

TRENDS JOURNAL

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TOP TRENDS



SIMPLICITY

METaverse

SELF-SUFFICIENCY

MIGRANT WAVES

CRYPTO CAPITOL

COVID WAR 2.0

DRAGFLATION

UNIONIZATION

HOMELESS TOWNS

VAX WAR



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TOP TRENDS 2022

This week's Special
[Trends Journal](#)
features THE TOP
TRENDS 2022.

Forecasting worldwide since 1980, the key socioeconomic and geopolitical trend dynamics that will shape next year and beyond – for both better and for worse – are among the most critical we have ever encountered.

Take a look around the world. This is year two of the COVID War. And as with the scores of wars launched by political lunatics – as evidenced by their unaccomplished “Mission Accomplished” murderous missions – they end in abject deadly, costly failure.

Which was your favorite war?
Afghanistan? Iraq? Libya? Syria? Yemen?
Or have you placed your bets on the year-old Ethiopian Civil War which we have covered in detail and have forecast its implications?

COVID War 2.0

Go back nearly two years ago when the COVID War began. From top to bottom, across the spectrum, manipulative and devious politicians imposed lockdowns that they said would “flatten the curve.”

With the curve un-flattened, the “leaders” then imposed more dictates and must-get-vaxxed requirements that have accomplished nothing more than destroying the lives and livelihoods of

hundreds of millions, robbed citizens of freedom, and sucked the joy out of life.

And now, with the new Omicron variant making the news, the Drug Lords concede their Operation Warp Speed injection may not stop it.

On that news, equity markets across the globe continue to decline, with the Dow Jones falling 650 points today. And seeing how Omicron fear will bring down economies, Brent Crude oil fell nearly 4 percent, closing at \$70.57 per barrel... down some \$17 from a month ago.

Beyond COVID War 2.0 and its implications, as you can see with the [Top Trends 2022](#), we provide forecasts and strategic opportunities to help you navigate the perilous future that you won't find from any other source.

And as we continue to say, “Accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative and latch on to the affirmative.” The future is in your hands.

Sincerely,

*Gerald Celente and the Trends Journal
Team*

COMMENTS

PUT CENTRAL BANKS ON LOCKDOWN

It is high time to nationalize the assets of the Federal Reserve Bank and its member institutions. A forensic audit of the Fed would then ensue, and, if needed criminal prosecutions, and perhaps executions. This would totally disrupt the “ownership” of the largest corporations, utilities, and resource miners on the planet.

bohee

MODERN MALTHUSIANS

Harley Schlanger discusses the importance of JFK on the 58th anniversary of his assassination, how he had been moving against 'empire policy', and how far downhill the U.S. has gone since. The U.S. is committed to a global "rules-based order" with rules made by bankers and some of the same cartels, networks, and trusts who put Hitler into power. The Great Reset is something that has been underway for a while, which would give central bankers the power to determine spending. The Green New Deal is connected to The Great Reset because they don't want to invest new credit into new physical economy, they want to shut down production.

This is the purpose of the concocted environmental crisis. These Malthusians would rather not reduce the population through war because military conflict can get out of hand, they prefer disease and IMF conditionalities. The Treasury and Fed are setting up special detective units to check which countries and banks are investing in corporations that have a carbon footprint, with the idea of denying them credit. Given that they have suffered a huge loss at COP26, we discuss the escalation toward a US-Russia-China war, how we are one false flag away from conflict, and how Belt and Road threatens the international oligarchy.

bernardoat

MONEY NOT EVERYTHING

We just sold our home in Houston, Texas, to move to a small town of Fredericksburg TX. We sold to a family with young children, even though Investors offered cash and more money. My husband and I sleep better at night, knowing our neighbors won't have to put up with renters, and our beautiful home of 30+

years will be cherished. Some things are more important than money.

Jean Jacoby

TEACH YOUR CHILDREN WELL

The USA needs to evaluate the Value System the ruling class is installing in their Children. The concept of "Values" is a Secular concept. All LIFE is monetized for PROFIT. Nature is being Raped for Profit. People are being politically, economically, and spiritually Raped. What is RAPE: getting something for nothing !

Larry Inn

IGNORING THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE

As for Austria, they where the biggest protests I have ever seen. The media reported around 40.000 people, and nobody can give exact numbers, but it was probably much more. FPÖ party said it were up to 100.000. Protests not only took place on the Heldenplatz, but also in the surrounding street of the center and other places. These were not right extremists (there were some of those too) but people of every age and profession. And it was generally very peacefull, not violent as reported., with a few exceptions.

The Gouvernement not even mentioned it, and there was a massive negative framing in some of the mainstream-media. They are not accepting and acknowledgeing the will of the people and announced that lockdowns for unvaccinated will continue, when the general lockdown for everyone will be over.

Peter Scheck

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GET READY FOR 2022



Forty two years ago I began The Socio-Economic Research Institute of America. Back then, when I told people we forecast trends they would say, “fashion trends, music trends?”

That’s as far as trend went and in reality, for the general political, business and educational culture it has not gone much further. Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Oxbridge, Cambridge? Trend deficient! They don’t have a clue of how to do it, or teach it.

And there are ones still stuck in the past with “fashion” trends as evidenced by Cornell:

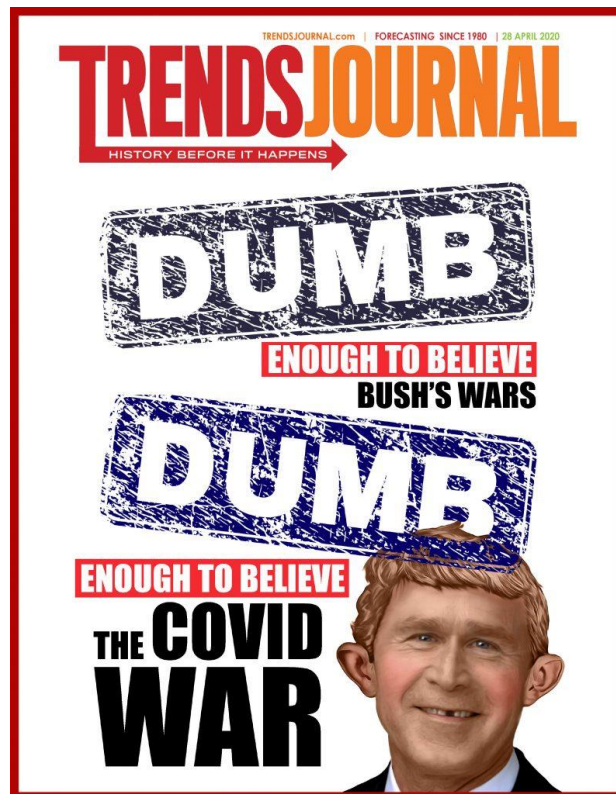
“What does it mean for something to be "on trend"? In fashion, trends guide everything from design to consumer behavior, evolving and changing over years and even decades. Trend forecasting is how industry experts predict what new trends will become popular with consumers and how existing trends will evolve over time. A knowledge of trend forecasting is necessary for staying relevant in fashion, whether you are working for an established fashion house or starting your own line.

This course will guide you through the trend forecasting process so you can create a relevant trend forecast, be it for your own fashion brand, a large industry brand, or a trend forecasting service.”

As we would say in The Bronx, “You can’t make this shit up.”

But in reality, the establishment can make up any shit they want and the masses will follow... facts and data don’t matter. They buy sound-bites. The masses are clueless. They swallow the crap that the establishment shoves down their throats.

As we wrote in the **Trends Journal** when politicians launched the COVID War: “Just as they marched off to Mussolini, saluted Stalin and Heiled Hitler... they marched off to fight the COVID War.” And as Anthony Freda’s 28 April 2020 **Trends Journal** cover illustrated early on in the COVID War: **DUMB ENOUGH TO BELIEVE BUSH’S WARS, DUMB ENOUGH TO BELIEVE THE COVID WAR.**



The Future is Now

As evidenced by the lack of trend forecasting in the education system—and those doing it as credential-less rookies—the current events forming socio-economic and geopolitical trends is vital information for businesses and individuals who want to Prepare—Prevail—Prosper, now and in the future.

In addition to providing consultation services, since 1991 we have published the **Trends Journal**. It began as an eight page quarterly newsletter. Now it's a weekly magazine, like no other in the world, that averages 130 pages... with no advertisements.

When people call me a futurist, I say, there is no such thing. No one can predict the future. There are too many wild cards, be they man-made or made by Mother Nature.

In all my years of trend forecasting, no one could have predicted 2020, the year the world changed when politicians, beginning with China on its Lunar New Year, the year of the Rat, launched the COVID War.

And no magazine in the world has covered the COVID War as has the **Trends Journal**. Go back to the 28 January cover: CORONAVIRUS: 102 DEAD IN CHINA. The next line was 1.4 BILLION STILL ALIVE.

In other words, why are you telling me that 106 people died in your filthy poisonous country where 1.5 million die each year as a result of your deadly air pollution... and the reason people wear masks?

Since that time we have, in great detail, documented the facts, lies, hysteria and the human devastation the COVID War has wrought ... and the trends that have transpired since, and the new ones on the horizon.

Fast Forward

Again, no one can predict the future.

Who in the world would have seen what hit the world last Friday?

The world awoke to the South African COVID Variant. It was a call for a vax-shot that was heard around the world.

The message is clear: The more people refusing to get the Operation Warp Speed gene therapy inoculation—the first ever injected into human beings—the more governments will push them to get the Drug Lord's Jab.

And while the mainstream media was hyping the new variant which the World Health Organization first labeled Xi Omicron, but then omitted the “Xi” because President Xi of China might be offended... Dr. Angelique Coetzee, the chairwoman of the South African Medical Association, who first sounded the variant alarm, said those who got it had “unusual but mild symptoms.”

In response to the the media and politicians selling the new virus strain as “deadly,” Dr. Coetzee said the new variant “... presents mild disease with symptoms being sore muscles and tiredness for a day or two not feeling well. So far, we have detected that those infected do not suffer the loss of taste or smell. They might have a slight cough. There are no prominent symptoms. Of those infected some are currently being treated at home.”

Doesn't sound like anything to worry about?

Indeed, just a week ago Friday, the Associated Press quoted Wafaa El-Sadr, chair of global health at Columbia University who said, there was something “mysterious” going on in Africa because “Africa doesn't have the vaccines and the resources to fight COVID-19 that they have in Europe and the U.S., but somehow they seem to be doing better.”

With a bit more than 5 percent of the people of Africa being vaccinated, the World Health Organization reported that the continent of 1,385,633,300 people was “one of the least affected regions in the world.”

Comprising nearly 17 percent of the world’s population, WHO data show that deaths in poor, underdeveloped Africa make up just 3 percent of the global total. This compares to the heavily vaxxed world of The Obese Americans and “Developed” Europe, they account for 46 percent and 29 percent respectively of the global COVID deaths.

Shut up! Get Vaxxed!

Yet, listen to what the front man for the drug dealers, Seth Berkley, CEO of the GAVI Vaccine Alliance that with the WHO co-leads the COVAX initiative to push for global distribution of vaccines, told Reuters on Saturday:

"While we still need to know more about Omicron, we do know that as long as large portions of the world's population are unvaccinated, variants will continue to appear, and the pandemic will continue to be prolonged."

Making the point that the poorer nations have not had enough of their masses jabbed, Berkely declared that "We will only prevent variants from emerging if we are able to protect all of the world's population... ," i.e., getting them vaccinated.

And while the new variant is South Africa labeled, it should be noted, to date, some 89,000 South Africans out of a population of 60 million, or 0.148 percent, died from the coronavirus... or the grand total of 0.0067 percent per month over 22 months when the COVID War began.

Trends 2022

Again, 2020 was the Year the World Changed. The implications of the raging COVID War will be felt far and wide as we have detailed, and continue to forecast in the **Trends Journal** and the 2022 TOP TRENDS.

1. COVID WAR 2.0: MASS DESTRUCTION



What a difference a day makes

And what was the big news that shook equity markets and spread fear across the globe last Friday?

“Ladies and gentlemen and children of all ages, step right up, step right up to the Greatest Freak Show on Earth,” the new COVID variant has come to town. And the one and only, the top of the bureaucratic top that We the Stupid People of Slavelandia must look up to and obey—the “scientific experts at the World Health Organization—warned the newly discovered South African coronavirus that has taken center stage in all the media is a “variant of concern.”

From the country that anointed the Green Passport and has one of the highest vax rates in the world and is pushing for shot #4, the word came from Israel that their Health Ministry detected a new COVID strain from ONE, just one, traveler

who picked it up in the African nation of Malawi... a country that most people never heard of, and most of the world couldn't find on a map.

Yes, Israel, a nation of more than nine million people was investigating the new strain on the traveler and two others that were "suspected" of being infected with the African variant that is now officially labeled, "Omicron":

"JERUSALEM (AP)—Prime Minister Naftali Benett said on Friday that Israel is 'on the threshold of an emergency situation' after authorities detected the country's first case of a new coronavirus variant and barred travel to and from most African countries."

Yes, that's the way it was reported ONE "suspected" case. Not even a "confirmed case," but in the world of dictatorial control, "suspected" is enough to launch war and control the masses. Remember how Saddam Hussein was "suspected" of having weapons of mass destruction? That was certainly good enough reason to spend trillions, kill millions and destroy an entire nation.

And back to the COVID War 2.0. over there in Israel, the nation that first imposed the Green Pass vaccination requirement that most of the world has followed, it was later reported that there were also TWO "suspected" Omicron "cases" which was reason for the government to declare a national alert and impose an African travel ban.

Oh, and just as a side note that the pro-vaccinated majorities keep pushing; those who are not vaxxed are the reason the virus cannot be stopped. Boys and girls, the three people who had the "suspected" African cases were fully vaxxed.

Then on Sunday, again with just one confirmed African variant case (not a death or chronic illness) the Israeli government voted to ban all foreigners from entering Israel in the fight to beat the South African "Omicron" variant. By Monday, a number of countries across the globe joined the "banned" wagon, restricting passage to and from numerous African nations.

Spreading fear that the new variant is rapidly spreading across the globe, the media also reported that Europe detected its first case in Belgium on Friday. That's correct, one case in a country of 11.5 million people.

And on Saturday, Britain (67 million population) reported two cases of the variant, and the Germans and Czechs were on the hunt to investigate "suspected" cases.

From Bad to Worse

Just as we had forecast in our **Trends Journal**, and which Gerald Celente had noted in speeches, interviews and broadcasts, come autumn, politicians would launch COVID War 2.0.

Even before the new virus strain hit the news, again, as detailed in the **Trends Journal**, nations such as Austria imposed its fourth lockdown last Monday restricting the unvaxxed's freedoms and essentially closing down its economy.

Belgium tightened restrictions and are requiring people to work from home for four days a week... not three or two days since the numbers are random, lack scientific fact and like other mass mandates... they're making this shit up.

Indeed, bars and restaurants have to close down at 11 pm, rather than 10:30 pm or 11:30 pm! Yet, there is no media or politicians calling out these made-up, unscientific, draconian mandates being imposed upon the human race.

In Portugal, one of the most happily-vaxxed nations on earth where 86 percent of the herd is injected with the gene therapy inoculation, the government re-introduced more restrictions on Thursday, the day before the Omicron scare hit the headlines.

Not a peep or push-back from the media or the masses about the ineffectiveness of the COVID jab or why more restrictions are being imposed upon the Portuguese population despite the high vax rates that, according to the "experts" and "authorities," are supposedly above herd immunity levels.

Making up more bullshit, in the Netherlands, the jerkoff running the show announced that “non-essential” stores, restaurants and bars have to close at 5 pm.

Why not close them down at 11 pm like its Belgium neighbor? Simply because arrogant, power hungry clowns in charge are making this shit up.

Speaking of which, in the Czech Republic, again, before the Omicron scare hit the headlines, the government declared that all bars, restaurants, nightclubs, casinos, discos have to close at 10 pm... which of course makes perfect nonsense since it's a 5 pm close time in Belgium and 11 pm in Netherlands.

Again, making up the numbers, Slovakia declared a two-week (not two-and-a-half or three-week) lockdown, while forcing restaurants, and “non-essential” businesses to close down. Even before the latest restrictions, the unvaxxed were banned from all “non-essential” stores, shopping malls, public events and gatherings.

In Italy, one of the most restrictive locked down nations which requires all workers to be jabbed, starting next Monday, only those who have Green Pass proof they got the Operation Warp Speed inoculation or recovered from the virus can eat inside restaurants, bars, check into hotels, go the movies or sporting events.

Over in Latvia, the unvaccinated are allowed only to leave their homes to go shopping and go to work.

TREND FORECAST: We note these above mandates to factually illustrate how businesses, commercial real estate and the joy of life are being destroyed across Europe by political tyrants. For example, Italy was among the most restrictive COVID countries in Europe, yet despite the draconian mandates that have not worked, their government, as with other nations that are highly vaxxed, are doubling down on failure by banning the unvaxxed from going out, living life and spending money.

The bottom line: At the height of the Christmas season, their COVID War restrictions will both severely damage economic growth and the hearts and souls of human beings.

Witch Hunt

Read Friday's CNBC headline: **"No cases of new omicron Covid variant in the U.S. have been detected, CDC says."**

"FU, CDC!"

Despite not one case in a nation of 332 million people, Kathy Hochul who took over as Governor of New York from the former dictator, Andrew "Daddy's Boy" Cuomo—who was thrown out of office for feeling up women—declared a state of emergency to fight the yet non-existent in the U.S. Omicron variant.

Hochul, the nobody who's somebody now, told New Yorkers to mask up, get vaccinated and get the booster shot.

The Greatest Freak Show on Earth!

These are the power hungry, arrogant, ignorant "authorities" that sold their crap in 2020 that everybody had to stay in their houses and only go out to buy booze or shop at the giant chain stores as the small "non-essential" businesses were shut down... so they could "flatten the curve."

That was nearly two years ago and what they "flattened" was not the virus as the imbecilic, pathological, psychopaths claimed they would ... what they "flattened" was the life out of the human spirit.

And as Gerald Celente had forecast when the COVID War began in 2020, "When people lose everything, and have nothing left to lose, they lose it."

And lose it they have.

From homicides to suicides, from drug overdosing, opioid addiction to Flash Mobs smashing-and-grabbing everything they can and want without being stopped—to the surge in migrants leaving economically devastated nations—the COVID War has killed and destroyed hundreds of millions of more lives and livelihoods than the virus.

And as we had forecast when the media and politicians declared that beating the virus was a war, “Just as the masses marched off to Mussolini, saluted Stalin and Heiled Hitler, they would obediently march off the COVID War.”

Following Orders

With the fear of the Omicron variant that is non-existent in the U.S., the fearful masses are masked up again. Walking up and down the street and driving in cars with their noses and mouths covered with masks despite the scientific facts—as we have detailed in numerous **Trends Journals**—that most are not only ineffective, the odds of catching the virus outside are less than one percent.

And it is having a serious negative effect on businesses. At 9 pm, the streets are now virtually empty. Walk into restaurants, yes there is good table business, but the bars, particularly in the blue American states, are mostly empty as people are afraid to socialize, sit and stand next to strangers.

The bottom line? The bottom line is being destroyed. Last Friday, when the African Variant hit the wires, European equities fell 3.7 percent and the Dow had its biggest one-day percentage drop since October 2020. And with more travel restrictions and lockdowns in place and more expected to be mandated, U.S. crude oil tumbled 13 percent and Brent Crude tumbled 11.55 percent, wracking up their fifth straight week of losses, and oil’s longest weekly losing streak since March 2020, when the COVID War was fully launched.

With fear raging in the minds of the mind-controlled, traffic at retail stores on Black Friday, while it was up 47.5 percent compared to last year, dropped 28.3 percent compared with 2019 levels, according to Sensormatic Solutions.

TRENDPOST: Two years into the outbreak, there is no sign world leaders have learned from previous mistakes. They still insist the fastest way to move past the virus is to inoculate the world and to enforce mask mandates. Despite the widespread availability of vaccines and millions taking the jab, there were more COVID-19 deaths in the U.S. in 2021 than in 2020. About 70 percent of the U.S. population have received one dose and 60 percent have been fully vaccinated.

TRENDPOST: As we have continued to detail since the COVID War was launched in March 2020, we noted the infection rate for each country and the age and pre-existing health conditions of those who died from the virus. Essentially, the victims are elderly and those with 2.6 pre-existing chronic health conditions, as the CDC verifies.

But these facts and data are ignored by the mainstream media, intent on selling fear and hysteria to boost their ratings and power-hungry politicians who launched the COVID War to gain Executive Order control.

Health officials blamed the low vaccination numbers and the false sense of security by people who assumed that being vaccinated alone will stop the spread of the virus.

TREND FORECAST: We warned that governments would use coronavirus restrictions to enforce a power grab on every single aspect of citizens' lives. Florida, which has no statewide mask mandates, has the lowest amount of new cases in the entire country per capita. Fox 13 News pointed out that Michigan, a state where there are some of the toughest restrictions in the country, is currently leading the country in new cases.

"This latest round of travel bans is akin to punishing South Africa for its advanced genomic sequencing and the ability to detect new variants quicker," the Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation said.

And, we forecast, the political establishment will continue to use the virus to gain yet more control over the general population.

TRENDPOST: Beyond forecasting the devastating effects of the made-up, lacking-scientific-data rules imposed upon societies by the lockdowns, the **Trends Journal** has been detailing the failures of extended lockdowns.

Here are a few examples:

- [COVID-19 LOCKDOWNS: COMPLETE POLICY FAILURES](#)
- [MEDICAL EXPERTS: LOCKDOWNS WORSE THAN COVID-19](#)
- [DON'T LOCK DOWN, DOCS DEMAND](#)
- [W.H.O. NOW SAYS "WE DO NOT ADVOCATE LOCKDOWNS"](#)

And going back to 14 April of last year, in our article ["SHUT DOWNS & SHUT INS."](#) we wrote:

"Taking advantage of successful fear campaigns, political leaders continue to shut down economies and shut in their citizens based on their individual temperament rather than hard data. As of last week, over 100 countries were in full or partial lockdown affecting billions of people."

For what?

What did they accomplish?

The establishment has destroyed the lives and livelihoods of billions of people and sucked the joy out of life. For school age children and young adults, the fear, anxiety, mandates, must get Drug Dealer vaxxed rules, regulations and brainwashing will create a new generation of mind control misfits.

And in the decades to come, these little misfits will grow up and be in charge to spread the horror of their religion of fear and control that has embodied them since they were children.

What can change it?

According to Gerald Celente, a Renaissance... a revival of wisdom, which has become a dirty word in the 21st century, will restore the human spirit.

However, in the New ABnormal, only Bezos, Musk, Gates, “celebrities,” sports “legends,” Prostitutes, politicians, school principles... and third grade teachers have the understanding of what you need to know, and how you have to know it!

2. VAX WAR



Once again, back when the COVID War began and the massive push to get the population injected with the Operation Warp Speed gene therapy inoculation—the first ever injected into humans—we forecast that there would be a “Vax War.”

Indeed, “WORLD WAR VAX” was the cover of our 23 February 2021 **Trends Journal**.

We had long forecast that those who believe what the politicians, Presstitutes, comedians, and celebrities they look up to tell them... will be fighting those who think for themselves.

The vaxxed will attack all who question “official” data, “authorities,” drug dealers called Big Pharma, comedians, sports figures, actors, etc. Their enemy is, and will be, all who believe in freedom and defend their God given and Constitutional Rights that no one can force control over their body, spirit, mind and soul.

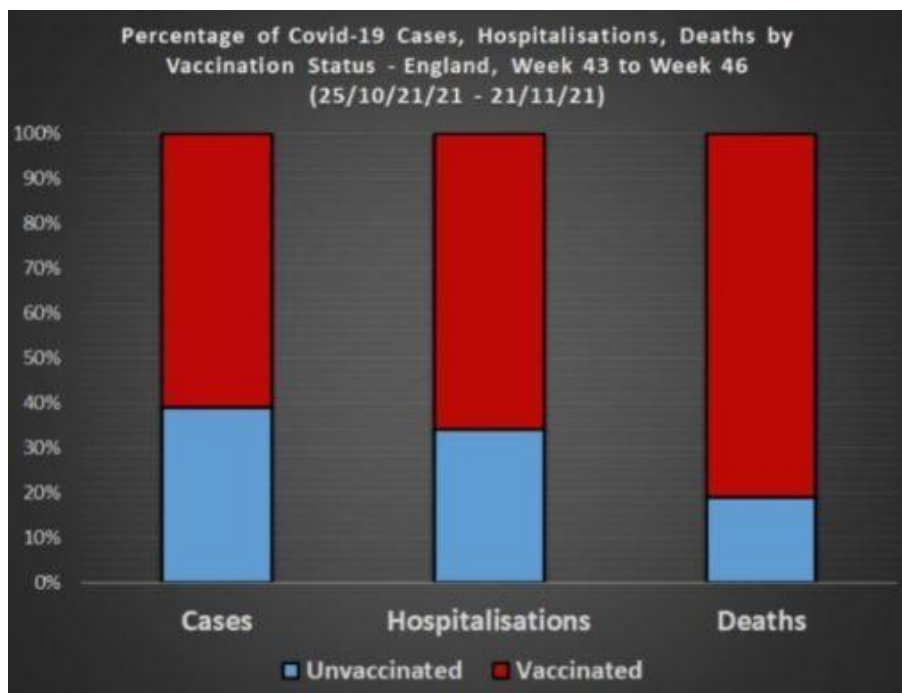
Get Shot

Continuing to ignore the hard data of who is dying of the virus and why, the low efficacy rate of the COVID Jab and its adverse health implications, the injected will blame the un-injected for the variants and the deaths of others, including the injected.

Indeed, as [Dr. Paul Craig Roberts](#) reported on Sunday that in the UK 81 percent of those who died from the coronavirus were fully vaccinated:

The latest Covid report from The UK Health Security Agency is that for the past month the unvaccinated accounted for 39% of all cases, 34% of all hospitalizations, and 19% of all deaths. Whilst the vaccinated accounted for 61% of all cases, 66% of all hospitalisations, and 81% of all deaths. <https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2021/11/report-fully-vaccinated-account-81-covid-deaths-uk/>

“So much for the shrill lie of the American whore media, corrupt medical establishment, lying Fauci and Walensky, and dumbshit politicians,” wrote Dr. Roberts.



And on Sunday, further detailing the lack of COVID Vax efficacy and possible deadliness, Dr. Roberts also noted German research that indicates that those who got the shots are more susceptible to getting COVID and falling ill to other viruses because the vaccine destroys the innate immune system:

Dr. Ute Bergner, a physicist who is a member of the Thuringian state parliament in Germany, commissioned statisticians to investigate the relationship between vaccination and excess mortality in the 16 German federal states.

The statisticians found that the states with the lowest percentage of the population vaccinated had the lowest excess mortality. In contrast the state with the highest vaccination rate (66%) had the highest rate of excess deaths.

“The correlation coefficient is +0.31. In the eyes of the two data scientists this is ‘astonishingly high.’ Especially since the believers in the vaccine are claiming the opposite but provide no proof for their notion of ‘protection’. One should at the least expect a different relationship: the more vaccinations, the lower the mortality. After all, the intention was to protect people.”

“The excess mortality increases with the increase in the vaccination rate. This requires urgent clarification,” demanded the two statisticians. Furthermore, in view of “the pending political measures aimed at containing the virus this figure is worrying and requires explanation if further political measures are to be taken with the aim of increasing the vaccination rate.”

<https://www.globalresearch.ca/german-states-high-vaccination-rate-highest-excess-mortality/576262>

Lies and Damn Lies

While this continues to expose the lack of virus vaccine efficacy, it is not addressed by the media or the clowns they call “authorities.” As we wrote back on 26 January regarding the ineffectiveness of the COVID Jab, it was highly promoted and initially sold to the general public that two jabs with 96 percent efficacy rate would make you live COVID free happily ever after.

We noted virologist Dr. John Dye, Chief of Viral Immunology at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, said experts have no clear idea how long the COVID vaccine will protect recipients. He stressed it was almost certain that “booster shots” would be required, and “Scientists don’t know how long the vaccines confer immunity. For most individuals, it could be a matter of six months to a year, or perhaps as many as five years,” said Dye.

Indeed, as Dr. Dye said, the vaccine is looked upon as a way to return to “normalcy,” as we note with the protests against being forced to take the virus jab, many others are rejecting it as a huge unknown and a step down a path that will destroy longstanding freedoms and rights perhaps forever.

Again, they don’t know and never knew about how effective the rushed-to-market virus injection would be... and this is just one of the scores of articles you can find in your **Trends Journals** that provide the scientific facts and hard data.

Vaxxed vs. Un-Vaxxed

From the long list of celebrities, comedians, sports figures to Prostitutes, politicians and the clown on the street... their attacks against those who refuse the Operation Warp Speed gene therapy inoculation make the headlines.

This was the latest from Rudi Voller, some guy they call a “legend” because he was really good at playing soccer: “Basically, anyone who has no medical reason to object should get vaccinated... If not, I find that extremely indecent.”

How about that there are people who may find it “indecent” that someone would succumb to lies, deceit and lack of facts and science and get inoculated with the first ever gene therapy jab?

Why are those who refuse to take the jab, who analyze and assess scientific data, not being quoted by the media? Why are they being censored?

Instead, the intimidated boys and girls, their “fans,” who love and look up to these fact-less entertainers—who put on a good show but know dick about shit when it comes to science—obediently do what they are told and despise those who will not follow.

TREND FORECAST: Again, we maintain our forecast that there will be an irate tireless minority who will fight for their freedom of choice. In turn, there will be a continued shortage of workers, especially in key health sectors who refuse to get the jab... and strong anti-vax, anti-establishment movements that will accelerate as economies decline and equity markets crash.

As economic conditions continue to decline and Vaxxed vs. Un-Vaxxed confrontations escalate, governments will clamp down harder, robbing the people of more Rights and Freedoms. This will in turn escalate the mandate resistance movements.

It should be noted that it will be a freedom loving minority fighting against the government controlled majority. Indeed, in the referendum that was held in Switzerland on Sunday, 62 percent of voters supported legislation that allows people who have been vaccinated, recovered or tested negative, to get a COVID-19 certificate that allows them to attend public events and gatherings.

TREND FORECAST: With new Freedom movements building that are intent on replacing the entrenched establishment—for which the masses obey and celebrate—those now in control will deflect the domestic anti-COVID War forces by escalating tensions with foreign nations, and take their countries to new wars.

Indeed, as Gerald Celente has long noted, “When all else fails, they take you to war.”

3. DRAGFLATION



It will be a DRAGFLATION, not a stagflation economy in 2022.

Go back to the beginning of 2021.

Listen to what the Fed Banksters and “experts” were saying about inflation: It was “temporary.”

Month after month, as inflation kept rising higher, the money mobsters changed their tune and inflation forecasts went from “temporary” to “transitory.”

Yet, as we have detailed in numerous **Trends Journal** articles, the inflation numbers have hit decades highs... and in many sectors they keep rising.

Inflation has risen faster than incomes. With supply chains disrupted during the COVID War, there have been shortages of raw materials, finished goods and components which have driven, and keep driving, prices higher.

And now with politicians taking more draconian lockdown measures, issuing “no-work, no-pleasure” mandates to the unaxxed, and ramping up the fight

against the new Omicron COVID variant by imposing more restrictions, prohibiting travel in various nations, etc, ... there will be more supply chain disruptions and labor shortages which will keep inflation rising, while driving down economic growth.

Thus it will be Dragflation: inflation rises and economies decline. With Stagnation, the economy stagnates as inflation rises.

On Top of The Trends

Again, in 2022, the economic reality will be dragflation, which we first forecast for the COVID era in our [special video broadcast](#) on 11 June, 2020.

The facts tell the Dragflation story.

The world is entering a new COVID War, with lockdowns under way across more and more areas of Europe and China. The fear has also spread across much of the U.S. as the masses mask up and stay home in fear of getting hit by the variant. And, as with New York State, the dictator, i.e. the unelected Governor, issued a state of emergency to fight the Omicron variant that has not entered the U.S. according to the CDC.

Again, these latest round of lockdowns and mandates will cripple the economic recovery that began last spring, with many regions and even entire nations seeing their economic output shrink again.

People will again be out of work, lacking both the cash and the opportunities to spend. Because consumption powers most of the world's developed economies, those economies will shrink.

As consumption declines, factories will cut production and lay off workers once more, and the emerging nations that depend on exporting finished goods and natural resources will slide toward recession.

While economies are shrinking, prices for food, raw materials, and housing are rising faster and faster ([“Commodities Supercycle Underway?”](#) 11 May 2021 and [“Ag Products Beginning Mini-Supercycle, Executives Say,”](#) 22 Jun 2021).

The U.S. is one example among countries around the world where the cost of living is climbing out of reach.

The median selling price of a new home in the U.S. in the third quarter was \$404,700, according to the U.S. Federal Reserve data, while the median price of all U.S. homes rose to a record \$353,900 in October, the National Association of Realtors reported, 13.1 percent higher than just a year earlier.

Housing should take no more than 30 percent of a household’s gross income, economists like to say.

Using that guideline, a family or individual would need an annual income of \$144,192 to afford to own a home, more than twice the U.S. median income of \$69,178, according to calculations by Clever Real Estate.

Since 2011, the median U.S. home price increased about 30 percent, while incomes grew only 11 percent, a Bankrate analysis found.

In 2011, the average price of a new car was \$30,000. Today it’s about \$45,000, according to the Kelly Blue Book, a 50-percent increase in a decade. That spike has also driven the price of used cars to record levels.

Incomes haven’t grown 13.1 percent in a year to keep pace with the price of homes, let alone keep pace with a 50-percent jump in the cost of a new car.

Almost two-thirds of working parents would be strapped to pay market prices for 9-to-5 child care, a share that soars to 95 percent among low-income households, a Brandeis University study concluded.

With everything costing more as a new round of the COVID War is declared, economies are retreating from recovery and slipping back toward contraction.

No wonder consumer confidence in November plunged to its lowest in 10 years, according to the University of Michigan's monthly survey.

In 2022, raw materials and finished goods will rise in price, consumer spending will weaken, manufacturing will slow, and economies will fall back into recession—the perfect recipe for dragflation.

TREND FORECAST: *With growing concerns that there will be more lockdowns and declining economic growth, despite inflation rising, the Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank will be pressured to keep interest rates low and keep the cheap money flowing. Therefore inflation will keep rising and the value of currencies will decline.*

And, as inflation rises higher, so too will gold, silver and bitcoin prices.

*To see how we got here and where we are heading, here are the Dragflation trends analyses we have identified in previous **Trends Journals**:*

- [*“Dragflation: Inflation is Up, Interest Rates Up, Economy Goes Down,”*](#) 7 Oct 2021
- [*“Spotlight: Inflation Spreading,”*](#) 26 Oct 2021;
- [*“No Kidding! Goldman Gang Cuts Econ Outlook,”*](#) 19 Oct 2021;
- [*“‘70s Redux: It’s a Real ‘Dragflation,’*](#) 5 Oct 2021;
- [*“Core Prices Notch Biggest Gain in 30 Years,”*](#) 29 Jun 2021
- [*“U.S. Markets Overview,”*](#) 23 March, 2021
- [*“Food Prices Climb to Seven-Year High,”*](#) 9 February, 2021

4. HOMELESSNESS: THE CELENTE SOLUTION



Driven by lockdowns, vax mandates and other draconian dictates to fight the COVID War, as the **Trends Journal** had forecast, poverty, homelessness, along with mental illness, drug use and crime, will continue on the upswing.

In some respects, America's burgeoning homeless population—see ["'HOMELESS AND HELPLESS': THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE NO HOME"](#) (29 Oct 2019)—is hardly unique; other countries also have literally millions of people with inadequate shelter, or none at all, on any given night.

But is there anywhere else where formerly bustling downtown commercial thoroughfares, in cities that once were jewels, such as in San Francisco and Los Angeles, have become miles-long tent cities of career homeless people who, when not panhandling or committing petty crime, strew trash, used hypodermic needles and feces everywhere, with impunity?

Questions about why this is allowed to happen are not without answers; in the cases of Los Angeles and San Francisco it's largely because, in the name of

"compassion" (or perhaps in service of a darker agenda), many crimes, including shoplifting, drug offenses and public nuisance violations, are no longer being prosecuted; see the **TRENDPOST** attached to ["COVID CRIME WAVE SPIKES, DRUG STORES CLOSE"](#) (19 Oct 2021).

There are, however, two questions about America's homeless that remain unanswered:

The first relates to COVID-19: If COVID-19 is so dangerous to those not vaccinated, not religiously following social distancing or personal hygiene protocols, why aren't homeless people—who live in abjectly unsanitary conditions and often have pre-existing health issues—not dying in droves from the virus, or at least filling up the hospitals?

Trends Journal has asked this question numerous times; see ["BIG APPLE ROTTING"](#) (16 Jun 2020), ["THE NUMBERS DON'T ADD UP"](#) (14 Apr 2020), and ["BIDEN VAX PUSH: FACTS DON'T MATTER"](#) (11 May 2021).

What to Do With the Homeless

It's to this second question that pioneer trends strategist and **Trends Journal** publisher Gerald Celente has proposed a solution, dubbed the Celente Solution for Homelessness; it's a serious, inspired idea, and it's in large part influenced by the dismal, costly failures that conventional homeless shelters have been.

Many homeless people eschew going to homeless shelters, for a variety of reasons. Homeless shelters are often crowded, and populated by people with schizophrenia and other untreated mental illness, and by drug users and drug dealers, making the shelter a less-than-safe environment.

And a “shelter,” as with a bomb shelter, just provides temporary protection. It does not address long term sustainability of the half million homeless in America... and the tens of millions around the world.

Waste of Money?

Last Tuesday, *The New York Times* chronicled an example of corruption in the administration of a homeless shelter in The Bronx. The NYC Dept. of Homeless Services funded, for more than \$10 million, a 100-bed homeless shelter operated by Millennium Care.

But the shelter's director hired her brother and nephew to work for the company, evaded taxes, and stole over \$2 million in city funds, spending it on cars, gym memberships and shopping sprees at tony emporiums like Tiffany's, Nieman-Marcus and Manolo Blahnik. Other companies contracted by NYC to administer homeless services are now under scrutiny.

Celente proposes that, instead of warehousing and hiding homeless persons in shelters, they be given the opportunity to get out of the cities and into suburban or rural facilities run on the model of Boys Town, the famous village in Nebraska.

The U.S. has any number of locations—like, for example, the part of New York's Catskill Mountains known as the "Borscht Belt," an underpopulated region of once-thriving but now largely-defunct resorts.

These lovely country areas would be conducive to self-sustaining villages where the formerly-homeless could live in a clean, safe environment and, while receiving needed treatment, learn to work with their hands and minds. And, in addition to government and private funding, it would certainly prove a better application of the tens of millions of dollars in "homeless services" funds that are being wasted or stolen.

It could be like a "Fresh Air Fund" (a charity that helps underprivileged city kids experience a summer in the country) for the homeless, and they could acquire skills that would give them a purpose in life and prepare them for re-integration into civilized society. Meanwhile, though, they would no longer be a blight on city sidewalks; to remain in their urban tent encampments would no longer be tolerated.

TREND FORECAST: *The Wall Street Journal reported that in 2019 New York City politicians spent \$3.2 billion of taxpayer money to house 60,000 people in homeless shelters. That is the equivalent of over \$53,000 for each homeless person to give them room and board.*

Only ignorant, narcissistic politicians and bureaucrats who suck off the public teat are stupid enough to not be able to take that money and create uplifting Homeless Towns. In addition, there will be resistance from politicians who get paid off with kickbacks, i.e. “campaign contributions,” by owners of the shelters that now house them.

Clearly, The Celente Solution is financially, morally and humanely more practical than the current costly, failed system. Not only could it be hugely successful, it is highly unlikely it could make the homeless problem any worse.

5. MASSIVE MIGRANT CRISIS



As we had forecast when politicians launched the COVID War and imposed draconian lockdown mandates which destroyed the lives and livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people, the migrant crisis in regions across the globe would worsen as people escaped poverty, crime, violence and government corruption. And now with new COVID-19 Omicron variant hysteria, a bad migrant crisis will become much worse, as millions risk their lives to seek safe-haven refuge.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees said there is currently a “lethal mix of conflict, COVID-19, poverty, food insecurity, and climate emergency, which has compounded the humanitarian plight of the displaced, most of whom are being hosted in developing regions.”

The global number of those impacted by displacement has exceeded 84 million, which included 1.3 million in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and 1.2 million in Ethiopia, which has been torn by a year-long war. Myanmar and Afghanistan have also experienced a jump in refugees due to political unrest and economic uncertainty. The number of asylum-seekers reached 4.4 million, which is an increase of 237,000 from last year.

As we had forecast, as a result of the military conflicts, civil unrest and devastation caused by the COVID War that has destroyed the lives and livelihoods of hundreds of millions, there will be a flood of refugees seeking safe-haven nations.

Hundreds of millions of people across the globe—Yemen, Lebanon, Syria, Afghanistan, Africa, South America, hard-hit Asian nations will do all they can to escape poverty, violence, crime, and government corruption. In turn, there will be strong anti-immigration/anti-establishment populist movements among the countries they are trying to escape into.

More than 30,000 migrants this year have tried to cross the English Channel to reach England, according to *The Washington Post*. Many are from African and Middle Eastern countries. At least 27 people drowned in a crossing that included 17 men, seven women and three children. RTL radio reported that two survivors were being treated for severe hypothermia in France. One is from Iraq and the other Somalia, the BBC reported.

The UN said 166 migrants have died or vanished on the English Channel this year; about 1,600 died in the Mediterranean Sea.

The deaths have led to finger-pointing between British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and French President Emmanuel Macron. Johnson posted a letter to his counterpart on his social media account that blamed France for allowing the problem to fester. France, in turn, disinvited a British envoy to the country to discuss the issue.

Britain is attractive to these migrants because it does not have a national ID card, so they can find work, *The New York Times* reported.

The migrant crisis has led to tension in the European Union. Alexander Lukashenko, the leader in Belarus who is backed by Russia, has been accused of purposely sending migrants by the thousands, and mainly from the Middle

East and Africa, into Poland as a new kind of hybrid war on Europe over sanctions tied to his election victory.

Lukashenko has eased entry for arrivals from the Middle East and these migrants, in turn, take buses or taxis to the border where Belarusian forces help them pass through into Poland. Once there, many make their way to other countries in the EU.

TREND FORECAST: *As floods of refugees seek safe-haven nations to escape poverty, government corruption, crime and violence, this in turn will dramatically escalate anti-immigration, anti-establishment populist movements in nations where they seek refuge.*

TRENDPOST: *As detailed and forecast in the **Trends Journal**, since the mainstream media began peddling COVID Hysteria in January 2020, and politicians across the globe seized on it by issuing unprecedented, draconian lockdowns based on unsubstantiated, non-scientific, made-up orders, we warned of the dire socioeconomic and geopolitical implications that are now unfolding.*

*It was the cover of our 3 March **Trends Journal**: “CORONAVIRUS 9/11 – SPREADING TERROR.” We had forecast that these unprecedented lockdowns will especially devastate poor countries and that will, in turn, lead to a migration problem never seen before. And should more lockdowns and draconian measures escalate, which will in turn sink nations deep into economic despair, the COVID War will intensify into World War III.*

As Gerald Celente has long noted, “When all else fails, they take you to war.”

*The following are recent **Trends Journal** migrant articles and trend forecasts:*

- [MIGRANT CARAVAN FROM HONDURAS HEADS TOWARD U.S.](#)
- [HONDURAS MIGRANT CARAVAN TURNED BACK](#)
- [MIGRANT FLOOD. WHAT WILL BIDEN DO?](#)
- [GREECE: STOP THE HUMAN WAVES](#)

- *MIGRANTS: COME ON IN. COVID DON'T COUNT*
- *AS FORECAST: ARRESTS AT U.S. BORDER HIT RECORD HIGH. IT WILL GET WORSE*

6. METAWORLD



METAWORLD

The coronavirus outbreak has sped up virtual working and learning and tech leaders have already seized on the shift.

In 2021, there were few jobs that people could work without using Slack, Zoom, or Google Chat. If you wanted to learn the latest news on a stock like GameStop, you'd likely check your Facebook, Twitter, or Reddit accounts. We have all become tied to our iPhones.

Mark Zuckerberg, the CEO of Facebook, has introduced many in the world to the idea of a metaverse, which will allow users to inhabit an online world where people use avatars to work and interact with others in a virtual world. *The New York Times* described the landscape as a place where users move from a virtual world to “augmented versions of reality almost seamlessly.”

Zuckerberg is so high on the technology, he changed his company's name to Meta. Meta is aiming to open retail stores around the globe to sell the devices needed in the metaverse, like virtual-reality headsets and augmented-reality glasses, the *Times* reported.

“The metaverse is the next frontier,” he said. “From now on, we’re going to be metaverse-first, not Facebook-first.”

Facebook is not the only company vying to shape and profit from the metaverse. Tencent, the Chinese social media and gaming company, seems primed to be Facebook’s biggest rival. Euronews reported that Tencent has not formally announced its ambitions, but its partnerships with Epic Games and Roblox Corp. would come in handy.

Roblox, which is based in California, recently said it hopes to bring educational video games into schools around the world, according to *The Wall Street Journal*. The company has invested \$10 million to develop three games. They will focus on robotics, space exploration and computer science careers.

Old-line corporations trying to construct siloed versions of the metaverse, and trap users in the same way they lured them to social platforms, may be much more difficult, though.

Decentralized blockchain projects and dispersed communities that don’t require central corporations to evolve and maintain metaverses in the world of gaming are already ahead of the metaverse game.

In many ways, corporations like Facebook are playing catch-up.

The Metaverse Future Being Created Now

Mature metaverse technology might be 10 years away, some analysts say.

But the blockchain based metaverse virtual worlds are already revolutionizing gaming. There are positives, including projects that allow investment and profits to go to gaming communities, via tokens and use of in-game NFT objects.

Some players from poorer regions of the world can earn significant money as skilled players. It may sound strange, but many argue it’s no different than card

players or golf pros earning millions. And profit models can be more equitable than corporate-controlled gaming.

Overall, though, as people are seduced into buying virtual land, virtual gaming characters and objects, virtual art and more, traditional real world assets may continue to spiral out of reach for a new generation.

In other words, the metaverse may help fuel a trend of Metaverse riches, and real world scarcity.

Still, decentralized crypto networks and the early timeline of the metaverse means there are undeniable opportunities for investors. The **Trends Journal** has covered some of the challenges young people face in building wealth, and how the crypto revolution figures in, in recent articles including [“CRYPTO OPENING WEALTH TO YOUNGER GENERATION”](#) (2 Nov 2021).

Other aspects of the metaverse have been outlined in [“METAVERSE GAMING HITS BILLION DOLLAR PAYDIRT WITH AXIE INFINITY”](#) (5 Oct 2021), [“PULL THE PLUG ON TECH POWER OR THE PLUG WILL BE PULLED ON YOU”](#) (24 Aug 2021), [“CANCELED IN THE METAVERSE”](#) (16 Nov 2021).

On 11 December 2018, the **Trends Journal** published an article titled, [“BLESSED ARE THE GEEKS.”](#) that envisioned a futuristic world designed by geeks who have already transformed every aspect of 21st-century life.

“Across the spectrum, algorithms have replaced heartbeats,” we wrote. “The human emotion has been diluted. Think for yourself has been lost to Geek control that does the thinking, solves simple and complex problems, educates, intellectualizes, sexualizes, drives artistic impulses and ultimately decides what’s worthy and relevant.”

Facebook has been a leading advocate that promotes real-world restrictions and lockdowns, and we have pointed out in previous issues that the “connection is obvious.”

“Restricting the ability of people to connect in mundane physical reality is literally paving the way for the metaverse as an alternative outlet,” we wrote.

TREND FORECAST: *The Metaverse Geeks will celebrate their overturn of the human experience. The generation now entering adulthood, is primed to engage these fast-evolving technologies across every aspect of their lives.*

Their AI/VR technologies will sweep industries, households and governments worldwide.

More and more jobs will be replaced by robotics and AI programs will become, in effect, virtual human beings; they’ll take tests, advance their knowledge base through trial and error, perform complex human functions and learn from their mistakes and failures.

TREND FORECAST: *This is the New ABnormal. Just as the Industrial Revolution sapped the creative uniqueness of individuals with mass production, the metaverse world will further sap the human spirit from the already hi-tech addicted global population.*

Upcoming generations will get degrees, honors and salutations along the way, and become motivated to become more “Meta” and less human.

7. CRYPTO CAPITOL: WALL STREET 2.0



With a new crypto friendly mayor, look for NYC to try gain back its mojo by becoming a center for crypto markets which exploded into the mainstream in 2021.

It's become clear that the Big Apple needed to throw its weight behind cryptos. Otherwise it risked getting left behind as old ways of conducting finance, and even structuring and funding companies, evolve.

New York certainly has tremendous potential influence, given the movers and shakers that inhabit Wall Street. Look for them to pressure pols at the state and Federal level to speed up a regulatory framework that can allow the city to compete for the crypto financial pie.

Approval by the SEC of several bitcoin futures ETFs in October was a welcome event. But NYC will have to flex its muscle much more aggressively.

Enter Mayor Elect Eric Adams. Adams ran on a crypto friendly platform, and he appears to understand what's at stake.

Adams could catapult crypto to the next level and establish a Wall Street 2.0 by facilitating between Wall Street and crypto project innovators.

Bo Oney, head of compliance at Bitcoin ATM provider Coinsource, one of the first companies to receive a BitLicense in the state, recently laid out the roadmap, commenting to Cointelegraph:

“Other jurisdictions have been very successful in driving innovation through sandboxes, like the FCA in the United Kingdom where early-stage tech companies can exchange directly with the leading institutions within their sandbox and test and verify the applicability of solutions in practice.”

Adams will have to build concrete initiatives to leverage the influence of traditional finance. He will also have to persuade influential financial players, and rival politicians like State AG Letitia James, who have been resisting new paradigms.

If he succeeds, NYC has unique advantages that could make Wall Street 2.0 a reality.

Why Cryptos Went Mainstream in 2021

A blistering February run-up, and the realization that blockchain use cases like Decentralized Finance (DeFi) and faster, lower cost cross border payments were gaining on traditional business processes, could no longer be ignored.

Ethereum led the way as a platform that could host other “layer 2.0” crypto projects via its “smart contract” software coding capabilities. Many began to understand that cryptos could do anything traditional software could do, while offering a different, decentralized network, investing and profit model.

By early summer, even as Bitcoin and cryptos in general had pulled back from astounding runs, the possibilities of NFTs (Non-Fungible Tokens) were fast emerging.

Everything from music and artwork ownership rights and profits, to objects and land parcels in virtual worlds—now tagged with the buzzword “Metaverse”—could be encompassed by NFT-fueled ecosystems.

AXIE Infinity, a blockchain metaverse game built on a model where players shared in the game profits via an NFT ecosystem, saw its network crypto token go from two dollars to 150 dollars in two months.

Then Facebook announced it was changing its name to META, and the SEC finally approved a bitcoin ETF product for mainstream investors.

El Salvador also figured in, making waves in September as the first country in the world to accept a cryptocurrency, Bitcoin, as legal tender.

Despite the turkey day slump, many analysts expect cryptocurrencies and blockchain projects to finish the year strong. What started the year at a 1 Trillion market cap will likely end 2021 north of 3 Trillion.

And yet, it's still only just beginning for the innovations envisioned for blockchains and related DLTs (Distributed Ledger Technologies).

TREND FORECAST: Mayor-elect Eric Adams understands that the financial sector that is the lifeblood of NYC needs to adapt to the new realities, and offer synergies that can benefit crypto projects, while creating tremendous wealth, and potentially, a fairer system than the current one.

But cryptos are bigger than any city, or even any country. They are disrupting the world. And governments, central banks and even established mega corporations are still grappling with the whirlwind paradigm shift.

They have a sense that they can't stop the innovations. But they are not prepared to cede their influence and control.

*Governments will speed up the introduction of official CBDCs (Central Bank Digital Currencies). As the **Trends Journal** has previously pointed out, the CBDCs they create will be digital trash.*

Meanwhile, corporations that have controlled the internet, application ecosystems and social network and media platforms, have abused their powers. They pervasively track their user bases to analyse and profit in various ways off that data.

They have also exerted increasingly Orwellian political control, depersoning dissidents and relentlessly propagandizing to further their own objectives.

In short, political, financial and corporate elites have lots of reasons not to like the crypto revolution.

Many will advocate for suppressing or even banning cryptos like bitcoin, following China's example.

But that would be a major mistake. China literally can't embrace decentralized, community driven, permissionless blockchain innovations.

The West, if it so chooses, can. There is a history, especially in the U.S., of personal and entrepreneurial freedom.

More forward-thinking leaders like Eric Adams are needed. NYC could see a powerful resurgence based on the crypto revolution, but Adams won't be able to do it alone.

The U.S. can pursue a prudent regulatory framework that allows markets and new innovations to compete. It could also seek to return the dollar to a standard of value which can act together with crypto tokens, to ensure the integrity of

both. Cryptos can keep the dollar honest, while the dollar keeps crypto tokens honest.

Will it happen?

We certainly can hope.

8. LABOR UNION COMEBACK



In October, **Trends Journal** asked, "Where have all the workers gone?"; see ["SPOTLIGHT: WORKERS ON DEMAND"](#) (22 Oct 2021), which told of a labor market already at historically low levels and suffering from low participation, with record numbers quitting or retiring across all demographics. That article also, in its **TREND FORECAST**, predicted that labor unions, after a long period of decline in the U.S., would make a comeback.

Another **Trends Journal** article, ["THE GREAT RESIGNATION': WILL JOBS COME BACK?"](#) (16 Nov 2021), quantified that phenomenon, pointing to the 4.43 million Americans who quit their jobs in September, the highest number since 2000, which brought this year's total to a record 34.5 million and the quit rate to a record high of 3 percent; also see ["RECORD QUIT RATES: TAKE YOUR JOB AND SHOVE IT"](#) (16 Nov 2021).

TRENDPOST: *In the 1960s, a slogan (derived from a poem by Carl Sandburg and made popular by anti-war activists) asked, "What if they had a war and nobody came?" Now, in the 2020s, the question might be, "What if they had jobs available and nobody applied?"*

Now even those employed are growing restive.

Workers at Amazon (which probably considers itself among the world's most enlightened employers) have formed a coalition calling itself "Make Amazon Pay," and chose Black Friday to stage a global protest demanding better wages, job security and working conditions; that last category includes demands for "suspension of harsh productivity [requirements?] and surveillance," as reported on 26 November by *Yahoo! Finance*.

The report also notes that, last month, workers in an Amazon warehouse in Staten Island, NY, "filed for a union vote." This is indicative of a push for unionization across the Amazon workforce.

Elsewhere, already-unionized workforces are flexing their muscles. Workers at John Deere plants across the country walked out for the first time in 35 years, and some 1,400 Kellogg's workers staged a similar strike; see ["DEERE EMPLOYEES GO ON STRIKE: MORE STRIKES TO COME"](#) (19 Oct 2021).

The shortage of workers and the desire of employed workers to organize and go on strike share a common root cause: people are far less-inclined to perform menial, unfulfilling jobs for meager pay. (See ["RECORD QUIT RATES: TAKE YOUR JOB AND SHOVE IT"](#))

This is at the root of low participation in the job market (which is gauged on the number of people employed or actively seeking work); when enough people are simply no longer motivated to seek work, the demand for workers exceeds the supply, and so those who are employed are emboldened to make their own demands, knowing that, if their demands aren't met, there are other jobs that desperately seek workers to fill them.

TREND FORECAST: *Unionization will continue to be a top trend; the more limited the supply of workers (made worse by "No Jab, No Job" mandates; (see ["WANT TO KEEP YOUR JOB? GET THE JAB!"](#) and ["NO JAB, NO JOB. VACCINE MANDATES 'WORKING'"](#)), the more powerful the trend toward unionization will be.*

And, as inflation continues to rise faster than wages, corporations that wish to incentivize their workforce to do and give the best they can, will raise the pay scale to levels higher than inflation rates. In doing so, they will create atmosphere's of mutual appreciation.

9. SELF SUFFICIENT ECONOMY



After almost a year of clogged and kinked supply chains, shortages of things from computer chips to corn chips, and prices rising through the stratosphere, in 2022 nations will rediscover the necessity of being self-sufficient.

Once upon a time, before the Age of Globalization, most “developed” nations produced much of what they needed and imported goods commodities they didn’t have and/or couldn’t produce in their homeland.

But with globalization, where only the bottom line counts and nations send their manufacturing and production to countries with the cheapest labor, self-sufficiency was no longer a foundation of national interest... even among nations, such as the U.S., that have the human and natural resources to be self-sufficient.

Leading the Charge

With its eye on the future, China’s “dual circulation” economic policy is leading the trend ([“China Announces “Dual Circulation” Economic Policy,”](#) 9 Sep 2020).

Since the 1980s, China has grown its economy by emphasizing manufacturing and exports, a policy dubbed “external circulation.”

Now China has cultivated an expanding middle class and moving up the ladder lower class that is capable of supporting its own consumer economy—an “internal circulation” of goods and services—where its population of 1.4 billion people buy products, create fashion, sounds and styles that are “Made-in-China.”

The dual circulation policy still emphasizes making goods for export and generating income from foreign sales, but places equal weight on consumer spending that will leave China’s economy less dependent on the ups and downs and geopolitical clashes of world markets.

As we reported in [“In China, Domestic Brands Outpace Western Icons”](#) (29 Jun 2021), a wave of nationalism stirred by China’s growing economic power and domestic wealth already has led many Chinese consumers to forsake Coca-Cola, Nestlé, Maybelline, and other western brands they have prized in recent years. Thus, the brands of choice for the Chinese people for generations to come will be brands of China.

Those imports are being displaced by domestic-made items such as the soft drink Genki Forest, Three Squirrels snacks, and Perfect Diary cosmetics.

Even China’s multi-decade Belt and Road Initiative is part of the move toward self-sufficiency.

By funding ports, airports, mining projects, and other development in countries holding the resources China’s factories will need in years ahead, China is laying first claim to those resources, locking down supplies that other countries might compete for.

Inspired by China’s example, other countries will analyze their own internal resources to determine how they can disentangle themselves from foreign

dependency, avoid being ensnared in global supply-chain disruptions, and become more self-sufficient.

Larger countries, such as Australia, Russia, and the U.S. will have the best chance to increase their self-sufficiency because they have not only the population but also deposits of natural resources needed to supply their own factories and industries.

The beginnings of this new awareness was reflected in U.S. president Joe Biden's infrastructure plan, which allotted \$50 billion to strengthen and expand the U.S. semiconductor sector (["\\$2.3-Trillion Infrastructure Deal: Won't Fix Infrastructure, Won't Fix Economy,"](#) 13 Apr 2021).

The trend also is pervading industry, where auto companies are forming alliances with semiconductor makers to protect their future supplies (["Will Auto Alliances Protect Chip Supply?"](#) 23 Nov 2021).

Even households recognize the need for greater self-sufficiency, stockpiling toilet paper and building savings accounts during the COVID crisis.

From families to industries to nations, self-sufficiency will be a key trend in 2022, with China leading the way.

For more on self-sufficiency and China's dual circulation policy, see:

- ["Foreign Investors Pour Another \\$120 Billion Into Chinese Markets,"](#) 16 Nov 2021
- ["China's Factory Production Slows, Services Continue Strong,"](#) 2 Nov 2021
- ["China's Economy Slowing?"](#) 28 Sep 2021
- ["China's Consumers Boost Spending,"](#) 11 May 2021

TREND FORECAST: A major factor in populist movements that we forecast will accelerate will be for nations to become "Self-Sufficient." A key element of anti-globalization/anti-establishment platforms will be a call to restore the

individual and unique arts, crafts and trade talents that once identified countries... but has all but vanished with globalization.

10. LOW TECH SIMPLICITY



One of the impacts of the supply chain problems being experienced worldwide—see ["WORLD'S SUPPLY CHAIN SNARLED UNTIL WELL INTO NEXT YEAR"](#) (14 Sep 2021)—is the unavailability of semiconductor chips, the silicon wafers which are necessary for so many high-tech electronic devices; see ["MORE CHIP SHORTAGES, HIGHER INFLATION"](#) (27 Apr 2021).

One industry particularly hard hit by that shortage is the automobile industry, given that modern cars and trucks are so dependent on computer systems for their operation, and contain so many high-tech accessories, like onboard computers, GPS systems and wireless connectivity.

The shortage of chips has meant fewer new vehicles built and fewer available to buy; see ["AUTO INDUSTRY CHIP SHORTAGE FALLOUT"](#) (24 Aug 2021) and ["GLOBAL CHIP SHORTAGE TO COST AUTO MAKERS \\$210 BILLION THIS YEAR"](#) (5 Oct 2021). It's also driven up the price of the vehicles that are available for purchase; in August the average U.S. price of a new automobile hit a record \$43,635, according to J.D. Powers.

And the impact also extends to all those whose livelihoods depend on the steady stream of new automobiles from manufacturers to consumers.

Automakers are dealing with the situation by consolidating and reducing the variety of different types of chips they use, and by partnering with chip manufacturers and even moving chip production to the U.S. from the offshore locations where such production has been concentrated; see ["WILL AUTO ALLIANCES PROTECT CHIP SUPPLY?"](#) (23 Nov 2021).

And some are delivering vehicles with their computer screens and other high-tech accessories disabled, but with the promise to retrofit the devices when the needed chips become available.

What is the extent of these problems? Can they be solved? Please see the special Trend Alert® article written by ASE Certified automotive technician *Sean Crimmins*.

TRENDPOST: *Considering that it was the U.S. that invented the technology and developed the market for semiconductor chips, one has to wonder just what "wisdom" informed the decisions to move chip manufacturing out of America, once upon a time, The Land of Opportunity.*

Low-Tech

Some manufacturers of chip-dependent equipment are taking quite a different approach. An article in *The Wall Street Journal* on 14 November tells how manufacturers are re-designing products to use fewer chips or even reverting to older, less-high-tech designs.

One example given is a snowmobile manufacturer who, unable to deliver products with working electronic security systems, is instead delivering them with physical locks. Another is a washing-machine manufacturer who is consolidating models and reverting to designs like the "classic washer at Grandma's" (which got clothes just as clean, without electronics).

The move is back toward simplicity, which is seen as "a big thing now," and which is "spurring innovation" that, rather than making things more efficient by making them more complicated, achieves efficiency by making them less complicated.

TREND FORECAST: The “simplicity” trend has great import for manufacturing in general, but especially for the automobile industry. Hi-tech, as we have detailed, has dramatically driven up the cost of automobiles... and have made them unaffordable for the shrinking middle classes.

Going Low-Tech, provides a very broad and profitable OnTrendpreneur® automobile opportunity.

For example, minus the costly screens and all they do to stop, start, steer and direct autos that are not essential for “average” drive time, consider how many people would be attracted to cars with old-fashioned "crank"-style windows; the small convenience of push-button, electronically-controlled windows would be offset by the knowledge that the only things that could disable the window mechanism would be rust or metal fatigue (rather than the myriad types of sometimes hard-to-diagnose failures—blown fuses, short-circuits etc.—to which power windows are vulnerable).

The world seemed to get along just fine without power-adjustable seats and mirrors, power-assisted doors and door locks. We could adjust the heat or air conditioning without automatic climate-control. We could even learn to maintain our tire pressure without tire inflation sensors, and we might even put down our phones and pay attention to our driving, instead of depending on blind-spot indicators and lane-departure warnings.

Such a return to simpler, low-tech systems would make cars more affordable, easier to repair and longer-lasting [see an essay on this topic by Sean Crimmins]. Survivalists have for years sought out cars made prior to 1968 on the belief that such pre-computer-equipped vehicles are less vulnerable to electro-magnetic pulse. But, EMP or not, there are far fewer things to go wrong in a car that's less dependent on computers and chips.

TREND FORECAST: *The trend toward Simplicity and away from high-tech will offer golden opportunities for Ontrendpreneurs®, in the automotive industry and across society in general, to prosper. It will dovetail with the trend toward simpler, "clean," "farm-to-table," "buy local" foods, and the nostalgic appeal of music, styles and even attitudes that harken back to "the good old days."*

Aside from the practical benefits of a return to Simplicity, as Gerald Celente noted several years ago, "In nations across the world suffering from socioeconomic unrest and dim prospects for the future, any product/service remix of the past that entails a sense of the good old days will achieve wide consumer appeal."

FEATURED ARTICLES BY GUEST WRITERS



HI-TECH AUTO EXCESS

By *Sean Crimmins*

As an ASE Certified automotive technician since 1998, I have noticed certain trends in automotive and truck technologies that I fear may cause calamities for future generations. These concerns are not political in any nature whatsoever; they are simply issues that may greatly impact the general public when it comes to vehicle ownership, the right to repair, and financial hardship.

1. Overly Complicated Technologies

There are many integrated systems in the modern automobile. These systems are run by electronic "modules" which are basically computers that govern different circuitries within the automobile. Some examples are the PCM (Powertrain Control Module), BCM (Body Control Module), SRS (Supplementary

Restraint System, for the airbags), as well as numerous other proprietary modules, depending on the make and model of the vehicle.

One issue that arises is that a defect in a module can affect the entire operation of the vehicle, including unrelated circuits, because they all communicate via a controlled network with a type of binary code. For example, I had a customer who had changed a headlamp bulb and did not plug it in all the way. The arcing of the headlamp was detected by the BCM, which then caused the PCM to operate the engine under a “limp mode” and even caused a dangerous situation where the engine stopped running. In short, because a headlamp was faulty it caused the engine to turn off.

2. Proprietary Means are Necessary to Make Repairs

Software tools needed to repair modern vehicles are becoming more proprietary, which makes it almost impossible for most independent repair businesses to conduct their work.

As an example, some simple replacement parts such as a window switch or Body Control Module require “dealership only” proprietary software tools in order to program the components to operate as designed. The John Deere Co. is currently facing class-action lawsuits for prohibiting access to such software tools required to make such repairs on late-model tractors.

These software barriers create corporate monopolies on repairs, and appear to take aim directly at independent repair shops and the owners of the equipment.

3. Parts Availability and Sub-Par Aftermarket Alternatives

Many vehicle manufacturers stop producing parts for their vehicles after 10 years. Many also make reproduction key-making services unavailable after 10 years. This means, when working on a vehicle of that age, the OEM (original equipment manufacturer) parts and even keys for the vehicle may no longer be obtainable.

Most independent repair shops nevertheless prefer to install aftermarket production parts as the purchase prices are less expensive; however, this is an industry that appears to be becoming increasingly unreliable. As a technician, I find that as much as 25 percent of all aftermarket parts are either defective or require modification in order to work.

In one particular instance, the OEM part required for a repair was no longer available, and I needed to order a part seven times, all from different top-end aftermarket manufacturers, before I received a part that wasn't defective. Sometimes neither aftermarket nor OEM parts are available, which forces the technician to seek out salvage replacement used parts for vehicles as little as ten years old.

4. Non-Technician-Friendly Vehicle Manufacturing Practices

Many late model vehicles are manufactured in a way that makes it impossible for the average mechanically inclined owner to conduct repairs.

Examples of such are found in the lack of access provided to repair superficial engine oil leaks such as from a timing cover or cam carrier seal.

During manufacturing, ease of engine installation in the vehicle chassis is achieved by installing the engine in a "cradle" that is bolted to the bottom of the motor. In order to conduct some basic superficial oil seal repairs, the entire engine needs to be lowered from the bottom of the vehicle.

Most owners, even those mechanically inclined, do not have access to the equipment needed to raise a vehicle some 6 feet off the ground in order to conduct repairs that otherwise should be accessible.

5. Non-Warranted Necessary Repair Costs Make Used Vehicle Ownership Impossible

Many late model trucks employ a "cab forward" design that allows luxurious cab spacing for the occupants; however, it also creates extremely limited access to

engine components. Some engine repairs for these trucks recommend a “cab off” repair procedure that requires the entire body of the truck to be removed from the frame of the vehicle. Owners may find themselves in situations where, in order to repair components to the motor, they may face a bill in the tens of thousands of dollars.

For the average owner, once the vehicle is no longer covered under warranty, such expense can impose great financial hardship, and just the threat of needing such repairs can render the vehicle so much a potential liability that it is no longer practical to own.

6. Future Industry Technologies and Their Induced Handicap to Independent Repair Shops

Vehicles are becoming more technically advanced and manufacturers are attempting to create an environment of greater connectivity between the vehicle and the driver. The greater the sophistication of these critical components, however, the greater the expense that must be paid by the owner to remedy problems.

For example, there are proposals that may require all new vehicles to employ a type of passive blood alcohol testing apparatus that must be engaged by the potential driver before the vehicle can be started. This may be achieved by touch-sensitive steering wheels, touch-sensitive push start buttons or air sampling equipment within the cabin.

Regardless of how the manufacturer wants to achieve this, one can speculate that repairing such systems 10 years after the manufacturing date may be extremely difficult or impossible for independent repair shops.

There are also proposals for “drive by wire” steering systems in which there is no direct mechanical link between the steering wheel and the steering rack that physically turns the wheels. This lack of direct mechanical linkage allows manufacturers greater architectural freedom when designing the interior of the vehicle and it also allows for a more occupant-friendly environment that includes

greater room, lack of road vibration from the steering linkage and a more streamlined computer/driver interface for self-driving autonomous technologies.

With every step in more sophisticated technology, however, one can again speculate from the current trends that, in order to repair these systems, proprietary software tools will be needed that may be unavailable or inaccessible to independent repair shops.

To summarize these observations, as an ASE Certified automotive technician I am concerned that these future technologies and manufacturing practices may push many independent shops out of the industry.

Our modern society is dependent on passenger travel with automobiles; it is the cornerstone and fabric of our existence. These new technologies are of concern because the manufacturing trend appears to keep consumers in a state of financing a new vehicle without any exclusive right to repair or real ownership.

Without this right to repair, and with access to needed automotive software repair technologies limited for independent repair shops, the vehicle life cycle, from creation to landfill, becomes even shorter.

No matter how we look at it, resources are finite. Not only are these trends wasteful in resources, but these apparent corporate monopolies appear to infringe upon the liberties and freedoms of consumers and independent repair shops alike.

In 2001 the Motor Vehicle Owners' Right to Repair Act was introduced to the United States Congress but, while adopted by the Massachusetts legislature in 2012, it has never passed on the Federal level.