

More on the Fake Left

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<http://wtcdemolition.com/blog/comment/reply/1182/11246#comment-11246>

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or,

"Left is Right and Right is Wrong

Better decide which side you're on"

- Tom Robinson Band

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I grew up under two dictatorships, and I was actively involved in the clandestine resistance to both:

- one was a military dictatorship operated by a Right-wing Junta installed by the US Pentagon in Athens, Greece;
- the other was a dictatorship operated by the Church, installed by the UK/US in agreement with the Soviet Union. It was maintained in power by the local Communist Party. This dictatorship was on the island of Cyprus, an "unsinkable aircraft carrier" located in the Eastern Mediterranean region of the Muddled East.

The fake left, pseudo-socialist forces that had lent their political power to the dictatorship in the years of my youth, were led by a party named Akel. It was the largest per capita "communist" party in any country in the world outside of the Soviet Union. (For many years in the Left the terminology was to designate such parties was "the local Moscow line party, or CP".)

I know first hand the feelings of treachery, betrayal, mindfuck and authoritarian distortion, manipulation and ignorance which are generated by the actions of forces and individuals disguised as "Socialist", who bring on far more death, misery and suffering to people than some outright (and honest) Right-wing dictatorships can cause.

Fake leftist propaganda and fake leftist terminology dominated the political consciousness of the population all throughout those years. Nationalism and localism (artificial nation-building campaigns) were couched in slogans of "internationalist solidarity against nationalism". Racism, sexism and homophobia were institutionalized forms of oppression everywhere in the country, and they were promoted through "progressive" slogans of "resistance to fascism". Every single person who disagreed with the party or with the Church dictatorship that it supported was branded a "fascist", a "cia agent", an "extreme Right winger". I grew up breathing and swallowing those accusations hurled against me, my family, my comrades and friends on a daily basis.

I survived torture of various "creative" flavours at the hands of some of these "leftist liberators", including beatings with fists, boots and rifle butts, sleep deprivation, sexual humiliation, forced exercise in suffocating heat conditions, I was made to do push-ups with my face in

piles of rotting excrement in which were writhing billions of maggots reeking with ammonia, I was forced to crawl on my arms belly-down through barbed wire and broken glass, and to "dance" with a bayonette balanced with its tip down embedded in the center of my palm. Probably one of the "best of the best" torture practices (at least among the ones I can remember) that these "socialist defenders of humanity" engaged in was the "safety-pin game". The sharp metal branch of the safety pin is pressed in and then released like a spring so that the tip hits the victim on the nose. Repeatedly. After several hundred of these nerve-jarring blows, waves of sensory distortions and hallucinations set in and it becomes impossible to stand up. I remember phasing in and out of the here and now as my face was on fire with pain, unable to see from the tears and the swelling in my eyes, while others around me collapsed like empty sacks, thinking to myself, wow, do they really believe that they're revolutionary Leftists and Christians? How did they become like this?

My entire world was defined and controlled by these people. To the point where I often came to feeling and thinking that everything, everything where the struggle for liberty and equality are concerned, is controlled, betrayed, rotten, a lie. All a Big Lie.

I was wrong.

I'm grateful that I was blessed in my life to encounter true Socialists, Communists and Anarchists, Feminists, Greens, Autonomists, who (regardless of the fact that some of them don't even use those words to describe themselves) are motivated by true feelings of love, by true and genuine compassion, and embody real dignity and respect for all living beings. They are honest, democratic, and truly embody the best of the best of the political ideologies and practices of the personal, social and spiritual liberation movement.

Personal dignity and consistency is not enough though, to make a movement's ideology and praxis valid. The culture of liberation is important, and indispensable. Personal responsibility and accountability are "sine qua non" elements for building networks of comrades who can co-operate and able to go together in the right direction. But there's science required, as well. And spirit.

When Che Guevara introduced feminist principles to Third World guerilla fighters there was a break of continuity in the rigidified concepts of "struggle" which revolutionized the revolutionary process.

When the Weather Underground re-invented armed struggle so as to be centered on using lethal force without killing anyone, there was a moral ascendancy gained for the liberation movement and a new kind of Path created for revolutionaries which is still valid more than forty years later. Additionally, when the Weather Underground and its allied above-ground mass-movement entities variously labeled as Yippies, etc, incorporated the Psychedelic experience within the individual and group process of liberation, they helped to resurrect and sculpt an ancient form of worship, personal growth, and medicine into a modern tool for

social progress and liberation. Plus, for use as an instrument for navigating the revolutionary movement.

When Lenin articulated the basics of Direct Democracy as vital and obligatory elements interwoven within Revolutionary Socialism there was for the first time a clarification of the difference between democracy of the people as opposed to Corporate "democracy" of the capitalist class. He stated that in order for the State to be abolished it can not be simply seized and used as is, or "declared abolished"; it must be "smashed and broken up" in order to be transcended, in concurrence with the following requirements:

- abolition of the standing army (this includes police and all other special armed bodies of suppression), and its replacement by the armed people;
- all officials and representatives to be elected and subject to recall;
- the abolition of all representation allowances, and of all monetary privileges to officials, the reduction of the remuneration of all servants of the state to the level of "working people's wages";
- the rotation of duties so that administration, control, accounting, etc. can be exercised by each and every member of society, both at the workplace and in the civic arena;
- "expropriation of the expropriators", ie the transformation of capitalist private ownership of the means of production, of social and natural resources, into social ownership, commonly shared by all, owned and administered together by all.

It is in this sense, he wrote, that scientific socialism sees the revolutionary process as an evolutionary development through which the armed, self-organized people can be self-governed, and it is in this sense, that the State "begins to wither away. Instead of the special institutions of a privileged minority (privileged officialdom, the chiefs of the standing army), the majority itself can directly fulfil all these functions, and the more the functions of state power are performed by the people as a whole, the less need there is for the existence of this power." [From "The State and Revolution"; please "Related Readings" below.]

Deep-Ecology (radical Green) versions of that form of Direct Democracy are practiced today by the Zapatista communities in all the liberated zones where the forces of Empire can not reach.

The process of social change, whether by reform or revolution, is often driven by blind and unconscious social and personal forces. It's only when we organize ourselves together on the basis of shared values, principles of association and co-operation, and armed with moral integrity and political clarity that our motion actually generates any movement forward. When political praxis is guided by theory and nurtured with love and in tune with spirit, we experience true liberation in the process, but we also build something constructive for ourselves and for the generations to follow. Otherwise, what do, all the struggles in which we engage, all the sacrifices either end up for nothing, or worse (and more commonly) , become the vehicles for manipulators, opportunists and authoritarians to install new forms of oppression, new forms of exploitation, suffering, misery, poverty and

war. And that is where the fake left, the pseudo-socialists, the stalinist, authoritarian forces become relevant.

In relation to the existence and form of the State, in particular, Marx had that same insight when he wrote that:

"Originating from the Middle Ages, there developed in the 19th century "the centralized state power, with its ubiquitous organs of standing army, police, bureaucracy, clergy, and judicature." With the development of class antagonisms between capital and labor, "state power assumed more and more the character of a public force organized for the suppression of the working class, of a machine of class rule. After every revolution, which marks an advance in the class struggle, the purely coercive character of the state power stands out in bolder and bolder relief." After the revolution of 1848-49, state power became "the national war instruments of capital against labor". [from "The Civil War in France"; please see "Related Readings" below.]

In order to break the vicious cycle of a series of purely coercive States succeeding one another after popular revolutions and/or waves of reform extending ad nauseum into the long road of history in a parasitic association with Corporate Capital - with which they fuse, nowadays, into a global Imperium - Consciousness, in all of its dimensions, needs to be part and parcel of every effort of the resistance. It needs to be built into every feature of the pro-democracy movement, needs to be guiding every aspect of the Socialist project. Otherwise, the Empire will simply continue to unfold according to the Project for a New American Century ...with the only hope remaining that perhaps someday it might be confronted by Duck Dodgers in the 24th Century.

Regardless of whether we "believe in" gravity or not, it continues to act upon all bodies despite our faith, despite our understanding, our science and technology. In fact, in terms of gravity, our science and technology are nothing other than complicated and - sometimes abstract, sometimes concrete - ways of expressing exactly that: that gravity exists and acts as a force per se, entirely independent of how it is reflected by awareness or consciousness. Scientific development occurs when gravity is accepted as prime quality of existence, built into the geometry of the Universe. From that, arises all gravity-related technology. Meaningful reflections of this render consciousness into Consciousness.

Similarly, one of the most stupendous discoveries of science in regard to what determines and shapes the landscape of social struggle and politics is articulated by Karl Marx in these words:

"The materialist conception of history starts from the proposition that the production of the means to support human life and, next to production, the exchange of things produced, is the basis of all social structure; that in every society that has appeared in history, the manner in which wealth is distributed and society divided into classes or orders is dependent upon what is produced, how it is produced, and how the products are exchanged. From this point of view, the final causes of all social changes and political revolutions are to be sought, not in men's brains, not in men's better insights into eternal

truth and justice, but in changes in the modes of production and exchange." [From "Socialism: Utopian and Scientific".]

It's the foundation of all theory and praxis within the context of Scientific Socialism. It's the recognition that regardless of whether we "believe in" production or not, or in the accumulation of labor congealed into machines, tools, merchandise and products, it continues to take place despite our faith, despite our understanding, our ideologies. In fact, in terms of production, our political science and ideologies are nothing other than complicated and - sometimes abstract, sometimes concrete - ways of expressing exactly that: that production, the accumulation of labor with its associated modes of production, exists and acts as a force per se, entirely independent of whether it is reflected by awareness or consciousness. Scientific development or social progress occurs when this is accepted as a prime quality of social existence, built into the geometry of human reality. From that, arises all political ideology. Meaningful reflections of this render consciousness into Consciousness.

Our political landscape is determined by the modes of production and by the relations of groups of people who are defined as "classes" according to the role of each group in the production and distribution process. Regardless of whether one "believes in" Socialism or not, Socialism itself can only be actualized to the degree that political action is guided by Consciousness that is in harmony with the development of the forces of production and which aims to a resolution of the class conflict which is now embedded in Capitalism, ie, the fact that while production is an organized collective process carried out by the co-operation of millions of people together on a daily basis, the fruits of our labor are stolen at the point of production and sold back to us, not to fulfil human needs but in order to raise profits.

This class conflict between the producers (wage workers) and the private (Corporate) owners of industry is what determines the landscape on which all social activity and political struggle that takes place in today's world. Knowing this, helps us create maps of the political landscape in order to navigate our efforts.

When Mao rebuilt the Red Army during and after the Long March, reconstituting it into a political organization, he stipulated that its members shall be community organizers, first, and their role as warriors would only be a secondary or tertiary attribute. This, in essence, was the turning of the great Chinese Revolution from a pro-democracy and patriotic independence movement being misled by fake Left stalinists into a genuine, continent-wide Socialist movement.

Education for the Reds in community relations, class relations, human relations, methods of organization and daily hands-on work in agriculture, civic administration and in community development projects (public hygiene, food distribution, road building, etc), these became with Mao's guidance a way for Socialists to actualize the basic tenet of "serve the people" - military affairs became secondary, whereas all emphasis and effort was invested in helping the population to become self-organized on a new foundation that by-passed feudalism, and to

realize its own strength both in production and in self-defence. It was in this context that the revolution empowered the people (peasants and proletarians together) to overcome the warlords, overcome military occupation by foreign armies, and overthrow its "own" class of capitalists by restoring ownership of all resources back to the community.

And when Mao many decades later came back to say "hey, both society and the party need to be renewed and refreshed through new forms of struggle against authority and to redefine liberty in modern terms" initiating the Cultural Revolution, there it was again, the same commitment to prevent a rigid authority from setting itself into power eternally, a commitment to neutralize and disempower those opportunists and manipulators who "waving the Red flag in order to oppose the Red flag" had used the process of social change to exploit and oppress people and to climb above others.

His concern was almost absurd, one might say, given that the party that he headed already held State power in its hands, and had brought industrial and agricultural production entirely under its guidance; isn't it absurd to launch a revolution against one's "own" State power, one's "own" party officials?

Isn't it ridiculous that the head of State of the largest country in the world did not initiate a new "hire and fire" period to clean out the social services, but instead went directly to the people and said "only you have the power to restore clarity, dignity and socialism to our country, only you can re-orient the State and the party to their prime mission, which is to serve the people. You, we, together, let's force those in power to live up to their socialist pretensions." Foolish and ridiculous, right? But there is wisdom in that foolishness, closer to the true liberation process than any of the pseudo-socialists or authoritarian anarcho-poser, infatuated libertarian or rigidified fake leftist we might find anywhere in place or time.

When Dr. Wilhelm Reich developed his science "of the subjective" element of history, discovering the biological foundations of authoritarianism and sadism, and created a new scientific understanding of the sexual and psychological underpinnings of Fascism, the science of personal change and social revolution was empowered as never before. Soon it will be a eighty years since those excellent scientific projects illuminated the Path for those who are dedicated to liberty, and yet, the work is so advanced that only very few social political organizations were able to integrate its knowledge into their practice and even then, weren't able to do much with it. But progressive popular revolts and insurrections made a great lot of good usage of that knowledge.

Reich gave us a clear understanding through biology, sexuality, psychology, class relations and family function, of how society generates the petty tyrant and the Nazi, how exactly it is that authoritarian Reds turn into a Red version of the Fascists. In that sense, he was the first of the revolutionary Socialists to investigate the similarities, the parallel character structures and oppressive

social activities in which both Fascists and authoritarian fake-socialists engage. The equivalence of Black and Red Fascism, and the liberating, democracy-building potential of a free sexuality became defining concepts in his work that guided the French Revolution of 1968, the US New Left, and many millions of people engaged in the struggle all over the world throughout the decades of the nineteen sixties and seventies.

Fake left, pseudo-socialists, authoritarian Reds, all are without doubt degenerate and poisonous elements of the movement, products of the era of Capitalism and Empire whom we need to identify, to oppose and neutralize at every opportunity.

But the general project of the liberation process, defined in "Leftist" terms such as Socialism, Communism and Anarchism remains valid as ever.

Here, for instance, is one way of articulating the long and the short view of that project, taken from the political papers of an internationalist solidarity anti-war group named KaliMerhaba, published under the title "The Short Statement":

"We seek to unite with [all] people ...who, like us, aim for the re-uniting of all of Humanity's peoples, aim for the destruction of all borders and the disarming of the armies guarding them, and for the final overthrow of the governments arming and training them for that purpose.

We aim for the overthrow of the system of profits and authoritarian power, and for its replacement by the simple functions of ecological Direct Democracy: a system of self-administration and self-government within all of our communities, which are to be run by voluntary Peoples' Councils at all levels, in the schools, the workplace, the neighbourhoods, the villages and towns.

We believe that when the influence of the system of profits and of authoritarian power is removed from both our external and internal (psychological) world, people everywhere are capable of living as equals who can respect and honour each other, and who are capable and willing to make together the major and minor decisions which affect our everyday lives as neighbours, co-workers, colleagues, friends, lovers, comrades."

And further:

"...there are many radical Green-minded individuals and organizations in all the countries of our region ...and abroad, active in the heartlands of the imperialist countries, who wish to see our communities re-united again, on the basis of a unity founded on the global efforts to *replace* the socio-political system of profits. We believe that our people can be re-united meaningfully only on the basis of the shared efforts to replace the political system currently exercised by authoritarian power and capital, with a system of equality and justice for all, which is founded on co-operation (as opposed to capitalist competition and exploitation), and founded on self-government within our communities, instead of government by local

neo-colonialist 'managerial administration teams' appointed by global and regional capital."

It's definitely a mouthful. But worth chewing.

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<http://petros-evdokas.cyprus-org.net/Another-sort-of-Introduction.html>

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Related Readings:

"The State and Revolution"

by V. I. Lenin

<http://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1917/staterev/>

"Duck Dodgers in the 24½th Century"

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0045709/>

"Socialism: Utopian and Scientific"

by Karl Marx and Frederick Engels

<http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1880/soc-utop/index.htm>

"Project for the New American Century"

[http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php?title=Project\\_for\\_the\\_New\\_American\\_...](http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php?title=Project_for_the_New_American_...)

and

[http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Project\\_for\\_the\\_New\\_American\\_C...](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Project_for_the_New_American_C...)

"The Short Statement"

[http://www.cyprusindymedia.org/The\\_Short\\_Statement-KaliMerhaba.htm](http://www.cyprusindymedia.org/The_Short_Statement-KaliMerhaba.htm)

"Better Decide Which Side You're On"

<http://www.tomrobinson.com/trb/songs.htm#bd>

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