangers emanating thereof to the future of this Country.

(16)

The Zionist idea of Jewish supremacy is one which not only endangers Christians in the land of Christ's birth, but is one whose influence is shaping the lives of Americans today.

With the United States, and with it the rest of the West under what the Jewish journalist Max Blumenthal has called a "political occupation" by the Zionist Israel lobby, it is important for Christians to reflect on who spits on whom, and on what.

And why.

Help Christians who escaped Gaza: LifeFunder

WHY ARE LEFTISTS SO MISERABLE?

It was the day after Ronald Reagan beat Jimmy Carter in the 1980 presidential election. I was smiling (I had run Reagan's campaign in the North Hills of Pittsburgh), but most of the other professors at La Roche College (now a university) were sulking, and many appeared depressed. However, their mood was not uncharacteristic of the way they were most of the time: There are a lot of unhappy campers in the professoriate, especially in the liberal arts.

Nothing has changed.

In a new study by psychologists in Finland assessing the state of mind of radical social justice devotees, it was found that those who bought into progressive ideas are profoundly unhappy. Published in the *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*, the researchers started with a sample of 851 persons, mostly students and professors at the University of Turku, and then expanded it to 5,030 adults. They distinguished between those who hold to a traditional liberal perspective and those who identify with a radical one. They focused on the latter.

The researchers devised a Critical Social Justice Attitude Scale (CSJAS) that measured seven aspects of what they deemed as representative of "woke" politics. Most of the items dealt with race, though one tapped transgenderism (the idea that the sexes are interchangeable). For example, "University reading lists should include fewer white or European authors" was deemed reflective of the "woke" view.

Social justice attitudes, the study's authors said, "perceive people foremost as members of identity groups and as being, witting or unwitting, perpetrators or victims of oppression based on the groups' perceived power differentials; and

advocate regulating how or how much people speak and how they act if there is a perceived power differential between speakers, and intervening in action or speech deemed oppressive."

The conclusions were riveting.

Regarding the initial small sample, it was determined that high CSJAS scores were "linked to anxiety, depression, and a lack of happiness." On the larger sample, "this lower mental well-being was mostly associated with being on the political left and not specifically with having a high CSJAS score." Women were more likely than men to have high CSJAS scores, which explains why their happiness quotient was smaller.

The researchers noted that their findings were consistent with that of other studies on this subject. They are right about that.

"Liberals, especially liberal women, are significantly less likely to be happy with their lives and satisfied with their 'mental health,' compared to their conservative peers aged 18-55." According to University of Virginia sociologist W. Brad Wilcox, this was "the big takeaway from the 2022 American Family Survey, a striking new poll from YouGov and the *Deseret News*."

In 2023, Musa al-Gharbi, a sociologist at Columbia University, examined data from many studies on this subject and concluded that conservatives are indeed happier than liberals. He said this finding "is consistent across countries and extends back in time."

The question remains: Why are those on the left so miserable?

For starters, consider this. Imagine waking up each day thinking the world is made up of oppressors, racists, sexists, homophobes and their victims. Is that likely to put a smile on your dial?

It's actually worse than this.

Left-wing professors, which is to say most of them in the social sciences and humanities, love to bask in their negativity. Smug as can be, they love thinking that those who don't share their views are ignorant buffoons; they, of course, are the only really bright ones. Their darkness is their defining characteristic.

But why do these malcontents think this way?

It has much to do with what Catholicism calls the sin of pride, the belief that we are self-sufficient human beings and have no need for God. The big thinkers believe they are too smart to believe in God. Too bad they aren't smart enough to know that boys who claim to be girls should not be allowed to compete against girls in sports and shower with them. There must be a cavity in their brain when it comes to sex.

It must be said that while those on the left are the most likely to be unhappy, it has been my experience that extremists on the right are just as likely to be despondent.

I have often said that when I encounter a highly educated person, or an activist, for the first time, I know within minutes if I am dealing with an extremist. The individual could be on the right or the left—it doesn't matter. The common denominator is humorlessness. They rarely smile and their bouts of laughter usually come at someone else's expense.

Smiling is important. Laughter is important. They are staples of mental health. Hanging around those who are habitually unhappy—for reasons wholly due to their cast of mind and their inflated idea of who they are—is a chore. It's also a bore.

The Finnish psychologists learned that left-wing "woke" mavens find it hard to be happy. The deeper problem is that they actually like it that way.