YOUR BRAIN ON 24/7 TELEVISION AND TALK RADIO "NEWS"

Just say no to the loud voices behind the microphones and in front of the cameras parading their opinions as facts.
Commit to good citizenship and dig deeper.

Tuesday, May 26, 2020
Volume 1, Number 1

THINKING IT THROUGH

THE FALSE DEBATE

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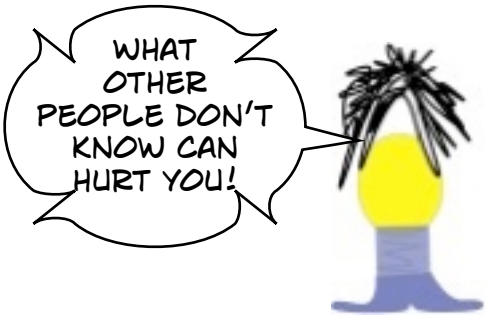
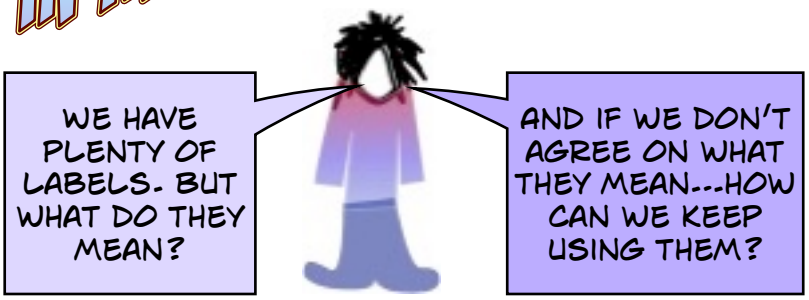
IN THIS ISSUE:

FORMS OF GOVERNMENT VS. ECONOMIC SYSTEMS





rightleftfliberalconservativedemocrarepublican
fiscalconservativesocialconservativeprogressivereactionary
socialistdemocratdemocraticsocialist
capitalistsocialistfascistetceteraetceteraetcetera

A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME... MAY NOT ACTUALLY BE A ROSE AFTER ALL.

Remember that high school social studies class where we all should have taken better notes? It's time to travel back in time to review some basic terms and concepts that should probably be items on a citizenship test. How many of our elected officials, political candidates or favorite news personalities need to make the journey with us? We need to be smarter than they are so that we can hold them accountable for misusing labels which no longer hold any meaning.

I. Forms of Government Economic Systems

Definition: the political system by which a country or community is administered and regulated.

www.britannica.com/topic/political-system/The-structure-of-government

Definition: how a society produces and distributes the goods and services necessary for survival

www.businessdictionary.com/definition.html

II. Forms of Government Economic Systems

"To be useful, the study of governmental structures must always proceed hand in hand with an investigation of the actual facts of the political process: the analyst must exercise the greatest care in distinguishing between form and reality and between prescription and practice."

Alan Heslop, Political System. Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc 3/ 17, 17

www.britannica.com/topic/political-system/The-structure-of-government

DYNAMIC DUO

PRODUCTION

The processes and methods used to transform tangible inputs (raw materials, semi-finished goods, subassemblies) and intangible inputs (ideas, information, knowledge) into goods or services.

DISTRIBUTION

The movement of goods and services from the source through a distribution channel, right up to the final customer, consumer, or user, and the movement of payment in the opposite direction, right up to the original producer or supplier

www.businessdictionary.com/definition.html

AND NOW WELCOME TO...

ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A BIGWIG?

MIKE PENCE, U.S. VICE PRESIDENT SAID,

"I THINK THE CHOICE WE FACE IN THIS COUNTRY TODAY IS A CHOICE BETWEEN FREEDOM AND SOCIALISM."

MARCO RUBIO, U.S. SENATOR SAID,

"I DON'T WANT TO LIVE IN A SOCIALIST COUNTRY, I WANT TO LIVE IN A DEMOCRACY."

BERNIE SANDERS, U.S. SENATOR, SAID,

"IF YOU READ WHAT DEBS SAID ABOUT THE GOALS OF SOCIALISM, IT'S NO DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I'VE BEEN SAYING — THAT ALL SOCIALISM IS ABOUT IS DEMOCRACY."

*YES, THESE ARE DIRECT QUOTES.

BURNING QUESTION #1:

IS SOCIALISM A FORM OF GOVERNMENT OR AN ECONOMIC SYSTEM?

BURNING QUESTION #2:

HOW WOULD ELECTED AND MEDIA BIGWIGS ANSWER BURNING QUESTION #1?

The problem...

"LANGUAGE SHAPES THE FUTURE."

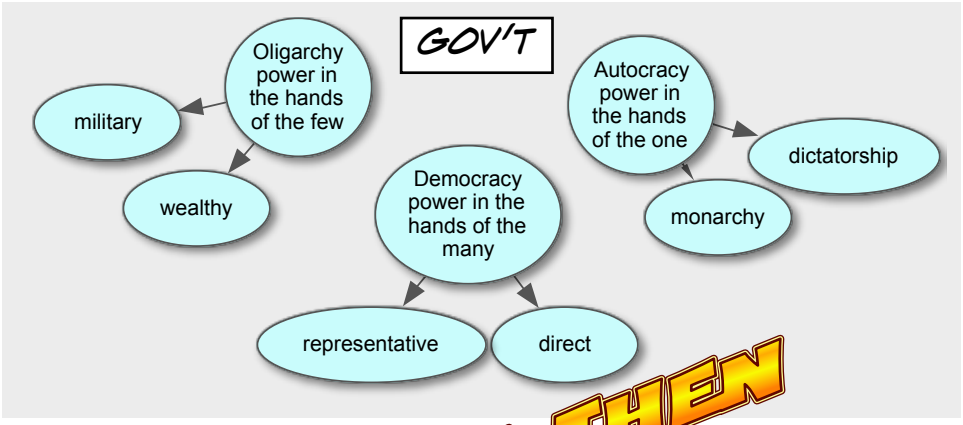
—attributed to a wise mentor and proven from personal experience to be true but maybe someone else said it first?

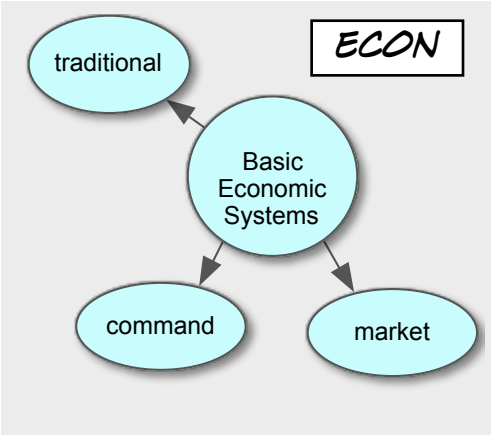
SOCIALISM IS AN EMOTIONALLY CHARGED WORD. SOMETIMES IT IS USED TO IGNITE FEAR. SOMETIMES IT IS USED TO ENCOURAGE HOPE. BUT MOST OFTEN IT IS USED BY PEOPLE WHO DON'T SHARE A COMMON DEFINITION OF THE CONCEPT OR HAVE ANY SENSE OF ITS HISTORY.

IT ISN'T JUST WHAT WE TALK ABOUT BUT HOW WE TALK ABOUT THINGS THAT MATTERS. THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR TALKING OUT OF IGNORANCE OR INTENTIONALLY USING TERMS THAT MISLEAD OTHERS.

SO, MEANWHILE BACK IN CLASS...

III. Forms of Government Economic Systems





THAT WAS THEN

AT FIRST...

Tribes and Families

"So long as humans were few, there was hardly any government.

THEN CAME...

Greeks and Romans

"Most of the key words commonly used to describe governments—words such as monarchy, oligarchy, and democracy —are of Greek or Roman origin. They have been current for more than 2,000 years and have not yet exhausted their usefulness. This suggests that humankind has not altered very much since they were coined; **however, such verbal and psychological uniformity must not be allowed to hide the enormous changes in society and politics that have occurred.**"

Hugh Brogan, Government, Encyclopædia Britannica, June 21, 2018
Robert L. Heilbroner and Peter J. Boettke, *Economic system*, Encyclopædia Britannica, inc. 1/09/2019

Traditional

- early hunter/gathering societies sharing resources
- no intentionally planned system

Command or Centrally Planned

- production and distribution controlled by a central authority
- labor is forced to meet the wants of a ruler or ruling elite

WE MUST BUILD PYRAMIDS...THAT IS... YOU, MY LOYAL SUBJECTS AND LABOR FORCE, MUST BUILD PYRAMIDS.

IV. Forms of Government Economic Systems

THIS IS NOW

CONSTITUTIONAL "DEMOCRACIES"

MARKET ECONOMY

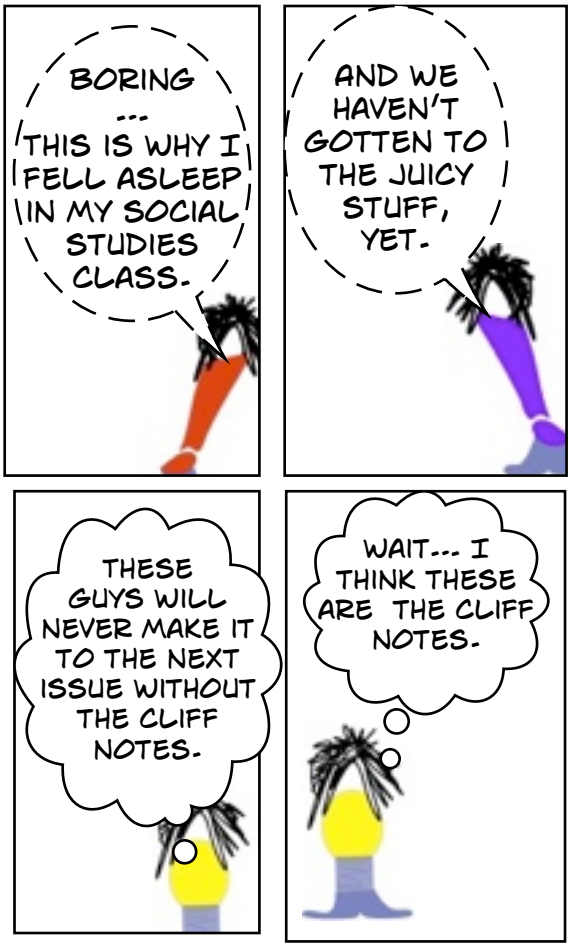
" The usefulness of all the traditional classification has been undermined by the momentous changes in the political organization of the modern world. Typologies based on the number of power holders or the formal structures of the state are rendered almost meaningless by the standardization of "democratic" forms, the deceptive similarities in the constitutional claims and governmental institutions of regimes that actually differ markedly in their political practices, and the rise of new political orders in the non-Western world."

D. Alan Heslop, Political System Encyclopædia Britannica 3/17/17

https://www.britannica.com/topic/political-system/Issues-of-classification

dictionary.cambridge.org:
an economic system in which goods and services are made, sold, and shared and prices set by **the balance of supply and demand**

Businessdicitonary.com:
Free market system in which **decisions** regarding resource allocation, production, and consumption, and price levels and competition, **are made by the collective actions of individuals or organizations seeking their own advantage.**



NEXT ISSUE:

- SOCIALISM AND CAPITALISM VS. THE ECONOMICS THAT REALLY MATTER

DON'T MISS...

- MORE SIZZLINGLY BURNING QUESTIONS,
- BIGWIG MISCOMMUNICATION EXPOSED,
- JOURNALISTIC MALPRACTICRE UNCOVERED,

MORE TO COME:

- WHO IS REWRITING HISTORY? THE VENEZUELA AND DENMARK STORIES
- SO YOU THINK YOU ARE A SOCIALIST/CAPITALIST?
- FAKE NEWS, FALSE JOURNALISM OR PROPAGANDA: BELIEVE IT...OR NOT.

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

from *Jabberwocky*, recited by the Cheshire Cat, *Through the Looking Glass*, Lewis Carroll