

Are the Masses so Stupid or Hiding in Plain Sight?

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It is taken as a given that the reason the masses are so passive in massively unequal pseudo democratic nations like the US is they have come to accept what exists as a meritocracy that has evolved by way of a free competition and thus everyone has a chance live the life of a privileged parasite. From that standpoint our only path to success is to make ourselves as useful as possible and in that way work up to a comfortable niche in the system. Our not-so-bad ruling classes will even help us on a journey to a better life.

Take China's claim to have lifted 800 million people out of "poverty" over the last 40 years. That amounts to 75% of global progress in that time, an achievement "unseen in human history." A display of the arrogance of ultra rich, hidden and visible, state and private capitalist parasites declaring themselves on the road to success in their goal of spreading 'a common prosperity' throughout the land without any significant reduction of the vast wealth gap between the ruling and working classes. Can anyone seriously think that working class doesn't know that the wealth of their masters is derived from the unpaid labor power that is expropriated by the ruling class? The capitalist road experiment could have been over in 1989 when elements of the working class managed to win over an army that was sent to oppress them. It failed but unresolved class conflict always returns.

Poverty is the relative gap between the productive and parasitic classes which in China is immense. That gap includes social conditions which place the productive classes looking to their oppressors for means of decent living conditions. And now that the system is going through another capitalist hiccup even the small gains are receding. The 280 million impoverished rural workers that shipped back and forth from country to city as needed, a kind of army of day laborers, tend to be ignored and out of the loop altogether, either providing for themselves by working the land in the country or the most menial of jobs in the city.

In the US have the benefit of an open display of the immense rich-poor, capitalist-worker gap. Rejection of the ruling elite manifests itself in the prevailing cynical attitude relative to capitalist-worker

relations. Rotten bipartisan politics and wealth acquisition by way of market manipulation helped along by the Federal Reserve itself feeds the ill will between the masses and the masters. The economy is tanking because the Fed, fearing a return of 1970's style stagflation, is wrecking the real economy by steady increase in interest rates. Cutbacks have been announced in most sectors of the economy. Today, Friday, the markets were on course for another big drop when the jobs report created a 'buy' mania. It came in at 261,000 which is actually 50,000 less than the previous month and the lowest of the year. All you need is a consensus of the 'experts' with a way off prediction to create the effective conditions for a rally.

It's especially disgusting that Powell keeps raising rates because it's not doing well in reducing inflation. That's largely due to most of the inflationary drive coming from businesses simply raising prices and getting increased income from sales and increasing stock values. From 1979 to 2019 inflation averaged 11.4%. From Q2 of 2020 to Q4 of 2021 it was 53.9%, an amazing accomplishment when considering the semi-collapse of the economy due to Covid.

Disgust and loathing of the ruling class is omnipresent among workers. The criminal conduct of Nato in Ukraine. The nuclear threat. The economy threat. The environmental threat. These conditions plus many more can shred the tiny bit of what passes for stability. And then, who knows?

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