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Part One Section 2
Domestic Tranquility, Biology,
And Dangerous Approaches to the National Debt

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Biological Factors, Domestic Tranquility, And Dangerous Approaches to the National Debt

Several essays in this book will address *The Preamble* to the U.S. Constitution. This is not because the *Preamble* is seen as some ancient formula with magical powers to resolve our many current dilemmas and crises. The *Preamble* does state the current legal premises for our highest national law, however, and the founders were amazingly insightful in what they laid down for our legal orientation. So we will be addressing the *Preamble* again and again, due to their wisdom, in this prologue for our legal rule.

Let us quote the *Preamble* now to set the orientation of this essay.

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common Defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution of the United States of America.

This essay addresses how the Republican refusal to consider new taxes, and the TEA Party insistence on cutting federal human services programs—sincere as these are—will lead to (1) a less perfect Union; (2) more destruction of the domestic Tranquility already in process; (3) work against the common Defense; (4) unravel more the general Welfare; and (5) not bless but curse the Blessings of Liberty for ourselves and our Posterity, *through the denial of biological needs for survival, security, and safety, of all Americans affected by their policies, if they continue or are put into place.*

This chapter is a *biological warning notice* to any in Washington DC considering what to do with the federal debt and deficits. The summary message is this: the forces of basic biology will not be denied, by anyone, or by any law. Biology, *the instincts for survival and self-preservation*, are stronger than any political party's plans, alliances, promises, patriotic statements, gridlock, propaganda, and surely stronger than lies.

We will start by looking at biological living creatures not human, our own pets. We will consider how we all understand their needs for survival and medical care, then how we treat them from our attachments and love for them. From those universal experiences, we will consider how we approach each other as citizens, how we love and treat

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ourselves. We then will consider evidence from psychology and psychiatry as to our needs as human beings, and some things we know for sure of how we human beings respond when our basic needs are removed—or denied by others.

Then we will connect these things with some factual evidence from American history on what some have done under the pressures of poverty. Finally, we will draw conclusions that point to the great care Congress must exercise on all approaches to the national debt, if we are to remain a stable constitutional democracy.

**Illustration Life Experiences:
The Needs of Our Pets**



Americans have pet dogs and cats. Anyone with a pet knows what happens if you do not feed the animal. First it barks or meows. Then it barks and meows a lot, looking at you as if to ask, “Why are you not hearing me?” Leave it unfed longer and it becomes irritable and frantic. Finally, it will go a little crazy. It may bite or scratch. Left alone to its own energies, it even will pull at its chain or try to claw out of its cage. A starving pet forgets its training and loyalty, and becomes a wild animal seeking to survive.¹

Owners know their pets also need more than food and water. Pet food often is less healthy than it should be, so many receive vitamins for their health and coats. Dogs need “chews” to keep their teeth and gums healthy. All pets can use a medical check-up. Many need medication against heart worm, worms, fleas, and even ticks if they go outside. Pets can be harmed by another animal. They can suffer accidents. Some develop internal diseases and disorders, cataracts, hearing problems—all things people experience.

¹ Ellert R.S. Nijenhuis, Johan Vanderlinden, and Philip Spinhoven, “*Animal Defensive Reactions as a Model for Trauma-Induced Dissociative Reactions*,” *Journal of Traumatic Stress* (Springer: The Netherlands) 11:2 (April 1998), pp. 243-260.

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Pets need love. If they are only fed and not shown affection, they become neurotic. Dogs jump up on us and claw. Cats may scratch and show their displeasure. Regular love and attention, occasional rewards and discipline are just normal needs for all pets. Emotionally neglected pets are sad to see, for they were born not only to live and survive. They were born to exist in groups where love and care for each other, mutual protection of the pack and coexistence, were just plain natural instincts too.



Good owners love their pets. Some rather middle class and even poor owners love their pets so much they sacrifice their own needs to pay for pet medical care. Some have sold antiques and possessions, stopped paying for their own medicines, to keep their little pet healthy and alive. Many a veterinarian has stories that would break your heart to hear of how some human beings love their pets and give all to give their little “boys” or “girls” what they believe will keep them alive to love.

Wealthy owners who love their pets—or see their pet as a direct reflection of themselves, in how the pet is treated—do things average Americans would only consider if they also had the money.

Normal care often includes professional baths, coat and nail care (including custom painted nails), paid human walkers and exercisers, pet day care, and surely, overnights at a pet motel if the owner is on a separate vacation or trip.



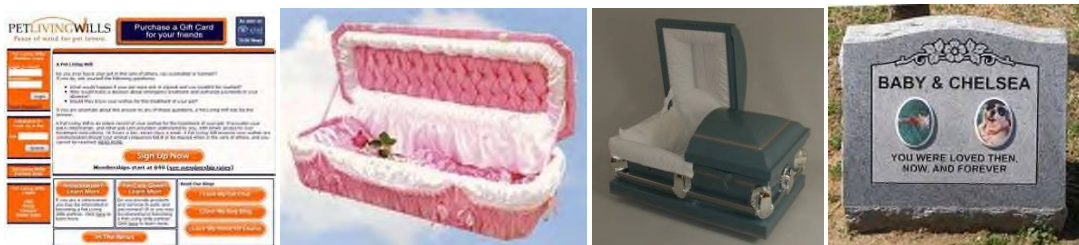
Really well-heeled pet owners have paid architects to design and build the equivalent of pet mansions with interior decoration, climate-controlled cooling and heating. To people

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not in these social classes, such expenses are inconceivable and a waste. Nevertheless, love for pets, to give them what owners feel they deserve for their animal goodness and love--as well the desire for ostentatious displays of wealth—make any and all expenses only relative to the capacity to express love. The very poor American who buys a fresh rib eye steak for the dog does not see this as excessive when she passes by a homeless person asking for a dollar. This is a matter of perspective.



Finally, some owners have left everything to their pets and nothing to human survivors. This generally has nothing to do with human meanness against their human families. The owners merely love their little pet family members, and want to provide for their care after death, or after the pet's death. The same is true for all goods and services sprung up to serve the wants and needs of people who love their pets in every way imagined, or created by the marketing imagination.

Pets Are Not People
But People Are Like Pets



It would be a truly wonderful thing if Americans who love their pets so well would see their fellow citizens as at least worthy of as much consideration, as living beings with needs *at least* comparable with pets. We are like pets in several natural ways, both physical and emotional.

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We need good food. We clean water for hydration and the elimination of toxins in our bodies. If our food is not a balanced diet, we need supplemental vitamins, or we could get the old ailment, scurvy, or something else. We need occasional medical check-ups and preventive care. We do not need shots for heart worm, or chemicals to protect us from parasites. Yet many of us need some regulation for heart or diabetic conditions. And just as some pets need medicine for hyperactivity or neurotic behaviors, some of us need those too.



Like pets we need regular baths. We do not wag our tails afterward, but we tend to smile and feel very good, like human beings. We like to have our hair trimmed and styled. We like ourselves better in the mirror, and when we go out in public. We also need, like pets, some outerwear to put on when we are out in the rain or snow, and outerwear that fits our respective heights and shapes. We need shelter from extreme heat and cold, for we sleep better, and do not become ill, like our pets, when we have these.



We also need love, of all creatures, we need that. We were born as dependent little babies, and it took years for us to become old enough to be on our own. We like being held, touched in healthy and gentle ways. We like hearing tender words that we are

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loved, being rewarded for doing something right, and even being disciplined in a caring way when we do what is wrong, whether intentional or not.



We also like having enough food to share with others, to see them eat and get full, to experience such a simple gift of love. And when we are sick, we really need extra care. When our bodies fail, when death approaches, we really need someone to hold our hand, so we are not alone. We are like that about them. We understand our need to be loved, and we often, when we are normal and not too neurotic or psychotic, go to great lengths to love others in our species.

Oh, yes, we are very much like pets in other ways. If our biological needs are left unmet, *nearly all of us* are capable of becoming like animals. If our stomachs are empty long enough, we growl. We get irritable. We get weak. We become afraid of dying. If our loved ones are hungry, homeless, without simple medical care that would save their lives, our protective instincts kick in. We will do just about anything to provide what they need, if not for ourselves.

Pampering Ourselves



Just as we pamper our pets as much as we can afford, we pamper ourselves. There can be little doubt that most Americans will spend first on themselves and their families, with pets coming in second place (though this is not always true for some). Some of our hobbies, subsidized by the surfeit of wealth some of us have, are very expensive by standards of persons without such cash.

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Golf is an expensive hobby. Many buy a new set of custom clubs every season. Many play the greens several times a week. Many seek to save some money by purchasing exclusive golf course memberships. *Liberty National Golf Course* in New York costs an initial \$500,000 to join and \$20,000 annually to remain a full member. The *Congressional Country Club* in Washington DC costs \$110,000 to join and is reported to have a ten-year waiting list. Serious golfers with funds to spend also travel all over the nation and world to play the most famous and toughest courses.

Richman's International Millionaires Clubs offers a “platinum corporate membership” with a premium VIP access to all clubs for \$693 million dollars. The basic membership in this class is \$10.2M for “three changeable nominees.”²

Most wealthy Americans are not wealthy enough to join such clubs. However, they do have enough cash to travel all over the world, purchase private jets, and do anything else their relative expendable money can buy. Many of these wealthy do go to work every day to earn their money, though not all do. Many work hard for what they earn. Many individuals put in as many weekly hours as other individual Americans working three jobs to pay their rent, food, and insurance. The wealthy also know what it is to be stressfully exhausted from their work.

Whatever the well-to-do and wealthiest Americans spend on themselves, they are pursuing the American Dream of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That was what Thomas Jefferson wrote about in the *Declaration of Independence*. On those three “unalienable rights” alone, it is difficult for other Americans to criticize spending on the self, or spending on pets, as something unAmerican.

The debate actually centers not on some kind of “socialism”—where wealth earned is forcibly redistributed equally among all citizens (which some wealthy Americans falsely, self-knowingly charge)—but when the *means of earning wealth harm other citizens*. Other essays address this issue, though this one will close with some historical examples illustrative of the problem.

The next section presents the *biological bases for caution* in whatever Congress does regarding the approaches and suggested solutions to the federal debt. It is hoped that

² See <http://sites.google.com/site/richmansimc/>.

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the preceding discussions on how we love pets is a solid basis for at least seeing other Americans, regardless of their financial conditions or statuses, for the basic biological needs they have as members of our species.

Abraham Maslow and His Hierarchy of Needs



Abraham Maslow was a groundbreaking psychologist in many fields. One of his most famous theories is his *Hierarchy of Needs*. This theory is discussed here for its simplicity in breaking down human needs in understandable and logical ways. A few bullet points will summarize the classifications in the pyramid graphic.

- **Physiological Needs** – These are put at the base of the pyramid because every human being has these needs. We need healthy food, or we will become ill. We need healthy water for hydration, or again we will become ill. We need clothing and shelter from weather, regular or extreme, or we will become ill. No human being can survive without physiological needs.
- **Safety and Security Needs** – If our bellies are full and we have adequate clothing and shelter, we still need safety and security. From persons who would kill, injure, rape, plunder or otherwise harm us or our families, to wild animals also hungry and seeing us as prey, we need safety and security. We need honest and good police against harm-seeking individuals and vigilante groups. We need honest and good military forces against other nations, or groups like *al Qaeda*, willing to use bloody means to harm and subdue us.³

³ Nearly all Americans fail to connect how foreign trading policies, for example, with China, reduce and threaten domestic safety and security needs, when jobs are sent to that or other nations, leaving people without means to provide for their biological needs.

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- **Love and Belonging Needs** – Notice Maslow put these in third place. Why would he do that? Was he sick? All of us tend to see our needs to be loved and belong as the most important needs as have. Some of us would say we would rather starve to death than not be loved. Maslow recognized that—if we are hungry or desperate enough with physiological or safety and security needs—our natural need to love and belong *are distorted and unhealthy*. We only can love and belong well when we are not sick or fearful. Consider family murder-suicides and other tragic things as your illustrations.⁴
- **Esteem Needs** – These are put at the top of the pyramid, not because they are “highest” in the sense of being “most important.” They are put there because they only exist *built upon all the others*. These are impossible without the foundation of physiological, safety and security, and love and belonging needs obtained and in place. Otherwise, esteem needs are distorted and unhealthy. For example, consider the role of pornography or gambling addictions.⁵

We must have a disclaimer before going any farther. The pyramid graphic itself is an extreme distillation of what Maslow understood and taught. He wrote many hundreds of pages to explain what he meant and its applications and implications. So readers must understand that the graphic, and the indented comments above, are for simplicity—oversimplification, in fact—and convenience. They are not exhaustive or fair to what Maslow’s brilliance expounded. Now let us explore a few more thoughts about his *Hierarchy of Needs*.

Unity Between and Relationships Among Needs

Appearance of the Pyramid. The physical appearance of the *Hierarchy of Needs Pyramid* graphic is deceptive, unless understood. At the base of the pyramid are the most essential and fundamental needs for all people, before any other needs can be

⁴ See these finance-related tragedies—<http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1848422,00.html>; http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2008/10/14/financial-crisis-suicide_n_134453.html; and, among many others, http://articles.cnn.com/2009-01-29/justice/ohio.family.dead_1_murder-suicide-bodies-mark-meeks?s=PM:CRIME.

⁵ America is full of people with plenty of money who have their physiological needs met, but whose needs to be love and belong have not been met. So they turn to many behaviors, such as adultery, domestic violence, pornography, various addictions to “dull the pain,” etc. Likewise, if their needs for safety and security are only met with physiological safety, but their needs for love and belonging are denied or abused—for example, they are physically or emotionally abused at home, or victims of school bullying, etc, then they also may turn to other self-harmful or others-harmful behaviors, etc. Finally, if all three areas of needs are met, there is no guarantee that self-esteem needs will be met in healthy ways.

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met. These are for basic physical survival. Then we ascend to the higher levels, built progressively on each other.

Divisions Between Needs. There is no “dividing line” between needs. They all exist simultaneously in people, all at the same time. Each kind of need is there, pressing to be felt, “heard” or recognized, and met. Remove the dividing line in your mind.

A Different Analogy. Imagine all the different classifications of needs as different colored thick fluids—green (physiological), red (safety and security), blue (love and belong), and white (esteem). Each fluid has its own chemical properties and energies, all by itself. Then imagine a clear glass beaker (the human individual). The four fluids are poured into the beaker (birth, and every day of life). Each of the fluids continues to be itself, with its own internal forces (separate needs). Yet it interacts with the other fluids, with their own chemical properties (interacting needs). Then, imagine that heat or cold are applied to the beaker (external events and influences). Each fluid reacts differently under changes, and some begin to mix, but never completely (conscious and unconscious responses and recognitions of needs).

Relative Power and Criticism of the Needs

Maslow was working in his day, and much has been learned since then in all psychological, behavioral, medical, and related fields.

What is significant (at least to this writer) is how neatly Maslow summarized some of the elemental forces within human beings for life. His *Hierarchy of Needs* still has value for that, and to illustrate the purposes of this discussion—how citizens in the United States all have needs in common. You can read more about Maslow if you have interest.

Since his death, many sub-disciplines in a wide range of psychiatric, medical, and other fields have produced great riches of knowledge, from many perspectives, giving indirect support for and illustration of Maslow’s structured representation of human needs above.

A few things will be noted *pertaining to behaviors, which have direct impacts on the ability of American citizens to function, trust, cooperate, and succeed in the United States of America.* In these and hundreds of other areas not even remotely noted, there

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are **direct financial costs to families, communities, businesses, society, and the nation**. These are put in bullet points, with no discussion.⁶

- “attachment and attachment disorders”⁷
- “affect regulation and dysregulation”⁸
- “emotional trauma”⁹ and, absolutely,
- “developmental psychopathology”¹⁰

In illustration of needs, let us go back and look at different dogs in different conditions, and with different dispositions.



The fat and skinny dogs can represent persons whose physiological needs have been met and unmet. In fact, the fat dog can represent two kinds of Americans: the wealthy who has earned an excess of money, and the person on welfare who never has worked a day in his or her life. The skinny dog only can represent the poor who have been deprived of basics for life.

⁶ Discussion would delay the applications both of Maslow and these only noted areas. Readers should take the time to investigate—if they wish to learn scientific truth, rather than rely on political parties’ *merely political approaches*.

⁷ See Peter Fonagy, “Pathological Attachments and Therapeutic Action” and “Transgenerational Consistencies of Attachment: A New Theory,” two papers delivered to the Developmental and Psychoanalytic Discussion Group, American Psychoanalytic Association Meeting (Washington DC 13 May 1999).

⁸ See Allan N. Schore, *Affect Regulation and the Repair of the Self* and his companion volume, *Affect Dysregulation and Disorders of the Self*, both published by W.W. Norton (New York) in 2003.

⁹ See Jon G. Allen, *Traumatic Relationships and Serious Mental Disorders* (John Wiley & Sons, LTD: Chichester, UK, 2001) and his *Coping with Trauma: Hope Through Understanding* (American Psychiatric Publishing: Washington DC, 2005; second edition).

¹⁰ For example, *Developmental Psychopathology*, 3 volumes, Edited by Dante Cicchetti and Donald J. Cohen (John Wiley & Sons, Inc: Hoboken, NJ, 2006); Vol. 1: *Theory and Method*; Vol. 2: *Developmental Neuroscience*; Vol. 3: *Risk, Disorder, and Adaptation*. Also see Michael Hersen and Samuel M. Turner, *Adult Psychopathology and Diagnosis* (John Wiley & Sons, Inc: Hoboken, NJ, 2003, fourth edition). Also see, James Blair, A.A. Marsh, E. Finger, K.S. Blair, and J. Luo, “Neuro-Cognitive Systems Involved in Morality,” *Philosophical Explorations* 9:1 (March 2006), pp. 13-27.

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The snarling and happy dogs can represent persons whose safety and security needs, and the needs to love and belong, have been denied, harmed, and twisted. Again, each image can represent two kinds of citizens. There are very wealthy persons who are aggressive, mean, and will bite, regardless of their excess, regardless of the fact they are very strong and powerful. There also are some middle-class and poor persons who are strong and healthy enough, but who also are vicious and will tear apart any they choose. Finally, there are citizens in all classes who are well-fed and well-adjusted, who are happy and intend no harm to anyone.

Maslow's *Hierarchy of Needs* shows us all Americans have the same needs. We know when those needs are denied, mental disorders and behaviors often follow. Our needs never stop. Our needs will not be denied.

Now let us apply these ideas to our national crises.

- The needs of citizens in our divided nation
- The needs perceived by political parties
- The need to address a destructive national debt
- The need to balance Maslow's Hierarchy with public policies related to debt
- The need for national unity as human beings with the same needs

Needs In Conflict:
Americans Divided

Every American can understand Maslow's Hierarchy. No American can deny that all citizens in this nation, and in every nation, require needs for survival, safety, love, and esteem. *These are human facts.* If we never ever heard of Maslow, we have our own bellies. We even have our pets' needs to remind us of basic biological needs.



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What has happened in America—and in all other nations—are two things.

1. *We have forgotten our fundamental biological unity as human beings.*
2. *Our warring groups each is focused on preserving, obtaining, or extending different needs in Maslow's Hierarchy.*

The following observations are not made by a professional sociologist. So readers ought to be suspicious of the summaries provided. The bases for these comments are from the personal experiences of the writer, living in this nation for nearly sixty years, and have no scholarly basis.

The Biologically Driven. These are Americans whose basic physiological and other needs are not being met. This class is composed of millions of citizens. For many of them, the only thing they have in common is the fact they are struggling to survive, or struggling to survive with any dignity, and all have fundamental fears for future survival as they listen and watch what the U.S. Congress does with a collapsing economy.

It is useful to try and break down *some of the very different reasons they are in this single class seeking to survive.* These are not comprehensive, are anecdotal, and are as good as a non-specialist can offer, based on living in America.

- Some have lifelong histories of regular employment, fine work performance, and even decades of excellent personal economic decisions.
- Some have long periods of regular employment, interrupted by personal or family crises and, because of their need to love and belong, gave up employment to help resolve such situations.
- Some have shorter periods of regular employment, due to poor performance, insufficient job or team skills, inadequate education, low motivation, or other factors.
- Some have serial short employment periods, due to diagnosed or undiagnosed personality or mental disorders, physical ailments, or basic skills either to complete an employment application (despite skills possessed), to provide a successful interview, or similar causes.
- Some have serial short employment periods, due to poor or absent parental emotional support, values formation, work ethic development, self-regulation, school performance, substance use and abuse, peer influences, and such diverse influences combining to make them either employable until these deficits are discovered, or unemployable.

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- Some have rare or non-existent employment experience, due to families providing survival, safety, and other needs, with little or no personal responsibility or duty attached or taught, with family provision of needs based on legal sources (such as government programs) or illegal sources (criminal activities).

Surely there are many more sub-groups in the unemployed class; however, the ones provided above are real, even if only partly representative and summary. Some readers may find the description of the last sub-group to seem judgmental or harshly reductionistic, ignoring more complex factors. This is not the case. The writer has seen some Americans in this last sub-group, in every place where he has lived—rural, semi-rural, and urban. There is no reason to pretend there are some Americans who are in the employed class for any other reasons than their personal roles in being there.

The Biologically Stressed. There are at least two sub-classes in this group. (1) There are citizens who are employed, and seeking to maintain a standard of living that was easier to obtain and maintain in a better economy. (2) There are some Americans who are underemployed, for example, households where both spouses are working one or more jobs, and just barely meeting their physiological needs. There may be others outside these two sub-classes, but these are addressed here.

- Heavy weekly workloads for two (or more) adults in a household to meet physiological and safety and security needs mean they are physically absent from each other. They are less able to provide love and belonging needs for each other, as well as esteem needs from a strong and healthy relationship.
- When the adults are parents, their physical absence from the home severely penalizes the developmental needs of children for emotional safety and security, love and belonging, and esteem needs. *This means the younger generation will develop with deficits in their emotional, physical, self-regulated behavior and values formation.*
- Heavy workloads mean physical and emotional exhaustion for working adults. This means that the time they are in their home they have “less to give” to each other, their children, and older generations living with them.
- Physical and emotional exhaustion lead to feelings of exhaustion, frustration, and emotional and behavioral reactions and decisions otherwise not possible under healthy circumstances. Substance use and abuse, domestic disturbances and violence, marital infidelities, and wide-ranging destructive effects on the self and others, are common.

The negative cumulative effects for American citizens in this class are many.

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Because they have lived in a period in the United States where jobs were easier to find than now, and because the nation for sixty years has had a strongly consumerist emphasis—purchasing whatever one wishes with reliable income—there is a compounded sense that the “American Dream” has turned into the “American Nightmare.”

Feelings of shock, disillusionment, disorientation, and a pervasive untrained capacity to cope, adapt, and manage such rather sudden changes—personal, familial, economic, and social. There are some governmental agencies with minimal funds helping on the capacity and skills to cope and adapt, however, nothing exists nationwide to educate people on their situations, probably because neither the government, nor private agencies, really know what to do, or how best to intervene, in an environment unforeseen and previously not experienced.

**The Unemployed and Underemployed
Responses Relevant for the U.S. Government**

There are at least two questions persons who are unemployed or underemployed, whose survival needs either are threatened, running out, or run out, logically ask:

- What reasons, or what persons, have contributed to my threatened physiological and other needs?
- What can I do, or what must I do, to survive, and for my family to survive?

Because there is enormous diversity in the unemployed-and-biologically-threatened group, the answers to these questions will depend on:

- (1) their current physical and emotional conditions, which give them capacities to think and respond appropriately
- (2) the degree to which their economic conditions have debilitated their normal critical abilities to assess facts in a comprehensive and fair manner;
- (3) their history and pattern for taking personal responsibility, creative initiative, and proactive planning and steps for adaptation to radically new conditions;
- (4) their personal capacity, skills, and abilities, for *general and specific adaptation to crisis conditions*;
- (5) their *behavioral conditioning* of relying on others to provide for them, with or without their cooperation.

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A few words are in order for these comments.

What Maslow's *Hierarchy of Needs* does not address—at least as presented here—is the direct cost to society when all the needs are not addressed, or when they are directly reduced, removed, or thwarted.

Physiological needs reduced or removed create the most powerful biological forces with direct consequences and financial costs to society. Some people will have value structures so they will simply become ill, waste away, and eventually die before they otherwise would. Yet there is no doubt others will *refuse* to allow this to happen. Their instincts for survival, self-preservation, and protection of their loved ones, will push them beyond the borders of social restraint and legality.



Hollywood movies often address this truth: *sometimes good people do bad things for the right reason*. That is why those movies earn profits. Average people often feel frustrated. They wish they could do something about their circumstances. They pay to see movies that show heroes and heroines doing what they wish they could do.

Readers can see this from your own lives. You have lived long enough to know and love some good people who committed illegal acts, not because they were bad or naturally immoral from habit, but because they had pain and fear. Some have robbed to get money for food. Others have robbed to get money for sick children. Some have put meat under their coat without paying because they were hungry.

What nearly all elected officials in Washington DC do not understand is that the power of biological forces for survival, left alone and without some means of government intervention to meet at least physiological means, will surely lead to crime.

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Let us consider just one example from the Great Depression. We have thousands of famous and infamous cases in our history of American citizens who answered the question, "*Who is to blame for my condition?*" with answers that led to crime, in some cases, dramatic and bloody crimes.

Charles Arthur Floyd:
Criminal and Folk Hero

Many know nothing about the Great Depression, other than some general and vague sense that it was not a good time. Many elected officials and political parties mention the Great Depression, or are afraid to mention it, without a real understanding of the unraveling of the American social fabric that occurred.

Crime rose in the Great Depression, as desperate people lost their self-respect, their anger seethed at losing everything due to people far away, and they finally decided to take matters into their own hands. They decided to break the law, or help others who did. Readers can research and see for themselves criminals in this era, and the reasons their lives of crime started.



Charles Arthur "Pretty Boy" Floyd was a notorious criminal. It seems that from childhood, his father may have engaged in bootleg liquor to keep the family farm, but whether or not this was true, Floyd was stimulated and excited by stories of exploits of robbers and criminals. He robbed a Kroger store, served prison time, was sentenced to more time in the Ohio penitentiary but escaped, and went on to his life of crime. He robbed at gunpoint, murdered law enforcement personnel seeking to arrest him, and finally was killed in 1932 by police.

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Charles Arthur Floyd was nothing but a criminal, and there is absolutely nothing to celebrate about his life, and how he used his American citizenship against other Americans to steal or kill them.

What is most interesting, however, is that the Great Depression had created *deep alienation in the general public against banks, and other institutions they blamed—rightly, wrongly, and in between—for their desperate conditions*. Floyd was considered a folk hero by some fellow Americans, a “Robin Hood” who robbed the rich and gave money to the poor.

He did give money to people, tear up their mortgages, and he hit a lot of the banks that were foreclosing on farmers.... He treated everyday people well because he came from their stock. That being said, this was a country boy who didn't want to pick cotton anymore. He wanted to wear fancy suits and shoes from Kansas City.¹¹

“Pretty Boy” Floyd was viewed by citizens helped by him, or who heard such stories, as “one of them”: a man who took money at the point of a gun from institutions, banks, with no conscience for average folks, and which had harmed and helped ruin them.



During the Great Depression, Woody Guthrie traveled America's roads and towns meeting and observing what was happening to average people. In 1939, Woody Guthrie wrote a song about “Pretty Boy Floyd.” He included both sides of public opinion. Floyd was a robber who used a gun, and yet he was a man of the people. Here's the core message of Guthrie's song.

¹¹ Cited from one of many anecdotal comments on the Internet, in the article, “*Bixby Centennial: Outlaws targeted Bixby's banks during the city's early days,*” at http://www.tulsaworld.com/webextra/itemsofinterest/centennial/centennial_storypage.asp?ID=061108_Co_zs5_outla.

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If you'll gather 'round me, children, a story I will tell,
'bout Pretty Boy Floyd, an outlaw, Oklahoma knew him well....

Yes, there's many a starving farmer, the same story told,
how the outlaw found a welcome at many a farmer's door.

Others tell about the stranger who came to beg a meal,
and underneath the napkin left a thousand dollar bill..

It was in Oklahoma City, it was on a Christmas day,
came a whole carload of groceries and a letter that did say,

*"Well, you say that I'm an outlaw, and you say that I'm a thief,
Here's a Christmas dinner for the families on relief."*

Yes, as through this world I've wandered, I've seen lots of funny men.
Some will rob you with a six-gun, and some with a fountain pen.

And as through your life you travel, yes, as through your life you roam,
you won't never see an outlaw drive a family from their home.¹²

Floyd had robbed with his six-gun. Bankers robbed with a fountain pen, and drove people off their farms and out of their homes. The sympathy some Americans had for Charles Arthur Floyd was not based in sympathy for crime.

People in those days had been taught the values of honesty, hard work, and respect for the law. Yet the widespread suffering and poverty experienced by so many led to a widespread and deep contempt for authorities and institutions *either without the will, or without the wisdom*, to respond with relief. That is, until Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal came along (which is the subject of another essay).

Surely there are Americans today who understand Guthrie's brilliantly made point. Violence can be physical and bloody, at the end of a gun. Violence can be physical and non-bloody, at the end of a legal process.

Return To Today's Conditions:
Biology Will Not Be Denied

¹² Woody Guthrie, *Pretty Boy Floyd* (1939) at http://www.woodyguthrie.org/Lyrics/Pretty_Boy_Floyd.htm.

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Millions of Americans have lived their lives responsibly and been excellent workers. Yet many jobs have been sent to China, with no comparable replacements appearing here in the United States. If that were not enough, millions have seen their savings, investments, pensions, and retirement accounts—built up by hard work—evaporate not merely with downswings in the stock markets, but frittered away by speculative, irresponsible banks and financial institutions.

These kinds of Americans remember what they had, then compare that with their current desperate conditions. They rightfully—not wrongfully—try to identify Americans responsible for taking their decades of labor, financial discipline and planning, and plundering it all *without personal consequences or suffering*.

There was great unrest and desperation in the Great Depression, as there is now. Most Americans now obey the law. Yet we have perhaps a *majority* of Americans who are driven to desperation from reduced or denied physiological needs, as well as all the other needs.

As their uncertain lives degrade and degenerate into more than questions about their futures, as they experience hunger and other things directly challenging their survival, then the instincts for survival, self-preservation, and protection of their loved ones will also overpower any moral or religious teachings to respect and obey the civil and criminal laws.

In fact, to the degree they can identify—in their own minds, to their own satisfaction, correctly or incorrectly—*institutions, such as government, elected officials, lobbyists, anything and anyone, to blame for their situations*, to that degree risks for retaliation-based murder, robbery, arson, and other felonies increase.

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The great tragedy is that good, honorable, decent Americans—not at all like Charles Arthur Floyd, who early may have been exposed to criminal parents—will have been *biologically driven* to become more like animals, like our pets, who abandon their earliest, longstanding training to the powerful inner forces of survival, self-preservation, and protection of the tribe, or to have recourse to the pet analogy, the pack.



The history of nations and bloody revolutions is our most serious factual reminder of these dangers.¹³ Psychiatrists have pointed out how neural operations in the human brain will, under certain compounded experiences, mutate or suspend capacities for moral thinking and behaviors.¹⁴

One of the saddest things a law enforcement officer ever has to do is arrest a fellow citizen who committed a crime out of pure desperation. Many a law officer has gone home to cry because what the law said he or she had to do, though he understood the motive for the crime.

Summary Before Political Implications

We have established a kind of “universally admitted” set of truths about our pets. No one denies that our pets, biological creatures, have needs. No one denies that all

¹³ The French, Russian, and Chinese revolutions, and the ascent of the Nazi Party in Germany during that nation's Great Depression, are principal examples of bloody revolutions driven by broad-based, biological-driven forces in those populations. In the cases of the last three, hundreds of millions of otherwise ordinarily good people united to create governmental systems and regimes that—with complete suspension of conscience—arrested, imprisoned, tortured, executed, and otherwise destroyed all opposition of more hundreds of millions. The earlier statements at the beginning of the Maslow section, and their footnotes, point directly to the psychological pathologies relative to these historical facts.

¹⁴ See James Blair, A.A. Marsh, E. Finger, K.S. Blair, and J. Luo, “*Neuro-Cognitive Systems Involved in Morality*,” *Philosophical Explorations* 9:1 (March 2006), pp. 13-27. Also see Bruce D. Perry, “*Violence and Childhood: How Persisting Fear Can Alter the Developing Child's Brain*,” in D. Schetky and E. Benedek, Editors, *Textbook of Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry* (American Psychiatric Press, Inc: Washington DC, 2001), pp. 221-238.

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Americans, regardless of their affiliations with political parties in the United States, have pets and understand the discussion related to how we love pets and provide for them.

We also have established that Maslow's *Hierarchy of Needs* sets down basic human needs. No one denies that we have physiological needs for survival, safety and security needs for our health and mental well-being, love and belonging needs to be normal human beings, and finally, that throughout all these are esteem needs. If we are hungry, without shelter, unsafe, feel unloved, our esteem as human beings suffers. We feel little better than the abandoned dog or cat crossing our path.

We did not spend time on it, only noted it with footnotes, repeated here again, that psychiatric studies¹⁵ show how our moral thinking is a neural brain process, and that even fear itself can alter a child's mental and emotional development. Remember also the earlier discussions on such psychiatric subjects as "attachment disorder" and "emotional trauma." There are thousands of studies¹⁶ showing the direct correlation between people fed and healthy, safe and security, and between millions of desperate citizens doing anything to survive.

We also used a historical illustration drawn from the Great Depression—the criminal career of Charles Arthur "Baby Face" Nelson—to show how many Americans can become so depressed, angry, and desperate, they will support a "Robin Hood" who took from the rich and gave to the poor.

Though painted in very broad strokes, these biological issues—facts of human nature, facts of human needs. *Because American citizens—and all immigrants legal and illegal here—are human beings, there are public policy implications, if we are to face our many national crises as a single nation.*

¹⁵ See James Blair, A.A. Marsh, E. Finger, K.S. Blair, and J. Luo, "Neuro-Cognitive Systems Involved in Morality," *Philosophical Explorations* 9:1 (March 2006), pp. 13-27. Also see Bruce D. Perry, "Violence and Childhood: How Persisting Fear Can Alter the Developing Child's Brain," in D. Schetky and E. Benedek, Editors, *Textbook of Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry* (American Psychiatric Press, Inc: Washington DC, 2001), pp. 221-238.

¹⁶ See "Multi-City Studies Find Increase In Hunger, Homelessness And Crime Among Former Welfare Recipients With Substance Abuse Problems," at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's website, located at <http://www.rwjf.org/pr/product.jsp?id=21758>; "The Economic Value of Improving the Health of Disadvantaged Americans," at <http://www.rwjf.org/pr/product.jsp?id=71590>.

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We used to recite the *Pledge to Allegiance* to the U.S. flag. In we said we were “one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.” Yes, we still are one nation. But if our basic biological human needs are not met, then those whose needs are reduced, denied, and taken away, will be biologically divided from the rest of us. They naturally will be seeking food, clothing, shelter, safety, for themselves and their families.

Because these desperate people simply cannot all be corralled and penned up, they will have liberty to pursue their basic biological needs as they can, and as they will. We often catch stray dogs and cats, but millions roam free, and this will be true of our fellow Americans as well. And some of them, like Charles Arthur “Baby Face” Nelson, will be seeking their own form of justice.¹⁷

Political Parties:
At War Over Needs



Today’s Congress is at an impasse regarding what ought to be done with the federal debt and deficits. Many Americans are puzzled by the complete gridlock in Washington, because our national condition is so critical, yet our elected officials seem (and are) incapable of cooperation for a united approach addressing our multiple crises.

This, in fact, is completely natural. Republicans, Democrats, and TEA Party members of Congress, mainly are focused on and fighting about *two sets of needs*:

1. Their needs to stay in power, and be reelected, and
2. The needs of those who put them in power, mainly millionaires and corporations.

¹⁷ See the article on “homegrown terrorism” by Charles Pierce, “*The Bomb That Didn’t Go Off*,” in *Esquire* magazine online, at <http://www.esquire.com/features/homegrown-terrorism-us-0811>. This particular instance was related to racial hatred, however, studies show that race and other crimes go up when persons are under stress and seek scapegoats. This runs throughout American history.

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There is a small minority in Congress who are focused on and fighting for one other set of needs—the basic needs described by Abraham Maslow which all Americans require. Whenever these independent, patriotic public servants step out of line from their political party’s “unified position,” they are condemned as disloyal. They are. They refuse to put in second place the needs of all Americans, behind the needs of their political party for power and reelection.

The photos below include members of Congress who either are “independent” of any political party, or called “mavericks” or “disloyal” by some in their parties. They are highlighted because all have made decisions based on the needs of their constituents, or the American people, regardless of what the majorities in Congress thought. Citation of these people endorses only those actions.



Partisan politicians serve their party’s needs for political power. So partisan politicians serve those who have given large enough sums of money to be noticed as constituents with financial power, whose needs must be met, or *told they will be met*, for the next election cycle.

Perhaps a few Republicans, Democrats, and TEA Party members in Congress remember Maslow from undergraduate studies in psychology. Perhaps a few actually remember the subjects of this chapter as they stand up for all Americans. Yet there is no doubt from the gridlock in Congress, the majority of our elected officials mainly are concerned about other needs—or else they would not do what they do.

In chapters, we will discuss the fact that, apparently, the majority of members in Congress serve the needs of those who put and keep them in power. (See the chapter,

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“*Establish Justice: Party Politics and the Destruction of America*” and also, “*Immoral Transformation: From Citizens to Oligarchs*”)

**The Constitution’s *Preamble*
In the Light of Maslow’s Hierarchy**

Let us quote again what was cited at the beginning of this essay, the *Preamble* to the U.S. Constitution. The elements in it that directly bear on biological needs of all Americans are accented in **bold**.

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect **Union**, establish **Justice**, insure **domestic Tranquility**, provide for the **common Defense**, promote the **general Welfare**, and secure the **Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity**, do ordain and establish this Constitution of the United States of America.

The highest law in the United States of America, the U.S. Constitution, was “ordained and established” by whom? **We the People of the United States**. In every single purpose noted in the Preamble, *the biological needs of persons were presupposed*. The founders perfectly understood no Union, Justice, Tranquility, Defense, Welfare, or Blessings of Liberty, were possible, apart from basic human needs being met.

**Meeting Human Needs
Our Nation’s Founding...And Today**

The founders had just ridded themselves of an individual, King George, who preyed upon their labors through taxes they had not imposed on themselves, as collective Colonists for themselves, as a single people. They knew that individuals placed in high places of political power sometimes used their positions to plunder those under them, with the force of law and armies to coerce the plunder. All the founders wanted was the legal freedoms to pursue what Jefferson wrote about in the *Declaration in Independence*, “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

In those primitive times of the early Colonies, human needs were met in a much less complex society. Nearly all people grew their own food, or knew how to do so. If they were merchants, they purchased at least some of their food from the butcher and

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farmer. If people were not farmers claiming the free land (taken from the Native Americans), everyone knew how to labor for someone else, or they had a trade.

There were no income taxes until 1913, when the Sixteenth Amendment was ratified and added to the Constitution. Up until that time, Americans learned how to provide for their own needs any way they could and did. Since 1913 and up until the past two decades, a complex consumer society arose with all citizens' needs met by basically working for other people and organizations: skilled and unskilled labor for corporations, all levels of government, and with some working for themselves.

Today all but a small percentage of citizens, "survivalists," *have no knowledge or land resources of how to meet their physiological needs*. They are conditioned through many generations to work for companies in jobs to meet those needs. Safety and security needs, love and belonging needs, and esteem needs, *all have been met through education, skills, experience, and an entire cultural tradition, of employment*. Now let us look at the facts we have.

- Good jobs systematically have been sent to another labor force: the Chinese.
- Those jobs were sent by those who own the jobs: corporations.
- Americans who lost good jobs are in at least two classes:
 - Working multiple lower-paying jobs to meet basic needs
 - Unemployed and unable to meet basic needs
- Americans whose physiological, safety and security needs are unmet will be driven biologically through instincts of self-preservation, and family protection, to meet those needs.
- Americans, whose love and belonging and esteem needs are unmet, *perceived or real*, will be driven to meet those needs.
- Americans will blame corporations for taking away the means to earn income to meet their needs, driving them to desperation.
- Americans will blame any government officials who assisted corporations, driving them to desperation.
- Americans will compound blame for any government officials who cut federal programs meeting human needs.
- Americans with unmet needs will blame corporations and government officials they believe removed their abilities through employment to meet those needs.
- Americans will be biologically driven to meet their needs on their own, since government programs are being reduced and cut, through crime and other behaviors destabilizing American society.

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Readers may discard these statements as “mere suppositions” or “negative thinking.” However, the weight of biology, science, and American historical experiences past, prove without any doubt that our current conditions are dangerous. Let us now apply these discussions to current approaches to the national debt and our federal budget deficits.

Dangerous Approaches
To The Federal Debt and Deficits



No one questions our national debt, and that it must be addressed. No one questions that jobs have been sent to China and other nations. No one questions that our current tax revenues are in decline, since millions of Americans—who formerly paid taxes but now are unemployed or underemployed—are putting nothing or less into the U.S. Treasury. No one questions, therefore, that the current U.S. debt will not only escalate due to less taxable incomes, but will explode exponentially without infusions of income to the U.S. Treasury from other sources.

Republican Appeals Against Taxation:
False and Dangerous

The Republican Party is committed to no new taxes for corporations or the wealthy. Their premise is *supply-side economics*. Their argument sounds logical and reasonable.

1. America needs jobs.

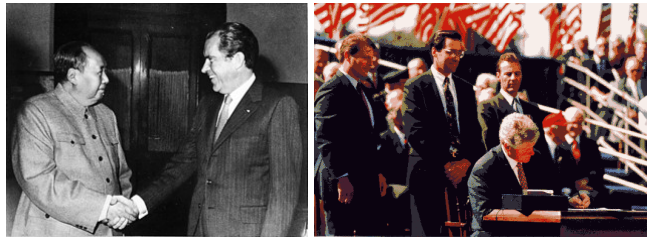
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2. Corporations provide jobs.
3. Corporations are owned by “job-creators.”
4. Corporations need investment capital to create jobs.
5. Corporate taxes, or taxes on corporate owners (the wealthy), take away capital for investment.
6. Corporations and the wealthy must be taxed at a lower rate, or not be taxed more, to enable maximal capital investment for jobs.
7. Americans seeking higher taxes for corporations or the wealthy do not understand basic economics.
8. Americans seeking higher taxes for corporations or the wealthy are “socialists” or “communists” seeking to undermine the essentials for “American capitalism, our economic engine.”

What is amazing is how millions of employed, underemployed and unemployed Americans are thoroughly indoctrinated with and believe as “absolute truth” these simply false principles. How do we know they are false? They are riddled with contradictions and denials from our common experience, and the very nature of capitalism itself.



American corporations have invested billions of dollars in factories and labor in China beginning in 1972 when President Richard Nixon went to Beijing in 1972. Before that, American corporations invested billions of dollars in Mexico and Canada prior to and after the *North American Free Trade Agreement* was signed in 1994. President Ronald Reagan pressed for a common market in 1984, President George H.W. Bush signed NAFTA in 1992 to commit the U.S. to the process, and President Bill Clinton signed the final agreement, ratified by all cooperating nations, in 1994.

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American corporations have one single purpose: profits for their investors. They consistently, and without regard for their fellow Americans' needs, have invested capital expenditures for higher profits in other nations. Yes, corporations and the wealthy “create jobs,” wherever those jobs create higher profits. They have *no loyalty to Americans, or American voters with basic human needs.*

Republicans are owners of corporations. They hold stock in them. Corporations and wealthy Americans support Republicans for election to continue their profit-taking. In fact, corporations and wealthy Americans support Democrats, TEA Party candidates, anyone who will help continue their profit-taking. This is why many, not all, Democratic elected officials cooperate silently (but not silently when they vote) for “legislations helping Americans with job creation.”

General Electric, as one example, has been noted to have submitted 7,000 tax returns globally, had a \$10.8 Billion in profits from its international operations, yet filed with the IRS a net \$408 Million in U.S. losses, so paid no tax.¹⁸ Nearly 1,500 U.S. millionaires paid no taxes in 2009, according to the IRS.¹⁹

There is a saying: *the proof is in the pudding, and the eating.* Decades have proven that American corporations and the wealthy have been grinding up average Americans into blood pudding, yet majorities of the victims have voted for those who take away their jobs, and the basic human needs provided by those jobs. Why? *Corporations own the media, and invest in false campaign ads that stir up the emotions of people who cannot keep the facts in mind.*

TEA Party Approaches to Budget-Cutting:

¹⁸ See http://money.cnn.com/2010/04/16/news/companies/ge_7000_tax_returns/.

¹⁹ See <http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/1500-millionaires-pay-income-tax/story?id=14242254>.

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False and Dangerous

The great majority of TEA Party Congresspersons are far right-wing Republicans, too extreme even for mainstream Republicans who have plundered average Americans for decades. The mainstream Republicans originally mocked TEA Party candidates, but now are trying to control them—knowing TEA Party extremism will harm Republican candidates at the polls, *unless the American people can be controlled with propaganda.*

There are too many TEA Party proposals for cutting federal programs harming millions of Americans with basic human needs. Readers can do their own research. Let us take one example alone: cutting or eliminating the federal minimum wage.



Michelle Bachmann has gone on record, and then repeated, her willingness to reduce or eliminate the federal minimum wage.²⁰ Her theory is this would create “economic stimulus.” What this would do, factually speaking, is free “job creators” to pay employees “whatever the market will bear.” Since there are millions without work already, everyone knows some American are so desperate, they would accept any work to generate any income.

This would be a landfall for more corporations, large and small. Without any legal obligation for a minimum wage, with “American free market enterprise finally unregulated by a socialist government,” businesses could, at will, increase their profit margins legally *without any regard for whether or not their low wages were just, based on work output, or even humane and sufficient to meet the needs of workers.*

We already have noted that millions of underemployed American householders are working multiple jobs to pay for food, rent, utilities, transportation costs, and scores of

²⁰ See “Fact-Checking Michele Bachmann on Minimum Wage,” at <http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/eliminating-minimum-wage-slash-unemployment/story?id=13951494>.

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reasonable needs for survival and human dignity. To remove the federal minimum wage forces these millions directly into crisis conditions. Such a legal move—under the guise of “economic stimulus” and the good of the nation—is just so obviously in favor of businesses, and so obviously in favor of harming vulnerable, hard-working, underemployed Americans, it is beyond outrage.

The TEA Party Mathematical Approach:
Harmful and Dangerous

Some members of Congress take a merely mathematical approach to the national debt. For them, the problem is simple. Cut until we have a balanced budget. They are patriotic, sincere, and good people. Yet their approach fails to take into account the forces of biology, which are more powerful than numbers, or even the numbers of people who elected them.

Citizens are more than citizens or voters. They are living beings who are biological creatures. They have physiological and safety and security needs that *must be met first, for survival*. To cut any federal program that provides food, water, shelter, safety, and security, is literally an act against providing the conditions for human survival.

Therefore, while the mathematical approach to the national debt first appears as an essential method to save the nation from financial self-destruction, it propels some citizens to government-legislated personal destruction. Any U.S. citizens whose basic needs for survival are removed by their own government *biologically will be driven to seek and find other sources for those needs*. Math will not bow to biology and its demands.

Let us imagine the mathematical approach only is used, the national debt lowers with steady numerical progress, by cancelling federal programs helping some citizens meet their survival needs. What are three examples of the options they might have, in order to survive?

- Some citizens will live in physical, social, economic, and charitable environments so they will survive without any federal programs. Among those citizens will be the able-bodied wanting and willing to work, and refusing and unwilling to work. There also will be

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citizens weak, sick, and physically or mentally disabled incapable of work or production to give back to the survival systems.

- Some citizens will live in environments with limited or no survival assistance. Among those citizens will be a few who will despair and die, naturally or through self-harmful means. This response also is biological and psychological. There also will be citizens who—like dogs and cats—will become irritable, anxious, and desperately crazed, seeking and finding any means for survival. Those means sometimes will be illegal. They will do so not because they are bad people, but because they simply are biological living beings with a *will to survive*.

Some citizens and members of Congress believe the first option is a universal national option for all affected by the cutting of federal programs. This would be true if all local environments were equally, democratically the same. Yet we know the facts are otherwise. Indeed, even in the wealthiest economic environments in the United States, financial trends daily add to the rolls those Americans needing to survive. So the first option—which always will be true for some citizens—daily is decreasing as a possibility for millions.

The second option, unfortunately, seems most factually suited to conditions in which we live. Moreover, this underscores why the Congress, the President, and all citizens with knowledge related to our situations, must drop political and partisan considerations to address, control, and reverse (1) the national debt and (2) diminishing environments contributing to the management of human survival needs.

Domestic Tranquility Destroyed:
Consequences

Add the recent idea, cutting the federal minimum wage, to all Republican and TEA Party proposals for cutting federal programs directly providing some real even minimal help to struggling and desperate Americans. Take the sum of these proposals and pass them into law. Then—if this were even possible, which is not, since we cannot predict all the choices of millions of Americans—*multiply all the combined biological energies that had been suppressed when those programs were in place, but which will be unleashed when they are gone.*

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The photos above were taken during the Great Depression. What was recorded then shortly will be recorded again, if enough Americans suffer and seek relief for their basic biological needs.



What we have, then, is not mere “political outrage” from “socialist and communist Americans wanting handouts, not the American Tradition of earning your keep.” We have a *biologically driven tsunami in process*.

Many corporations and wealthy Americans already invest deeply in private security. They are taking some of their profits and using private means to protect themselves from Americans who are hungry, desperate, or angry. Perhaps some of these corporations and wealthy persons *know they are responsible* for conduct that harmed their fellow citizens, which filled the bank accounts used to pay for private security.

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Republicans, TEA Partiers, and Democrats, who cut away at federal programs providing some basic human needs, and such chains on sheer greed as the minimum wage, really should pass tax increases on both corporations and the wealthy as soon as possible.

New tax revenues will be needed to pay, supply, feed, transport, and give medical care when injured, to police, soldiers in the National Guard, and even the U.S. military. All these will be needed in a few years when they are called out on duty against fellow Americans biologically driven to meet needs unmet, because they are jobless, homeless, and in desperation.

Since the taxpayer base is evaporating, wealthy Republicans, TEA Partiers, and Democrats, finally will have to raise taxes on themselves just to pay for federal protection from what they have created. Of course, they still could use their proven approach. They could hire Chinese police, soldiers, jailers, and resources, at a much lower investment rate, to get the same protection against their most desperate fellow Americans.



The really good thing about the Chinese is they have work experience in suppressing legitimate grievances and do not hesitate to fire on, torture, and imprison, fellow citizens. Because they are not Americans, they would be even more qualified for detached law enforcement on behalf of debtors to their own nation. They gladly would provide security for leaders whose corporations enrich fellow communists back home. Their training included what happened to the tank commander who stopped for *Tank Man*.

Surely in future years there will be Congressional proposal allowing the importation of “essential immigrant workers” from our “trading partners” abroad.

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Go back to Maslow's *Hierarchy of Needs*. Look at the next level of human needs above physiological and safety and security. Once people have their basic needs for survival, they can respond to their natural, instinctual needs for love and to belong to a group. If they are starving or otherwise in pain and fear for survival, they cannot love or belong in healthy ways.

Note the last eight words, *cannot love or belong in healthy ways*. People are not dogs and cats. Dogs and cats actually will kill runts in their litters. One glorious fact about human beings is that our biological attachment to our children is usually and normally unbreakable. Yet the biological fact is that—when we human beings are starving, or we see our children starving—we have within us *biological drivers* for our survival and that of our children.

Government officials in power will call Americans fighting in the streets, because of unjust treatment, what they always have: seditionists, socialists, and communists. We know from American history how people untouched by harm—or those whose self-restraint still is intact—are fearful of violence and social chaos. The tragic fact will be that *the same gullible Americans who voted to put in office supporters of corporations and the wealthy will ally with these to suppress, shoot, imprison, and punish people just like themselves*.

Violence Is Unjust Harm, Producing Fury

Most people think of violence as harms done through physical acts of aggression. Acts by individuals like murder, rape, and armed robbery; acts by groups such as vigilante lynching; and acts by nations in war—from engagements between armed forces, to attacks on civilian populations, and genocides—are such kinds of violence as most think of when they hear the word.

Yet some readers may know what it is to be sued without cause, because someone wanted to hurt them, using legal means, for malice. A lawsuit, if you have no money for legal response equal to the resources of the one bringing the suit, creates anxiety, stress, lost sleep, irritability, and fear of the unknown. A wrongful suit is a form of violence, which is why courts award punitive damages. And if the reader ever was unjustly sued and lost, that unjust violence creates wrathful malice.

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Some women, some men, have called the police charging “domestic violence” on false pretenses. They know police must arrest the other party when there is evidence. Sometimes such false charges have led to wrongful removal of parental rights. That phone call and its harmful effects is a form of violence. Its emotional and psychological harms can be deep and permanent, far more harmful than a slap on the face or being knocked down.

There are non-bloody forms of violence. “Violence” has a legal definition of “*unjust or unwarranted exercise of force, usually with the accompaniment of vehemence, outrage or fury.*”²¹

There is a non-bloody violence being done to millions of Americans through joblessness, repossession of homes, lost pensions and retirement accounts by thieving and irresponsible bankers and speculators, uninsured families with sick members dying off from no medical intervention, and a thousand other things. These all are forms of *psychological, emotional, and non-bloody physical violence.*

**The *Preamble* and Illegal Approaches
To the National Debt**

We have seen what the founders of this nation wrote in the *Preamble* to the U.S. Constitution. Every item in it prefaces all the other laws following from those principles. The question raised here is logical.

Should it be considered anti-Constitutional—or constitutionally illegal, under the provisions for sedition and treason—for any federal official to propose or vote for any law creating biologically-driven conditions disturbing and even removing the possibility for “Domestic Tranquility”?

The only legal authority superior to Republican, Democrat, or TEA Party members of Congress, the U.S. Supreme Court, and any others in federal employment, is the U.S. Constitution. As all Americans have seen for decades, Congress has passed whatever laws its members see fit, and what they have legislated often works against the interests of all Americans’ basic needs.

²¹ “Violence,” cited in Henry Campbell Black, Black’s Law Dictionary (West Publishing: St. Paul, 1951; 4th edition), p. 1742, Col. A.

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Now the *Preamble* is not our highest federal law but a preface to it. Nevertheless, it seems both logical and reasonable that all Americans should look to the *Preamble* for evaluating every piece of Congressional legislation. Readers are encouraged to look at the section, “*Congressional Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.*” There they will see some legal amendments to the U.S. Constitution which would prevent many of the crises we experience today.

Domestic Tranquility:
Federal Protections

Federal programs are needed for physiological survival needs, which affect our normal capacity to love and belong.

- Federal programs providing needs for survival and safety allow U.S. citizens benefitting from them to ascend to love and belonging—in families, communities, and nation.
- Federal programs providing needs for survival and safety *biologically generate* attachments of love for federal officials and political parties providing means for survival.
- Federal policies cutting programs providing needs for survival and safety prevent U.S. citizens from ascending to love and belonging—in families, communities, and nation.
- Federal officials cutting programs that drive some citizens to seek survival needs, impairing those citizens’ capacities to love and belong to communities and their nation, may create biologically-driven conditions for some citizens to seek survival needs in self-destructive, socially harmful, felonious ways that might also become social unrest, seditious, and treasonous.

There is no choice, therefore, that the national debt must be addressed, corrected, and reversed. Otherwise, our constitutional democracy may evolve into *biologically based conditions* controllable only through law enforcement, the U.S. military, and any other forms of legal containment and coercion.

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Americans are as diverse as any nation's citizens in the world. The reason is that people from all over the globe have come here for centuries a better life. When we allow political parties to divide us, along party lines, with lies and misrepresentations about each other, we forget the real truth about the United States of America.

Most of us are in this together. We live next door to each other. We live in our neighborhoods and communities. We work, if we have jobs, with people like us. We go to the same discount grocery stores to buy our food, with our checks we earned, or our unemployment checks, or our government food cards (deserved and undeserved). Many of us go to religious services when they are offered, for divine help and to pray for others. Most of us go to public schools. We use public libraries. We enlist and serve in the same military forces, to defend each other.



Most of us, as of yet, are not in the conditions shown in the photographs. These people, and millions like them, are fellow citizens. They are human beings. They have needs. Yes, some of them have contributed to their situations, but not all. Some have lost first one thing, then another, then another, and they have ended up, as we will, if no one helps us along the way.

Many a middle class or wealthy person has driven up to a stoplight, seen a drab man with a sign, "Will Work for Food," looked quickly away, had the children ask about that man, then said, "He's probably just an alcoholic asking for money to drink away," then hit the gas when the light changed.

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Yet when we saw a lonely stray pooch or kitten at that stoplight, bedraggled and in need of care, the kids in the car say, “OH, LET’S PICK IT UP AND TAKE IT HOME! PLEEEZE!” Any many an American had added a new member to the household. This is the truth.

There is more safety, less risk, and more control in picking up an animal than a person. If the new pet does not work out, we already know we can turn it over to an animal shelter, which will eventually dispose of it if no one adopts it. The pet is small and within our complete control, as to what we will do with it. With homeless people, there is a *safety factor* in taking risks to stop to a person who obviously is in deep trouble

Nevertheless, there is a definite lack of empathy—an emotional connectedness, a feeling of being united with other Americans in need. There are Republicans, TEA Partiers, and Democrats, who have helped cut out our hearts of empathy, for political purposes. There is an old saying, “United We Stand, Divided We Fall.”

The reader ought not to expect wealthy Americans or corporations, or their servants, to make any personal financial sacrifices to keep the reader fed, safe and secure. There will be no personal checks signed by your elected representative to you. Yet the U.S. Congress surely demands that you sign a check over to the IRS, though 1,500 of our American millionaires did not in 2009.

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If you wish to make a financial contribution to get this and other essays published before the American people, please send me an email. We will make that happen. Regardless of that, may God bless you and your family, and our faltering nation, which has so many millions of good, honorable, and honest people.