

TRENDSJOURNAL

HISTORY BEFORE IT HAPPENS®

THE PRINCE IS DEAD
LONG LIVE THE PRINCE

*“I would like to return as a deadly virus,
to contribute something to solving overpopulation.”*

Prince Philip



20 April 2021

PUBLISHER
GERALD CELENTE

EDITOR
LAURA MARTIN

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
GREGORY MANNARINO
BRADLEY J. STEINER
GARY NULL
BEN DAVISS
JOE DORAN

COVER ART
ANTHONY FRED A

[How to read the Trends Journal
on Kindle devices](#)

Suggested “Text Aloud” pdf readers:
– for android phones search “Voice Aloud
Reader” or “ezPDF” on Google Play
– for Apple phones search “PDF Voice
Reader Aloud” on the App store

Inside

TRENDS ON THE U.S. ECONOMIC FRONT	5
TRENDS ON THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC FRONT	25
TRENDS IN THE MARKETS	33
TRENDS IN SURVIVALISM	36
TRENDS IN GETTING HEALTHY	42
TRENDS IN TECHNOCRACY	55
TRENDS ON THE COVID WARFRONT	71
TRENDS IN THE VACCINE ROLLOUT	84
TRENDS IN GEOPOLITICS	97
TRENDS-EYE VIEW	119
THE ART OF TRENDS	129
TRENDS IN HI-TECH SCIENCE	130



LONG LIVE THE PRINCE

Welcome to this
week's Trends
Journal: **THE
PRINCE IS DEAD,
LONG LIVE THE**

PRINCE.

Prince Philip's quote that he wants to come back as a "deadly virus" so he can basically kill people not only embodies the deranged mentality of the "royals," it epitomizes the ruling class of low-life politicians who launched the COVID War and destroyed the lives and livelihoods of hundreds of millions.

And now, of course, is their push to get everyone vaccinated, like it or not.

Freedom has been stolen from us.

Please join me at my "Freedom, Peace & Justice Rally" on May 29th in Kingston, New York. (More details to follow.)

United we stand, divided we fall.

Please donate what you can at Occupypeace.com in this fight to restore the true meaning of the human spirit.

Best wishes,

Gerald Celente, Publisher

COMMENTS

VOTING NEO-FEUDAL

The amazing thing is that 99% of the people who are voting Democrat or Republican don't want a neo-feudal system, but they continue blindly voting for their own destruction. These parties are neither liberal or conservative; they are both fascist. Truth is the meaning of life. Lies are the meaning of death. We cannot fall for a lie.

Dave from L.A.

CALAMITY OPTIONS?

It seems like the bottom line is no one really knows what to do with their money. You can only keep so much gold and silver, and what if it's not desirable once things DO crash? Cash is no good, Bitcoin? Who knows about that or whether it really can be destroyed by the proper hacks? Land can be taken. It may just be survivalist mode, keep enough food and water to sustain and try to live somewhere they might not find you or care to find you. Canada is socialist and won't take you without taking a large chunk of what you have. Other countries? People bitch about the US immigration policies and how strict they may be, of course the liberals, but just TRY to emigrate to another country for a rude awakening!

Les Wielgos

FILTERED WATER A GOOD INVESTMENT

Inform yourself, and purchase the best water purification system for your home money can buy. Great investment provides other health benefits in addition to drinking water, i.e., absorption through the skin during washing & bathing. You'll

notice a difference with your laundry. Most will require yearly filter replacement & servicing @ \$350 – \$500 yearly. A default power generator is a good idea as well – it's just gonna get worse!!!

1nelsonv

PANDEMIC BILLIONAIRES

The rich and powerful always do well whether it's from war or pandemics. Controlling government and elected officials makes the lucrative outcomes assured.

John Serocki

BLOCKCHAIN COVERAGE

Thank you for this article. This is the third time I have entered the crypto space (after each halving). In 2014 I got my funds stolen from the Mt-Gox Wallet I had left them in (1 BTC = \$110 at the time)!

In 2017-18, I managed to make enough money to purchase a new car and take a cool family holiday. But mostly, I learned a lot.

This time, I am hoping to become a crypto millionaire! (not there yet). But I try to keep up with all the news. Unfortunately I don't personally know somebody who knows more than I do. This is why I thank you for writing this informative little article, which also points to a Coin I did not know about.

I have been subscribed to the "Trends Journal" since 2009 (I think), hence I know I can trust the information contained therein. I know that it is high quality information, with no conflict of interest.

If you could write more such articles, they would really help someone like me. I am

over 50, so too old to understand the tech on a deep level, and I currently rely on my investments, as I lost my job to Covid.

alex.c

E-EFFECTIVE ENERGY?

Most nations do not have an electrical grid to support E-vehicles in any numbers. Hydrogen requires a lot of constant electrical energy to produce and store. Solar and Wind are not cost effective with large production facilities and nuclear plants have horrendous building costs and time lags. If this is a goal, the Biden administration has no plan to get there let alone think beyond next week.

joeldee

COVID CAESARS

Fourteen months into this charade and it still doesn't occur to people that this will never end. Maybe they were zombies even before this all started, I don't know.

One thing I am sure of is that the globalists are rolling on the ground laughing at how easy it was to get the majority of Americans to bow down and worship Caesar.

Paul Sacco

MICROSOFT MILITARY COMPLEX

120,000 headsets for \$21.9bn? Each headset works out to cost \$182,500. Can anyone in the government spell 'p r o f i t e e r i n g'? Maybe Gates has got hold of his old pal Epstein's video collection. Why else would anyone in govt sign off on such a ridiculous waste of money?

roksteady

Please continue to support **THE TRENDS JOURNAL** by using our links for products and services:

[THE HEALTH RANGER STORE](#) great products from Mike Adams, including:
[Food & Beverage](#) (Manuka honey, nuts & seeds, rice & grains, snack bars, etc)
[Health Interest](#) (organic turmeric, multi-vitamins and much more)
[Healthy Home](#) (air purifiers, etc)
[Personal Care](#) (bath & body, essential oils, etc.)
[Preparedness](#) (survival food, etc.)
[Supplements](#) (weight management, workout supplements, etc)

PLUS:

BUSINESS / FINANCIAL

[CHECKS UNLIMITED](#) printed checks with personalized and promotional branding
[FINANCIAL LITERACY GROUP](#) - Finance e-learning and Debt Elimination Services
[SAVERLIFE](#) - Building financial security by saving? There's an app for that
[SD BULLION](#) - Gold and Silver from the trusted precious metals retailer

EDUCATIONAL / BOOKS

[AUDIOBOOKSNOW](#) - Stream books for less on any device, and download them to Android, Apple, or Nook apps.
[PHONICS](#) - The best way for children to quickly learn to read

GENERAL / GIFTS

[1ST IN COFFEE](#) - Gourmet coffee, espresso and coffee machines
[ALPHABETDEAL.COM](#) - Great deals on clothing, electronics, jewelry and more
[AMERICANFLAGS.COM](#) - Quality flags made in the USA
[CALIFORNIA WINE CLUB](#) - Featuring premier wines from some of the nation's best vineyards

[CRYSTAL CLEAR MEMORIES](#) - Turn photos into amazing crystal art
[UNIVERSAL YUMS](#) - a new basket each month featuring favorite snacks of a different country from around the world. Makes a unique and tasty gift.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

[BULKSUPPLEMENTS](#) trusted supplier of nutrition, health and vitamin supplements
[CHILISLEEP](#) - temperature controlled comfort system for any mattress
[DIAMOND CBD](#) - Gummy CBD, and products for calm, sleep and balance
[MUD\WTR](#) - a super healthy and tasty alternative to coffee, for energy and focus
[PURE RELIEF](#) - On a mission to offer the best CBD Oil and hemp derived products
[PURE WATER FREEDOM](#) water filtering from pitchers to large scale solutions, including fluoride removal and more

HOME & SECURITY

[LIVEGUARD PRO](#) - Easily monitor your home from your smartphone
[SURFSHARK VPN](#) - Secure Your Digital Life Without Breaking the Bank
[SATELLITEPHONESTORE.COM](#) - Get the most secure phones you can buy

SPORTS & FITNESS / RECREATION

[CAMPINGMAXX](#) - Premium camping & hiking gear at discount prices
[THE HUMAN TRAINER](#) - Sturdy home fitness equipment including resistance bands, suspension gyms and more

Most of our affiliate links are through ShareASale, trusted by leading companies and publishers. For more info on how the MSM is trying to suppress independent news sites, [read here](#).

Thank you for your support!

TRENDS ON THE U.S. ECONOMIC FRONT



U.S. MARKETS OVERVIEW

The Dow Jones Industrial Average and S&P 500 index closed last week hitting new highs with the Dow setting its 21st record close this year. And the S&P, which has surged 87 percent from its low last March, hit its 23rd record close and is up 5.8 percent in this year's first quarter.

With some 50 percent of Americans having gotten at least one COVID jab, sharp boosts in retail sales, massive government stimulus injections, and record low interest rates... there are expectations for strong economic growth in the coming months.

Indeed, according to an American Association of Individual Investors, almost 57 percent of investors are bullish for the stock market to stay strong over the next six months.

A Bank of America analysis of EPFR data reported by the *Wall Street Journal* showed investors, (i.e. gamblers) pumped in more money into global stocks funds on a net basis in the past five months than they did during the prior 12 years combined!

Today, on the news that COVID cases are rising, which in turn lowers expectation for a sharp economic rebound, U.S. stocks retreated for their second day in a row, with the Dow down some 250 points, Nasdaq was off nearly 1 percent and the S&P 500 fell 28 points.

TREND FORECAST: *We maintain our forecast that as long as interest rates remain low and the federal government and central bank keep injecting fiscal and monetary methadone into the system – minus a wild card, be it man-made or by Mother Nature – the artificially injected equity markets will stay on their high for the near term... as long as inflation does not rapidly spike.*

However, as we have forecast, inflation rates will rise as will interest rates, and the higher the interest rates go the faster and lower equities will fall. Indeed, interest rates cannot be maintained at these low rates forever. And the higher interest rates rise the more it will cost the government to service its record high 28 trillion debt.

Gold/Silver: With the dollar not rebounding from its seven-week low and fears of inflation rising, gold prices moved up \$8 per ounce, while silver prices stayed flat.

As history proves, the deeper the dollar dives, the higher precious metals prices will rise. Backing up our forecast for a weak dollar – which will push gold above \$2,100 per ounce this year and silver to double in value – is Gregory Mannarino's new article, ["VALUE OF THE USD IS CRATERING."](#)

Bitcoin: As we go to press, Bitcoin spiked 2 percent. Despite it being down some \$6,000 from its record high – minus a collective government/central bank movement to ban cryptos – we maintain our forecast for rising prices as top cryptocurrencies become more of a mainstream safe-haven asset.

Indeed, if there were no crypto market, precious metal prices would be plowing toward double digits. Should Bitcoin fall below \$30,000, the downside risk will push it into its teens. Should it break over \$72,000 per coin, we forecast it will quickly close in toward \$100K per coin.

Oil: Earlier today, oil prices ticked up a bit on the news of an outage in Libya, but Brent Crude fell 56 cents to close at \$66.49 a barrel. West Texas International fell 77 cents, closing at \$62.61 a barrel on news of rising COVID cases and expectations for more lockdowns which will, in turn, lower demand.

SPACs' VALUE SHRINKS UNDER REGULATORS' SCRUTINY



The share prices for special-purpose acquisition companies (SPACs) retreated in recent days as federal regulators have taken a closer interest in the companies' free-wheeling operations.

The SPAC.NV SPAC exchange-traded fund peaked at \$34.87 on 16 February; on 14 April, it closed below \$26. The Indxx SPAC & NextGen IPO Index edged above 2,000 on 22 February but ended 16 April at 1,457.

Virgin Galactic Holdings and Skillz, an online gaming business, both entered the equity markets through SPACS recently; both lost at least 12 percent in value last week.

A SPAC, sometimes called a "blank-check company," is a publicly traded entity that has no assets and typically prices shares at \$10 each. When a SPAC amasses enough capital, it buys a promising company, which merges with the SPAC. In the merger, the SPAC disappears and shareholders then own the company the SPAC bought.

SPACs have offered a way for ambitious young companies to go public and raise large amounts of capital that otherwise might not be able to meet standards required to be listed on a stock market.

SPACs have raised more than \$100 billion so far this year, more than the \$83 billion they garnered in all of 2020, which was an amount more than SPACs previously made in all of their 30-year histories.

The SPAC craze dazzled anew last week when Grab, a Singapore food-delivery service, merged with the SPAC Altimeter Growth Corp. in a \$40-billion deal that will see Grab listed on NASDAQ this summer.

T. Rowe Price and Singapore investment firm Temasek were among the venture's backers.

Recently, however, regulators' newfound interest has been shooing investors away.

In January and February this year, five new SPACs popped onto the market every business day, according to the *Wall Street Journal*; in April so far, only 12 have listed.

Now, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has warned that some SPACs may need to restate their financial results, a red flag that has investors backing away.

Specifically, the SEC is questioning how some SPACs account for warrants, which give investors the right to buy more shares in the future, and has articulated guidelines around the practice.

As a result, hundreds of SPACs are busy reviewing their past operations in light of the SEC's new guidelines.

TREND FORECAST: The warning from the SEC are pro-active measures to deflate the SPAC bubble before it bursts.

If a SPAC fails to buy a company within two years of going public, it has to return investors' money.

Minus regulatory action, as long as equity markets keep rising, interest rates stay low, and money cheap, there will be more SPAC action.

EQUITY INVESTORS RETURN TO U.S. FROM CHINA



Since November's U.S. presidential election, \$170 billion more has flowed into U.S. stock funds than has left, according to data firm EPFR.

In contrast, only a net \$29.78 billion funds went into China's stock funds from

December 2020 through 17 April this year, EPFR reported.

When the world's economy collapsed in March 2020, the U.S. economy and its equity markets puckered with it. At the time, China was controlling its COVID outbreak and already returning its factories to production to supply a needy world.

As the U.S. struggled to right itself, in part by imposing rock-bottom interest rates, investors found China and its stock markets a more lucrative place to put money.

Now president Joe Biden's \$1.9-trillion rescue package, \$2.3-trillion infrastructure and jobs plan, and successful vaccine campaign have persuaded those investors that the U.S. is once again the place to be.

“China got the initial jump but the U.S. came roaring back,” Cameron Brandt, EPFR’s research director, told *CNBC*.

TREND FORECAST: *We maintain our forecast that both long and short term, the Chinese economy will grow faster and be more resilient than America’s. Thus, the money going into U.S. markets will top out shortly before the bubble bursts.*

China has announced a 6-percent GDP growth target this year, but it will most likely rise higher considering current trends. Thus, Beijing’s focus will be on stabilizing the nation’s economy, reducing reliance on growth through debt compared to the U.S. and Europe which have, and will continue to increase their debt burden.

UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS LOWEST IN A YEAR



The number of new claims for unemployment benefits fell to 576,000 during the week ending 10 April, dropping from the previous week’s revised figure of 769,000, the U.S. Labor Department reported, and reaching a low not seen since 14 March 2020, according to

Business Insider.

A median forecast by economists *Bloomberg* called for 700,000 new claims.

The number of people collecting all forms of unemployment payments from all sources dropped from 18.2 million to 16.9 million for the week, the Associated Press reported.

The unemployment rate fell from 6.2 percent to 6, also its lowest since March last year.

The number of out-of-workers already receiving unemployment payments rose to 3.73 million, just above economists' median estimate of 3.7 million.

The number of unemployment claims filed since the beginning of the pandemic has totaled more than 84 million, according to BI, far more than twice as many as the 37 million during the 18-month depths of the Great Recession.

New claims for unemployment compensation averaged about 220,000 before March 2020, according to government figures.

TRENDPOST: *As we have continued to note, with the U.S. government pumping in more money to the unemployed, despite the high unemployment rates, businesses are having difficulty finding employees because they are making more money with government paychecks than they would make if they went back to work.*

MARCH RETAIL SALES SURGE 9.8 PERCENT



In March, consumer spending gained 9.8 percent from February, when it fell 3 percent, the U.S. Commerce Department reported.

The jump was almost twice the 5.5 percent that analysts were expecting and

a sharp turnaround from February's 3-percent contraction after previous stimulus money had been spent and a series of storms slowed travel and business activity.

The spending spree was fueled by the treasury's \$1,400 stimulus checks, the bulk of which was spent on car payments, home renovations, and restaurant meals, the department said.

Spending at sporting goods grew the most, up 23.5 percent in March over February as people prepare for summer activities. Clothing stores ranked second in sales gains, adding 18.3 percent month on month in March, with restaurants and bars adding 13 percent.

Many economists believe the strength in consumer spending will continue after the latest round of stimulus money has been spent as the COVID virus comes under control and normal activities reassert themselves.

Spending on travel also is ramping up.

From mid-March to mid-April, more than one million people per day were screened at airports, according to the federal Transportation Security Administration.

American Airlines expects to sell 90 percent more tickets this summer than last, the company said in comments reported by the *Wall Street Journal*. Delta Airlines has recovered about 85 percent of its pre-pandemic leisure travel volume and could be profitable this summer, the carrier said in a 15 April statement.

TREND FORECAST: *With much of society living in locked-up fear during the winter months, and now going back out – plus the trillions in government money being doled out to Americans – the spike in retail sales had been expected.*

On the airline front, the big money is in business travel which will not rebound for at least another year. And when it does, it will not come back to pre-COVID War levels. Indeed, the new Zoom world has become part of the new COVID world and businesses are pleased to meet online to cut expenses.

And there has been barely a word from the mainstream media about the devastating effects of the COVID War on the convention and trade show sectors, which have not only damaged the hospitality and hotel sectors and lost tax revenue for cities that host them but has also sharply cut business travel.

Oil: Earlier today, oil prices ticked up a bit on the news of an outage in Libya, but Brent Crude fell 56 cents to close at \$66.49 a barrel. West Texas International fell 77 cents, closing at \$62.61 a barrel on news of rising COVID cases and expectations for more lockdowns which will, in turn, lower demand.

TRENDPOST: *The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) raised its 2021 oil demand forecast by 100,000 barrels a day and lifted its outlook for global economic growth this year from 5.1 percent to 5.4 in its April market report.*

The sunnier forecast for the second half of 2021 was prompted by ongoing stimulus spending, continuing vaccination distribution, and the probability that lockdowns would decrease in number and severity as the year goes on, OPEC said.

The forecast focused on the 37 relatively wealthy nations belonging to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) but also noted that China's oil demand remains robust.

The OECD countries' oil inventories shrank by 45 million barrels in February but remain 57 million barrels above their five-year average as measured from 2015 through 2019, OPEC's report noted.

It should also be noted that the higher oil prices rise, so too will inflation. And, the more money people have to spend on gas on oil, the less will be spent on goods and services.

COVID WAR KILLED 200,000 U.S. BUSINESSES



During the 12 months from 1 March 2020 through February 2021, the U.S. economic lockdown politicians imposed during the pandemic ended 200,000 more businesses than would have closed during a normal economy, a study published on 15 April by the U.S. Federal Reserve has found.

About 600,000 U.S. businesses, or roughly 8.5 percent, close in a typical year, the study noted.

About two-thirds of the additional businesses that closed in the last year were individual enterprises; about one-third were franchises of chains or divisions of larger companies, the study said.

Personal service businesses, such as hair salons, were hit hardest and accounted for more than half the extra losses.

The estimates account for businesses that already have closed. Many more that have survived but been damaged by the lockdown may yet fail.

TREND FORECAST: Last spring, when the COVID War was launched and politicians locked down nations, states, and cities, the word from the commoners was, “It’ll come back.”

It did, for “essential” businesses, for equity market gamblers and hi-tech sectors that thrived as the human world and human touch declined.

While there will be a bounce-back, it won’t come back as it was in 2019. The Bigs will get bigger and the vast majority of those that went out of business will not return.

TRENDPOST: *The Fed study also did not include details about the fate of roughly 26 million U.S. workers who are self-employed and have no other employees. Business failures are the highest, and least well-documented, among gig and contract workers and other one-person enterprises.*

HOME PRICES CLIMB, NEW STARTS REACH 14-YEAR RECORD



Housing starts in March climbed 19.4 percent from February to 1.74 million units, the highest number since 2007 and the strongest month-on-month performance since 1990, *Business Insider* reported.

Economists surveyed by *Bloomberg* had forecast an average of 1.61 million starts for the month.

The leap from February to March was due, in part, to February's storms that halted construction in parts of the country.

Mortgage rates near record lows, work-at-home emigrants from cities, and a record low 1.03 million homes for sale last month – only about a two-month supply – kept housing demand strong.

The median price of a U.S. single-family home jumped 10.4 percent in February, year on year, and 1.2 percent from January, the National Association of Realtors (NRA) said, the biggest 12-month price spike since 2006.

Manchester, NH, is currently the nation's hottest real estate market, according to Realtor.com, where refugees from Boston, 50 miles south, are bidding up prices by \$30,000 to \$50,000 above their asking price, Coldwell Banker broker Jeff Nyhan told *BI*.

The median U.S. home price today is about \$313,000, roughly 16 percent higher than a year ago, the NRA reported.

While a shortage of lumber and other materials is contributing to the scarcity of homes on the market, the shortage has been coming for years, according to the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac).

The housing market never recovered to meet demand after the Great Recession, Sam Khater, Freddie Mac's chief economist, told the *Wall Street Journal*.

"We should have almost four million more housing units if we had kept up with demand the last few years," he said. "This is what you get when you underbuild for 10 years."

The shortage of available homes is 52 percent greater now than in 2018, when the U.S. was more than 2.5 million units short, according to a Freddie Mac analysis.

Last year, 991,000 housing units began construction, the most since 2007.

However, builders would need to put up between 1.2 and 1.2 million annually to keep pace with long-term demand and even more to resolve the current shortage, Rob Dietz, chief economist at the National Association of Homebuilders, commented to the *WSJ*.

The gap is especially large for entry-level homes, making it harder for young families and moderate-income earners to enter the housing market, Khater said.

In 2020, builders put up just 65,000 homes under 1,400 square feet, Freddie Mac noted; in the late 1970s, more than 400,000 such houses were being built each year.

The pandemic's economic shutdown holds a large share of responsibility for the mismatch.

In a usual recession, demand for new homes falls, and supplies rise. However, in 2020, high-income earners working from home were freed from tethers to their office towers and began buying larger homes farther from city centers.

At the same time, low- and moderate-income earners lost jobs, saw their work hours cut back, and felt the need to hunker in place and wait for better times.

TREND FORECAST: *We maintain our forecast for consumer optimism to continue to rise as long as interest rates remain low and Washington and the Federal reserve pump in trillions to inflate the economy and equity markets.*

As long as interest rates stay low, the areas where real estate prices have shot up will remain strong. And even when the equity markets crash, these sectors will not suffer sharp declines.

On the downside, the commercial sector will continue to weaken as more people spend more time working at home and less time commuting. Also, rising crime will push apartment and residential real estate prices lower in once high-flying urban cities.

DOLLAR'S DECLINE IN WORLD CURRENCY RESERVES DECEPTIVE



In 2020, the proportion of dollars in nations' foreign currency reserves dipped below 60 percent for the first time since 1995, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) reported.

In contrast, the euro's share of reserves rose to 21.2 percent, the IMF found, its greatest share in six years; Japan's yen claimed 6 percent, more than it has in two decades.

The discovery reignited speculation that the dollar is waning as the world's reserve currency of choice.

The IMF report does not necessarily mean the buck is falling from favor, analyst Mike Bird wrote in the 16 April *Wall Street Journal*.

First, the dollar depreciated in 2020, making it worth less than other currencies. A currency's relative value, not the amount of buying and selling it undergoes, is a key factor in the IMF's rankings, Bird noted.

Second, the yen's rise is due, in part, to currency swaps made with the U.S. Federal Reserve to prop up Japan's economy during the 2020's crisis.

Third, the private sector now owns more U.S. Treasury securities than has been typical and governments and their foreign-exchange reserves own less. Treasuries have been a safe haven for value during the chaos of the past year.

So, while governments' dollar holdings have shrunk, ownership in the private sector has grown.

Also, the falling dollar should be a factor in restoring some of its value, Bird contends.

As the dollar's value falls, especially relative to the currencies of exporting countries with hefty dollar reserves, those countries could be expected to buy more Treasury securities to keep their currencies from spiking in value and making their exports more expensive in the U.S., he argues.

"Even if the greenback's official share [of foreign currency reserves] falls further, its position at the distant top of the global currency hierarchy looks quite secure for now," Bird concluded.

TREND FORECAST: *We maintain our forecast for rising inflation and a weaker U.S. dollar. Indeed, the reason it has not fallen sharply is that there is, at this*

time, no global competition considering that the euro, its main competitor, has not strengthened since the Eurozone economy remains weak.

Despite rising inflation, the Federal Reserve will not sharply raise interest rates since the higher rates go, the faster the equity will crash as Wall Street money junkies can no longer get cheap money to gamble. Merger and acquisition activity will also slow down dramatically.

HISTORIC LABOR SHORTAGE: 42% OF BIZ CAN'T FILL OPEN POSITIONS



Businesses are finding it challenging to fill open positions due, in part, to the federal government stimulus programs and the lack of skilled workers applying for positions, according to a report.

According to ZeroHedge, there are about 100 million Americans who are not in the labor force. Of them, 94 million are not interested in gaining employment.

The website reported,

“Trillions in Biden stimulus are now incentivizing potential workers not to seek gainful employment, but to sit back and collect the next stimmy check for doing absolutely nothing in what is becoming the world’s greatest ‘under the radar’ experiment in Universal Basic Income.”

MoneyWise reported that the Biden administration is facing mounting pressure to deliver a fourth stimulus payment to millions of Americans, with some calling for cash payments until the COVID-19 outbreak has subsided. The report said about 20 Democrats sent the president a letter calling for some kind of recurring relief payments to be added to his infrastructure package.

The senators wrote, “Families shouldn’t have to worry about whether they’ll have enough money to pay for essentials in the months ahead as the country continues to fight a global pandemic.”

Mark Butler, the Georgia Department of Labor Commissioner, told a local station, “In a lot of cases, you can see somebody making twice as much on unemployment. And also, in some other cases, we’ve seen people actually triple or quadruple, especially people who do say seasonal jobs.”

The NFIB, which advocates for small businesses, reported that 91 percent of small businesses had few or no qualified applicants for jobs over the past three months. The ZeroHedge report also said that the number of people quitting their jobs hit 2.3 percent, which is nearly the record dating back to 2001.

“Small business owners are competing with the pandemic and increased unemployment benefits that are keeping some workers out of the labor force,” Bill Dunkelberg, the NFIB chief economist, said.

TRENDPOST: *With over ten million Americans officially labeled unemployed and businesses unable to fill job openings, the fears of the Great Reset, where the government pays the people to do nothing, has become a reality.*

That there are millions of job openings, while there are ten million unemployed who won’t go back to work because the government is giving them more free money each week than they would get if they went back to work, is unprecedented in American history.

Indeed, the United States, once admired as the capitalism champion of the world, has devolved into the United Soviet States of America, where the citizens have become subjects of the state.

BLACKROCK POSTS 49% EARNINGS RISE IN FIRST QUARTER



BlackRock, the world's largest money management firm, reported first-quarter profits of \$1.2 billion, up 49 percent compared to \$802 million in 2020's first three months.

The firm's share value rose from \$5.15 to \$7.77 year on year.

BlackRock cashed in on a surging stock market powered by rock-bottom interest rates and stimulus spending at a time when investors were in search of higher yields and encouraged by the prospect of an economic recovery, the *Wall Street Journal* reported.

The company took in \$171.6 billion in new cash from investors during 2021's first quarter, compared to \$35 billion a year earlier. BlackRock's trademark line of exchange-traded funds collected \$68 billion in new cash investments through the first three months of this year; they garnered \$13.8 billion in the same period in 2020.

"There's a lot of money in motion today," BlackRock CEO Lawrence Fink said in a 15 April analysts call reported by the *WSJ*, "but many investors continue to keep a significant amount of cash on the sidelines."

BlackRock now has \$9 trillion under management, according to the *WSJ*, about as much as the combined GDPs of France, Germany, Italy, and Spain.

TREND FORECAST: *We note this article to further illustrate how the Bigs keep getting bigger and the trend for the world's wealth to be concentrated in the hands of a few continues to dramatically escalate. (See our 23 March article, ["\\$4 TRILLION FOR BILLIONAIRES AS MIDDLE CLASS SINKS."](#))*

LOW PAY TREND: DOLLAR GENERAL HIRING BOOM



In a measure of the bargain-basement economy's growth, the Dollar General discount chain has announced it will hire 20,000 new full- and part-time workers to staff its stores and distribution centers and drive its truck fleet as the company

adds 1,050 stores this year.

The additions will grow its 158,000-person workforce by almost 13 percent.

Like other dollar chains, Dollar General flourished during the economic shutdown as cash-strapped households shopped for bargains in food and home essentials.

Sales at the chain's stores that had been open for at least one year grew an average of 16.4 percent in 2020 and the company's profits surged 55 percent.

Dollar General's long-range plan is to double its current number of stores to about 17,000, it said.

Competitor Dollar Tree also recently announced plans to hire thousands of new workers and add 600 more stores this year to the more than 15,000 it now operates as Dollar Tree and through its Family Dollar subsidiary.

TREND FORECAST: *Not only is the trend for the big chains to keep growing bigger and putting small businesses out of business... the jobs they are creating pay minimum wage.*

Thus, the middle class will continue to shrink and more of the wealth will be concentrated in the hands of a few.

PRIVATE EQUITY FIRM BUYS BEAUTYCOUNTER



The Carlyle Group, a private equity firm, has bought a majority stake in cosmetics retailer Beautycounter, the companies have announced.

Beautycounter has branded itself as a leader in “clean” cosmetics, excluding more than 1,800 potentially harmful ingredients from its products.

The company was founded after CEO Gregg Renfrew saw “An Inconvenient Truth,” Al Gore’s movie about the environmental crisis.

“I was able to get toxic chemicals out of my life when it came to household cleaning products but not when it came to skincare products,” she said in comments quoted by the *Wall Street Journal*.

Carlyle’s investment will be used to market the brand more widely and aggressively and strengthen its digital sales capacity.

The sale places a value on Counter Brands, Beautycounter’s parent company, at \$1 billion.

The company was last valued at \$400 million in 2018, according to the *WSJ*.

Beautycounter distributes its goods primarily through about 65,000 independent sellers who tout the products on social media and place orders through the company’s website.

Beautycounter also operates a few physical storefronts and sells through some partner retailers.

TREND FORECAST: Again, we continue to note these mergers and acquisitions to illustrate both the concentration of wealth and the power of the few to control business sectors.

When America was the Land of Opportunity, there were not hedge funds or private equity groups monopolizing the economy. Indeed, while these groups were created after World War II, they did not begin to gain the buying and owning power they have now until the mid-1970s and they accelerated in the 1980s... as they helped fuel the 1987 stock market crash.

TRENDS ON THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC FRONT



EUROZONE NEEDS MORE STIMULUS SPENDING, IMF SAYS

The 19 Eurozone countries should spend an additional 3 percent of GDP over the next 12 months to spur their lagging economic recovery, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has recommended in its latest Regional Economic Outlook for Europe, published on 12 April.

The region's recovery is being hobbled by slow vaccine delivery, resulting in continuing lockdowns and other fetters on social movement and business, and stimulus spending that remains too small, especially compared to that of the U.S., the IMF said.

European Union nations should abandon their plans to cut stimulus spending this year by an average of 1 percent, from 7.5 percent of GDP to 6.5 percent, the fund suggested.

Boosting public spending instead by 3 percent would add two percentage points to the region's economic growth, save jobs, and attract and retain investment, the IMF said.

The IMF has cut its growth projection for the Eurozone to 4.5 percent this year and warned that the region will lose 1.5 percent of its potential GDP by 2025 without more stimulus spending.

"As monetary policy becomes less effective in boosting output, fiscal policy needs to play an increasingly larger role," Christine Lagarde, president of the European Central Bank and the IMF's former managing director, said in comments quoted by the *Financial Times*.

Monetary policy refers to interest rates and money supplies, which are controlled by central banks; fiscal policy targets tax rates and government spending, which legislatures set.

Europe's economy resembles a person coming out of intensive care leaning on two crutches, Lagarde said.

"You don't want to remove either crutch, the fiscal or the monetary until the patient can walk fine, and do that means support well into the recovery," she emphasized.

TREND FORECAST: *As evidenced by the IMF report, the European economy is not bouncing back strongly. And with more fears of lockdowns as "cases" rise, it will drag down further.*

And, with many European nations' GDP boosted by tourism, we forecast there will not be a return to pre-COVID War travel for at least another two years... or more.

Furthermore, many of the restaurant, retail, hospitality, and other businesses that went out of business will not return. While new ones will take their place, it will not make up for the revenue stream that was previously generated.

SALES OF LUXURY GOODS SOAR



LVMH Moët Hennessy Luis Vuitton, the world's largest purveyor of luxury goods, saw its sales soar 30 percent year over year during 2021's first quarter and 8 percent above the same period in 2019 before the COVID virus was showing its effects.

The figures were adjusted for variations in currency rates.

The company's revenues have climbed steadily over the past 12 months and is now the most valuable company on Europe's stock exchange, displacing food conglomerate Nestlé, the *Wall Street Journal* reported.

LVMH's announcement pushed Paris's stock market up 3 percent on 14 April.

The company's good news was powered by an 86-percent rise in Asian sales during this year's first three months, while the company successfully negotiated lower rents for its troubled units, it noted.

The luxury house also benefited from consumers' confinement. Unable to travel, upscale shoppers spent more on goods than they would have if they had access to hotels and five-star restaurants, analysts said.

Awash in fiscal stimulus money, Americans also spent freely on LVMH's cognacs and champagnes.

Competitors Cie. Financière Richemont, Kering, and Hermès, all posted stronger-than-expected sales for the period.

Share prices of luxury brands may have peaked, analysts warn: their stock values are at or near record highs as other companies are beginning to show stronger sales post-pandemic and are beginning to turn investors' heads.

TREND FORECAST: Clearly, by the numbers, the rich have gotten richer during the COVID War as we have documented, and they are and will continue to spend lavishly.

It should also be noted that with the global population approaching eight billion, should a few billion sink into poverty and the middle class keep shrinking... the upper class will continue to grow and there will be enough of them to keep the luxury market flourishing.

Of course, on the others side of the economic fence, which is ignored by the business and mainstream media, is that as the rich get richer and billions get poorer, the “Off with Their Heads 2.0” trend will ramp up.

TOP TRENDS 2021: THE RISE OF CHINA



As we have forecast, the 20th century was the American century – the 21st century will be the Chinese century. The business of China is business; the business of America is war.

CHINA'S SPIKES 18 PERCENT IN FIRST QUARTER. China's economy grew by 18.3 percent in 2021's first quarter, compared to the same period a year earlier, the National Bureau of Statistics reported.

The performance was the largest year-on-year quarterly gain since China began keeping records in 1992.

The country's March manufacturing output rose 14.1 percent against that of March 2020. Retail sales zoomed 34.2 percent as shoppers ventured out to malls, restaurants, and car dealerships.

For the first time in almost 30 years, China's economy contracted during the first three months of 2020, then sprinted back as the world turned to its factories to supply everything from masks to computers after the West shut down for months.

Those factors drove China's economy to grow faster than its pre-pandemic rate by the end of 2020. Indeed, it was the only major nation that registered a positive GDP in 2020.

"The monthly indicators suggest that following weakness in the first two months" of the quarter, Louis Kuijs, chief Asia economist at Oxford Economics, said in comments quoted by Germany's *Deutsche Welle* news service.

TRENDPOST: *While the U.S. GDP should catch up to its 2019 size by July as a result of record-low interest rates and President Biden's recent \$1.9-trillion stimulus, in China, industrial production, consumption, and investment all gained pace in the last quarter.*

In contrast, the Eurozone's economic output will grow only 4.5 percent in 2021, according to IMF, and not return to its pre-pandemic level until next year because of a double-dip recession in this year's first quarter, thanks to a slow vaccine campaign that has led political leaders to continue business lockdowns.

CHINA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH RESTING ON EXPORTS, HOUSING.

Although China's exports grew 30.6 percent year on year in March, the volume of goods shipped overseas last month contracted by a seasonally adjusted 6.6 percent from February, Goldman Sachs calculated, as reported by the *Wall Street Journal*.

Exports rose by 8.5 percent across January and February.

March's dip was expected because China's New Year's holiday last month briefly curtailed production and because American factories are coming back to life, meeting some demand that China has been supplying.

However, the latest round of U.S. stimulus spending and President Biden's \$2.3-trillion infrastructure proposal probably will speed demand for goods past supply, lifting Chinese export volumes higher, *WSJ* analyst Nathaniel Taplin wrote on 14 April.

Domestically, China's economy rests more heavily on housing than officials would like.

Across 70 cities, home prices rose 0.4 percent from January through February, the steepest rise since August.

China's regulators have been tightening controls over property developers so more credit would be available to other facets of the country's internal economy.

So far, they have been less successful than hoped.

Tighter regulations strictly enforced could blunt the housing boom later this year and begin to fertilize other sectors of the domestic economy, Taplin wrote.

Otherwise, the housing market will likely continue to swell, starving other consumer markets and raising the specter of a bubble.

CHINA TO OFFER IS DIGITAL CURRENCY TO 2022 OLYMPIC VISITORS.

China hopes international visitors to next year's Beijing Winter Olympics will be able to acquire and spend the e-CNY, the country's new digital yuan, Li Bo, deputy governor of the People's Bank of China, said in an 18 April public statement at the annual Boao Forum for Asia that was reported by several news outlets.

The bank has conducted a real-world test of its e-currency several times in Beijing, Chengdu, Shenzhen, Suzhou, and other cities. The tests have shown the

means of distributing and redeeming the e-money works with existing payment systems, the bank has reported.

Offering it to Olympic visitors would be the e-CNY's first test with foreign tourists.

The bank hopes the e-CNY will eventually replace coins and paper money but is not a cryptocurrency, not designed like bitcoin, and not intended to challenge the dollar's role as the world's reserve currency, the bank has emphasized.

The c-CNY is intended for domestic use, Li said.

"Our goal is to allow the market to choose and to facilitate international trade and investment," he added.

However, the bank is collaborating with its counterparts in Hong Kong, Thailand, and the United Arab Emirates, among other nations, to explore the use of the digital yuan internationally.

The bank will continue testing the e-CNY in more cities and more situations and strengthen its technological and regulatory infrastructure as well as its security protections, Li added.

The People's Bank of China has set no date for a national introduction of its digital currency.

TREND FORECAST: *As we have been reporting, China will be the first major nation that goes to digital cash. In the years to come, much of the world will follow (See our 28 July article, "[FROM DIRTY CASH TO DIGITAL TRASH.](#)")*

And, as we forecast, the more nations that go to digital cash, the stronger the crackdowns and regulations will be placed on cryptocurrencies that governments and their central banks will regard as competition.

GOING DOWN, GOING BUST, GOING OUT



AMERICAN AIRLINES REPORTS WEAK FIRST QUARTER.

The airline's revenue for 2021's first quarter was 62 percent lower during the first three months of 2019, year over year, the carrier reported, and carrying capacity – the number of seats available – was off 42 percent.

The company expects to post a first-quarter loss of between \$2.7 billion and \$2.8 billion, it said in a statement announcing the first-quarter result.

GOLDEN CORRAL'S SECOND-LARGEST FRANCHISEE GOES BUST.

Platinum Corral, based in Jacksonville, North Carolina, with 28 buffet restaurants in six mid-Atlantic and Appalachian states, has closed most of its locations and sought shelter in Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

The company told the court it owes \$49.4 million, including \$5.6 million in back rent and \$6.7 million in Paycheck Protection Loans it needs to repay.

The chain reported sales of \$89 million in 2019.

The company has reopened 10 of its sites and will unlock two more; the remaining 16 will stay shut, the company said in a statement announcing its bankruptcy.

The Golden Corral chain closed its 35 company-owned restaurants in March. Its largest franchisee, 1069 Restaurant Group, declared bankruptcy last October.

TRENDS IN THE MARKETS



VALUE OF THE USD IS CRATERING

By *Gregory Mannarino*, TradersChoice.net

The U.S. dollar has hit a record low with regard to its purchasing power. And we have not seen anything yet.

The Federal Reserve has by design created a monster. A monster that exists in the creation of astronomical amounts of cash out of thin air. Understand the mechanism here. Every dollar that is magically created out of thin air, either in digital form/added to a digital screen or a dollar created on a printing press, **MUST** get its value from something.

But what is that something?

That something for which every new dollar gets its value is this: it robs a small percentage of value from every other **already** existing dollar. And **THAT** is how a newly-created dollar gets its purchasing power. (You are not supposed to know this!)

In other words, for every new dollar created to have purchasing power, it must steal a fraction of worth from every other previously-existing dollar.

Think of it like this: Imagine a single pile of cash that includes all the dollars on Earth. Now, this pile of cash has a particular amount of purchasing power. As a central bank adds to this pile of cash, for every dollar added to have worth, it must take a bit of purchasing power from every other bill in the pile. *So, even as the pile of cash increases, the overall purchasing power of the pile decreases.*

This mechanism has caused the U.S. dollar to hit a record low with regard to purchasing power. Being that the Federal Reserve has no plans to stop printing/creating cash, the dilution of the dollar concerning its value will continue to plunge... *and this is no accident.*

The Federal Reserve is on a mission to destroy the dollar in its current form only to issue in a new, dollar-based fiat system. This new system will give the Federal Reserve absolute control over every single transaction; a digital trail with your name on it.

A System of Control

We are in the midst of a new paradigm with a new set of rules. This system of control will be rolled out using a very old trick: PROBLEM, REACTION, SOLUTION. The current dollar is being weaponized (the “problem”) in the form of evaporating purchasing power, to bring about a reaction, and then comes the solution.

Problem: The dollar in its current form losing vast amounts of its purchasing power.

Reaction: The population reacts to the “problem” and demands a solution.

Solution: A new dollar, 100% digital/fiat.

Central Bank goals are met.

As the dollar in its current form continues its downward spiral, it will exert influence over other assets.

In theory, assets priced in dollars should gain in value priced in dollars. I say “in theory” mostly talking about the price action of precious metals. There is a deliberate mechanism in place being utilized by major banks, mostly JPMorgan, to artificially suppress the price of gold and silver via the derivative.

Crude oil, priced in dollars, will gain in value. Shipping costs will skyrocket, and necessities such as food and petroleum-based products will also see their prices inflate.

The stock market will inflate/rise, as it will take more “weaker dollars” to buy everything. This mechanism will have an inflationary mechanism on stock prices because it will take more weaker dollars to buy shares of stock.

The mechanism here is simple, and it has been well-thought-out by central planners, also known as central banks: Total control over the world monetary system via a new dollar, becoming the lenders and buyers of last resort which OWN IT ALL.

TRENDS IN SURVIVALISM



SPECIAL ADVICE FOR FEMALES

by *Bradley J. Steiner*, *American Combato*

While it is not unheard of for a woman or girl to be attacked by someone who punches her, the vast majority of attacks on females by males commences with a *grabbing, holding, embracing, or seizing* type of action — after which a smacking or punching follow-up sometimes is resorted to, when the assailant does not receive immediate acquiescence to his demands and gestures.

We want to emphasize to women that the common approach of the major portion of attacking actions they may anticipate provides them with a golden opportunity to react successfully with a counter-attacking technique.

We will describe several excellent technical reactions to an attack that a woman can use with confidence, but first, we must explain something crucial.

An almost automatic reaction that females have when held or grabbed without warning by someone whom they either do not know or know to be a problem,

is shock. They react with stunned surprise. This is often accompanied by either completely freezing or by reflexively attempting to pull away.

At the same time, it seems to be the case that the female victim will voice some understandable but utterly useless words: “Get your hands off me!” “Don’t touch me!” “Hey, what the hell do you think you’re doing?” “Stop that!”... These are examples of what the scummy punks who put their unwelcome hands on a woman too often hear.

*Believe us when we tell you: Those types of abusive garbage who attack women are **not** deterred by these responses; they have doubtless heard them many times before. Regrettably, the punks realize that such verbalizations indicate **fear**, and, of course, that only encourages them.*

The same is true for the pulling away reaction and the freezing. The animals have encountered it before, and it *never* deters them.

Here is what we want females to understand about male violence and abuse directed against them (very often, but not always, with sexual assault being the motive and ultimate objective):

When it happens, it is *not* the aggressor’s “first offense.” He’s done it before. His boldness and confidence come from his past successes; it does not come from his “invincibility” or enormous physical prowess or strength. THIS IS TO A VICTIM’S ADVANTAGE!

The aggressor *believes* that he will be successful because of his past successes. THIS IS TO A VICTIM’S ADVANTAGE!

The aggressor *does not fear* the woman, and he does not believe she will be able to mount an effective counteroffensive or that she will even *try* to do so. THIS IS TO A VICTIM’S ADVANTAGE!

The aggressor, although initiating violence or controlling force himself, *is not doing so because he wishes to engage in a fight, per se*. He simply wishes to

achieve submission and compliance, and he has no anticipation of encountering spirited resistance. THIS IS TO A VICTIM'S ADVANTAGE!

Without realizing it, the aggressor's action *helps* the trained woman to overwhelm and defeat him and escape. THIS IS TO A VICTIM'S ADVANTAGE!

We want women to understand that virtually every aspect of most attackers' actions and attitude offers *advantages* and *opportunities* to the would-be victim *if* she will work to overcome what is the typical characteristic reaction and train hard to develop a reaction that *capitalizes* on the weaknesses of her assailant and upon the opportunities that his actions against her provide.

Here are the keys to training effectively to deal with an intrusive, unwanted grabbing/holding attack by a male:

Think often and repeatedly during training and practice about the evil and outrage of someone daring to put his hands on you. Decide now that yes, it really *could* happen to you, and if it ever does – no matter when or where or why – you will *not* be shocked. You will be ready.

Upon feeling the attack begin, you will click into “kill mode” and go berserk with hatred, rage, and the determination to utterly destroy your attacker.

You will *never* try to pull away from the assailant but will instead make immediate use of the strength and momentum that he applies to *move in murderously **against** him!*

You will understand that his holding or grabbing you amounts to no dangerous threat in and of itself, but that it will *lead* to a dangerous attack if you were to allow it to do so. AND YOU WILL NOT!

You will attack as you go with the assailant's force. You will not slap, smack, or pound uselessly on his arms, shoulders, and chest with your fists; nor will you attempt to forcefully shove him away and off of you.

You will go after the attacker's EYES, THROAT, EARS, TESTICLES, SHINS, and NOSE. *AND YOU WILL ATTACK RELENTLESSLY AND WITH ALL OF YOUR POWER WHILE GROWLING AND CURSING AND BITING HIS FACE.*

Your techniques will be:

- Ramming your extended fingers into his eyes or gouging at his eyes with your thumbs.
- Jabbing into his throat with a half-fist hand formation so that your strong fore-knuckles strike his windpipe.
- Position allowing, you will chop with your open hand edge to his throat or neck.
- You will, if you can, apply a throat-lock (pincher grip) to his thyroid cartilage, close your fingers tightly, and pull out.
- You will smash your open hands into his ears and close them with a solid gripping action. Then bite hard into his face and, while biting down hard, rip his ears by employing a bow-and-arrow type action with both hands.
- You will ram your knee *repeatedly* and as rapidly and powerfully as you are able into his testicles. (Very effective after securing a grip on his ears.)
- You will stomp down hard in a scraping action of either the inside or outside edge of your shoe or boot on his shinbone, ending up by crushing the arch of his foot. (Also very effective after securing a grip on his ears.)
- You will smash the little finger side of your clenched fist across the bridge of his nose, using all of the strength you possess. Alternatively, you may strike with the heel of your hand in this manner.

- Upon being grabbed from behind, you will begin stomp-kicking back, snapping your head back into the attacker's face, reaching back to seize his testicles, elbowing back (high to the face or mid-level to his solar plexus, depending on which is most doable at the time, assuming your arms are free to move).

You will drop your weight and not stop kicking, butting, and using your hands/arms to strike and to seize. You may hook your foot around and behind the attacker's ankle to prevent being carried off or thrown in a vehicle while kicking with the other foot. Turn as soon as possible, and go after your attacker with the most destructive, vicious, relentless, and murderous force of which you are capable.

- You will continue to attack like a wild animal – relentlessly and with fury – and desist and escape *only* when you have been released and your attacker is visibly injured and no longer focusing on you.
- If by chance you break away from the attacker quickly and there is *anything* in the vicinity that you can take into hand as a weapon, do so – and use it to attack your attacker.

Attacks against women and girls by men are always a serious, dangerous, potentially maiming or killing situation. Only by confronting that type of problem realistically and determining to treat it with the gravity required will women and girls gain the justifiable confidence and capability to resist and survive that they deserve.

We hope this is of value to every woman who reads it, and to those who, as instructors of self-defense, train females to deal with unprovoked criminal violence.

In Memoriam:

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved friend, Bradley J. Steiner. May his soul rest in peace.

In his legacy, we are fighting the “Brad Steiner fight” – the good fight. The fight for each person to be the person they want to be and to protect themselves when their lives are being viciously threatened by enemies of Freedom, Peace, and Justice.

TRENDS IN GETTING HEALTHY



IT'S TIME TO DISMANTLE THE WHO

By *Richard Gale and Dr. Gary Null*

The ultimate international authority for infectious diseases is the World Health Organization (WHO). Due to its widespread acceptance by the world's national governments, it has been extremely successful in assuming the helm to monitor regional and global infectious diseases and dictate medical intervention policies to international health agencies. The organization has become the final word to rule whether the spread of a serious pathogen is a pandemic or not. For the majority of the medical community, the media and the average person, the WHO is the front line command post for medical prevention (i.e., vaccination) and treatment. Consequently its rulings are often regarded as the gold standard. On matters of global health, the WHO holds dominance.

For approximately a year the WHO has propagated the belief that the first line of defense for curtailing the COVID-19 pandemic is self-isolation, distancing, masks and, ultimately, vaccination. Although it approved Ivermectin as a cost-effective treatment against SARS-CoV-2 infections, it disapproved hydroxychloroquine in favor of Gilead Bioscience's and the National Institute of

Allergy and Infectious Disease's (NIAID) Anthony Fauci's novel and costly drug Remdesivir. Much of its funding efforts have been reserved for mass-vaccination with the new generation of experimental vaccines. Throughout these efforts, the WHO has allied itself with the US's and UK's national health systems, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and his Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) initiative.

Most people wrongly assume the WHO acts independently from private commercial and national government interests for the welfare of the world's population. The legitimacy of the WHO as a gold standard of health is dubious. The organization has frequently been accused of conflicts of interests with private pharmaceutical companies and mega-philanthropic organizations such as the Gates' Foundation, as well as being riddled with political alliances, ideologies, and profiteering motives. Despite its mega-pharmaceutical interests and consultants representing private vaccine interests, in the past the WHO has had the audacity to ridicule the pharmaceutical industry of corruption.

“Corruption in the pharmaceutical sector occurs throughout all stages of the medicine chain, from research and development to dispensing and promotion.... A lack of transparency and accountability within the medicines chain can also contribute to unethical practices and corruption.”

These are similar charges that have been leveled against the WHO. An article in the *National Review* called the WHO "scandal plagued" with "wasteful spending, utter disregard for transparency, pervasive incompetence, and failure to adhere to even basic democratic standards." In his book, *Immunization: How Vaccines Became Controversial*, University of Amsterdam professor emeritus Dr. Stuart Blume raises the serious problem of the WHO's most influential advisors on emergency health conditions, such as the current Covid-19 pandemic and earlier the 2009 H1N1 swine flu scare that never was, serve as consultants for the vaccine industry. During times of global emergencies and crises, the WHO confers with a separate group of advisors outside its formal sitting Strategic Advisory Group of Experts or SAGE; the names of this group's members are [not made public](#).

We would add that the WHO's level of incompetence has resulted in serious misinformation about pandemics, medical risks of vaccines and other health-threatening chemicals. [For example](#), during the early stage of the COVID-19 outbreak in Wuhan, the organization reported it could not find any evidence of human transmission. However, the WHO has repeatedly kowtowed to China's demands and unscrupulously accepts whatever statistics and statements the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) provides. Responding to a petition signed by over 700,000 signatories demanding the resignation of the current WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom, Japan's Deputy Prime Minister Taro Aso [told the Japanese parliament](#) that the organization "should be renamed the Chinese Health Organization" for favoring China's policy to stall and obstruct international investigations and for lauding unsubstantiated praise on the country's transparency and handling of the pandemic. Back on December 31, 2019, Taiwan – which has been barred from WHO membership due to China's political maneuvering – had been [warning](#) of a possible human-to-human transmission contrary to the wet-market narrative, but this was largely ignored in order to avoid upsetting the CCP.

The UK's *Sunday Times* [reported](#) that Chinese scientists were forced to destroy their proof of the virus shortly after its discovery. In the province of Hubei, authorities [ordered](#) the cessation of further testing and the destruction of existing samples. Other researchers who made efforts to warn the public [were punished](#). Writing for *The Hill*, University of Texas at San Antonio professor Bradley Thayer [wrote](#), "Tedros apparently turned a blind eye to what happened in Wuhan and the rest of China and... has helped play down the severity, prevalence and scope of the Covid-19 outbreak." Thayer concludes, "Tedros is not fit to lead the WHO." He has no formal medical training as a physician or any international management experience in global health. Many others have voiced similar criticisms pointing out Tedros's unsuitable background. Moreover, the Director General's conflicts of interest with China abound. Immediately before and after his tenure as the Health Minister for Ethiopia's ruling Communist party, the Tigray People's Liberation Front, China [had donated](#) an estimated \$60 million to the terrorist government and its social programs. Now heading the WHO,

Tedros appears to continue lobbying on China's behalf. In 2017, the *Washington Post* noted the [fundamental problem](#):

“[China] worked tirelessly behind the scenes to help Tedros defeat the United Kingdom candidate for the WHO job, David Nabarro. Tedros's victory was also a victory for Beijing, whose leader Xi Jinping has made public his goal of flexing China's muscle in the world.”

Upon assuming his new position at the WHO, Tedros had left Ethiopia's healthcare system in ruin. As one young healthcare worker [reported](#), there was no “bare necessities of a health care office.... Sterile gloves, paper exam gowns and covers, cotton swabs, gauze, tongue depressors, alcohol prep pads, chemical test strips, suturing equipment, syringes, stethoscopes... were non-existent. This is a fact in most health care centers in Ethiopia.”

During the more [recent re-investigation](#) of SARS-CoV-2 origins, the Chinese authorities refused to provide raw case data and created repressive conditions to curtail reliable analysis and disclosure. The WHO's final report concluded that the virus had an animal origin and did not escape Wuhan's high security pathogen laboratory. But there are viable reasons to discredit the report as untrustworthy at best and perhaps intentionally deceptive.

First, the entire agenda of the investigation was staged theater rather than a deep investigation to uncover empirical evidence. The team simply inspected seafood and open-air markets. Consequently, the WHO team returned empty handed and without laboratory records for a proper forensic examination. To call the entire WHO effort gross incompetence would be an understatement. Based upon all the evidence that has emerged, a large number of professional medical voices are calling the entire investigation a farce.

Most problematic is the appointment of Peter Daszak on the WHO's group to carry out the investigation. Daszak, the founding president of the shadowy non-profit organization EcoHealth Alliance, has headed many hunting adventures worldwide to identify the emergence of potential pathogens that could become pandemics. With the intention to divert attention away from an escaped laboratory virus, Daszak [stated](#) on a *Going Viral* podcast there was no evidential reason to visit and inspect the Wuhan laboratory. [According to](#)

Independent Science News, despite Daszak's denial of a lab origin, "EcoHealth Alliance funded bat coronavirus research, including virus collection, at the Wuhan Institute of Virology and thus could themselves be directly implicated in the outbreak." The research at the Wuhan lab included 'gain of function' efforts on coronaviruses, and received funds directly approved by Anthony Fauci. *Newsweek* [reports](#) the NIH had given a total of \$7.4 million to the Chinese lab for the research. The organization has received over \$100 million from a variety of sources, including the Department of Defense, Homeland Security, the NIH and undisclosed amounts from the Chinese government. Daszak himself has [authored 25 studies](#) funded by the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, think tanks, universities, military institutions, and ministries directly connected with the Chinese Communist Party.

Given the halls of power within the WHO, we are outlining some of the more salient reasons why the organization's declarations about infectious diseases, pandemics and vaccination should not be trusted.

Vaccine Promotional Misconduct

For many years the WHO's recommendations for certain vaccines were kept secret. Writing in a 2006 issue of the *Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons*, Dr. Marc Girard [uncovered](#) "scientific incompetence, misconduct or even criminal malfeasance" over the intentional inflation of vaccines' benefits while undermining toxicity and adverse effects. Dr. Girard testified as a medical expert for a French court in a criminal trial against the WHO after French health officials obliged the organization to launch its universal Hepatitis B vaccine campaign. The campaign resulted in the deaths of French children. Girard gained access to confidential WHO documents. He noted that the WHO's "French figures about chronic liver diseases were simply extrapolated from the U.S. reports." He further accused the WHO serving "merely as a screen for commercial promotion, in particular via the Viral Hepatitis Prevention Board (VHPB), which was created, sponsored, and infiltrated by the manufacturers."

Now during the Covid-19 pandemic, as early as last July, the WHO approved of China's first vaccine for emergency use, long before it had undergone proper

clinical trials and much earlier than Moderna's and Pfizer's mRNA vaccines' approval.

Orchestration of Pandemic Panics

Before the current COVID-19 pandemic, there was the H1N1 swine flu scare in 2009. However, at the very start the WHO's fear mongering of a global contagion that could exceed the death counts of the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic was solely based on false rhetoric rather than empirical evidence. The fabrications are believed to have originated from the WHO's senior consultant on viral outbreaks who happens to carry the reputation of being one of the world's leading pandemic alarmists: Dr. Albert Osterhaus, nicknamed "Dr. Flu." At the time, Osterhaus was head of the Department of Virology at Erasmus University in the Netherlands. When the swine flu scare appeared, he was also the president of the European Scientific Working Group on Influenza (ESWI), an organization funded by the major vaccine manufacturers including Baxter, MedImmune, Glaxo, Sanofi Pasteur and others. It was also Osterhaus who transformed an otherwise potentially bad flu season into a global pandemic. The WHO has been criticized harshly in the media for changing the definition of a "pandemic" and in doing so has been charged with benefitting the pharmaceutical industry. The *British Medical Journal* reported that the WHO failed to report conflicts of interest in its H1N1 advisory group. The journal's Editor-in-Chief Fiona Godlee wrote, "WHO must act now to restore its credibility, and Europe should legislate." The former head of the prestigious Cochrane Database Collaboration's vaccine studies, Dr. Tom Jefferson, told a *Der Spiegel* interviewer, "the WHO and public health officials, virologists and the pharmaceutical companies... built this machine around the impending [H1N1] pandemic. And there's a lot of money involved, and influence and careers, and entire institutions."

When the 2009 H1N1 influenza strain appeared, the WHO rushed forward to mangle its earlier criteria that would realistically define a pandemic. The organization intentionally removed reference to a pathogen's "severity" as a necessary requirement. "Don't you think there's something noteworthy," Dr. Jefferson continues, "about the fact that the WHO has changed its definition of a pandemic?.... that's how swine flu has been categorized as a pandemic."

Moreover, the WHO's decision to label the outbreak as a pandemic was not based upon its own permanent vaccine experts but on the recommendations of a non-disclosed group of outside consultants.

According to a financial forecast published by JP Morgan, the collaboration between the WHO and Osterhaus's ESWI to orchestrate the pandemic would have profited the pharmaceutical industry up to \$10 billion. *Der Spiegel* reported:

“The WHO and those in charge of public health, the virologists and the pharmaceutical laboratories.... created a whole system around the imminence of a pandemic. There is a lot of money at stake, as well as networks of influence, careers and whole institutions! And the minute one of the flu viruses mutates we'd see the whole machine roll into action.”

In 2010, the EU's Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe launched an investigation into the evidence that the WHO had created “a fake pandemic” in order to financially benefit the pharmaceutical giants' vaccine market and to strengthen the influence private drug interests have over the health organization. The Assembly's chairperson Dr. Wolfgang Wodarg charged the WHO's fake pandemic as “one of the greatest medical scandals of the century that resulted in “millions being needlessly vaccinated.”

Epidemic of Conflict of Interests

According to former World Bank geopolitical analyst Peter Koenig, about half of the WHO's budget is derived from private sources -- primarily pharmaceutical companies but also other corporate sectors including the telecommunication and agro-chemical industries. It also receives large donations from large philanthropic organizations such as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and GAVI. Eleven years ago, Gates had committed \$10 billion to the WHO; after the US, his Foundation is its second largest donor providing 10 percent of its funding. His financial commitment aligned with his global ambition to “make this the decade of vaccines.” Koenig also believes that Tedros's appointment was due to Gates' influence. This may carry some truth because Tedros is a former Chair of GAVI's Vaccine Alliance. Barbara Loe Fisher at the National Vaccine Information Center estimates that “only about 10 percent of total

funding provided by GAVI (\$862M) was used to strengthen health systems in developing countries, such as improving sanitation and nutrition, while nearly 80 percent was used to purchase, deliver and promote vaccines."

There is also the deep personal and financial relationship between Gates and the Chinese Communist government that demands further investigation. Gates is a member of the Chinese Academy of Science. For the moment, the WHO has been [advising against](#) Covid-19 vaccine passports as a mandate to travel. Nevertheless, China has already launched [encrypted digital certificates](#) as proof of vaccination. Given Gates' close relationship with Chinese officials, perhaps he is awaiting on China to establish a precedent for other nations to agree on a global mandate that will eventually be propagated by the Gate's network and the World Economic Forum and its Great Reset. During a 2020 TED talk, Gates had already revealed that digital vaccine passports may be necessary; that part of his speech was edited from the original video, however, Robert Kennedy Jr. [tracked down](#) the original footage. Gates has also 1) commissioned MIT to develop injectable a quantum dot dye system for children, 2) funded MicroChips, a company developing implantable chip-based devices, and 3) purchased 3.7 million shares in Serco who is developing tracing technology to track pandemic infections and vaccine compliance.

Finally, Gates shares the Chinese Communist Party's interests in collecting and 'mining' citizens' DNA. A 60 Minutes expose presented the covert activities of BGI Genomics, a CCP-linked firm that has exported Covid-19 tests to "collect, store and exploit biometric information" on American citizens. [Independent investigations](#) reveal that the Gates Foundation has collaborated with BGI and it was through Gates' influence over Obama that the Chinese company entered the US market.

BGI's RT-PCR kit was promoted by the WHO back in May 2020 for first line emergency diagnostic use. The [rationale](#) was that the test was highly sensitive, specific and user-friendly. Subsequently the EU, FDA, and the Australian, Canadian and Japanese health ministries rapidly purchased and deployed it. On its website, the Gates Foundation [acknowledges](#) its role in having the PCR tests supplied to the WHO.

“Nine Chinese PCR tests were approved by WHO during 2020 under its Emergency Use Listing (EUL) mechanism, with one of the foundation’s partners supplying tests to WHO”

Three months later, Sweden [filed complaints](#) after reports of a high percentage of false positives from the Chinese tests.

There is in our opinion little doubt that the WHO is another one of Gates' bought off entities for furthering his personal agenda to promote vaccines, genetically modified seeds and chemical agriculture in the developing world.

Vaccine Adverse Effects Monitoring System Needs Overhaul

The WHO's Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety is the group responsible for administering vaccine programs in poorer, developing countries. It is also responsible for gathering data on incidents of vaccine injuries. Any deaths following vaccination campaigns are ignored and ruled as coincidental. This policy is based on the erroneous assumption that if no one died during a vaccine's clinical trials, then the vaccine should be regarded as automatically safe and unrelated to any deaths that might occur later. Consequently, the WHO's monitoring system is seriously flawed and requires a major overhaul.

One of the more controversial incidences was the WHO's collaboration with the Bill Gates' GAVI campaign to launch the Pentavalent vaccine (diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, HIP and Hepatitis B) in Africa and later in South and Southeast Asia. In India, health officials recorded upwards to 8,190 additional infant deaths annually following Pentavalent campaign. The WHO's response was to reclassify its adverse event reporting system to disregard "infant" deaths altogether. Dr. Jacob Puliyel, a member of the Indian government's National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization concluded,

“deaths and other serious adverse events following vaccination in the third world, that use WHO-AEFI classification are not recorded in any database for pharmaco-vigilance. It is as if the deaths of children in low (and middle) income countries are of no consequence.”

WHO's Double Standards of Vaccine Safety

A more recent scandal erupted during the WHO's Global Vaccine Safety Summit convened in December 2019. Days before the summit, one of the WHO's medical directors for vaccination, Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, appeared in a public advertisement touting the unquestionable safety of vaccines and ridiculing parents who speak out against vaccination. She assured viewers that the WHO was in control of matters and monitored any potential adverse risks carefully. However, [during the Summit](#), the same Dr. Swaminathan acknowledged vaccine health risks and stated, "We really don't have very good safety monitoring systems." Another Summit participant, Dr. Heidi Larson stated,

"We have a very wobbly 'health professional frontline' that is starting to question vaccines and the safety of vaccines. When the frontline professionals are starting to question or they don't feel like they have enough confidence about the safety to stand up to the person asking the questions. I mean most medical school curriculums, even nursing curriculums, I mean in medical school you are lucky if you have half a day on vaccines."

And more noteworthy were the statements by Dr. Martin Howell Friede, Coordinator of the WHO's Initiative for Vaccine Research,

"... I give courses every year on how do you develop vaccines, how do you make vaccines. And the first lesson is while you're making your vaccine if you can avoid using an adjuvant please do so. Lesson two is if you're going to use an adjuvant use one that has a history of safety. And lesson three is if you're not going to do that, think very carefully."

In other words, what the WHO presents to the public contradicts what is discussed behind closed doors, another example of the veil of secrecy the organization operates within.

Now we are witnessing more countries halting further administration of AstraZeneca's Covid vaccine, a vaccine Trump had committed \$1.2 billion towards its development. Subsequently the CDC paused Johnson & Johnson's similar engineered adenovirus vaccine in order to investigate its association with an otherwise rare condition of fatal blood clotting. The WHO on the other hand

has ignored these nations' ethical responsibility to adhere to the precautionary principle. Its own review [claimed](#) there were no blood clot links to AstraZeneca's vaccine; later the WHO changed its tune to "plausible" after EU regulators [found a causal link](#) and the *New England Journal of Medicine* [published two studies](#) providing specific details confirming these adverse reactions. Although acknowledging these risks, the WHO has continued to recommend that mass vaccination proceed as if there were no red alarms.

WHO's Depopulation Efforts with Vaccines

Without doubt, the most nefarious activity conducted by the WHO is its alleged support and distribution of vaccines to poorer developing countries that may have been intentionally designed to decrease population rates. Back in 1989, the WHO sponsored a symposium at its Geneva headquarters on "Antifertility Vaccines and Contraceptive Vaccines." The symposium presented proposals for vaccines that were later discovered to have been laced with the sterilizing hormones HCG and estradiol; the former prevents pregnancy and triggers spontaneous abortions and miscarriages, and the latter can turn men infertile.

In 2015, the Kenyan Conference of Catholic Bishops reported its discovery of a polio vaccine laced with estradiol that was manufactured in India and distributed by the WHO. A year earlier, Dr. Wahome Ngare from the Kenyan Catholic Doctors Association uncovered a tetanus vaccine specifically being administered to women, also distributed by the WHO, that contained the HCG hormone. All of the polio vaccine samples tested contained HCG, estrogen-related compounds, follicle stimulating and luteinizing hormones, which will damage sperm formation in the testes. Even more disturbing, this vaccine was going to be administered to children under five years of age.

However, this is not the first time the WHO appears to have made efforts to use vaccination campaigns for depopulation. A decade earlier, in 2004, the WHO, UNICIF and CDC launched a vaccination campaign to immunize 74 million African children during a polio outbreak. The initiative encountered a serious obstacle. In Nigeria, laboratory tests on the WHO's vaccine samples resulted in the presence of estrogen and other female hormones. And in the mid-1990s, a tetanus vaccine being administered to Nicaraguan and Filipino girls and women

in their child-bearing years was discovered to contain HCG, which accounted for a large number of spontaneous abortions that were reported by Catholic health workers.

Illegal Vaccine Experiments

In 2014, *The Economic Times of India* published [a report](#) that provided details of a joint venture between the WHO and the Gates Foundation to test an experimental HPV vaccine on approximately 16,000 tribal girls between the ages of 9 and 15 unwittingly. The experiment was conducted in 2008, and the vaccine is now what we commonly know as Gardasil. Many of the girls, the report states, became ill and some died.

The [following year](#) the WHO and Gates Foundation conducted a similar experiment on 14,000 girls with the HPV vaccine Cervarix. Again "scores of teenage girls were hospitalized." Investigations led by Indian health officials uncovered gross violations in India's laws regarding medical safety. In numerous cases there was no consent and the children had no idea what they were being vaccinated for. The Indian Supreme Court has taken up a case against the duo for criminal charges.

There are many other questionable activities that the WHO has been involved with over the years. However, the above provide sufficient evidence to argue the case that, at least within the upper echelons of the WHO, global health does not stand in high priority. The organization employs over 7,000 people around the world and most of these have deep concern for improving the lives of populations in poor and developing nations. On the other hand, the WHO's leaders are there largely because the powers of Washington, London and the pharmaceutical industry benefit by the organization advancing its agendas.

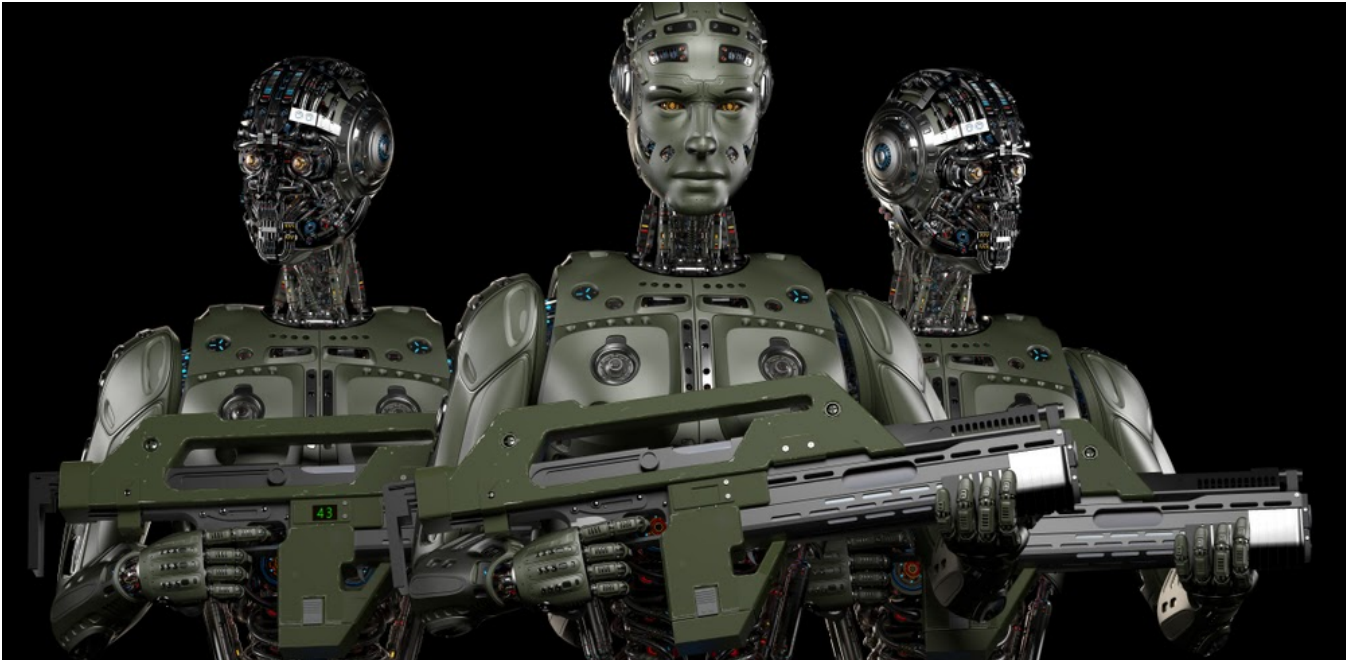
Of course, the WHO is not the only health entity with a legacy of corruption. Corruption appears to be systemic throughout global health and national health agencies. This topic was [featured last year](#) in the prestigious medical journal *The Lancet*. Author Dr. Patricia Garcia writes,

"Corruption is embedded in health systems. Throughout my life—as a researcher, public health worker, and a Minister of Health—I have been

able to see entrenched dishonesty and fraud. But despite being one of the most important barriers to implementing universal health coverage around the world, corruption is rarely openly discussed."

Bear in mind, the WHO, along with Bill Gates and his Foundation, and Anthony Fauci at the National Institutes for Allergy and Infectious Disease, are leading the efforts to get the COVID-19 vaccine administered as quickly as possible. Already the Gates Foundation [has given](#) \$1.75 billion for developing and distributing these vaccines. Do you believe we can trust their judgment and the intense public relations effort that will immediately follow after such a vaccine reaches the market?

TRENDS IN TECHNOCRACY



By *Joe Doran*

THE FUTURE: MORE TECH NIGHTMARE THAN NIRVANA?

Out-of-control AI. Total surveillance capabilities built off hyperconnectivity. Bio-engineered disasters. A wider tech-driven divide between haves and have-nots.

Those are just some of the predictions of a new National Intelligence Council (NIC) report *Global Trends 2040: A More Contested World*. The NIC advises Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines.

The report – or at least its worst-case scenarios – read like a tech-fueled hell that may make the bloody totalitarian regimes of the 20th century seem quaint by comparison.

The potential for advancement is also highlighted. But the overall outlook strongly suggests human conditions will not advance at a pace with

technological innovations. In other words, technology and science may benefit only a relative few, while causing malaise or worse for the rest of humanity.

Technology Not a Savior

A considerable section of the report is devoted to the impact of emerging technologies including Artificial Intelligence. It's clear that like it or not, AI will evolve quickly and present challenges.

On the economic front, the report implicitly suggests AI will render whole sections of the current workforce obsolete. It mentions "retraining," but making the benefits of technologies available to society:

"AI will transform almost all industries and disrupt the global labor force, creating new job fields, eliminating others, and driving significant economic and social redistributions. Human-machine teaming will be common for many future jobs. To harness the advantages of AI while mitigating unemployment, countries and corporations will need to focus on education and retraining their workforce."

AI's use in warfare is outlined:

"AI will confer strong advantages to countries that incorporate AI into their military systems. AI will enhance the performance of existing weapons, defenses, and security systems, both physical and cyber, while counter-AI techniques, designed to negate or confuse AI decision making, also are likely to emerge."

The report admits that AI will likely not be very privacy-friendly, noting that "strict rules" on the use of personal data may not be able to coexist with the "full realization of AI capabilities." And in a passage on technology-driven surveillance, the report says:

“Today’s ubiquitous public cameras, for example, will lead to tomorrow’s smart cities, where optical and other sensors combine with AI to monitor people, vehicles, and infrastructure globally.”

The report acknowledges that governments, presumably with intelligence agencies as a focal point, will be tempted to use AI-driven surveillance to manipulate and control populations. And some stunning statements in the report sum up the outcome of likely future surveillance:

“Privacy and anonymity may effectively disappear by choice or government mandate, as all aspects of personal and professional lives are tracked by global networks... The technology-saturated and hyperconnected future will offer leaders and governments new tools to monitor their populations, enabling better service provision and security but also offering greater means of control... Governments, especially authoritarian governments, will exercise unprecedented surveillance capabilities to enforce laws and provide security while tracking and de-anonymizing citizens and potentially targeting individuals.”

Warnings Over a Growing Digital Divide

Global Trends 2040 repeatedly warns that advances in technology may only create divides and be hoarded by powerful technocratic elites, even if that exact term is not used.

In typical Orwellian fashion, the report lays the blame for the chasm between the haves and have nots with intransigent people "unwilling" to bend to desired conformities to receive their allotted share:

“Aggravating Social Tensions. The pace of technological change could increase societal tensions between those with the access, ability, and will to adapt and those who are unable or unwilling to change. With the rapid spread and adoption of technologies, some individuals, communities, and countries could make rapid advancements while others may be left behind

with little hope of catching up, exacerbating inequalities within and between states...

Many people, particularly those who are benefiting less than others in their societies, are increasingly pessimistic about their own prospects, frustrated with government performance, and believe governments are favoring elites or pursuing the wrong policies.”

But the report admits that frustrations are most concentrated not in developing countries, but in first world countries that have seen erosions in broad-based middle-class progress:

“Public opinion polls repeatedly have shown increasing pessimism about the future in countries of all types around the world, but especially in advanced and middle-income economies. According to the 2020 Edelman Trust Barometer, the majority of respondents in 15 of 28 countries polled are pessimistic that they and their families will be better off in five years, an average increase of 5 percent from the previous year. Less than a quarter of those polled in France, Germany, and Japan, for example, believe they will be better off in 2025.”

China Not a Partner

China figures very large in the *Global Trends 2040*’s predictions of challenges that will face the U.S. strategically in the years and decades ahead. Among other things, the report details China as a competitor in space:

“By 2040, China will be the most significant rival to the United States in space, competing on commercial, civil, and military fronts. China will continue to pursue a path of space technology development independent of that involving the United States and Europe and will have its own set of foreign partners participating in Chinese-led space activities. Chinese space services, such as the Beidou satellite navigation system, will be in use around the world as an alternative to Western options.”

On the more mundane plane of terra firma, competition with China for influence and allegiances with the rest of the world is also contemplated:

"The rivalry between the United States and China is likely to set the broad parameters for the geopolitical environment during the coming decades, forcing starker choices on other actors. States will leverage these diverse sources of power to jockey over global norms, rules, and institutions, with regional powers and non-state actors exerting more influence within individual regions and leading on issues left unattended by the major powers."

The report eschews terming the China rivalry as a kind of "Cold War," but the implications are fairly clear.

Obliquely, the report at several points seems to almost wish for the totalitarian controls China exerts on its citizenry, economy, and institutions:

"In open economies, a mix of private efforts and partnerships between governments, private corporations, and research programs will compete with state-led economies, which may have an advantage in directing and concentrating resources, including data access, but may lack the benefits of more open, creative, and competitive environments."

Not exactly a ringing endorsement of current "corporate capitalism." But then, the strange admixture and lack of confidence currently characterizing western societies is perhaps the subtext of the entire assessment of *Global Trends 2040*, which can be viewed in full [here](#).

REPUBLICAN SOUND & FURY “TARGETS” BIG TECH



The game of out-of-power Republicans in Congress making tough-sounding proposals to engage their base is an old one. So anyone who's fantasized about “repealing Obamacare,” “term limits,” “balancing the budget,” or “abolishing the IRS” may recognize the latest signs of

political kabuki theatre.

Republicans will reportedly introduce legislation to reign in corporate power via a “Big Tech Accountability Platform.” That's according to a memo leaked late last week to *CNBC* and other news outlets.

The memo follows a recent meeting of Republican leaders at Mar-a-Lago, former President Trump's base of operations in south Florida. Proposals in the memo include:

- Targeting companies w/\$1B+ revenue
- Rescinding Section 230 protections, especially if companies use targeted behavioral advertising
- Requiring five-year “authorizations”
- Requiring an appeals process for bans of persons and entities from platforms and services

Big tech ran roughshod over Election 2020, manipulating and controlling information on social media platforms, search engines, and even the infrastructure of the internet itself.

Some Republican Governors, led by Ron DeSantis, are making stands against big tech censorship and unaccountable power at the state level.

But whether the national GOP will get that chance any time soon, is questionable, to say the least. Democrats in power have wasted no time in proposing D.C. and Puerto Rico statehood, Supreme Court packing schemes, and even abolishing the Electoral College (legislation introduced this past week). At this juncture, national-level Republicans may never get the chance to renege in the future on their promises.

THIS WEEK IN SURVEILLANCE



BIDEN INTEL HEADS GRILLED FOR ILLEGALLY TARGETING U.S. CITIZENS.

Americans are being spied on and targeted for their political beliefs and activities. That's the news out of a contentious House Intelligence Committee hearing last Thursday

involving Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines, FBI Director Christopher Wray, and NSA Director Paul Nakasone.

Ranking Republican Devin Nunes called out the intel community for “characterizing wide swaths of American citizens, particularly Republicans and conservatives, as politically suspect, politically violent, and deserving of government surveillance.”

The FBI and the National Intelligence Council have both issued recent reports characterizing political conservatives and anti-authoritarians – but not radical Antifa and BLM-backed riots and networks – as threats to the country. Wray, for example, declined at an earlier hearing in the week to disclose whether Antifa was organized enough to coordinate and fund their efforts, though the answer is obvious from publicly available video footage of many of their activities.

During the House hearing, Nunes warned the intel heads that attempts to overstep their legal authority would result in “severe repercussions” by Republican lawmakers and the American people. Nunes said,

“I remind those assembled here today that our intelligence community exists solely to counteract foreign threats... History shows that major abuses occur when our intelligence capabilities are turned inward to spy on our own citizens, from the FBI spying on Martin Luther King Jr. in the 1950s and '60s to its surveillance of Republican Party members in 2016. This is a red line that simply cannot be crossed. In fact, this committee was created in large part to ensure that that line should not be crossed.”

Chris Stewart also took the Biden administration officials to task, asking whether they were statutorily empowered to spy on Americans with “no foreign nexus.” All three answered no.

But during questioning of Haines, Stewart raised a copy of the report put out by her office as an example of the unauthorized domestic intelligence gathering.

“It’s very clear the IC has no authority to turn your tools or your resources on American citizens,” Stewart said.

Haines sought to deflect Stewart’s charge by parsing words and characterizing intelligence in the report as being “received” as opposed to “collected.”

"Your analysts helped prepare, you did an analysis on this," the Utah Republican countered, concluding that Americans "should be deeply troubled" by intelligence agencies politically targeting its citizenry.

EMPLOYEES MICROCHIPPED BY WISCONSIN COMPANY. The lead of a *USA TODAY* [story](#) this week asked “Welcome to the future?” in describing how a Wisconsin company will implant microchips in its employees.

Three Square Market, a company that provides tech solutions for break rooms and micro-markets, will use the RFID chips to allow employees to pay for items, and access the building and their computers, via hand scans.

The *USA TODAY* article assured its readers that “whether or not to get a chip is up to the employee to decide.”

The subject of government tracking and the constitutional rights of Americans has been a prominent and controversial topic in the age of COVID. Many Americans are currently refusing to take various so-called “vaccines” based on experimental technologies. The shots are different in fundamental ways than traditional vaccines.

In a corollary, Americans are bristling against “vaccine passports,” a scheme that would reward vaccine takers with promises of being able to move about and attend events and venues in “freedom” and restrict people refusing vaccines.

Recent articles in the **Trends Journal** have covered how companies like Amazon and Rekor Systems are forcing workers into a surveillance regime. The forced implantation of microchips has been consistently labeled a conspiracy theory by technocracy-controlled media. But, increasingly, authorities are revealing plans for smart cities and pervasive surveillance and control.

Three Square Market’s CEO Todd Westby sounded almost like a parody of “conspiracy theorist” warnings, enthusing about microchipping:

“We foresee the use of RFID technology to drive everything from making purchases in our office break room market, opening doors, use of copy machines, logging into our office computers, unlocking phones, sharing business cards, storing medical/health information, and used as payment at other RFID terminals. Eventually, this technology will become standardized allowing you to use this as your passport, public transit, all purchasing opportunities, etc.”

As the *USA TODAY* story itself suggests, invasive technology pushed and pressured by the government, private employers, or both working together, ignoring Constitutional limits, is not a future prospect. It's a present-day reality.

BLOCKCHAIN BATTLES



WILL BLOCKCHAIN SAVE THE DAY?

Pandemic lockdowns and central bank money printing have rightly been pointed to as reasons to sound alarms about what's ahead for America and, indeed, the entire world.

But there's always the potential for unforeseen events or agents of change to upend seeming tides of historical inevitability. A recent [post](#) in the **Trends Journal** covered the basic idea, as illuminated by Issac Asimov's landmark *Foundation* novels.

This past week, many "average" Americans seemed to catch on that something huge is going on with digital blockchain technologies. Perhaps the frenzy on the crypto exchange on Coinbase was mostly fueled for the moment by the exchange's listing on NASDAQ. And cryptos certainly took wild swings up and down during the week and into the weekend. But there's little doubt that Americans are suddenly striving not only to "get into" crypto investments but to understand more about what they are and what they portend.

There may be a lot to be optimistic about. Blockchains can do much more than just create digital currencies that are highly resistant to being controlled or inflated by governments, though that alone represents a huge sea change of history. Imagine that governments might no longer be able to use the "back door" of monetary inflation to pay its bills while rendering the spending power of citizen savings diluted and effectively stolen. That's the promise of Bitcoin and perhaps even more so down the line, Monero.

But, as the next story details, the blockchain can do much more than just revolutionize the way the world employs mediums of exchange.

COMPETING BLOCKCHAINS OFFER OPPORTUNITIES AND RISKS. Bitcoin (BTC) is widely seen as the “gold standard” of decentralized “blockchain” currencies. Like gold, plenty of investors are moving to it as a store of value resistant to inflation.

With a hard cap on the number of bitcoins that can ever be produced (21 million), the anonymity of its founding, and its impregnable, decentralized protocol, it serves its intended purpose well.

There are limits to what bitcoin was designed to do. But blockchain technology is quickly proving to be much larger than just serving as a backbone for tamper-resistant digital currencies. Significant players currently competing in the blockchain “2.0” and even “3.0” space include Ethereum, Cardano, and many others like Algorand, Stellar, and Monero.

Blockchain Already Reshaping The World

At its core, blockchain technologies are decentralized databases, with peer-to-peer network nodes. How they handle writing, storing, and accessing information in those databases, as well as the kinds of information that can be handled, is a large part of what differentiates them.

What can blockchains potentially do? Just about anything centralized databases do. And via the crypto security measures they employ and their decentralized structure, they are more resistant to hacking and shut down by any group than any technology previously devised.

But some blockchains are also designed from the ground up to the house and run computer code. That means they can act as platforms for just about any digital application imaginable. And those applications can have all the resiliency and security that the blockchain offers.

Blockchain technology can take the place of both a central server running an application and a database. Add it up, and the potential for blockchain platforms to experience explosive growth in usage and demand becomes clearer.

Ethereum Was First With a Different Type of Solution

Ethereum was the first significant bitcoin competitor that offered something beyond what bitcoin does so well. In addition to minting decentralized digital currency, the Ethereum blockchain was designed to run “dApps” or computer programs. Being “open source” means anyone can build off of Ethereum.

Like Bitcoin, Ethereum attained a “first” in its sphere of utility and has gained market capitalization and usage accordingly. As reported by [CoinDesk](#) in March 2021, over 3,000 dApps are currently running on the Ethereum blockchain.

Many of those apps are focused on various aspects of “DeFi” or decentralized finance. Some of the objectives of DeFi projects include handling loans and derivatives, as well as handling day-to-day financial transactions.

Crypto assets devoted to DeFi rose over 2,000 percent in 2020, from \$650 million to \$16.05 billion.

But apps are doing things beyond DeFi. For example, the Chainlink platform built on Ethereum uses the protocol’s “smart contracts,” or predefined instructions, to interact with real-time data from the outside world. This allows applications that can do things like using weather data to pay an insurance claim in the event of a hurricane. Other so-called prediction apps like Augur and Gnosis share similarities with Chainlink. They turn real-world events into actionable or wagerable events on blockchains.

Independent voices shut down by Big Tech will find Unstoppable Domains a welcome Ethereum development. The project is creating domains that can’t be taken down by a central entity or government.

And there are many more innovative Ethereum-based projects, such as:

- [Livepeer](#) (a decentralized live-streaming alternative to YouTube)
- [Status](#) (an ether crypto wallet, Web3 browser, and private messaging system/app)
- [Golem](#) and Storj's [Tardigrade](#) (storage apps)

Ethereum Challenged by Other Blockchain Solutions

Cardano, Algorand, Stellar, and other more recent blockchain platforms have offered their innovations.

Cardano and others have avoided Ethereum's "proof of work" method of authenticating and adding to its blockchain. Proof of work, without wading into technical details, can involve significant network computing power and affect transaction times. Cardano, Algorand, and Stellar all use an alternate "proof of stake" or similar consensus method, which reduces network resources.

Cardano: Regulation-Ready A Good Thing?

Cardano, designed by Ethereum co-founder Charles Hoskinson, has billed itself as the first "peer-reviewed blockchain." The nonprofit responsible for the blockchain has assembled a wide array of scientists and academics to review and decide its protocols and development.

In other ways, including app building, Cardano shares similarities to Ethereum.

Cardano might be the most "woke" blockchain. It has been designed for and even welcomed greater regulation by authorities. Because of that, its chances of being adopted and building relationships with existing entities are considered to be good. But those gravitating to blockchains for their abilities to resist narrow control may want to invest elsewhere.

Monero and Zcash Focused on Ultimate Privacy

[Monero](#), with a completely anonymized transaction ledger, is undoubtedly one of the most private decentralized blockchain currencies in the world. It isn't focused on being a platform for far-flung applications. It intends to be the most private and secure digital cash on earth. Zcash also has a robust privacy protocol, including options for shielded (or completely anonymized) transactions.

Transaction Speeds and the “Trilemma” Blockchain Problem

Financial transaction times are one of the problems that blockchain technologies have had to confront. Anyone who has initiated a bank transfer knows that traditional financial networks leave a lot of room for improvement when it comes to moving money.

The Stellar blockchain is largely focused on making those kinds of transfers much faster, and much cheaper to process.

But purchase transactions are another matter. There, traditional networks like Visa currently perform at a healthy clip. According to [Bitcoin.com](#), Visa currently handles 1,400 to 1,700 transactions per second, and at least theoretically can scale to 50,000 per second.

Many current blockchain projects are trying to find ways of overcoming the “trilemma” problem of blockchain technology. That trilemma states: you can achieve any two out of three of security, decentralization, and speed, but not all three.

Bitcoin achieved security and decentralization, but transaction time (along with major, mostly upward price volatility) makes its use as a payment currency impractical. Thus, it has largely functioned as a digital store of value, not a means of purchase payment. Bitcoin Cash, a “fork” of the original Bitcoin blockchain protocol, addresses some of the transaction time problems, to try to make it friendly for purchase-related uses.

Other blockchain/crypto solutions like Stellar, Algorand are focused on the “trilemma,” as they develop. Info on current transaction rates of different

blockchains was recently compiled by <https://u.today>. Together with other factors like flexibility and protocol focus, transaction speed will continue to play into how investors assess the potential and risks of different blockchain technologies.

But despite technical aspects that have yet to mature, more people are becoming aware that blockchain technology is set to impact the world in very, very big ways that are only just beginning.

BLOCKCHAIN MOVERS OF THE WEEK. Polygon, an India-based company with innovative technology designed to boost the power of the Ethereum blockchain, gained a listing on Coinbase in March.

That's significant, since Coinbase made a huge splash of its own as the first crypto exchange listed on a major U.S. stock exchange, NASDAQ.

Polygon's networking and transaction technology propose to solve some of Ethereum's issues with transaction times and costs. Since Ethereum, with its dApps, has proven to be a blockchain of choice for application builders, Polygon may be technology to watch.

The Polygon token available on Coinbase traded in the 30 to 50 cent range this week. In January (not then available on Coinbase), it was around 3 cents. The quick expansion of blockchain apps may spell more upside potential in Polygon's future over the next 12 to 24 months.

New Kind of Network (NKN), covered a few weeks ago in the **Trends Journal**, made an early April Coinbase debut. It was mostly down during Coinbase's NASDAQ debut bonanza. But with a wide base of network nodes and a technology that shares unused bandwidth, NKN is likely to generate more interest as investors look for opportunities where products and adoption already exist.

[MakerDAO](#), the blockchain powering the dollar-pegged Dai stablecoin, saw significant upward movement for most of last week, before heading lower over the weekend with other cryptos. Maker boasts that “a growing ecosystem of over 400 apps and services have integrated Dai, including wallets, DeFi platforms, games and more.”

Zcash, a crypto with a privacy focus similar to Monero, posted gains. That move came off its announcement of “Halo Arc,” a suite of upgrades due in October. Halo Arc will include an ECC wallet prototype and ECC wallet software development kits (SDKs). The wallet will enable shielded-by-default transactions.

Dogecoin Wagging the Investment Hound?

Dogecoin has seen huge gains over the past year, rising from a few cents to .45 this past Friday. But beware of articles like this one from Yahoo [claiming](#) the currency is anything like Bitcoin. The article itself admits there is no hard cap on the amount of Dogecoins that can be mined. And as far as utility, though it's oft-used to tip hipsters on social media, Dogecoin has no infrastructure for applications or services.

But, it does have a “legendary” meme status.

TRENDS ON THE COVID WARFRONT



SCIENTIFIC FACT: COVID VARIANTS NOT THE “DANGER” BEING HYPED

The government, so-called “health authorities,” and the media that keep spreading scare tactics used to promote vaccinations, social distancing, and continued mask-wearing were exposed in promoting fear and hysteria once again that lacks scientific backing.

For months, we have been warned of a more dangerous and deadly virus variant labeled B.1.1.7.

The 13 April *Wall Street Journal* headline, however, was “Variant from UK Not Found Deadlier,” and the *Euronews* headline read, “UK COVID variant not more dangerous than original, say studies.”

Yet, most of the mainstream media is filled with dire warnings that this new variant is spreading wildly and requires continued vigilance and stricter lockdown policies. On 4 April, a *Forbes* headline read:

Biden COVID Advisor Warns “Game-Changing” Variant Infects Kids “Very Readily” And Could Spur New Lockdowns

The article noted that Dr. Michael Osterholm, a member of President Biden’s coronavirus advisory board, went on Sunday TV news programs to ramp up fear about the new variant:

“On NBC’s Meet the Press, Osterholm, director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota, called the B.1.1.7 variant a ‘brand-new ballgame’ because of how quickly it has spread among children.”

Osterholm suggested the U.S. may need to consider new lockdowns before school lets out this summer, saying vaccination alone won’t curb rising cases in the next six to eight weeks. He told *Fox News* on Sunday,

“There isn’t a country in the world right now that has seen a big increase in this [variant] that is not locking down... We’re going to have to reconsider what we’re doing.”

Osterholm noted the new variant “is between 50% to 100% more infectious than previous strains and causes more severe illness about 55% of the time.”

He also said experts are “very worried” that variants “can evolve in a way that evades the protection of a vaccine.” Osterholm recommended the U.S. “rev up its global response measures to vaccinate low- and middle-income countries in order to help curb the development of new strains that could challenge vaccine efficacy.”

Just a few weeks later, we find out Osterholm was 100 percent WRONG. Yet, he was not called out for his errors and instead is still a featured mainstream “health expert.”

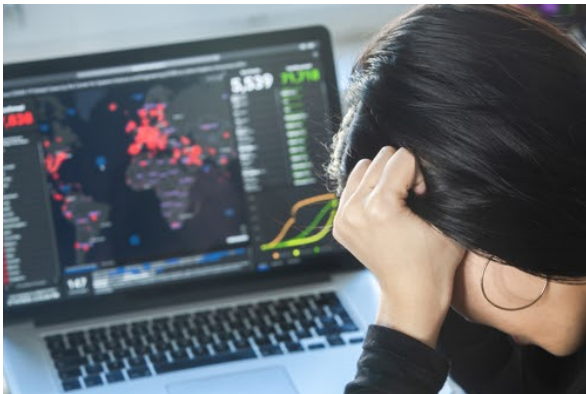
As the *Wall Street Journal* article pointed out, according to scientific research published in the medical journal *The Lancet*, “Patients hospitalized with B.1.1.7 didn’t die at higher rates or have worse outcomes overall.”

TRENDPOST: As reported in the ***Trends Journal*** last week in our article, ***“PRESSTITUTES KEEP SELLING COVID FEAR”***:

The mortality rate reported for COVID-19 has declined since the earliest days of the pandemic. This is partly due to better knowledge about the infection and better protocols that have been developed to treat the more serious forms of the illness.

But The New York Times, along with most of the mainstream media, continue to attract more attention with scare tactics about the “spread” of variants, which have not proved to be as harmful as the original.

BY THE NUMBERS: COVID FEAR VS. FACT



The next time someone peddles COVID fear, these facts may come in handy:

CFR vs. IFR

False numbers have driven COVID fear from the beginning. It has to do with confirmed Case Fatality Rate (CFR) numbers vs. Infection Fatality Rate (IFR) numbers. IFR is derived from unconfirmed cases that are likely occurring in a population, and unconfirmed cases are always much larger than medically confirmed cases used to calculate CFR.

In March 2020, World Health Organization (WHO) director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus claimed, “Globally, about 3.4% of reported COVID-19 cases have died. By comparison, seasonal flu generally kills far fewer than 1% of those infected.”

That 3.4 percent number reflected CFR, not IFR. If the IFR had been used, the death number estimate would have been 1 percent or lower.

Of course, since March 2020, much more is known about treatments and IFR numbers. A recent Lenexa Laboratory study reported by the Trends Journal showed that IFR numbers through September 2020 were likely estimated at less than half of actual infections. That further reduces the overall death percentage.

IFR Death Rate 0.05 Percent for People Under 71 Years of Age

A recent article at mercola.com featured data compiled by Nick Hudson, an actuary and private equity investor who co-founded Pandemics Data & Analytics (PANDA).

PANDA has gathered much peer-reviewed info about COVID-related death rates. The COVID IFR for people under 71 years of age is minuscule, at just 0.05 percent.

The median IFR of 0.23 percent is also much lower than many people would believe. Those numbers were calculated by quantitative scientist John Ioannidis, professor of medicine at the Stanford Prevention Research Center. Ioannidis reviewed 61 seroprevalence studies to determine the actual numbers.

The article at mercola.com pointed out that based on the analysis by Ioannidis, IFR for COVID-19 is lower than that of the flu.

Lockdowns Have Had No Effect on Death Rates

Data compiled by PANDA has found no relationship between lockdowns and COVID-19 deaths per million people, according to Hudson.

Surveyed info includes studies like a recent one published in the European Journal of Clinical Investigation. That study found that regions using mandatory stay-at-home orders, business closures, and other lockdown measures derived no significant benefit in stemming COVID case growth.

More info on Hudson's work can be found at mercola.com [here](#).

U.S. GOV'T PLEDGE: \$1.7B TO FIGHT COVID VARIANTS



Mainstream media, obediently parroting government officials and their health “experts,” have often referred to the spread of the coronavirus as a “War.” Now, a new metaphor has shown up to get the American public vigilant and ready to fight the coronavirus: Football.

On 16 April, the *Financial Times* published the headline:

Biden administration to allocate \$1.7bn to target Covid variants

The “opponent” that needs to be “tackled” are the “variants” of the coronavirus, which have been hyped as a scary threat and used to justify extending lockdowns. But as cited in last week’s **Trends Journal** article, [“PRESSTITUTES KEEP SELLING COVID FEAR,”](#) on 6 August, the medical journal *Psychiatric Times* wrote:

“The mortality rate reported for COVID-19 has declined since the earliest days of the pandemic. This is partly due to better knowledge about the infection and better protocols that have been developed to treat the more serious forms of the illness.”

Since then, the overall trend of declining death rates and extended hospital requirements has continued.

But *The New York Times*, along with most of the mainstream media, continue to attract more attention with scare tactics about the “spread” of variants, which have not proved to be as harmful as the original. On 3 April, it published the following headline and wrote:

New Variants Threaten to Draw Out the Pandemic

“New variants have continued to pop up—in California one week, in New York and Oregon the next. As they take root, these new versions of the coronavirus threaten to postpone an end to the pandemic. Health officials acknowledge an urgent need to track these new viruses as they crawl across the United States.”

Ignoring the solid scientific data, the Biden administration is allocating \$1.7 billion of the \$1.9 billion American Rescue Plan to “tackle” so-called dangerous variants. This even though in the U.K., only 9 percent of tests conducted found variants.

TRENDPOST: *As we have detailed since the beginning of the COVID War that was launched in March 2020, while billions are being spent on vaccines – and variants that pose the same or possibly less threat than the original coronavirus – not a dime has been allocated to educate citizens about natural healing.*

Not a word from politicians and Presstitutes about building one’s immune system, vitamins, nutrition, exercise, staying strong, and staying healthy.

Indeed, the less healthy are more susceptible to dying from the virus. According to the CDC, “For 6 percent of the deaths, COVID-19 was the only cause mentioned. For deaths with conditions or causes in addition to COVID-19, on average, there were 2.6 additional conditions or causes per death.” Yes, 94 percent who died from the coronavirus were already suffering from preexisting chronic health conditions.

Yet the Financial Times article, following the playbook of most of mainstream media, focuses on the fact that “almost half of America’s adult population has received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and every adult in America will be eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine from next week.”

And the Baby Boomers, once identified as the sex, drugs, and rock n’ roll generation, have become the vaccine champions with 80 percent of those over 65 years and older having gotten one shot and 63.7 percent fully vaccinated.

Despite this, the CDC warns that “Even if you have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, you should keep taking these everyday precautions in public places,” such as wearing masks, sanitizing hands, and social distancing.

IRISH CORONER: COVID DEATH COUNTS ARE FAKE



Of course, this was not reported by the western media because it would shatter their COVID House of Cards. As reported by *Irish Central News* on Sunday, Patrick O’Connor, the solicitor and coroner for County Mayo in Ireland, challenged the accuracy of COVID death reporting by the country’s National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE).

Mr. O'Connor also serves as public information officer and specifically claimed that the government's reporting of COVID deaths "do not have a scientific basis."

He specifically questioned COVID as the cause of death in many cases where the patients were already critically ill. As clarified by the article, Mr. O'Connor emphasized there is a clear difference between a patient dying from COVID-19 and dying with it:

"When a person is suffering from a number of medical conditions which will or may lead to their death at some short time in the future, if they are unlucky enough to be infected by the COVID virus then at death if they prove to be COVID positive in a test, it is that which is recorded as the principal cause of death—even though that person may have been terminally ill with a short life-expectancy prior to such testing."

Another Irish coroner, Dr. Denis Cusack of Kildare County, also challenged the government's death total for COVID-19. He said 99 percent of the deaths reported in his county were of individuals who had significant underlying health problems. Out of 230 deaths attributed to COVID-19, "132 had a cardiovascular condition, 120 had dementia, 58 had respiratory problems, 36 had cancer, 30 had a neurological condition, 25 had diabetes, and 23 had kidney problems."

TRENDPOST: *Would U.S. hospitals cook the COVID numbers by listing people that were on their deathbed because of preexisting chronic conditions as virus victims because they tested positive?*

On 14 April, we reported, "Dr. Scott Jensen, a Minnesota state senator who is also a medical doctor, accused the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of directing doctors to list COVID-19 as a cause of death even for someone who was never tested for it, which he said is 'ridiculous' and misleading."

Dr. Jensen added, "I know that I've talked with nursing staff... and led to believe that there may have been a COVID-19 diagnosis included on the death certificate document without having had a COVID-19 confirmed laboratory test."

The Bottom Line

Why would they do that? For the money!

Dr. Jensen said,

“Hospital administrators might well want to see COVID-19 attached to a discharge summary or a death certificate. Why? Because if it’s a straightforward, garden-variety pneumonia that a person is admitted to the hospital for – if they’re Medicare – typically, the diagnosis-related group lump sum payment would be \$5,000. But if it’s COVID-19 pneumonia, then it’s \$13,000, and if that COVID-19 pneumonia patient ends up on a ventilator, it goes up to \$39,000.”

Indeed, this is a fact that has been fact-checked even by USA Today, which stated on 20 April 2020:

“We rate the claim that hospitals get paid more if patients are listed as COVID-19 and on ventilators as TRUE.

Hospitals and doctors do get paid more for Medicare patients diagnosed with COVID-19 or if it’s considered presumed they have COVID-19 absent a laboratory-confirmed test, and three times more if the patients are placed on a ventilator to cover the cost of care and loss of business resulting from a shift in focus to treat COVID-19 cases.

This higher allocation of funds has been made possible under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act through a Medicare 20% add-on to its regular payment for COVID-19 patients, as verified by USA TODAY through the American Hospital Association Special Bulletin on the topic.”

Now, a year later, these hard facts are long forgotten.

TRENDPOST: The **Trends Journal** reported on 9 September that the CDC confirmed what we had been stating soon after the coronavirus started spreading: the elderly and those with preexisting chronic conditions were the primary COVID victims. The CDC has confirmed that 94 percent of the people dying from COVID-19 already had serious underlying health issues before getting the virus.

In our 9 September article, “[BUY THE COVID HYPE, AVOID THE FACTS](#),” we wrote:

*Last week, the CDC emphatically confirmed what the **Trends Journal** has been reporting since the lockdowns began in March: the vast majority of people killed by the virus are from elder care homes, elderly people suffering from pre-existing chronic conditions, and, overall, some 94 percent of all Americans who died from COVID-19 had underlying health conditions.*

The top underlying medical conditions linked with COVID-19 deaths:

- *Influenza and pneumonia*
- *Respiratory failure*
- *Hypertensive disease*
- *Diabetes*
- *Vascular and unspecified dementia*
- *Cardiac arrest*
- *Heart failure*
- *Renal failure*
- *Intentional and unintentional injury, poisoning, and other adverse events*

As stated directly on the CDC’s website, “For 6 percent of the deaths, COVID-19 was the only cause mentioned. For deaths with conditions or causes in addition to COVID-19, on average, there were 2.6 additional conditions or causes per death.”

WATCH TV NEWS, GO TO FACEBOOK = GET COVID STUPID



Researchers at Penn State surveyed almost 6,000 residents during the last week in March 2020, just two weeks after the coronavirus was officially declared a global pandemic.

As reported in the 12 April article by *Study*

Finds:

“People who trust television and social media for COVID-19 news actually know less about the virus... those who rely the most on Facebook score as the least knowledgeable about COVID.”

The study was published in the 11 April journal, *Current Medical Research & Opinion*.

They reported that with about two-thirds of all Americans using social media for their news and information, Dr. Robert P. Lennon, associate professor of family and community medicine at Penn State College of Medicine, voiced concern. Dr. Lennon said,

“The rise of social media has changed the way people around the world keep up with current events... This is worrying, as misinformation and misunderstanding about COVID-19 and how it spreads is likely to have fueled the pandemic.”

Other data from the study showed that just over 40 percent count on government websites for information compared to 27 percent who said they trust television the most, and under 10 percent who count on “health system communications.”

The study confirms that those who put the most trust in television “were less likely to answer COVID-19 questions correctly. Those using Facebook to any degree were less likely to get any of the knowledge questions right.”

TRENDPOST: As we have continually reported – be it the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Afghan War, the Iraq War, the War on Terror, or the COVID War – facts don’t matter. The propaganda that Presstitutes put out, who get paid by their corporate pimps and government whoremasters to sell, is what the public buys.

ONTARIO: BACKLASH AGAINST LOCKDOWN LUNACY



Ontario Premier Doug Ford faced swift backlash last Friday when he announced plans to extend the COVID-19 measures in his province. After a public thrashing by medical professionals and law enforcement, his government retracted the new guidelines

the following day.

Yahoo Canada reported that Ford sought to close playgrounds and give new powers to police to “randomly stop any pedestrian” to inquire about their home address or where they’re headed. But the report noted many residents said they would not comply with the rules.

Toronto police tweeted Saturday morning that they would not follow the new enforcement. The department said it will “continue to engage and enforce equitably and effectively, recognizing always that we must inspire public trust.”

Dr. Andrew Baback Boozary tweeted:

“Just so that everyone is clear on the public policy lens — Ontario desperately needed a public health/evidence informed response and we

got a police state where anyone can be stopped to show their address. This is a human rights calamity none of us could have predicted.”

On 5 January, the **Trends Journal** ran the article, “[COVID-19 LOCKDOWNS; COMPLETE POLICY FAILURES](#),” which looked into how ineffective COVID-19 mandates have proven to be.

On 6 April, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau warned that the country was facing a “very serious” third wave of infections, *Al Jazeera* reported.

David Moscrop, a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council postdoctoral fellow at the University of Ottawa, penned an op-ed in the *Washington Post* calling for Ford to step down. Moscrop wrote:

“Ford was never fit to be premier of Ontario... The pandemic didn’t reveal that; it just bathed it in the garish light of emergency. Both before his time in provincial politics and since, he has shown no distinction other than his extraordinary capacity to alienate, divide, and fail.”

TRENDPOST: *As with most lockdown orders imposed on entire populations that have been dictated by politicians, ignored are the facts of who is dying from the virus and why. In Ontario, where Mr. Ford ordered people to “stay home because the situation is extremely serious and we need to hunker down right now,” some 88 percent of the virus victims are over 70 years of age.*

In addition, over the past year, of a population of 14 million, there were 7,520 registered COVID deaths in Ontario over the course of a year or 0.0537 percent.

Thus, rather than take measures to protect those who are most vulnerable, instead, millions of lives and livelihoods are being destroyed by draconian rules that have proven ineffective.

TRENDS IN THE VACCINE ROLLOUT



MICK JAGGER & BILL GATES: BLOOD BROTHERS

Mick Jagger became a world-renowned rock star with the Rolling Stones. Now he's one of the lead rockers reportedly mocking those who don't want to line up and get vaccinated.

Jagger teamed up with another rock celebrity, Dave Grohl of Nirvana and the Foo Fighters, to write and perform a new song that aims at those declining the COVID jab.

Jagger told *Rolling Stone* magazine:

“It just seems to be that even people you know that are relatively sensible about a lot of things have one thing that they just don't kind of get. I have several friends and relations and they go off on these things... They're just irrational. Of course, there's no point in speaking to people about it.

They don't get it. They got what they believe in and they believe in *that*. And it doesn't matter what you say, they're gonna believe in it. And rational thought doesn't work.

Even a country like France that prided themselves in the 18th Century on rationality is the most anti-vaccine country in Western democracy. It's not as if [vaccines] are a new thing."

Jagger, ignorant of scientific facts and data, has joined the "celebrity" crew professing it's "rational" to get shot up with an Operation Warped Speed vaccine that has not been approved by the FDA. And this is from a guy well known for abusing his body with huge quantities of illegal drugs.

According to a memoir written by his ex-wife Jerry Hall, "Jagger told her that he once spent a year taking LSD every single day and that he was also smoking heroin." Sounds like a good person to consult on drug use.

One of the lines he sings is: *"Shooting the vaccine, Bill Gates is in my bloodstream. It's mind control."*

The 13 April *Associated Press* report on the new song mentions that the rock icon, although worried about anti-vaxxers and those who don't take the virus seriously, is optimistic because of the vaccines. The *AP* writes, "But there seems to be hope. Jagger looks ahead and sees a 'garden of earthly delights' when vaccines are administered and lockdown ends."

More Celebrities Line Up for Vaccines

In addition to Mick Jagger boasting about getting jabbed, a host of other superstars have posted selfies of getting needled including:

- Arnold Schwarzenegger, who quotes his "Terminator" movie character: "Come with me if you want to live."

- Comedian Billy Crystal saying, “I was glad to get this first step towards hugging my kids and my grandchildren again.”
- Britney Spears proclaiming, “I felt nothing, I’m fine, and I hope I continue to stay fine.”
- Dan Rather paying homage to the pharmaceutical giants: “Thank you science.”

Other celebrities encouraging followers to get vaccinated include Mariah Carey, Dolly Parton, and Jane Fonda.

TRENDPOST: While long lines of celebrities are coming out to pump up vaccine acceptance, as we’ve reported, 48 percent of frontline healthcare workers – who might know a bit more about health safety protocols than Britney Spears, Mick Jagger, etc. – have refused to get the jab, according to a poll conducted by the Washington Post and the Kaiser Family Foundation.

And, as we have reported, 40 percent of U.S. Marines are holding off on getting vaccinated until more solid, empirical, long-term safety data becomes available.

Yet, these people are not denounced by the Presstitutes, politicians, “celebrities,” or the mainstream media as “conspiracy theorists,” “evangelicals,” and/or ill-informed.

PFIZER CEO: THIRD TIME IS A CHARM



Go back to when so-called health experts, politicians, and the media began selling the COVID Jab. The line was that after two jabs, you’d live

happily ever after, COVID-free for the rest of your life.

In a blink of a Drug Lord's eye, that line changed.

Last Friday, this was the *CNBC* headline:

Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla said people will 'likely' need a third dose of a COVID-19 vaccine within 12 months of getting fully vaccinated

Earlier this month, Pfizer put out a press release stating its clinical trial showed the vaccine to be effective six months after a second shot. But the *CNBC* report clarifies that "more data is still needed to determine whether protections last after six months."

Bourla also stated, "It is extremely important to suppress the pool of people that can be susceptible to the virus."

If that doesn't cheer you up, how about having to get on line EVERY YEAR to ensure safety from the coronavirus?

According to the *CNBC* report, "Bourla said it's possible people will need to get vaccinated against the coronavirus annually."

He's not the only drug dealer CEO to be pushing the annual jab:

"The comment comes after Johnson & Johnson CEO Alex Gorsky told *CNBC* in February that people may need to get vaccinated against COVID-19 annually, just like seasonal flu shots. Researchers still don't know how long protection against the virus lasts once someone has been fully vaccinated."

In sequence with Bourla's forever shot proclamation, David Kessler, President Biden's chief science officer, told a House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis:

“We don’t know everything at this moment. We are studying the durability of the antibody response... It seems strong but there is some waning of that and no doubt the variants challenge... they make these vaccines work harder.”

TRENDPOST: *As for these new reports from big drug dealer CEOs saying third doses are likely needed and people should be prepared to get vaccinated for COVID every year, there is solid, scientific reasoning to question whether their profit motives outweigh their concern for the public’s health.*

As stated clearly in a 2012 article published in The Independent,

“The multi-billion-dollar pharmaceutical industry has spent the last decade developing new drugs which have produced little benefit and caused considerable harm, experts say today.”

The article cited data showing drug companies spend significantly more on advertising and promotion than they do on research for new and better medicines. The article was titled, “Drugs companies putting profit ahead of medical discoveries, warn scientists.”

Yet those who are hesitant to get vaccinated are called “irrational” and “conspiracy theorists” for doubting pharmaceutical companies and refusing to be jabbed with a vaccine that has not been tested for long-term reactions and has questionable efficacy.

In addition, despite the FDA, which is supposedly vigilant in its protection of the American public, it has backed the big drug dealers’ drugs that the CDC says are deadly: “Prescription drugs have become the fourth leading cause of death in the U.S. They kill more Americans than breast cancer, prostate cancer, homicide, and suicide combined.”

And Harvard University confirms that “When you start a new drug, you have a 1 in 5 chance of having a major health problem caused by the medication.”

WHITE HOUSE: JAB WHITE CONSERVATIVES



In our article last week, [“JAB UPDATE: WHITE HOUSE TO COMBAT HESITANCY,”](#) we reported on the serious pro-vaccine campaign arranged by the Biden administration that includes nearly 300 organizations across the country along with a saturation of TV/cable media

sales pitches in English and Spanish.

On 12 April, *Yahoo News* published the article titled:

Fauci at NASCAR? White House looks to appeal to vaccine-hesitant conservatives and evangelicals

According to a 19 March PBS NewsHour/NPR/Marist poll: “At least 41 percent of Republicans don’t plan to get vaccinated.”

A more recent NPR/Marist poll taken in late March revealed about 25 percent of all Americans say they absolutely refuse to get vaccinated, including “people across all ages and demographic groups.”

During a briefing with members of the press, White House press secretary Jen Psaki said, “We’re looking for a range of creative ways to get directly connected to white conservative communities.” She noted that cast members from “Deadliest Catch,” a reality television show about deep-sea fishing, had recently participated in a public service announcement about mask-wearing.

She also listed NASCAR, the car racing organization, and CMT, the country music TV station, as specific targets for reducing vaccine hesitancy.

CDC Pumps Billions of Dollars for “Uptake”

The CDC is also heavily invested in getting people to line up for shots. *Yahoo News* reports the CDC has made \$3 billion available “to community groups and health organizations around the country to increase ‘acceptance’ and ‘uptake’ of vaccines, a recognition that complex factors have led to low vaccination rates in parts of the country.”

The Kaiser Family Foundation data shows about two-thirds of Americans vaccinated at least once so far were white, but less than 10 percent were African Americans. The largest segment refusing the shots are white evangelicals and Republican men.

While white evangelicals and Republican men heavily favored Donald Trump and are vaccine-suspicious, their champion Trump told them he got the jab and they should too:

“I would recommend it [getting vaccinated], and I would recommend it to a lot of people that don’t want to get it, and a lot of those people voted for me, frankly.

But again, we have our freedoms and we have to live by that, and I agree with that also. But it’s a great vaccine. It’s a safe vaccine and it’s something that works.”

CNN: COVID VAX LIARS?



Commenting on the hesitancy of white evangelicals to get vaccinated, *CNN* published an article last Friday that criticized a pastor named Tony Spell for saying in a sermon: “I’ll just tell you today, if being anti-mask and anti-vaccine is

anti-government, then I'm proud to be anti-government.”

The *CNN* Presstitute writes of pastor Spell, “He goes on to falsely state: ‘If you have a 99.6 percent survival rate, why do you want somebody to contaminate your bloodstream with something that may or may not hurt you?’”

But according to CDC data, it is *CNN* that “falsely” states Spell is wrong:

“Because of the significant number of asymptomatic or minimally symptomatic people with COVID-19, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates the number of infected people could be 10 times the number of confirmed cases. Using the current numbers, that means more than 30 million people could have been infected, which would make the infection fatality rate 0.4% — meaning 99.6% of people survive the virus.”

On 28 September, Townhall reported the latest CDC mortality rates for COVID-19:

- Ages 0-19: 99.997%
- Ages 20-49: 99.98%
- Ages 50-69: 99.5%
- Ages 70+: 94.6%

The *CNN* article goes on to claim: “The anti-COVID vaccine sentiment among Evangelicals is fed by a mixture of distrust in government, ignorance about how vaccines work, misinformation and political identity, some experts say.”

But, as the CDC data confirms, it is *CNN* that suffers from a mixture of “ignorance” and “misinformation.”

TRENDPOST: *At the very worst, according to [Worldometer](#), the U.S. COVID survival rate is 98 percent.*

Yes, 2 percent... a very small percentage of the nation's population has died from the virus. As we have repeatedly detailed, it is the elderly and those suffering from preexisting chronic conditions that are the primary virus victims.

To date, in the United States, a nation of 332.5 million people, a reported 582,000 have died of the virus since last March... or 0.175 percent of the population.

Yet, scores of millions of lives and livelihoods have been destroyed, and young and old, fear and hysteria have been ingrained into the mass population.

TRENDPOST: CNN, as with most of the mainstream media, following the lead of politicians and their “health experts,” are promoting the idea that 70 percent of Americans need to be vaccinated to achieve herd immunity.

Therefore, the fact that white evangelicals represent 25 percent of the country may explain the White House concerted effort to convince them to get jabbed.

CNN quotes Dr. William Schaffner, professor of infectious disease at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine:

“We anticipate that in order to really substantially control the disease, we will have to vaccinate around 70% of the population at least. It’s so contagious that we need lots of people protected so that the virus can’t find somebody else to infect.”

Once again, as Gerald Celente has continuously emphasized, “They’re making this crap up.”

Indeed, on 25 February, the Wall Street Journal wrote, “Experts, as they have for months, say somewhere between 70 and 90 percent of Americans need to be fully vaccinated to reach herd immunity.”

So, which is it? 70 percent? 80 percent? 83 percent?

On 1 January, the CBS affiliate in the District of Columbia wrote, “The WHO has changed their definition of herd immunity on their COVID-19 page over the course of the year.”

By their words, it is clear: they don’t know.

NY TIMES: GET JABBED, IGNORE THE FACTS



The New York Times once again revealed its intention to cheerlead vaccinations as the only way to save the world from the coronavirus while downplaying serious safety concerns.

In its 14 April article, “Western Warnings Tarnish COVID Vaccines the World Badly Needs,” the following line appeared:

“Safety worries about the AstraZeneca and Johnson & Johnson Covid-19 vaccines have jeopardized inoculation campaigns far beyond the United States, undercutting faith in two sorely needed shots and threatening to prolong the coronavirus pandemic in countries that can ill afford to be choosy about vaccines.”

This was not a misprint. The self-proclaimed “Newspaper of Record” with the slogan “All the News that’s Fit to Print” (a.k.a. what the “exalted” ones decide is best for you) published an article with the reporter writing that poor African nations “can ill afford to be choosy about vaccines.”

In other words, forget the fact that both the AstraZeneca and Johnson & Johnson vaccines have been pulled from the market in many areas due to serious concerns about causing blood clots.

And as if calling attention to its own crass perception that poor African citizens need to get injected with a suspicious substance, the reporter refers to countries that can “ill afford” to be “choosy about vaccines.”

The article goes on to sound the months-long drumbeat by mainstream media to frighten people about “spread” while ignoring declining death rates and serious complications requiring hospital care: “With new infections surging on nearly every continent, signs that the vaccination drive is in peril are emerging, most disconcertingly in Africa.”

Note: The major subject in peril from halting the J&J vaccine was the company’s stock price, which, due to the news of blood clots, “led JNJ stock to topple in April” according to the 13 April *Investor’s Business Daily*.

The New York Times article goes on to point out:

“In Malawi, people are asking doctors how to flush the AstraZeneca vaccine from their bodies. In South Africa, health officials have stopped giving the Johnson & Johnson shot, two months after dropping the AstraZeneca vaccine. And in the Democratic Republic of Congo, 1.7 million AstraZeneca doses have gone unused.”

TRENDPOST: *Concerned about the negative effects of the vaccines, last Wednesday, the European Union, according to the NYT article, “would not make any more purchases of the AstraZeneca or Johnson & Johnson vaccines.”*

As the article confirms, “People, especially those who were vaccinated, felt like they had been tricked in a way—they were asking, ‘How do we get rid of the vaccine in our body?’ said Precious Makiyi, a doctor and behavioral scientist in Malawi.”

Clearly, while the NYT writers pretend to be unbiased journalists, as they have with all of America’s wars, they continue to sell the COVID War. The second to last line of the article reads, “What rich countries call ‘caution,’ poorer nations will

experience as a devastating gamble with the survival of their citizens against Covid-19.”

NO VAX, NO COLLEGES



The *Wall Street Journal* reported on 14 April that a growing number of colleges are beginning to require students to get the COVID-19 jab before returning for in-person studies.

The report said Duke, North Carolina, and Brown have joined Rutgers and Cornell in demanding the jabs for students.

“I think there’s a lot of common sense here,” Antonio Calcado, Rutgers executive vice president, told the paper. “The science says that the vaccine is safe, it’s got a phenomenal efficacy rate.”

He told the paper that about 4,000 of the school’s 71,000 student body are currently on campus.

The paper pointed out that some schools are continuing to weigh their options and determine if they can legally force returning students to take the shot. Glenn Cohen, a professor at Harvard Law School, told the paper the legal language that calls on the government to inform people that they can refuse the vaccine could be a source of confusion. He said the right to refuse does not prevent schools from enforcing the jab before returning to in-person classes.

TRENDPOST: The *Trends Journal* has been reporting on the demand for COVID “passports” to return to normal life and how young, healthy people have virtually no risk of serious infection from the virus. In fact, according to the CDC, the recovery rate for people 1-20 years of age is 99.997 percent. Yet, in the U.S.S.A., if they do not get the jab, they will be expelled from higher education.

TREND FORECAST: As we had forecast in February and March 2020 when universities began closing down, many college towns would become ghost towns... Rust Belt 2.0 cities. The New York Times has tracked COVID on college campuses and found that since the start of the outbreak, there have been more than 397,000 cases and at least 90 deaths. It should be noted the report said that “most of the deaths were reported in the spring and involved college employees, not students.”

TRENDS IN GEOPOLITICS



U.S.-CHINA FACEOFF: EUROPE TAKING SIDES

As we have been reporting, such as in our 30 March article, [“BIDEN VS. CHINA’S BELT & ROAD INITIATIVE: U.S. LOSES,”](#) as China expands its global presence, the U.S. is taking measures in its attempt to maintain its lead as the world’s most powerful nation.

Our article pointed out that Beijing is moving ahead full force, both militarily and economically, and despite the “get tough” U.S. rhetoric, Washington recognizes the reality of Chinese power.

Last month, President Biden spoke with Britain’s Prime Minister Boris Johnson to pitch a western ally plan to challenge China’s “Belt and Road Initiative” that was launched by President Xi Jinping in 2013.

Biden told Johnson that under his watch, Beijing would not surpass Washington in power during his term in the White House, and he was willing to invest heavily to follow through on the promise. Biden said,

“China has an overall goal... to become the leading country in the world, the wealthiest country in the world, and the most powerful country in the world. That’s not going to happen on my watch because the United States is going to continue to grow.”

Money Talks, B.S. Walks

While the U.S. talks about challenging China, the *Wall Street Journal* reported on Wednesday that China is investing in “Europe’s gritty industrial backwaters” to bring them back to economic life.

As we have reported, last year, China overtook the U.S. as the bloc’s top trading partner. The European Union imported 5.6 percent more goods from China in 2020 than in 2019 and boosted exports to China by 2.2 percent according to Eurostat.

The *WSJ* noted that trade between the EU and China is becoming easier due to infrastructure provided by the Belt and Road Initiative, which helped spark growth in once-forgotten cities like Liege in Belgium. Liege was once a major steel hub until it was undercut by cheaper prices by the same country that is now investing in it.

The *Journal* reported the number of freight trains linking China and Europe increased by 50 percent in 2020 when compared to the previous year. The report said China owns about 12 shipping terminals in major European cities like Antwerp and Rotterdam, and airfreight volume is also up 50 percent.

While politicians continue to make statements chastising China’s human rights policies, abuses, and regional aggression, the bottom line is money, and the EU has climbed on board China’s Belt and Road express.

“In gray, unglamorous areas like infrastructure and supply chains, there’s a lot less media and political attention, and more understanding that economic

integration is necessary,” Bruno Macães, the former Portuguese minister who has written a book on the initiative, told the *Journal*.

TOP TRENDS 2021: “THE RISE OF CHINA”: *As we have forecast, the 20th century was the American century – the 21st century will be the Chinese century. The business of China is business; the business of America is war.*

While America spent countless trillions waging and losing endless wars and enriching its military-industrial complex, China has spent its trillions advancing the nation’s businesses and building its 21st-century infrastructure.

As we noted above, China is investing in rust belt cities in Europe. In the meantime, it was announced last week that the U.S. is sending more of its troops to Germany, reversing the pullback that was being instituted by former President Trump.

Sell Outs

While America and Europe have outsourced their manufacturing to China and developing nations to increase profit margins, China’s dual circulation/self-sustaining economic model is directed toward keeping jobs and trade and profits within the nation, thus relying less on global trade.

While Western nations lock, unlock, and re-lock down their economies, China, where the virus first broke out, has been completely reopened shortly after the virus left its homeland last year. Beijing’s economy saw its biggest known gain in GDP in the first quarter of 2021 compared to the same quarter the previous year with an 18.3-percent increase.

U.S. INTEL: CHINA IS TOP THREAT



A report that was released last Tuesday from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence warned that China is the biggest international threat to the United States.

The report said China's Communist Party will continue "its whole-of-government efforts to spread China's influence, undercut that of the United States, drive wedges between Washington and its allies and partners, and foster new international norms that favor the authoritarian Chinese system."

The intelligence agency also included Russia, Iran, and North Korea as national top threats.

In our 16 February article, "[CHINA TASK FORCE: U.S. APPROACH TO BEIJING](#)," we reported President Biden announced a task force that will form policy to counter China during his term in the White House after he called Beijing "our most serious competitor."

Biden told workers at the Pentagon that the U.S. will "meet the China challenge" by taking a "whole-of-government effort, bipartisan cooperation in Congress, and strong alliances and partnerships."

The assessment, which was released last Tuesday, said China will continue its pressure campaign on Taiwan to reunify with the mainland after its crackdown in Hong Kong.

Note: We have forecast that the U.S. – despite its bluster – will not intervene militarily in the conflict if push comes to shove since America has not won a war since World War II and has been unable to defeat minor military forces.

The intelligence report also downplays the chances for peace in Afghanistan due to gains by the Taliban military in the country. The Taliban backed out of peace talks last week.

No Surprise

Reaffirming what we have long forecast, the agency also predicts that migration to the U.S. will continue to surge due to a confluence of reasons, including financial hardships faced by Central Americans and “perceived changes in U.S. immigration policies” under President Biden.

The report also claimed climate change will continue to threaten the U.S., and other countries will be impacted in different ways, including food supply and infrastructure. Conflicts will break out due to an increased likelihood of fights for resources.

TREND FORECAST: *Before the COVID War was launched last year, the great fear the media and politicians were promoting was “climate change.”*

Get ready for “Climate Change 2.0”!

While fighting the COVID War will remain a major fear and hysteria selling point throughout this year and next as drug dealers push the public to get yearly COVID shots, politicians stay on power trips, and the media wants to continue boosting its sagging ratings, climate change will come back and be promoted as a top threat to life on Earth.

FRANCE: GOV'T GIVES MORE POWER TO POLICE



On 1 December, the **Trends Journal** reported on the “**BACKLASH IN FRANCE OVER PROPOSED LAW CRIMINALIZING POLICE IMAGES.**”

In our article, we detailed how President Emmanuel Macron faced intense scrutiny over a proposed bill that would make it illegal to post photographs of police officers on social media accounts with the intent to identify the officers in a threatening manner.

Demonstrators in the country saw the bill as a serious crackdown on press freedoms.

Despite the protests, this past Friday, the French Parliament approved the legislation that critics say dramatically extends police powers, law enforcement's use of drones, and the "act of helping identify officers with intent to harm them."

Macron has insisted for months that the bill intends to better secure the public and provide a level of anonymity for officers to protect them and their families. The lingering issue with the new law is that it remains too broad, critics say.

"In the hands of an authoritarian government, such a law would become a dangerous weapon of surveillance and repression of the population," Cécile Coudriou, the head of Amnesty International France, told *The New York Times*. The paper pointed out that the bill passed the country's lower house 75 to 33 and will be challenged in courts.

Protests over coronavirus lockdowns and the police treatment of black residents have been two sources of contention between the public and police. Last year, a video emerged that allegedly showed four cops beating Michel Zecler, a music producer in the country. He claimed they used racial slurs during the incident.

Rémy Heitz, the Paris public prosecutor, held a press conference at the time and said three of the officers involved admitted the beating was "not justified and they had mainly acted out of fear." They denied the claim, however, that they used the slurs, the *Guardian* reported.

The Times' report said the legislation criminalizes the act of identifying on-duty police officers with the "obvious intent" to harm them. Anyone convicted could

face five years in prison and a fine of up to \$89,800. The original bill called for up to one year in prison and a fine of about half the one of the new bill.

Gérald Darmainin, the Interior Minister who backed the bill, said police are like “society’s children,” and it is up to lawmakers to protect them.

Some in the country also bristled at the idea of drone use by authorities for policing.

“It’s a threat to the right to privacy, but also to the right to protest. Many people don’t want to be filmed and recorded by the state when they go to a protest, so this will have a deterrent effect on demonstrations,” Anne-Sophie Simpère, advocacy officer for Amnesty International France, told *Euronews*.

TRENDPOST: *With the presidential elections coming up next year, only 35 percent of the French people are satisfied with President Macron’s handling of the COVID-19 virus, and his overall ratings are 45 percent favorable according to two recent IFOP polls.*

At this time, his top challenger Marine Le Pen, the leader of the National Rally party. Ms. Le Pen’s popularity is rising as the disgruntled country seeks an end to the COVID War, which has destroyed the tourism business and has forced bars, restaurants, and many businesses to be closed – on and off – for months.

Gilles Ivaldi, who teaches at Sciences Po and the French National Centre for Scientific Research in Paris, told the Christian Science Monitor that Le Pen’s party’s ideas “have become normalized and a structural part of mainstream debate. That’s a reality.”

As the Economist wrote this week, “The odds of a Ms. Le Pen victory are no longer close to zero. With Covid-19 infections soaring again and a vaccination campaign only now taking off, Emmanuel Macron’s rating is slipping.”

Le Pen is now leading Macron by 2 percentage points according to the latest IFOP poll.

MORE WAR CRIMES IN TIGRAY



As we have forecast since Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed launched the war against Tigrays last November, the conflict in the country would destabilize the Horn of Africa, create a humanitarian crisis, and would not end quickly, as he had promised.

Ethiopia also remains in a standoff with Sudan over territory disputes along their borders, and there have been ethnic massacres with Eritrean troops being accused of committing war crimes.

Ethiopia has brought in troops from neighboring Eritrea to help them battle the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF). Prime Minister Ahmed – who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2019 – admitted the troops were playing a role despite earlier assurances they were not.

The New York Times, citing a senior U.N. official, reported on 16 April that Eritrean forces “continue to commit atrocities” in the region despite Ahmed's claim that these troops would be leaving by late March.

Mark Lowcock, the top U.N. humanitarian official, told the paper that Eritrean troops last week killed civilians in indiscriminate attacks. Sexual violence accounts for almost one-third of these attacks and is being used as a weapon of war, officials said. Some women have been gang-raped for several days by Eritrean soldiers, Lowcock said.

“To be very clear: the conflict is not over and things are not improving,” he said, according to *DW.com*. He estimated that 91 percent of the six million people in Tigray need emergency food.

The paper reported residents in the region are still fleeing.

In March, Amnesty International issued a report that put the spotlight on an Eritrean troop offensive in November in a town north of Mekelle, the capital of Tigray, where soldiers killed hundreds of civilians in a “coordinated and systemic” manner.

Human Rights Watch has called for the U.N.’s Security Council to discuss the situation during a public hearing to shed light on the human catastrophe playing out.

TREND FORECAST: *As we have noted, Ethiopia’s economy had been steadily growing and was strong until the COVID War severely damaged it. As the “Greatest Depression” worsens, economic conditions will deteriorate and civil unrest, which had been quelled, will escalate. As Gerald Celente has long noted, “When all else fails, they take you to war.”*

The greater the tensions rise and the deeper the nation falls economically, the more people in this highly-populated nation will seek refuge in safe-haven European nations. This will in turn boost anti-immigration populist political party movements throughout Europe.

BIDEN HITS RUSSIA WITH SANCTIONS



Despite providing hard evidence, President Biden last Thursday imposed sanctions on Russia for alleged election interference and its role in the SolarWinds computer hacking into federal systems.

The *Wall Street Journal* reported that Biden's sanctions and diplomatic expulsions fell short of the most "disruptive economic measures" it could have taken.

The **Trends Journal** has been monitoring the worsening relationship between Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin. On 13 October, we ran the article, "[PUTIN ACKNOWLEDGES BIDEN'S ANTI-RUSSIAN RHETORIC](#)," which was a glimpse of what was to come.

Putin said he noticed Biden's "sharp, anti-Russian rhetoric" during his presidential campaign. Biden called former President Trump "Putin's puppy" during the campaign and recalled the time, when he was vice president in 2011, that he met with Putin:

"I said, 'Mr. Prime Minister, I'm looking into your eyes, and I don't think you have a soul'... And he looked back at me, and he smiled, and he said, 'We understand one another.'"

The relationship soured further after a Biden interview on *ABC News* when he said in March that he believed Putin is a killer.

Biden said on Thursday he chose to "be proportionate" with the sanctions:

"The United States is not looking to kick off a cycle of escalation and conflict with Russia. We want a stable, predictable relationship. If Russia continues interfering with our democracy, I'm prepared to take further actions to respond."

The new sanctions target 16 entities and 16 people who are accused of trying to influence the 2020 election. The report said the others were tied to the Crimea annexation and human rights abuses.

Ten Russian diplomats were expelled from the U.S. The *Journal* reported that an executive order signed by Biden also bans U.S. financial companies from buying

new bonds directly from Russia's central bank, finance ministry, and country's sovereign-wealth fund in June.

Pay Back

Moscow announced Saturday that it would expel ten U.S. diplomats in response to the new sanctions imposed by the Biden administration.

Officials in Washington expected Russia to react. The *Financial Times* called the Russian announcement a "tit-for-tat response."

Sergei Lavrov, Russia's foreign minister, hinted at the possible beginning of a thaw in Putin's relationship with Biden, and he said Moscow had positive reactions to the proposal from the U.S. for a summit between the two leaders.

The *FT* reported that in addition to the expulsion of the diplomats, Moscow will bar non-Americans from working at U.S. missions located in the country and end a program allowing officials from the State Department unlimited visits to Russia. Eight U.S. officials have been added to the sanction list, the report said.

"For obvious reasons, we do not have comparable leverage over the United states of this [financial] scale. We also have the opportunity to take painful measures for American businesses [but] we will keep them in reserve," Lavrov said, according to the *FT*.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE: *Rumor (history?) has it that the Cold War between the U.S. and Russia, which began in 1947, ended in 1991. But rather than seeking Peace on Earth and keeping relationships respectful, most of America's politicians and all of the military-industrial complex – and their Western counterparts (i.e., "allies") – have not stopped waging the Cold War.*

As we have been reporting since the end of the Cold War – from America's Gulf War, Kosovo War, Afghan War, Iraq War... to its military interventions in Somalia, Libya, etc., plus its 800 military bases in 70 countries – Russia is a minor war-mongering nation compared to the U.S. track record of killing millions and stealing trillions from its taxpayers to wage these wars.

As we have reported in detail since the so-called “Russiagate” was launched by the Democratic Party and its media Presstitutes immediately following Trump’s win of the 2016 election, there has not been one shred of hard evidence proving Russia interfered with the election.

Yet, the drama continues, and most people buy it, just as most have swallowed other lies sold to them by their governments over the centuries. “Remember the Main”?

As the founder of [Occupy Peace & Freedom](#), rather than creating movements toward peace, to keep pedaling hatred between the two nations is morally, spiritually, and economically destructive. Indeed, America was an ally of Russia in World War II and would not have achieved victory when it did without them.

Yet, following World War II, Russia became its enemy, while Japan and Germany – for which over 400,000 Americans died fighting – became U.S. allies and business partners.

IRAN BLAMES ISRAEL FOR NUCLEAR FACILITY EXPLOSION



For decades, the **Trends Journal** has been reporting on the ongoing conflict between Israel and Iran.

In 2012, we wrote an article titled, “The Bibi Bomb,” which referred to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s

appearance at the United Nations holding up a cartoon-style drawing that illustrated an Iranian nuclear time bomb ready to explode.

In his speech to the U.N. General Assembly, Netanyahu said he may postpone a military attack against Iran’s nuclear facilities, and then he launched a tirade that

compared the Iranian government to Al Qaeda, which he described as “a fanatic ideology bent on world domination.”

With one finger on the “launch button” and a crayon in his hand drawing a “red line” just below the fuse of the bomb, Bibi was showing the world how close it was to doomsday. “The hour is getting late, very late,” he said, “The red line must be drawn on Iran’s nuclear enrichment program because these facilities are the only nuclear installations we can see and target.”



Photo credit: The New York Times

There were no denunciations from the American Presstitutes of Netanyahu’s belligerent harangue, nor was there mockery of his ludicrous cartoon bomb and puerile drawing of the red line.

In fact, it was the opposite. On 27 September 2012, *The New York Times* reported the U.N. bomb drawing incident with all due Prime Ministerial respect:

“With an almost professorial air, Mr. Netanyahu held up a diagram of a bomb with a fuse to show the Israeli view of Iran’s progress in achieving

the ability to make a nuclear weapon. He drew a red line through the point at which Iran would have amassed enough medium-enriched uranium to make a bomb—which he said would be in the spring or summer of 2013.”

Then and Now

Nearly a decade later, the Israeli Prime Minister continues to say he will not allow Iran to become a nuclear power. On 2 March, we ran the article, [“ISRAEL VS. IRAN: WAR DRUMS BEATING,”](#) and, on 9 March, [“ISRAEL: TARGET IRAN.”](#)

Our 9 March article pointed to an interview that included Benny Gantz, the Israeli defense minister. Gantz said Israel stands ready to act alone if Iran continues to accelerate its nuclear program, and the country is updating its plans to strike Tehran’s nuclear facilities.

“The Iranian nuclear escalation must be stalled,” Gantz said. “If not, we must stand independently and we must defend ourselves by ourselves.”

On 11 April, Iran’s Natanz nuclear facility was damaged during a mysterious explosion, which Tehran said was sabotage. The extent of the destruction was not clear, but the alleged attack prompted Iran to take a defiant stance and announce it began enriching uranium up to 60 percent purity, though in small quantities. (The *AP* reported that the number marks a significant increase for Iran, but it is lower than 90 percent, which is considered weapons-grade level.)

Hassan Rouhani, the Iranian president, announced the purity levels and said, “These are our responses to your viciousness. You wanted to make our hands empty during the talks but our hands are full.”

While Israel did not comment on suspected military strikes, the *Financial Times* reported that in this case, it was apparent there were “officially sanctioned leaks to local media and the U.S. press,” with Israel essentially taking credit for the incident.

The paper said it spoke to officials from the U.S., Israel, and Europe, and reported that they said the aggression by Tel Aviv is intended to throw a wrench in President Biden's plan to rejoin the 2015 Iran nuclear agreement (Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action) that President Trump abandoned in May 2018.

The paper reported Netanyahu is concerned that the U.S. will return to former President Obama's push to normalize Iran. (See our 26 January article, "[BIDEN PRESIDENCY: OBAMA 2.0.](#)")

"Israel wants to make the position [over nuclear talks] harder for the American administration and send a message to the Iranians that we're stronger and we don't need to hide when we are doing something," Eldad Shavit, an Israeli army reserves colonel and former intelligence officer, told the *FT*.

The paper also spoke to Elliot Abrams, the former envoy to Iran during the Trump administration, who said Israel is essentially saying that the U.S.'s possible return to the nuke deal is "not going to stop us. We don't believe in it and you're going to have to go further."

The go-it-alone strategy has caused concern and frustration among European leaders who criticize Israel's actions as jeopardizing their diplomatic efforts. Referencing Israel, a European official told the paper there was "one actor who is not interested in the talks" and was attempting to "undermine the diplomatic efforts."

TRENDPOST: While the media continues to report on Israel's determination to stop Iran from going nuclear, rarely is it noted that according to the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, Israel possesses at minimum some 90 plutonium-based nuclear warheads and has produced enough plutonium for 100-200 weapons.

Thus, it is OK for Israel and other nations to have nuclear weapons but not Iran... or, for that matter, North Korea. Only nations sanctified by a higher political order are permitted to have nuclear weapons or weapons of mass destruction. And, as

evidenced with Iraq, whether they possess them or not, the very thought of it is enough to invade and destroy an “enemy” nation.

TREND FORECAST: *YNetnews.com reported that the Biden administration has sent a message to Israel voicing its displeasure over the recent sabotage attack on Iran’s Natanz uranium enrichment site, as well as Israeli “boasting” over their being behind the attack.*

Thus, should there be an Israel attack on Iran, as we have long forecast, it will be the beginning of World War III.

And with Israel’s fingerprints all over it, it will unleash a global wave of anti-Semitism unparalleled in modern history.

MYANMAR: OPPOSITION FORMS NEW GOVERNMENT



As we have been reporting since the 1 February coup in Myanmar, protests continue to break out in the country to call the military junta illegitimate, despite hundreds being killed by the country’s security forces.

Tens of thousands of protesters in Myanmar have taken to the streets to fight for democracy after a military coup overturned recent election results and arrested the civilian leader, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who reportedly won by a landslide this past November. The protesters – many of them young people – face an emboldened police force backed by the military.

Suu has since been deposed and is in custody. Last week, she faced new charges when she appeared before a judge in Naypyitaw, the country’s capital, the *Associated Press* reported. She has already been charged with importing

walkie-talkies, unlicensed use of the devices, and breaking the official secrets act, the report said.

The *Financial Times* reported on Friday that supporters of Suu Kyi have put in place a “unity government” that will appeal to international assistance and “diplomatic recognition” as they try to challenge the military rule. The report said that the founders of the government included members of Suu Kyi’s National League for Democracy party who have re-emerged from exile after the coup. The group will also include minorities in senior roles.

According to the paper, Dr. Sasa, the unity government’s minister of international co-operation, said,

“As leaders, we will serve and honor all as brothers and sisters regardless of their race, or religion, or their community of origin or their walk of life... All will have a vitally important role to play in the great cause of liberating our nation from the scourge of this murderous military junta, and all will have equal rights as citizens of Myanmar.”

He said the government seeks to bring justice for all minorities, including “our Rohingya brothers, sisters, and for all.”

The paper pointed out that the violence shows no signs of slowing, and the country is inching toward economic ruin. No other government, despite overtures by Russia, has recognized the junta as legitimate. Min Aung Hlaing, Myanmar’s military chief, will attend an Association of Southeast Asian Nations summit in Indonesia on 24 April, according to *Reuters*. It is his first known foreign trip since the coup.

The report said the junta released 23,184 prisoners from jails across the country “though few if any democracy activists arrested since the coup were thought to be among them.”

Some businesses have announced that they are pulling out of the country due to the crisis, including Posco C&C, South Korea’s largest steelmaker.

The World Bank recently reported that the country's economy is expected to contract by 10 percent in 2021, which is in stark contrast to its prediction in October that the country's GDP could grow by 5.9 percent, according to *Reuters*.

TREND FORECAST: *While the mainstream media focuses on the COVID War – and now the death of 99-year-old Prince Phillip of the U.K. and blasts photos Queen Elizabeth, sitting alone in a huge church, wearing a mask, mourning the loss of her husband – barely a word on the social and political atrocities of Myanmar is being reported.*

While the counter government will continue to attract disaffected masses, we maintain our forecast that while the military may make minor concessions, they will continue to dominate and rule the nation.

INDIA: MORE LOCKDOWNS, MIDDLE CLASS VANISHING



Another day, another round of lockdowns and more economic hardships.

Starting yesterday, India imposed a lockdown on its capital, New Delhi, as COVID cases spiked in the city of 29 million people.

The shelter-in-place dictates require people to not leave their homes, and “non-essential” businesses, including factories, must close for at least a week.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE: *As we have continually noted, and as illustrated by India's new one-week lockdown order, the COVID rules being imposed on the general public by politicians and bureaucrats lack a scintilla of scientific data to support them. For example, why not six days, 15 days, or 19 days?*

Does COVID vanish in exactly one week?

And does the virus stay away from “essential” businesses but attack “non-essential” ones?

As we reported when the COVID War was launched in March 2020, India’s Prime Minister Narendra Modi ordered a nationwide clampdown on public activity for at least three weeks: “To save India, and every Indian, there will be a total ban on venturing out of your homes. Every state, every union territory, every district, every village and every locality is being put under a lockdown.”

Pain and Suffering

The Pew Research Center released a report that estimates more than 30 million people in India were driven out of the middle class amid the COVID-19 outbreak, which is a significant percentage of the 54 million around the globe now in poverty.

Pew considers middle-class households as those that earn between \$10 to \$50 a day. Before the COVID War was launched, nearly 100 million in the country of nearly 1.4 billion fit that category. The middle class has now shrunk to about 65 million.

*As we have been reporting in the **Trends Journal**, before the coronavirus, India had several quarters of rapidly slowing economic growth. And long before the virus, millions were suffering from a lack of basic living conditions and were taking to the streets. Thus, a terrible situation will become much worse with the new lockdowns and possibly more to follow.*

The IMF predicted that the global economy in 2024 will be up to 3 percent smaller due to the virus, according to *Bloomberg*. The poorest countries will be most affected because they cannot “spend their way to recovery.”

The **Trends Journal** has reported extensively on the impact the COVID-19 outbreak has had on poverty levels around the globe while the billionaire class has never been richer.

On 23 March, in our article titled, “[\\$4 TRILLION FOR BILLIONAIRES AS MIDDLE CLASS SINKS](#),” we reported the World Bank announced for the first time since the 1990s that the global middle class decreased.

Rakesh Kochhar, the author of the study, said the official count does not truly reflect the total impact and said 62 million people considered “high income” saw their income drop to the middle tier group, the report said.

According to Oxfam, billionaires saw their wealth increase by some \$4 trillion between 18 March and 31 December:

“The increase in the wealth of the 10 richest billionaires since the crisis began is more than enough to prevent anyone on Earth from falling into poverty because of the virus and to pay for a COVID-19 vaccine for all.”

TRENDPOST: *To date, there are nearly 180,000 people in India, a country of 1.4 billion, who died from the virus over a year, or 0.0128 percent of its population.*

This compares to the U.S., where 582,000 died of the virus since last March, in a nation of 332.5 million... or 0.175 percent of the population.

Yet, the Indian government and the media sell fear and hysteria to a nation where, according to the U.N., some 28 percent of the population lived in poverty in 2019... a year before the COVID War began! And more than one-third of the world’s malnourished children live in India.

Also ignored by the media is the fact that some 2.3 million die each year from air pollution, according to the Global Alliance on Health and Pollution.

Despite almost 200,000 air pollution-related deaths per year in America, these factual statistics are ignored by Presstitutes and politicians.

It should also be noted, unlike the COVID death numbers that are now being added up year after year, the deaths from pesticides, air pollution, chemicals, malnutrition, etc., are only reported annually.

TRENDPOST: *At the start of the year, India's currency was an emerging market leader. But with pushes to lock down the nation increasing, its rupee has dropped 3 percent against the dollar since the beginning of April. According to Bloomberg, the rupee has fallen the hardest among a basket of two dozen emerging market currencies, which includes Russia's ruble and Turkey's lira.*

UKRAINE TENSIONS HEATING UP: RUSSIA AMASSING TROOPS



Russia has amassed more than 100,000 troops on the border with Ukraine and announced on Friday it will begin military exercises in the Black Sea and will block foreign ships in parts of it through October. The U.S. State Department condemned Russia's actions saying this was part of an

“ongoing campaign to undermine and destabilize Ukraine.”

Calling Moscow's decision an “unprovoked escalation,” the U.S. canceled sending two warships to the region after the Kremlin warned, “Stay away for your own good.”

Today, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that satellite photos it obtained show Russia has moved warplanes to Crimea and bases near Ukraine to an extent greater than previously estimated.

Last week, Russia's defense minister Sergei Shoigu said the troop build-ups and exercises were in response to the Ukrainian government's attempts to raise tensions between the two nations. He said the North Atlantic Treaty Organization actions “threaten Russia.”

Axios reported it obtained an internal document from Ukraine's ministry of defense that claimed Moscow was performing military drills in commercial lanes to cripple Kyiv's economy. There is also fear that Russia is planning an invasion.

TREND FORECAST: *We maintain our forecast that should war break out in Ukraine, the Russians will not be defeated, and the Donbas region of Eastern Ukraine will move toward cession and maintain its open border arrangement with Russia.*

TRENDS-EYE VIEW



ANTIFA A REAL ORGANIZATION, FBI DIRECTOR ADMITS

FBI Director Christopher Wray was busy this past week in the hot seat at several Congressional hearings.

Under grilling by representative Markwayne Mullin at a House Select Committee on Intelligence hearing, Wray finally admitted Antifa not only exists but is organized, something he has denied in the past. Wray was also called out for the way the FBI has harshly cracked down on 6 January DC protesters vs. kid-glove treatment of Antifa and BLM.

Some 400 DC protesters remain jailed as a result of the protests over irregularities and widespread indications of fraud in the 2020 presidential election. Meanwhile, hundreds of violent Antifa and BLM protesters have served little or no jail time, received “deferred resolution agreements,” served only community service, and/or avoided criminal records.

Wray did plenty of dissembling during the questioning. He downplayed Antifa as operating via small, localized “nodes,” and tried to argue the FBI was treating their violence seriously, despite Mullin’s evidence to the contrary.

WRAY: *I believe we the FBI are taking a consistent approach to both situations--*

MULLIN: *I don’t buy that. You don’t even know how many federal officers [have been injured]. You said, this is your quote, 2nd of March, “We focus on acts of violence and violations of federal law, and when we see those, when we see those, we bring to bear the full weight of our resources, our experiences, and our partnerships.” Are you bringing your full resources and partnerships against those organizations that support finance, facilitate against the White House when it was stormed?*

MULLIN: *We have a number of investigations related to the violence that occurred over the course of the summer. I think that’s what you’re referring to--*

MULLIN: *I’m just specifically talking about the White House. I mean, there were... it was a big deal. There were 67 Secret Service officers injured during the leftwing assault. And there were assaults that happened simultaneously with Antifa throughout different cities. Are you bringing the full weight to that?*

WRAY: *We mobilized scores and scores of personnel, in response to the activities during the period you described, and I was personally on scene in DC at the Washington Field Command post way into the night, night after night during that--*

MULLIN: *Know that Antifa was behind that, yet you said in a statement that Antifa does not exist as a national organization. Are you trying to explain away Antifa in the definition or do you believe Antifa actually exists?*

WRAY: *No sir. Antifa is a real thing and is not a fiction, and--*

MULLIN: *Then why did you say, and this is your quote, that “Antifa does not exist as a national organization.” That’s your quote.*

WRAY: *I don’t believe that’s a direct quote from me. But what I can tell you--*

MULLIN: *Yes sir. It actually is.*

WRAY: *Sire what I can tell you is we have seen adherents to the Antifa movement who organize at the practical level, locally, regionally, what you might call small nodes.*

As the Conservative Treehouse website [pointed out](#), Mullin’s questioning did miss a chance to point out the ties between Antifa, BLM, and 2020 fundraising for Joe Biden’s Presidential campaign:

“Many people have forgotten, and the media intentionally refused to take notice, that Joe Biden’s campaign was funded by donations to BLM. After reaching the BLM homepage on their website, which features a “Defund The Police” petition front and center, if a user chose to donate, they were rerouted to a site hosted by ActBlue...”

ActBlue is the official fundraising arm of the Democrat Party.

(Wray/Mullin video on Rumble [here](#).)

YOUTUBE PROFITING OFF SCAMS ON ITS PLATFORM



This week, **Trends Journal** publisher Gerald Celente saw an uptick of scammers impersonating him on YouTube, offering crypto

advice with pointers to “Whatsapp” accounts, among other things.

One scammer brazenly posted in the thread section of several of Celente’s latest videos on his popular YouTube channel video.

Our publisher isn’t alone in experiencing problems with impersonators. Brad Garlinghouse, CEO of the cryptocurrency company Ripple, has brought a suit against Google over similar problems.

The suit alleges that Google is profiting off many fake and impersonating accounts, doing things like running ads off stolen content, etc. According to an April 2020 [article](#) in *The Verge*:

In a complaint filed today, Ripple accused the video platform of selling ads and verifying accounts that promote fake cryptocurrency giveaways, then ignoring complaints about them.

The Ripple suit noted that over a period of several months, scammers created fake accounts impersonating Ripple and Garlinghouse. Accounts were apparently stolen from successful YouTubers, which gave the scam accounts thousands of unearned subscribers.

From there, scammers posted videos offering they buy Ripple (XRP) crypto awards in exchange for smaller initial payments.

Garlinghouse says his company began receiving hundreds of complaints from bilked viewers duped by the authentic-looking YouTube accounts.

YouTube, meanwhile, was running ads off the videos and was refusing to respond to hundreds of requests by Garlinghouse and his company to take down the accounts and videos.

“That’s not how this should work,” Garlinghouse told *The Verge*. “Deep down, it’s almost a moral thing. YouTube did \$15 billion worth of revenue last year. You’re telling me they can’t spend more money to police their own platform?”

In Gerald Celente's case, he points out a pernicious scammer offering fake financial and crypto advice is materially harming his reputation.

GLOBAL DISTRUST OF JAPANESE NUCLEAR AGENCY



On 11 March 2011, a huge earthquake and tsunami caused the worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl. Classified as a Level 7 on the International Nuclear Event Scale, the highest possible classification, the explosion that erupted at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant in Okuma,

Japan released so much radioactivity that over 150,000 people had to be evacuated.

A key finding after a year-long investigation blamed the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) for failing to take foreseeable steps to ensure proper safety measures.

On 13 April, the *Global Times* reported there is international furor over TEPCO's decision, approved by the Japanese government, to release tons of nuclear contaminated wastewater, which the utility injected into the nuclear reactors in 2011 to cool them down after the explosion.

TEPCO claims "the contaminated water will likely fill up all the plant's available tanks by summer of 2022... which prompted the Japanese government to approve the decision of dumping the treated water [1.25 million tons] still containing radioactive substances into the ocean."

TEPCO says it looked at several alternatives to dealing with the wastewater issue but decided on what the *Global Times* called the "cheapest plan" and considered the "best option" by the Japanese government.

Lying Nuke Gang

But TEPCO, in addition to being found guilty for failing to install safety features in anticipation of potential earthquakes, has also been caught doctoring its records. According to the *Global Times*, “Since 1977, TEPCO has been accused of falsifying data and concealing safety risks in 199 periodic inspections.”

Responding to the news that TEPCO plans to release over a million tons of nuclear wastewater into the ocean, Greenpeace East Asia claimed the filtration system used by TEPCO does not remove toxic substances completely such as tritium, carbon 14, strontium-90, iodine 129, and cobalt-16.

In a follow-up article on 14 April, the *Global Times* interviewed Gui Liming, professor at the Department of Engineering Physics of Tsinghua University and an expert on nuclear safety system, who said:

“The impact will be hidden in the short run, but it will be reflected in the long term. When radioactive substances in the Pacific Ocean spread to the sea areas in multiple countries, the radiation exposure levels in people’s bodies may increase after eating contaminated marine products. That may later affect the structure of human DNA.”

China has also directly challenged the decision to release the toxic seawater. Last Tuesday, its Foreign Ministry official Zhao Lijian made it clear that as a close neighbor, it expects Japan to reconsider and hold off on the plan until an agreement can be reached with other countries that will be affected as well.

Also, last Tuesday, South Korean Vice Foreign Minister Choi Jong-moon “summoned Japanese Ambassador Koichi Aiboshi and lodged a solemn protest.”

U.S. Reaction: Poison to the People

The United States, on the other hand, has made it known that Japan has its support. Last Tuesday, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken tweeted, “We thank Japan for its transparent efforts in its decision to dispose of the treated water from the Fukushima Daiichi site.”

TRENDPOST: *With the western media focused on the COVID War, the deadly consequences of dumping over a million tons of nuclear contaminated wastewater into the sea is basically blacked out. And, among America’s so-called mislabeled “liberals” who hated Donald Trump and love Joe Biden, there is no condemnation among them for supporting Japan’s “dump the nuclear waste in the water” plan.*

WALL ST. GANG SPENT \$3B ON 2020 ELECTION CAMPAIGNS



Americans for Financial Reform (AFR) released a study on Thursday that showed executives from Wall Street and various employees and trade groups spent a combined \$2.9 billion in various political projects in 2020, according to a report

on *CNBC*.

The business network pointed out that the amount equals about \$4 million a day through the election cycle. It was the most spent since 2016 when \$2 billion was spent.

CNBC, citing the study, reported Republicans benefited from about 47 percent of the \$1.9 billion that went toward backing a candidate. Democrats pulled in 53 percent. *The Hill* reported that the top companies to contribute to the election cycle included Bloomberg, the National Association of Realtors, Citadel LLC, the Blackstone Group, and Charles Schwab & Co.

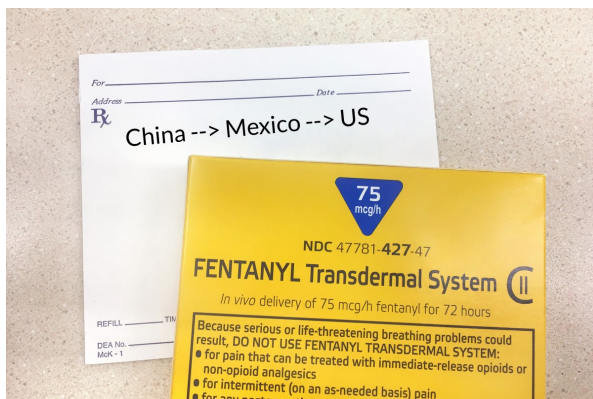
As AFR's executive director Lisa Donner told CNBC:

"Year in and year out, this torrent of money gives Wall Street an outsized role in how we are governed, while driving and protecting policies that help this industry's super-wealthy amass even greater fortunes at the expense of the rest of us."

TRENDPOST: We note this article to illustrate how the election process in America is rigged. Plain and simple, without big money behind a candidate running for office, the chances of winning are slim to none.

Moreover, those candidates who are funded by the Money Mobs are beholden to them. Indeed, only imbeciles and morons call these bribes and payoffs "campaign contributions."

FENTANYL: A KILLER OPIOID



While the U.S. government continues to put out severe warnings about the spread of coronavirus variants (that are actually weaker than the original), it is failing to stop the alarming rise in deaths from the deadly drug fentanyl.

According to the *Wall Street Journal* article published last Friday, "Fentanyl Woes Gripping Western U.S.," while 254 people died last year in San Francisco from COVID-19, over 700 died from drug overdoses, an increase of 61 percent.

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that has wreaked havoc on the East Coast for years and has now become a huge health issue in the Western U.S. One user interviewed said fentanyl is more devastating than heroin.

The *Wall Street Journal* reports that in Seattle, “Overdose deaths involving fentanyl rose 57 percent in 2020 over the previous year, according to data from the county medical examiner.”

In the Las Vegas area, the increase from synthetic opioids such as fentanyl was up over 160 percent, while in Los Angeles, fentanyl was responsible for 26 percent more deaths among the homeless in just the first seven months of 2020.

Last September, the *Wall Street Journal* article revealed, “There were 70,630 drug deaths, a record... opioids including fentanyl were involved in about 70 percent of overdose deaths in 2019, according to the CDC.”

The data for this year so far is even more dire. Matt Haney, who sits on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, is quoted, “It’s an unprecedented spiraling, directly connected to the introduction of fentanyl in our city.”

According to the article:

“Fentanyl can be 50 times as potent as heroin, making it possible to overdose on tiny amounts. As a result, when fentanyl hits the street in force, more people tend to die. That is what has happened in New England and the Rust Belt, where beginning nearly a decade ago, it was often mixed into heroin. In some places in the Eastern U.S., it has all but replaced heroin as a popular street opioid.”

COVID Lockdowns Exacerbated the Problem

As in so many areas where the extended lockdowns have caused serious health problems for millions of Americans, public health officials point to emotional isolation and stress from job losses as reasons for increased drug use deaths.

In Los Angeles and San Francisco, the significant homeless population, facing the closing down of shelters and other living spaces due to the lockdowns, were isolated with no available support to help them when they overdosed from fentanyl and other drugs.

The *Wall Street Journal* quoted Kristen Marshall, who manages a San Francisco non-profit coalition working on overdose prevention: “Isolation is also the thing that puts people at the absolute highest risk of overdose death.”

The New York Times published the 14 April article, “Overdose Deaths Have Surged During the Pandemic, C.D.C. Data Shows.” The article states,

“The surge [in drug overdose deaths] represents an increasingly urgent public health crisis, one that has drawn less attention and fewer resources while the nation has battled the coronavirus pandemic.”

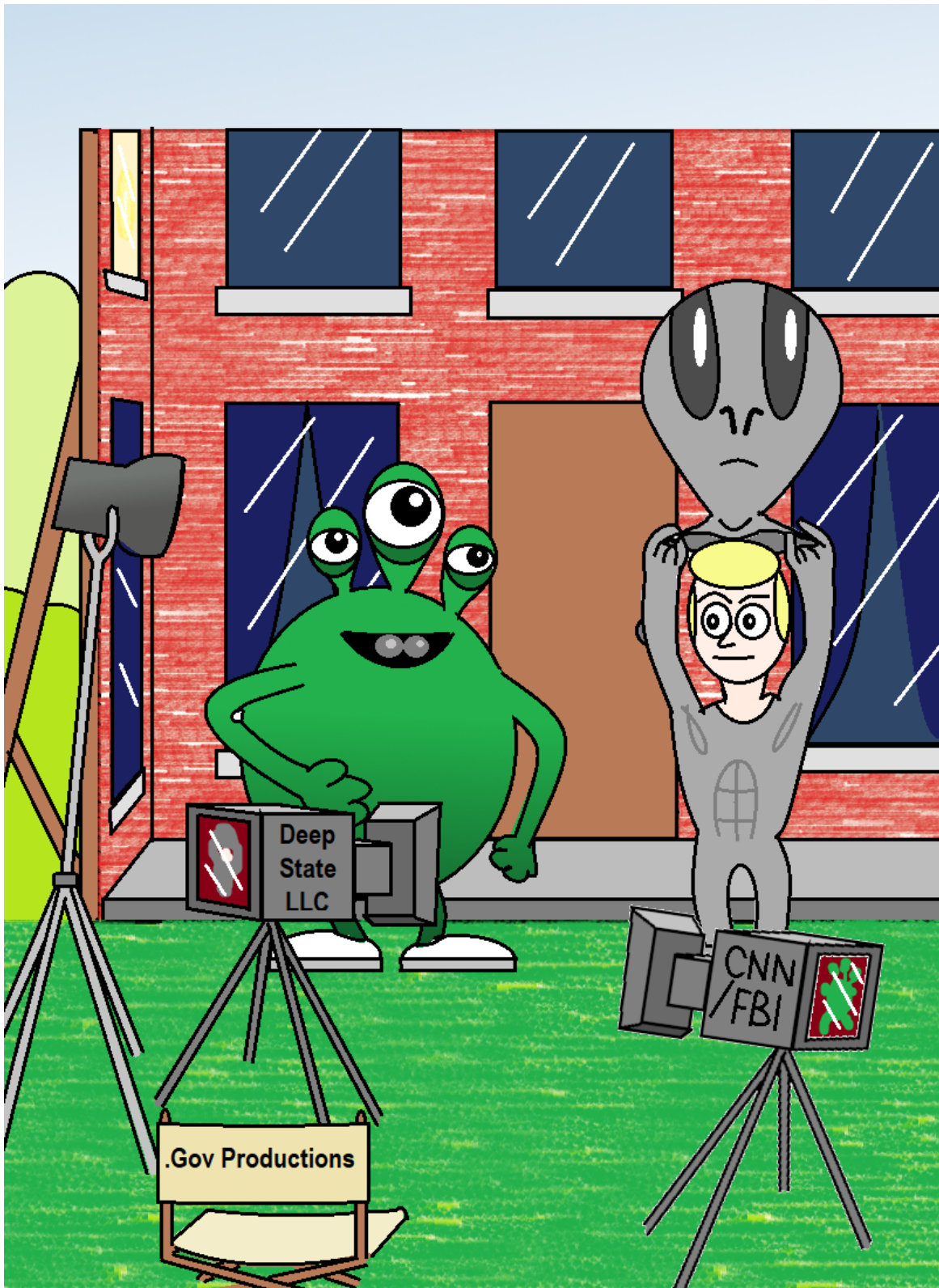
TRENDPOST: *This reveals the hypocrisy of The New York Times. As the **Trends Journal** has noted for many months, the NYT is one of the loudest voices amplifying the fear and anxiety generated by government officials and their health experts over temporary spikes in coronavirus variants, which are causing fewer and fewer deaths.*

The New York Times has been a champion of draconian lockdown measures that have devastated the lives and livelihoods of scores of millions while blackballing those voices opposed to the measures.

Yet, it's their continuing promotion of the COVID War and warnings of virus variants that are causing the increased isolation and stress, thus exacerbating the very problem of overdose deaths the NYT cites as “an increasingly urgent public health crisis.”

THE ART OF TRENDS

“The Next Hoax” by *Stephen Green*



TRENDS IN HI-TECH SCIENCE



By *Ben Daviss*

NEW ENERGY DEPARTMENT PROJECT MODELS ELECTRICITY'S FUTURE

The U.S. Department of Energy has unveiled its new Advanced Research on Integrated Energy Systems (ARIES) project, which, it says, “represents a substantial scale-up in experimentation capability from existing research platforms, allowing for research at the 20-megawatt level.”

ARIES will explore the impact of new devices being attached to the electric grid, including renewable energy generation gear, grid-scale storage batteries, hydrogen fuel cells, electric vehicles, and buildings that communicate and interact with the grid.

Just as important, ARIES will try to figure out how to keep this new interconnected world safe from cyber villains.

Based at the department’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory outside Denver, ARIES will run models and simulations on the lab’s eight-petaflop

supercomputer to determine ways to optimize the interactions of these components.

The project will help businesses address challenges around scaling new technologies, interactivity among diverse sources of electricity and millions of smart devices, applying electronic controls to the power grid, and keeping systems cyber secure.

TRENDPOST: *Centralizing research in these areas, with the results freely available to businesses, governing agencies, and other researchers, is essential to meet future power demands, even as the electric grid decentralizes. Although welcome, the effort is late as the previous federal administration largely ignored the demands that the future is placing on the nation's energy and technology infrastructure.*

A BLOOD TEST TO DIAGNOSE DEPRESSION



Medically speaking, depression is a messy illness: diagnosis is often subjective, especially in its early stages, and the pharmaceuticals used to treat it – often in hit-or-miss fashion – can have bizarre side effects, including deepening the depression instead of easing it.

With a new blood test that can diagnose depression with better than 70-percent accuracy, researchers at the Indiana University School of Medicine hope to transform diagnosis and treatment for an illness that touches an estimated 300 million people worldwide and one in every ten Americans.

The researchers took blood samples from people clinically diagnosed with depression or bipolar disorder when their moods were normal, dark, or manic. Eventually, the team winnowed 26 RNA markers that reveal the presence of one

of a clinical condition, how severe a person's illness is, predict the risk of a person's depression becoming acute, and a person's risk of developing bipolar disorder later on.

Just as important, the biomarker assay can reveal the relative proportion of the illness's effect on the genes involved in a specific individual.

That means studies can be carried out to determine which drugs affect which biomarkers most directly, eventually enabling physicians to personalize prescriptions to reduce trial and error.

The Indiana research also identified four existing drugs used in other illnesses that could be repurposed as antidepressants and two natural compounds that might stabilize moods.

The study found that eight of the 26 genes identified were linked to the body's circadian rhythm, helping to explain why some people become depressed in winter and why mood disorders often disturb sleep.

TRENDPOST: *The work could be key in catching and controlling depression in its early stages, which could have major implications for the economy as well as quality of life: depression is ranked as the leading cause of disability among people ages 15 to 44 – the period during which most people establish themselves in careers.*

More broadly, bioscientists are learning to read the body's subtle signals of specific diseases, a fledgling field that will lead to the data-derived personalization of medical treatments for a range of disorders now treated by doctors' hunches or with one-size-fits-all protocols.

HARVESTING MORE THAN BEER FROM A BREWERY



When brewers make beer, the good stuff doesn't only go into the bottles. The spent barley or other grains, once drained of their flavor, still hold up to 30 percent protein and as much as 70 percent fiber. Some makes its way to animal feedlots; most is carted to a dump.

Researchers at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University have found a way to efficiently separate the protein and the fiber, harvesting the former as food and the latter as biofuel and an industrial feedstock.

While separating the fiber and protein has been possible previously, it wasn't worth the trouble: the mash from the brewery had to be dried, consuming energy as well as time. Virginia's chemists found an enzyme, alcalase, that could separate the two without drying first.

The researchers are testing ways to turn the collected protein into a human food additive to nourish people in impoverished nations or cater to shoppers in the developed world looking for meatless protein sources.

But what to do with the fiber?

A researcher at the university had recently discovered a new bacteria species that converts some sugars into a compound called 2,3-butanediol, which is used to make biofuel and plastics.

The scientists broke down their leftover fiber into basic sugars, fed them to the bacteria, and collected the 2,3-butanediol that the bacteria excreted.

The team is working to scale up its new processes and determine whether they're economically practical.

TRENDPOST: The food industry is a prime candidate for entrepreneurs and existing businesses hunting opportunities in the emerging circular economy, in which one process's trash is another's feedstock.