AND NOW WELCOME TO...

ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A BIGWIG?

HERE ARE DIRECT QUOTATIONS FROM THREE CURRENT AND PROMINENT POLITICAL FIGURES.

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

MARCO RUBIO, U.S. SENATOR

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

MIKE PENCE, U.S. VICE PRESIDENT

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.

BERNIE SANDERS, U.S. SENATOR

WHAT QUESTIONS WOULD YOU ASK EACH SPEAKER IN ORDER TO UNCOVER WHAT THEY EACH KNOW AND BELIEVE ABOUT FORMS OF GOVERNMENT, ECONOMIC SYSTEMS, DEFINING TERMS AND LABELS AND THE FALSE DEBATE OF CAPITALISM VS. SOCIALISM?

AND IF YOU AREN'T WILLING TO INVEST TIME INTO THINKING ABOUT IT, YOU HAVEN'T EARNED THE RIGHT TO VOTE.

...BECAUSE IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT QUESTIONS TO ASK YOU AREN'T READY TO DECIDE WHO TO LISTEN TO.

NEXT ISSUE:

- REWRITING HISTORY: VENEZUELA AND DENMARK BEYOND THE SOUND BITES

MORE TO COME:

- FAKE NEWS, FALSE JOURNALISM OR PROPAGANDA: BELIEVE IT...OR NOT.
- WHAT'S IN YOUR HAMPER?
- CHANGING THE CONVERSATION

DON'T MISS...

- MORE SIZZLINGLY BURNING QUESTIONS
- BIGWIG MISCOMMUNICATION EXPOSED
- JOURNALISTIC MALPRACTICE UNCOVERED

REMEMBER! DON'T TAKE ANYTHING YOU READ HERE FOR GRANTED. DO YOUR OWN RESEARCH!

WHEN A LIE IS A LIE BY ANY OTHER NAME.

"LANGUAGE SHAPES THE FUTURE."

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.

Friday, August 14, 2020
Volume 1, Number 3

THE FALSE DEBATE

THINKING IT THROUGH

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IN THIS ISSUE:

SO YOU THINK YOU ARE A SOCIALIST/CAPITALIST? CHOOSE ONE.

JUST CURIOUS BUT DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU HEAR?

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE.

THANKS FOR READING THE PREVIOUS TWO ISSUES. I HOPE YOU ARE DISCOVERING IDEAS FOR YOUR OWN RESEARCH TO INFORM THE HARD CONVERSATIONS YOU NEED TO HAVE WITH FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS. NOW, PASS GO, COLLECT 200 DOLLARS, AND GO DIRECTLY TO SECTION II, PAGE 2.

---OR---

LIFE IS SHORT AND YOU HAVE OTHER STUFF TO DO. I GET IT. INSTEAD OF READING THE PREVIOUS ISSUES CHECK OUT SECTION ONE BELOW. A-OK WITH THE ASSUMPTIONS PRESENTED THERE? GREAT. READ ON, MCDUFF.

---OR---

WHO NEEDS A REVIEW, EH? DON'T WE ALL KNOW THE BASICS? !!DANGER, WILL ROBINSON.!! NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE DEGREE TO WHICH WE DISAGREE. I WOULD SAY PROCEED WITH CAUTION BUT... WHATEVER.

I. WE ARE TRYING TO BUILD A CONVINCING CASE THAT:

- Distinguishing between the traditional classifications of forms of government and economic systems and their histories is essential in choosing what to believe, who to listen to and which candidates to support in our loud and complicated political world.

- False debates which pit capitalism against socialism are a waste of time in a century where nations consist of hybrid systems where free market economies are combined with social programs, each to a varying degree. It is a range not an either or situation.

- Bigwigs, including elected officials, political candidates and celebrity "journalists"... using the term loosely...often intentionally or ignorantly misuse labels to communicate misinformation and muddy the issues.

II. CAPITALISM ..... SOCIALISM

SO YOU THINK YOU ARE A CAPITALIST?

- Have you ever visited a local, state or national park?
- Should the military, law enforcement and fire protection be privatized?
- Should Medicare and Social Security be abolished?
- Should farmers and businesses receive government assistance due to natural disasters?

SO YOU THINK YOU ARE A SOCIALIST?

- Do you shop online seeking the best price for the product you want to buy?
- Should the government own the local hardware store?
- Should children be able to inherit the family farm?
- Should each citizen get to choose his own occupation or profession?

WHAT? OH...YOU ARE NOT A PURE CAPITALIST.

WHAT? OH...YOU ARE NOT A CLASSIC MARXIST SOCIALIST?

BURNING QUESTION

HOW MANY OF YOUR NEIGBORS AND CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE, REGARDLESS OF POLITICAL OR RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION, DO YOU THINK CONSIDER THEMSELVES TO BE CLASSIC MARXIST SOCIALISTS OR PURE CAPITALISTS?

JUST TO BE CLEAR... CLASSIC SOCIALISM =
- NO PRIVATE OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY
- CENTRAL CONTROL OF ALL COMPONENTS OF PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

PURE CAPITALISM =
- TOTAL PRIVATE OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY AND ALL COMPONENTS OF PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION
- NO SOCIAL SAFETY NET PROGRAMS OR GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS OF MARKETS OR BUSINESS PRACTICES

CURRENT POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES= 327 MILLION
LET'S PRETEND THAT 10% OF THE VOTING POPULACE WANTED THE U.S. TO REPLACE ITS CURRENT SYSTEM WITH EITHER A CLASSIC MARXIST SOCIALIST ECONOMY OR A PURE CAPITALIST ECONOMY. COULD YOU FIND 32 MILLION PEOPLE WHO EITHER WANT THE GOVERNMENT TO OWN AND CONTROL EVERYTHING OR WANT OTHER PEOPLE TO OWN AND CONTROL EVERYTHING WITHOUT CONSTRAINTS?

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO AGREE THAT A SIGNIFICANT MAJORITY OF YOUR FELLOW AMERICANS, REGARDLESS OF PARTY OR RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION, ARE NOT PROPONENTS OF EITHER CLASSIC MARXIST SOCIALISM OR PURE CAPITALISM?

THEN THE DEBATE IS NOT ABOUT SOCIALISM VS. CAPITALISM.

IT IS ABOUT....

"Economic Policy: Does the government direct the economy, or does the economy direct itself?"

"Until the 20th century the country abided by the laissez-faire policy, which required a free market with little intervention from government. With the Great Depression came Keynesian economics, or the opposite belief that the government should manage the economy. Today, United States economic policy lies somewhere in between — government should regulate and sometimes manage, but should allow a free market whenever possible. Political and business leaders disagree on how much control is enough."

Economic Policy, American Government Online Textbook, ushistory.org May 01, 2019

IF I WERE GIVEN MORE THAN A THOUGHT BUBBLE...I WOULD SUGGEST RIGHT OUT LOUD THAT IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT YOU SHOULD DO YOUR OWN RESEARCH. BUT KEEP IN MIND THAT UNCLE HUMDINGER OR THE RANTING RADIO OR TV VOICE YOU LOVE BECAUSE HE OR SHE IS ALWAYS TELLING YOU WHAT YOU WANT TO HEAR MAY NOT BE THE EXPERT ECONOMIST OR HISTORIAN S/HE PRETENDS TO BE. FIND SOURCES THAT CAN PROVE THEIR "CREDENTIALS" BEFORE YOU ARGUE AGAINST THE "SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN" REASONING OF THE STATEMENTS ABOVE.

DENMARK, ANYONE?

VENEZUELA, ANYONE?

SO GLAD YOU REMINDED ME TO TELL YOU TO COME BACK FOR THE NEXT ISSUE...THE VENEZUELA AND SCANDINAVIAN ARGUMENTS EXPOSED.

III. COMMUNICATION MANIPULATION

SOCIALISM IS AN EMOTIONALLY CHARGED WORD. TODAY 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.