

# RUNNYMEDE GAZETTE

*A Journal of the Democratic Resistance*

*JANUARY 2013*

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# **EDITORIAL**

## **SPINNING THREADS TOWARDS CRITICAL MASS**

New stirrings are afoot. The Runnymede Gazette is heartened by the dawning of a more realistic understand of the the nature of the struggle we face ... of its scale, nature, diversity, complexity, difficulty and likely duration.

At last more and more people from different groups and campaigns are beginning to meet to explore paths towards mutual co-operation, and how the Democratic Resistance can link up to achieve critical mass.

I have long argued that there must be three essential ingredients to the achievement of that critical mass. Firstly an Act of Remonstrance ... in other words a statement of our grievances ... of what we don't want. This must not degenerate into some near-infinite shopping list. It needs to be brief, even terse; it needs to be as broad brush as possible; it needs to eschew cliché and platitude.

Secondly, there needs to be an informal, cellular, ground-based organisation. This needs to be a place where people can meet, further their education and that of others, co-operate, and act as a local multiplier to each others' efforts and activities. It needs also to be a place where, in every locality, people can turn when things get tough ... and we ain't seen nothing yet. When the Democratic Resistance is able to get a well produced newsletter through every letter-box in the country within a few days, then we might say that we have arrived.

Thirdly, we need a statement of aspiration ... of the direction in which we wish to travel. Again this must be brief and broad brush.

All three of these elements are contained in the Purton Declaration. That was only ever intended as a foundation stone for a much larger edifice. Can real

building work now begin?

## LIFE ON MARS

The first item, from *Victims Unite*, laments our current condition ... the demolition of rights and liberties by a system now rotten to the core. The second item underscores the point by tales of the most obscene junketing by a Euro-elite who seem to have landed from Mars. Indeed, they are no more than small cogs in a larger, supranational kleptocracy which appears to have Martian origins!

What can we do? Increasingly the Runnymede Gazette will carry advice on practical resistance ... things we can all do to thwart and circumvent the system. That theme forms the core of the next few items. Soon, the Democratic Resistance might hold a conference on the day-to-day practicalities of personal and local resistance. Anyone interested?

*Frank Taylor*

## CHANGING THE SYSTEM MEANS CHANGING THE CULTURE, ETHICS, ATTITUDES, DISHONESTY, PRIVILEGE AND TRIBALISM OF BRITAIN

*Sabine Kurjo McNeill; Victims Unite*

This morning I am still somewhat recovering from yesterday's meeting. Before turning its outcomes into activity, I just copy what John Ward, publisher of the very popular *The Slog* wrote:

*I was in a House of Commons committee room for much of yesterday, and you'll all be relieved to know that there is no longer any water for sessions there. Given yesterday's news (not really news, just the first time it's been admitted) that our banks are nowhere near the target of refilled balance sheets, I suppose the Commons water was bound to go in the end.*

*But was there any other evidence to hand in the Palace of Westminster that our doom is at hand? Not really: I met and spoke with two MPs - diligent and concerned, don't doubt it - but neither of them seemed that aware of how dysfunctionally unpopular the political class is across Europe.*

*More remarkable were the ordinary people in the room grappling with serious legal, constitutional, police and power-abuse issues. Mums imprisoned spitefully, armed police raiding family homes, people being declared in need of mental assessment for arguing with social workers, businesses being fraudulently declared insolvent, judges exceeding their powers while ignoring evidence. And volunteer intermediaries dedicated to helping those stuck in a Kafkaesque world in which the law says one thing but the authorities do another.*

*"It's the system," people kept saying, "We must change the system". I don't agree, I'm afraid. You have to change the culture, ethics, attitudes, dishonesty, privilege, and inflexibly dated tribalism of Britain. Just making the system tougher without doing that will simply mean more new laws - and more cynical new ways of getting round them.*

# TALES FROM INSIDE THE EUROPARLIAMENT: AT THE DUSK OF COMPASSION

*Henrik Alexandersson's Blog; Translated by Rick Falkvinge; via Nathan Allonby*

Having worked a few years in the European Parliament, I fear I will never be myself again. The very way I look at things has been dented. I guess that's what happens when you fall through the looking glass into the Wonderland of Politics.

Some things you get to see are merely absurd. Like that cocktail party in solidarity with the earthquake victims of Haiti. The French three-course lunch that was arranged to discuss the problem with growing obesity among the citizenry. Or why not the drink offering that opened an exhibition about alcohol ignition locks in cars?

Other things are plain damn surreal. And I am firmly convinced that list is topped by the champagne reception against homelessness.

Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) can put up exhibitions on the premises of Parliament, if they like. Mostly, this is used by corporations and special interests who want to show themselves and their work off in front of the elected.

On the rare occasion, these exhibitions are used for promoting one or the other compassionate issue. In this case, to raise awareness of homelessness. But perhaps it would have been worthwhile to think twice about just how this should have been done...

To begin with, some ten to twenty metal sculptures of homeless people, life-sized, were placed in one of Parliament's exhibition areas. On the walls, a bunch of posters underscoring the importance of the issue.

Then, the exhibition was opened by a MEP and a spokesperson for some charity. After their respective presentations, a champagne reception with the prerequisite mingling followed.

These images are going to haunt me for the rest of my life. Members of Parliament in expensive suits and dresses, ridiculously expensive hairdos with a whiff of equally expensive eau-de-toilette. In their hands, a firm grip around the champagne and the plate with cocktail canapés. Mingling with the static bronze casts of not-as-rich citizens.

Do note that this wasn't a fundraiser charity gala. Nothing of substance at all was given to, or done for, the homeless. The entire point of the exercise was to paint a picture of engagement and compassion from a very high altitude.

The scary thing is that the average Member of the European Parliament doesn't perceive things like this as elitistic, von oben, objectionable, or even strange. This is what life is like in the political bubble. The closest a normal MEP ever gets to homeless people is when they whoosh past them in the parliamentary black, chauffeur-driven Mercedes-Benzenes.

There's the ruling political class for you. A clique of morally unkempt people – from left to right, from north to south. This is the normal view for the Very Important People, as seen from their ivory towers.

Together with my employer, Pirate MEP Christian Engström, I was looking at this scene unbelievably – while we were making our way out of Parliament to have a beer or two on our own expense.

Directly outside Parliament, on the Place Luxembourg, we met a completely genuine, Belgian homeless person. For a moment, we considered the possibility of trying to get him into Parliament and bring him to the ongoing champagne reception. But we realized quickly that such a stunt wouldn't be terribly well received...

*Originally posted in Swedish on Henrik Alexandersson's blog. Translated into English by Rick Falkvinge.*

# WIFI + USB DRIVE = YOUR OWN MINI-INTERNET (FREEDOM)

*Tony Cartalucci; Activist Post; via Nathan Allonby*

Worried about draconian Internet laws? Creeping surveillance? The inability to share with others without being criminalized? The Internet is still a tool of tremendous power, but a deep rot has set in. We have caught it early and we are fighting to stop this rot, but there are other options we can begin exploring to hedge our bets, enhance our current efforts of fighting against corporate monopolies, and eventually, build an Internet of the people, by the people, for the people - big-telecom monopolies not welcomed.

Once the PirateBox is up and running, either on a standalone device or on your laptop as described here, it will appear as another WiFi network for people in range to connect to. Once connected files can be freely shared, and there is even a chat client users can communicate with. It is just as useful as a file server for a small business, as it is for circumventing the draconian criminalization of Internet file sharing.

In last week's "Fighting Back Against the "Intellectual Property" Racket," the "PirateBox" was introduced. The PirateBox transforms a laptop, router, or single board computer into a mini-Internet hub where files can be freely shared, and even features a chat program so users can communicate.

It is a lite version of the mesh networks described in December 2012's "Decentralizing Telecom" where independent mesh networks featured many software alternatives to emulate popular online programs such as Facebook, Twitter, Blogger, and others. The PirateBox is an introductory project anyone with a WiFi adapter and a USB thumbdrive can do on their own with a little motivation and an hour to experiment.

In a busy office, a PirateBox can serve as a simple local wireless file server and chat client. In an apartment complex, it can become the center of a social experiment, an opportunity to reach out to neighbors and organize constructively, or just for fun - building badly needed local communities back up.

Instructions for perhaps the easiest of PirateBox's implementations can be found on blogger, designer, and activist David Darts' website here. The instructions are nearly foolproof, and a lot of the common problems ran into are described and their solutions linked to throughout the explanation.

The PirateBox does not connect to the Internet, nor does it operate from your hard drive. It works entirely on the USB thumbdrive you install it on, simply using your computer's WiFi to network all who are in range.

Ideally you'd want to make a dedicated, standalone PirateBox to serve your space, office, and neighbors. A great place for beginners to embark on this is at your local hackerspace. If you don't have a local hackerspace, look into starting one up.

Protesting is important, but protesting alone will not stem the problem at its source. The rot will continue to spread unless we develop tangible tools to pragmatically excise it and repair the damage it has already done.

The problem of corporate monopolies ensnaring and subjugating us through their telecom monopolies can and is being solved by solutions like mesh networks, the PirateBox, and the onward march of open source software and hardware, simply displacing proprietary products and services. The best way to ensure success is to have as many informed and constructive people as possible join in the problem-solving process.

Since posting about the PirateBox, LocalOrg has received several success stories of people who have either already been using it, or have looked into it, prompting this follow up. Continue sharing your success, and if you would like, contact us and have them covered here on LocalOrg.

*Tony Cartalucci's articles have appeared on many alternative media websites, including his own at Land Destroyer Report, Alternative Thai News Network and LocalOrg.*

# BARRIERS TO DATA SHARING

*Public Leaders Network;/Transparency Hub; Guardian Professional;  
via Judith Hitchin*

The government could make £33bn of savings through better management information processes, according to a report, *The Big Data Opportunity*, published in July 2012 by the thinktank Policy Exchange.

While the UK is already seen to be globally progressive in tackling fraud, error and abuse in the tax and benefits system, the report suggested a further £1bn-£3bn could be saved in these areas.

To make that happen, the public sector needs to view data less as a security risk and more as knowledge to be shared, says Graham Kemp, head of public sector at business analytics firm SAS UK. "One of the main barriers is that many departments and agencies view information as a security risk, keeping it under lock and key and failing to transform it into the greatest asset of all – knowledge," he says.

A growing number of experts is calling for the the government to change its siloed approach to information, to prevent more instances of fraud to slip through the cracks. Indeed Margaret Hodge, chair of the Commons Public Accounts Committee, labelled the government's current data sharing practices as "deeply frustrating".

Policy Exchange recommends the establishment of an advanced analytics team, which would be tasked with identifying areas where big data could be best put to use and educating departmental staff in the use of best practice tools and techniques. Ian Manocha, the vice president of government for SAS Europe, Middle East, Africa and Asia Pacific, heralds data science as a key management discipline. But where will public managers find these specialists? Chris Yiu, head of Policy Exchange's digital government unit, says it is this capability factor that is most problematic. "In particular, what you don't find in training is a track for data scientists, with a focus on how to tell a compelling story and visualise it", he said.

Our live discussion will debate how to overcome these and any other barriers to sharing data and insight. We want to know:

- How can data be shared in a timely, secure, unrestricted and auditable way?
- Which skills, tools and necessary training are necessary?
- How can security be maximised but paranoia about open data be managed?
- When - and for how long - should audits be held?
- How can a culture of openness and transparency be incentivised in organisations and between partner bodies?
- What role can board members take in driving forward the data sharing agenda?

## HACKED PHONES COULD BE LISTENING TO EVERYTHING YOU SAY

*Chris Dougherty; Activist Post*

Most people believe their phone conversations are private. Well, they may not be as private as you think if your office or home is filled with hacked phones.

Researchers at Columbia University have discovered a flaw in telephones that allows a hacker to turn a phone's microphone into a sophisticated recording device. Using this flaw an attacker can eavesdrop on conversations remotely.

5th year PhD candidate Ang Cui and Columbia Professor Sal Stolfo discovered the flaw while working on a U.S. Defense Department grant for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). According to the researchers, they can remotely command a hacked phone to do anything

they want.

For example, they say they can activate a webcam on a phone or instruct the phone's LED light to remain off when the phone's microphone has been activated. This way the eavesdropping victim won't be alerted when their conversation is being recorded.

*'On the dark side, these phones are sold worldwide,' Stolfo said. 'Any government that would like to peer into the private lives of citizens could use this. This is a great opportunity to create a low-cost surveillance system that is already deployed. It's a monitoring infrastructure that's free, when you turn these into listening posts.'*

Ang Cui, who works in the Intrusion Detection Systems Lab at Columbia University, gave a presentation on December 29th demonstrating the hack at the Chaos Communications Conference in Germany. The demonstration is appropriately titled "Hacking Cisco Phones: Just Because You Are Paranoid Doesn't Mean Your Phone Isn't Listening To Everything You Say".

During the presentation Cui shows examples of Cisco phones used not only in companies and educational institutions, but also used in government and military applications.

Cui, has spent the last five years thinking about ways to defend embedded systems against exploitation. Last year he gave a detailed presentation describing a method to use a printer as a launching point to attack a corporate network. For the purpose of attacking a phone, he has created a little device called the th1ngp3wn3r (pronounced Thing Powner) kit. The researcher says this small gadget can be attached to a single Cisco IP phone and then used to turn an entire company's network into a sophisticated bugging device within seconds.

Th1ngP3wn3r kit : Cisco Hacking Device – This small gadget can be attached to a single Cisco IP phone and then used to turn an entire company's network into a sophisticated bugging device within seconds. Cisco acknowledged the flaw in a statement to NBC News, but wouldn't say how many of its phones were impacted by the hack. However, Cisco announced in a December vulnerability report sent to paying customers that 15 models were affected.

The company appears to be working on a fix, but the researchers still consider the flaw to be very "dangerous."

*Chris Dougherty is a grey hat hacker and online security expert. Please visit his blog, [www.VirtualThreat.com](http://www.VirtualThreat.com) for more excellent news and information about protecting yourself in cyberspace.*

## **ANTI-SURVEILLANCE HOODIE AND SCARF PREVENT DRONES FROM TRACKING YOU; OR HOW TO ACCESSORIZE IN WAZIRISTAN**

*Clay Dillow; Popsci; via Activist Post*

The increasingly vast suite of surveillance tools available to state authorities has certainly given privacy advocates something to bristle at. In an exhibition launching this week, NYC-based artist Adam Harvey and fashion designer Johanna Bloomfield are demonstrating fashion's potential to thwart surveillance by state actors via accessories like a heat-cloaking anti-drone hoodie and scarf.

The exhibition will show off several garments designed to either stymie or protect against various privacy-probing surveillance technologies, including a shirt with an X-ray-deflecting patch over the heart, an "off pocket" that zeroes out your phone's signal when it's inside, and the aforementioned hoodie and scarf, both engineered to conceal the body's thermal signature that can be picked up by the IR sensors built into many surveillance cameras and drones.

Though both Harvey and Bloomfield are NYC-based, the exhibit will show in London-- appropriate considering London's legion of public surveillance cameras. If you're local, it runs January 18 through the end of the month.

# 10 STEPS TO SOFTWARE LIBERATION AND FREEDOM ON THE INTERNET.

*Charlie Harvey; New Internationalist; via Joe Taylor; NATCAN*

## ***Embrace free software***

It costs nothing, is often more stable and sometimes works better. It also lets you see the code your computer is running, and change it if need be. Compatibility with other programs has greatly improved.

## ***Get downloading***

Give this software a whirl:

For browsing: Firefox

For secure web chat: CryptoCat

For word processing: LibreOffice

For graphic editing: GIMP

## ***Start building***

Help grow the free software community. You can report bugs, request new features, offer translation or design skills, or – if your inner geek is struggling to get out – write code.

## ***Stay safe***

Tor is a tool that anonymizes internet connections to allow free expression. Dissidents, who risk their lives to speak truth to power, use Tor as a way to side-step censorship and capture in repressive countries. Adding your traffic to the Tor server makes it harder for governments to crack down on online dissent: [torproject.org](http://torproject.org)

## ***Embrace free culture***

More and more artists are releasing their work under free or open licences like those from Creative Commons. Listen to their music, read their books, and donate funds to support a blossoming re-mix culture: [freemusicarchive.org](http://freemusicarchive.org) [search.creativecommons.org](http://search.creativecommons.org)

## ***Say no to 'DRM'***

You bought it, it belongs to you – yet you don't control it. Publishers can stop people from sharing e-books – and music – using Digital Rights Management. DRM adds malicious software into your e-book reader that lets the book publisher mess with your device remotely. Buy a New Internationalist DRM-free e-book! [shop.newint.org](http://shop.newint.org)

## ***Protect your mobile phone***

More and more people are carrying phones which can do things like sell your geo-data to companies, be easily intercepted and lock-down your software. If you have an Android, that means you have a 95% free operating system that can add privacy tools from The Guardian Project to stop snooping governments and marketers.

## ***Put trackers off the scent***

Many websites carry advertising, social media widgets and profile audiences. Somewhere there's a record of your seeking advice about your embarrassing medical condition, or evidence of



your unsavoury political interests. Protect yourself from unwanted tracking and ads with browser plugins like Ghostery or AdblockPlus.

### ***Get campaigning***

Software can't go it alone. We need political change, better privacy and copyright regulation too. Join these groups and support the fight for a free internet:

Electronic Frontier Foundation

Open Rights Group

Liberty

Index on Censorship

### ***Get savvy***

Digital Survival Guide: Basic intro to computers, internet and mobile use. Top 12 ways to protect your online privacy: [eff.org](http://eff.org). Browse a selection of privacy-enhancing, technical resources: [techttoolsforactivism.org](http://techttoolsforactivism.org)

# **HOW TO WIN THE WAR FOR YOUR MIND**

## ***Brandon Smith; Activist Post***

All battles, all wars, all fistfights and bar brawls, all conflicts in every place and in every time (except those conflicts in which both sides answer to the same puppeteer) begin and end as battles of the mind. No struggle is determined on strength of arms alone. In fact, the technologically advanced adversary with all his fancy firepower is often more vulnerable than his low-tech counterparts.

This fact is, of course, counterintuitive to our Western manner of thinking, which teaches us to believe that the man with the bigger gun (or the bigger predator drone) always wins. Sadly, we have had to suffer through multiple defeats and overdrawn occupations in Asia to learn otherwise. One of the great unspoken truths of our era is the reality that the modernization of warfare has changed little the manner in which wars are won. Since the beginning of history, intelligence, force of will, and guiding principles are the dominant factors in any campaign.

Therefore, it only stands to reason that the most vital battle any of us will ever face is the psychological battle, the battle within; for success in the mind will determine success in all other endeavors.

Unfortunately, very few people ever consider the importance of the mind war, let alone know how to defend themselves against psychological attack. As with any method of self-defense, constant training is required.

For the past century a subversive and secret cold war has been waged against the people in the form of psychological subjugation. This cold war is designed to weaken our resolve, our heritage, our self-belief, our confidence and our integrity in preparation for a "hot war". The power elite know well that the most effective strategy for victory in any battle is to convince your enemy to surrender before the fight even begins. Today, the populace is being conditioned to lie down and die a mental death, to give up the inner war, so that when the outer war comes, they will already be defeated.

Corrupt governments rely heavily on what they call "psyops," which are primarily propaganda initiatives meant to demoralize their target (usually the citizenry). In the case of a despotic regime, psyops involves the insinuation of lies, half-truths, threats and brutality that is choreographed to elicit a very specific reaction. It is used to instigate strong emotional responses en masse that will work in favor of the oligarchy. The following guidelines can shield you from the arrows of deceit, allowing you to maintain control and avoid being unconsciously influenced to labor against your own cause...

### ***Do Not Fear Hypothetical Dangers***

Fear is the weapon of choice when it comes to totalitarian proponents. Conquering armies and bureaucracies are notorious for exaggerating their strength and numbers in order to squelch the fighting spirit of those they intend to rule. Genghis Kahn, for instance, used the tactic of exaggerated numbers, along with vicious genocide, to strike terror in regions he had not yet attempted to overtake. Upon his arrival, the Mongol hordes had received such a reputation (some of it fabricated) that many regions

surrendered immediately without question.

When becoming an activist against a criminal establishment, it is very common to be the target of fear campaigns. Today, those of us in the liberty movement hear warnings from “random” concerned parties constantly telling us that our efforts are “all for nothing,” that we are “making ourselves targets.” That the globalist system is far too strong and far too advanced to be defeated. That they have predator drones and databases and soldiers without empathy etc, etc.

Their hope is to make us afraid of hypothetical situations which can neither be confirmed nor denied. To make us obsess over the "odds" rather than the objective. In other words, they hope to encourage a state of mass cowardice. To undo this tactic, you must remain focused on your goal regardless of the possible danger. That is to say, the strength of the enemy, whether real or fantasy, is irrelevant. It is meaningless. Goliath is nothing but an obstacle, and all obstacles can be dealt with. Move forward toward the objective and never stop.

### ***Do Not Be Distracted By Minor Inconveniences And Personal Problems***

At the height of communist power in East Germany, the Stasi secret police deployed a tactic which they called “Zersetzung,” which means to “corrode” or “undermine.” The Zersetzung policy involved the use of subtle manipulations of a particular person’s life in order to interfere with his ability to function normally and participate fully in dissenting activities. The Stasi would send agents to a person’s home to rearrange items or fake a break-in. Often, they would attempt to create emotional conflicts between the dissident and his wife, family and friends and to damage business relationships. The purpose was to force the target to divert his attention from his political and social work over to more minor inconveniences.

Personal firestorms, whether engineered by Stasi or by natural conflict, are destructive only when you give them too much credence and attention. Some people become utterly fixated with their own private soap operas, and this weakness is often exploited by government elements.

The truth is, our home lives and the tensions in them are secondary when it comes to defending our principles and our culture against enslavement and oblivion. Woman troubles, family arguments and invasions into our private lives are not important. Only the mission is important; and in the Liberty Movement, our mission is to awaken the public, disrupt the indoctrination of the masses and, if necessary, physically remove the elites from power. Family and friends who get in the way or are manipulated into getting in the way should be ignored.

### ***Do Not Be Seduced By Gifts***

Tyrants love to offer gifts to the populace, especially at the onset of their rise to dominance. It may be the promise of new jobs, better infrastructure, free healthcare, more food, more safety or even free cellphones. They may offer payment for provocateuring or snitching. The point is to entice citizens with something for nothing, or at least the lie of something for nothing. If a government official (or anyone else for that matter) is pouring gifts into your lap, it is time to become suspicious.

Governments do not “pay” for the gifts you receive. You pay for the gifts you receive either through taxation or inflation. Free goodies should never influence the mind warrior to endear himself to any bureaucratic or corporate entity. Never allow yourself to be bought. The only treasures worth anything are our individualism and self respect.

### ***Never Trust The Media Machine - Always Verify Information***

There is no such thing as “objective journalism” in the mainstream media anymore. What you see and hear is not the truth but a facsimile of the truth, twisted to benefit the establishment alone. Media outlets today do not investigate events. Instead, they obstruct investigation by promoting only one side of every story and attacking anyone who questions their asserted narrative. The “official version” of any news story is almost always a convoluted fabrication that protects the oligarchy from harm.

No one who considers himself an intelligent human being should accept the official narrative at face value. It is important to question always that which we are told and to investigate using independent or original sources. Never allow yourself to be “taught.” Always examine the facts on your own. Demand that the establishment mouthpieces provide source information, instead of acting as if we should accept everything they say on blind faith.

### ***Do Not Concern Yourself With Ridicule***

Fighting disinformation is vital, but our personal pride is not important. Safeguarding our egos is

not important. Trying to please everyone all the time is impossible and also not important. Ridicule is used not only to discredit activists; it is also used to make them question their own resolve. If you cannot be embarrassed or browbeaten, then you cannot be made afraid and you cannot be defeated by mere words.

Require your opponents to answer your legitimate questions. Move past their distractions and push the issue of tangibility. Make them produce a legitimate argument. When they cannot, and continue to revert to Ad Hominem attacks, they expose the frailty of their position, and you have won.

### ***Accept The Risk Before Confronting The Enemy***

I am still amazed by those dissenters and freedom fighters who act as though they are surprised when the potential wrath of the system is directed at them. Did they not understand the risk when entering into the battle? Did they really believe it wouldn't be all that bad?

In any conflict against a larger, ruthless, and immoral opponent, always assume that you will have to go through hell to accomplish anything. Accept that your life will no longer be peaceful or comfortable. Know that you may not survive to see the fruits of your efforts. Realize that you may have to walk through fire and embrace pain. Otherwise, you will remain a pathetic and laughably inadequate soldier in the mind war.

Personal risk is not important. Only the truth and the future are important. Being effective means being "on the radar". If you are making a difference, and you are a concrete threat, then you should expect to have a target painted on your chest.

### ***Understand Your Own Weaknesses***

Pretending as if you have no weaknesses is the best way to help your enemy. If you are prideful, your overconfidence will be used against you. If you are spiteful, your jealousy will be exploited to distract you. If you are easily angered, your rage will be used to lure you into destroying yourself. Examine yourself as deeply and as thoroughly as you would the enemy. Though it might sound like a cliché, you actually can become far worse an enemy to your own cause than any army your opponent can muster. Ironically, by identifying our own limitations, we also can become adept at seeing the weaknesses in others. Unblinded by our own biases, the biases of the opponent become starkly visible.

### ***Do Not Buy Into Petty Authority***

Perhaps it is in our tribal nature, but many people seem to suffer from an insatiable desire for hierarchy and leadership — even if that leadership is based on falsehoods. The ultimate protection against corruption is to become one's own leader, rather than waiting around for a miraculously infallible overseer (or a talented conman) to guide the way for you. Relying on others to choose your path for you opens the door to having your right to choose removed from the picture completely.

Petty authority is authority derived from false pretenses, rather than earned respect and recognition. No man, regardless of title, is above the truth; and he is certainly not more worthwhile than you. Like a title, a uniform is a symbol of an ideal, but the man inside the uniform may not embrace that ideal. Do not focus on the uniform. Focus on the man, and question whether or not he lives up to the uniform.

If anyone wants to determine whether you go left or right, he should be put to the most stringent tests imaginable. He should have to prove that he has your best interests at heart, and that he has the wisdom to handle your future with care.

### ***Acknowledge The Power Of Symbolism And Myth***

Oligarchs use theater and pageantry to influence the collective unconscious because the human mind gravitates toward rituals that feed our inherent need for myth and symbol. Psychologist Carl Jung often referred to the inborn symbolic processes of the psyche as "archetypes," which exist in the art, dreams and spiritualism of every society regardless of time, place, religion or culture. Knowing these universal symbols and how we react to them emotionally allows a person to prevent himself from being conditioned or influenced by them.

Not all fantastic events in history are spontaneous. Some are staged as a means to appeal to a particular side of a nation's collective psyche. These "false flag" actions very often revolve around a symbol that is culturally valued. The construction or destruction of this symbolic edifice, famous person,

social mechanism or loved representation of the future leaves a lasting and deep-rooted impression on thousands, if not millions, of people. They become emotionally invested in the event — frantic, fearful or furious — without having the slightest inkling why. In the end, they can be conned into acting in disastrous ways just to appease the inner imbalance. They can be led to war, to enslavement and to death — all on the promise of preventing a myth from appearing or disappearing.

The secret is to explore our inner life with more vigor than we waste on outer fantasy. By discovering our own internal myth and, thus, our own individuality, we make ourselves impervious to false-flag conditioning. Our emotions remain within our control, our biases become non-existent and our fears become irrelevant. We do not become overly attached to images, to superficial expectations, or to the collective. The theater of the mind loses its power; and from that point on, we choose our own destinies.

## ***Never Forget Your Individualism***

Collectivists consistently promote the idea that human beings are empty vessels; blank slates to be molded by the environment, or mere biological machines with rudimentary animal instincts that we "mistake for a soul". As I pointed out above, Carl Jung's work on inborn psychological archetypes proves that we are in fact NOT empty vessels. Each of us is born with common qualities, like conscience and insight, as well as distinctive qualities that make us unique. We are born with dual concepts of good and evil. Right and wrong. Because of this duality, we are given the power to choose. To ignore conscience, or embrace it.

Collectivists pander their blank slate propaganda because they want us to believe that we have no inherent qualities, and therefore, no conscience. They want us to ignore our intuition and adopt moral relativism. For if every man is empty, then there is no right or wrong, and nothing the elites do can be qualified as "criminal". If every man is convinced that he is purely a product of his environment, then he can also be convinced to turn over his free will to those who appear to have the most control over the environment. If he believes he is not in possession of individual determination, then he may assume the role of a robot, waiting to be programmed by the outside world.

This is the ultimate collectivist dream: to become the "great providers and makers" of the masses. To feed us what they like, clothe us in what they like, teach us what they like, and to tell us what we are to think and when we are to think it. They wish to see themselves as the painters, and us as the canvas. Only then, in their minds, will our society reach "perfection". If mankind loses track of his individuality and accepts the blank slate ideology, he will surrender the mind war, perhaps without even knowing it.

## ***Mind Over Matter***

Facing down an adversary with firearms or with fists is an easy thing to grasp. Facing down a lie, or an idea meant to destroy one's mental capacity for resistance, is incredibly complex. When an opponent attempts to play mind games, though, it is a sure sign that he does not have the capacity to thwart you with physical strength alone. The fact that our government and the power structure behind it has so desperately relied on such strategies for so many years shows that they believe they cannot enact centralized authority over our nation and undo our free imperative simply by the momentum of military might. No gun, no matter how big, will get them what they want. So they continue to play the game until our resolve is broken and our ability to fight diminished.

In order to prevail, we must make ourselves immune to the game. We must walk away, separating ourselves from it completely. We must relinquish all unnecessary fear, doubt, and hatred, and do what we know needs to be done. We must ignore the rhetoric of defeat and nihilism. We must take that long solemn step beyond the veil of doubt, knowing that all great men before us fought their own battles despite the so called "certainty of death".

If we cannot take lordship of our own psychological world, we are doomed to failure in every other fight that envelops us. Without impervious will, we cannot overcome, and we cannot find peace.

*You can contact Brandon Smith at: [brandon@alt-market.com](mailto:brandon@alt-market.com) Join Alt-Market.com today and learn what it means to step away from the system and build something better. To contribute to the growth of the Safe Haven Project, and to help us help others in relocating, or to support the creation of barter networks across the country, visit our donate page here: <http://www.alt-market.com/donate>*

# BIG BROTHER WATCH BULLETIN

## EXTRACTS

### *Big Brother Watch*

#### *Whose record is it anyway?*

New research from Big Brother Watch published during the festive break has unveiled the scale of errors in the criminal record check system.

Between 2007 and 2012, 11,893 people successfully challenged CRB results after wrongly being branded criminals or seen irrelevant or inaccurate information disclosed during criminal record checks. As a result, £1.98m was paid out in redress.

The figures are shocking - 4,196 people challenged information held by a local police force, 3,519 people were given the wrong person's criminal record and 4,088 people found inaccurate information or potential wrong identity on police national computer.

It's essential people should not have to rely on a CRB check to find out about inaccurate, misleading or wrong information being stored about them, particularly when that information is available to other public organisations and police officers. The most common errors were where information was disclosed by local police forces or the police national computer. In 3,519 cases the wrong person's entry on the police national computer was disclosed.

The police hold a vast amount of information, from photographs to written notes, and the way forward must be to bring this murky system out into the open and ensure that only information that is absolutely necessary is held.

#### *Our successes in 2012*

After a busy year of campaigning, we'd like to thank you for your support in 2012 and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Looking back on 2012, we're very proud of what Big Brother Watch has achieved. The Joint Committee on the draft Communications Data Bill concluded the draft Bill needs a comprehensive re-write, adopting a number of Big Brother Watch's recommendations after we gave oral evidence to Parliament for the first time. We also attended all four party conferences.

We led opposition to Google's new privacy policy and eagerly await the results of an EU investigation into the company. Our research into how many people had read the company's new privacy policy was cited by the European Commissioner responsible for data protection, while Big Brother Watch was invited to join the Ministry of Justice's Data Protection advisory panel.

Southampton and Oxford councils were taken to task after our complaints to the Information Commissioner about their audio CCTV plans for taxis, a story we ensured was heard worldwide.

Free speech has been a major issue of campaigning in 2012, with several successes. The House of Lords voted again to reform Section 5 of the Public Order Act, while our opposition to statutory regulation of the press won plaudits and bolstered support for the introduction of a custodial sentence for breaches of the Data Protection Act. We were one of the most vocal critics of decisions to arrest people for postings on social media where the only harm had been some people's offence and as we called for, new guidance has since been issued by the Director of Public Prosecutions. We campaigned against default-blocking of internet content, a campaign that in the past week has led to Government policy rejecting such an option. We also joined the global internet blackout to oppose ACTA, with the campaign leading to the legislation's downfall.

The Protection of Freedoms Act introduced a number of measures in Big Brother Watch's manifesto, from the DNA Database to CCTV regulation. Far more needs to be done, but the legislation was a good start.

2013 is set to be another busy year, with Communications Data, CCTV regulation, school

biometrics, privatised surveillance and medical privacy. We hope you can continue to support us.

### ***Back to the drawing board for Communications Data Bill***

After months of evidence, the Joint Committee on the draft Communications data Bill published its report and was damning in its criticism. The Committee made clear the draft Bill needs re-writing if it is to ever pass Parliament, while criticising the Home Office for being 'misleading' on numerous occasions and highlighting the lack of consultation, detailed evidence and the fact that presently the information available is not used to best effect.

Big Brother Watch gave oral evidence twice and submitted three pieces of written evidence. One of those submissions outlined the steps that could be taken, both with and without legislation, and we are pleased the committee has recognised this, urging the Home Office to do more to improve existing legal channels and for much more evidence on the problem to be produced. Consultation with industry and civil liberties groups, badly lacking before the draft bill, is an essential part of any legislation and the committee makes clear that they share this view.

Even the Intelligence and Security Committee highlighted the weakness of the case that has been made, saying 'Parliament and the public will require more information if they are to be convinced.'

Our press conference on the report featured Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales, David Davis MP, former Director of Public Prosecutions Lord Macdonald and former president of the Association of Chief Police Officers Sir Chris Fox. The Financial Times leader backed this call to re-write the bill and the committee is clear – tinkering around the edges is not good enough. It's back to the drawing board for the Home Office.

### ***Reform Section 5 campaign wins in the Lords***

The House of Lords voted to back the reform of Section 5 of the Public Order Act, a campaign Big Brother Watch has been proud to support.

From David Davis MP to Peter Tatchell, the current and former Director of Public Prosecutions to Rowan Atkinson, the campaign has built a formidable base of support and 150 peers voted to remove the word 'insulting' from the Public Order Act. The campaign goes on, but it is one step closer to changing this unwarranted restriction on free speech.

## **JURIES AND UNJUST LAW**

### ***Kenn D'Oudney; Democracy Defined***

*(Further to the recent RG editorial on the Commoning of the Law, some good supporting argument from Kenn D'Oudney, citing especially dicta from the US, which is, of course, a Common Law jurisdiction. It underscores the point that the law itself may be challenged by any jury, and that, in consequence the law is not the property of any legal, political or administrative elite but ought, if Common Law were functioning as it should, to be the property of the people. As Bereford, Chief Justice to Edward III commented, "Bad law is no law at all", a principle to be found in the famous Calvin's and Bonham's cases, adjudicated by Sir Edward Coke in early Stuart times - Ed)*

Quoted below, that "comment" by the writers of 'The Book of Hundreds' reveals absolutely their unforgivable desertion of the universally-applicable secular principles of moral justice embodied in natural law, from which derive: *legem terræ*, the Law of the Land, the people's common law in the Constitution, and the Trial by Jury Justice System.

Common Law and Trial by Jury far predate the Christian Era. Common Law is timeless, secular and universally applicable.

Crabbe: "It cannot be denied that the practice of submitting causes to the decision of twelve men was universal among all the northern tribes (of Europe) from the very remotest antiquity."

*Crabbe's History of the English Law, p. 32.*

The Hellenic Athenian Constitution of government by Trial by Jury was a conspicuous achievement

in human history for constitutionally establishing this unique mode of justice. The aristocrat Cleisthenes it is who must be credited with the creation of mankind's first democracy in 508/7 B.C.E. (although 'infant' in form, as it did not yet give equality to women and permitted slavery). He brought acknowledgement to the need to spread empowerment throughout society to promote equal justice, liberty, peace and prosperity, and devolved power all the way down to the poorest (male) citizens, the thetes, by recognising rights, exousia.

Exousia rights included the right to attend, debate and vote in the national assembly on laws and measures (referenda); the right of the accused to a Trial by Jury; and, crucially, the empowerment of citizens by bestowing on them judicial authority as Jurors in Trial by Jury in which laws and measures passed by legislative majorities in the assembly could be judged, overruled and annulled \* whenever this was deemed by the Jurors necessary to serve justice, liberty, and the interests of the people.

*\*See Works, Vol. 2, by co-author of the U.S. Constitution, Justice James Wilson.*

The Jury Comprises the Supreme Legislature and Judicature.

THIS CASE RULING EXEMPLIFIES DEMOCRACY AT WORK:

*"If the jury feels the law is unjust, we recognise the undisputed power of the jury to acquit even if its verdict is contrary to the law as given by the judge, and contrary to the evidence."*

*"If the jury feels that the law under which the defendant is accused is unjust, or that exigent circumstances justified the actions of the accused, or for any reason which appeals to their logic or passion, the jury has the power to acquit, and the courts must abide by that decision."*

*United States v. Moylan; U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, 1969, 417 F. 2d 1002*

Neither in the United States, Britain, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, nor in all of Continental Europe and elsewhere, have legislatures ever been invested by the People with authority to impair the powers, to change the oaths, or abridge the jurisdiction of jurors to govern government; nor to remove the universal Right of the accused to the Trial by Jury of peers for any charge or offence whatever, however serious or trivial.

Today, U.S. v Moylan is not exemplified by the modus operandi of courts. Democracy has been overturned by miscreant politicians and judiciary, and the genuine Trial by Jury is no more: hence, the Campaign for RESTORATION.

*[Quotation from 'Hundreds'; red highlights misinformation:]*

Apart from other Duties, Powers, Rights and Procedures, under the Constitution and in the Common Law Trial by Jury Justice System, it is a prime function and irrevocable Duty for the Jurors to make judgement on the justice, validity, interpretation, and effects of the 'law', and decide on its very legitimacy. Jurors have the Duty to annul enforcement of prosecutions if conviction or punishment would be unfair to the accused. Ref. United States v. Moylan quoted above.

Naturally, people have the moral responsibility, the right and the duty to resist and suppress injustice wherever it occurs, and by whomsoever it is perpetrated, governments notwithstanding. By definition and in practice, Democracy and Justice require that the People at all times retain the Supreme Power to annul injustices and the bad laws made by fallible politicians.

This Power backed by the full apparatus of police, prison service and Armed Services, is uniquely embodied in the Citizen-Juror's Duty in Trial by Jury: to judge the justice of every act of law enforcement, and to render the Not Guilty Verdict whenever conviction or punishment of the accused would be unfair, according to the juror's conscience.

Consider Harlan F. Stone, U.S. Chief Justice 1941-1946, on the Juror's Duty in the authentic Trial by Jury, as follows:

*"If a juror feels that the statute involved in any criminal offence is unfair, or that it infringes upon the defendant's natural God-given unalienable or Constitutional rights, then it is his duty to affirm that the offending statute is really no law at all and that the violation of it is no crime at all, for no one is bound to obey an unjust law."*

*"That juror must vote Not Guilty regardless of the pressures or abuses that may be heaped on him by any or all members of the jury with whom he may in good conscience disagree. He is voting on the justice of the law according to his own conscience and convictions and not someone else's. The law itself is on trial quite as much as the case which is to be decided."*

*U.S. Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone; Harvard Law Review.*

Once a statute has been enacted and interpreted by the court for its enforcement, the judges in subsequent routine enforcement may NOT 'consider', cf., dispute, the legality of the law.

That "comment" in 'Hundreds' reveals the writers' ignorance (or mendacity) about the Juror's Sovereign

Authority to decide the law and the admissibility of the evidence, to judge all issues related to the case, to dispense justice and retribution and make redress. This 'Book' comprises a damaging work of statist disinformation.

Considering that, properly-speaking, writings are based on, and, with attribution, refer to listed bibliographical works, then 'Hundreds' potentially exposes numerous other faulty tomes to avoid. It is the work of men and women who do NOT know the workings and mechanisms of the Constitutional Common Law Trial by Jury, or who do know them but do not want anyone else to know them.

Trial by Jury is a strictly secular process. Legem terræ common law is applicable to all men and women in all times and places. It embodies the universally accepted supreme secular morality which treats of and attempts to deter Crime (unalterably defined by common law as an act of injustice committed with malice aforethought).

There is no place for sectarianism in the People's Common Law Courts of Equal Justice. If the writers had the first inkling about Common Law and its timeless, secular nature, the entire text would have taken on a completely different tone and approach. In its present form, it is execrable.

## THE HUMILIATION OF GREECE

### ***Golem XIV; via Jimmy Devlin (North West Tenants Association)***

It's not often we get to witness the moment when a leader sells his nation for money. Such a moment occurred in Athens last week.

At the behest and on the authority of Prime Minister Samaras and President Papoulias, an amendment to Greek law was drawn up last week. There was no debate in parliament, the vote is still to be purchased. But unless this amendment is challenged or changed, the change it will bring in will alter the future of Greece and its people every bit as much as the day Greece joined the Euro, perhaps even as much as the day Democracy was re-instated after the long rule of the Generals. Only this change will be a giant step away from Democracy and towards subservience to an unelected elite.

You can read the law in its original here. Here is a translation of the key part.

*«The Beneficiary Member State, the Bank of Greece and the Hellenic Financial Stability Fund each hereby irrevocably and unconditionally waives all immunity to which it is or may become entitled, in respect of itself or its assets, from legal proceedings in relation to this Amendment Agreement, including, without limitation, immunity from suit, judgment or other order, from attachment, arrest or injunction prior to judgment, and from execution and enforcement against its assets to the extent not prohibited by mandatory law».*

The law says, should any future Greek government try to default in any way on its debts – by setting up a debt commission or by any other means, even one accepted by international law and precedent, then Greece chooses to relinquish all claims on the assets of the Greek people and the nation and equally relinquishes all legal protections from its creditors/bond holders. In other words, if a future Greek government tries to default, Mr Samaras and Mr Papoulias have guaranteed that the Greek people will forfeit and lose any and all rights to their nation's assets including its national companies and natural resources and the law will not protect them. All those assets will be open to seizure by Greece's bond holders. The vulture funds, vulturecrats and all the bond holders have been handed a loaded gun and a license to loot. No nation has ever done this. The question is why are Greek politicians trying to do it and why now?

For the last two years two questions have echoed round and round Europe and occupied the elite who rule/own it – how to stop Greece defaulting and how to recapitalize its banks – so that neither can pull down the things Europe really cares about – Germany's and France's banks?

I believe passing the above law is an important part of the answer to both those questions. In fact, if passed in to law, it will, I think all but complete a Troika formulated policy begun with the much talked about but little understood, partial Greek default and bond swap, that was the first station of Greece's cross. What is that policy?

### ***Stop Greece from Defaulting.***

There has been and continues to be much talk about 'helping Greece not to default'. In actual fact there is very little real 'help' at least not for the Greek people. The intent of Troika's policy for Greece has been far more directly to simply 'stop' Greece defaulting no matter what harm it does to Greece or its people. The policy has actually been to crucify Greece if necessary, and to deny her, no matter what,



the release of default.

I believe this new proposed law is intended to put beyond all reach the release of default. But first lets clear this law is not a one off. It is a continuation of a policy that the bond swap began. The bond swap dealt with only one part of Greek debt closing off only one potentially open door to default. The present proposed law closes off all the other exits in one stroke.

So let's start by clearing away some of the misdirection that the mainstream media has so helpfully piled in our way concerning the debt swap that Greece undertook in March 2012 and about which so much has been written. First the debt being swapped was purely Sovereign debt that was held privately. I. E. by banks. So it did not cover sovereign debt held by other nations or central banks, nor any private debt, such as that issued by Greece's banks. Only sovereign debt held by banks and other financial institutions.

Needless to say the debt/bond holders of those institutions have used every column inch they could buy or influence to tell the approved story of how they, the 'wealth-producers' of the world, as they like to style themselves, have been robbed by a nation of feckless, work-shy,'socialistic', tax-avoiding, recidivist crooks. What actually happened is nearly the opposite.

Certainly, Greece did default/restructure this debt. So on the face of it it cannot be denied that the bond holders took a loss. But as I have pointed out before, private companies default all the time. Default is not a crime against business, it is part of it. Neither restructuring debt nor defaulting it is a crime. Let's look at the case of Chrysler – again. The management simply did the mathematics and knew that unless they could reduce their burden of debts they would not be able to get out from underneath them in order to make a profit going forward. Given that situation the management (Who by the way were the culpable ones for piling up that much debt) simply said – if we do not reduce this debt then the business is dead. Better to default some of our debt and allow a business that can make money to emerge.

That is all default is. A sensible way out of a disastrous situation.

Now when Chrysler defaulted they forced a settlement on their creditors of 29 cents on the dollar. According to the BIS (Bank for International Settlements)

In February 2012, the Greek government launched an offer to exchange €206 billion of bonds held by private sector investors for new bonds with a face value of about €100 billion. So Greece offered very nearly 50 cents 'on the dollar'. To me that's a bail out in all but name because it is above what the bond holders would have got had they been selling in the open market. The Greek government made no attempt to get the best deal for their people, but instead offered the open hand of generosity for their banker friends while beating down on ordinary Greeks with a closed fist.

But the settlement with the bond holders was never simply about money 'now', it was perhaps even more about altering the future. This was a 'restructuring' with one purpose – to make future default or restructuring impossible. The bond holders got paid 15% of the face value of their bonds in cash up front. The important point, however, is that the rest of their 50 cents on the dollar came in the form of new bonds issued to replace the old. The important point, perhaps the main point of the exercise was that the old bonds, which were 'Greek Law' bonds were replaced by 'English Law' bonds. The difference between Greek law and English law bonds is important and valuable to those holding them.

In Greek law bonds there can be are what are called Collective Action Clauses which allow the government to impose on the bond holders an agreement which is binding on them all so long as a majority votes in favour. Thus in a restructuring the government can dictate terms and as long as a majority of the bond holders agree, however reluctantly, the rest have no choice but to acquiesce. This is what Chrysler did. This is exactly what the Greek government did to debt it had issued under Greek Law. In English law these clauses do not appear. Which means that individual bond holders, of debt issued under English law, can hold out against imposed restructurings and refuse to settle. The effect is to make it very difficult for a government to force a settlement on bond holders. Hold-outs can always block it and force a higher price.

What the Greek government did, with the blessing of the Troika, was use the collective settlement not only to offer the holders more than they would have got in the market – which mean as far as the markets were concerned that the banks were better off after the default than before – but to replace all the Greek law bonds which allow restructuring with new English law bonds that make it impossible. The deal made this restructuring the last Greece would be able to do.

So while the mainstream press obediently peddled the 'poor bondholders being forced to accept default' story – the real story was that thanks to English law bonds for the old Greek law ones, no future Greek government that was not convinced of the merits of destroying Greece for the sake of Europe's big banks, or wanted to re-negotiate – like a possible left wing, Syriza government – no such government, no matter what it promised those who voted for it, could ever again impose a collective default settlement upon the new debts.

The bond settlement was not just about giving to the bond holders it was about taking away from the citizens of Greece. Taking away from them their ability to chose certain futures.

### ***Foreclosing the future***

Now let's look forward to what might happen if the present coalition were to lose the next election and Syriza were to gain power. The Syriza leader, Mr Alexis Tsipras, has already called for a debt commission, and in any election that call or something similar, will be a central promise of Syriza to the Greek electorate.

But now consider what the chances would be of making good on any such promise. If Syriza were to take exception to the generous deal given to the bond holders and if they tried to change that deal in any way, it would be a technical default and the English law clauses would prevent any new deal being forced on the bond holders. The clause would stop any attempt by Syriza to reduce Greek debt by that route. That avenue was closed when the present government signed its generous restructuring deal.

So much of the 'poor bond holders' story. But the bond story only dealt with one part of Greece's debt. It left untouched the part of Greece's Sovereign debt held by governments, central banks like the ECB and Fed, and by other international funders such as the IMF or the various European bail-out funds like the EFSF etc., and did nothing to 'save' Greece's banks from the mountain of bad private debts they still held or which they had pledged as collateral to the ECB. These debts are what new law is for.

### ***The New Law.***

On the surface the new law pertains only to the debts of the Greek state and its institutions. And on their debts the proposed new law is rather clear. It says, should any new future Greek government, no matter the mandate given to them in an election, try to default on any of Greece's remaining sovereign debt, now held mainly held by other governments, central banks and international financial bodies, then the Greek state and the government of the day would have no protection in law against suits brought against them nor even against injunctions served to restrain their assets prior to an actual judgement. This means a Greek government would not even be able to fight such a case because while they were trying to fight, all their sovereign assets would already be frozen.

If a Greek government tried to default not only would it not be able to force a settlement on its English law bond holders, but nations and central banks to whom it owed money would simply be able to claim and then seize Greek national assets. They could start with those already held by them, such as Greece's gold held abroad, but also claim ownership of any other asset such as Greece's infrastructure of roads, rail, power, water, oil and lands.

In one fell swoop the new law would radically alter the situation of those institutions, such as the ECB, who are sitting on billions of Greek government bonds pledged as collateral by Greek banks. Up till now a default would have left the ECB, like everyone else, holding worthless paper and heading for the nearest court to file suit in the hope of eventually getting a judgement in their favour. Whose court and what judgement no one has been clear about. In short the EBC and everyone else were holding debt that was not secured against any specific claim against Greece's assets. They were, in effect, unsecured bond holders. The ECB would not like to see it that way but I think that is how it is.

The new law changes this. And I think the European powers are well aware of this and it is why they insisted on this law being written. For let us be clear this law was created by the Troika for the precise purpose I have outlined. The law, or the idea of it, was there in the 400 pages of the memorandum that was drawn up to govern the Greek bail out back in February. The eventual adoption of the law, is there in the fine print as one of the preconditions for the bail out to be fully released. And now the Greek quislings have done their master's bidding.

Because if the law is adopted, then suddenly, in a default, every one of the Troika institutions could point to Greek law and say, by your own sovereign law the Greek bonds/debt we are holding are secured against your national assets. Any default and the ECB could claim whatever it wanted to cover the value of the bonds it held. My guess is the ECB might fancy Greece's financial sector, thus making the running of Greece's economy from Frankfurt much easier than it is now.

Of course a Greek government would not have to roll over and agree. A Greek government could still alter the law and say we are still 'the will of the people' and we will not surrender any assets no matter what your claim. But in return Greece's gold would be seized as would any other Greek sovereign assets held abroad. Greece would also find suits imposed on any banks that tried to do business with them. The suits would all be based on the new, proposed law.

Taken together the earlier bond settlement, replacing Greek law bonds with English law bonds, plus the as yet to be voted upon new law would make it almost impossible for an any future Greek

government, to ever again default or restructure sovereign debt. Together they are, I think, how the Troika plans to stop, prevent, and outlaw Greek people determining their own future..

### ***This is how the Troika intends to crucify Greece.***

But as if this wasn't enough I want to suggest one more deeply unpleasant thought that came to me when I was thinking about the purpose of this new law. This is speculation because it is based upon an interpretation of the law and I am not a lawyer. But I want to put it to you because if I am in any way correct it makes the actions of the leaders like Mr Samaras an even more horrid betrayal.

### ***Private debts in Private Greek Banks.***

What I have not yet looked at is the immense pile of bad private debts held by the insolvent Greek banks. This would seem to be outside the scope of the proposed law. And this is a problem, because if those banks collapsed, the ripples of the event could spread and to where no one is quite sure: Commerzbank, Deutsche Bank, Unicredit, The Bundesbank itself, Credit Agricole, Soc. Gen. No one quite knows. No one wants to find out. And what of the elite of Greece? The elite families of Greece, and there are only a few, who own its banks and its oil companies, and whose sons have provided Greece with her Generals as well as her Prime Ministers would face ruin if the private debts in their banks were to implode.

Of course this should be a private affair and nothing to do with the government and its debts. But, since 2007 we all know that such private debts have been made government business. That is the new world we have been brought to. Greece's banks will require further assistance. Everyone is clear about that. So what if a future government decided, while it might not be able to restructure its sovereign debt, it could at least refuse to take on any more debt for the sake of 'saving' the private banks? A more left wing government could still allow banks to default. It could clear their debts, force their bond holders, whoever they were, to suffer the losses, and then nationalize whatever assets were left, and at least Greece would have a clean banking sector. Good for Greece. Not so good for the families whose wealth and power would have just burned down.

But now think what this new law would have to say about that. On the surface nothing you might think. So might Syriza. Private banks defaulting on private debts. Nothing the government could be sued for, even under the new law,

Sadly I think the new law is there to make sure the government could be sued even for allowing private banks to default on their private debts. How?

Think of how a bank, a systemically important bank, one large enough to cause a domino effect, has to be wound up. You cannot simply let it fall apart. That would be what is known as a disorderly insolvency. What has to happen, is an orderly insolvency that ensures the bank still fulfills its socially necessary functions as a bank for ordinary people and other businesses.

In an orderly insolvency, like Chrysler's or Northern rock's, auditors must be appointed whose job it is to sort out the parts that are still viable from those that are not. The viable ones are put in one business and allowed to emerge from bankruptcy while the dead parts are put in another financial entity which is overseen by trustees while its affairs are wound down. For most companies this happens as an entirely private matter. A company like Chrysler simply stops making cars for a while until the legal and financial sums are done. But for banks it is different. People have to have access to their money. And for big banks their operations need to continue for the sake of lots of other businesses which rely on them. So in the case of banks the government usually steps in. In the case of Northern Rock or Bradford and Bingley in the UK or the Caja in Spain or hundreds of banks in America, the government takes over the failed bank. It becomes the temporary owner and the bank's debts appear on the government accounts. AND THERE is the key.

For as soon as a bank failed and the Greek government stepped in, as it would have to, to make sure the default was done in the orderly fashion that would protect ordinary people and the wider economy, then the bank and its debts would become sovereign. And as soon as that happened I think any sharp lawyer, expert in corporate and international law, would be able to argue that the default was 'caused by' or at least 'overseen and controlled by' the government and, as such, was a sovereign default. If the government chose not to 'save' the bank and its debts but instead allowed the bank to default, then the new law would empower the banks former owners and its creditors to seize sovereign assets.

It might seem incredible, and it surely is, but if I have read the law properly I think there is a very good chance it would also be the case. Just think of the way the law allows Vulture funds to sue nations even for losses on loans the Vulture fund never had any interest in until it bought them up specifically so it could sue. Tell me my scenario is impossible.

If think there is a horrible chance that the proposed law would mean that any future Greek government would have no choice but to keep bailing out the private banks. It would makes the Greek private banks and those whose wealth and power is tied to them, invulnerable. They could not be allowed to default. the proposed new law, combined with the 'English law' bonds would prevents any future government from being able to do anything at all to change the debt burden of the Greek people.

This law, if passed, and I think it will, would make the wealth of the 1%, untouchable even in default. The law would says either they are bailed out or they have the right to take whatever assets they wish in lieu. The new law, could, if I am correct, be used to recapitalize a defaulting bank by simply plundering the assets of the nation.

If this speculation, and this is all it is, is correct in any way, then one of the elite, Mr Samaras, framed this law knowing it would protect his fortune and power and that of his family and his friends and their families. A law by the elite for the elite. And one that would spell the end of any meaningful democracy in Greece.

It also means this. If the Greek people vote for Syriza and the promise of reducing their burden of debt and austerity, this law and the Bond changes will ensure those promises are all broken. If that happens the voters would turn against those who promised and failed. The Left will be seen as worse liars and rogues even than those they replaced. Many Greeks might then swing violently from left to right, in to the arms of far right nationalists.

And that would be the perfect excuse for suspending democracy and bringing in a 'technocratic' government, a dictatorship by another name, perhaps of outsiders, backed by the military if necessary. A bankers paradise. A paradise of the elites. Vote left, swing right. The future of Europe.

This law is the end game. It must be stopped. And it can be. The Greek parliament can, and in my opinion must, vote it down decisively. If not then any incoming government seeking to turn away from enforced austerity, examine the nations debts, to reject that which was found to be odious and to restructure the rest, would find the steel jaws of a carefully constructed trap snapping closed upon them. At which point the only option would be something very close to revolution.

But it would be that or and end to democracy and economic crucifixion.

## **BRIEFING CONFLATES DISSENT AGAINST THE STATE WITH AL-QAEDA**

*Paul Joseph Watson; Infowars.com; via Mike Stuckey and John Newell*

The London Metropolitan Police is encouraging businesses and the general public to immediately report anyone who holds anti-government political beliefs to the authorities as terrorists, calling on people to become volunteer informants as the state prepares for widespread social unrest.

“This was the surprising injunction from the Metropolitan Police issued to businesses and members of the public in Westminster last week,” reports the London Guardian. “There was no warning about other political groups, but next to an image of the anarchist emblem, the City of Westminster police’s “counter terrorist focus desk” called for anti-anarchist whistleblowers stating: “Anarchism is a political philosophy which considers the state undesirable, unnecessary, and harmful, and instead promotes a stateless society, or anarchy. Any information relating to anarchists should be reported to your local police.”

In also calling on people to report Al-Qaeda paraphernalia to police, the briefing conflates “anarchists” with terrorists.

“It unfairly implies that anyone involved in anarchism should be known to the police and is involved in a dangerous activity,” said Jason Sands, an anarchist from South London. “There is nothing inherently criminal about political philosophy whatever it is. The police work under the convention on human rights which disallows discrimination against people because of their political beliefs and even the request for information would seem to be in breach of that.”

Of course, the “anarchist” label could apply to a whole range of political beliefs, but the fact that the state is now openly criminalizing anti-government sentiment and encouraging people to report on their neighbors for expressing dissent or displaying any sign of their political philosophy

is a clear indication of how paranoid the British government has become of its own citizens. As anarchist Sean Smith told the Guardian, “It’s pretty absurd, but not surprising, when the state seeks to criminalise ideas it deems to be dangerous to its own survival.”

Indeed, if you want an insight into where the British government thinks this is all heading, look no further than a 2007 Ministry of Defence report which foresaw “the middle classes becoming revolutionary” and “taking on the role of Marx’s proletariat” within three decades.

“The world’s middle classes might unite, using access to knowledge, resources and skills to shape transnational processes in their own class interest,” warns the report, predicting mass unrest and social dislocation.

This is why the authorities are already putting the squeeze on any kind of political beliefs that could be construed as anti-government. They are aware of the fact that the increasingly dangerous, unjust and economically deprived post-industrial revolution now being used to eviscerate the middle class in the west will provoke a hostile and radical reaction.

Encouraging people to report on each other for political beliefs deemed undesirable by the state is precisely what happened in Soviet Russia and Nazi Germany.

One common misconception about Nazi Germany was that the police state was solely a creation of the authorities and that the citizens were merely victims. On the contrary, Gestapo files show that 80% of all Gestapo investigations were started in response to information provided by denunciations by “ordinary” Germans.

“There were relatively few secret police, and most were just processing the information coming in. I had found a shocking fact. It wasn’t the secret police who were doing this wide-scale surveillance and hiding on every street corner. It was the ordinary German people who were informing on their neighbors,” wrote Robert Gellately of Florida State University. Gellately discovered that the people who informed on their neighbors were motivated primarily by banal factors – “greed, jealousy, and petty differences,” and not by a genuine concern about crime or insecurity.

*Paul Joseph Watson is the editor and writer for Prison Planet.com. He is the author of Order Out Of Chaos. Watson is also a regular fill-in host for The Alex Jones Show.*

# POSITIVE MONEY BULLETIN EXTRACTS

## *Positive Money Team*

The way money is created is destroying our society, businesses and environment. The system can be changed. But only if enough people demand change. Most people don’t know what the problem is, YET... Over the next few years we must get the public talking about the way money is created, and demanding change.

### ***Submission to Treasury Committee on QE***

Ben Dyson has made a submission to the Treasury Commission on their call for further evidence on the effectiveness of Quantitative Easing and how it could be made more effective. He explained in it that creating money and putting it into financial markets won’t stimulate the real economy.

He has addressed three points:

The effectiveness of QE so far undertaken by the Bank of England, and how effective it would be if the programme were to be further extended in the future.

Should other unconventional policy measures have been used by the Bank of England?

Should unconventional policy measures be used from now on?

### ***Monetary reform in Europe***

There is now an increasing activity in starting up similar campaigns in Europe. Recently a new

movement in Netherlands was set up: Ons Geld beweging

Here you can see the websites of other organisations who argue the case for monetary reform along the same or similar lines as Positive Money in the world.

Also, the interest of the media in "How money is created" has increased significantly in Europe. The German national radio Deutschlandfunk has broadcasted on Sat 5th January a program that explained IN DETAIL the money creation, seigniorage and the reform proposals of our sister organization in Germany – Monetative. Also our sister organization in Ireland - Sensible Money - had published an article on a national radio station's website and in the Irish Times last week.

2012 was an exciting year for us, as academics, policy makers and even the mainstream media began to mention the monetary system as a possible reason for the financial crisis.

But Positive Money is serious about actually changing the system, and this will only happen if enough people demand change. At the moment, most people neither know nor care about the monetary system, and we need your help to change this.

We are living in exceptional times, with the financial system, and the ecosystems on which we depend, at the point of collapse. Over the next two years we must get the public talking about the way money is created, and demanding change. This won't be easy, but we are counting on our supporters to make a difference.

We want to give you a round-up of what has happened this year.

We have trained speakers all around the country who are now able to speak about the need for money reform on various conferences and events.

Ben has been speaking at some important events including:

Just Banking Conference which also featured Prof R Werner, Prof S Keen and the Bank of England's Adam Posen.

Inaugural meeting of the Welsh Assembly's Cross-Party Group on Monetary Reform

The first UK documentary about the debt-based money system - 97% Owned - was released. It has made monetary reform more widely understood and screenings have helped grow our campaign.

Our message has begun to reach the mainstream media too. We have been on BBC Radio 4, and have been written about in the Guardian, Telegraph, and the Independent.

After two years of campaigning, our argument that the financial crisis was caused by the ability of banks to create money was vindicated by the UK's chief regulator.

The campaign for reforming the money system is also growing internationally. New campaigns have been established in many countries. Internationally, the interest of the media has increased, not least because of the paper published by the IMF advocating proposals for reform similar to ours.

We have established a Board of Advisors - and gained some high-profile, recognized experts in it! Thanks to your generous donations our team has doubled in size; three new members have joined our team. Thanks to them we could release a lot of new videos that make the subjects more accessible and thanks to them we're significantly increasing the range of our activities and influence.

Drew and Ben have finished the new book 'Modernising Money', which lays out our proposals for reform.

You, our supporters have organised dozens of meet ups, screenings, stalls at festivals, and presentations, all around the whole country and abroad.

We simply couldn't do all these exciting things without you. A BIG THANKS to all of you who are supporting the campaign. Whether you're donating or volunteering, organising our events, or translating our web content... - it's invaluable and indispensable for the success of the campaign. Getting the wider public to understand the problems with our debt-based money system is essential if we want things to actually change - so this remains our focus for 2013. We are continuing to play a unique and vital role in providing an understanding of the flaws in our system. We are gaining support from high-profile experts and building a compelling vision of a society governed by fairer rules, one that reflects the needs of people, and one that has an economy able to create real wealth...

## ***How is money really made by banks (new video)***

How is money really made by banks? Do you want to really understand how banks can create money out of nothing? While it may seem like a complicated subject - it's not that difficult.

In this new video you can learn how commercial banks can create money through the accounting process they use when they make loans, how banks make payments between each other using specially created central bank money, if the Bank of England really can control how much money is in the economy ...and more. This video is the 3rd part of our new 6-part video course 'Banking 101'.

## ***Book "Where Does Money Come From?" - 2nd edition available now***

The new revised edition of the book "Where does money come from? - A guide to the UK monetary and banking system" is available now! It's a book that provides a comprehensive overview of how the system actually works in non-technical language.

The second edition includes brand new sections on Quantitative Easing (QE), The LIBOR scandal, The European Sovereign Debt Crisis and also a new concluding section which lays out some alternative options for how money could be created and allocated in a less 'sub-optimal' manner. The second edition is in hardback but at the same price as the original and it will also be available on Kindle next year.

## ***Help us launch our new book "Modernising Money"***

We want to recruit people to help us to promote the book "Modernising Money" and get it out to a larger audience. If you want to help you will get a free electronic version of the book, to read over the Christmas break, and in return we will ask you to do the following:

- Post reviews about the book;
- Ask your local libraries to get a copy;
- Use your social media networks to spread the word;
- Ask friends and family who are interested to try and get the book in their local bookshop.

We would also love to hear your ideas for publicising the book and gaining as much interest as possible. These promotional activities would start in the run up to the book launch, which will be at the Positive Money Conference on 26th January. We also want promotion to continue after the launch, into February. One thing to remember is all the proceeds from the book will go directly into the Positive Money Campaign. Please join the launch team by emailing [fran@positivemoney.org](mailto:fran@positivemoney.org) or by ringing 0207 253 3235 .

## ***Raise money for the campaign at no cost to you***

Now there is an easy way to support Positive Money: by shopping online. We have registered our campaign at [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk). It doesn't cost you anything - just shop online and the partner retailers will donate money to Positive Money campaign. You can shop with any of over 2000 well known retailers listed on [Easyfundraising.org.uk](http://Easyfundraising.org.uk) and a percentage of what you spend is passed to Positive Money at no additional cost to you. Retailers include Amazon, M&S, John Lewis, eBay, Sainsbury's, Viking and many more. Please register to support us today.

## ***97% Owned DVD Launch***

The producer of the monetary reform documentary 97% Owned is asking for our help to crowd source the production of the DVD's. Pledge £9 or more now and you will receive a finished copy, professional authored, of the full 2hr 10 minute film.

## ***Upcoming Events***

Canterbury, Thu 7th Feb 2013 - details coming soon

Dorset, 19th Feb 2013 - The banking system: what's to be done?

Edinburgh, 20th Feb 2013 - Meetup with Ben Dyson - if you live in the area, make sure to come since it will probably be the only time Ben will be up there this year

## ***From the blog***

Dominic Frisby talks to Ben Dyson (audio)

Where does money come from? – New extended edition

New Documentary: Economic Science and the Debt Crisis - Must watch!

Positive Money on Radio Free Brighton (audio)

Money... how it works (video)

Money and Ecology

Legalise Freedom: A simple solution to the debt crisis

Ouch!: Ignorance is Bliss, Except when It Hurts (Video)

FT: Time to update and adapt the Bank Charter Act of 1844

Weapons of mass financial inequality

Bank of England Official: Occupy “were right” (video) - what Ben Dyson had to say in response to Andy Haldane's proposed reforms

A return to Sovereign Money? - excellent article written by Josh Ryan-Collins, Senior Researcher at nef for Open Democracy

A Brief History of Credit Card

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