

American 'Leadership'

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This country still retains its title as the leading economy of the world – the greatest industrial and agricultural capacity – famous for its ‘know-how’ and inventiveness – scientific endeavors – space explorations. A world leader in all areas including the defacto conquest of much of the world which it supports by its 800 military bases ready to be deploy armed forces in the service of humanity.

But it also leads in the negative. The country with the most sophisticated and expensive health system also has the misfortune of being the worst at delivering its service to its people. Life expectancy has remained entrenched at 79.7 years since 2010 while other countries at our level of economic development have reached 81.3 years. More significantly that while the average number of years an American can expect to live in good health has risen to 65.2 years in the past 30 years it is still far behind nations of similar wealth which is 67.2 years.

The death rate of 6.5 per 1000 live births before the age of 5 is much higher than the 4.9 deaths per 1000 live births in nations with similar high incomes. And perhaps the mortality statistic most indicative of our future, the death rate over the last 20 years of US youths between the ages of 25 and 29 has increased 18.7% and those aged 30 to 34 by 15.6% because accept the miserable future capitalism has to offer. One can measure the ‘success’ of the recovery by noting that death by drug overdoses have risen from 31,800 in 2010 to 65,700 in 2019. America leads the world in many areas, perhaps someday it will lead it in systemic change by employing its capabilities positively rather than as the master of misery that it is today.

Economic Info

-- For those who sense the propaganda that, while there are still problems, the standard of living of American is steadily improving is not true, a Rand Study provides evidence that they are correct in that assumption. It found that if the standard of inequality of fifty years ago simply remained the same over those years to the present, the median (square in the middle) income of \$50,000 then would now be about \$97,000. The standard of living for most Americans has indeed worsened, but at least according to Rand, not more than twice as bad as many think.

-- More evidence that life isn't fair even for some capitalists trying to survive in a capitalist system. The CARES act passed in March provided \$454 billion to the Fed to be expanded ten fold and loaned out to distressed businesses. One problem is that the minimum for a loan is \$250,000 – too risky a debt to take on by many small businesses like restaurants. Because Treasury only released \$114 billion of the total sum after 6 months there is \$340 billion still available which the phony supporters of the middle class could have distributed to small businesses through the Paycheck Protection Plan. But they chose not to – while the government kept the remainder in reserve for big business, 97,966 small businesses have permanently closed. In nature survival of the fittest has a natural fairness. In a capitalist society it is survival of the shittiest.

-- Even the most unaware among us understands that communism means that the earth may be used for our common good and not bought or sold. That a major source of state revenue is the sale of land to developers should make the idiots who still believe China is a communist society experience at least a slight bit of shame.

Despite the alleged economic rebound over the passed six months tax and non-tax revenue is still down almost 8%. More than 200 million rural farmers make up an itinerant city work force who must return to their homesteads when times are tough. There, often living in desperate straits, they are easy pickings for government agents buying up their land for well-below their real value. That land is then sold to developers which which does bring in revenue from taxes but not nearly as much as comes from the sale at a price much higher than the purchase.

A major problem during the current downturn is that a great deal of borrowing is required for land buying and business development which could put the economic viability of lending banks and developers in jeopardy. To rein in this risk to the economy as a whole the central government has required banks to limit loans to property developers to no more than 30% of the value of all their loans.

The state sale of land and user rights made up 38.6% of the central government's revenue last year compared to 35.5% in 2018 and 30.2% in 2017. Clearly the sale of the peoples common resource for private enrichment is a state cash cow with a dangerous limitation -- the earth is a finite entity and not a means of endless enrichment by the parasitic Chinese ruling class.

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