

# Book Reviews

***The Real Crash: America's Coming Bankruptcy—How to Save Yourself and Your Country***, by Peter D. Schiff, hardcover, 335 pp, \$29.99, ISBN 978-1-250-00447-5, New York, N.Y., St. Martin's Press, 2012.

Political commentator Peter Schiff predicted the crash of 2008 and predicts much worse for our future. Politicians, with the exception of former Rep. Ron Paul, are unwilling to speak about the reality of America's government-inflated bubble and the course we are on to catastrophic collapse.

Schiff explains the history of how we got here, with the Progressive era Constitutional Amendments starting with the 16th Amendment in 1913. This was also the year in which Congress created the Federal Reserve. It was the foundation for the vast expansion of the federal government.

Schiff attacks the premise of the individual income tax: that government should take a portion of wages. "This implicitly values all labor at nothing," Schiff writes. He notes that if you invest \$100 in capital and get back \$120, you are only taxed on the \$20 gain, but you get to deduct the cost. But if you spend all day working and get \$120, you are taxed on the entire \$120. Your cost, that is your day of labor, is worth \$0 in the eyes of the government. Income tax is considered progressive in that it falls most heavily on those who can afford to pay. Schiff thinks that it is truly the most regressive tax that we have because it taxes labor far more heavily than it does capital.

One particularly interesting section is titled "Forgive Me Father, For I Have Earned." In forcing people to expose intimate details of their lives to the IRS, income tax effectively overturns the Fourth Amendment, the Fifth Amendment, and the Seventh Amendment. Even before the recent scandals involving the IRS using tax audits to intimidate conservative groups, Schiff notes that the First Amendment's freedom of speech and right to petition the government is curbed by the income tax.

Schiff goes as far as to say that "because of the income tax, the federal

government now knows more about American citizens than the Supreme Soviet ever knew about citizens of the USSR."

Schiff exposes the biggest fraud regarding Social Security, the claim that it is an "entitlement" program. The basis on which Social Security was sold to the people, as an insurance or savings program, was bogus. If you buy insurance, your premiums entitle you to benefits. But those who pay their Social Security taxes are not entitled to anything. Many people do not realize that Social Security was actually declared unconstitutional by the First Circuit Court of Appeals in 1937 in *Davis v. Boston and Maine R.R. Co.* and *Davis v. Edison Illuminating Co. of Boston*. Schiff calls the First Circuit's decision the best ever rendered. Unfortunately it was overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court. Schiff's analysis of the situation is worth the price of the book.

In calling Social Security a Ponzi scheme in a 2011 presidential debate, Texas Gov. Rick Perry was derided as a simpleton and attacked as an enemy of seniors—not only by the liberal media, but also by Republican frontrunner Mitt Romney. Schiff explains how Social Security is indeed a Ponzi scheme with one difference, and that is that people had a choice about whether to invest with Charles Ponzi or Bernie Madoff. They have no choice about participating in Social Security.

AAPS has long said that Social Security and Medicare are indeed unconstitutional and that they should be abolished. Peter Schiff agrees with this assessment. He says that they cannot be saved and recommends giving Social Security a slow death. He writes, "The cynic in me believes that the government's secret plan to 'save' Social Security is to bankrupt all those hoping to retire on it."

He explains: "since most people look to Social Security merely to supplement their retirement, if enough money is lost in stock and real estate markets, if interest rates remain near zero, and the cost of living continues to rise faster than Social Security cost of living adjustments, most Americans will not be able to afford to retire."

Though working seniors will be

collecting benefits, Schiff notes that they will be paying taxes on those benefits. "Those who have earned income will continue paying Social Security taxes until the day they die."

Schiff paints a grim picture indeed of our country's financial situation. To continue on our current path, he states, will lead to a currency and sovereign debt crisis that will destroy our economy and impoverish the vast majority of Americans. Proposals for saving us from that outcome are so drastic that no politicians are willing to talk about them—yet. However, we cannot hope to save ourselves and our country without acknowledging the truth about the situation.

Schiff also makes some useful suggestions to help prepare yourself to survive.

**Jane M. Orient, M.D.**

Tucson, Ariz.

***A Surgeon's Heart: the Calling***, by Robert W. Sewell, M.D., Janna Franzwa Canard, ed., 450 pp, softback, ISBN-13: 978-0615956251, pub. Robert Sewell, M.D., 2014.

Dr. Robert Sewell said he was going to write four books—certainly an ambitious plan. This is the first to be published, and if this is the prototype, he will do well.

*A Surgeon's Heart* is an entertaining story about a young man and his journey to become a pediatric heart surgeon. Jack Roberts is the older of two brothers. His younger brother was found at birth to have a congenital heart abnormality called Tetralogy of Fallot, prompting immediate surgical intervention. Fortunately, this was very successful, and his brother Ben thrived under the care of his mother and his brother. Jack's dedication to becoming a surgeon is the reason for the title and the theme of the whole book.

What is the meaning of "the calling?" The difference between an occupation and a calling or vocation is the key to understanding why and how Jack Roberts did what he did throughout his life. An occupation is a job in a regular

workplace where a person accomplishes a task and receives some compensation. A vocation is much more. The word is derived from the Latin *vocare*, meaning "to call." The word has a distinctly religious background, and was frequently used in the Middle Ages to describe individuals who joined religious orders. Today it is mostly applied to professionals, with implications explained by Elbert Tuttle in a commencement address at Emory University:

The professional man is in essence one who provides services. But the service he renders is something more than that of a laborer, even the skilled laborer. It is a service that wells up from the entire complex of his personality.... In a very real sense his professional service cannot be separate from his personal being. He has no goods to sell, no land to till; his only asset is himself.

It turns out that there is no right price for service, for what is a share of a man worth? If he does not contain the quality of integrity he is worthless. If he does, he is priceless. The value is either nothing or it is infinite.

The life of Jack Roberts encompasses all of the aspects of a professional, from his childhood throughout his education and into his practice of cardiac surgery. His journey is not easy. There are bumps all along the road, and his emotions are tested severely as he tries to bring along his son (stepson) David through the trials and obstacles that he himself faced.

David has an unplanned conversation with an older surgeon who reminisces about the evolution of surgical care and the changing attitude that had developed over the years. The older man describes how he discouraged his own children from entering the medical field—yet he supports David's plans to follow in his father's steps as a cardiac surgeon: "I believe that your father is right, it should be a calling."

Dr. Sewell's book is a nostalgic, delightful recall for older surgeons, an accurate description of changes in the hospital environment, a critical review of the influence of insurance companies, government, and to some degree fellow physicians, as well as an entertaining story of a dedicated man and his family in our turbulent world. It's an enjoyable and worthwhile read.

**W. Daniel Jordan, M.D.**  
Atlanta, Ga.

***It is Dangerous to Be Right When the Government Is Wrong: the Case for Personal Freedom***, by Judge Andrew P. Napolitano, hardback, 283 pp, \$24.99, ISBN 978-1-59555-350-8, Nashville, Tenn., Thomas Nelson, 2011.

*"More guns mean less crime."*  
--Judge Andrew P. Napolitano

*"Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun."*  
--Mao Zedong

*"Rent control appears to be the most efficient technique presently known to destroy a city—except for bombing."*  
--Socialist economist Assar Lindbeck

The long history of the world is an epic battle for personal freedom against tyranny, states Judge Andrew P. Napolitano, the best-selling author of six books on the Constitution and freedom, including *Lies the Government Told You* and *A Nation of Sheep*. He has been called the Thomas Paine of our time.

Napolitano believes the government's sole moral obligation is to preserve freedom. Safe but not free is not acceptable. Instead, he says, government steals our property, liberty, and dignity, and we must hold it accountable for its violations of our Natural Rights. He explains the difference between Natural Law, which serves to protect our Natural Rights, and human-made law that is promulgated by governments.

Napolitano says that all humans possess Natural Rights as part of our humanity. Libertarians recognize and protect them through their "non-aggression principle." Even though a scheme of Natural Rights is enshrined in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, Napolitano reminds us that the government doesn't give them to us, the government doesn't pay for them, and the government can't take them away.

A titanic battle is being waged between adherents of legal Positivism and believers in the Natural Law, or between Big Government and individual rights, Napolitano states. Positivism holds that the law is whatever the government says it is, or that laws are those commands that people can be forced to obey.

Napolitano exposes the Supreme Court's assaults on private property and many of the numerous unconstitutional acts passed by Congress, beginning with the 1798 Alien and Sedition Acts. These laws have multiplied over the years. For example, more than 1,138 federal laws

today regulate the institution of marriage.

He says nothing can replace gold to ensure our economic growth, prosperity, wealth, safety, and happiness. The Federal Reserve Act of 1913 established the Fed, whose unconstitutional printing of fiat paper money has paid for our foreign empire and our many wars. Napolitano notes that during this time we have seen "American production diminished, debt rise, inflation wreck people's savings, the boom-and-bust cycle wreck the economy, a widening gap between the rich and the poor, and the value of the dollar drop by 93 percent."

The National Organ Transplant Act of 1984 gave the government a monopoly on organs for transplant. It has penalties that include a \$50,000 fine and a felony prison term of 5 years. Today, after more than 25 years, 108,000 Americans are waiting for an organ and 13 die daily. In 2008 alone, almost 7,000 died. The problem worsens year by year. Napolitano asserts that all of this suffering and death could be eliminated by allowing market forces to operate.

Our senseless wars and our useless foreign empire not only mean the death of our liberty, but they bankrupt our savings accounts, our cradles, and our sense of human decency, Napolitano writes. He asks, "If the government can't deliver the mail, how can it be expected to bring democracy to Iraq and Afghanistan?"

The "wars" against poverty, drugs, and terrorism are all tragic failures, he contends. For example, the "War on Drugs" has cost more than \$1 trillion and led to the incarceration of 2.3 million Americans, 60 percent for non-violent crimes. Approximately 50,000 SWAT raids are carried out against American homes each year, violating every civil liberty we have (or had).

Our right to keep and bear arms is a Natural Right, Napolitano writes, but beginning with the National Firearms Act of 1934, and continuing into 2013, Progressives in government repeatedly have tried to disarm the nation's individuals and seize more power for government.

The 2001 Congress passed the "Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act," or, the USA PATRIOT Act. It is an all-out assault on our rights to privacy, due process, habeas corpus, free speech, and freedom from illegal searches and seizures, in Napolitano's view.

The same government that has bankrupted Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, the post office, Amtrak, and

nearly everything it has managed is now forcing us into "ObamaCare." Napolitano tells us that under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, medical decisions with your doctor will be regulated and monitored by the government.

What can we do? Unjust laws have led to the collapse of our liberty. Napolitano says Americans need to wake up, and do everything in our power to right the wrongs and restore our freedom. Our Natural Rights cannot be changed or abolished, but government can. He challenges us to engage in peaceful disobedience to unjust laws and, if necessary—as the colonists did in 1776—alter or abolish the government and establish a new system of laws.

**Jerome C. Arnett, Jr., M.D.**  
Helvetia, W.Va.

***It's Getting Better All the Time: Greatest Trends of the Last 100 Years***, by Stephen Moore and Julian Simon, hardcover, 293 pp, \$23.19, ISBN 1-882577-96-5, Washington, D.C., Cato Institute, 2000.

Julian Simon had a theory that turned out to be true, even though influential forces believed the opposite: that population growth produces the most important ingredient for progress of the human race—human creativity and ingenuity. He was called a cornucopian and an economist optimist, to contrast him with the Malthusian pessimists.

Stephen Moore was his student, and this book is his contribution to Simon's oeuvre of scholarship. The sixth book or monograph to be published posthumously, this represents the last of Simon's manuscripts.

As an economist at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Simon developed a comprehensive approach to economic history, tracking trends in human welfare over long time spans, using the value of an hour of work, or some equivalent, as his metric.

This book uses Simon's signature approach to analyzing trends in things that matter, based on actual data. Simon and Moore show improvements in life expectancy, infant mortality, child mortality, maternal mortality, death rates, death rates at various ages, incidence of selected diseases, disappearing diseases, dental health, frequency of baths and personal care, consumption of good food, average heights, gross domestic product, average income, per capita GDP, U.S. household wealth, income mobility, recreational expenditures, education

levels, accidental injury or death, work injuries, deaths from weather, oil spills, commodity prices in constant dollars, land use, charitable giving, female-to-male earnings, women-owned businesses, women in Congress, degrees to women, black income per capita, percentage of slaves or serfs in the world, and imports and exports.

It is quite a contrast to the constant noise from the oligarchs and elites who claim that life is terrible, people are victims, and more central planning, state projects, and bureaucratic growth are essential to reverse the supposed trend. It's as though Thomas Malthus is a Count Dracula, and keeps waking up every night even though during the day things are, as the book says and shows, getting better all the time.

Simon didn't leave much untouched, since he did 265 analyses. His larger works are just expansions of the methodology he demonstrates in this book. Even a noneconomist has to love his beautiful graphical presentations.

The monumental contributions that Simon made in his short life—he died in 1998 at age 65—had an enormous impact on economic historical scholarship and economic theory. They are especially remarkable considering that Simon suffered from severe chronic depression and could only work productively a few hours a day.

Rita Simon, his widow, said in the foreword that she was grateful to Moore for putting this book together. So am I.

**John Dale Dunn, M.D., J.D.**  
Brownwood, Texas

***Cracking Health Costs: How to Cut Your Company's Costs and Provide Employees Better Care*** by Tom Emerick and Al Lewis, hardback, 198 pp, \$45, ISBN 978-1-118-63648-0, N.J., John Wiley & Sons, 2013.

This book, by the former vice-president of global benefit design for Walmart, smashes a lot of myths about "wellness." Emerick will probably be hated by high-priced consultants trying to sell corporations on expensive interventions that are supposed to lower costs in the long run by keeping employees healthy.

As Emerick points out, "While the expense is always in hard dollars, the savings generally require some kind of reconciliation or outcomes report that's laden with assumptions and fallacies." He states that the same assumptions and fallacies permeate the works of policy wonks prescribing healthcare reform nostrums for the whole country. He refers

to the prequel for this book, *Why Nobody Believes the Numbers*, which points out that most of the returns on investment (ROIs) are "rather transparently (and in many cases, hilariously) made up."

Emerick does an excellent job of explaining what purveyors of evidence-based medicine often neglect. Advocates of screening generally forget about the tremendously low predictive value of a positive test in a low-risk population.

Co-author Al Lewis, an expert on evaluation, determined that increased access to physicians increased costs without reducing the emergency and inpatient care. He demolished the constantly repeated assertion that expanding Medicaid will decrease costs by looking at the "natural experiment" in North Carolina compared with South Carolina. The former has dramatically increased physician access for Medicaid enrollees since the late 1990s, while South Carolina has not. Nevertheless, South Carolina's Medicaid admission rate has been lower than North Carolina's since 2001.

Chronic disease management, predictive modeling, on-site clinics, and 24/7 nurse triage lines are other canards that Emerick and Lewis confront with actual data.

The authors are not opposed to having a healthy work environment. In fact, they think that a fitness center and good food in the cafeteria are particularly excellent ideas. The main benefit, however, is to attract employees who are interested in taking good care of themselves.

My favorite parts include a chapter titled, "Is Our New Delivery Model Déjà Vu All Over Again?" It includes a clip-and-save list of questions that employees should be trained to ask their doctors before agreeing to any non-routine test. (Medical students should study that too!)

Emerick pioneered the company-sponsored Centers of Excellence model, in which the company deals directly with centers instead of going through benefits managers and third-party payers. They assess the quality of care by looking at the rate of unnecessary surgeries as well as surgical outcomes and accuracy of diagnoses.

The book is fast-paced, lucid, and frequently entertaining. Although designed for employers and benefits managers, its analysis, which is soundly grounded in common sense and actual observation, is far superior to most of what you will find in the *New England Journal of Medicine* and *JAMA* by people like Donald Berwick and Ezekiel Emanuel. I agree with most of the conclusions, although the

advice concerning "ObamaCare" could be invalidated by the Administration's constant changes in the rules.

The book is pricey, but it might save corporations a lot of money. A blog subscription is available on Kindle for \$0.99/month from Amazon.

**Jane M. Orient, M.D.**  
Tucson, Ariz.

***Breakthrough: Our Guerilla War to Expose Fraud and Save Democracy***, by James O'Keefe, hardcover, 352 pp, \$26, ISBN 9781476706177, New York, N.Y., Simon & Schuster, 2013

*Breakthrough* is a blow-by-blow story of James O'Keefe's exposés of the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, better known as ACORN; Planned Parenthood; voter fraud potential; misuse of government power; and major media misfeasance. The book reads like a detective thriller, except it's all true.

All readers will learn from O'Keefe's experiences, especially these days when high government officials have pledged to squash those who disagree with them or their often illegal agendas. Physicians may well become high-profile targets again as government healthcare schemes continue to fall apart. As with other Marxists, their plans were perfect and couldn't fail; when they do fail, the "wreckers" are targeted by the regime for supposedly causing the failures.

O'Keefe started his citizen journalist career in 2009 by toppling the mighty oak organizations that ACORN and its branches had planted.

He credits his partner in the busts, Hannah Giles, with creating the concept in a series of FaceBook exchanges. Twenty-five years old at the time, O'Keefe decked himself out as a pimp, and 20-year-old Giles played the role of prostitute. They visited multiple ACORN offices in the Eastern U.S. and later in California, surreptitiously recording videos of the encounters. They sought advice for how to structure their prostitution business to minimize tax consequences and paperwork. Since they planned to import under-age prostitutes from Central America, one ACORN employee advised them to list the employees as "dependents" on their tax return.

Andrew Breitbart first posted only one ACORN video on his BigGovernment.com website (p 64). The president of ACORN promptly "claimed that all ACORN employees 'undergo rigorous training'

and are expected to 'comply with high standards of ethical behavior and compliance with the law'" (p 63). Then, more videos were sequentially released over several days. ACORN officials first attempted additional rebuttals, and then tried to save face. The head of the NAACP tweeted, "We're being out-Alinskyed by the anti-Alinskys" (p 67), alluding to Saul Alinsky's Rule No. 4: "Make the enemy live up to their own book of rules."

A few paper cuts of blood loss from initial news coverage deepened to thoracic aorta rupture so quickly that both houses of Congress passed the "Defund ACORN Act," with veto-proof margins of 345-75 in the House and 83-7 in the Senate, "before *The New York Times* even assigned a reporter to the story" (p 79).

"For years, the major media have chosen not to scrutinize the welfare state. You need proof? They let a thoroughly corrupt organization like ACORN sail through the first forty dubious years of its existence with impunity. In fact, so vulnerable was ACORN to the light of day that it took a pair of twentysomethings with a Sony Handycam a few days to pull the whole damn thing down" (p 96).

O'Keefe credits Andrew Breitbart with the observation that conservatives "may have their own media but they don't create the news" (p 58). O'Keefe recognized, "For me to add new information into the ether was to invite attack" (p 59). "Content is king."

Breitbart himself sounds like a frenetic person, always on the phone, texting, and coming up with new ideas. When I met with O'Keefe more than two years ago, he was relaxed, quiet, and did not interrupt our conversation for a phone call or text once.

In January 2010, O'Keefe and three young associates "planned to test the truth of Louisiana Democrat Senator Mary Landrieu's claim that "Tea Party members could not get through to her office with telephone calls about her Obamacare vote" (p 105). She said her phone lines had been "jammed for weeks." O'Keefe's plan was to engage the reception staff in conversation about the tied-up phone lines and get staffers on tape "talking about how they were neglecting their constituents" (p 134).

Although later accused of entering the senator's federal office building under "false pretenses," O'Keefe notes that all three team members, including O'Keefe himself, showed their real driver's licenses. O'Keefe dressed casually in khakis and a button-down shirt. The two other members of the team wore hard hats and yellow/green striped reflector

vests bought that same morning at Home Depot; Basel wore a tool belt without any tools in it. None of the security guards or the U.S. marshals questioned them about their outfits.

Basel went off-script when he told Landrieu's receptionist, "We're looking to fix the phones. Can we check the phones to make sure they're working?" The receptionist told the balding man in the next cubicle, "They're not telephone repairmen." They both laughed.

Outside the building, the crew was detained at gunpoint by government agents and whisked away in chains to a drab prison building. O'Keefe was handcuffed; his ankles were shackled and chained. After many hours of interrogations without anything to eat or drink, he was told without explanation that it was in his "best interest to sign" a Miranda rights waiver; he didn't have enough wits left to ask, and signed. Later he realized he shouldn't have said or signed anything. He admits, "A nightmare day in windowless cages had shrunk my will to nothing" (p 116).

This sounds like the experience of doctors falsely persecuted, prosecuted, and imprisoned for Medicare fraud.

*The New York Times* trumpeted O'Keefe's arrest on the front page. "The editors may have been slow to report our ACORN sting, but they made up for it reporting our arrest" (p 129). Although O'Keefe was originally charged with a felony, the charges were refiled to a misdemeanor by the prosecutor because no felony had been committed.

O'Keefe admits that his crew had not adequately role-played the possible scenarios that might occur in the senator's office. They hadn't yet worked out the Project Veritas rule, "If it feels wrong, abort and get out safely."

His computer and cell phone were illegally confiscated. Some of his private information on these devices was leaked to the media by government officials, an unethical attempt to prejudice the case against O'Keefe. Government agents also destroyed the evidence stored in the video camera, preventing him from using it in his defense.

Two years later, the prosecuting U.S. attorney resigned in disgrace because several of his top lawyers, including the one who handled O'Keefe's case, admitted using false names to post comments critical of their targets on the major New Orleans newspaper's website (p 134).

O'Keefe has produced more substantial change for public truth-telling than other decades-old organizations

that have spent thousands of times more money. O’Keefe and his organization ([www.projectveritas.com/](http://www.projectveritas.com/)) have earned my support.

**Robert J. Čihák, M.D.**  
Brier, Wash.

***Prime Time Propaganda: the True Hollywood Story of How the Left Took Over Your TV***, by Ben Shapiro, softcover, 389 pp, \$26.99, ISBN 978-0-06-103477-3, Broadside Books, 2012.

***Bullies: How the Left’s Culture of Fear and Intimidation Silences America***, by Ben Shapiro, hardcover, 323 pp, \$25, ISBN 978-1-4767-0999-4, New York, N.Y.: Simon & Schuster, 2013.

Andrew Breitbart died two years ago, and his untimely death was a great loss to the conservative cause. He was unique, and part of his charisma was his wild and happy warrior spirit.

In his only book, *Righteous Indignation: Excuse Me While I Save the World!*, a combination biography and war story, he outlined what would work in modern-day political battles. He has left a legacy and mentored others in his style and tactics. Ben Shapiro is now editor-at-large for Breitbart.com, one of the web entities that Breitbart created to expose the hypocrisy and bad ideas of the Left.

Shapiro graduated summa cum laude from the University of California at Los Angeles and cum laude from Harvard Law, but his business is writing and reporting. He was at age 17 the youngest nationally syndicated columnist in the U.S. He has written five books, of which these are the first and the most recent.

*Prime Time* is about Hollywood, written as only a native Southern Californian could. Shapiro gives cogent explanations for how TV became and stays liberal, how TV comedy trashes conservatism, how TV drama glorifies Leftist concepts, how marketing and advertising myths are used to silence conservative criticism of TV programming, and how government has influenced Hollywood TV to become its lapdog and cheering section.

He finishes with an explanation of how TV became big government’s public relations firm and how TV liberals recruit youth. Then, so as not to leave you too depressed, he concludes with a section on how to make TV less Leftist. Shapiro says it can and must be done, since TV is still a major trend-setter.

In a great trip into TV history, he names his favorite conservative dramas

and comedy programming. His picks are “Gunsmoke,” “King of the Hill,” “Walker,” “Everybody Loves Raymond,” “Lost,” “24” for four seasons, “Cosby,” “Leave it to Beaver,” “The Waltons,” and “Dragnet.” He doesn’t bother to discuss news and commentary programs. He challenges the reader to name one Sunday political commentary show that isn’t dominated by Leftists.

How timely that Shapiro would look at the recent focus on bullying in his book *Bullies*, in which he discusses the nature of the cultural threats conservatives face, and the bully gangs that have developed in American culture. These include the media, academia, unions, and political parties. There are anti-American anti-patriot bullies, race bullies, class-warfare bullies, sex/morality/lifestyle warfare bullies, enviro and green agenda bullies, and anti-religious bullies. The Tea Party, for example, has been vilified as racist, homophobic, violent, jingoistic, and anti-government, and now the public perception of the Tea Party is framed by bullies.

The Left has created a political environment that suppresses conservative, religious people. Labels, epithets, and character assassination are the response of Leftists, Shapiro writes, to any objections or dissent from anyone who might not agree with their cant about multiculturalism, morality, politics, and government or social policy. Whereas the Left pushes its agenda with no retreat or compromise, Shapiro points out that conservatives just don’t have an inclination to fight, so they lose, now, yesterday, and tomorrow. That is why the political spectrum’s slide to the Left continues with few pauses, never reversing.

I think Shapiro picked the right enemies to name, and as a foot-soldier in the Andrew Breitbart campaign and now as an heir to the warrior armor he suggests what needs to be done. Conservatives need to counter the tactics that the Left learned from Saul Alinsky, a communist agitator from Chicago. Alinsky listed his tactics in his well-read canon for Leftist agitators, *Rules for Radicals*:

1. Power is not only what you have but what the enemy thinks you have.
2. Never go outside the experience of your people.
3. Wherever possible go outside the experience of the enemy. Cause confusion, fear, and retreat.
4. Make the enemy live up to its own book of rules.
5. Ridicule is man’s most potent weapon. It is almost impossible to counterattack ridicule. Also it infuriates the opposition, who then react to your advantage.

6. A good tactic is one that your people enjoy.

7. A tactic that drags on too long becomes a drag.

8. Keep the pressure on with different tactics and actions, and utilize all events of the time and space for your purpose.

9. The threat is usually more terrifying than the thing itself.

10. The major premise for tactics is the development of operations that will maintain a constant pressure upon the opposition.

11. If you push a negative hard enough it will break through into its counter side.

12. The price of the successful attack is a constructive alternative. Don’t get trapped by an admission or an offer of agreement; stay on the attack.

13. Pick the target, freeze it, personalize it, and polarize it. Attack persons and freeze them so they can’t blame someone else or make an effective excuse. Allow no middle ground; everything is black or white, evil or good.

Breitbart’s rules, which guide his heir Shapiro, are:

1. Don’t be afraid to go into enemy territory.
2. Expose the Left for who they are—in their own words.
3. Be open about your secrets.
4. Don’t let the Complex use its PC [politically correct] lexicon to characterize you and shape the narrative.
5. Control your own story—don’t let the Complex do it.
6. Ubiquity is key.
7. Engage in the social arena.
8. Don’t pretend you know more than you do.
9. Don’t let them pretend to know more than they do.
10. Ridicule is man’s most potent weapon.

I frequently meet conservatives who are intimidated and demoralized. They don’t realize that the successes of the Left are the product of a determined multi-decade effort to take down capitalism and replace it with reprehensible, invidious, and cruel socialism. Such a thing, going back so far, will not go away without a fight. Conservatives must commit to a fight or lose.

People who are backed into a corner and inclined to be weak should consider the path of the courageous. Fortitude makes all the virtues possible. And Shapiro provides needed tools.

I think Breitbart would approve of these books.

**John Dale Dunn, M.D., J.D.**  
Brownwood, Tex.

*What is the cause of human evil?*

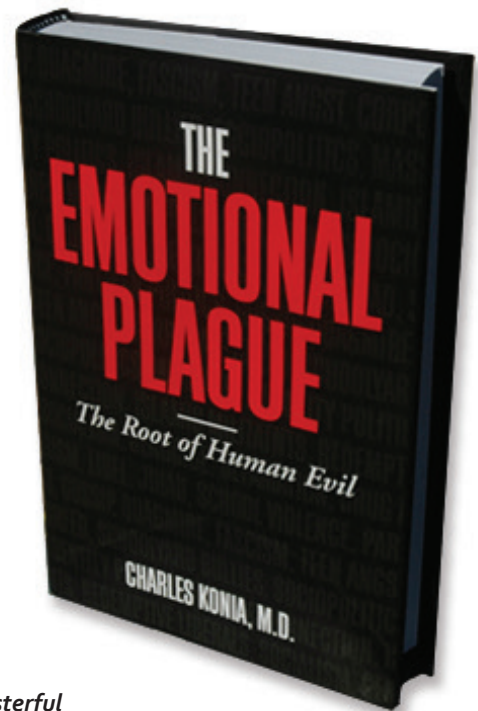
*How do liberalism, our current social structure and the character structure of the modern individual interact to cause the decline of freedom and responsibility?*

*Explore the answers to these critical questions in the book*

# THE EMOTIONAL PLAGUE



*by Charles Konia, M.D.*



**Kelsey Grammer:** "THE EMOTIONAL PLAGUE is a strongly written and penetrating look at modern evil in today's world. From understanding 'the emotional plague' and its symptoms, society can go a long way in preventing the untold violence that has become so common in today's society. Additionally in this book, the author masterfully demonstrates that what we see as politically correct thought is in actuality evil masquerading as thought police that endangers all free people. While my friends in Hollywood may not agree with its conclusions, I would urge them and all Americans to read and reread this book."

**Zell Miller:** "Today's world is confronted with dangers and evil that knows no national boundary and has no rational explanation. From random school shootings to Islamic fascism, we face a decline in our society that dwarfs anything previous generations have experienced. Dr. Charles Konia in his masterful work, THE EMOTIONAL PLAGUE explores how these dangers have evolved over time and offers an insight of unparalleled expertise in examining and explaining the mind of such individuals. I am pleased to see how he shows that today's so-called liberals (or as he calls them pseudo-liberals) have betrayed liberal thought and principles. This is a book that anyone involved in government, law enforcement, or parenting should read, learn from and act upon."

**Mark Furman:** "THE EMOTIONAL PLAGUE by Dr. Charles Konia is a book that law enforcement officers and prosecutors should welcome. It examines the causes of root evil and the senseless actions that law enforcement encounters daily. Written by a psychiatrist it is hard hitting and has none of the leftist agenda we see put out by others in Dr. Konia's field. Rather, Dr. Konia addresses the issues and doesn't attempt to blame society or law enforcement for the evil that is committed. He has a firm understanding of evil and this book is timely and welcome."

**Patricia Heaton:** "THE EMOTIONAL PLAGUE is a must read book for any American concerned with the decline of our politics and social fabric. The author looks at and identifies the causes of our social decline as a country and how it should be addressed. Any American should read this book and ponder its message before voting."

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