

## CHAPTER ONE

### “21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY COMMON SENSE”

Over two hundred years have passed since we won our freedom from KING GEORGE III. We are again standing on “LEXINGTON GREEN<sup>25</sup>” with our freedom in peril, just as it was when the “MINUTEMEN” faced the British Regulars on the fateful day of April 19, 1775; the day the “shot heard around the world” started the American Revolution.

The threat is no longer the “**DIVINE RIGHT OF KINGS**”<sup>30</sup> enforced by KING GEORGE III and his “PEERS”. Today the danger is accepting the “WANNABE PEERS” promise of security and unearned wealth.

In 1776, the Colonies stood at the crossroads between FREEDOM and the tyranny of servitude to KING GEORGE III. On January 10, 1776, faced with this choice of freedom or tyranny, Thomas Paine<sup>47</sup> published the pamphlet “COMMON SENSE”<sup>47</sup>. The pamphlet was America’s first and most important bestselling book. Thomas Paine’s “COMMON SENSE” inspired the Colonists to choose freedom and prosperity.

For over 100 years the “WANNABE PEERS” (politicians lusting after the power and prestige enjoyed by KING GEORGE III’S “PEERS”) have used false promises of security and unearned wealth to regain that power and prestige. The “WANNABE PEERS” campaign has been very successful. Our “FOUNDING FATHERS” would be appalled at the loss of freedom and the power wielded by the bureaucrats and “WANNABE PEERS” of today.

Instead of the British Regulars that advanced on “LEXINGTON GREEN”, we are faced with hordes of bureaucrats. Make no mistake about it; the bureaucrat’s weapons are just as effective against you as the British Regular’s muskets were on Lexington Green.

The “WANNABE PEERS” program has created a system that is almost as oppressive as the system that caused the original Minutemen to rebel. Unless the present trend is reversed, we will soon live under a totalitarian government.

The choice must be made now; it will soon be too late. Will you choose the freedom created by the “FOUNDING FATHERS” or will you be seduced by the “WANNABE PEERS” false promises of security and unearned wealth?

In Thomas Paine’s time, the prevailing form of government was the “KINGDOM”. Though nomenclature varied with the location, there was little difference between the “KINGDOMS”. Some “KINGDOMS”, such as England, placed some restrictions on the absolute power of the “KING”. Any restrictions on the absolute power of the “KING” increased individual freedom and the most prosperous of these “KINGDOMS” were those with the most individual freedom. The “KINGDOM” (totalitarian) form of government was considered normal and was accepted by the “COMMONS”; few recognized that there was an alternative. Mr. Paine’s “COMMON SENSE” provided that alternative.

“COMMON SENSE” was a clear, logical, easily understood and irrefutable defense of individual freedom. Eloquent and inspiring, Mr. Paine’s condemnation of England’s near “Totalitarian” KINGDOM and the promotion of individual liberty inspired the Colonists to fight and win independence.

The arguments in "COMMON SENSE" are as valid today as they were when the pamphlet was written over 200 years ago and the "KINGDOM" form of government has been thoroughly discredited. Today, few dare to openly advocate the "KINGDOM" form of government.

Once free of tyranny, the Colonists established a government that guaranteed individual freedom (for citizens) including the right to create and enjoy wealth. Perhaps the only flaw was denying citizenship to some residents. The result was over 200 years of prosperity and technological achievement that is unequalled in the history of the world. In less than 200 years, the state of the art of transportation changed from horses and sailing ships to supersonic aircraft, nuclear submarines and automobiles travelling on super highways. Innovation, featuring the use of mechanical energy to replace "muscle power", provided huge increases in individual productivity. The reduction in labor and resources required to produce the necessities of life freed those resources to produce luxuries for the masses. Increases in individual productivity created prosperity undreamed of when our Constitution was adopted. Luxuries, unheard of in KING GEORGE III's day, became commonplace. The standard of living of each generation improved and that increasing prosperity continued into the Twenty-First Century.

When America won independence, the source of power changed from the "KING" to the ballot box. With the change in the source of power, a new class of citizen emerged—the "WANNABE PEERS". The "WANNABE PEERS" lusted after the power and prestige that the British "PEERS" had enjoyed under KING GEORGE III.

"WANNABE PEERS" wanted to use the government's monopoly on force to control the "COMMONS" (creators of wealth) and punish those who resisted their benevolent coercion.

The "WANNABE PEERS" realized that new strategic and tactical initiatives would be required to regain the power that the British "PEERS" enjoyed under the "KING".

Tactics and strategy were devised to use the ballot box to regain their lost power. Realizing that their natural constituency was the desperate and poverty stricken, the "WANNABE PEERS" knew that general prosperity and economic stability were not in their best interest. Both Hitler and Mussolini required severe economic crises to achieve their coup.

The "WANNABE PEERS" would claim the moral "high ground" and proclaim that the purpose of their agenda was to aid the unfortunate, provide security, improve the environment (added later), correct social injustices, and prevent exploitation of the consumer by the producer. However, the **real** purpose of their agenda was to regain the power and prestige possessed by KING GEORGE III's "PEERS".

Prosperity is the most formidable obstacle to the "WANNABE PEERS" increasing their power. Even though the "WANNABE PEERS" claim to aid the "unfortunate", almost every item in their agenda destroys wealth.

This destruction of wealth has the greatest effect on the standard of living of the "unfortunate" and forces more people below the poverty level. The net result has been an increase in the "WANNABE PEERS" constituency!

A more detailed discussion of the successes of the "WANNABE PEERS" agenda is presented later. Briefly, the "WANNABE PEERS" successes are:

- Earmarks that in 2008 removed \$16.5 billion dollars from the economy.

- Meddling in the relationship between the employer and employee has virtually bankrupted the American automobile industry, increased everyone's cost of living (inflation) and resulted in government enforced racial discrimination. The meddling has allowed the "WANNABE PEERS" to obtain political support for the favors provided to the "PAWNS" (special interests).
- Rules and regulations restricting the harvesting of natural resources have made us dependent on those hostile to freedom for our energy, resulting in the squandering of our wealth and preventing creation of wealth in our country.
- An Income Tax Code too complicated to understand or comply with. It has the capacity to make anyone a criminal, requiring only a close enough investigation to find the non-compliance. This has huge potential to stifle political dissent.
- Taxing productivity (income tax) can only have the effect of limiting the creation of wealth.
- Non objective antitrust laws that are interpreted by political expediency and change with the judge and political pressure. These laws punish productivity, reward mediocrity and stifle innovation.
- Creating a bureaucracy that acts as police, prosecutor, judge, and jury. Enforcing its rules and regulations by reversing the basic tenet of our law that one is innocent until proven guilty. (Examples? The IRS and EPA come to mind. The bureaucracy has a huge potential to silence political dissent).
- Rules and regulations involving health care and drugs that have driven the cost of health care to the ridiculous extreme by catering to special interests.
- A justice system that allows for years of incarceration (innocent until proven guilty?) prior to trial and requires one to expend one's life savings for defense. The reward for innocence? Possibly an apology and loss of one's life savings.
- Destruction of the Constitution by appointing judges that legislate from the bench, giving the "WANNABE PEERS" the power to create laws that could not be passed by the Legislature.
- Bureaucracies require "environmental impact statements" that delay projects for years and increase the cost of innovation, preventing the creation of wealth. The same bureaucracy has the power to create and enforce new rules and regulations that wreak havoc on the economy with no regard for the consequences of their actions.
- Behavior control laws that create victimless crimes and "controlled substance" laws that are no more effective than the "prohibition laws" of the early Twentieth Century. The laws provide a source of income for the criminal element, dislocate the economy and fail to protect the public from erratic behavior caused by the use of dangerous drugs.

The "common enemy" is a necessity for those who would usurp your liberty and the "WANNABE PEERS" selected the "RICH" (the creator of wealth and Mr. Paine's "COMMONS") as the common enemy. Hitler's enemies were the Jews and Communists, Mussolini's enemies were the Communists and Socialists.

The "WANNABE PEERS" "preponderance of propaganda" campaign would dwell on the positive results they promised for their agenda and ignore the negative results that would actually occur.

The “WANNABE PEERS” were able to make very little progress until the late 19<sup>TH</sup> Century. Their first big success was the Sherman Antitrust act<sup>24</sup>, a non objective law that could be applied against any successful “COMMONS”, (creators of wealth). It provided the tool to influence, if not control, the “COMMONS”. The Sherman Antitrust Act was enacted in 1890. With this first weapon firmly in place, the second hundred years rewarded the “WANNABE PEERS” with compounding successes. They are very close to completely dismantling the great economic engine that the “FOUNDING FATHERS” created. America’s first “retro-generation” will soon be a reality. When the “standard of living” declines for a generation, that generation is a “retro generation”. We may already be members of the first American “retro-generation.

The affects of the success of the “WANNABE PEERS” agenda is very close to creating the economic crisis that is required to achieve the coup. Today, we are all standing on the 21<sup>ST</sup> Century “Lexington Green”<sup>25</sup> and unless we take immediate action, KING GEORGE III and his henchman “PEERS” will have the last laugh.

The “WANNABE PEERS” tell us we should surrender our freedom (and our prosperity) for the promise of security and unearned wealth. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN’S<sup>19</sup> eloquent quote **“THEY WHO WOULD GIVE UP AN ESSENTIAL LIBERTY FOR TEMPORARY SECURITY, DESERVE NEITHER LIBERTY OR SECURITY”** would seem to settle the question of swapping freedom for security.

The use of the government to provide advantage of one citizen over another is a fleeting proposition that shifts with the political fortunes resulting in the loss of freedom for all concerned. The only lasting result is the enhanced power of the “WANNABE PEERS”. Mr. Paine could never have conceived of a people, once free, surrendering their liberty for promises of security, unearned wealth or political advantage over their neighbor.

Mr. Paine’s “COMMON SENSE” divided the citizens of England into three Classes:

- The “KING”
- The “PEERS”
- The “COMMONS”

Of course, the “KING” is not a factor in America now, but the “KINGS” (goes by many names) still control much of the world. The “PEERS”, or aristocrats, who held the position of authority at the “KING’S” pleasure, are long gone. The English “PEERS” have been replaced by politicians, “WANNABE PEERS”, using the ballot box to try to obtain the power and prestige formally bestowed by KING GEORGE III on his “PEERS”.

To update Mr. Paine’s citizens list to the Twenty-First Century, it is necessary to add one Class, the “PAWNS”. This terminology will be used throughout this book. The use of the common labels, Communist, Socialist, Fascist, “Conservatives” and “Liberals” are just part of the confusion. All those common labels are used to describe politicians who covet your freedom. Ayn Rand, perhaps history’s greatest champion of Capitalism, was asked if she were a Conservative. “No” was her answer. She said she was a “radical for Capitalism”, that there was nothing left to conserve.

The fallacy that Communism, Socialism and Fascism were at different ends of the political spectrum was used very successfully by both Hitler and Mussolini in their quest for power. The political spectrum consists of INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM on the extreme right and the various forms of slavery (Communism, Socialism and Fascism) on the

extreme left. Liberals on the left-center and Conservatives on the right-center define the “mixed economy” that spans the area between FREEDOM and SLAVERY. The only difference between Communism, Socialism and Fascism is the rhetoric, the arguments and personality of the Dictator. The “mixed economy” may only be the transition period between freedom and slavery.

The “KING” had virtually unlimited power and delegated that power to the “PEERS” for the oppression of the “COMMONS” (producers). The wealth extracted by the oppression of the “COMMONS” maintained the “PEERS” and the “KING” in what passed for luxury in the pre-industrial revolution world. Although in 1776 England, his power was theoretically limited, the “KING” could manipulate the system to achieve his purpose.

In Mr. Paine’s day, the “PEERS” status was determined by birth and maintained at the pleasure of the “KING”. “PEERS” controlled considerable wealth and power so they were easy to identify. There was little or no movement between classes. Not so today.

**Any ambitious political psychopath can become a “WANNABE PEER”.**

The post-revolution “WANNABE PEERS” are the leaders of the groups that seek to control and/or exploit the individual by using the government’s monopoly on force. The “WANNABE PEERS” are divided into three groups:

The “POWER SEEKING WANNABE PEERS” are those seeking power for power’s sake. They want to upgrade themselves into the “KINGS” Class. Hitler is a good example of this most dangerous type of “WANNABE PEER”. Some may even believe their own propaganda and see themselves as the “savior of the masses”.

“ECONOMIC WANNABE PEERS” try to use the power of the Government to achieve financial advantage. The confiscation of private property and subsequently awarding the property to the “ECONOMIC WANNABE PEERS” for “economic development” is an excellent example of the successful campaigns by the “ECONOMIC WANNABE PEERS”. Another common objective of the “ECONOMIC WANNABE PEERS” is to seek to use the power of the government to maintain the “status quo” when innovation threatens to cause them economic damage.

“BEHAVIOR CONTROL WANNABE PEERS” seeking to use the power of the Government to force their ideas (a limited agenda) on the individual. If they are successful, they will try to expand their agenda. The Eighteenth Amendment, “Prohibition”, is an example of their success.

Both the “ECONOMIC WANNABE PEERS” and the “BEHAVIOR CONTROL WANNABE PEERS” might be considered “PAWNS” because they are the “special interest” the “POWER SEEKING WANNABE PEERS” exploit to obtain power.

Modern “WANNABE PEERS” are much more subtle and devious than Mr. Paine’s “PEERS”. Heredity no longer defines one as a “PEER”. Today, the “WANNABE PEERS” are defined by their actions and the identity as a “WANNABE PEER” is carefully hidden even after obtaining power. For the “WANNABE PEERS”, the end justifies the means and **they will use any form of deception to obtain power.** After all, no one will surrender their liberty if they know what they are doing. To use the ballot box as a source of power, the “WANNABE PEERS” created the new class, the “PAWNS”.

The “PAWNS” are those deceived by the “WANNABE PEERS” and believe that the “WANNABE PEERS” will provide redistribution of the “COMMONS” wealth, or give them a competitive advantage or the means to force their will on the “COMMONS”. The “PAWNS” don’t realize that they too are surrendering their freedom.

In 1776 England, the “COMMONS” were the real creators of wealth. It was the “COMMONS” who actually produced the food, built the ships and produced the wealth required for society to exist. The “COMMONS” lived on the crumbs they were able to hide from the “PEERS” and the rewards received from enlightened “PEERS” who realized that incentives could actually increase production much more than the cost of the incentives. Incentives were okay as long as the “COMMONS” knew their “place”.

The “COMMONS” are still the creators of wealth. The freedom won in the Revolution allowed the “COMMONS” to create wealth and a standard of living that was inconceivable under the authoritative English rule. For the first time in history, the “COMMONS”, not the “PEERS”, controlled the majority of wealth.

Since Paine’s “COMMON SENSE” was written and the “LAND OF THE FREE AND THE HOME OF THE BRAVE” has won its freedom from England, a middle class has been established. The “PEERS” right to initiate force against the “COMMONS”, confiscate their wealth or simply impose their will has been severely limited, but it has not been eliminated. Since Cornwallis surrendered to George Washington, the “WANNABE PEERS” have been chipping away at the “COMMONS” individual rights. The true nature of their agenda is hidden in eloquent dialogue. The “WANNABE PEERS” use promises of prosperity, redistribution of wealth, the “COMMON GOOD”, demonizing an enemy and criminalizing the behavior that the “BEHAVIOR CONTROL WANNABE PEERS” find objectionable, to gain power. It is interesting to study how both Hitler and Mussolini used these arguments to gain power.

The “WANNABE PEERS” arguments are long on sarcasm, emotion and lies but short on logic and facts. Because of the ineffective defense of our liberty, many of the “WANNABE PEERS” proposals have been enacted and are now public policy. Poor Thomas Paine must be spinning in his grave.

The objective of this book is simply to update Paine’s “COMMON SENSE” and apply its principles to the world as it exists today. A word of caution; it is possible to be a “PEER” and a “COMMON” at the same time. A “COMMON” who created considerable wealth exploiting a new technology frequently seeks government aid to suppress innovation when others develop a new technology that threatens the market. Attacks on individual freedom cannot be justified by one’s productivity. Yes, life is not “black and white” but shades of gray. But life is gray because the good and bad are mixed. It is the individual’s responsibility to separate the good from the bad and discard the bad. Life is hard.

In addition to his writing, Thomas Paine was a mechanical designer. One of his designs was a cast iron bridge conceived to replace wooden bridges that were susceptible to ice damage in the winter. His bridge concepts were never built but were seriously considered both in Europe and America. His writings clearly show the discipline and ability to redefine and simplify problems which are acquired by technical or scientific education.

The engineer uses techniques like “free body diagrams” and “systems analysis” to identify and simplify problems. These techniques also identify and isolate the irrelevant, allowing the engineer to understand and solve complicated problems or predict the performance of a new design. With a little imagination, many of the laws of physics have application to the evaluation of the “WANNABE PEERS” proposals. An example is The **FIRST LAW OF THERMODYNAMICS**, the law of conservation of energy. It states that

**“the energy added to a substance = the change in internal energy + the mechanical energy given out or taken in”**. Paraphrased, it says that “energy can be neither created nor destroyed” or **“you can’t get something for nothing”**. Rigorously applied, the first law of thermodynamics debunks most of the “WANNABE PEERS” proposals.

The engineer, using “SYSTEM ANALYSIS”, simplifies a problem by drawing a circle around the process and using arrows to show input and output. What occurs inside the circle is ignored.

For instance, to determine efficiency in a heat engine you divide the device’s usable output by the heat input and multiply by 100 and you have the device’s percent efficiency. No worries about valve timing, compression ratio, rpm or carbon dioxide emissions. You have calculated the efficiency, simply and easily by ignoring the irrelevant information. This tool, when applied to political proposals, enhances and simplifies the evaluation of those proposals.

“WANNABE PEERS” have no problem proposing violations of the laws of physics or the laws of human nature. They purposely complicate the proposals and predict unlikely, if not impossible results. The “WANNABE PEERS” won’t apologize when their agenda fails to achieve the promised results. They will just accept the surrender of some of your freedom and spin another “fairy tale”.

“System analysis techniques will make the evaluation and debunking of the “WANNABE PEERS” proposals easy and help you understand their real objective.

To illustrate, let’s see how these tools might have been used to avoid problems resulting from a historic disaster caused by the Government’s use of force to violate individual rights. There are many such instances in history. One such program that occurred long ago and has been thoroughly discredited by time is “Prohibition” <sup>1</sup> (the Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution).

The “WANNABE PEERS” system analysis is shown in figure 1.

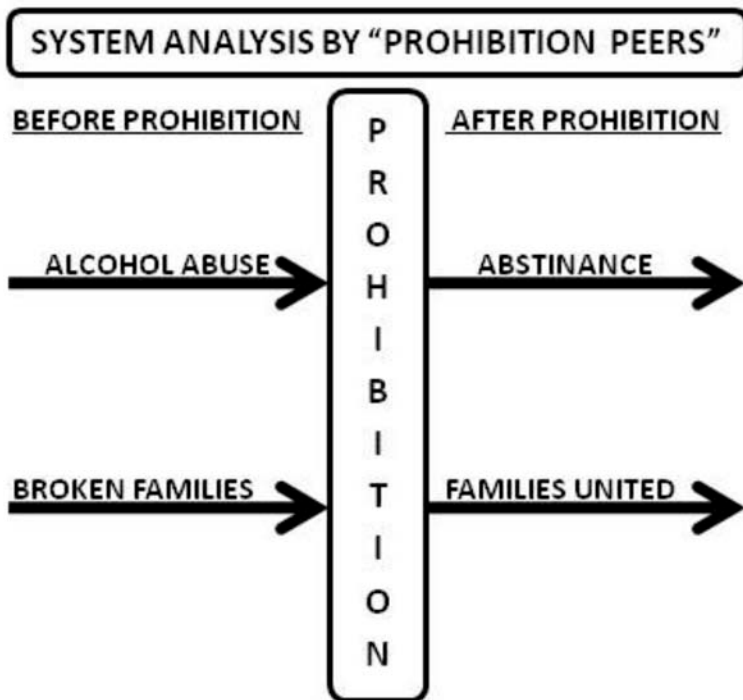
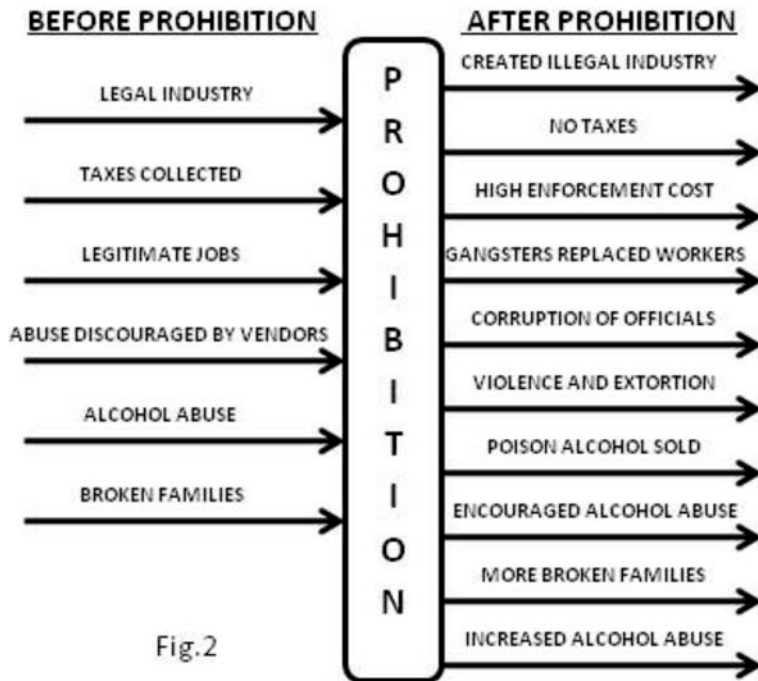


FIG. 1

Prohibition resulted in violence, death and disability caused by contaminated alcohol, gun fights in the streets and political corruption, which many say continues in Chicago after over 75 years. The measure failed to stop the use of alcohol (some say the use of alcohol increased during the prohibition years). The failure highlights the difficulty of controlling human behavior by the use of force.

Real system analysis is contained in the chart Fig. 2,

## REAL SYSTEM ANALYSIS OF PROHIBITION



The “WANNABE PEERS” used the media to saturate the country with the “preponderance of propaganda” filled with lies, sarcasm, and promises of utopia to sell the country on their scheme. The “PROHIBITION WANNABE PEERS” system analysis would have looked like Fig.1 above. The real chart is shown in Fig. 2

With a little logic and reason, Fig. 2 could have been created in 1918, just as easily as today, and the pain and suffering caused by that intrusion on individual freedom avoided.

Before the engineering analysis can begin, data must be collected and evaluated. The data or facts that will be used in the analysis are listed below. Many are common knowledge, but few of us understand the true implications. You may consider some controversial. Each item will be discussed, clarified in detail at the appropriate time.

AYN RAND<sup>3</sup> believed that the primary purpose of the government was to protect the individual from the initiation of physical force and violence, both foreign and domestic. Freedom from the initiation of physical force and violence for all is in the long term best interest of everyone. This statement has much wider application than simply protection from robbery. For instance, the pollution which affects the life and property of others is certainly the initiation of force.

Wealth, unlike energy, can be created, destroyed and consumed. Over time, wealth (except some commodities) will become obsolete or be consumed. Therefore, continuous creation of wealth is necessary to continue life as we know it and benefits the whole of society. In the late 1940’s, the government had an advertising campaign with the slogan, “THE MORE WE PRODUCE, THE BETTER WE LIVE”. It’s as true today as it was then.

The principles and facts upon which this book is based are listed below. Historical evidence is offered in the bibliography to validate these principles and later discussion will show how their violation has affected your life.

- The initiation of the use of physical force is incompatible with the creation of wealth.
- Wealth is much easier to consume or destroy than it is to create.
- Wealth must be created before it can be consumed.
- Wealth is the property of the creator of that wealth.
- Creation of wealth is defined as creating or increasing the value of an asset.
- Persecution and harassment of the “COMMONS” (producer) is not in the best interest of the consumer.
- The ingredients in the recipe for the creation of wealth are freedom, intellectual activity, labor, energy, education, capital investment, a stable government, transportation, ambition and self preservation.
- All “consumable assets” have energy content. Any increase in the cost of energy or decrease in availability of energy increases the cost and restricts the production of “consumable assets” and reduces your standard of living..
- History has shown that the closer a society is to “pure capitalism” the more prosperous that society is.
- The capitalistic society encourages innovation. Innovation is the source of “technology dividend”. (The historic growth of the “technology dividend” is discussed in Chapter 2.) The book, “AN EMPIRE OF WEALTH” by John Steele Gordon<sup>20</sup> is also an account of how technical innovation created America’s wealth. The “technology dividend” is the increase in individual productivity that reduces the amount of effort or material required to produce wealth. An increase in the standard of living requires a corresponding increase in individual productivity.
- The “technology dividend” brings new products to market and enhances our life.
- Money is not wealth. Money is a medium of exchange. It is the creation of wealth that gives money value.
- Control of the supply of the “medium of exchange” (money) is one of the “WANNABE PEERS” most prized tools.
- Prices in a free market are controlled by supply and demand. Upon interruption or fear of an interruption of supply, the price will rise.
- Fossil fuels will be the most economical source of energy (assuming no catastrophic interference by the “WANNABE PEERS”) for at least 200 years. There may be some opportunities for economical harvesting of “alternative energy” due to the terrain, constant winds, or easily available heat below the earth’s crust. These situations can provide only a small fraction of the energy necessary to power our economy. However, these will be the exception, not the rule. When amortization of capital investment and intermittent availability of the energy source is considered, there is no economical substitute for fossil fuel. Nuclear power may be an exception. The “WANNABE PEERS” want the government to solve a problem that won’t exist for over 200 years, yet they ignore imminent problems which offer them no opportunity to increase their power. Who will benefit from this misapplication of capital? The “WANNABE PEERS” and their political cronies, of course, and most of us will surely lose.

- Carbon dioxide has not been proven to be the cause of climate change<sup>6</sup>. This fable has been proven only by the preponderance of the propaganda. Computer models which predict climate change based upon increased carbon dioxide do not pass back testing. Do not allow the “WANNABE PEERS” to destroy your standard of living on a quest to fight windmills that even Don Quixote would recognize. **There is no issue, today, that has more potential to destroy the economy, push more of the population below the poverty line and allow the “WANNABE PEERS” to increase their control over the individual.** Trying to control climate change by controlling carbon dioxide emissions would be like removing the cigarette lighter from your car to increase gas mileage.
- The “technology dividend” continuously reduces the real cost of goods and services.
- Even though the “technology dividend” continuously reduces the **real cost** of goods and services, in a real system, the cost (in currency) of goods (includes gold and other natural resources) and services **increases** due to inflation of the medium of exchange.
- Capitalism requires the continual redeployment of resources as innovation causes obsolescence of facilities and changes the demand for products. Innovation without obsolescence is impossible. This obsolescence is painful. It causes valuable labor skills and production equipment to become worthless.
- Natural resources (oil, coal, iron ore etc.) are potential wealth, just as a weight suspended in air contains potential energy and requires a machine to convert it into useful work. Natural resources require that “COMMONS” expend effort and capital to convert it into wealth.
- Innovation requires energy. Most of the “technology dividend” involves the use of energy to increase the individual’s productivity. Restrict the use of energy and you reduce the individual’s productivity and standard of living.
- Even the most prosperous societies have finite assets. Misallocation or restrictions on the use of assets reduces prosperity. Restricting individual freedom is a restriction on the use of an asset. Political deployments of wealth (EARMARKS are an example) are usually misapplication of wealth.
- Misallocation of assets reduces prosperity and counteracts the “technology dividend”.
- Increasing productivity has the greatest effect on the standard of living of the lowest level of society as it reduces the real cost of the wealth (“consumable assets”) necessary for survival. Typically, the lowest level of society expends their total effort to barely survive so any reduction in the cost of survival increases the well-being of that group.
- The primary constituencies of the “WANNABE PEERS” are the lower level of society, primarily those dependent on the government aid for survival.
- The composition of their constituency is not lost on the “WANNABE PEERS”. When the deception is stripped from their agenda, it becomes obvious that almost every item of their agenda will result in either destruction of wealth or restriction on the creation of wealth.
- The “WANNABE PEERS” claim the moral high ground. They claim that they are trying to help “those less fortunate”, work for the “common good”, provide protection from an enemy or protect us from our “vices”. Yet, the “WANNABE PEERS” every proposal limits our liberty, inhibits production and destroys or confiscates wealth.

- A favorite tactic of the “WANNABE PEERS” is to vilify a common “enemy” and use the defense against that enemy to obtain popular support. Many times the vilification is the justification for oppression and confiscation of the “enemy’s” property.
- Only the individual has rights. Special rights conferred on any group must first be taken away from the individual.
- When an individual’s rights are lost, the individual becomes more dependent on the government, thus giving the “WANNABE PEERS” more control over the individual’s life and property. Loss of rights generally results in an increase in the “PAWN” population and a resulting increase in the “WANNABE PEERS” constituency.
- There is no government program, no matter how poorly conceived and implemented, that does not have some positive effects.
- Monopolies can exist only when backed by force.
- “BY RIGHT OF CONQUEST” before WWII this pretty much summed up the morality of foreign relations in the world. What this means is that when a nation won a war, that nation had the right to appropriate the territory and wealth of the loser. “BY RIGHT OF CONQUEST” is a principle much prized by foreign “KINGS” and their henchmen, the “PEERS”. Of course, usually a nation would trump up some grievances before it attacked its neighbor. But the real cause of most wars was, and still is, the lust for the neighbor’s wealth.
- As wealthy and strong as America is, it cannot feed, clothe, shelter and provide health care for the world. Subsidizing the victims of foreign “KINGS” and “PEERS” cannot provide lasting relief. As long as major portions of the world punish productivity and believe it is easier to confiscate wealth than to create it, poverty will be rampant. “KINGS” and “PEERS” can destroy and consume wealth much faster than America can create it. It is futile to try to raise the standard of living where ownership of wealth is determined by force.
- America cannot depose the “KINGS” and “PEERS” who have popular support even though they are causing widespread poverty and injustice.
- Any totalitarian government (a government totally controlled by the “PEERS” or “KINGS”) requires an enemy to remain in power.
- Laws are made to prevent actions, not encourage innovation. Can you imagine Congress passing a law requiring Thomas Edison to develop the light bulb or Charles Martin Hall to develop an economical method of refining aluminum?
- The “safety net” in one form or another has existed in our society since before the year, 990<sup>12</sup>. The question is not whether or not to have the “safety net”. It seems that over 1000 years of history have settled the issue. The question is how to structure the “safety net” to provide maximum opportunity and incentive to those caught in unfortunate circumstances.

The way to evaluate political proposals is to simplify the proposal by eliminating the extraneous dialogue and charting the inputs and outputs. When the proposals are viewed in this simple form, the results are apparent.

In Thomas Paine’s day, the enemy (the “PEERS” and the “KING”) were identified and the solution was apparent. The solution was victory on the battlefield. Today, the identification of the “WANNABE PEERS” is difficult. The “WANNABE PEERS” carefully

conceal their identity. The objective and projected results of their agenda are models of deception. Are all of these agendas that seek to limit our freedom devised with malice and forethought? Probably not; some may actually believe that some surrender of your freedom is in the public interest. They may have the purest motive or a desire to become the next "Hitler". Their motive is irrelevant. Their objective will not affect the results. Don't waste time trying to determine a politician's objectives. Evaluate the agenda.

**There is no such thing as benevolent slavery.**

An understanding of the nature of government, wealth and economic systems is necessary to identify the "WANNABE PEERS" and understand their proposals. So, before the deception is stripped from their agendas a review of these subjects is provided.