

“Not much going on... How ‘bout you?”
Since 2011 *Consumer* debt has spiked from about 11 Trillion to
nearly 16 Trillion dollars

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Let me get this straight:

Our “unprecedented” drought has taken our lakes and rivers (that quite literally feed the Southwest’s population) to unheard of shallowness and flow threatening a painful decline in Power, Water, Food Production, and even recreation leading to perhaps a point of societal collapse, but we do nothing of any consequence.

The *Anasazi*, who occupied a good bit of the Southwest in the early 1200s, vanished from historic records following a documented 50-year drought that left them without adequate water to sustain their lives. Anthropologists speculate that the Anasazi merged with other local tribes following their abandonment of their homelands. Yet, we think that 20 years is a substantial enough period for a drought to last and maybe next year we’ll have to do something (reactive) proactive, like get people to stop filling their swimming pools, watering lawns, and washing their fossil fuel burning cars. Then, the Anasazi were a few (at best) thousand. The number of Desert Southwest inhabitants today exceeds 20 million, excluding many tens-of-millions more in California.

Global Warming, allegedly responsible for our changing climate can be mitigated by reduced emissions, yet through 2021 ***87% of all cars sold in our country were powered by (fossil-fuel) internal combustion engines.***

Since 1950 our world population has grown ***from 2 billion to 8 billion people***: that is to say, during my lifetime. At the same time ***obesity and excess weight has skyrocketed to more than 80% of our population.*** In an earlier article we extrapolated that this extra fat of our citizens ***increases our population from a little more than 330 million to nearly 400 million.*** You cannot maintain fat by ***not*** consuming a commensurate level of food – junk and otherwise.

We throw away much of what is made for our consumption – of all things – from a Time perspective, anywhere from ***as soon as it is purchased to a few weeks or months following*** generating vast mountains of waste.

Per the Heritage Foundation, ***71% of our young men and women are either too fat, too stupid or too criminal to join any of our armed forces,*** leaving us, in the event of an existential struggle, unable to defend our country from an aggressor, such as Russia or North Korea or China.

All of these fat and stupid people are breeding at unprecedented rates for many reasons, some of which include:

* It's one thing they know how to do.

* We are told that every life is a precious commodity although many of us know that many are not.

* The people who have become very rich by selling us crap cannot continue to be rich if our population declines.

* Churches thrive on procreation and the continuing development of the like-minded and, particularly, the Catholic Church and those of similar mass-breeding ilk would suffer greatly in perpetuating their alleged ***Kingdom Here on Earth*** if their followers did not screw like rabbits.

* We are about to take away a fundamental tool (albeit least-desirable) of birth control by revoking legal abortion.

* We have no propagation guidelines for the continuance of the species, and, like owning a gun, it's everyone's right to copulate and bring about an issue or two or three or many more.

Owing to a lack of intelligence and/or education, History's various and profound lessons are lost to those in power and subservient and, thus, some of us continue, in the face of all we know as fact, to repeat the same idiotic acts.

Although most people know that the data they post publicly on platforms such as Facebook, will be sold, exchanged and used to someone else's benefit for their gain or influence at the cost of those who post, they continue to expose themselves to the tyranny of the hacker, predator, criminal, greedy. And, interestingly, those who pay for this information (leading to the vast wealth of a few), continue to believe that they are benefitting by their payments, being demonstrated by a series of manipulated statistical reports, when, in reality, if they did nothing, they'd do as well.

Greed has become a cancer on the housing market: Everyone wants to be a millionaire. They've seen ***YouTube*** episodes where a "fortune" was made through the simple act of buying a home and waiting until prices escalate somewhat. Then, dumping it on someone else without making any sort of improvement to the realty. In truth, though, while Barnum said, "There's a sucker born every minute..." he couldn't have anticipated the sheer increase in morons who now own multiple properties listed for sale at ridiculous prices, and who, soon enough, will find their "dreams" listed under ***Foreclosed***. It keeps happening. It's what we call, History. ***History says*** that all of the marginal loans made to speculators, that lacked a sound financial basis, will soon be abandoned leaving those families who struggled to find their way into a home in the last 14 years, with greatly diminished equity as ***speculator homes lie dormant and unsold***. Gasoline prices, as they did in 2003 then in 2008, will help derail the market as the heads of our American households struggle to set priorities for payment of their debts: Do I buy gasoline or

groceries? Clothing for the kids or their monthly iPhone subscriptions? Do I have a Starbucks coffee for seven dollars or put it with a few more dollars and get the oil changed on the car?

These are the hard choices before us, again. They're not unique: they happen continually in a Capitalist world. Rest assured that they are not decisions to be made by Zuckerberg or Musk or Buffet or Trump or Biden or many others who have set you up to take the fall.

Lastly, The upcoming 2024 election will, unless some great and mysterious power intervenes, pit one nitwit against another as one succeeds in defeating the opposing "Klep...Kleptoc...Klep...you know..." O, for Christ's sake, Biden: ***Kleptocracy!***

(No literary references this column: Just a simple appraisal of our present condition. I know there are more, perhaps to you, pressing issues. Our readers have never been hesitant to remind me of such.)