

TRENDSJOURNAL

HISTORY BEFORE IT HAPPENS®



“I watched the news all day yesterday.
What a bunch of SHIT!
They must think we’re all Morons.”

Aunt Zizi



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CRAP NEWS

Welcome to this week's Trends Journal: "CRAP NEWS."

"I watched the news all day, yesterday. What a bunch of shit! They must think we're all morons."

This was a quote from my Aunt Zizi, may her soul rest in peace, which inspired me to write WHAT ZIZI GAVE HONEYBOY. A True Story About Love, Wisdom and the Soul of America (Wm. Morrow, 2002).

Some 22 two years later, did she nail it!

The Memorial Day Rally we had this past Saturday was a great success: great people, great speakers and music. You can watch the live stream recording here.

The special announcement I made was the formation of the "Universal Church of Freedom, Peace, and Justice." It's a congregation open to all religions whose God believes in Freedom, Peace, and Justice. There is a lot more to come, and we will keep you apprised of developments.

Also, we will be having 4th of July "Freedom, Peace, and Justice" Festival in Kingston, NY.

Thank you again for all of the generous contributions that have made this happen.

Pace e Amore,

Gerald Celente, Publisher

COMMENTS

INFLATION HITTING HOME

My company had a meeting with us and told us that the cost of materials is going up so fast they can not quote an accurate price to the customers.

For instance we buy copper rings for a product we make and the cost per pound used to be about \$10.00 to \$12.00 per pound which he thought was outrageous. But now when he sent out for quotes for that same size ring, he is getting anywhere from \$36.00 to \$76.00 per pound and these weigh about 250 lbs each. So you can imagine how much that raises the cost of the product.

Customers are already demanding price reductions! It seems like a race to increase prices to stay ahead and be profitable. We make bearings for power generation and many big projects that were being planned are now being sidelined due to uncertainty in these difficult times.

Peter Allen

CRYPTOS DOWN, BUT...

Great article, Greg [Mannarino]. Totally agree with your view on how this market is proceeding. IMO, Bitcoin will top \$100K this year. Beyond that, cryptos including NFT's are going to transform our world—in a good way. (Am retired after 30-years as a registered investment advisor.)

flyboy88

CORRUPT HEALTHCARE IN THE USA

Our healthcare system is not about health. It's about prescriptions and procedures.

This article clarifies the “vaccine” situation better than any other I have read.

Jim Blanchard

MEDICAL EXPERTS SAY VACCINES UNSAFE

This is an AWESOME piece of news. Thank you Gerald for sharing it in the great Trends Journal. I recommend everyone subscribe, you will not be let down.

Majed Zantout

BANK CRIMES, NO JAIL TIME

I have yet to hear of a dime going to the customers who have been hurt by these goings on.

What's more, I have never heard anyone complain that not only does the money go to the government coffers, but nobody goes to jail or loses their job.

Paul Sacco

CHINA VS BIDEN = NO CONTEST

When we see the weak position displayed by the current administration in DC, it is only relative that the Chinese Communist Party will tell the US or any nation under control of the Chinese supply chain for products and services to go “F” itself. They know any resistance is a joke in today's political climate!!!

The US has the weakest government and military when measured against China,

Russia, North Korea, and Iran. I predict that a war will breakout eventually with the foreign affairs action of the fools in Washington, DC.

harlow53

CALIFORNIA RECALL LEADER SMEARED

I'm of the opinion that the scuffle was staged to make Carlos Zapata look like the bad guy. Mr. Zapata, just look them in the face and yell “FREEDOM”, and you will get the best campaign ad you can find!

a1achiropractic

HYDROGEN FUELED AIRPLANES

Thermodynamically unrealistic. Sorry folks. Requires more energy input than what you get out. Same goes for the old corn based ethanol scam bullshit.

But.....it will happen due to the green agenda. Imagine a big airline making more from carbon offset credits due to burning hydrogen than what it earns from the actual service. Hey, it sounds just like Tesla!

Remo Turisci

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TRENDS ON THE U.S. ECONOMIC FRONT



U.S. MARKET OVERVIEW

Where are the markets heading?

Since the COVID War began, governments and central banks have pumped unprecedented amounts of cheap money to artificially prop up locked down economies and failing equity markets. Last year, the **Trends Journal** was the first publication to forecast that equities and economies would come tumbling down when inflation moved sharply higher.

Over in the Eurozone, today's new is inflation hit a two-year high, rising 2 percent in May. The market gamblers, hedge funds, and private equity groups are worried that not only will the Banksters cut back monetary methadone injections and their recently accelerated bond-buying... but as inflation rises, so, too, will interest rates, which are now in negative territory at -0.5 percent.

TREND FORECAST: *As we have forecast, over and over again in the Trends Journal, the higher inflation goes, the higher interest will rise... and when interest rates rise and the cheap money flows dry up, equity markets and economies will crash, as will many currencies.*

U.S. INFLATION SURGES. But, of course, the BS from Banksters, as we have detailed in the **Trends Journal**, is that the inflation spikes are only temporary, and they will keep interest rates low and keep injecting cheap money into the financial system.

As we have forecast, yes, inflation will, in some sectors, come down from its highs, but the rate will be far higher than before the politicians launched the COVID War. It was their draconian lockdowns that cut production and disrupted supply chains that are fully responsible for the price surges.

Again, our inflation warnings have been loud and clear, and as Gregory Mannarino writes in his new article this week, titled, ["INFLATION GAME: HIDE AND SEEK."](#) "EVERY SINGLE forward projecting inflation indicator is flashing red."

Want more proof? U.S. Core Personal Consumption Expenditure Index, the Consumer Price Index stripped of food and energy costs, jumped 3.1 percent in April. Year over year, this is the largest 12-month spike in almost 30 years, according to the U.S. Commerce Department.

The rise surprised the Wall Street money junkies, who had forecast, at the worst, a 2.9-percent bump... and the inflation rate ran far ahead of March's 1.9-percent gain.

The month-to-month gains were 0.4 percent in March and 0.7 percent in April, which peg the yearly inflation rate well above the U.S. Federal Reserve's 2-percent target... a number they made up in 2012.

Spending on services surged 1.1 percent for the month, while purchases of goods, especially nondurables such as cleaning products, fell back slightly.

The index's gain was not driven by consumer demand as much as by rising prices, *Wall Street Journal* analyst Justin Lahart noted on 29 May.

By that measure, “real, or inflation-adjusted, spending declined,” he noted.

Last week, the Biden administration fanned fears of inflation as it laid out a \$6-trillion budget for the coming federal fiscal year, betting it can spend lavishly on infrastructure and the social safety net without igniting runaway inflation.

Biden's budget foresees U.S. debt rising to 117 percent of GDP over the next ten years, with inflation plodding at just above 2 percent.

The White House pegs U.S. economic growth at 5.2 percent this year, a more conservative number than the U.S. Federal Reserve or International Monetary Fund expects.

TREND FORECAST: *The higher inflation rises, the more dramatic the market swings. Thus, there will be sharp market volatility. We maintain our forecast that when the Fed rate approaches 1.5 percent, equities and the economy will crash, and the “Greatest Depression” will sweep across the globe.*

TREND FORECAST: *While some analysts, such as Paul Ashworth, Capital Economics' chief economist, told the Financial Times that “The combination of soaring prices and falling real consumption last month gives off a faint whiff of stagflation” – which combines price inflation and stagnant demand – we disagree.*

We forecast “Dragflation.” As economic conditions deteriorate, consumer demand will deeply slump as prices rise and currencies decline. Thus, the cheaper the value of the currency the more it will cost to buy products.

The Market Front

Despite inflation fears, many of the global stocks hit record highs.

The S&P 500 and the Dow closed out 31 May on an up note, racking up gains for the entire month... and the S&P was just 0.8 percent down from its all-time high. The NASDAQ, however, closed down, ending its six-month winning streak.

Today, after moving up throughout the day, U.S. stocks finished mostly flat as worries increased that inflation would be rising higher. After being up some 100 points, the Dow closed up 40 points while the S&P and NASDAQ closed down 0.1 percent.

Oil: On the news that the OPEC + gang agreed to gradually ease production cuts and expectations for rising economic growth, Brent Crude jumped to a two-year high, closing at \$70.53 a barrel. West Texas Intermediate was up 2.46 percent closing at 67.96 a barrel.

Thus, despite the BS from the Banksters, inflation keeps running higher. Again, the higher inflation rises, the higher interest rates will climb. And the higher interest rates rise the deeper the economy and equity markets will sink.

Gold/Silver: As Treasury yields moved higher, gold took a bit of a hit today after moving toward a five-month high, closing just below \$1,900 per ounce. Silver moved up a bit closing at \$28.08 an ounce.

We maintain our forecast for rising inflation and a declining dollar which. Thus, by year's end, gold will be heading toward \$2,100 per ounce and silver above \$50 per ounce.

Bitcoin: As we go to press, Bitcoin fell some 3.31 percent today, trading just below \$36,000 per coin. While many of the cryptocurrencies took a big hit during May over worries of increased government control, the big names recovered much of their losses.

We maintain our forecast that if there were no crypto market, gold would be above \$3,000 per ounce and silver above \$100 per ounce.

On the crypto front, minus real concerns of government intervention and/or competing central bank digital currencies, the market speculation will push Bitcoin prices higher.

MAJOR U.S. BANKS STAYING AWAY FROM CRYPTOS



In 26 May testimony before Congress, the CEOs of three major U.S. banks said their institutions remain at arm's length from cryptocurrencies.

American banks face pressure from customers and consumers to open their doors to private digital currencies but worry about dealing in assets that are unregulated and regularly experience unpredictable gyrations in price.

Cryptocurrencies “could benefit from greater investor protection,” Gary Gensler, chair of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission that would oversee such regulation, has said.

The remarks by Bank of America CEO Brian Moynihan, Jane Fraser of Citigroup, and Wells Fargo’s Charles Scharf were part of hearings designed to help regulators sort out possible controls and consumer protections that might be laid on cryptocurrencies.

“Currently, we do not lend against cryptocurrencies and do not bank companies whose business is cryptocurrency or the facilitation of cryptocurrency trading and investment,” Moynihan said, but he added that the bank continues to “evaluate opportunities, risks, and client demand related to” digital money.

Although Bank of America holds 60 patents in blockchain – the technology underlying Bitcoin and many of its cousins – “we still have not found a use case at scale,” he noted.

Citigroup is taking a “measured approach... to understand changes in the digital asset space and the use of distributed ledger technology, including demand and interest by our clients, regulatory developments, and technology advancements,” Fraser testified.

“Before we engage with cryptocurrencies, we see it as our responsibility to ensure we have clear governance and controls in place,” she said.

Wells Fargo will “closely and actively follow developments around cryptocurrencies, though their status as a currency and mechanism of payment remains fluid,” Scharf said.

He added that sometime soon Wells Fargo will announce a test of blockchain technology “to complete internal book transfers of cross-border payments within our global branch network.”

James Dimon of JPMorgan Chase, David Solomon of Goldman Sachs, and James Gorman of Morgan Stanley also were slated to testify.

SPENDING UP; INFLATION PUSHED IT HIGHER



The 0.5-percent gain in consumer spending in April resulted from a 1.1-percent jump in spending on services such as hair styling and gym visits, the U.S. Commerce Department reported. Spending on merchandise slid 0.6 percent during the month.

However, the rise in the amount of money spent came as the result of inflation, which bumped up 0.6 percent from March. Thus, when spending was adjusted to include inflation, consumers spent less in April than they did in March.

Overall, prices have been knocked higher, in some cases to record levels, by a combination of consumers venting pent-up demand, labor, and materials shortages, and disrupted supply lines.

TREND FORECAST: *Inflation is hitting consumers in the pocket. And now, with gas prices rising higher, it will make them more concerned about rising prices. Indeed, the University of Michigan's index of consumer sentiment fell to 82.9 in May from April's 88.3.*

Thus, as the hard data proves, in March, consumers consumed fewer products, but they cost them more.

Despite rising prices, we maintain there will be buying spikes for the rest of the summer into autumn as the COVID War temporarily winds down.

FULL EMPLOYMENT AT LEAST A YEAR AWAY, FITCH SAYS



The U.S. economy will not achieve full employment – a key benchmark the U.S. Federal Reserve has said it will use in deciding when to raise interest rates – until at least the fourth quarter of 2022, Fitch Ratings predicted in a note to clients.

To reach full employment, the economy needs to add about seven million jobs, Fitch estimates, but three obstacles have to be overcome to get there, the note cautioned.

First, about 30 percent of jobless Americans have been out of work for more than a year and the proportion is growing, Fitch said.

People out of the labor force that long are likely to become permanently unemployed, studies have shown. Full employment depends on finding enough berths for those long-term out-of-workers to bring the number down from its current 1.8 percent of the total available workforce to its pre-crash level of 0.5 percent, Fitch calculates.

Second, the prolonged shutdown will permanently reduce job opportunities in some sectors – retail store clerks, for example, as more shoppers have migrated online. Other sectors, such as manufacturing, will need more skilled workers than now exist. Matching and training workers for new careers take time.

Third, some of those ex-workers will never come back into the labor force, Fitch warned.

This seems particularly true among workers aged 55 and older.

This group's rate of participation in the labor force plunged to 38.4 percent when the economy shut down and sat at 38.3 percent in April this year, Fitch found. There has been no job recovery among that group, while all others have recouped at least half of the jobs the shutdown stole.

This trend among older workers is not due to early retirement. About 1.24 million U.S. workers retired in 2020, according to the U.S. Social Security Administration, far fewer than the 1.37 million who retired in 2019.

That figure “could signal permanent discouragement from the labor force among older workers,” Fitch warned.

TREND FORECAST: *The fewer people in the workforce, the higher wages will be paid. It's simple supply and demand. However, with more people out of work, there will be fewer people in the consumer market, which will drag down GDP growth... and more pressure for government social services, which, in turn, will increase government debt.*

EXISTING HOME SALES SLIP IN APRIL



Sales of existing homes in April fell 2.7 percent year-over-year, the third consecutive month of decline, the National Association of Realtors (NAR) reported.

Rising mortgage rates and record home prices, now averaging \$341,000, have pushed even more potential buyers out of the market, analysts said.

More homes came on the market in April, bringing the inventory to a 2.4-month supply, up from 2.1 months' worth for sale in March, but the number is still near record lows.

“We’ll see more inventory come to the market later this year as vaccinations are administered and potential home sellers become more comfortable listing and showing their homes,” NAR chief economist Lawrence Yun said in a statement announcing the April result.

New housing starts fell back 9.6 percent in April, year-over-year, as shortages of labor, materials, and building lots plagued the industry. Also, some builders are delaying projects until materials prices come down and enough workers return to the labor force.

TREND FORECAST: *As interest rates rise, home prices will not rise at current rates. We forecast they will increase several percent this year and marginally rise in 2022, as the great escape to safe-COVID suburbs and prosperous ex-burbs cools.*

HOUSING SHORTAGE WILL LAST FOR YEARS, GOLDMAN SAYS



The number of U.S. homes for sale is the lowest in almost 50 years, and the imbalance between eager buyers and available houses will last for several years, Goldman Sachs analysts wrote in a 2 May research note.

About 1.3 million households will form annually through 2024, the bank estimates. The typical age at which people buy homes is in their early 30s, an age that more than 30 million Millennials have yet to reach.

Even before the economic shutdown, Millennials buying homes were shrinking the supply of homes for sale, *Business Insider* reported.

Also, the home-building industry currently is short of workers, faces record costs for a scarce supply of materials, and sees a shortage of plots on which to put up new houses. Reversing those factors, especially the shortage of lumber and land, will take time.

That will limit housing starts to about 1.5 million annually through 2024, Goldman said.

Housing starts fell 9.6 percent in April, year on year, according to the National Association of Realtors.

TREND FORECAST: Again, it's a supply and demand issue. The fewer houses available to buy in hot real estate zones, the higher the prices will rise. However, as we continue to note, as interest rates move higher, home sales will decline. And as inflation rises and home prices increase, the affordable market sector that can afford to buy a home will shrink.

INVITATION HOMES TO BUY \$1 BILLION WORTH OF HOUSES THIS YEAR



Invitation Homes, a subsidiary of the Blackstone Group asset management firm and now among the largest owners of single-family rental homes in the U.S., will add another \$1 billion in rental houses to its inventory this year, the company has said.

Home prices are at record levels, pricing many prospective buyers out of the market. However, young families and work-at-home refugees from urban jungles still hunger to live in single-family houses with yards, surveys show.

Invitation's strategy is to offer cash for homes in need of work. The company will then repair the properties and rent them at premium prices to families unable to buy a similar home themselves.

Offering cash and a quick closing typically enables a buyer to negotiate a lower price, especially if the seller needs fast cash after enduring a year or more of the economic shutdown.

Invitation is not alone in snapping up rental homes.

Cerebus Capital Management raised \$500 million for its FirstKey Homes subsidiary, which gobbled up dozens of homes around Cincinnati, OH, in recent months.

In April, American Homes 4 Rent announced it will build 279 rental houses on 94 acres it bought in St. Cloud, FL.

Asset management companies have hoarded more and more cash during the shutdown, gathering capital from high-income earners still employed but with fewer ways to spend their swelling piles of money.

Those cash reserves have given the companies considerable heft in a crowded market, leading to charges that they are elbowing aside families who try to compete for the same homes.

In one case, FirstKey bought a three-bedroom house for \$287,000. A family had bid \$295,000 for the same home but the offer was contingent on the family securing a mortgage. FirstKey offered cash.

In another, Invitation bought a home in a Phoenix suburb for \$275,000 in cash, snatching it from a family that offered \$280,000 but needed a mortgage.

The companies also pepper real estate agents in targeted areas with messages asking if any homes are about to come on the market. In many cases, the companies buy the houses before they can be listed.

The companies dismiss the charges.

Invitation Homes is “just a small sliver of the single-family rental market, about one-half of 1 percent of the nation’s 16 million single-family rental homes,” a company spokesperson wrote in an April statement quoted by *Business Insider*.

“In 2020, we purchased less than two-tenths of 1 percent of all of the homes sold on the multiple listing services in the 16 markets in which we operate,” she noted.

However, in a presentation posted on its website in March, Invitation said it will buy more houses this year than in any previous one and will sell only about \$300 million worth of its houses, less than in previous years.

The company will hold the houses so it can cash in on rising rental rates in the busiest real estate markets. (See our new article in this issue, [“RENTS FOR SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES REACH 15-YEAR HIGH.”](#))

TREND FORECAST: *This is a long-running trend that picked up speed during the Great Recession when hedge funds and private equity groups gobbled up*

foreclosed homes across the country. When interest rates rise, equity markets crash, and the “Greatest Depression” hits, foreclosure rates will again spike and the Bigs will buy more homes and increase their share of the renter’s market.

Also, with incomes shrinking, marriage rates dropping, and family size shrinking... the trend to rent a house, rather than buy one, will increase.

RENTS FOR SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES REACH 15-YEAR HIGH



Rental rates in March for single-family homes in the U.S. reached their highest since September 2006, when the housing market crashed at the outset of the Great Recession, data firm CoreLogic reported in a study released 25 May.

Average rents climbed 4.3 percent year on year in March, the company said.

Rates are steadily rising as families priced out of homeownership seek to satisfy their dreams of detached homes and more space by renting, particularly in suburbs.

Almost 70 percent of consumers say that record home prices have driven them into the rental market, a recent CoreLogic survey found.

Rents jumped highest in Phoenix and Tucson, where rents rose 11.4 and 10.4 percent, respectively, with Atlanta; Charlotte, NC; and Las Vegas close behind.

Rents rose most for the most expensive homes, CoreLogic found.

Rental rates fell almost 8 percent in Boston; rents also dropped in Chicago and St. Louis.

Like soaring home prices, spiking rental rates are pricing some potential tenants back into their apartments.

More than a third of consumers CoreLogic surveyed said rentals in their neighborhoods were “not very” or “not at all” affordable.

TREND FORECAST: While rental rates fell in major cities such as Boston, and Chicago, they will begin to rise as more young people move back into cities that were locked down during the height of the COVID War. The commercial real estate sector, however, will remain weak as more people work from home a few days a week... a trend that did not exist at significant levels before 2020.

And, as technology advances and virtual reality becomes more of a reality, the work-at-home trend that was just born will continue to grow.

LUMBER SHORTAGE CRIMPS APARTMENT CONSTRUCTION



As the price of single-family homes leaves more and more prospective buyers behind, the record price of lumber is raising costs and, therefore, rental rates for new flats.

Many apartment blocks are made of metal and concrete, but wood still figures prominently in cabinets, trim, flooring, and some structural components.

The cost of building materials, in general, has risen 25 to 30 percent over the past 12 months, the largest one-year price jump since 1988, data firm CoStar reported.

The price hikes failed to slow multifamily home construction, which sprinted through 2020 at a record pace, thanks to rising rents, which climbed 4 percent during this year’s first quarter alone, CoStar said.

As a result, subcontractors are cutting their prices to win businesses, a move that helps to mitigate the relentless rise in materials costs.

Now margins have shrunk to about 5 percent because “they want the work,” he said.

AMAZON BUYS MGM FOR \$8.45 BILLION



The deal is Amazon's second-largest acquisition, the *Wall Street Journal* reported; the company paid \$13.7 billion in

The purchase will bring vast new content to Amazon's Prime streaming service to make it more competitive with Netflix, Disney+, and Discovery's newly

expanded offerings now that Discovery has purchased a controlling interest in Time Warner from AT&T.

Also recently, Walt Disney Co. bought most of 21st Century Fox's entertainment assets and Viacom re-merged into CBS.

The MGM deal re-energized critics of Amazon's growing power to buy major positions in industries.

"This acquisition has the power to impact millions of consumers," Senator Amy Klobuchar said in a public statement. "The Department of Justice must conduct a thorough investigation to ensure that this deal won't risk harming competition."

TREND FORECAST: *We note this article to again illustrate how the Bigs keep getting bigger and competition in numerous sectors continues to decline. And with the Big few owning the most, there will be less diversity in products and services, since, without competition, there is less need for innovation and creativity.*

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TRENDS ON THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC FRONT



SHAREHOLDERS, COURT DARKEN OIL INDUSTRY'S FUTURE

Oil prices edged higher late last week as the world's economy continued its bumpy recovery, even as shareholders and a Dutch court clouded Big Oil's already uncertain future.

On Wednesday, a court in the Netherlands ruled that Royal Dutch Shell must slash its greenhouse gas emissions 45 percent by 2030, compared to the company's 2019 levels.

The court sided with plaintiff MilieuDefensie, a climate activist group claiming the company violates human rights by worsening the climate crisis through its inadequate actions to address the issue.

Shell previously had pledged to cut its emissions 20 percent by 2030 and reach carbon neutrality by 2050.

The company will appeal the ruling; MilieuDefensie says it already is aiding other groups in bringing similar suits.

Later in the same day, ExxonMobil shareholders ignored objections from the company's management and replaced two current directors with climate-friendly candidates supported by Blackrock Asset Management, the world's largest investment company and ExxonMobil's third-largest shareholder.

The vote has been too close to call on a third board seat, for which another Blackrock-supported nominee ran.

The upstart board candidates were nominated by Engine No. 1, a climate-oriented hedge fund that holds a \$50-million fraction of ExxonMobil's \$250 billion market capitalization.

Engine No. 1 has blamed ExxonMobil's sinking financial performance in recent years on the company's unwillingness to adapt to a world economy shifting away from fossil fuels.

Also on the same day, 61 percent of Chevron's shareholders voted to support a proposal that the company cut emissions generated by the burning of the oil and gas Chevron produces.

The mechanism by which Chevron would be expected to fulfill such a mandate was not specified.

Instead, the vote was largely symbolic and intended to express shareholders' frustration with the company's lackadaisical response to the climate crisis and its clear implications for the oil business, analysts said.

The three events, all on the same day, "add up to this sea change," Andrew Logan, head of oil and gas at the Ceres investor network, said in comments quoted by Grist.org.

“The time when investors were willing to trust the board and management to do the right things has passed,” he said.

Also, investors face the growing prospect of a “carbon bubble,” in which they could be left holding coal, oil, and gas deposits rapidly losing their value as the world shifts to renewable power.

The three challenges to Big Oil’s standard operating procedures followed a startling 18 May call by the International Energy Agency for nations to stop approving new coal-fired electric generation plants, stop permitting new oil and gas development, and quickly shift to vehicles not run by fossil fuels.

Such drastic steps are urgently needed to avert a climate catastrophe, the agency said.

TREND FORECAST: *The global divestment movement has drained about \$14 trillion from the fossil fuels industry since 2013 and will continue. More lawsuits from activist groups, including coalitions of young people seeing a carbon-fogged future for themselves, are lining up against producers.*

Pressure on energy companies to curtail fossil-fuel production will continue to grow, especially as vehicle makers pledge to end the production of gas and diesel cars and trucks before 2040.

Trends Journal readers learned as long ago as 2018 that the oil industry was no longer a safe, long-term investment but was increasingly a short-term speculative play.

TREND FORECAST: *As the COVID War winds down, the climate change trend will accelerate. And, as we have been doing, we will continue to keep readers abreast of the winners and losers in the race for clean energy.*

DOLLAR UNDER ASSAULT AS WORLD'S RESERVE CURRENCY



The proportion of dollars making up nations' foreign currency reserves fell to 59 percent in 2020's fourth quarter, according to the International Monetary Fund's May report on its most recent *Currency Composition of Official Foreign Exchange Reserves* survey.

The dollar's share is the lowest in 25 years and compares to 71 percent in 1999 when the euro was introduced, the *Wall Street Journal* reported.

As we have detailed, after World War II, with much of Europe and Asia destroyed, the U.S. was the world's manufacturing powerhouse... justifying the dollar's position as the world's common currency for commerce.

Now, with the U.S. making up only about a quarter of U.S. global output and China, Europe, and Japan having established themselves as economic power centers, that justification is harder to maintain.

The dollar's increasingly precarious hold on the title of "world's reserve currency" is threatened further by the U.S. Federal Reserve's unwillingness to carry out its traditional function of raising interest rates in response to inflation.

And with the United States pumping trillions to pump up equity markets and the economy and plunging 28 trillion in debt and registering its worst debt to GDP ratio since World War II, inflation will undermine the dollar's value.

In addition, during the early days of the economic shutdown, investors dumped treasury securities for cash, spooking some observers about the liquidity of U.S. bonds and notes.

Buck Holders

Japan and South Korea, which depend on the U.S. for their security and defense, have held onto their dollars; since Biden's election, China's U.S. Treasury holdings have climbed from \$1.05 trillion to \$1.1 trillion.

China has proposed its renminbi as the dominant reserve currency, with the country's Belt and Road initiative spreading the renminbi's reach across the world and China's robust economic recovery giving it greater market share in regions and industries around the globe.

The renminbi's rising strength against the dollar also pleases foreign investors and bankers who, as we have reported in the Trends Journal, have poured money into China during the past year. This in turn has increased the yuan's international standing.

TREND FORECAST: *The business of America over the past century has been War. History is repeating itself. In the ten years following World War I, the British pound sterling was dethroned as the global reserve currency because of the financial damage the war inflicted on the nation.*

The same is true for the United States, which just passed another record-breaking defense budget. Thus, we maintain our forecast that when China overtakes the U.S. as the world's #1 economy in the next several years, it will begin the trend of overtaking the dollar as the world's reserve currency.

RENMINBI HITS THREE-YEAR HIGH AGAINST DOLLAR



China's renminbi currency traded domestically at 6.4052 to the dollar on 25 May, its strongest performance since June 2018.

The high mark came on the same day that China's CSI stock index rose 3.2 percent to reach its highest value since last July.

The renminbi has gained more than 10 percent against the greenback over the past 12 months as China quickly rebounded from its economic shutdown to become a manufacturer to the world during 2020 and capital from around the globe poured into China's financial markets.

In a 21 May editorial that was quickly deleted, a Peoples Bank of China official wrote that the government should let the renminbi rise to cope with higher commodity prices.

A stronger renminbi would make it cheaper for factories to buy raw materials but also would make Chinese exports more expensive abroad.

Rocketing prices for commodities drove the price of goods leaving China's factories to their highest in three years, threatening to hobble an already tenuous recovery in the country's consumer economy.

Soon after the deletion, Liu Guoqiang, the bank's vice-governor, said in a public statement that he foresees the exchange rate between the two currencies remaining "stable," driven by supply and demand and international market conditions, the *Financial Times* reported.

TREND FORECAST: *Although consumer spending still lags, China's economy returned to pre-shutdown levels in 2020's fourth quarter, driven by global demand for its factories' goods.*

Yesterday, it was reported that China's official manufacturing PMI for May came in 51.0. Although the number came in slightly lower than analyst expectations for a reading of 51.1 according to a Reuters poll, above 50 represents growth.

As the world economies rebound from the COVID War lockdowns, demand for Chinese-made products will increase, thus driving up their annual Gross

Domestic Product, which we forecast will grow about 8 percent. The stronger their GDP grows, so, too, will its yuan rise in strength.

SOARING IRON ORE DEMAND DRAWS WAVE OF NEW INVESTMENT



Spot prices for iron ore, steel's main ingredient, have zoomed from around \$70 a metric ton a year ago to a record \$233.10 in late May under rising demand from China, luring investors to back an array of new mining ventures.

Chinese companies are planning one of the world's biggest iron ore pits, this one in West Africa; other firms are reopening mines shut down during the Great Recession when prices tanked.

Backers are betting that demand will remain strong as China continues to expand its manufacturing industry and the U.S. embarks on a long-term plan to rebuild public infrastructure.

As many as 20 new mines, eventually producing as much as 150 million tons of ore annually, will break ground this year, according to the Wood Mackenzie consulting firm.

The figure dwarfs the five million tons of new capacity added in 2020 and bests the 14 million added in the peak year of 2014, the company noted.

However, many investors are mindful of the iron ore bust of 2011, when prices crashed and mines shuttered.

BHP Group and Rio Tinto, the world's largest mining companies, have little interest in boosting production from their current Australian holdings, the companies have said, and see a brighter future in other metals such as copper.

Also, companies are signing deals with “flexible mining and infrastructure arrangements that enable mines to close without financial penalty if prices fall below their break-even point,” Wood Mackenzie analyst Rohan Kendall told the *Financial Times*.

Iron ore prices could settle back down to around \$140 per ton this year, Capital Economics has predicted, in part because of China’s declared intention to sharply reduce emissions from its steel industry.

TRENDPOST: *We note this article to again illustrate the scope and depth of rising prices, which equals rising inflation. The higher inflation rises, the higher interest rates will rise. And the higher interest rates rise and the flow of cheap money subsides, the deeper equity markets and economies will sink.*

FORD RAISES SPENDING, SALES FORECAST FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES



Ford Motor Co. will increase its investment in electric vehicle (EV) development from \$29 billion by 2025 to \$30 billion and expects 40 percent of its total sales to come from EVs by 2030, the company announced on 26 May.

Ford will reach that 2030 target through sales of its commercial E-Transit vans, the Mustang Mach E – which was the fourth best-selling EV in the U.S. in April, Ford reported – and its new F-150 Lightning electric pickup truck, which debuted in late May to stellar reviews.

More than 70,000 buyers have reserved electric F-150s, Ford noted. The E-Transit van will hit the market later this year.

Ford also will offer so-called “connected services” through its FordPass app, which will give the company opportunities to sell customers additional products and services to help Ford meet the current higher cost of producing EVs compared to gas buggies.

Ford is “breaking away from the transactional “build-and-sell” business model” traditional in the car business, which will create “new ways for investors to think about how they value the company,” Ford said in a statement quoted by the *Financial Times*.

The company’s share price rose almost 7 percent to \$13.79 in intraday trading following the news.

Competitor General Motors has announced a \$27-billion commitment to EV technology by 2025.

TREND FORECAST: *We maintain our forecast that until a new type of battery is invented, electric vehicles will remain a minor segment of the auto industry. (See our 2017 article, [“DRIVERLESS CAR CLIFF, THE ELECTRIC-CAR FANTASY”](#) and our 16 March 2021 article, [“JAPANESE CAR MAKERS COOL TO BATTERY ELECTRIC VEHICLES.”](#))*

THE NEXT COMMODITIES CRUNCH: MILK



Milk prices could climb to record levels over the next 12 months as China’s demand for dairy surges, New Zealand-based Fonterra, one of the world’s largest milk exporting companies, predicted on 25 May.

A kilogram of milk solids – about 2.2 pounds – will leave dairy farms priced at about US\$5.79 to US\$6.34 over the 12 months beginning 1 June, the company forecast.

“China is leading the charge” in global dairy demand “as its economy continues to grow,” Fonterra CEO Miles Hurrell said in comments quoted by the *Financial Times*.

“Growth in global milk supply seems muted and the global supply of whole milk powder is looking constrained,” he said.

China’s new thirst for milk is set to benefit New Zealand, which some have dubbed “the Saudi Arabia of Milk”: the white stuff makes up about a third of the nation’s exports.

Milk is the latest commodity to face rising prices and probable shortages as the world’s economy rebounds.

TRENDPOST: *Once again, the higher the prices of goods and services, the less consumers buy. Thus, it will appear that retail sales will rise... but not because consumers consumed more, but because it cost more to buy products.*

Copper, iron ore, tin, and timber are among other materials that have posted record prices in recent weeks, leading some analysts to predict a commodity “supercycle,” in which demand outpaces supply for an extended time, elevating prices above their long-term averages.

SWITZERLAND: “FU” EU



In a referendum in 1992, the citizens of Switzerland rejected joining the European Union.

However, it has negotiated 120 separate treaties with the EU that give Switzerland

almost unfettered access to the EU's markets.

Because the country lacks both membership and a “framework agreement” with the union, every time the EU changes its regulations, any relevant treaties must be renegotiated.

A framework agreement could allow those treaties to upgrade automatically with any changes to EU rules.

However, on 26 May Switzerland announced it was giving up on its seven-year-long discussions with the EU to create a framework agreement that would codify its general relationship with the 19-country union.

The end of the talks was seen as a victory for Switzerland's populist political party, which has long campaigned against ceding to EU rules and regulations.

“It's not necessary to sign everything Brussels wants,” the left-leaning Tages-Anzeiger newspaper editorialized.

The attitude is shared by most Swiss, according to Swiss polling firm GFS Bern, with a large number favoring updating treaties one by one as the need arises.

Many of those agreements now face imminent “guillotine clauses” that will abruptly end trade agreements, collectively costing the Swiss chemical, industrial machinery, medical equipment, and pharmaceutical the equivalent of \$1.9 billion in one-time cut-off costs and more than \$1.4 billion in extra annual costs, according to the Avenir Suisse think tank.

The Swiss government failed to properly alert the population to the difficulties that ending the discussions would present, Avenir Suisse researcher Teresa Alonso said to the *Financial Times*.

“We're not talking about massive changes” all at once but rather “an erosion,” she said. “It doesn't create a momentum in Switzerland for entering new negotiations with the EU.”

TRENDPOST: *Unlike other nations, the people, through Direct Democracy, not politicians rule Switzerland. Indeed, we have written about this extensively in previous **Trends Journals**. Direct Democracy is a form of a truly representative form of government, where the people represent themselves rather than politicians who represent special interests that pay them off. And, as detailed in our **Trends Journals**, it is a system of “We the People” government, which Gerald Celente supports.*

EUROPE’S HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY STARVED FOR WORKERS



As Europe’s restaurants and hotels reopen, customers are returning. Workers not so much.

The lack of workers in the continent’s hospitality sector threatens to hobble the continent’s already weak economic

recovery.

Some business owners and managers say they may be forced to offer higher pay to staff their businesses.

Some theorize that, as in the U.S. and Israel, too-generous unemployment benefits are dissuading workers from returning to the job.

Germany’s hotels and restaurants employed 2.4 million people before the shutdown and slightly more than two million last September, according to Dehoga, a trade association. In January, about 600,000 were still enrolled in a government program that subsidizes wages to keep workers from registering as unemployed.

Others see the problem as deeper.

“One reason I think we have these shortages is that people working in hospitality went home and...reassessed their lives,” Berlin restaurateur Emily Harmon said to the *Financial Times*.

“It highlighted issues in this sector: low pay, long hours,” she said. “If I didn’t own this business, I’m not sure I would have stayed in this industry.”

More than half of Harmon’s staff left for places with fewer restrictions, such as Portugal, or better weather, including the Caribbean. Other workers went to Switzerland or other countries that opened earlier; some drifted into work the gig economy, walking dogs or delivering groceries.

Also, everyone is now hiring at the same time, making competition keener and the remaining workers more scarce, Harmon noted.

Although workers are still in short supply, figures show them becoming less so; searches for open hospitality jobs were 27 percent more numerous in April than a year earlier.

“A lot of people will go back to the hospitality industry...wanting to be in contact with people,” StepStone analyst Tobias Zimmermann said to the *FT*.

Still, the sector will struggle to find workers for some time, according to Katharina Utermöhl, told the *FT*.

“It’s not a sustainable industry” for workers, she said. “What if it shuts down again?”

TREND FORECAST: *The shortage of workers trend blossomed with the COVID War. As the war winds down and governments cut back on social services and income benefits, we forecast there will be a slow, but steady return to the workforce.*

BANK OF CANADA SETS NO TIMELINE FOR DIGITAL CURRENCY



Although the Bank of Canada has said private cryptocurrencies pose a vulnerability for the country's financial system, "we don't currently see a strong case" for issuing a national version of digital money in the near

future, deputy bank governor Timothy Lane said in a panel discussion last week hosted by the country's Chamber of Commerce.

Factors that would prompt the bank to reconsider would be a dramatic drop in cash usage among Canadians or a private company offering a digital asset that huge numbers of consumers flocked to, he said.

The bank has run proof-of-concept tests with private partners around possible mechanisms of a digital currency, Lane acknowledged.

Transactions using a national digital currency could not be entirely anonymous, Lane noted, but would have to be private enough that consumers need not worry about their personal data being stolen or browsed.

Canadians already trust the bank and the money it issues, so building trust in its digital offering would be unnecessary, he contended.

Also, any digital currency issued by the Bank of Canada will be less environmentally damaging than Bitcoin, Lane emphasized.

The Bitcoin industry consumes more electricity annually than the Netherlands, according to the Cambridge Bitcoin Electricity Consumption Index, as "miners" use computers to solve mathematical problems that earn them some of the finite number of coins.

Bitcoin's vast consumption of energy is a byproduct of the process that builds people's trust in the cryptocurrency, Lane said, a step the Bank of Canada could avoid.

TREND FORECAST: *Despite the Canadian Banksters claim that they will not go digital, we forecast they, as will most central banks, will. (See our 28 July 2020 article, ["IT'S OFFICIAL: FROM DIRTY CASH TO DIGITAL TRASH"](#)). And when they do, many of the current cryptocurrencies will dramatically decline in value, since governments and central banks will ban digital competitors.*

TURKEY: ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER CENTRAL BANKSTER FIRED



Turkey's President Recep Erdogan has fired Oguzhan Ozbas, one of the deputy governors of the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey, and replaced him with Semih Tumen, an economics professor and key Erdogan advisor.

Ozbas is the third senior bank official that Erdogan has fired in the past two months.

He fired central bank governor Naci Agbal in March when Agbal raised the bank's benchmark interest rate to its current 19 percent in an attempt to corral inflation, galloping at 15 percent.

Despite inflation rising, Erdogan has demanded low interest rates to boost the country's floundering economy.

He has promised that both inflation and interest rates will fall below 10 percent this year.

“The latest change [in personnel] is another step in a sequence of nominating an entire monetary policy committee of low-interest-rate advocates,” Tatha Ghose, a Commerzbank emerging markets analyst, told the *Financial Times*.

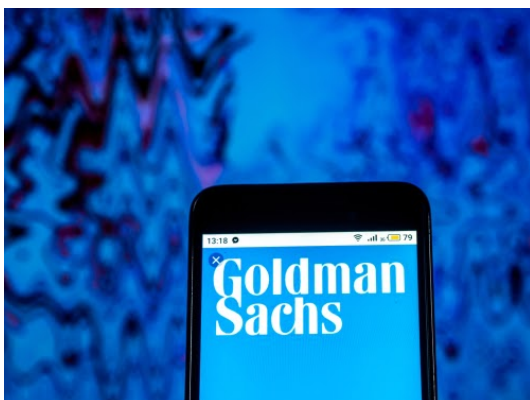
“Independence at the Turkish central bank is non-existent and the president has taken control of monetary policy, with the help of the new central bank governor,” agreed economist Jason Tuvey, who follows emerging markets for Capital Economics.

Turkey’s lira sank to a new record low against the dollar on 28 May, bringing its loss for the month to 3 percent against the buck and more than 13 percent this year. And as Forexlive has just reported, “Turkish lira slammed after Erdogan rate cut threat.”

Fitch Ratings, Moody’s Investors Services, and S&P Global Ratings all classify Turkey’s government bonds as junk.

TREND FORECAST: *Inflation will continue to escalate, thus putting pressure on the President of Turkey to raise interest rates. Will he? Most likely not. As he has done in the past to divert political and national unrest, “When all else fails, they take you to war.”*

GOLDMAN SACHS LAUNCHES CHINESE WEALTH MANAGEMENT SERVICE



China’s banking and insurance regulators have given preliminary approval to Goldman Sachs’ proposal to establish a wealth management service on the mainland in partnership with ICBC, one of the country’s largest banks.

Goldman Sachs Asset Management will own 51 percent of the venture; the bank will own 49 percent.

China has liberalized regulations governing foreign financial firms doing business in the country, although firms' investment products typically are distributed through domestic banks, pushing immigrant companies into business with Chinese financial institutions.

“This joint venture with China’s pre-eminent financial institution will accelerate our objective of establishing a leadership position in one of the world’s largest, fastest-growing wealth management opportunities,” Goldman executive Tuan Lam said in a public announcement quoted by the *Financial Times*.

By 2030, Chinese households will have \$70 trillion to invest, with more than half going to mutual funds and similar assets, Goldman has forecast.

French investment firm Amundi became the first foreign asset manager to set up shop in China last year, in alliance with the Bank of China. Citigroup is laying a plan to enter China and HSBC will hire 3,000 roving financial planners to meet Chinese investors wherever they wish, the bank has said.

TREND FORECAST: JP Morgan Asset Management has announced plans to buy out its Chinese mutual fund partner now that the government will allow foreign entities to own wealth management businesses in full.

We note this article to again illustrate how the Bigs keep getting bigger and how – despite Washington’s claims of Chinese aggression in the South China Sea and its policies toward Taiwan and the Uyghurs in the Xinjiang province – the business of the world is business... and in several years, the Chinese economy will be the largest in the world, overtaking America.

FEATURED ARTICLES BY GUEST WRITERS



HAVE THE ARCHITECTS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC LOST TOUCH WITH REALITY?

By *Richard Gale* and *Gary Null, PhD*

What if you were to know that a cabal of corrupt bureaucrats and scientists at the heart of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) have known for almost two decades that vaccines, including the MMR, can lead to autism and other neurological disorders?

Most people are unaware that CDC is a militarized federal agency further influenced by private pharmaceutical interests. Due to the politicization of national immunization, vaccine efficacy and safety have become all but irrelevant. Its policies drive profits for itself and its partners. Now the agency is committed to having as many Americans mandated to be fully vaccinated as soon as possible, irrespective of how many lives are destroyed. The very

mindset and disregard for human life that created the notorious Tuskegee experiment is alive and thriving in the bowels of the CDC.

It is time to take a hard look at the advocates of compromised pharmaceutical science and the motivations that compel the CDC and its vaccine network to systematically mislead the public for personal benefit, power, and greed. We need to begin to understand that the agency operates as an independent “deep state,” secretive, non-transparent, and conducting itself in covert ways behind the disguise of heralding public health.

When the brilliant journalist I.F. Stone wrote, “Every government is run by liars, and nothing they say should be believed,” he may have just as well been speaking about the CDC and its alliance with the pharmaceutical industry, many medical journals, and mainstream media.

The money-driven institutions of evidence-based medicine and science, which have hijacked America’s health agencies – the CDC, FDA, Health and Human Services (HHS), National Institutes of Allergies and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), National Institutes of Mental Health, and the USDA –have plunged a stake into the heart of authentic scientific inquiry, knowledge, and innovative medical progress.

Their efforts to hermetically seal and silence the debate on vaccination safety with propaganda, coercion, erroneous and deceptive research, and blatant criminality have succeeded in transforming modern vaccinology into an egregious pseudo-science that is today destroying the lives of millions of infants, children, and their families.

The deep-seated problems that reside in the CDC are not going unnoticed by a growing number of Americans. A Rand Corporation survey of public trust in the agency during the pandemic found a 10-percent decline. For decades, distrust in the CDC has been high among Black Americans; today, levels of trust among non-Hispanic whites and Hispanic respondents are comparable. One of the fundamental reasons for American’s mistrust and skepticism has been the

agency's culture of muddying the lines between scientific facts and opinions that support gross and deep-seated conflicts of interest.

This problem has also entered the ranks of CDC personnel. A group of CDC scientists who called themselves SPIDER (Scientists Preserving the Integrity, Diligence and Ethics in Research) became anonymous whistleblowers after releasing a written complaint criticizing the agency for operating as a tax-funded subsidiary of the drug industry in partnership with the FDA. And after Congressional Government Reform Committee brought CDC officials to testify before legislators, the Committee concluded the agency had routinely allowed scientists with conflicts of interest with pharmaceutical companies to serve on its two advisory committees that make recommendations on vaccine policy

The blurring of the lines between the pharmaceutical industry and our federal health agencies has been a scandal evolving over several decades. The revolving door between private interests and top government employees never ceases to gyrate. For example, former CDC director Julie Gerberding left the government to become president of Merck's vaccine division, a move that has since earned her upwards of \$3 million in stock options. This may seem to be a modest reward for Gerberding heading the agency now irrefutably responsible for the cover-up of the CDC's studies proving the MMR vaccine increases the risk of autism in African American boys. The MMR is manufactured by Merck.

Robert Kennedy Jr, one of the nation's expert watchdogs in the corporatization of our federal medical establishment, has called the CDC "a cesspool of corruption." Unlike the FDA, which has a contract with the American public to assure warnings about health risks and contraindications of registered drugs and medical devices, the CDC has no such contract with the nation's citizenry. It seemingly holds no ethical standard and abides by no mandated rules of law. For this reason, it may be best regarded as an intelligence agency rather than an institution committed to public health.

One recent example of the CDC's covert activities took place in 2016. Across the mainstream media, journalists en masse denounced the documentary film *Vaxxed: From Cover-up to Catastrophe*. The film recounted the events of

CDC whistle-blower Dr. William Thompson and his agency's intentional cover-up and destruction of documents of scientific evidence proving the MMR vaccine caused autism.

Rather than denouncing the nation's vaccine agenda, the film uncovers massive corruption in the CDC's vaccine division. But a problem with the media-wide demonization of the film arose, which included outlets such as *ABC*, *CNN*, *MSNBC*, the *Guardian*, the *Washington Post* and *The New York Times*, *Forbes*, *Rolling Stone*, and many others.

The media blitzkrieg occurred before the film's actual release. None of the journalists had watched it. None knew the underlying storyline aside from what could be gleaned from a three-minute trailer. Our investigative article, "Why is the CDC petrified of the film *Vaxxed*?" uncovered a template for an editorial script upon which all of these reviews were based. They originated from a single source, and the tracks led to the halls of the CDC. The CDC's partnership and fellowship programs with the Association of Health Care Journalists is nothing less than an intelligence indoctrination program to train journalists to be the mouthpieces of the CDC's fake science.

The curriculum held at the CDC's Atlanta campus includes propaganda in federal health policies, epidemiology (no authentic gold standard biological science), pandemic flu preparedness, vaccine safety, and autism. Journalists are also instructed to access CDC publications and databases to peruse federal resources, public relations kits, and propaganda.

Vaccine policy and the development and promotion of the childhood vaccine schedule is only one of the CDC's many corporate tasks. It is not exclusively concerned with the physical and mental health of the nation. It is also engaged in the design and development of biological weapons and threats of bioterrorism. Because vaccines are biological drugs that may be weaponized, they fall under the CDC's purview and jurisdiction.

Consequently, the Centers work closely with the Department of Defense and the intelligence agencies such as the National Security Agency with whom there is

the exchange of data collection and sharing of classified information. In its April 21, 2000 *MMWR* report entitled “Biological and Chemical Terrorism: Strategic Plan for Preparedness and Response” the CDC reported that for “the first time the CDC has joined with law enforcement, intelligence and defense agencies in addition to traditional CDC partners to address a national security threat.”

This may have been the turning point when the Centers morphed into a pseudo-intelligence agency and assumed a role in the Deep State, by adopting an inquisitional task of population surveillance and information data collection as a matter of intelligence gathering, instead of improving healthcare.

During the past years, this has further grown into spying and covert operations against the critics of our national health and immunization policies.

Immunization, as described on the CDC’s website, is now a matter of national and global security. Therefore, no longer are vaccines simply a public health intervention. In fact, immunization has been removed from science altogether and consequently can only rely upon flawed and unreliable research to support policy templates and recommendations that get enacted at state levels.

These policies are left for politicians to debate, which is rarely done and is no longer open for discussion among expert medical researchers outside of the CDC’s ranks and its network of trolls, shills, and medical puppets spewing disinformation into the public sector. This alone is sufficient incentive for targeting and silencing voices challenging vaccine safety and efficacy and who demand a reevaluation of vaccination and its toxic ingredients.

Few people realize that the CDC owns 56 vaccine patents; these patents are licensed to drug makers with royalties then later buys and distributes \$4.6 billion worth of vaccines through its Vaccines for Children Program, which accounts for 40% of its budget. This has given rise to a 2015 *British Medical Journal* investigative report accusing the CDC of becoming a lapdog for commercial interests. Consequently, this has completed its guidelines for medical interventions and treatments

The CDC also controls a separate non-profit institution known as the CDC Foundation, which operates like an astroturf organization. Founded in 1992 through an amendment inserted into George H.W. Bush's Preventative Health Act, the Foundation operates outside of Congressional oversight. This is clearly stated in its documentation:

“The Foundation shall not be an agency or instrumentality of the Federal Government, and officers, employees, and members of the board of the Foundation shall not be officers of the Federal government.... The purpose of the Foundation shall be to support and carry out activities for the prevention and control of diseases, disorders, injuries, and disabilities, and for promotion of public health... the Foundation shall establish a fund for providing endowments for positions that are associated with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention...”

In other words, the Foundation has been established as a recruiting service, funded by non-Federal sources, which can include private corporations and drug makers, for the sole purpose of serving the tax-funded CDC. Moreover, endowments to the Foundation are “unrestricted,” which means they can be spent solely based upon the discretion of the donor and to support the giver's vested interests. Among the CDC Foundation's list of partners, we find all of the large vaccine makers – Glaxo, Merck, Novartis, Pfizer, and Sanofi Pasteur – and of course the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. A Freedom of Information Act submission discovered that the CDC had been guiding the companies for influencing authorities on sugar and beverage policies.

For example, the CDC Foundation receives large donations from Pepsi and Coca-Cola, and thereby exerts its influence to taint national guidelines about diabetes, liver disease, and other illnesses. In another example, Roche, the manufacturer of the drug Tamiflu against influenza infection, donated \$193,000 to the Foundation in return for the CDC's advocating the drug's benefits for relieving flu symptoms. This completely undermines the FDA's rulings that Tamiflu's clinical trial data do not support the claims that the drug saves lives or lessens hospitalization.

It has been through the Foundation that Bill Gates' faux philanthropy has bought off the CDC. Gates has given tens of millions of dollars to the CDC Foundation over the years. In 2013, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation gave \$13.5 million to support the CDC's efforts to undertake surveillance and increase meningitis and rotavirus vaccination rates in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Furthermore, the Centers' activities are no longer limited to the U.S.' domestic health; after 911, its mission expanded, far beyond its original mandate, and today the agency is globally engaged. On the Center's website, it defines itself as America's "Global Health Protection Agency" in charge of "implementing global health security" and works in partnership with other nations. Since 2006, the CDC claimed it had trained over 115,000 professional personnel in its version and interpretation of health issues. Its Global Rapid Response Team of over 400 experts "can deploy in as little as 48 hours" to respond to local and regional health emergencies. In brief, the Centers are immersed in the technology of surveillance, information gathering, and analysis. These are among the defining characteristics of an intelligence agency.

Other intelligence activities often associated with a "deep state" and now undertaken by the CDC include pressuring peer-reviewed medical journals to retract studies that challenge their ideology or endanger the agency's reputation. In 2014, Prof Brian Hooker, a biochemist at Simpson University, reevaluated the CDC's data showing a 350% increase in autism among African American boys receiving the MMR. Initially approved for publication by the journal *Translational Neurodegeneration*, the study was shortly thereafter suspended after the CDC pressured the journal with fabricated claims against Dr. Hooker. This is a textbook case of intelligence sabotage of a critic by false accusation.

Similar to the Pentagon and the CIA, the CDC has also infiltrated Hollywood. Hidden within the corridors on the University of Southern California campus is the relatively unknown organization Hollywood Health and Society. Its top funders include the CDC, the National Cancer Institute, the Office of National Drug Control Policy, and the largest private funder of vaccines, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The small organization's mission is to provide "briefings and consultations with experts, case examples, panel discussions

about timely health issues” for Hollywood script writers and producers. Among the main topics listed on its website are influenza, smallpox, and autism, all official propaganda stamped with the CDC’s ideological seal of approval.

Among the trove of classified national security documents released by NSA whistleblower Edward Snowden, were several regarding the government’s intelligence agencies’ infiltration of the internet to manipulate information, deceive the public and destroy personal reputations of opponents, including independent journalists. Among the documents was a manual, “The Art of Deception: Training for Online Covert Operations.” One of its stated missions is to flood the internet with false information and data to destroy the reputation of its opponents. Furthermore, the manual provides instructions on taking control of online public discourse to generate allegiance to the intelligence agency’s false point of view.

Vaccine opponents often complain about the blogosphere being riddled with anonymous trolls, most of whom would be unable to debate their way out of a cardboard box on scientific issues regarding vaccines, but who nevertheless follow an intelligence manual’s strategies to disparage vaccine critics.

Bill Gates, who is on record condemning parents who refuse vaccines and who is no stranger to the higher echelon of executives in the vaccine industry and department heads at the CDC, funded psychology professor Seth Kalichman at the University of Connecticut to develop a monitoring system to track all anti-vaccine internet traffic. Given Gate’s utter disdain towards voices speaking out against vaccines, we can be certain this was not for humanitarian, research purposes but as part of intelligence gathering in the CDC’s war against the health of the nation.

Others who have been CDC mouthpieces yet are viewed as respectable and medically credentialed kingpins, such as Paul Offit, Peter Hotez, Senator Richard Pan, and others are welcomed by the media as the foremost authorities and final voices on vaccine topics.

To our peril, federal agencies take full advantage of the average American's scientific illiteracy. An important survey conducted by Michigan State University found that only 4% of American adults had an understanding of stem cells. Seventy percent could "not read or understand" the science section in *The New York Times*. An earlier study funded by the US National Science Foundation noted that about half of Americans understood that the earth rotates once around the sun annually, 45% of people had an "acceptable" understanding of DNA, and only 22% knew what a molecule was.

Although scientific illiteracy is an enormous threat to a functioning democracy and an informed public, nevertheless it is a boon for the CDC and the vaccine industry. Manipulating this ignorance with heavy doses of fear tactics, such as revealed through the CDC's press model to guide the mainstream media's role in increasing vaccine compliance, health officials have managed to successfully thwart many efforts to educate the public to evaluate the pros and cons of vaccination.

Along with the corporatization of Washington's three branches of government, and the emergence of a surveillance state watching over the shoulders of every citizen, the politicization of medicine, particularly vaccines, is another sign of the further decay of the nation towards totalitarianism. For almost two decades, fake news and bureaucratic deception, anger, hatred and disproportional distrust have taken the spotlight as the nation's health further erodes.

Annually, the quality of Americans' health is declining and this is most evident in the younger generations who have received the bulk of vaccines. While the CDC and its allies conjure distorted statistics with no sound scientific basis from thin air to convince us that vaccines have saved countless lives, in fact, these screeds are no more scientifically reliable than visiting the local gypsy soothsayer to have your palm read. A doctorate in science or a medical degree from Harvard does not excuse a person from duplicitous chicanery.

The good news is that the tide is slowly turning. The populace is steadily losing its faith in government. Autism rates continue to rise and parents can access extensive independent medical research to understand the real dangers of

vaccines. A fundamental reason why parents increasingly refuse to vaccinate themselves and their children is quite simple; the cartel of pharmaceutical-friendly bureaucrats writing the nation's healthcare policies has been losing the public's trust. There is no secret why federal health officials and their absolutist claims to mandate vaccine compliance are untrustworthy.

In 2016, over 1,500 medical researchers surveyed by the prestigious journal *Nature* failed to reproduce another scientist's experimental results. Over half were unable to reproduce their experiments. The article concludes that the potential reasons for this lack of scientific confirmation are numerous. However, most important is that no single scientific study or paper can claim to be the final word on any medical issue, and this is especially true with vaccine research.

The complexities of the human immune system, its biomolecular mechanisms, and epigenetic relationships with external environmental factors are not fully understood. And there remains much more to discover and digest. Modern immunology still has a long way to go and needs frequent revision as discoveries emerge. In contrast, vaccine science continues to rely partially upon an antiquated understanding of the body's immune system focused almost exclusively on antibody generation.

One example of medical negligence has been the rising epidemic of citizens who are immunocompromised and therefore most susceptible to adverse vaccine reactions. When a severe condition of immunosuppression is clearly diagnosed, it is not uncommon for physicians to withhold vaccinations.

But how many Americans are immunocompromised? When this question was posed to a researcher at Johns Hopkins University in 2015, to his surprise Theo Schall discovered there were no population accurate statistics and none of our federal health agencies nor medical institutions were tracking it. Not only are these people at higher risk for vaccine injury, but they are also at a higher risk for infection from wild viruses. Federal vaccine policies do not differentiate the population with weakened immune systems from healthier individuals. The

CDC's immunization schedule is a one-size-fits-all paradigm: bottom line, everyone should and must be vaccinated.

After reviewing the different immunocompromised populations (e.g., immunosenescence or weakened immunity due to age in the senior population, malnourishment, cancer patients, people with AIDS and HIV, transplant recipients, patients under immunosuppressive drugs with autoimmune conditions, and primary genetic immunodeficiency disorders, Schall estimated there were approximately 122.6 million Americans with a weakened immune system and stand at higher risk for infections. Our revaluation of the available figures as of the end of 2017 places this figure now at 130.4 million, over one-third of the US population.

The question of whether 130 million people, including hundreds of thousands of children, should be subject to injections with infectious viruses-- live, attenuated, or killed – or now the new generation of mRNA Covid-19 vaccines that have no prior precedence for observing long-term adverse effects, is never discussed. Volumes of medical and biochemical research confirming the severe vaccine ingredients are also ignored.

Nor is any consideration given to the number of vaccines administered and the risks due to the accumulative levels of toxic ingredients when multiple vaccines are given simultaneously or within short time intervals. Nor do pediatricians routinely evaluate the state of children's immunological health before determining whether or not to administer vaccines. There is no profit from delaying or postponing vaccination. No perks are received from insurance companies for increasing vaccination compliance.

And, finally, physicians and pediatricians are largely as ignorant as the general public about the scientific evidence supporting and debunking vaccine safety and efficacy myths. Their primary source of information is channeled through the CDC.

The CDC has yet to conduct or fund definitive and legitimate studies to determine once and for all individual vaccine safety and whether or not vaccines

as exogenous factors are contributing to the onslaught of illnesses ravishing the country. Yes, such gold-standard studies, which remain absent from the pro-vaccine arsenal, would be very costly. But that would be the price to pay to bring sanity to the irrational conclusions of the CDC's decision-makers on our nation's national advisory vaccine committee. Nevertheless, the cumulative financial cost of all previous government-sponsored fake science would be a small price to pay for the future well-being of children.

During Congressional proceedings in 2002 into the causes for the unaccountable rise in autism in the United States, CDC officials confirmed no studies have been undertaken to compare the quality of health between vaccinated and unvaccinated children. Yet the subcommittee was assured by the CDC that such studies would be conducted. A decade later, when the CDC was again yanked back into a subcommittee, still no studies had been conducted, and again, Congress was assured such studies were forthcoming.

We should not hold our breath. Officials at the CDC and Department of Health and Human Services know perfectly well that vaccinated children are susceptible to far more illnesses and weakened immune systems than their unvaccinated peers. Their greatest fear is a thorough long-term study to see whether unvaccinated children are indeed healthier. Otherwise, the necessary research to prove the health advantages of vaccines would have been conducted long ago.

Yet there are reasons why such studies are not mandated nor funded. Health agencies are fully aware that vaccines are a scourge. Instead, they pump out ecological and epidemiological cohort studies, notorious for subjective manipulation, confounders, and biases to support their dogma. Such studies, little more than mathematical equations for sifting, shifting, and fudging data, are scientifically invalid for determining any medical truth. Nevertheless, epidemiological studies remain the most cited articles by the most vocal proponents of vaccination and vaccine mandates.

However, corruption at the CDC is not limited to national vaccine policies and the deceptive manipulation of scientific data to further advance a national

vaccination regime. The agency has also been discovered to mislead the nation on other health issues that in turn shape government policies. Earlier it was accused of inflating numbers of rapes in the US. The CDC estimated 2 million rapes occurred within a single year (2011); however, the Justice Department's crime statistics recorded only 238,000. Later Time magazine reported that the manner the CDC gathered its information was extremely flawed and biased.

In 2016 The Hill reported that the CDC misled Congress with its WISEWOMAN project – a national screening and evaluation project to help reduce heart disease risks in women between 40-64 and to promote healthier lifestyles. The CDC's data of the project was all “cooked” to make the results look better than it was and that the project was larger and more inclusive than it was

The writings of Hannah Arendt over fifty years ago about the origins of totalitarian ideologies and states have never been more poignant and prophetic than today. She worried deeply about the language of absolutism, and particularly in the realm of science, which is now the underlying mission of the CDC to politicize immunization. The attempt to reduce all of human life to well-defined processes, to predictable patterns and primitive linear reductionism, was in Arendt's view both self-defeating and extremely dangerous for a healthy society.

In a totalitarian state, objectivity is tyrannical. Scientific objectivity threatens the official policy even more so. In the case of vaccines, the entire industry is a creed that has institutionalized denial of the most fundamental principles of science and fact-finding. And worse, the CDC's ongoing war of terror against the unvaccinated has become lawful. And this is what gives rise to a totalitarian culture of science.

Arendt was certain that a fascist worldview does not necessarily have to be framed in nationalism, religious doctrine nor based upon race and ethnicity. She worried that science, and its technologies, once they became politicized, would give rise to new forms of totalitarianism and persecution in the future. And today this totalitarian stench breathes through many scientific institutions and

universities, throughout the private vaccine industry, and its most pungent odor of rot and decay fills the halls of the CDC.

TRENDS IN THE MARKETS



INFLATION GAME: HIDE AND SEEK

By *Gregory Mannarino*, [TradersChoice.net](https://www.traderschoice.net)

The secret is out!

Not only are we experiencing deliberately created inflation on a massive scale courtesy of the Federal Reserve, but EVERY SINGLE forward projecting inflation indicator is flashing red.

Inflation is rising at its fastest pace ON RECORD!

Yet, the Federal Reserve continues to run its inflation-creation machine at full speed. Understand, the Federal Reserve IS DELIBERATELY creating inflation using a two-door mechanism. Through one door, the Fed is issuing debt in the form of massive money creation, and, through another door, they are buying debt in the form of bonds. This two-door mechanism is massively inflationary. Moreover, it creates artificial demand; pushes investment capital into the stock

and real estate markets, therefore inflating massive bubbles; and it creates malinvestment. On the upswing, it also creates opportunities for people who understand the situation to capitalize on it.

If we understand that the end game for central banks, none more so than the Federal Reserve, is to vastly inflate, then we take the opposite side of the trade: we own and hold NON-DEBT instruments such as physical gold and silver. Also, in my professional opinion, we own and hold cryptocurrencies... taking advantage of their current fall in price.

Several weeks ago, in one of my articles for the **Trends Journal**, I wrote that we would see a particular phenomenon occur: the mainstream media would begin to blame the rising cost of energy and supply chain disruptions on the current inflation situation. Well, that phenomenon has certainly begun. Moreover, that narrative **MUST** be maintained.

It cannot be allowed to be widely known that it is the Federal Reserve, by design, which is deliberately creating inflationary pressures. Therefore, the MSM will deflect from pointing to the Fed's monetary policy as the source of inflation. The MSM will attempt to hide the real source of inflation from the general public by saying, "It's the rising cost of energy and supply chain disruptions that are responsible."

Even the Federal Reserve itself has taken up a specific narrative on the rising inflation trend, saying, "This inflation is transitory" or "This inflation is temporary." *What else would we expect them to say?*

The fact of the matter is this: We have not even begun to see the effects of the Federal Reserve's inflation creation machine/mechanism. The Federal Reserve is marching us directly into a currency crisis, deliberately, so they can issue a new method of control: a 100-percent digital/fiat dollar system.

Problem, Reaction, Solution

It's always the same. For any major policy change to be adopted, it must follow a simple and highly effective process. Three steps. Number one, allow a problem to manifest itself. Number two, wait for the public outcry. Number three, offer their pre-determined solution.

Expect to see inflationary pressures continue to build, causing the dollar to bleed off purchasing power at a faster and faster pace. Expect the public outcry to get louder as well. Also expect the stock market to continue its march higher, as it will now take more weaker dollars to buy shares of stock.

Gold & Silver

In the last month, gold has gained 6 percent and silver has increased 8 percent in value. The gains should continue as the Fed continues to melt the dollar in its current form.

Cryptocurrencies

Expect the cries against cryptocurrencies to get louder, as the Fed readies its own digital dollar. I expect to hear major banks warn against crypto, politicians, etc. But, to me, *until cryptocurrencies are heavily regulated*, I like the space and will continue to add to my current positions.

TRENDS IN SURVIVALISM



ASSUME HE IS ARMED!

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

I cannot urge strongly enough that the whole idea of “force continuums” for practical self-defense is ridiculous and dangerous. Ridiculous, because it assumes that, somehow, the victim of a violent attack will have the capacity to know (rather magically, I would assume) the criminal history, the abilities, and the intentions of the attacker(s).

How??? Somehow. And that is r-i-d-i-c-u-l-o-u-s. It is dangerous because if a person accepts this asinine politically correct drivel he will assume – with absolutely no justification – that his “hunch” and the initial appearance of the attacker(s) have provided him sufficient evidence to guide the severity of his reaction to the onslaught. (Believing this is more likely to assist a serious attacker than it ever is to enable a defender to handle his emergency with adequately decisive and severe force.)

Here is solid survival and self-defense WISDOM:

Be 100% non-aggressive, non-violent, considerate, and polite in your physical conduct, speech, mannerisms, and interactive gestures, approaches, and responses with all with whom you deal and interact. However, should you ever be attacked physically by someone who is either unknown to you or whom you know to be a troublemaker, treat it as a potentially grave physical threat... a threat to your well-being and perhaps your life, itself.

Make no snap judgments based upon hunches or your intuitional evaluations, upon the appearance, age, or gender of the assailant, etc. Take the attack as an immediate, dangerous threat that must be stopped forthwith! This assumption is necessary and – except to a fool – justified.

One crucial thing to consider – and to always assume – is that any unprovoked violent attacker may be ARMED. In fact, statistically, he is probably armed. Felons who commit acts of violence are routinely armed with knives, guns, improvised (but deadly) items-as- weapons, coupled with what may at the outset of their attack by a well-disguised veneer of harmlessness. The worst and most dangerous psychopathic murderers (i.e. Ted Bundy, Kenneth Bianchi, Richard Kuklinski, etc.) were masters of deception and could approach a victim in a most disarming manner.

Besides, even if some scrap of sh-t who approaches you with what on the surface seems like a low-level attack (i.e., a shove, a wrist grab, seizure of your clothing, blocking your path, etc.) he very well may be well-armed. How can you tell? YOU CAN'T TELL. That's the message.

Look at the picture below. This is the late Chic Gaylord, one of the finest combat handgun holster-makers of the 1940s and 50s. He ran a shop in New York City and provided outstanding, quick-draw leather to the FBI, U.S. Secret Service, and NYPD officers. His book, *Handgunner's Guide*, is a classic and is referred to in *Kill Or Get Killed* by Rex Applegate.



This photo was posed by Gaylord to show the numerous ways a firearm could easily be concealed and carried upon the person by anyone.

Remember... the laws where you live (perhaps in NYC, Chicago, Honolulu, or some other outrageous violator of Americans' second amendment-protected right to keep and bear arms) may keep you from going about with the protection of a handgun; they will have not the slightest effect on violent criminals who, by definition, couldn't care less about gun laws – or any laws they wish to violate!

Criminals come up with all sorts of ways to hide not only handguns, but knives, bludgeoning implements, razors, and even, in some instances, vials of acid and cut-down shoulder weapons. You would do well if God forbid one of these

pieces of crap attacks you, to assume that the beast is armed, and decisively SHUT HIM DOWN, forthwith.

When he is rendered immediately hors de combat, it won't matter what the hell he has concealed on his person, and may have available to use against you; he will be unable to endanger you further... and you can get the hell out of there fast (as you should).

Remember: You can forget about competition, sports, classical art, and methods of control, arrest, and submission when it comes to mastering skills to save yourself and perhaps a loved one from sudden, unprovoked criminal savagery. Be real. Violent criminals – may they be damned forever – are always “real.”

In closing:

DON'T WAIT TO FIND THIS OUT WHEN AND IF THEIR VIOLENCE IS EVER DIRECTED AGAINST YOU!

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 TECHNOCRACY



By *Joe Doran*

THE “PROGRESS” OF LEAVING HUMANS BEHIND

The idea that cutting-edge technologies are providing widespread benefits to humankind is failing the test of observation.

The prime current example is new mRNA and DNA COVID “vaccine” technology. They have been lauded for saving the world from a deadly virus. But the world wouldn’t have needed saving, if the virus were never created in a bio lab in Wuhan, China, which appears more likely than ever.

The Biden administration was forced to admit last week not only that the COVID-19 might have come from that bio lab, but that its release might have been deliberate.

An Out-Of-Control Tech Checklist

There are a number of large-scale examples of how rapid technological advances are benefitting only a relative few while harming societies and humankind on the whole:

- The build-out of a “social credit” system in China, which comprehensively surveils, penalizes, and rewards citizens according to how well they adhere to the dictates of communist masters
- Genetic and chimeric alteration of crops, animals, and even humans, with unknown long-term consequences
- Slick social media platforms employing biased algorithms to censor information, opinions and persons, manipulating elections and the free flow of information around the world
- A dangerous growing divide in wealth and power between a relative few controllers of technology and the rest of humankind, evidenced by the elitist exploitation of pandemic lockdowns
- The development of robotics, drone technologies and AI to conduct overwhelming accurate and lethal kills of human targets
- The use of hormonal and surgical “therapies” to perform controversial gender reassignments of children
- The widespread introductions of man-made chemicals into the environment which have been linked to alarming reductions in fertility rates and sperm counts

Technocratic elites are [aware](#) that swiftly advancing technology is not resulting in widespread human betterment. But their only real concern may be to employ technology to control the dissatisfaction of the masses, and, indeed, the masses themselves.

Technology Evolving Beyond Constraints Outlined by Game Theory

The pace and direction of technological innovations are reaching the point where existential human issues are at stake. In 2017, a *Bloomberg* opinion article entitled “How Technology Might Get Out Of Control” predicted some of the issues currently metastasizing.

Into the modern age, the pace of innovation was such that actors could understand and take into account consequences. This social process has been identified and studied in Game Theory. States of "equilibrium" ensured a certain amount of benefit from innovations while containing disincentives for acting outside the bounds of customs, laws, and regulations.

But the article pointed out that emerging technologies were accelerating beyond human social constraints that previously worked:

“Emerging technologies—especially computing, software and biotechnology such as gene editing—are much more likely to fall into the unstable category. In these areas, disruptions are becoming bigger and more frequent as costs fall and sharing platforms enable open innovation. Hence, such technologies will evolve faster than regulatory frameworks—at least as traditionally conceived—can respond.”

Given current issues with biotechnology, hi-tech weapons, AI usage in surveillance and control, genetic experimentation and more, the concern of at least some scientists a half-decade ago seems to have fully materialized.

The thrust of many projects is solving “problems” created by the existence of humans. We consume too much. We require too much energy. Too much space. We emit too much CO₂. We are selfish, given to superstitious beliefs (i.e., religion) and war. We do not contribute anything necessary. We are non-essential.

Little wonder that the tech-fueled prescriptions for dealing with the problems consistently involve more strictly limiting and even effectively removing the source of the problem itself.

From Closeness to Gods to Masters of Tech

Average persons and populations have always been expendable to elites. Status long decided who could be enslaved to build monuments, conscripted in wars, and thrown to the pits to please the gods.

But with the industrial age, no longer did elites have to posit their superiority on mysteries, closeness to the gods, royal bloodlines, and connections to the crown.

Science and ideologies based on scientism became the new separators. It was leveraged in the industrial age and spawned the titans of industry. Along with that age, arose a technocratic apprehension of the uselessness of the masses.

Indeed, the systematic human exterminations of the 20th century – the democides that were not wars between countries, but by elites against their own useless populations – were implementations of the new thinking.

And that drive has only grown more sophisticated in the 21st century. Climate change, sustainability, equity. No matter the rhetoric, technologies are not being pursued and funded to sustain or enlarge the freedoms and prosperity of the bulk of humankind.

Human Limits vs. Transcending the Human

One might posit that human nature, and not technology itself, is the real issue. The argument would go something like, “Tech innovations don’t harm people. People do.”

That might be true for prior history. But it may not hold with evolving AI systems, and genetically modified life forms designed to effectively transcend and replace natural humanity. And that is the frontier that is quickly emerging right now via numerous scientific pursuits around the globe.

Just as human biology is now taken as something that can be transcended, natural humanity itself is quickly becoming a focal point for technocratic “upgrades.” It’s no mistake that Moderna, one of the companies that created the experimental mRNA COVID vaccines, [described](#) their technology as a “human operating system” platform, capable of delivering genetic encoded upgrades.

But “Humans 2.0” is not really about upgrading the masses. It’s about pursuing god-like powers for a few, and systematically winnowing the rest.

The COVID saga may one day be viewed as a definitive salvo in that technocratic quest. More are on the way.

APPLE BETRAYS CHINESE USERS FOR PROFIT



Apple, that bastion of user privacy, just sold out its users in China to the communist government.

The U.S. tech giant handed over user iCloud access to Chinese authorities, to cement its opening of a mainland data center in a partnership deal with the Chinese state-owned firm Guizhou-Cloud Big Data (GCBD).

The joint venture housing Apple servers was brought online last Tuesday, according to the Chinese-controlled *Xinhua* news agency.

Chinese citizens who counted on the privacy of data they stored within Apple's iCloud infrastructure are effectively now an open book to the Chinese government. Data includes emails, text messages, data files, including photos and videos, and more.

That government has demonstrated a willingness to punish its citizenry for any perceived deviations from its communist orthodoxies, with little regard for international objections.

Privacy advocates expressed dismay at Apple’s self-serving sell-out, which may doom many of its users to persecutions. One saving grace is the project has been in the works since 2018, so users were at least aware of what was on the horizon.

Apple's acquiescing engagement with the Chinese government has long been a source of controversy for the company. According to the Washington Beacon, privacy advocates sounded a strong alarm about the server project when it was first contemplated. Nicholas Bequelin of Amnesty International said at the time:

“By handing over its China iCloud service to a local company without sufficient safeguards, the Chinese authorities now have potentially unfettered access to all Apple's Chinese customers' iCloud data. Apple's pursuit of profits has left Chinese iCloud users facing huge new privacy risks.”

AI MIGHT POWER “1984” BY 2024, SAYS MICROSOFT HEAD



In another signal that AI technology is threatening to break past human understanding and efforts to contain it, Microsoft's president Brad Smith is now sounding the alarm.

In an [interview](#) with the *BBC*, Smith said a dystopian scenario of thought control predicted by George Orwell's classic novel 1984 might be powered by AI within the next decade.

“If we don't enact the laws that will protect the public in the future, we are going to find the technology racing ahead, and it's going to be very difficult to catch up,” Smith warned in the interview. “I'm constantly reminded of George Orwell's lessons in his book 1984. You know the fundamental story... was about a government who could see everything that everyone did and hear everything that everyone said all the time.”

Smith's interview came in a segment that detailed various facets of quickly evolving surveillance states, most notably in China, but also in the U.K., the U.S., and other countries.

Some tech leaders have tried to frame the threat more as a battle between the U.S. and China than as a prospect of governments in general against their citizenry.

"We're in a geo-political strategic conflict with China," said Google's Eric Schmidt. "The way to win is to marshal our resources together to have national and global strategies for the democracies to win in AI. If we don't, we'll be looking at a future where other values will be imposed on us."

But despite Schmidt's statement, the fact is that major tech companies, as well as many other firms and entities, are actively working with and profiting from their relationships with the Chinese government.

It's also hardly a secret that many of China's innovations in technology have come from their advanced spying techniques of industries around the world.

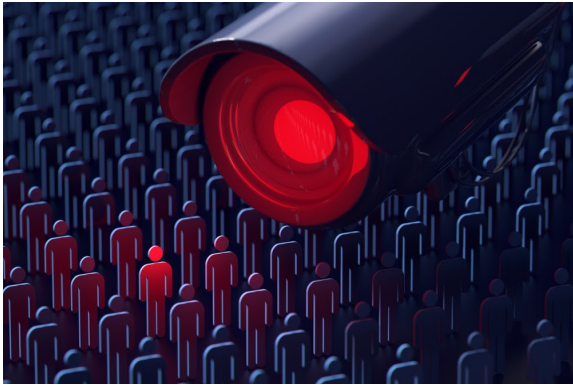
Where they've made arguably the most "advances" is in their granular control of their population via technology. A pervasive social credit system monitors, rewards and punishes people for activities approved or disapproved by the communist government.

In the West, vaccine passports, online censorship in collusion with government entities like the CDC, and travel bans on political dissidents are being called out by many freedom advocates as a dystopian step on the path to a credit system similar to China's.

Leading up and during the 2020 Presidential election cycle, many accounts and American citizens branded for "wrongthink" and "misinformation" were de-platformed by Google and other big tech companies.

Microsoft, with its participation in “NewsGuard” as an official extension to its web browser, and other efforts, has also shown a ready inclination to engage in Orwellian censorship.

THIS WEEK IN SURVEILLANCE



LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SURVEILLING U.S. CITIZENS WITH BLACKLISTED CHINESE TECH.

The appetite for spying on thy neighbor is running rampant among local governments throughout the U.S. If that’s not bad enough, it’s being fueled by illicit deals between blacklisted Chinese

companies and domestic political authorities.

Two Chinese companies, Dahua Technology and Hikvision, have been barred from business in the U.S. due to human rights abuses associated with their invasive surveillance technologies. It’s the kind of stuff used in China on dissident populations like the Uighurs, but also to minutely control and punish average Chinese citizens.

But that hasn’t stopped more than 300 U.S. government entities, including city and county governments and schools, from doing business with the firms.

Neither has an FCC directive identifying the firms as security threats, due to their direct ties with the communist Chinese government. The FCC warned that data collected by systems sold by the companies were open to Chinese government exploitation.

A recent [story](#) by *The Epoch Times* noted that according to government contract data, purchases have been happening in droves since August 2019. The information was obtained via GovSpend, a Florida Technology company that tracks such data, and has been published in TechCrunch.

Local governments have skirted the Federal block on doing business with the Chinese firms since they're only prohibited from using federal funds in making purchases.

Domed surveillance cameras, thermal camera technology, and other equipment are among the systems purchased. Most local governments contacted by Techcrunch declined to comment.

Both Dahua and Hikvision have been tied to appalling Chinese activities warring on its citizens. The U.S., Canada, the Netherlands, and the U.K. have all specified Chinese abuses of religious and ethnic minorities including torture, sterilizations, political indoctrination, and forced labor. The abuses have been condemned strongly as “genocide.”

BLOCKCHAIN BATTLES



CRYPTOS VS. GOVERNMENT EDGING TO HOT CONFLICT. Cryptos continued to mostly trend down during last week. Bitcoin and Ether are now trading at nearly half of all-time highs achieved less than two months ago.

The huge sell-off has happened even amid news of dollar inflation, and \$6 trillion budgets. As Treasury Secretary Janet Yellin has quietly extended the time frame out to year for how long they predict outsized jumps in inflation will continue, the Feds continue to make noise about going after “tax evasions” of crypto assets.

Some see it as a concerted effort to keep money in traditional markets, treasuries, bonds, etc.

Government has two major ways of generating income. Taxing is the front door. Currency inflation printing money to service its debts is the back door. Bitcoin is the backdoor killer, and governments and the central banks that exert control behind them are out to effectively kill it.

BIDEN'S \$6 TRILLION BUDGET INCLUDES CRYPTO CRACKDOWN

PROVISOS. When you're concocting a \$6 trillion budget, you'd better have something in there to keep investors scared into backing your currency.

The Biden administration covers that base with provisions to track and squeeze cryptos. That includes a huge expansion of IRS resources to do it.

In announcing the budget, the Treasury focused on what it characterized as attempts to combat "tax evasions" of crypto investors.

"Tax evasion using crypto assets is a rapidly growing problem. The global nature of the crypto market offers opportunities for U.S. taxpayers to conceal assets and taxable income by using offshore crypto exchanges and wallet providers."

Fed inflationary policy has siphoned the accrued savings of millions of Americans and forced them into riskier investments to try to stay ahead of the inflation monster they've created.

One of the rational responses of investors has been to move into cryptos that represent value in their anti-inflationary attributes (i.e., Bitcoin), and their abilities to enable apps that cut out middle parties (i.e., Ethereum).

The two-pronged response of the Biden administration is to demand its cut of the crypto pie, and to dog cryptos with accusations of criminality, to suppress the influx of investment.

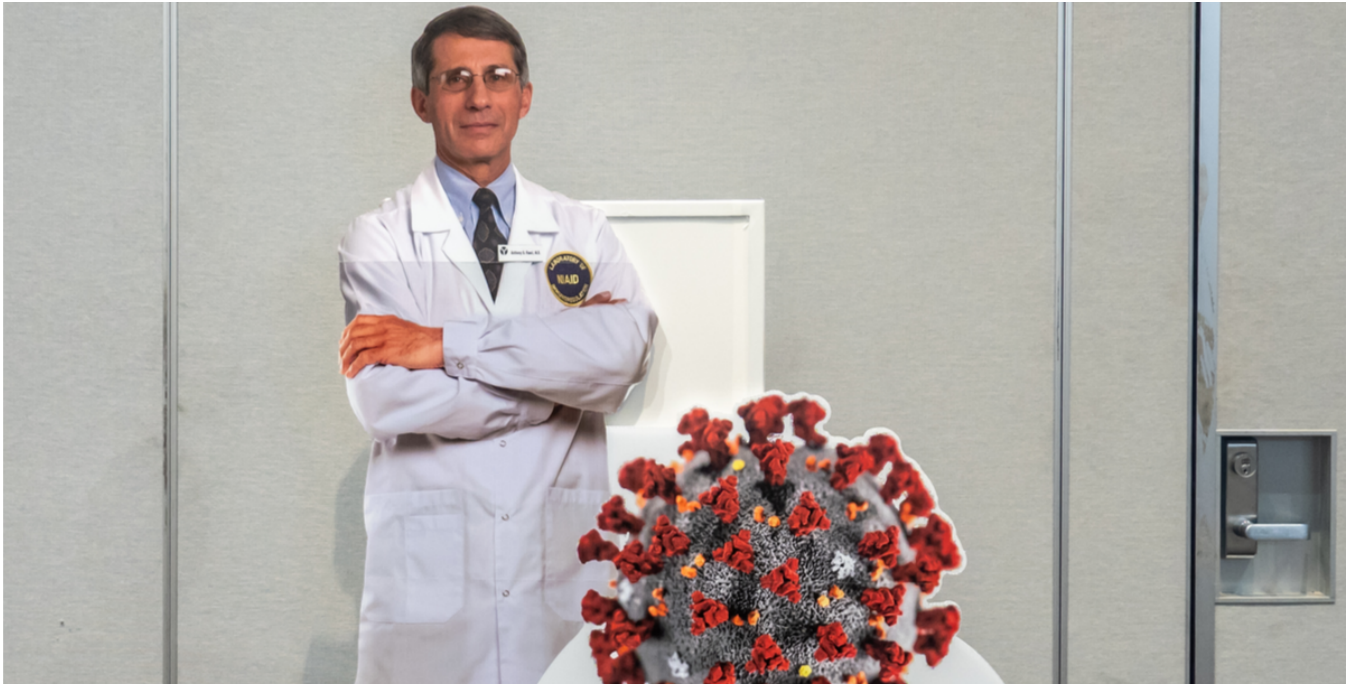
As [noted](#) by The Block, crypto exchanges operating in the U.S. such as Coinbase are already required to procure and keep detailed personal and accounting info on people using their service.

The Treasury is targeting crypto activity happening beyond those silos. To that end, it is fleshing out a more formal international regulatory cabal of central bank-backed actors, fueled by regulatory bodies like the FATF, to surveil and tap decentralized crypto networks.

The full Treasury statement regarding cryptos reads:

"The proposal would expand the scope of information reporting by brokers who report on crypto assets to include reporting on certain beneficial owners of entities holding accounts with the broker. This would allow the United States to share such information on an automatic basis with appropriate partner jurisdictions, in order to reciprocally receive information on U.S. taxpayers that directly or through passive entities engage in crypto asset transactions outside the United States pursuant to a global automatic exchange of information framework. The proposal would require brokers, including entities such as U.S. crypto asset exchanges and hosted wallet providers, to report information relating to certain passive entities and their substantial foreign owners when reporting with respect to crypto assets held by those entities in an account with the broker. The proposal, if adopted, and combined with existing law, would require a broker to report gross proceeds and such other information as the Secretary may require with respect to sales of crypto assets with respect to customers, and in the case of certain passive entities, their substantial foreign owners."

TRENDS IN THE COVID WAR



FAUCI DECLARES TWO COVID JABS NOT ENOUGH

Get ready for your yearly COVID Jab. Get ready for the government to give the Drug Lords more of taxpayers' money.

Last Wednesday, America's most highly-paid bureaucrat, Dr. Anthony Fauci, who makes nearly \$500,000 a year as the nation's anointed "top infectious disease expert," declared that the first full round of COVID-19 vaccinations will not be enough and it's likely booster shots will be required.

Protection Lasts Only So Long

Fauci said research thus far indicates the vaccines protect for only six months to a year. We covered how scientists were warning about the vaccines' resilience in our 8 December 2020 article, ["COVID VACCINE: SCIENTISTS WARN 'CAUTION'."](#)

Last week, the CEOs of vaccine producers Pfizer and Moderna also speculated that Americans might need booster shots eight to twelve months after their first complete vaccination.

Protection against variants of the virus, such as those that have shown up in Brazil and South Africa, is cited as another reason booster shots may be called for, as we noted in our 16 March article, [“NEW STUDY: TROUBLING SIGNS FOR VACCINES.”](#)

TRENDPOST: *The yearly COVID Jab will, as we note, further enrich the drug cartels.*

For just this year alone, citing much higher COVID-19 vaccine sales, Pfizer and BioNTech, its German partner, estimate 2021 revenues of \$26 billion from the vaccine, up from the \$15 billion projected in February.

Moderna, the smaller Cambridge, MA company which also launched a COVID vaccine, generated revenues of \$1.73 billion in the first quarter, registering its first-ever profitable quarter.

As the Wall Street Journal noted, “Moderna also boosted its full-year forecast of COVID-19 vaccine sales to \$19.2 billion based on advanced purchase agreements... the forecast points to a booming market for COVID-19 vaccines.”

TRENDPOST: *As we reported, but is barely mentioned in the mainstream media, was the statement in early April by Dr. Özlem Türeci, co-founder and Chief Medical Officer of BioNTech (which developed a COVID vaccine with Pfizer), who told CNBC that people will need a third shot of the two-shot vaccine. She also indicated that similar to the seasonal flu, people will need to get their COVID jab annually.*

*Using CNBC as their shill network, as we reported in the 20 April **Trends Journal**, Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla told the network people will “likely” need a third dose as well. In our article, [“PFIZER CEO: THIRD TIME IS A CHARM,”](#) we wrote:*

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.

On 15 April, 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.

Pfizer had 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.”

MORE “CATCH COVID” LIES



The 27 May *New York Times* “The Morning” article, titled, “The Meaning of Meta When It Comes to Outdoor Transmission,” details that the odds of getting infected outdoors with the coronavirus are slim and none.

Yet, around the world, people have been forced by their dictatorial governments to “shelter-in-place,” and, when permitted to go outdoors, we the little people of Slavelandia must wear masks. In addition, anytime there were crowds in the streets, those who attended were demonized by Presstitutes and politicians as being responsible for spreading the virus.

Facts vs. Fiction

A major facet of the debate over whether masks offer protection from COVID-19 revolves around studies of rates of indoor vs. outdoor transmission of the virus. We noted the change in attitude about the benefits of outdoor mask-wearing in our 27 April article, [“MASK TIDE TURNING.”](#)

The *NYT* article addresses the policies of the CDC regarding the need for mask-wearing when outdoors, and what informs such policies. Despite contrary data, the CDC believes that there exists a significant risk of COVID-19 transmission even outdoors.

Masks For All, All The Time

In the interest of extreme caution, the CDC recommends unvaccinated persons wear masks just about all the time, and they have issued guidelines that have moved many communities to impose strict requirements for outdoor masking. The agency has even directed that all those attending summer camps, whether camper or counselor, vaccinated or not, should wear masks just about all the time. The article notes the camp guidelines employ the term “universal.”

But the statistics on outdoor transmission cited by the CDC appear to be exaggerated and inviting misinterpretation... and this is where the term “meta” comes in.

When questioned by a Senate committee about the risk of outdoor transmission, CDC director Dr. Rochelle “Impending Doom” Walensky stated the risk was “under 10 percent.” Rather than minimize the risk, that figure exaggerates it; anything approaching 10 percent should be cause for great concern. (See our 30 March article, [“TEXAS REOPENS: CASES DOWN, CDC SPREADS FEAR.”](#))

Dr. Walensky defended that figure, saying it came from just a single study published in the *Journal of Infectious Diseases*. That one study, she said, was a “meta-analysis” of other studies, with “meta” meaning it synthesized the data from the other studies to reach a conclusion.

Walensky B.S.

But when one of the epidemiologist authors of that study, Dr. Nooshin Razani of the University of California at San Francisco, learned of Dr. Walensky's statements, she chimed in with a different conclusion and pointed out a semantic distinction that had been lost on Dr. Walensky (as it likely would be on many of us).

Dr. Walensky had used the terms “meta-analysis” and “systematic review” interchangeably, but they are not at all the same. In a nutshell, the former yields a precise estimate, while the latter is far more general.

So, the conclusion that the risk of outdoor transmission is “less than 10 percent,” while technically not false, is misleading and easily misinterpreted. The authors of the review, Dr. Nooshin said, were “very clear” that the “less than 10 percent” figure was neither a precise estimate nor a summary number.

The “meta-analysis” cited by Dr. Walensky was a systematic review; all but one of the studies on which it was based had put the risk of outdoor transmission at less than 1 percent. There's even some question about whether the particular study that yielded the “less than 10 percent” estimate was flawed.

Extreme Caution vs. Actual Risk

“Substantially less than 1 percent” is how Dr. Nooshin characterized the actual risk of outdoor transmission based on the studies she and her colleagues reviewed.

TREND FORECAST: *The hard data that the chances of catching the virus outdoors is less than 1 percent is virtually ignored by politicians and the mainstream media. Thus, most people obediently swallow what they are being fed and follow their lying leaders.*

As we have continually detailed, all of this goes to the question of cost vs. benefits, which is at the heart of why the precautions against COVID-19 have proven more harmful than the disease. We addressed the downsides of mask-wearing and other precautions (particularly concerning children) – downsides the CDC seems to intentionally ignore – in our 16 March article, [“CDC: KEEP MASKS ON KIDS, IGNORE EMOTIONAL SCARRING.”](#)

Moreover, the draconian lockdown rules, which are again being imposed in countries around the world, such as Australia, Japan, South Africa, Malaysia, etc., have destroyed the lives and livelihoods of hundreds of millions.

Even the NYT article characterizes the CDC’s outdoor mask policies as “extreme caution” and likens them to “staying out of the ocean to avoid sharks.” But the CDC just might respond to that by saying, “You’re gonna need a bigger mask.”

Thus, we maintain our forecast for strong anti-establishment political movements with “Freedom” being the foundation upon which they will be built.

VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA: ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER LOCKDOWN



The big headline news last week from Australia was that in the state of Victoria, 51 COVID cases were reported. Yes, “cases,” which are recorded from PCR tests that have been proven to be inaccurate... as we reported in our 12 January article, [“FLAWED COVID TEST](#)

[RESPONSIBLE FOR ‘MASS HYSTERIA’.”](#)

Forget the Facts

Despite the flawed facts, the phenomenon trending across the globe is of “authorities,” i.e., power-hungry freaks, imposing or extending lockdowns that

are driven by near-panic fear over COVID-19 cases and death rates that appear statistically tiny in proportion to the total population.

The latest example appears to be Australia's second-most populous state, Victoria, home to some 6.7 million people, of which more than five million reside in the capital city of Melbourne.

The New Daily reported on 26 May that Acting Premier James Merlino announced a new seven-day lockdown to begin midnight 27 May in response to an outbreak of 26 cases traced to a hotel quarantine breach. It's feared these cases involve a highly infectious and faster-spreading variant of the COVID-19 virus. But we're not being informed how many of those who test positive experience any symptoms.

As in a previous lockdown this year, residents will be subject to stringent rules and will be encouraged to just stay home, with few exceptions, one of which, however, is leaving one's home to get vaccinated. Masks will be mandatory indoors and out (despite mounting evidence that the risk of outdoor transmission is minimal).

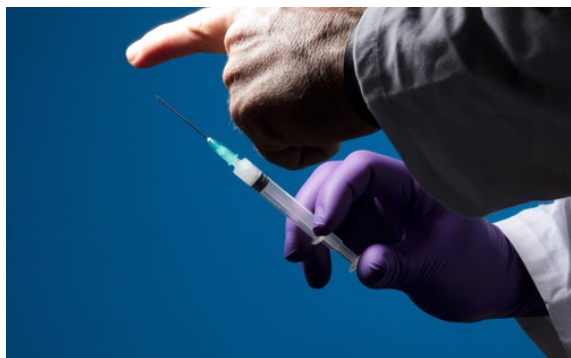
We reported in our 22 September 2020 article, "[VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA: FEW VIRUS CASES BUT TOUGH RE-LOCKDOWN](#)," just how stringent and intrusive were the measures taken by Victoria's provincial government in the name of protecting people from the virus.

TRENDPOST: *Despite the proof of failing government dictates to win the COVID War, politicians continue to impose lockdowns, business closures, travel restrictions, social distancing, mask-wearing mandates, etc., that have destroyed millions of businesses and hundreds of millions of lives and livelihoods across the globe.*

Completely ignored in the media and banned by politicians are the facts of who is dying from the virus and why, as well as natural healing health recommendations to build up immune systems by eating healthy, vitamin

therapy, etc. Indeed, such recommendations would be censored or debased by a media that makes billions running Big Pharma's "get drug-addicted" drug ads.

NO JAB, NO JOB?



As we forecast in the beginning of May, more COVID restrictions would be lifted throughout the U.S., more employees would return to workplaces, and significant numbers of people would be vaccinated... that has happened in many states.

Perfectly Legal

Now comes word from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) that it is **not** a violation of federal law for employers to require vaccination as a condition of employment. This was announced last Friday.

The new EEOC guidelines also state that federal laws may require employers to make “reasonable accommodations” for employees who are not vaccinated on the grounds of disability or religious belief. Such accommodations under the new ABnormal could take the form of requiring the employee to wear a mask and observe social distancing or work from a remote location.

The guidelines make clear that no federal laws prevent or limit the type or scope of incentives that employers can offer to induce workers to voluntarily get their COVID-19 shots, so long as such incentives are not coercive.

As we have been reporting, a number of employers are already offering substantial incentives, up to and including cash bonuses, to encourage the unvaccinated to roll up their sleeves.

Indeed, last week, Cincinnati-based grocery chain Kroger began offering Americans who get vaccinated a chance to win a \$1 million cash prize and free groceries for a year if they get the shot at its clinic/pharmacy locations. The “Get Jabbed” prizes will include five \$1 million payouts to the lucky winners and ten free groceries-for-a-year prizes each week for five weeks.

As we reported in our 25 May article, [“LOTTERIES, JUNK FOOD & A COVID VAX,”](#) a number of states have launched lotteries for the vaxxed to participate in. Companies such as Budweiser, Sam Adams, Krispy Kreme, Target, Uber, Lyft, Unilever, United Airlines, White Castle, Staples, and Office Depot are giving out “awards” for the COVID vaccinated. Dating apps Match, Bumble, Badoo, BLK, Chispa, Hinge, and Plenty of Fish have also jumped on the “Get Vaxxed, Get a Prize” bandwagon.

So Far, No One Is Compelled

But the National Retail Federation (NRF), as the *Wall Street Journal* notes, says that none of its members have as yet made vaccination a requirement, and that was not expected to change. What the new guidelines will do, an NRF spokesman said, will be to assist employers in encouraging workers to get their shots.

TRENDPOST: *As of yesterday, nearly 300 U.S. colleges have chosen to make vaccination a “go to school” requirement, and young children are being pressured into getting the jab despite the COVID recovery rate of 99.997 percent for those aged one to 20, according to the CDC.*

JAPAN LIKELY TO EXTEND EMERGENCY



While many parts of the world are coming out from under their lockdowns, others are in re-lockdown mode. Among them is Japan, whose politicians feel a need to

extend the current State of Emergency, which has been in place since 25 April, until at least 20 June in Tokyo and eight other prefectures.

Concern About Olympics

The lockdown extensions are seen as a threat to the Summer Olympics, which are scheduled to be held in Japan starting 23 July. Some, including the *Asahi Shimbun* newspaper, are calling on Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga to cancel the Olympics. The Games will probably go forward, but with plans in place that include segregating foreign visitors from locals and requiring proof of the COVID Jab or a negative test.

TRENDPOST: *In addition to the economic hardship, there has been a sharp uptick in Japan's suicide rate. (See our 11 May article, "[JAPAN: NEW LOCKDOWNS DESPITE LOW COVID DEATH RATE.](#)")*

Also, while much of the nation is under a State of Emergency, the COVID fatality rate is just 1.7 percent, according to John Hopkins University. And according to [statista.com](#), there are no recorded COVID deaths of people under 60 years of age. Japan, with a population of 126.3 million, has a COVID death toll over the past 17 months of approximately 13,000 or 0.01029 percent of the population.

NOVA SCOTIA MOVES TOWARD VACCINE PASSPORTS



Dr. Robert Strang, Nova Scotia's chief medical officer of health, is participating in national conversations on the implementation of vaccine passports, of which most Canadians appear to be in favor.

We've been reporting that Dr. Strang is largely responsible for Nova Scotians continuing to be subjected to stringent COVID-19 restrictions, which are out of

proportion to the province's number of cases and deaths. (See our 25 May article, [“NOVA SCOTIA: MINOR # OF COVID DEATHS, MAJOR LOCKDOWN.”](#))

Ethical Concerns?

As reported on 27 May by *Halifax Today*, Dr. Strang is looking into how proof of immunization would be established and electronically documented. He has also expressed concern about ethical considerations and the potential to “unjustly marginalize” those yet unvaccinated.

Most Canadians Approve

The same report informs us of a recent poll by the Angus Reid Institute, which shows 76 percent of Canadians favor vaccine passports for travel to the U.S., while 79 percent would favor them for travel beyond the U.S.

The poll found that “a small majority” of Canadians approve of such passports being required domestically, such as when attending events of more than 50 people. Fifty-five percent favor them being required at restaurants, malls, movie theaters, and workplaces.

TREND FORECAST: *Despite the poll numbers and the push of a COVID Passport, as of yesterday, according to the Canadian Press, only 5 percent of Canadians have been fully vaccinated. Thus, we forecast there will be growing resistance to vaccinations and strong anti-vax, anti-establishment political movements to unseat the COVID War politicians.*

NEW JERSEY TROTS OUT BIGGEST VAX LOTTERY YET



As we report in this **Trends Journal** and in our 25 May article, “[STATES: GET VAXXED, WIN A PRIZE](#),” states are dangling the carrot of big lottery wins to incentivize their residents to get vaccinated.

Ohio started it with their announcement of lotteries featuring prizes of large cash payouts and college scholarships. And it had results: Ohio officials saw vaccination rates of adults in their 20s, 30s, and 40s increase by 55 percent.

New Jersey followed suit. In addition to cash, other prizes included season passes to state parks, a free glass of wine at a New Jersey winery, and dinner with the governor.

New York and Maryland were the next to jump on the bribery bandwagon, with New York offering individual prizes of up to \$5 million to residents who have not yet been vaccinated and, presumably, would otherwise be reluctant to do so.

Now California, with vaccination rates having slowed down just weeks before the state’s planned reopening, has jumped in with a “Vax for the Win” program featuring prizes and gifts totaling a whopping \$116.5 million!

The biggest individual prizes in California’s program are also the biggest of any of the vaccine lotteries so far, with a chance for ten residents to each win \$1.5 million. (Bear in mind the term “resident” is very “inclusive,” as a person’s immigration status does not affect eligibility.)

Follow the Money

Where does the money for all this largess come from? The tab for the Golden State’s lottery program is roughly three times what Governor Gavin Newsom has

proposed to spend on surge capacity for the state's Department of Forestry and Fire Protection during the upcoming wildfire season, and far exceeds the planned budget to study the needs of public health departments.

A spokesman for Newsom said the payouts will come from the state's general fund; California expects tax revenues to exceed previous estimates by more than \$75 billion, allowing all manner of programs to be funded. Newsom plans to use funds earmarked for pandemic disaster relief, and then to replenish those monies from the \$27 billion California will receive from federal COVID-19 relief funds thanks to Congress and President Biden.

The hope, of course, is for these incentives to pump back up the number of Californians fully vaccinated before 15 June, the date the state plans to end many of its business capacity and social distancing requirements and to permit vaccinated persons to go maskless in most situations.

City, County & Corporate Incentives

In addition to the state program, a number of California cities and counties are offering prizes and gifts including utility bill credits, sports tickets, hotel stays, consumer electronics, and gift cards. Theaters and airlines are getting into the act as well with ticket giveaways, and CVS has announced its own lottery to start on 1 June, with a variety of prizes.

TRENDPOST: *While some of the vax incentives are not ultimately paid for out of the pockets of taxpayers, the overt actions taken by states to pressure citizens to get vaccinated for a virus with an “Operation Warped Speed” injection, which has not been tested for long-term effects, is unconscionable.*

Yet, the rationale behind bribing folks to get their shots is the belief that near-universal vaccination will be the panacea to the pandemic, and the benefit to everyone will be “priceless.”

MASSIVE PROTEST IN LONDON; U.S. MEDIA LIES ABOUT THE NUMBERS



RT.com reported on Saturday's anti-COVID War rally in London, which brought together “tens of thousands” who are “unhappy with the prolonged lockdowns imposed by the government, mistrustful of Covid-19 vaccines and harbour anti-government sentiments,” who were all

brought together under the banner, “Unite for Freedom.”

Anti-vaccination sentiment pre-dates the pandemic, but it has picked up steam since COVID-19 appeared. In our 9 September 2020 article, [“ANTI-VACCINATION MOVEMENT IS GROWING,”](#) the **Trends Journal** forecast that such sentiment would “go mainstream” and be a part of populist political platforms worldwide.

No Masks, No Vaccines

British politician David Kurten described the rallies thusly:

“We are all out, normal people, not wearing any masks, not taking any vaccines, demanding that the government give us back the civil liberties that they never had the right to take away.”

The protests point out the inconsistencies of the U.K. government's response to COVID-19, which began with restrictions that were intended to be endured for a short time in order to “flatten the curve” and keep from overwhelming the National Health Service, but instead have gone on and on.

Now officials are saying that the appearance in the U.K. of a COVID-19 variant, first seen in India, may further delay the easing of restrictions.

The marchers also vociferously oppose the notion of vaccine passports.

Toilet Paper of Record

The New York Times (the self-proclaimed “Paper of Record”) and *NBC* news were among two U.S. media outlets that posted videos of the London rally.

The Times the headline read:

Hundreds Protest Vaccine Passports in London

NBC’s headline was:

London anti-lockdown protests draws hundreds

Hundreds? As per the video, it is abundantly clear to anyone that “hundreds” was an outright lie; hundreds of thousands or “about a million” were in attendance... as some have claimed. (Watch the videos: *NYTs*’ [here](#); *NBC*’s [here](#).)

TRENDPOST: *It is hypocritical that Washington and the Presstitute media continually attack all things Russian, including RT.com, while they sell lies, such as the Korean, Vietnam, Afghan, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Yemen... and COVID Wars, while banning opposing views.*

SOUTH AFRICA LOCKS DOWN; NEW YORK OPENS UP



Cyril Ramaphosa, South Africa’s president, announced Saturday that the country will return to a stricter lockdown due to a surge in COVID-19 cases.

Ramaphosa said there has been a troubling increase in new cases, and the country is in

its third wave. Having recorded 56,363 virus deaths, the country is considered to be the hardest hit on the continent.

The Numbers Don't Add Up

But the nation of nearly 60 million has only recorded about 2,000 more COVID deaths than New York State, which has about 19.5 million residents, yet it is locking down... again.

TREND FORECAST: *Prior to the COVID War, demonstrations were raging in South Africa as its economy was dragging lower and people were taking to the streets to protest the lack of basic living standards, government corruption, crime, and violence.*

As with many other nations where there were demonstrations for many of the same reasons, when the COVID War was launched, the protests were prohibited.

*Indeed, the economy of South Africa was in a long, downward trend. Just a month before the COVID War was launched, we wrote in the 11 December 2019 **Trends Journal**: “After ten years of flat growth, South Africa looks likely to lose its investment-grade status afforded by Moody’s.”*

Last September, we reported that South Africa’s economy shrank by an annualized rate of 51 percent in this year’s second quarter, its worst performance in at least a century and the worst among any major economy at that time.

We note this because with the new round of lockdowns, these terrible economic conditions will further deteriorate. And, the worse they become, regardless of lockdown laws, protests will escalate... as will violence, as the government harshly cracks down on dissent.

MALAYSIA: NEW FULL LOCKDOWN



Malaysia's Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin said his country will enforce a full COVID-19 lockdown due to a surge in cases.

The country of 31 million recorded 8,000 new infections last Friday, which is an all-time high, according to the *Associated Press*. On Saturday, the country recorded another 9,020 new cases. *The Diplomat* reported that the country's infections per million over the past week exceeded India's rate.

The total lockdown will span two weeks – from 1 June to 14 June. Muhyiddin announced that all non-essential business activities will be shut down.

"With the latest rise in daily cases showing a drastically upward trend, hospital capacity across the country to treat COVID-19 patients is becoming limited," Muhyiddin said in a statement on Friday.

TRENDPOST: *As of Sunday, Malaysia, a nation of some 32,744,000 people, reported 2,650 COVID deaths over the past 17 months, or just 0.0008 percent of the population... yet the nation is in its second lockdown in over a year.*

Again, lacking any scientific data to support the lockdown laws, businesses will be closed for two weeks until 14 June... not 13 June or 19 June... as if politicians and their "health experts" know the precise dates the virus will go away.

And with Malaysia's economy registering four straight quarters of declining GDP through March, the new round of lockdowns will destroy millions more lives and livelihoods than the virus will kill.

BIDEN ORDERS DEFINITIVE REPORT ON VIRUS ORIGIN



Now that Donald Trump is no longer in office, his claim that the COVID-19 virus originated in a laboratory in Wuhan, China, a claim roundly and soundly dismissed by his opponents and the mainstream media... is suddenly being taken more seriously.

Indeed, Trump's opponent, President Biden, has ordered America's intelligence establishment to investigate and issue a definitive report within 90 days.

An article in *The New York Times* on 27 May tells how this is a departure from – and a challenge to – what has been the accepted and widely promulgated story of where and how the COVID-19 virus came about.

Casting Doubt on Official Story

“For over a year,” Sen. Josh Hawley has observed, “anyone asking questions about the Wuhan Virology Institute has been branded as a conspiracy theorist.”

Other Republicans have repeatedly charged that the Biden administration has turned a blind eye to anything other than the official explanation from the Chinese government, which declared the virus had first been transmitted to humans at a Wuhan “wet market” illegally trading in wild animals. That assertion was supported by the WHO's praise of Chinese officials for spotting an outbreak.

In our 20 April **Trends Journal** article, [“IT'S TIME TO DISMANTLE THE WHO,”](#) Richard Gale and Gary Null document the folly of assigning too much credence to its claims or viewing the WHO as “the gold standard of health.”

Last Tuesday, China stopped cooperating with any further investigation by the WHO, which action is seen as the impetus for President Biden to call in, the

following day, the sleuths from America's intelligence agencies, ostensibly to find the truth.

Moves to De-Classify and Block Funding

On Wednesday, the Senate passed a bill sponsored by Sens. Hawley and Mike Braun that would de-classify any intelligence linking the Wuhan lab with the pandemic. This came after the Senate agreed to include, in other legislation, a provision to block U.S. funding to the Wuhan lab for “gain-of-function” research, in which the aim is to increase a pathogen's power.

In our 18 May article, [“BATSH*T CRAZY: WUHAN WALLS CLOSING IN AROUND FAUCI,”](#) we showed how Dr. Anthony Fauci danced around the question of whether gain-of-function studies were being conducted by the Wuhan lab and whether such research was bankrolled by the U.S.

Disparate Narratives

The whole notion of gain-of-function research on the COVID-19 virus makes even more diabolical a third narrative about the pandemic's origin. The first two are that it came out of the Wuhan “wet market” or that it accidentally escaped from the research lab. But the third is that, already enhanced by “gain-of-function” experiments, it was released not through negligence but deliberately.

Until now, however, the Biden administration and the intelligence services have avoided that third narrative and given the second narrative a wide berth, attempting to claim (as does the *NYT* article cited) that the “accidental escape” narrative is not supported by any new evidence.

Washington has also downplayed and dismissed anything that would seem to contradict the first, preferred narrative, such as reports that four out of the five initially reported COVID cases had no connection to the wet market or the story we reported on 25 May, [“WORKERS AT WUHAN LAB SOUGHT MEDICAL CARE BEFORE OUTBREAK.”](#)

TRENDPOST: Shortly after the COVID War was launched on Chinese Lunar New Year 2020, the nation was reopened for business. In fact, of all the major economies, China was the only one to report positive GDP growth that year.

And, unlike the long lockdowns in much of the world, China reopened quickly. Completely ignored by the media and politicians is that just 4,636 Chinese, out of a population of 1.4 billion, died of the virus. This compares, for example, to the United States where 606,767 died of the virus out of a population of 332 million.

PUTIN: NO MANDATORY VAX REQUIRED



While so-called “free” and “democratic” nations pushing for vaccine passports are spending billions to get the public to take the COVID shot, Russian President Vladimir Putin reiterated his stance on mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations last Wednesday that his government will not force his citizens to

take the jab.

“I want to state my position again,” Putin said, before claiming Russia’s “Sputnik V” vaccine is the safest. “I think that mandatory vaccination isn’t appropriate and can’t be introduced.”

He said it is up to the citizens to realize the need for the jab and understand that without the vaccination, they could face “serious or even mortal danger.” He said it is “counterproductive and unnecessary to introduce mandatory vaccinations.”

Russia has 144.4 million people, and 11.8 percent of its population is fully vaccinated, which amounts to 8.2 percent. Russia was the first country to approve its vaccine for public use. Putin said,

“I would like to emphasize once again and to appeal to all our citizens: think carefully, keep in mind that the Russian vaccine—the practice has really shown that millions (of people) have used it—is currently the most reliable and the safest. All conditions for vaccination have been created in our country.”

TRENDPOST: *Russians have been hesitant to take the shot. Moscow, a city of 12 million, has 1.3 million vaccinated.*

“We were the first major city in the world to announce the start of mass vaccination. And what? The percentage of vaccinated people in Moscow is less than in any European city. In some cases, several times over,” Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyenin said.

VAX PROOF? CAN'T SAY “NAZI”!



Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, a Republican from Georgia, was criticized last week after referencing COVID-19 vaccines with the Nazi regime.

Greene took to Twitter to link a story about a grocery chain’s decision to allow all vaccinated employees to ditch masks inside stores. These employees will be easily identified because they will have some kind of logo on their name tags, the *Wall Street Journal* reported.

Greene tweeted, “Vaccinated employees get a vaccination logo just like the Nazi’s forced Jewish people to wear a gold star.”

“Vaccine passports & mask mandates create discrimination against unvaxxed people who trust their immune systems,” she continued.

She later tweeted, “Pretty soon it will be.. ‘We only hire vaccinated people, show your vax paper.’ ‘We only admit vaccinated students, show your vax papers.’ ‘These bathrooms are only for vaccinated people, show your vax papers.’ Then....scan your barcode or swipe your chip on your arm.”

Rep. Kevin McCarthy, the House minority leader, called out Greene over her comment and the comparisons.

“Marjorie is wrong, and her intentional decision to compare the horrors of the Holocaust with wearing masks is appalling. Let me be clear: the house Republican Conference condemns this language,” McCarthy tweeted.

TRENDPOST: While Ms. Greene is making the “Nazi” news now, it is old news. In fact, as reported in March by The Times of Israel, Israelis took to the streets protesting vaccine passports, comparing them to Nazi Germany:

“Anti-vaccination protesters have likened the so-called green passes for those who have been inoculated against the coronavirus to the yellow stars that Nazi Germany forced on Jews during the Holocaust.

At a demonstration Thursday in Tel Aviv, several hundred people gathered to protest against the government plan, which will give green pass identification papers to those who have been vaccinated or recovered from COVID-19, granting them more access to public venues than those who refuse the shots.

Alongside banners deploring the green pass system as a form of apartheid, there was also a banner equating the pass to the yellow stars of the Holocaust and the numbers Nazis tattooed onto the arms of concentration camp inmates.

Some people reportedly also wore yellow stars.”

– *The Times of Israel*, 1 March 2021

And, as reported by the Jerusalem Post on 31 March:

“Political activists are comparing the idea of ‘vaccine passports’ to Nazi Germany, with many invoking the yellow Stars of David that Nazis forced Jews to wear during the Holocaust.”

*Yet, each time the word “Nazi” is used, even though it may illustrate a proper comparison, it is dismissed as politically incorrect. Indeed, the **Trends Journal** has reported on the backlash politicians have received for making comparisons to Nazi Germany. (See our 19 January article, [“STATEN ISLAND BOROUGH PRESIDENT: NO ‘HEIL HITLER.’”](#))*

LOCKDOWNS CREATED SOCIAL DEFICIT FOR CHILDREN

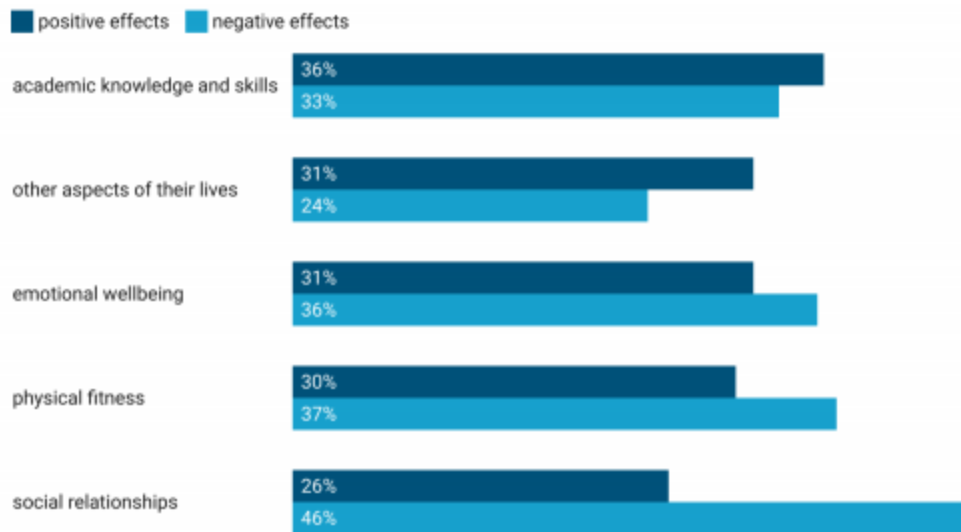


Children forced into remote and hybrid learning alternatives during the COVID pandemic have paid a price in social development.

That’s one takeaway from a national survey by Tufts University.

According to the survey, 46 percent of parents reported negative social impacts on their children due to pandemic restrictions on in-school learning, compared to 26 percent who reported positive results.

Effects of the Measures Schools Took to Limit COVID-19



Source: Tufts Equity Research Group

Other measures, including emotional well-being and physical fitness, also reportedly suffered.

“Many parents seem to credit schools with making the best of the situation, although some see bad effects, especially on social relationships,” said study investigator Peter Levine, an associate dean at Tufts’ Tisch College of Civic Life.

More than 70 percent of K-12 students across the country experienced some remote schooling during the 2020-21 school year.

One of the objectives of the study was to determine any disparate effects on learning, based on race. Parents and guardians “of color” reported higher rates of negative academic impacts with remote learning than parents of white students. But the difference in reporting there was within the study’s margin of error.

NO EVIDENCE FOR NATURAL ORIGIN OF COVID VIRUS, SAYS FORMER STATE DEPT OFFICIAL



The wall protecting the Chinese U.S. politicians and scientists about the origins of the COVID virus continues to crumble.

Late last week, David Asher, a former State Dept. lead agent looking into the issue, told *Fox News* there was no credible evidence supporting a natural origin for COVID-19. What's more, Dr. Anthony Fauci appeared to be leading efforts to steer a false narrative that helped the Chinese – and possibly his own role – in the disaster.

According to Asher:

"We were finding that despite the claims of our scientific community, including the National Institutes of Health and Dr. Fauci's NIAID organization, there was almost no evidence that supported a natural, zoonotic evolution or source of COVID-19. The data disproportionately stacked up as we investigated that it was coming out of a lab or some supernatural source."

Asher is an investigative specialist, and his comments add to the flood of evidence that has broken through the media and medical establishment's version of events promoted almost since the pandemic began.

For the past year, the MSM and Big Tech social platforms, along with the WHO and the U.S. medical establishment, had virtually barred any suggestion that COVID may have come from a Wuhan bio lab.

But alt media including the **Trends Journal**, Zerohedge, and others have reported on the contrary mounting evidence. Among politicians, Senator Rand

Paul has stood almost alone at times in his dogged pursuit of Dr. Fauci's links to the Wuhan lab.

At a hearing a few weeks ago, the wall around Fauci's narrative cracked in exchanges with Paul. Even mainline news outlets were forced to take notice, and, since then, the media and political blockade on evidence supporting a lab origin of the virus has lifted.

A piece in the *Wall Street Journal* chronicled several Wuhan lab workers who fell ill before the official COVID timeline. New examinations of NIH documents tying Fauci to controversial chimeric made news.

Even the Biden administration has been forced to reverse their squashing of a Trump-appointed investigation into the Wuhan lab. Biden announced a new 90-day review of the evidence surrounding the issue.

Even without that investigation, there's plenty of evidence supporting the likelihood that the COVID pandemic was engineered, and not a natural disaster. And very little science behind other possibilities.

Asher told *Fox News* the odds of a natural origin for COVID-19 were very long.

“That [Wuhan lab] was the epicenter of synthetic biology in the People's Republic of China, and they were up to some very hairy stuff with synthetic biology and so-called gain-of-function techniques.”

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL TO FEATURE STUDY THAT COVID LIKELY ENGINEERED



A team of Dutch and British scientists will finally have their study claiming COVID-19 was engineered and disguised, published by a scientific journal.

Dr. Birger Sørensen and Professor Angus Dalgleish say their findings show that the COVID virus has no natural ancestor, and there's conclusive evidence it was created via "laboratory manipulation."

First [reported](#) in the U.K. by *The Daily Mail* and *The Sun*, the scientists used amino acid and other analysis techniques to conclude that Chinese researchers at the Wuhan Institute of Virology created the virus, then reverse-engineered variants to make it appear that it was naturally sourced from bats.

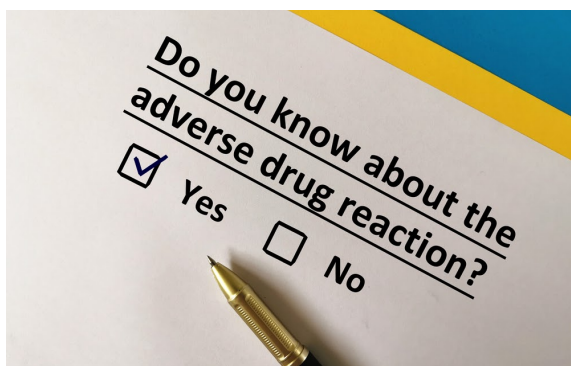
The implications of the subterfuge are tremendous since it points not only to controversial research but also a possible plan to release the virus while avoiding responsibility.

Sørensen and Dalgleish say their findings have been available for some time, but that their work has been suppressed by an international medical establishment unwilling to entertain a narrative that would implicate China in a major assault on the world.

The tide against the official narrative has changed because of a series of hard-evidence-based bombshells that have broken through MSM and big tech gatekeepers.

The study is due to be published in the upcoming Quarterly Review of Biophysics Discovery.

VACCINE FAST FACTS



There have been 4,647 deaths and 227,805 adverse events reported to the VAERS (Vaccine Adverse Reporting System) as of 17 May 2021.

The death count for the first four-and-a-half months of COVID vaccinations is now higher than that of *all vaccinations given in the U.S. from 1999 through 2020*.

During the two decades before the COVID experimental mRNA and DNA technologies, there were a total of 4,571 deaths reported to VAERS, the official reporting system of the CDC and FDA.

VAERS data shows there have been 2,719 permanent disabilities so far from COVID vaccines and 12,625 hospitalizations.

In Europe, adverse events associated with the COVID vaccines now total close to 1.2 million (as of 22 May 2021). In Eudravigilance, Europe's reporting database for vaccine-related events, 12,184 deaths have been recorded.

Among the more serious reported events for the three most dispensed vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna, and AstraZeneca):

- 21,621 Cardiac disorders including 1,416 deaths
- 235,409 Nervous System disorders incl. 1,314 deaths
- 43,347 Respiratory and related disorders incl. 1,281 deaths
- Approximately 22,000 Blood and lymphatic system disorders incl. 191 deaths

Vaccination Numbers Around the World

135,087,319 Americans have been fully vaccinated so far, according to CDC numbers as of 30 May 2021. Another 30,000 have received at least one dose.

Globally, more than 1.86 billion doses of vaccines have been administered. The current rate of doses given per day is about 32 million.

China is reporting an uptick in vaccinations. About 22 percent of their population have now received vaccines. Mongolia is even higher, with close to 37 percent

of its population vaccinated. Russia is under 10 percent, and much of Africa is reporting very light vaccination numbers.

Much of Europe is averaging about one-third of their populations as vaxxed.

Brazil, the largest South American country, has edged up in vaccination rates over the last two weeks, to about 16 percent of its population. Argentina is close to those numbers. Other areas, except for Chile and Uruguay, remain more lightly vaccinated.

TRENDS IN GEOPOLITICS



BELARUS STUNT = U.S. ABUSE

How many Americans know where Belarus is? Or, more appropriately, if considering the general public's level of knowledge of international goings-on, most would ask, "What's a Belarus?"

In the true spirit of Washington – to hate all things Russian – Belarus, a Russian ally, was “breaking news” in America over the past several weeks.

On 23 May 2021, a commercial jetliner operated by Ryanair (an Irish airline) was flying from Athens, Greece to Vilnius, Lithuania. Over Belarus, the crew was informed that a bomb was on board, and the pilot was instructed to land in Minsk, the capital of Belarus. A Belarusian MiG-29 fighter jet was dispatched to intercept the passenger plane and escort it to the airport.

A Ruse by Belarus

The action has been characterized, rightfully, as the plane having been “forced to land.” No bomb was found. The entire episode was at the behest of

Belarusian President Aleksandr Lukashenko to apprehend 26-year-old Roman Protasevich and his girlfriend traveling with him.

Protasevich, who had been living in exile in Lithuania and was returning from an economics conference in Athens, is a Belarusian dissident and outspoken critic of the authoritarian Lukashenko (now in his sixth term as president of the former Soviet republic, which became independent in 1991).

Charged with various national security crimes and declared a terrorist, Protasevich now faces a death sentence or many years in prison.

Outrage from U.S and EU

The incident has been fiercely condemned by leaders of the U.S. and the EU. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken expressed indignation at “the Lukashenko regime’s brazen and shocking act to divert a commercial flight and arrest a journalist,” and he called for an international investigation.

Leaders of Lithuania, Ireland, and the EU called for serious retaliatory measures. Virtually all mainstream press coverage has characterized the event and the tactics employed as “dangerous,” “illegal,” and “unprecedented.”

Thanks, however, to an in-depth essay by journalist Glenn Greenwald, posted on 24 May on *Substack.com*, while this incident is certainly dangerous and illegal, it is most assuredly not unprecedented... indeed, it’s the “American way.”

In documenting its precedent, Greenwald pointed out the brazen hypocrisy and deceitfulness of those who now find themselves so outraged.

Return with Us Now to Those Days of Yesteryear...

The year was 2013, not really all that long ago. A name in the news back then was Edward Snowden, the former CIA systems analyst turned whistleblower who leaked highly classified information from the U.S. National Security Agency,

revealing the extent of U.S. and U.K. surveillance of telephone and internet communications.

Long Story Short

Snowden had left the U.S. for Hong Kong when he leaked the information, and the U.S. charged him with violating espionage laws, revoked his passport, and demanded extradition from Hong Kong, which Hong Kong refused. Snowden managed to fly to Russia but spent a month in limbo, living at the Moscow airport, until he was granted temporary asylum.

The Obama administration desperately wanted to get their hands on Snowden, issued an international warrant for his arrest, and had then-Vice President Biden warn every country in Europe and South America of the “grave consequences” of granting asylum to Snowden.

The Same Kind of Stunt

But Bolivia’s president, while in Moscow, expressed that his country might grant Snowden asylum. The next day, as the Bolivian presidential jet left to return home, the U.S., believing (erroneously) that Snowden was on board, and with the cooperation of the EU countries in the plane’s flight path, pulled the same kind of stunt Belarus just did.

Although no bomb threat was employed, the U.S. had pressured France, Italy, and Spain to inform the Bolivian plane, in mid-flight, that permission to use their airspace had been revoked, forcing the plane to turn around and land in Vienna, where everyone aboard, including the Bolivian president, was detained for 12 hours until it was determined Snowden was not among them.

Two-Faced

That incident drew the same vehement condemnation of the U.S. and EU that the U.S. and EU are now hurling at Belarus. And the case can be made that the 2013 incident was even worse, not just because it was based on mere suspicion

that proved baseless but, from a diplomatic angle, the plane forced down was not a commercial airliner but the official aircraft of a head of state (tantamount to Air Force One being forced to land by a foreign power).

And who was sent out by the Biden administration to condemn the Belarus action as “a shocking act” and “a brazen affront to international freedom and peace and security”? As Greenwald notes, none other than Jen Psaki, who, as the spokesperson for Obama’s State Dept., had done everything in her power to deny, obfuscate, or sidestep any U.S. involvement in the Snowden incident.

TRENDPOST: *We note this article to again emphasize how Washington ignores the atrocities they and their “allies” commit... while condemning those who perpetrate similar crimes and injustices. Also, to illustrate how the Presstitutes put out what their corporate pimps and government whoremasters tell them to without questioning the validity of what is being sold.*

2019 PROTESTS TOPPLE CHILE’S RULING PARTY



As we reported last week, “**CHILE VOTERS: OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW,**” voters in Chile – especially the young – came out en masse earlier this month to deal a blow to the country’s entrenched political parties. They voted for a hard-left special assembly to draft a Constitution

that is expected to lead to a significant increase in social spending.

The *Financial Times* reported on Thursday that the constitutional assembly elections stunned analysts and showed the country’s frustrations with its ruling class and the elites.

Eugenio Tironi, a sociologist, told the paper the election results were the “institutionalization of the 2019 social explosion,” a reference to the violent protests that broke out in the country resulting in the deaths of 30 people.

Andres Velasco wrote in *Project-Syndicate.org*,

“The center-left parties that have governed Chile for 24 of the last 30 years fared even worse and will control just one seat in six – fewer than a new alliance of the Communist Party and other far-left parties, and fewer than the People’s List, a motley assemblage of radical groups that grew out of the 2019 protests. Independent candidates – environmentalists, feminists, local leaders, and advocates of devolution to Chile’s regions – were the overwhelming winners.”

The *FT* reported that President Sebastián Piñera’s center-right coalition did not win enough seats to challenge reforms, which will likely result in significant increases on pensions, health care, and education. The paper pointed out that the country’s stock market dropped 10 percent last week.

The paper reported that about 60 percent of voters stayed home during the vote on 15 and 16 May. The election was for the constitutional assembly and municipal elections. The presidential election is in November, and a pollster told the paper it could mean an entirely different result. (The *Guardian* reported a number of municipalities that traditionally voted for the right went with the socialist.)

The new Constitution will replace the one crafted in 1980 during the dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet, which critics called illegitimate.

TREND FORECAST: *As we have reported on in detail and have forecast, the massive 2019 protest that swept the country – and one of many erupting across the globe – has set the stage for anti-establishment political movements. Trends are born, they grow, mature, reach old age and die. The “New World Disorder” trend that we forecast has just been born.*

TRENDS-EYE VIEW



LOUISIANA: CANNABIS OK, BUT DON'T SMOKE IT

Louisiana, a state where “legalized medical marijuana” means that non-smokable cannabis products may be purchased from a registered pharmacy on the recommendation of a doctor (such as CBD oil), is now on the verge of decriminalizing the recreational use of marijuana.

Fines, But No Jail

An item in the *Wall St. Journal* on 26 May cites the *Associated Press* as reporting that a committee of the Louisiana Senate agreed to send to the full Senate a proposal that would eliminate jail time for possession of up to a half-ounce of marijuana, make such possession a misdemeanor, and limit fines to \$100, even for repeat offenses.

The proposal has already won approval in the Louisiana House of Representatives, and Gov. John Bel Edwards has announced his intention to sign it into law if it passes the Senate.

Supporters say the measure would free up the courts and also allow police to focus their efforts on more serious violations.

TREND FORECAST: *As we have been forecasting for years, nations and states will legalize cannabis to gain more tax revenue. And, totally absent in the mainstream media coverage is how tens of millions of lives have been ruined by locking up those who smoke pot, while tens of millions die from the effects of Big Pharma “side effects.”*

We have also been forecasting for years that more and more states would approve marijuana use in some form, and that marijuana would be a growth industry. This article from May 2015 makes the case for decriminalization over outright legalization: “[LEGALIZING WEED MEANS REGULATION, TAXES, UNFAIR COMPETITION.](#)”

COVID BAD, ROUNDUP WEED KILLER GOOD



When the COVID War broke out in January 2020, we noted that hundreds of millions of people, animals, and living species have been, and continue to be killed by the trillions of tons of pesticides, insecticides, and chemicals pumped into

the earth, water, and air. And, of course, the artificial ingredients and preservatives added to foods and soft drinks.

Among the “alleged” killer chemicals sprayed on plants and ingested by humans is a product banned in more “advanced” nations but allowed to be sold and used in the United States: Roundup.

Bayer AG, beleaguered by over 125,000 claims that its popular weed-killer Roundup is carcinogenic and is also a people-killer, has lost an attempt to limit its liability in cases not yet filed.

The *Wall St. Journal* reported last Thursday that a U.S. federal judge ruled against a proposal from Bayer for a class-action settlement that would have paid out up to \$9.6 billion to resolve current cases and would have limited the German company's liability in future cases to an additional \$2 billion.

The **Trends Journal** reported the proposed settlement in our 30 June 2020 article, "[BAYER TO PAY \\$9.6 BILLION TO SETTLE U.S. ROUNDUP SUITS.](#)"

Settlement Not Fair to Victims

The judge ruled Bayer's proposal offered insufficient compensation to those who are not yet sick and those who have cancer but have not yet filed suit. It also ruled that Bayer's plan forced such claimants to give up future legal rights. The particular cancer that Roundup (and its main active ingredient, glyphosate) is alleged to cause is Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, which has a long period of latency during which it is difficult to detect. The judge objected to Bayer's plan for a compensation fund that would run for only four years.

TRENDPOST: *While the German company sells its Roundup around the world, by 2024, glyphosate, which is sold under the brand name Roundup, will be banned.*

However, Roundup is still being sold and used in the U.S. because the Environmental Protection Agency classifies the product as safe, and therefore doesn't require a warning label. That didn't stop juries from deciding the product caused cancer in three trials so far.

The judge left the door open for Bayer to come up with another proposal, presumably one that can put a cap on the company's liability while still benefiting those found to be victims. It's doubtful Bayer anticipated any of this when it bought Roundup from Monsanto in 2018 for \$63 million.

CHINA WANTS A BULLET TRAIN INTO THE U.S.



The Chinese government has looked at plans that would construct an underground high-speed rail from the mainland, underground through Siberia, into Alaska, and possibly even to the U.S. West Coast. That's according to the Chinese news outlet [Sina](#).

It may sound farfetched. But a pan-Asia railway built and funded by China is set to begin construction this summer. And they are negotiating a project that would connect China all the way to Germany. That route would start in Urumqi, and traverse Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Iran, Turkey, and other countries, before culminating in Germany. Domestic construction of that line is already being built.

The China to America rail would be the most expensive and technically difficult project, apart from the political hurdles. Conservative estimates have placed the project at \$200 billion.

But, in current times, when nations like the U.S. are proposing and spending trillions on infrastructure and pandemic relief, the amount doesn't sound so daunting.

The Chinese have dubbed the pan-American rail idea the "China-Russia-Canada-America" line. It would run 8,000 miles if fully constructed as envisioned. A more abbreviated version might go from China, through Russia, and into Alaska.

SINA reported some interesting details on China's far-flung aspirations to bind the rest of the world in a global rail transportation network:

“The three transnational high-speed railways are all under preparation. As the construction of transnational high-speed railways involves many countries, it also involves the problems of capital construction and operation after completion by countries along the route. In this regard, Wang Mengshu revealed that the construction of these transnational high-speed rails has a principle: China will contribute funds, technology, and equipment for the construction, and after completion, countries that pass through will also participate in the operation...

In this process, China will negotiate with relevant countries to replace local resources with the construction of high-speed railways, such as oil and gas resources in Central Asia and Europe, and potassium mines in Myanmar, thereby establishing a long-term cooperation mechanism to protect my country's resources.”

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE POWERING RESEARCH AT TOP U.S. LAB



It's being hailed — at least by some — “the next generation of the way we do science.”

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Argonne National Laboratory is leading projects to use Artificial Intelligence to speed

“transformative discoveries” in science. The lab recently received a \$37 million grant from the DOE to further its projects.

“With machine learning and artificial intelligence, the computer plays an active role, which means it gives you its answers, predictions or possibilities that maybe a human didn't think of,” said Brahim Mustapha, an accelerator physicist in Argonne's Physics division, who oversees one of the many AI-related projects in development at the laboratory.

Some current projects include:

- Creating AI-powered "digital twins" of research environments, to predict outcomes based on experimental controls, and make actual use of facilities such as the Advanced Photon Source more efficient.
- Using machine learning to better understand what happens when a material fails, so that a stronger material can be designed in its place.
- Collecting extensive amounts of data to categorize and synthesize new materials for future experiments.

According to a fact paper released last week, computer and technology advances are rapidly evolving to the point where AI is taking a larger role in research. And just like in other areas, such as military operations or business intelligence and analytics, scientists are contemplating a future where AI will outstrip humans in capabilities.

The Dawn of “Aurora”

An exascale supercomputer dubbed Aurora, due to come online in 2022, will reportedly help researchers make much faster experimental advances. The computer is designed to handle vast amounts of data and to "support AI-powered research."

Researcher Subramanian Sankaranarayanan pointed to practical examples of how AI is allowing scientists to handle and utilize growing amounts of data:

“For example, can we make a prediction about what the next mutation of the virus that causes COVID-19 is going to look like? The use of AI now makes it possible to search through this giant space and identify the kinds of mutations that may happen,” he said. “This could also apply to research on materials for battery applications, various forms of energy storage or the effects of pollutants on the environment. There are so many areas that will benefit.”

But scientists admit that they don't know what the ultimate impacts of AI's growing role in scientific research will be. According to Ian Foster, director of Argonne's Data Science and Learning division:

"There's an old saying that people always overestimate the short-term impact of innovations, but underestimate the long-term aspects... While short-term things might move more slowly than we like, long-term AI will change many aspects of society, even in ways we don't fully understand yet."

DEMS STILL WANT JAN. 6 COMMISSION AFTER SENATE REJECTION



A narrow Senate defeat for a so-called "January 6 Commission" to politically target Trump protesters hasn't stopped Democrats.

According to reports, a House Select Committee hearing may serve as an avenue for continuing to peddle a narrative of "insurrection". Democrats have already used the January 6 event to illegally spy on U.S. citizens, and jail hundreds of protesters (see **Trends Journal** articles [here](#) and [here](#)).

Many of those in jail did nothing more than trespass on Federal property.

This past Saturday, legislation that would've created a "9/11" style commission failed passage after a Senate filibuster. Republicans voted against the measure, pointing out how the protest has been heavily politicized and lied about.

In the aftermath of the protest, Democrats made multiple claims that have been thoroughly debunked. They repeated claims that there were protesters in and around the Capitol armed with guns, even after police stated that they found no protesters with firearms.

Democrats have also falsely portrayed the deaths that occurred at the protest. It was claimed that a Capitol police officer died from a beating with a fire extinguishing canister, but that never happened. The officer in question was not beaten by protesters, and officials determined that he died of natural causes during the rally, along with three Trump protesters.

Nonetheless, as the Senate commission bill was rejected, Hillary Clinton was still repeating the lie in a tweet:

“An angry mob attacked our Capitol, our lawmakers, and our election. They killed a policeman. And Republican leaders would rather we all not know more about what happened.”

The only deliberate killing that occurred at the event was the shooting of a female unarmed protester and Air Force veteran, Ashli Babbitt. Incredibly, some Democrats have deceptively included her death as one caused by “rioters.” The identity of the government employee or official who shot Babbitt has still not been officially released.

A House committee hearing would not be the same as a commission, which presumably would have at least appeared bi-partisan. But persons could still be subpoenaed, and the Democrats could widen the deep fissures of the 2020 election, which most Republicans, and even a significant number of Democrats, consider suspect or outright fraudulent.

Democrat Blueprint for Protest

Democrats created the blueprint for the January 6 protest. In 2011, for example, Democrat-aligned protests occupied and shut down the Wisconsin State House for ten days to prevent legislators from passing a budget bill.

Here’s how *The Atlantic* described that protest:

“That night was the first of 10—and counting—that hundreds have occupied the Wisconsin state Capitol. The TAA hadn't planned to stay there overnight. ‘It emerged rather organically,’ explains Alex Hanna, the other co-president of the TAA.”

In 2018, Democrat protesters occupied a Federal building in Washington, D.C. to try to stop the Supreme Court confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh. According to a *Fox News* report at the time:

“By Thursday afternoon, Capitol Police began arresting hundreds of protesters inside the Hart Senate Office Building who raised their fists and loudly started chanting “Kavanaugh has got to go.” Arrests were made after protesters began sitting down in the building's atrium, refusing to cooperate with law enforcement...

In all, some 302 protesters were arrested and charged with unlawfully demonstrating in Senate office buildings Thursday, police said.”

Democrats – and Republicans – made no calls for a commission then, and many MSM outlets cast the protest in a favorable light.

Federal buildings, police precincts, businesses, and even private residences were burned, looted, or destroyed by the hundreds in BLM and Antifa protests in 2020. Dozens of people, including police officers and others, were killed in riots that occurred in locations across the country and caused billions in damage.

At the time, Kamala Harris said it was “critical” that the protests [continue](#) despite the widespread carnage and chaos. She told Stephen Colbert:

“They’re not going to stop. This is a movement, I’m telling you. They’re not going to stop and everyone beware, because they’re not going to stop. They’re not going to stop before Election Day in November and they’re not going to stop after Election Day. Everyone should take note of that on both levels. They’re not going to let up and they should not and we should not.”

NO JAIL FOR PRECIOUS METAL MARKET FRAUDSTERS



Federal probation officers advise federal judges on sentencing decisions, and they can disagree with prosecutors on such matters. Such disagreement is on display in the case of two former Deutsche Bank traders convicted of wire fraud for a “spoofing” scheme that manipulated prices

on a precious metals futures exchange.

Trading is Brisk

The rise in gold and silver prices has increasingly more people trading in the futures market, as we covered on 28 July 2020 in our [“U.S. MARKET FRONT”](#) update, thus creating a larger pool of potential victims for unscrupulous traders.

The *Wall St. Journal*, in a 26 May article by Dave Michaels, reported that the prosecutors in the case of James Vorley and Cedric Chanu had sought prison terms of almost five years or more for the pair, who were found guilty after a two-week trial.

Justice Dept. Zealous on Prosecuting Spoofing

The U.S. Justice Dept. has a program dealing with white-collar crime, and spoofing schemes have been its centerpiece; since 2014, more than 20 people (many of whom are former employees of global banks) have been charged. One trial ended in a hung jury, one defendant was acquitted, and eight others pleaded guilty. The trial of Vorley and Chanu was only the second time a jury returned a guilty verdict in such cases.

Prosecutors calculated the pair’s victims’ losses at between \$1.1 and \$1.4 million and based their sentencing expectations on those figures. But the

probation officers calculated losses differently and recommended no prison time.

Prosecutors then issued a memorandum stating, “If hard-won trial convictions are not met with serious sentences, there is a real risk that market manipulation crimes will not be prosecuted.”

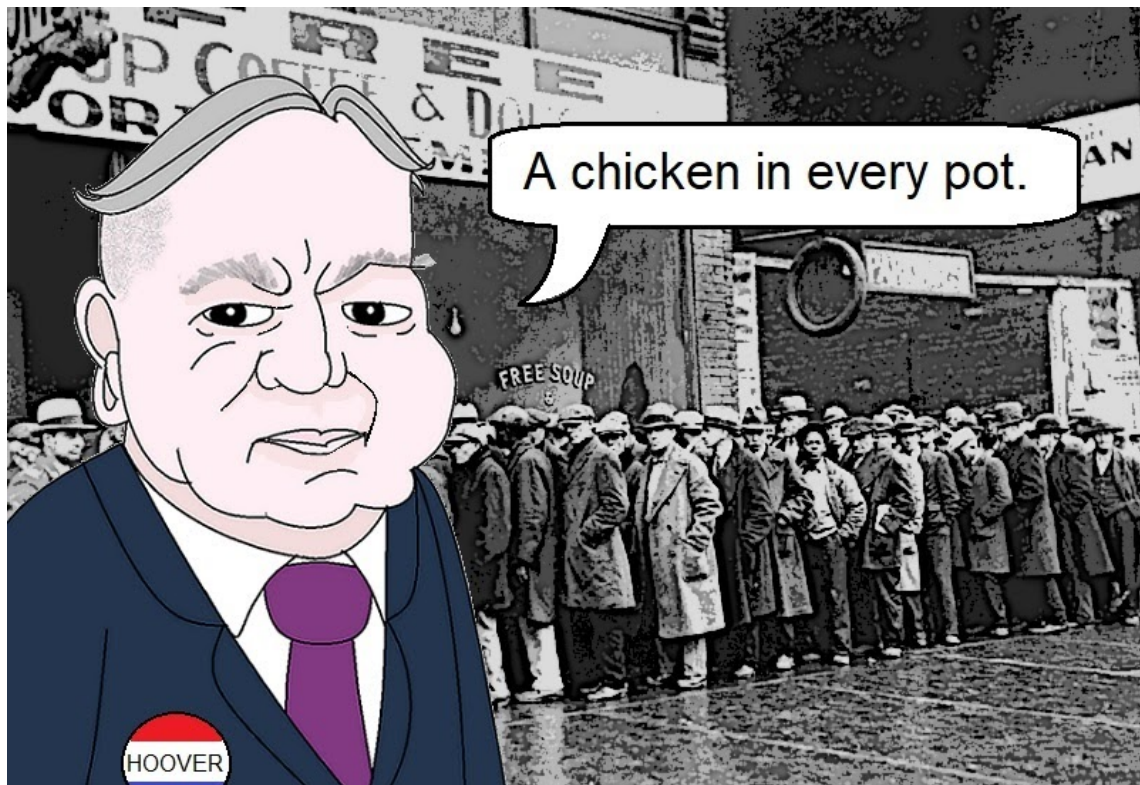
The matter remains unresolved, and the defendants are scheduled to receive sentencing in late June.

TRENDPOST: *We note this article to again emphasize how the markets are rigged and how it is a slap on the wrist for the high crimes and misdemeanors committed by the financial mobsters and Banksters. However, We the People – the plantation workers of Slavelandia – who commit even minor violations, are persecuted, fined, and sentenced with maximum penalties to the letter of the law.*

*As we noted in our 29 September 2020 article of how JPMorgan Chase rigged the precious metals market, paid a minimal fine, and no one went to jail: **DON'T CALL THEM “CRIMINALS” – THEY'RE “WHITE SHOE BOYS”!***

THE ART OF TRENDS

“Coping with depressions” by *Stephen Green*



TRENDS IN HI-TECH SCIENCE



By *Ben Daviss*

THE BUILDING IS THE BATTERY

Concrete is one of the world's workhorse building materials and also among the most energy-intensive to create.

Now researchers at Sweden's Chalmers Institute of Technology have found a way that concrete can give back some of that fuel.

Into a slab of standard concrete, the scientists mixed short carbon fibers that can conduct electricity. The slab was sandwiched between two sheets of carbon mesh, one coated with iron and the other with nickel, to serve as the battery's terminals.

The resulting material showed an energy density of 7 watt-hours per cubic meter, better than past attempts at concrete batteries but still well below the energy density of conventional batteries.

The low energy density can be partially offset by the scale of structures that can be made from the concrete, including major portions of skyscrapers.

The scientists envision a range of uses for their material, including powering sensors embedded in dams, bridges, and other edifices to signal damage or weakness.

Concrete structures typically last for decades; batteries don't. The research team is trying to figure out how to recharge their concrete batteries in place or design a way of swapping them out.

TRENDPOST: *Novel battery chemistries tend to grab the headlines but development of new battery shapes – from car bodies to the A-frames that hold a soldier's backpack -- now underway will be just as important in creating the future's portable power sources. Look for structural batteries to appear in electronic devices before 2030.*

SNAP DEBUTS FIRST COMMERCIAL AUGMENTED REALITY GLASSES



Snap Inc., parent company of social media app Snapchat, has beaten rivals Apple and Facebook to introduce the newest generation of augmented reality glasses.

The smart glasses, dubbed Spectacles, look like a slightly boxy pair of sunglasses instead of the giant, face-eating goggles used by some previous “mixed reality” technologies.

The lenses are actually transparent display screens. Using touchpads on the stems, a user can choose from an array of effects to project onto the lenses, creating realistic fantasy images.

The glasses also can “understand” what you’re looking at and suggest overlays that might be appropriate, the company said in a release announcing the product.

The Spectacles have two cameras and four microphones built in, so users can narrate and record the images and animations they create and save and share them.

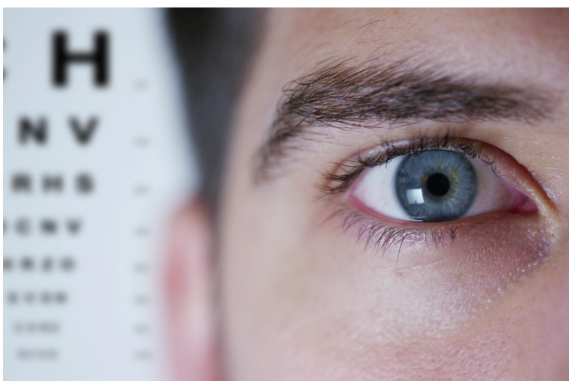
The specs are now available only to developers; a timeline and price for commercial release wasn’t announced, although the previous version was sold online for \$380.

TRENDPOST: *Augmented reality (AR) will allow users to create their own video entertainment instead of turning to Netflix or Disney+. While that will cut into corporate revenues, a greater concern is that a portion of users will find AR at least as addictive as their smartphones.*

That could lead heavy users to find unaugmented reality – in other words, reality – boring and drive them to spend even more time in their fantasy worlds, leading them to withdraw even more from human interactions and productive activity.

Photo credit: Snap

AMOEBA GENE IMPROVES VISION IN BLIND MAN



In a first, scientists have shown that a blind person's vision can be improved through the application of genetic therapy.

A 58-year-old man lost his sight 40 years ago to retinitis pigmentosa, an inherited

condition that breaks down the retina, the cells lining the eyeball that respond to light, but leaves the eye's connection to the brain intact.

The man could vaguely perceive the difference between light and dark but nothing else.

Into one of his eyeballs, scientists at Switzerland's Institute of Molecular and Clinical Ophthalmology injected an opsin – a protein activated by light – taken from an amoeba.

They waited a few months for the opsin to multiply and grow into a layer of light receptors atop the destroyed retina. Then they fitted the man with goggles that turned images from the outside world into light patterns projected onto the opsin layer at a wavelength that would activate it.

Wearing the goggles, the man found he could see the white stripes on a pedestrian crosswalk. He also was able to see dark objects on a white tabletop that he couldn't see without the goggles.

Tests also showed activity in the previously dormant visual cortex of the man's brain.

TRENDPOST: *This proof of concept will lead to research genetically engineering opsins that are more sensitive to light and tailored to replace failed retinas, eventually leading to a cure not only for this particular kind of blindness but also for others as the research expands.*