

Maskerne falder: Vi må have en »Kreativitetskultur« til erstatning for »Dødskulturen« LaRouche PAC Internationale Webcast, 2. marts., 2018

Vært Matthew Ogden: I sin afhandling, »Teatret som en moralsk institution« (original titel: Die Schaubühne als eine moralische Anstalt betrachtet), beskrev den tyske digter fra det 18. århundrede, Friedrich Schiller, noget ironisk klassisk teater og klassisk drama som det område, »hvor alle masker falder. Sminken fjernes. Sandheden er dommer«.

I klassisk drama, såsom i tragedierne i oldtidens Grækenland, eller Shakespeares tragedier, eller Schillers egne tragedier, f.eks.; eller i de største operaer af Giuseppe Verdi for at tage et andet eksempel, blev scenen, den klassiske scene, brugt som instrument for samfundets moralske og æstetiske opdragelse. Tragedie har evnen til at fremkalde i os erkendelsen af vore egne tåbeligheder, de fejl, der findes i os. Og vi ser reflekteret på scenen foran os, de ærefrygtindgydende konsekvenser af disse fejl, disse tåbeligheder, som, ifald de fik lov at bestå, udspilles på vores egen forestillingsevnes scener og tilbagekastes til os i det frygtelige spejl i form af en rædselsvækkende og frygtindgydende forudsigelse. I disse øjeblikke transformeres vi fra at være passive tilskuere til at blive levende medlemmer af dramaet, og vi forlader teatret med ny visdom og forhåbentlig en ny vilje til at handle for, for enhver pris, at forhindre de rædsler, vi så udspilles på denne scene, i at blive til virkelighed.

Men hvis denne moralske og æstetiske opdragelse af et samfund imidlertid slår fejl, eller mislykkes, og et samfunds tåbeligheder finder sted uden at blive rettet, så ophører tragedien med at være begrænset til scenen og flyder over i det virkelige liv, hvilket undertiden fører til ødelæggende, virkelige konsekvenser.

Vi ser nu de faktiske og ligeledes de potentielle, virkelige konsekvenser af et sygt samfunds systemiske tåbeligheder, og af en forfejlet ideologi, som nu udspilles for vore øjne. I kølvandet på de forfærdelige begivenheder i Parkland,

Florida, den 14. feb., ser vi nu en generel opvågning i vores befolkning, en erkendelse af, at der er noget i vores kultur, som er meget, *meget* sygt; at noget i vores samfund er råddent, og at noget har fået lov til at gå forfærdelig galt, og som har bragt os til dette punkt.

Og det er ikke slut med de forfærdelige begivenheder i Parkland. Vi har netop hørt, i dag, at der er en situation med en aktiv skytte, der fortsat er under udfoldelse på et college i Michigan. Og Parkland var på ingen måde det første skoleskyderi.

Dette er blevet identificeret af guvernør Matt Bevin fra Kentucky, som selv har måttet håndtere et af disse skoleskyderier, på Marshall County High School i januar. Han har identificeret dette som en »dødkultur«, hvor han sagde, at selve værdien af menneskelivet er blevet degraderet.

Her følger engelsk udskrift af resten af webcastet:

I want to just play for you a short excerpt from some remarks that Gov. Matt Bevin had after this school shooting that occurred in his own state, at Marshall County High School in Kentucky, and this was weeks before the Parkland shooting even occurred. Here's what Gov. Matt Bevin had to say.

KENTUCKY GOV. MATTHEW BEVIN: Hi this is Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin. I want to start a dialogue with you, I want to start a conversation about something that is imperative, not only for Kentucky, but frankly for America. We have a cultural problem. The mores of America – there will be many that will confuse that with morality, although morality is certainly part of it – but the mores that define who we are and what is or is not acceptable, what we do or don't tolerate, where we draw lines and where we put boundaries, these things have been changing, and not for the better.

You look at what's happening in popular culture; this is not a religious issue. There'll be the nay-sayers and the pooh-pooh'ers who immediately think, "oh, you're going to talk about religion." I will tell you this, I'm going to talk about morality. Because if people don't believe they have responsibility to anyone other than themselves, that there is no pecking order of authority, that there is no absolute right and wrong, that everything is morally relative, when we live in that

time of morally gelatinous state, we have a problem. Because individuals, young and old alike, do not assume that their actions matter in any kind of consequential way beyond that immediate moment, and that is a problem, and this is what's happening to our culture: We are crumbling from within. And we are seeing this throughout our society. We're seeing in our classrooms, we're seeing it in our communities, and – let's be honest – it starts in our homes.

I am challenging everybody who has anything to do with what I'm about to say, to take this to heart and let's start a conversation. Look at our popular culture. Look at our movies, – the violence, the disregard for the value of human life; we are becoming increasingly desensitized, our young people are desensitized to it. We have a culture of death in America. We can pretend we don't. We can think that people can separate that from fiction, from their lives, from that which they see, but if they're immersed in it at every turn – in television, in movies, in music, all of it! Listen to the lyrics of music today, it celebrates a culture of death! Not all of it – fair enough – but an amazing amount of it. And parents, I'm asking you to wake up and be aware of what it is that your children are listening to.

Do you young people, be mindful of what you put in, because it becomes a part of your entire physiology, your entire mental makeup. It becomes a part of who you are. You are a creation of what you surround yourself by.

Parents and others, I'm asking you to look at what kind of movies you go to see. For those that produce movies, I'm asking you, think about what you're feeding in – I know that we live in a day and age, where we need to shock people, more than the last time, or they won't pay attention, in sensationalism, in the shock value, maybe gets people to pay attention to something, puts eyes on something, and you can make a buck. But at what price? It's robbing us of the very fabric of our nation, and it's killing our young people.

Watch the television shows: We glorify murder, we glorify killing. It is becoming increasingly explicit, and we are desensitizing young people to the actual tragic reality in permanency of death. It's important for us to recognize this. Look at the video games that are played. Yes, they may be marked for "Mature audiences," but I'm telling you, those of you who make a dollar producing these movies, and those of you who

buy them and bring them into your homes, you know full well, that many young people – and old people – are playing these games and becoming desensitized. When you get extra points and are encouraged to brutally kill people, and when the blood and the mayhem and the carnage is increasingly real, it desensitizes people.

And if it's a shock to us now, that suddenly we are seeing a prevalence of, and increasing amount of this happening, not in a video game, not on a television show, not in a movie, not in the lyrics of a song, but in real life as young people act out that which they are surrounded by, that which they're immersed in, this is a cultural problem in America! And I'm asking the people who produce this media, the people who produce this entertainment; I'm asking the people who profit from it; I'm asking for those of you who are executives in the social media ranks – and I am a big believer in the Constitution of the United States, and in our freedom of speech – but we have got to start to think about the {filth}, let's be honest, that is feeding through so many of the mediums, covered and protected by things that perhaps are not good for us; protected by a Constitution that is good for us, but creating an end-result that is not.

What are those boundaries? I don't know. Should there be any? Should there be some content that is not given to us, and to children, without any kind of filter or screen? These are conversations we need to have: It is a cultural problem. Our culture is crumbling from within, and the cost of it is high. The societal and emotional and psychological and moral cost is becoming more than our nation can bear.

I've spent time with mothers and fathers who have lost children in tragic instances. And there is no ability, there are no words to describe the grief of a parent, the grief of a sibling, the grief of a friend, the grief of classmate, of a teacher, of a community, who have lost someone that is an immediate part of their family or their community.

Something has to be done. Let's start a dialogue. How exactly it forms, I don't know. But I'm calling on other governors, I'm calling on the President of the United States, I'm calling on our U.S. Congress; I'm calling on anyone who's in a position of influence, every superintendent, every CEO of every media company that produces a video game, that is violent in its nature, the movie producers that make the movies, the record

producers who produce the music that we listen to – all of you – we've got to step up. We're the adults, let's act like it! Let's step forward, let's start a conversation, and let's figure out how to try to repair this fabric of America, that's getting shredded beyond recognition.

Thank you. [end video]

OGDEN: Now, Gov. Matt Bevin did something very unique there. Instead of what we've become accustomed to, in the aftermath of one of these horrific events, to point at one or another scapegoat, or one or another mechanism that failed, or one or another thing that maybe went wrong, we fail to perhaps consider that the fault lies within ourselves, that the fault lies within our own culture.

Now, it's obviously unspeakable beyond words, for an event like one of these mass shootings or school shootings to occur even once, as we were horrified to witness. But it is absolutely inconceivable that we've allowed these shootings to occur, again, and again, for now almost 20 years, since the first high-profile event happened at Columbine High School, in Littleton, Colorado in 1999, – almost 20 years ago. But the tragedy lies in the fact that it didn't just happen once, it happened over and over, and that the society which witnesses each one of these events might be appalled and outraged, but the underlying cause remains unaddressed.

As the father of one of the victims in the Parkland shooting said, in tears, during a listening session that President Trump hosted at the White House, with family members of the victims, he said, "My child is dead! I will never, ever see her again. But why – why do we keep letting this occur? Why does this keep happening to so many people?" And he vowed that he will not sleep until something substantive has been done to prevent this from ever happening again.

Now President Trump has responded to this, to Parkland in a way that no previous President has, frankly. In addition to this listening session, which he hosted at the White House, he's held multiple meetings with members of Congress, with governors, with state and local elected officials to discuss actual solutions, emphasizing that something needs to be done. Action is needed, and not just posturing and not just political talk which will make us feel as if we are doing something, he said, but we must actually do something. So, while many of the so-called solutions

which have been put on the table are practical, and specific, such as hardening sites, and increasing police presence, and improving the early warning system to prevent persons, like this shooter, for example, from slipping through the cracks when there were many, many warning signs stretching over years – for the first time, in addition to these practical solutions, which are necessary – for the first time, in addition to this, the more systemic and underlying problems of the culture have now been put on the table, along the lines of what Gov. Matt Bevin has raised. I'd like to share with you, first, a short clip from a roundtable that President Trump held state and local officials on Feb. 22nd; this occurred at the White House, where President Trump himself, goes right to the core of this pervasive culture of violence, which is promulgated through popular entertainment. Listen to what President Trump had to say:

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP: We have to look at the internet, because a lot of bad things are happening to young kids and young minds, and their minds are being formed. And we have to do something about maybe what they're seeing and how they're seeing it. And also video games: I'm hearing more and more people say, the level of violence in video games is really shaping young people's thoughts.

And then you go the further step, and that's the movies, you see these movies, they're so violent, and yet, a kid is able to see the movie if sex isn't involved. But killing is involved. And maybe they have to put a rating system for that. And you get into a whole, very complicated, very big deal, but the fact is that you are having movies come out that are so violent, with the killing and everything else, that maybe that's another thing we're going to have to discuss. And a lot of people are saying, you have these movies today where you can go and have a child see the movie, and yet it's so violent and so disgusting, so we may have to talk about that also.... [end video]

OGDEN: Now, this came up again at a Feb. 26th roundtable meeting which President Trump hosted with the governors from around the country. And first what you'll see in this clip is a brief mention, by President Trump in his opening remarks, of this topic, and then you'll see Gov. Matt Bevin himself, who was present, and used that forum to repeat his point about the

prevailing culture of death which undermines the morality of our population and degrades the image of man and the value of human life. And he challenges {every} person in a position of authority in this country, to use that position of authority, to address this cultural problem.

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP: We must strive to create a culture in our country that cherishes life and condemns violence and embraces dignity... Matt?

KENTUCKY GOV. MATTHEW BEVIN: I do think it's important for us to start at every level, with your office, with our respective offices as well, to seize the bully pulpits that we have to talk about the culture in this society. And I would challenge those in the media who would want to mock and ridicule this, and would want to say that anybody who advocates for this, to find some fault in that person as a reason why that person should not be the one advocating for a higher level of moral authority or higher mores, to think twice, because these are your children and grandchildren as well. And when we mock and ridicule the very foundational principles that this nation was built upon, where you treat people the way you'd want to be treated, where you respect human life, where you respect the dignity of women, and of children, and of people who we have increasingly degraded in our society. This culture of death is becoming pervasive. And if it's not addressed by all the imperfect people in this room, with a sense of purpose and a sense of aspiration, I think we're going to see a continued trajectory that's not good.

Many things have not changed. There have always been guns, and there were fewer restrictions. There have always been guns in homes, and fewer rules. It isn't to say that these rules and these restrictions are necessarily bad, but what has changed is what we do or don't do as it relates to acknowledging the value and the dignity of every human life. And when you couple that with the number of psychiatric drugs that are increasingly systemic and that have very severe warnings associated with them related to depression and suicidal thoughts, you put all these things in a mess and no one among us is bold enough or willing to step up and challenge the fact, that this is a problem, this is why it goes unchallenged.

And I would call on you, Sir, as I'm calling on my

fellow-governors and myself, to seize the opportunities we have to call America to higher action as it relates to our mores. Thank you.

PRESIDENT TRUMP: Thank you Matt.

And that's why we're here. And I think – I don't know if it's going to be mentioned, but you have to also look at videos – they're {vicious}, you look at some of these videos; I mean, I don't know what this does to a young kid's mind. Somebody growing up and forming, and looking at videos where people are just being blown away left and right. The internet movies, you look at these movies that are out today, I see just by a commercial, the level of craziness and viciousness in the movies – I think we have to look at that, too. Maybe we have to put a ratings system on that. They have a ratings system for other subjects, maybe we have to do a ratings system for that. But it has to have an impact on – it doesn't take many months – if it was 1% or less, that's a lot. That's all it takes. It just takes one person to do tremendous damage. I think it's something we have to look at also. [end video]

OGDEN: So, we can see an awakening happening in this country. And it's very significant, when confronted with the real world consequences of a failure by our society, by our very culture itself, a failure to protect our children, to protect our young people, to protect our future; where literally, we have led ourselves to a culture where {children kill children}, and this is almost becoming commonplace. Finally, people are beginning to wake up.

But the discussion, while very good, to the extent that it has progressed, it must, must go much further, and much deeper. Let's look back 20 years, and this was at the moment that the first such high-profile, horrific school shooting happened, which many people who were alive at that time, remember today: Columbine. Ironically, a lot of the kids that are now in school today, have lived their life under the shadow of Columbine and were not even born at the point that that shooting occurred. But Lyndon LaRouche, in the immediate aftermath of that horrific event, wrote a paper in which he addressed the reality of what actually that horrific event represented. This is in the aftermath of that, but not only should the realization of LaRouche's prescience for what we're seeing today, and what we've

seen over the past 20 years be shocking to you, and think about how many children, and how many other victims have died and have suffered in the intervening period, because nothing was done, at that time, to address what the root cause of this sickness was. But also, you should be challenged by the depth of what he addresses as the necessary cure to this cultural sickness that has led to these events.

So let me read you some excerpts from this paper that Mr. LaRouche wrote, and this was back in June 11, 1999. ["Star Wars and Littleton," {EIR} July 2, 1999:

<http://www.larouchepub.com/eiw/public/1999/eirv26n27-19990702/index.html>]

"Unless the U.S. government, and many relevant other influentials, change their view of this problem, abandoning the useless approach they have publicized thus far, the horror will continue, gun laws or no gun laws. Unless relevant institutions get down to the serious business of addressing the actual causes for this pattern of incidents, this murderous rampage will persist...My function, in this report, is to define the methods which must be brought to bear, if the danger posed by this new form of terrorism is to be brought under control... If you are willing to be serious, at long last, you will now turn your attention to the scientific roots of the problem...

"...Merely ending the sale of satanic video games, such as Doom..., will not put this horror back in the box from whence it came. This new problem of terrorism must be attacked, by focussing on the conditions which many readers have been complicitly condoning. Face the fact, that it might be your negligent tolerance which has contributed to the popularizing of such video games and cult films, especially the spread of these among suggestible children and adolescents.

"...What are the methods which have, similarly, turned so many among our children and adolescents into such "zombies" as those killers?...

"To grasp the horror posed by such cases, restate the same problem as a national-security topic. For that purpose, the leading subject for discussion, as posed by the Littleton and kindred cases, is {terrorism by children}. Stating the problem in that way, brings the sheer, satanic horror of the matter into focus.

"The following pages ... will represent a serious

intellectual challenge for many readers, but, for those who really wish to bring an end to the spread of more horrors like the Littleton massacre, the extra reading-time and thought this report requires, is more than well worth every second spent...

"How does one corrupt innocent children into becoming psychotic-like killers? The quick answer to that question, is: {dehumanize} the image of man. The details of the way this leads to the production of youthful 'Nintendo' terrorists, are a more complicated matter. Nonetheless, it is no oversimplification to say, that once that first step, dehumanizing the image of man, is accomplished, the axiomatic basis has been established, to make war, and killing, merely a childish game...

"Before you pull that trigger, tell me: 'What is the difference between a human being and a beast?'"...

"...[T]he focus should be on the conflict between the view of mankind as specifically human, as against the intrinsically immoral view of the human species as 'just another animal.' ...

"The difference between the man and the beast lies in the quality of human cognition. This is otherwise known as those cultivatable creative mental powers through which an individual mind may contribute to all mankind the original discovery of a single, validatable, universal physical principle. This is also the method used in those Classical humanist modes of education, in which the student's re-enactment of some historic discovery of a validated universal principle, is the mode of education employed, as opposed to so-called 'textbook' learning. This is also to be recognized as the principle of metaphor central to all Classical artistic composition since the time of Classical Greece.

"The fact that we are able to demonstrate the validity of these discovered universal physical principles, shows that the universe itself is predisposed, by design, to obey man's will when such universal principles, discovered in this way, are applied to man's increasing mastery over nature. {The act of discovery of a universal physical principle, whose application directly increases mankind's power in and over the universe, is, in first approximation, the only rational definition of truth, the only proof that human reason is in accord with the Creator's definition of truthfulness.}...

"This faculty, of validatable cognition, is the quality of the human individual which sets all persons apart from, and above the beasts..."

"...See a child's face suffused with happiness, at the moment the child senses a validatable original rediscovery of some principle. The passion which ennobles the great performance of any accomplished work of Classical artistic composition, whether in poetry, the performance of great tragedy, great Classical painting, or music, is the same joy with which the child is illuminated by experience of a cognitive act of discovery of some principle—whether or not the child knew that many people had made that same discovery earlier...

"...The non-deductive process of discovery, which leads to proof of principle through experimental validation of that discovery as a universal principle, is the proper strict definition of the term {Reason}. ...It is that capacity for {Reason}, so defined, which defines the unique quality of the mentally healthy human specimen, as representing a distinct species, apart from and above all beasts.

"This quality of the person, this divine spark of Reason innate to the human individual, is the kernel of the proof of Moses' formulation, that man and woman are each made (equally) in the image of the Creator of the universe...

"An idea, is any validatable discovery of universal principle, which is generated within the mind of the knower, by no different means than cognition, as I have defined cognition above. The tragedies of Aeschylus and Sophocles, and the dialogues of Plato, or the tragedies of Shakespeare and Schiller, are models of artistic compositions, by means of which the artist prompts the regeneration of his idea respecting principles of social relations, within the mind of the audience...

"...[T]he underlying social relations among persons must be, axiomatically, the relations among their cognitive processes. The underlying issue of social relations, is how individuals interact in terms of the ordering of, or, the inertness of their respective cognitive processes...

"The progress of civilization has been shaped by a process of humanizing the image of man, as distinct from, and higher than the animals. Christ and his Apostles embedded this principle within European civilization. The process of Nietzsche's and others' de-civilization, is to attempt to reverse that process, to dehumanize the image of man, to bring man's status back ... to the status of just another lower form of life...

"...The only moral purpose of education, is to develop an entire population up to the level of scientific and moral

knowledge necessary, not only to perpetuate society at no less than its present level of power in the universe, but to carry the process of development of the whole population a step upward.

"The purpose of education is to develop the cognitive potentials of each and every person up to that standard of quality as a citizen, to develop an individual whose life qualifies as a permanent part of the simultaneity of eternity. {The proper purpose of education, is to affirm the universality of humanity, and to accomplish this through embodying the history of the discovery of universal ideas within the cultivated personality of the matriculated student.}

"See, from this standpoint, how things went so terribly wrong. Think of the successive downward steps in our educational systems and popular culture, which brought us up to the point of decadence that phenomena like the Littleton horror are now a typical feature of our culture in this time...

"...When we allow the natural, human nature of children and adolescents to be crushed ..., when we seek to suppress the role of the cognitive function, when we substitute the act of merely learning for the act of actually knowing, we produce, as was done, increasingly, during the first post-World War II decades, the kind of future adult who will come to haunt us, and menace our world, when we have become old.

"What happens, when we allow those changes in national policy, which create an economy in which the adult members of the family household must work two or three jobs, or even more, among them, 'simply to make ends meet'? ... What happens when we have done to education what has been done during most of the recent three decades? Did you ever think about that, or do you avoid pangs of guilty pain by refusing to think about that?

"What happens, when your toleration of the past decades' changes in U.S. economic policies, creates a situation, today, when the family is no longer able (between many jobs to work each week, and much commuting between besides), to provide nurture to the children and adolescents of the family household? If your economic situation compels you treat your children so, as if they were stray dogs to be let into the house at feeding and sleeping times, how are you educating them?...

"...Think! What kind of a social identity are such unfortunate children and adolescents expressing?

"Perhaps you were building the road to the Littleton massacre? Not everyone who expresses such a poor sense of

personal self-identity in those ways, is necessarily going to go all the way to becoming a Littleton-style terrorist; but, such low self-esteem is a step down in the direction which might lead to such a horrible result in the succeeding generation of youth. You may not have intended that outcome, but, year by year, the parents and grandparents built the road which made reaching that destination possible.

“That explains, in part, how the road to the Littleton massacres was built...”

“To understand the kind of mentality which fosters the proliferation of horrors such as the Littleton massacre, look at the way in which so many in the U.S.A. responded to the way in which the British monarchy’s Blair government used its U.S. puppets... British financial oligarchy, and its debased monarchy, have openly stated their intent to revoke the doctrine of international law established by the 1648 Peace of Westphalia, this time in the case of Bloody Blair’s Balkan War...”

“The moral nation-state, the modern sovereign nation-state which our U.S. republic was intended to be, never conducts wars for pleasure, as the Littleton killers and Blair have done, or wars for revenge...”

“When we examine the role of sections of the U.S. military, in shaping the policies and techniques carried into action by the Littleton killers, we must take into account the fact that there is a connection between the recently increasing tendency for moral degeneration in our military and related institutions, and the causes for the Littleton horror and related cases... If such thinking within our military, is among the well-springs of phenomena such as Littleton, how shall we be rid of the latter, without purging ourselves of the former?...”

“The American way, is [to use] the power of victory to establish an order which is justly beneficial, to the victor and formerly vanquished, to rebuild, as Lincoln’s last public address proposed to rebuild the nation as if the Civil War had never occurred.

“Similarly: only by bringing that spirit back into our nation now, can we wean the damaged souls among our adolescents, of that wont for Nintendo warfare so horridly displayed at Littleton...”

“If we take into account, together, the present physical state, and direction of the world, and also the deteriorating mental and moral condition of populations throughout most of the

planet, as in the U.S.A. itself, we have already reached the threshold of the worst disaster known to the recorded history of the human species. Unless we reverse the policy-trends of the recent several decades, especially those cultural trends inside the U.S.A., there is little possibility of the survival of civilization in the Americas, western Europe, or Africa much beyond the beginning of the coming century.

"For most among you, that means that you must change, must free yourself from, especially, those habits of thinking you have built up during the recent quarter-century or longer. In a sense, you must be prepared to go back to the way we used to think when John F. Kennedy was President. Admittedly, there were lots of bad habits loose back then; but, that is still a good point of reference at which to begin the process of cleaning away the mass of cultural rubble which, unless cleared away, will ensure that our nation does not survive.

"Look at the Littleton horror as an omen, as the hands of the clock of history, pointing to the time in which we are living at this moment.

"You must change this nation, and perhaps yourself, too, before this nation, soon otherwise dies. Take Littleton as that kind of warning. It is past time that you acted to change the set of definitions, axioms, and postulates which have been controlling your opinions and other behavior during recent decades."

OGDEN: So, that was Lyndon LaRouche on June 11, 1999, almost 20 years ago. And it is shocking how prescient Mr. LaRouche's warning were, at that time, in the aftermath of the {first} of what has proven to be countless numbers of {horrible} spectacles that we saw at that Littleton massacre. Now's the time for us to let that sink in, and not be satisfied with just halfway, practical measures and partial solutions, but to realize in a moment of truly self-conscious reflection, in true Classical tragedy form, that the horror we're witnessing today, really is the sign of the disintegration of our society, a potential Dark Age, as Mr. LaRouche said in that report. And a stirring within ourselves of the realization that the only solution, is a clean break from those follies which have led us down that path, and decisive action to create a Renaissance in our understanding of what it means to be human, our view of man, a re-humanizing of the human individual, not to

just try to negate evil, but to try to replace this reigning culture of violence and this culture of death, with rather, a culture of creativity, which recognizes and celebrates that unique nature of the human species. And cultivates that divine spark creativity within every human individual, {every} child. Now, as Mr. LaRouche pointed out in that report, one cannot separate this sort of sickness in our culture, from the policies which have been expressed by our governing leadership for the last 50 years; especially the policy of endless war, killing, endless warfare, which has dominated our nation, really, since the Korean conflict, but in ever-increasing rates since the death of John F. Kennedy. And this was very usefully pointed out, just last week in an interview podcast by Coleen Rowley, who was a former FBI agent, and a whistleblower, actually, in the months leading up into 9/11. And you can see there, on the screen, that her podcast with "WhoWhatWhy" is titled, "FBI Whistleblower: American Culture of Violence Starts with Perpetual Wars." In this interview, Coleen Rowley addresses the issue that this kind of "domestic terror," as she calls it, as we're seeing with these mass shootings, in schools and otherwise, really does have very much to do with this culture of violence which we now have in the United States. And she pointed to the media's role in fostering this kind of widespread culture of violence. She stated that while the tendency in law enforcement is to try to treat every single one of these as the specific set of circumstances, which led down the path to every single one of these crimes, she said, the reality of what we are dealing with is really something much larger. She said: "Our culture is doing this, it's promoting this violent culture. And of course this is over and above the availability and easy access to weapons." You put all of this together and just those added up on their own "does explain the question. Columbine, why is this happening? Why are we experiencing an epidemic of mass violence? Again, our news never mentions that because ... we want to compartmentalize this and make it seem as if it's easily, it's not us as a culture." And then she pointed to some specifics. She said, it really is the influence of this perpetual war mentality on our society. She indicated that there are several studies that have come out, that veterans of these perpetual, endless wars are twice as likely to become mass shooters; and she also pointed out that the CIA and the Pentagon have had a sort of devil's bargain with the mass media and the entertainment media, movies and video games.

And she said that "The CIA and the Pentagon have been backing, helping make about 1,800 movies," including among them are the famous "American Sniper" movie from 2014, "Zero Dark 30" from 2012, and numerous others. She said in those movies, the hero will always be someone who is wronged, and then in the end, they shoot everyone: "A mentally impaired or emotionally troubled person is seeing themselves as that hero in those movies." That's a very useful affirmation of exactly that point, that you cannot compartmentalize, you cannot separate out all of these different, sick, sick phenomena. And our tendency is to try to scapegoat one thing, as opposed to realizing that the fault, perhaps, lies within ourselves as a culture.

But it goes even further than that, and I think as Mr. LaRouche made clear, we have to not be satisfied with partial remarks, and partial considerations. In the last number of years, more than just perpetual war and bloodshed, in an age of thermonuclear weapons, the ultimate conclusion of a culture of death, and this culture of perpetual war and violence, in which human life has lost its value and weapons of greater and greater destructive capability have become the central pillar of international policy and relations of states with other states, in this age of thermonuclear weapons, the ultimate conclusion of this mentality is the extinction of the human race.

We've now reached a point of decision. With the announcement just yesterday by the Russian President, of a new generation of weapons which have been developed by Russia which have the power to evade all known ballistic missile defense shields, flying at hypersonic speeds, some reaching Mach 20 – unbelievable speeds – under the power of nuclear propulsion, which allows them to fly almost endlessly, and can deliver, as he said, a doomsday payload literally anywhere on the surface of the planet at any time, truthfully, the era of belief in survivable limited nuclear war, or preventive nuclear first strike, or this global strike policy, which believed that you could knock out one nation's defenses and then launch a nuclear or conventional attack against them, that age is now definitely over. And this announcement has really caught the world by surprise.

As Helga Zepp-LaRouche characterized this: If everything which President Putin announced is in fact real, and there's no reason not to believe that to be the case, this is a complete "Sputnik-type" shock. It's also being compared to the Soviet

development of the hydrogen bomb in the 1950s, which completely shifted the so-called "strategic balance of power," and took the entire idea, at that time, of a preemptive nuclear strike against the Soviet Union off the table.

What Helga Zepp-LaRouche's assessment is, is that this announcement of an entirely new weapons system, based on "completely new physical principles," an obvious echo of course, of the language that was originally used in discussing the Strategic Defense Initiative, the SDI, that this is a qualitative leap of extreme significance, which shifts the entire international strategic framework.

And the follies of our belief in statecraft based on Mutually Assured Destruction, of dominance and so-called "deterrence" of geopolitics, all of these follies have now been exposed. The mask has fallen away. And humanity itself now sits before the judgment seat. Will we continue collectively, to pursue an ideology of nihilism, which necessarily, in the end, must lead to the destruction of civilization and the extinction of the human species in its ultimate consequence, if allowed to proceed to that point? {Or}, will we finally recognize the horror, {which we ourselves have wrought}, and awaken to the awful reality of the ultimate, real-life tragedy in the making, which is now unfolding around us

President Xi Jinping of China talks about creating a "community of common destiny." Now obviously, he discusses that in a beautiful sense, a win-win relationship among nations, where all nations are working toward the mutual benefit of others and are working towards the "common destiny of all mankind." Well, ironically, that common destiny already exists, but, in a negative sense, with this thermonuclear Sword of Damocles hanging over our heads, the potential for a "common destiny of humanity" for a global annihilation, is a very, very real thing. As Lyndon LaRouche made the point with regards to the warning that he delivered in that report that I read excerpts from – which he wrote, now, almost 20 years ago – when he foresaw the horrors which the events in Littleton presaged. Survival under these conditions will not come from within the theories, the axioms, the postulates, of the prevailing system, but survival can only be delivered through the overturning of those failed ideologies which form its foundations, and the construction of an entirely new outlook, based on truth, truthful principles; based on a recognition of what it really means to be man.

The ultimate principle which must come before, and precede everything else, not only in philosophy and education, and social relations, but in international strategic policy, and economic policy, is the recognition of the true nature of man, a species which is unique from all other species in its capacity for creativity, and the necessary ordering and subordination of everything else, to the cultivation and promotion of that.

So how does that principle play out on the world stage?

It's through rejecting the kind of anti-human, anti-development, anti-progress ideology, which has prevailed in the form of competitive strategic geopolitics, zero-sum economic policymaking; and instead, to consciously and scientifically decide, that the common destiny which man must pursue is not thermonuclear extinction and Mutually Assured Destruction warfare, but rather, mutually beneficial development and shared creative progress: Space exploration, the Strategic Defense of Earth from asteroids and other cosmic threats in our cosmic environment; the development of limitless power through the development of fusion energy – all of these, the list goes on and on and on.

{But this New Paradigm is already there. It's already in existence.} Just look at what China is doing, with the Silk Road, with the One Belt, One Road initiative. Look beyond all of the propaganda that you're being fed, about "Chinese hegemony" and so forth and so on. This is where the future lies: Mutually beneficial progress, development, the giving of the opportunity for the full cultivation of creative reason to every man, woman and child on this planet. The most beautiful example of this, just in the recent months, has been what China has already accomplished in the otherwise hopelessly destitute areas of Africa. And a beautiful report has just come out of Nigeria, where the idea of the Transaqua program to refill Lake Chad through massive water development and water-transfer projects, this idea which has been on the books for 20 years or more, is now becoming a reality.

These are the kinds of projects, these are the kinds of visions, these are the kinds of goals which bind us together as a common humanity, and will affirm, for our children and for ourselves, the beauty of mankind, and the true creative nature of this species. This is the antidote for a culture of death and a culture of despair which has plagued our nation and this is the vision which will inspire us, as we work to build this shared

destiny, this common future.

It's not only through negating what is evil, but it's through cultivating what is good, that man can be redeemed, and that we can cure this sickness which has infected our culture at its very root.

So let us allow those masks to fall away, and let us allow the truth to sit in judgment, recognizing that the fault lies within ourselves, within our very cultural values and beliefs which has led us down the road of tragedy. As the nation has mourned alongside the victims and the family members of those horrible events in Parkland, Florida, but has also been inspired by the courage of those family members and those survivors who have said, "Enough is enough: Let's bring an end to the so-called status quo. This must be allowed {never} to happen again! Let us commit ourselves to action now, before we reach the point of no return, to cure this culture, and to cure this world, of the sickness which threatens our very survival. And to resolve, that out of evil {must} come greater good."

For those who were victims in Florida, for those who are victims every day, of the diseases of depression and despair, addiction, overdose, opioids and heroin, and for all of us who now live under this thermonuclear Sword of Damocles which threatens to exterminate mankind in the blink of an eye, let all of us resolve: That we will no longer accept this culture of death, which prevails not only in our media, and in our entertainment, but underlies the very economic and strategic fabric of society. If there was {ever} a moment in which it is clear that the necessity of a New Paradigm for civilization is literally life or death, that moment is now.

So, let me conclude by returning to that essay by the poet Friedrich Schiller that I cited at the outset of this show, and read to you the closing section of this essay, which he titles "The Theater Considered as a Moral Institution." What Friedrich Schiller had to say, was:

"When grief gnaws at our heart, when melancholy poisons our solitary hours; when we are revolted by the world and its affairs; when a thousand troubles weigh upon our souls, and our sensibilities are about to be snuffed out underneath our professional burdens – then the theater takes us in, and within its imaginary world we dream the real one away; we are given back to ourselves; our sensibilities are reawakened; salutary emotions agitate our slumbering nature, and set our hearts pulsating with

greater vigor.

“And then, when man at last, in all districts and regions and classes, with all his chains of fad and fashion cast away, and every bond of destiny rent asunder – when man becomes his brother’s brother with a single all-embracing sympathy, resolved once again into a single species, forgetting himself and the world, and reapproaching his own heavenly origin, each takes joy in others’ delights, which then, magnified in beauty and strength, are reflected back to him from a hundred eyes, and now his bosom has room for a single sentiment, and this is: to be truly human.”

So let us resolve to make mankind truly human, to be our brothers’ brother, and to usher in a culture of creativity to replace this culture of death.

Thank you very much. And please stay tuned to

larouhepac.com.