A WEEKLY COMMENTARY



Vol. 61 No. 24

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS





The Price of Freedom is Eternal Vigilance

voi. 01 No. 34	49	August 2023
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Destroying the Motivation of Well-Intentioned People By Arnis Luks

This past week the news articles of significant import are concentrating on the manhunt underway in north-eastern Victoria, and the expulsion of the Iranian embassy-staff. Assessing the ramifications of both events produces similar results for the Australian people. Both elevate the feelings of deep anxiety, and both produce feelings of free-floating helplessness in a troubled world. This may be exactly their purpose. Mattias Desmet explained this phenomena, caused by the then, Covid lock-downs by writing his book:

'The Psychology of Totalitarianism'

From rationalism to mass formation - and towards Truth speech

https://archive.org/details/the-psychology-of-totalitarianism-2022-mattias-desmet_202308 At the end of February 2020, the global village began to shake on its foundations. The world was presented with a foreboding crisis, the consequences of which were incalculable. In a matter of weeks, everyone was gripped by the story of a virus—a story that was undoubtedly based on facts. But on which ones? We caught a first glimpse of "the facts" via footage from China. A virus forced the Chinese government to take the most draconian measures. Entire cities were quarantined, new hospitals were built hastily, and individuals in white suits disinfected public spaces. Here and there, rumours emerged that the totalitarian Chinese government was overreacting and that the new virus was no worse than the flu. Opposite opinions were also floating around: that it must be much worse than it looked, because otherwise no government would take such radical measures. At that point, everything still felt far removed from our shores and we assumed that the story did not allow us to gauge the full extent of the facts.

Until the moment that the virus arrived in Europe. We then began recording infections and deaths for ourselves. We saw images of overcrowded emergency rooms in Italy, convoys of army vehicles transporting corpses, morgues full of coffins. The renowned scientists at Imperial College confidently predicted that without the most drastic measures, the virus would claim tens of millions of lives. In Bergamo, (Italy), sirens blared day and night, silencing any voice in a public space that dared to doubt the emerging narrative. From then on, story and facts seemed to merge and uncertainty gave way to certainty.

The unimaginable became reality: we witnessed the abrupt pivot of nearly every country on earth to follow China's example and place huge populations of people under de facto house arrest, a situation for which the term "lockdown" was coined. An eerie silence descended—ominous and liberating at the same time. The sky without airplanes, traffic arteries without vehicles; dust settling on the standstill of billions of people's individual pursuits and desires. In India, the air became so pure that, for the first time in thirty years, in some places the Himalayas became once more visible against the horizon.

It didn't stop there. We also saw a remarkable transfer of power. Expert virologists were called upon as Orwell's pigs—the smartest animals on the farm—to replace the unreliable politicians. They would run the animal farm with accurate ("scientific") information. But these experts soon turned out to have quite a few common, human flaws. In their statistics and graphs they made mistakes that even "ordinary" people would not easily make. It went so far that, at one point, they counted all deaths as corona deaths, including people who had died of, say, heart attacks.

Nor did they live up to their promises. These experts pledged that the Gates to Freedom would re-open after two doses of the vaccine, but then they contrived the need for a third. Like Orwell's pigs, they changed the rules overnight. First, the animals had to comply with the measures because the number of sick people could not exceed the capacity of the health care system (flatten the curve). But one day, everyone woke up to discover writing on the walls stating that the measures were being extended because the virus had to be eradicated (crush the curve). Eventually, the rules changed so often that only the pigs seemed to know them. And even the pigs weren't so sure.

Some people began to nurture suspicions. How is it possible that these experts make mistakes that even laymen wouldn't make? Aren't they scientists, the kind of people who took us to the moon and gave us the internet? They can't be that stupid, can they? What is their endgame? Their recommendations take us further down the road in the same direction: with each new step, we lose more of our freedoms, until we reach a final destination where human beings are reduced to QR codes in a large technocratic medical experiment... *end of quote*

AJL: While Mattias Desmet explains the psychological circumstances required for this psychosis to occur, many will feel that they couldn't fall into this trap. However, this trap has been laid before and will continue to be laid until enough people choose for it not to be.

A killer is on the loose, and a state-sanctioned terrorist act has been committed on Australian soil resulting with the envoys being expelled. Is there a link between the two? To some it does not appear to be a link. However, to have the two articles appearing next to each other across most media is a point of association not easily appreciated.

Sunday - March Against Tyranny

This Sunday there will be numerous demonstrations around Australia against government overreach. Media articles concerning the hunted gunman link these demonstrating-marchers as coming from the same 'sovereign citizen' grouping. I've spent the last three years meeting a lot of these folk who reluctantly accept being grouped under this banner. Each may associate with the Sov-Cit movement for different reasons, not the least of which may be comradery. I am yet to meet any who I consider even the slightest bit extremist. All are frustrated with government over-reach - action against the people, and inaction against a common enemy of the people – the central bankers driving the circumstances to escalate the frustration.

https://cairnsnews.org/2025/08/21/aug-31-march-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-sydney/2025/08/21/aug-31-march-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-sydney/2025/08/21/aug-31-march-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-sydney/2025/08/21/aug-31-march-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-sydney/2025/08/21/aug-31-march-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-sydney/2025/08/21/aug-31-march-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-sydney/2025/08/21/aug-31-march-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-sydney/2025/08/21/aug-31-march-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-sydney/2025/08/21/aug-31-march-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-sydney/2025/08/21/aug-31-march-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-australia-adds-places-times-major-issue-for-australia-adds-places-times-for-australia-adds-places-times-for-australia-adds-places-times-for-australia-adds-places-times-for-australia-adds-places-times-for-australia-adds-places-times-for-australia-adds-places-times-for-australia-adds-places-times-for-australia-adds-places-times-for-australia-adds-places-for-australia-adds-places-for-australia-adds-places-for-australia-adds-places-for-australia-adds-places-for-australia-adds-places-for-australia-adds-places-for-australia-adds-places-for-australia-adds-places-for-australia-adds-places-for-australia-adds-for-australia-adds-for-australia-add-for-australia-add-for-australia-add-for-australia-add-for-australia-add-for-australia-add-for-australia-add-for-australia-add-for-australia-add-for-austra

The Victorian government is leading from the front with new taxes at every turn, machete-gang violence, housing shortages, promoting every deviancy imaginable while shutting down legitimate debate on all these vital social issue. The government has produced this hotbed of frustration while allowing multinationals free-range over the public assets – the communist/capitalist nexus. This is deliberate policy.

https://mumcentral.com.au/victorias-325k-machete-ban/

I for one, agree with the marchers, to say that government over-reach has produced these circumstances that need fixing – now. The opposition is not getting out of the trenches, missing in action. What a golden opportunity gone wanting. You could easily consider they both, government and opposition, work as a team to bamboozle the public, the public being offered no pathway to relief.

I say to these marchers: go to vent your frustration against government over-reach. Behave peacefully but firmly, united together as one body of people who are calling out government. Promote CIR citizens' initiative, referendum and recall, as the legitimate-venting-addition to our constitutions to bring government back into order. Also and equally: promote the necessary changes to our financial system so we can purchase what we make 'without incurring debt-obligations to the money merchants'.

The only battle worth fighting is for our freedoms, which collectivist-governments and central banksters both wish to completely take away.

Demonization and Rallies By Neville Archibald

You may have seen the piece on the Sovereign Citizen movement on the ABC program '4 Corners'. If you have not, it would be worth your while to do so.

https://iview.abc.net.au/show/four-corners/series/2025/video/NC2503H029S00

A better watch: however, would be the commentary on it, which I watched a few days ago, but which is now no longer available for some reason. It has even disappeared from my watch history. An hour-long search using any combination of appropriate words has also failed to find it. But, I guess that is what happens at times like these.

This commentary explained much of the process that was used to manipulate some otherwise misguided souls (in my opinion only) into looking like loons or wankers (a great Australian term that really shows what you mean). Footage use, camera angles, dressing for one interview and not another, and a plethora of other slanted inputs, shows a piece crafted to show one side of these people. The side someone out there wants you to see.

This form of community manipulation has always been with us, in Advertising it has become an art, in politics it has become so normal that we no longer call outright liars, outright liars! What is worse, it seems we still, not only fall for the lies, we vote for them. I don't really know at this point which is worse.

With this piece in mind (and I hope you have left off reading this long enough to watch one of those above-mentioned articles carefully – and seen them for what they are) the biggest question of all, that was never raised, was never asked!

-Why do these people exist?

What brings about such dissatisfaction with the system we live under, that it gives rise to people who feel so strongly, that they refuse to be a part of it? For that is what they are effectively doing.

The real subject of that interview, the rise of the sovereign citizen, should have started with WHY!

This slanted piece, followed by a "shoot out" in Porepunkah in northern Victoria, that sadly left 2 police officers dead, has me questioning myself. The timing of these events, just before a long-planned series of marches to show unity for the Australian way (once called patriotism) and disillusionment with all forms of Government, couldn't have happened at a worse time. If I were a cynical man, I could believe someone out there had an agenda, to inflame both groups before those very marches. To get the police up in arms and angry at the loss of their own, and the protesting people worried enough to either not attend or to be angry at police or fearful of each other as well.

It is widely known that the police have suffered a falling off of respect since the COVID debacle, which saw rubber bullets and pepper spray, arrests and over the top fines, which were later rescinded. This demonising of a group of Australians, who have every right to be following their beliefs, even if they end up in court or gaol

because the beliefs are faulty, is not the way to keep society at peace. An exposé of why they are wrong in their thoughts, or the correcting of the system that has seen them opt out, would be far more appropriate than stirring them up.

The last part of the ABC piece had footage showing shootings and violence against police (imported directly from America with no real linking to Australia's sovereign citizen movement that I could see) when no such thing has been seen or even hinted at here <u>until now</u>. The true facts of the Victorian encounter will certainly not be known before the rallies, and maybe never.

We are still waiting for a true analysis of Port Arthur and Martin Bryant's involvement (he has never had a fair trial). We are still waiting for the real story of the collapse of building seven during the twin towers 'attack'. We are still waiting for vaccine damage to be officially recognised and compensated for. We are still waiting for any sort of explanation for the roll-out of \$325,000 machete bins in Victoria. This last one I'll admit is a recent one, but the initial silence so far, has me wondering if like all the other cost 'blow outs', will we ever be privy to the spending habits of our so-called elected representatives?

So, to get back to the real issue here, the dissatisfaction with our governing bodies has never been greater. Waiting until there are actually mobs in the street before even appearing to address the issues can never be a smart move. Hotheads on both sides are a reality, and a small spark can ignite something bigger. Is this what someone out there pulling the strings wants?

Lord knows, those I have spoken with don't want violence of any sort. They are nearly all in agreement that one of our biggest problems is that police don't seem to have the power or desire to stop the machete wielding home invasions, the street gang violence that is already becoming endemic. The cuts to policing in Victoria ("\$50 million cut from the Police budget in 2025 -2026, but \$13 million on 40 machete bins ..." Facebook, Nicole Werner MP.) would seem to be the opposite of what we need.

The people I speak with are in wonder at the courts in Australia, letting these same violent perpetrators back out onto the streets, without, or so it appears, so much as considering the implications. With many going on to re-offend, not just once, or twice, and still not being stopped, it is no wonder we despair at the revolving door of justice that is not serving our community.

This violence is abhorrent to us, we want it to stop, not escalate. That said, many are not willing to sit idly by while we feel our families are threatened, our way of life being shat upon by segments of society who are being allowed into this country, who will never fit in - they openly say so, they even ask for separate laws for themselves. What are we expected to do? When ruling forces (those same unresponsive pollies) continue to ignore us or worse!

I cannot fathom how any of this can work, without us all coming together to recognise the basic laws of community, where we all have that same fair go, under the exact same laws applied equally.

Even, I might add, applying these same laws to politicians as well as the 'ruling elite'. This is something that this country started out with and should have improved upon. A free Christian based culture with all citizens being subject to fair and just rules, rules that we all agree upon.

My worry for Australia, is that too little reform will happen in the direction of freedom for the individual, before the reverse happens, and the restrictive nature of the developing totalitarian government (there is no other name for it) takes over completely.

Whatever you do at these upcoming rallies, keep it peaceful, avoid the planted or previously-organised disruptive groups. Take photos of the leaders or pushers of violence or of violent dissent, find out just who it is that is manipulating and causing this very thing our government seems to want. We need to hold this disruptive element to account and chase it back to those promoting it. Find out just who is behind it. We need to come together at these rallies, form groups to change the nappies of the nanny state at the electoral level, by legal means.

The feast of items that show un-Australian decisions by most current parties is endless, we just need to invite more to our table so we can agree to change the chef.

The manipulators controlling both the news-we-get and the malfunctioning controls we have in place to keep us safe, will find groups to target for demonisation. Those closest to the truth nearly always become the first locked up or worse, during the rise of a totalitarian regime. Don't let it be you. Stay peaceful and safe.

Critical Thinking By Neville Archibald

Someone once asked me, actually they have asked me more than once, do we need some sort of critical thinkers club? My ten second response is, "yes of course we do."

My considered response (that of a critical thinker) which takes a lot more than ten seconds, is still the same. Rather than a 'club' of sorts, we need to make it a popular pass-time. Something all who aspire to be intelligent members of society, will spend time developing. A set of skills that was once the sole purpose of education to impart to you, the student. The ability to think clearly and rationally for yourself, to derive answers to problems by considering all information available, and I would go further to suggest that we also consider the information that we don't know or have available to us.

Our technological rise to potential affluence, has seen a large proportion of us no longer understanding much of even the simple machinery we use, let alone programmable computers or AI. We no longer seem to understand how our fridge works, or our car. Many don't know to check oil or water until a light comes on, it then becomes the job of the specialist, the mechanic to help us.

While we realise some mechanics might rip us off (only an example, not the norm) and we can be cautious who we take it too, asking friends about who they trust, or Googling for star ratings, we sometimes blindly accept a diagnosis.

We think to ourselves, we have better things to do or to spend time on, than learning about the mechanics of our car. We justify our disassociation, the removal of our input, by various excuses. It is only when a huge bill for services-rendered wakes us to a potential rip off that we start to take notice.

That is all fine for the simple things of life, like cars, fridges, and even housing repairs; it is not the end of the world if we are ripped off by a tradie. (again I am not picking on tradies – just an example). The real problems start to arise when we do not think about the bigger picture controls over our lives. When we leave the thinking to others about our interactions between one another.

We are not talking simple machines, that if they fail we buy a new one; we are talking our ability to live together in harmony. Our ability to have faith that we won't be murdered in our beds, or that we won't be forced to adhere to laws that have no basis in reality. We would be at the whim of a ruling elite and slaves to their desires.

If you are looking at that last part and thinking I am overstating it, or putting forth a view that couldn't be real, think again. We have seen unscrupulous people ripping off elderly and unthinking people alike, with no remorse for their actions.

We see daily reports of corruption in various industries and in politics too, where get rich schemes or controls over people are implemented to favour the outcome that best suits those desires and not that of the average worker or member of the public.

Why should our management of society be any different? All forms of control can be corrupted to serve a different master than it was originally set up for. We have abdicated our responsibilities in social management for far too long; to the point that we no longer see it as our responsibility, we blame others for having their snouts in the trough when it is we who should have pulled their noses out long ago and dealt with them then. Prosecution for corruption has never been strong enough in my opinion, to stop it from being seen as fair game to those who wish to play.

Why has this come about?

We have been distracted by good times, by the lack of need to understand the goings on around us. We have allowed our education systems to become a tool for turning out young people suitable for a workforce, to be employed by others rather than by themselves. To adhere to a reliance on others for their information and their instruction, instead of being taught to think for themselves.

The rise of social media, the rise of correct thinking instead of complete thinking, where you examine a problem in depth before making up your mind about it, has led us into these knee jerk reactions to slogans and nice sounding platitudes, instead of looking for all the information and discovering what is really happening.

Our reliance on 'accredited' sources, has also led to a corruption of these accredited sources by industry and political controllers alike, to further their own intentions. Witness the now discredited Pfizer trials of the 'vaccine' that they are still trying very hard to cover up. They have made their billions, with indemnity from prosecution for damage inflicted, and we as a people, as a nation, must pick up the tab (both in monetary and health terms) via our health system for the serious outcomes arising

from it. This corruption of institutions that were once immune from it, by targeted funding, has continued to the point where we now no longer know who we can really trust. One side says 'big oil' is to blame another says someone else. Interestingly enough, the very same division of our population into groups, ethnic, political or other social possibilities, is mirrored here too. Divide and confuse, divide and conquer. Keep us apart from the truth by pitting one against the other, not truth against lie!

Do we need a critical thinking club?

Are we in this mess now due to not thinking enough?

Both of those questions would be a yes from me. It is no good pretending otherwise, we have dropped the ball and continued running like we still had it, shouting victory from the home goal end, while our opposition has quietly taken up the ball and gone in the other direction. The ball in this case being the rule book by which we live and interact. We have ended up thinking we are free between our own home goal posts, but the rules have been changed while we ran blindly. They are now in the possession of the opposition, who have entirely different goals to ours. Freedom of the individual, the end we were running for, has been usurped to become control over the individual for the benefit of some who are more equal than others.

So now, have we looked at the reasons for declining social cohesion? It is easier to control a divided population than one that comes together and stands together against what they see as bad for them. It is this control mechanism (division) that is most useful and easiest to create by pitting groups against each other for reasons that are as obscure as they are truthful.

A population that is focused on taking what they see as the best side to an argument, rather than the correct side, without any real in depth thinking about it, is easily manipulated. A society that is addicted to the quick fix, the specialist opinion, without bothering to examine the basics, can be led by the nose by their particular team. The blind adherence to a 'side' in an argument means more to many of us than the argument itself.

Superficial points are raised and discussed in very little detail, emotional appeals and demonisation of the other side, play a bigger part of any interaction now than ever before, and too many of us no longer even see it as such.

So yes, Critical thinking has almost disappeared from our lives and it needs to once again become a part of the normal process we use to decide things.

The latest post on Facebook by two labor ministers expresses many things we would agree with, but the last statement is one that immediately demonises a group who wish to march for these very values. https://www.facebook.com/burke.tony.mp/ posts/joint-statement-on-publicised-events-planned-for-the-weekend/1308483130641468/ It assumes that disagreement with government is racist and not Australian, without mentioning the reasons for the rally at all.

A community fed up with corruption, excessive immigration (especially from non-assimilable demographics) and a plummeting living standard, not to mention the

only solution government can come up with is taking even more from us to prop up their failures in policy; is frustrated to the point of needing to do something to show them we are serious.

The answer from government, is to demonise and divide us further, by labels, by psi-ops, by any means they can other than realising the truth of the matter; that we are waking up to their un-Australian agenda.

Both ministers infer that there is no place in our country for people who seek to divide and undermine social cohesion. Yet the very policies their party pursues are regularly doing just that.

The Voice sought to create a division between us, to make us two separate peoples. The tax reforms being discussed are looking to divide us into have-nots and slightly less have-nots. Taxes on super, spare rooms, and unrealised capital gains, all seek to use the accusation that one group is not paying their way, we will target these naughty ones who have saved too much.

The hope is that by demonising those slightly better off, the reforms will be more welcome than if it were just everyone who stood to lose. In this way do they regularly pit one set of voters against another to gain votes or approval. To suggest we are seeking to divide our communities by asking for accountability and a fair go, is to my mind, the pot calling the kettle black.

The very reasons for the march and the dissatisfaction with politics of all persuasions are in their non-adherence to the very values they accuse us of not having. A little look at the problems we face reveals the origin to be countless years of destructive policy, by both major parties. It has not been 'we the people' who have set out to be un-Australian, it is the rules and legislation that have been enacted that has brought us to this point.

Our inaction to address these corruptions as they have occurred has allowed it to get this far and now we are saying, enough is enough. Critical thinking must make a comeback in our everyday lives, it must be taught to our children, or we will continue to be led by the nose towards our own demise.