



May 2014

## The Ruling Class

Dear Friend of Radio Liberty,

**“Most of the harm in the world is done by good people, and not by accident, lapse, or omission. It is the result of their deliberate actions, long persevered in, which they hold to be motivated by high ideals toward virtuous ends....**

**Certainly if the harm done by willful criminals were to be computed, the number of murders, the extent of damage and loss, would be found negligible in the sum total of death and devastation wrought upon human beings by their kind. Therefore it is obvious that in periods when millions are slaughtered, when torture is practiced, starvation enforced, oppression made a policy, as at present over a large part of the world, and as it has often been in the past, it must be at the behest of very many good people, and even by their direct action, for what they consider a worthy object.”** Isabel Patterson (1)

**“Taken as a whole the ruling groups are more talented intellectually and more deranged mentally than the ruled population. Furthermore the ruling strata have a larger proportion of dominating, aggressive, highly selfish, bold and adventurous persons, men harsh and insensitive to other human beings, hypocrites and liars, and cynical manipulators of human relationships, than the ... ruled populations. The moral behavior of ruling groups tends to be more criminal and sub-moral than that of the ruled ... of the same society.... The greater, more absolute, and coercive the power of rulers, political leaders ... the more corrupt and criminal such ruling groups and executives tend to be.”**

Pitirim A. Sorokin and Walter A. Lunden (2)

**“What strange phenomenon is this? What name shall we give to it? What is the nature of this misfortune? What vice is it, or, rather, what degradation? To see an endless multitude of people not merely obeying, but driven to servility? Not ruled, but tyrannized over? These wretches have no wealth, no kin, nor wife nor children, not even life itself that they can call their own. They suffer plundering, wantonness, cruelty, not from an army, not from a barbarian horde, on account of whom they must shed their blood and sacrifice their lives, but from a single man; not from a Hercules nor from a Samson, but from a single little man. Too frequently this same little man is the most cowardly and effeminate in the nation, a stranger to the powder of battle and hesitant on the sands of the tournament....”**  
Etienne de la Boetie (3)

**"We must obey God rather than men."**

The Apostle Peter (and his colleagues) (4)

The Progressive Left has long insisted that religion must be confined to the private realm – even as it has worked steadily to abolish privacy. What was once a plea for “separation of church and state” has become a demand that the state be exalted at all times and in all circumstances, and that every thought must be held captive to the state's divine will. Conscience is to be replaced by conformity, and character by submission to the collective will – as helpfully deciphered by our bureaucratic overlords.

Brooks Hamby, salutatorian of his class at California’s Brawley Union High School, can testify from first-hand experience that the totalitarian ethos has metastasized into the marrow of American culture. After being invited to address the audience at the graduation ceremony, Hamby was required to submit a draft of his speech prior to the event. In each of his first two drafts Hamby made earnest mention of the importance of his faith and the significance of God in his life. Each of them was rejected as unacceptable by school district officials. (5)

After two versions of his speech were turned down, Hamby and his parents received a notice that if he **“interjects religious content, the sound will be cut off, and a disclaimer to the entire audience must be made explaining the district’s position.”**

Hamby eventually delivered a speech in which he described how three drafts had been ruled out because of his determination to share his experience as a Christian believer. He also invoked God’s blessings on the audience, and shared a brief excerpt from the Sermon on the Mount – which was described as a passage from **“the biggest-selling book of all time.”** Even this modest and minimal expression of faith was seen as a dangerous act of rebellion.

If Hamby had been a member of an accredited victim group – such as the LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans-gender, or Questioning) “community,” or even a member of a non-Christian faith, the effort to suppress his graduation speech would have been the subject of indignant headlines and probably a class-action suit. However, as a white Christian male, Hamby was seen as a member of the “oppressor” class, and was essentially ordered to “check his privilege” in order to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Their bluff called, officials did not cut off his microphone. The fact that they were prepared to do illustrates the extent to which the U.S. education system has come to resemble that of the former Soviet Union – and other totalitarian offspring of the so-called “Enlightenment.”

**The *Illuminés*** – 18th century revolutionaries who worked to overthrow Christian society, who also arrogated to themselves the title “**philosophers**” – was to build a new order founded on active hostility toward God and those who believe in Him.

**"This dream of 'Enlightened despots' as the leaders of the human despots advance was the precarious [thesis] on which most of the philosophers rested their vision of progress,"** observed Will and Ariel Durant. **"And what is our faith in government but that hope revived?"** (6)

Despite the flaws of those who waged war for American independence, they didn't harbor similar ambitions, despite the fact that the same illuminist network was at work in this hemisphere during the founding era. (7) What this meant, alas, is that it merely took longer for the Illuminist ideology to take root and flourish.

Brook Hamby's experience is a relatively benign specimen of contemporary American illuminism. The family of another young man, Daniel Linsinbigler, have been left devastated by a much more aggressive form of the same affliction. Linsinbigler, who suffered from severe psychological problems, was tortured to death in a county jail in Cove Springs, Florida.

**“God can’t help you now,”** spat a contemptuous guard into the face of the troubled 19-year-old, who had pleaded – then prayed – for medical attention. A few minutes later he was violently extracted from his cell and savagely baptized in caustic chemicals, then strapped to a restraint chair, where he would die of asphyxiation several hours later.

If this homicide had taken place in Cuba, few informed people would have found it surprising. Linsinbigler was not accused of a violent crime. After having a breakdown, he tore off his clothes and ran through a nearby hotel, screaming Bible verses.

The deputies who killed Lisinbigler in March 2013 remain on the staff of Sheriff Rick Bessler, who found that the torture-death of the non-violent inmate didn't involve any violation of **“established policies and procedures.”** (8)

**“They were calling him a 'Jesus Freak', a God freak, yelling and screaming,”** testified Linus Farr, who was incarcerated in the same jail at the time.

The U.S. has the largest prison population in the world, which provides ample career opportunities for pathologically sadistic people. Unfortunately, the same can be said of law enforcement in general.

In Habersham County, Georgia, a SWAT team kicked in the door of a residence at 3:00 a.m. Without looking, one of the raiders hurled an incendiary grenade called a “flash-bang” into the living room. The grenade landed in a crib and exploded in the face of a sleeping 19-month-old baby, who suffered severe burns. (9)

The raid was carried out after a confidential informant allegedly bought drugs at the home. The informant – almost certainly a petty criminal receiving both financial compensation and leniency from the police – insisted that no children were present at the address. The infant and his mother were visiting at the time of the raid.

Sheriff Joey Terrell declares that he stands behind what his SWAT team did, and that “There’s nothing to investigate, there’s nothing to look at.” Although his SWAT team was traumatized by the experience, it will continue staging military-style home invasions. According to the sheriff, “Bad things can happen. That’s just the world we live in.”

If anyone is to blame, Terrell maintains, it was the alleged drug dealers who resided at the home. Terrell characterized them as “domestic terrorists” – a term better applied to the kind of people who kick in doors at 3:00 a.m. and burn sleeping infants in their cribs.

America has become a country in which police raids after dark, or before dawn, are routine. On the average day, between 120 and 200 SWAT-style raids occur (10), nearly all of them having nothing to do with protecting life, liberty, and property. Most of them are conducted in the name of the “War on Drugs,” which is a literal war being waged against the American public.

Until a generation ago, police were trained in de-escalation and peaceful conflict resolution. They were taught to define success as the kind of service in which disputes were settled without violence, and nobody wound up in handcuffs. That ethos is now as dead as Latin. It is treated as an archaism, an academic curiosity with little practical use. While conscientious peace officers are not uncommon even today, they make a very poor fit for an occupation in which the police are expected to subdue and dominate citizens,

rather than serve them – and police are authorized and expected to inflict summary “street justice” at any opportunity.

Ilana Lipsen and her sister arrived at their store in Alpine Junction, Texas, before business hours, but a handful of unpleasant-looking strangers were already there. One of them brusquely ordered Ilana to produce a key. As she explained that the building was locked with a security code, the man directed a subordinate to break down the door. (11)

The invaders were from the DEA, and they claimed to be executing a warrant in search of synthetic drugs. They confiscated computers, hard drives, security cameras, and firearms, all of which were legally owned. As they ransacked the business, the intruders ordered the sisters from their property. When Ilana hesitated, she was, in her sister's words, “Roughed up.” An agent threw her to the ground, and when she made incidental contact on the way down, he accused her of assaulting an officer. This supposedly justified a retaliatory strike to the prone woman's face with the butt of an assault rifle.

Lipsen was charged with assaulting the officer who attacked her. Despite photographic evidence of the agent's assault, the DEA denies that the attack took place.

The raiders described this atrocity as a victory in the war on drugs. Rational people would see it as kindred to the behavior of the Nazis on Kristallnacht.

Under the American concept of criminal justice, the accused is innocent until proven guilty. Due process and free speech guarantees protect the right of an accused individual to make public statements proclaiming innocence and protesting abusive treatment by law enforcement.

None of those constitutional guarantees apply in at least one jurisdiction in Texas, where a judge has ordered a woman who was abused by law enforcement agents to make public statements exonerating the officers who assaulted her sister.

Ilana Lipsen and her sister, Arielle, were at their smoke shop when a large party of DEA agents kicked in the door and seized merchandise and business records. Arielle was thrown to the ground and then struck in the face with the butt of an M-16 rifle, then charged with assault. This story was covered by the local press and confirmed by an eyewitness on the scene, a neighbor who was also threatened by the raiders. (12)

A judge has ordered Ilana to pay a \$10,000 bond and write a letter recanting her public complaints and stating that the agents had a “legitimate” reason to invade her business. In short, she is being compelled to admit guilt as a condition of pre-trial release, and to apologize for daring to assert her innocence.

It is useful to contrast the treatment inflicted on Ilana Lipsen with the deference given to Lois Lerner, the former head of the IRS division dealing with tax-exempt organizations. Lerner, who was at the epicenter of the IRS's efforts to target, harass, and hamstring conservative non-profits during the 2012 election season, was summoned to testify before Congress. She asserted her innocence and then invoked her Fifth Amendment protection against self-incrimination (which she had arguably waived by making a preliminary statement to the congressional panel.)

Every citizen who files a tax return is expected to waive his protection against self-incrimination, and when the IRS accuses a taxpayer of fraud, those accusations are heard in a court the agency controls.

Congress issued a subpoena for official emails in which Lerner discussed agency policies dealing with conservative non-profit groups and other critics of the Obama administration. While being questioned by Utah Representative Jason Chaffetz, the IRS Commissioner claimed that all of the relevant emails were archived. (13) Now the agency claims that Lerner's emails – as well as those of several other key officials involved in the targeting scandal – were lost in a hard drive crash. (14)

Even if this were true, a reasonably competent IT professional could recover the lost emails very quickly. Then again, since the National Security Agency is keeping records of practically all emails and telephone communications, why couldn't that agency provide copies of the missing IRS emails?

In their candid moments, IRS officials express unalloyed contempt for the citizens whom they plunder. Former IRS revenue officer Richard Yancey recalls that his supervisors routinely employed “the language of war” and dehumanized their victims. One of them ended a profanity-laced tirade by telling Yancey: “Deadbeats – if it were up to me, I’d line ‘em all up against a wall and shoot them.”

Rhode Island resident Andrew Calcione expressed similar sentiments toward an IRS agent who demanded \$330,000 in back taxes. In a moment of surpassing foolishness Calcione left a voicemail on the agent’s work phone threatening him and his family. He then left a second message containing something akin to an apology. (15)

The agent, who represents an extortion syndicate, called the police. Now Calcione has been convicted of threatening a federal official and may spend twenty years in prison. Former IRS District Chief David Patnoe observed that “More tax is collected by fear and intimidation than by the law. People are afraid of the IRS.”

Such an agency is best described as a terrorist organization. There’s no excuse for Calcione to threaten the IRS agent or his family, but his ill-considered conduct was not substantively different from what the IRS does as a matter of public policy.

Those ruling us don't offer any pretense that they're ruled by law. Why should we continue to pretend that they are, in some sense, public servants?

As Etienne de la Boetie pointed out centuries ago, despotism exists because people, in some sense, *volunteer* to be ruled. The ancient Hebrews became slaves in Egypt because they became fixated on material comforts and forgot their covenant relationship with the God of Abraham. They were seduced into trading liberty under God's law for carnal security under the reign of Pharaoh, who considered himself a god among men. Within a few generations the material comforts were gone – and all that was left was slavery. This story is familiar to those who have studied the Bible, and immediately recognizable to anybody who studies contemporary affairs with so much as a particle of discernment.

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Written by William Grigg

Enlightened despots have ruled the masses since the inception of civilization, but that changed when the Founding Fathers established the United States, and limited the power of the Central Government so men could rule themselves, and be free.

The system worked fairly well until 1913 when a subversive group of wealthy men established the Federal Reserve System, and gradually centralized power in Washington, D.C., because they want to rule the world.

I call the subversive group "The Brotherhood of Darkness." Who are they? They control the major corporations, they control the media, and they are using the wealth and power of the United States to take control of the world.

The world is on the verge of a major catastrophic event that will destroy the existing monetary system.

Prepare for the difficult times that lie ahead, pray for revival, and help us reach as many people as we can in the allotted time.

Barbara and I appreciate your financial support and your faithful prayers.

Yours in Christ,

Stanley Monteith