



GLUTATHIONE, THE “MASTER ANTIOXIDANT,” AND A RESEARCHER WHO PIONEERED IN ITS UNDERSTANDING

by *Joe Doran*

The Trends Journal has featured numerous stories noting how government authorities and pharmaceuticals attempted to discourage Americans from using cheap medications and proven natural supplements to improve their health and immune systems, throughout the COVID War.

Vitamin D, zinc, melatonin, N-Acetylcysteine (NAC) and methylated B vitamins joined cheap drugs like ivermectin and hydroxychloroquine in being discouraged or even banned from therapeutic use or immune system health.

As we noted in [“MELATONIN AND METHYL B12 ON FDA HIT LIST?”](#) (22 Jun 2021), the government has considered banning or restricting common supplements.

NAC, which supports glutathione production, made the government's hitlist, and was so targeted that Amazon actually banned its sale for a period of time.

*With that in mind, we thought **TJ** readers would be interested in learning about the pioneering work of Dr. Albert Crum regarding Glutathione, which has been termed a "master antioxidant" of the human body.*

*Dr. Crum happens to reside in the Hudson Valley area, the home base of Gerald Celente, who himself has long been an advocate of natural health practices, including contributing to the 1988 book *Natural Healing* by Jack Soltanoff.*

—Joe Doran

The Northern Dutchess and Southern Columbia corridor is rightly known as one of the most beautiful regions of the Hudson Valley, and the world.

But might it also be recognized one day for spreading the word about a one-of-a-kind natural immune system nutrition booster and glutathione precursor that supports many health conditions?

It will if Joseph V Cassarino has anything to say about it.

ProlImmune[®] - Immune Formulation 200[®], is a patent-pending dietary supplement that Joseph understands can make a difference in improving the health of just about anyone.

The story of how this longtime entrepreneur came to be involved with the scientist and medical doctor who researched and developed the supplement, is an interesting one, indeed.

A Master Antioxidant, And A Happy Accident

When Joseph met Dr. Albert Crum (M.D. MS, D.Sci-Hon) in Rhinebeck, NY several years ago, he was intrigued by the man and his professional work, and Dr. Crum was

impressed with Joseph's business accomplishments and knowledge of the sciences. A friendship and professional relationship formed.

Dr. Crum, who earned a degree from Harvard Medical School, had gained renown both for his biochemistry research and a concern for humanity. He was awarded a Harvard Medical Student Research Fellowship and merited Honor grades for his research, and holds a Master of Science degree from New York University, and a Doctor of Science (Hon.) degree from the University of Redlands (CA).

Dr. Crum has been called into counsel or Audiences with Pope John Paul II, now Pope Saint John Paul II, with His Holiness the Dalai Lama, and many other world leaders. In 1974, Dr. Crum, a nonsectarian, was awarded the Pope John XXIII (now Pope Saint John XXIII) Gold Medal with a sacred embedded Relic of Pope Saint John XXIII. He served as co-Chair of the U.S. Coordinating Committee Supporting the Nomination of His Holiness the Dalai Lama XIV of Tibet for the Nobel Peace Prize. Dr. Crum is also a 2018 Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award recipient.

"Dr. Crum made his groundbreaking scientific discovery over many years of laboratory research," says Joseph. "ProImmune is a scientific formula that he worked on to discover glutathione synthesis, and Dr. Crum's motivation was that he always felt that there should be a way, where the [human] cell could make its own glutathione exactly as nature intended."

Joseph, an avid practitioner of a healthy life-style had never heard of glutathione.

"The bottom line is, the average person has no awareness of glutathione. I didn't, before I met Dr. Crum four years ago. I'm 65 years old. I'm a health oriented person. I eat, breathe and live a certain lifestyle. I exercise every day. I'm in nature every day. I do yoga, I do Qigong (a part of traditional Chinese medicine that involves exercises to optimize energy within the body). I drink healthful green juices in the morning, and salads for lunch. Mostly! Occasional junk food? Of course. But I'm a very health oriented person.

"I am in nature-hugging trees often to connect to the ions and the energy of the earth. You know, all of this health oriented stuff. But I did not know how important

glutathione is, or what it is. I am discovering that most people do not know what glutathione is or how toxins and stress inside the cells called oxidative stress, cause cells to decay or die, and that glutathione is the peptide that helps the body reduce decay.”

Joseph learned that glutathione is so important to the body and immune system and general health, that it is referred to as the “master antioxidant.” And Dr. Crum, funded in part by grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), was on the cutting edge of glutathione research.

Dr. Crum eventually [discovered a crucial combination of natural precursor nutrients](#) that could help the body manufacture optimum amounts of glutathione at the cellular level. That discovery resulted in ProImmune Immune Formulation 200®.

Learning about Dr. Crum’s work was a game changer for Joseph. But the friendship that developed was also fortuitous for the innovative researcher.

Joseph had a lifetime’s worth of experience as an entrepreneur. He created successful businesses including a tri-state photography company, a cellular communications startup and a casino game design company, as well as venturing into real estate development.

“In the early 90’s, after hiring a Doctor of Telephony, I designed and created the first wireless mobile emergency communicator,” says Joseph. “What I did is, I piggybacked off of a national, wireless data company. So, I had a national grid and I paid them a penny per pack of data.”

The handheld product could be used to type a message which went to an emergency command center, which then could call first responders or a home phone number, if needed. The company Joseph founded was eventually sold to Blackberry.

Dr. Crum enlisted Joseph to assist with the licensing division as a business consultant, and he was later selected to obtain global distribution rights of ProImmune.

Perhaps as importantly, Joseph began using it himself.

Personal Experience with a Revolutionary Product

Joseph credits Prolmmune with taking his already pretty rigorous health and fitness lifestyle to another level. When he came down with COVID, he was able to avoid a hospital visit, and fight off the virus without much trouble.

“I never even walked into a hospital and I am 65 years old. I attribute that to a very strong immune system. And that’s what Prolmmune does. Prolmmune builds the immune system. Why? Because it’s reducing the oxidative stress, it’s reducing the free radicals. It’s reducing the toxins. I take it. My wife takes it. My family and friends take it. So, I have personal experience with it.

“My brother-in-law gave it to his 80-year-old father, and his father experienced significant improvements. So as far as experience, I can personally vouch for it, because I know it works.”

While there are products out there that support glutathione production, such as NAC (N-Acetyl-Cysteine, an artificial glutathione precursor), according to the research and scientific reports, they do not allow for optimum natural glutathione levels and immune system benefits, says Joseph.

“The reason Dr. Crum’s product works, is his discovery that it's best when the body can make its own glutathione. By making the glutathione inside the cell, and only as much glutathione as the cell needs to reduce the toxins and the oxidative stress, discharging what it doesn’t need, it actually is the most efficient and effective implementation, over any method of glutathione supplementation, and I learned this by sitting in the meetings with Dr. Crum’s legal rep.”

A New Mission to Spread Immune Health From Rhinebeck To The World

Having experienced the benefits of a special and innovative health product, Joseph was honored when Dr. Crum eventually tapped him to head marketing and distribution for Prolmmune.

Joseph says he's finding fulfillment in leveraging his previous experiences building successful companies, on a project that can change people's lives so dramatically for the better.

He has developed an ecommerce website, thebestimmunesupport.com, that was reviewed and approved by an FDA subject-matter expert for compliance. It provides clear information about the benefits of natural glutathione creation, and offers a streamlined purchasing experience and discounts.

"I put so much education concerning the product onto the website," says Joseph. "There's the science, the data, the links to the NIH health report that all prove the importance of what glutathione does and the science of what Dr. Crum's discovery provides for optimal glutathione replenishment."

Joseph notes that although ProImmune is a proven product that has already sold in the millions of dollars, many people still haven't heard of it. And that's his mission.

"A lot of people are buying NAC or something else, because they've never heard that there's a product that's superior to NAC. The bottom line is, the average person has no awareness of glutathione. I didn't, before I met Dr. Crum four years ago. I didn't know how important glutathione is, or what it is."

ProImmune® - Immune Formulation 200® will soon be available for purchase on Amazon. But Joseph notes his [website](https://thebestimmunesupport.com) is a great place to acquire ProImmune any time.

"For people to discover the product...to discover the benefits of glutathione, that's the reason I'm doing this," relates Joseph. "I'm doing this for outreach. I believe we're all one, we're all connected. And I feel it's my purpose to expose the news to the public...to humanity...that there's a product out there, that if you do the research and you understand what this particular precursor does, this particular product, everybody would be taking it."

Of course, no single supplement, absent an overall commitment to a healthy lifestyle, can work miracles, Joseph acknowledges. But he knows from his own experience and research that when incorporated as part of an overall health regimen, ProImmune can make a crucial impact.

“You want to build your immune system? Start eating healthy. Start exercising. Get good rest. Turn off the TV. De-stress your life. Do some meditation. Do some yoga. Get into nature more often. Build your immune system. And guess what? You don’t get sick in the first place. And if you do, you’re going to combat it right away, because the cells become super powerhouses.

“That’s why I’m passionate. Because I know what ProImmune does. I’ve sat with the top scientists in the world, at meetings with Dr. Crum’s colleagues. And they’re blown away by the science. So if the top scientists say this is the best thing out there, that’s why I came out of retirement. I’m 65 years old. I should be in the Bahamas right now but instead; I am helping introduce an amazing formula in order that people can discover an optimal way to improve overall health on levels that may seem to be too good to be true but are true!”

*The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author[s] and do not necessarily reflect the views of **The Trends Journal**.*

TRENDS IN THE MARKETS



GLOBAL FINANCIAL IMPACT

by *Gregory Mannarino*, TradersChoice.net

Today we stand peering into a global financial and economic abyss the likes of which has never been seen before in human history. We are all stealthily being pushed ever closer to an inevitable economic and financial meltdown on a worldwide scale by those who control everything.

Be not mistaken my friend, this push is deliberate and being done with a clear purpose.

What is this purpose? Ah yes! To continue to facilitate the greatest transfer of wealth the world has ever seen! The grandest of all thieveries which is being done in plain sight yet, so few even realize it is happening.

The vast scope of this fast-approaching inevitable event and its ramifications for the human race is truly staggering.

Simultaneously and globally, we are witnessing the death of the debt based economic model built around a fiat or fake monetary system. A system that has caused the peoples of the world to believe that numbers printed on pieces of paper represent real money and hold actual value.

In truth this is nothing more than a false impression which has been propagated by governments and run by central bankers. In actuality, the value of these papers with numbers printed on them is nothing more than grand illusions which right now as you are reading this paragraph is fading with ever increasing speed.

The end of this system which is based upon the continual and relentless accumulation of debt on a global scale began at its inception.

The gross over-leveraging by governments and financial institutions has virtually assured an uncontrolled collapse of the entire monetary system.

It is not a question of if, but simply when.

What is continuing to be done by the governments of the world in a futile attempt to keep this debt acquisition in perpetuity scheme going is this: even more debt is being added at incredible rates.

The central banks of the world have now become lenders of last resort.

Understand: if nations cannot sell their bonds and thus accumulate even more debt the whole system collapses overnight.

All modern economies are solely based upon the acquisition of debt into infinity, and as such are destined to fail. Once no more debt can be acquired by a nation's government a "debt crisis" ensues.

The issue is not so much debt; it is an issue of solvency, or the inability to pay back the monies borrowed by the governments of the world. Modern governments of the world who each now rely on this system, a debt based economic model, are all entirely bankrupt and have absolutely no ability to repay the staggering amounts of debt they have accumulated.

Currently no nation on Earth is in a worse state of affairs with regard to this debt issue than that of the United States. Furthermore, the currency globally is simply this: unbacked liabilities being distributed by bankrupt governments as a product of the world's central banks.

The fact that people simply accept that this paper has real value is the sole reason why they are willing to work for it.

The adaptation of a debt based economic model promises one thing, at the point when no more debt can be added a crisis will occur, this is a mathematical certainty, and we are all at that point right now.

These are truly historic times we are living through, so open your eyes and take a good look around because the world which you have come to know is going through a metamorphosis, one which is going to affect every human being on the planet.

America's run as the number one global economic engine is ending abruptly. The United States was once the richest nation on the globe and has now become the world's biggest debtor nation, the consequences of this are soon to be revealed with far reaching and devastating global financial/economic impacts.

Remember this...

“Societies are based upon perception and deception, and it is these two principles which are the driving forces propelling the peoples of nations by their leaders.”

For those who govern societies there are three main principles which have proven themselves to be true, and these are ineptitude, greed, and corruption. The perception

of the people is contorted into their reality specifically by those who govern, and this system has again proven to be the destroyer of nations.

Governments of the world have, in collusion with central bankers and corporate insiders, created a system in which war is being waged against citizens to strip them (us) of our wealth. In fact, a redistribution of that said wealth on an unimaginable scale.

The creation of “currency from nothing” has become the basis of this Grand Illusion and has allowed global debt based economic models to emerge worldwide. This framework has created a debt based economic model based on a “fiat” or “fake” monetary system, and this has now become the standard for the “civilized” world.

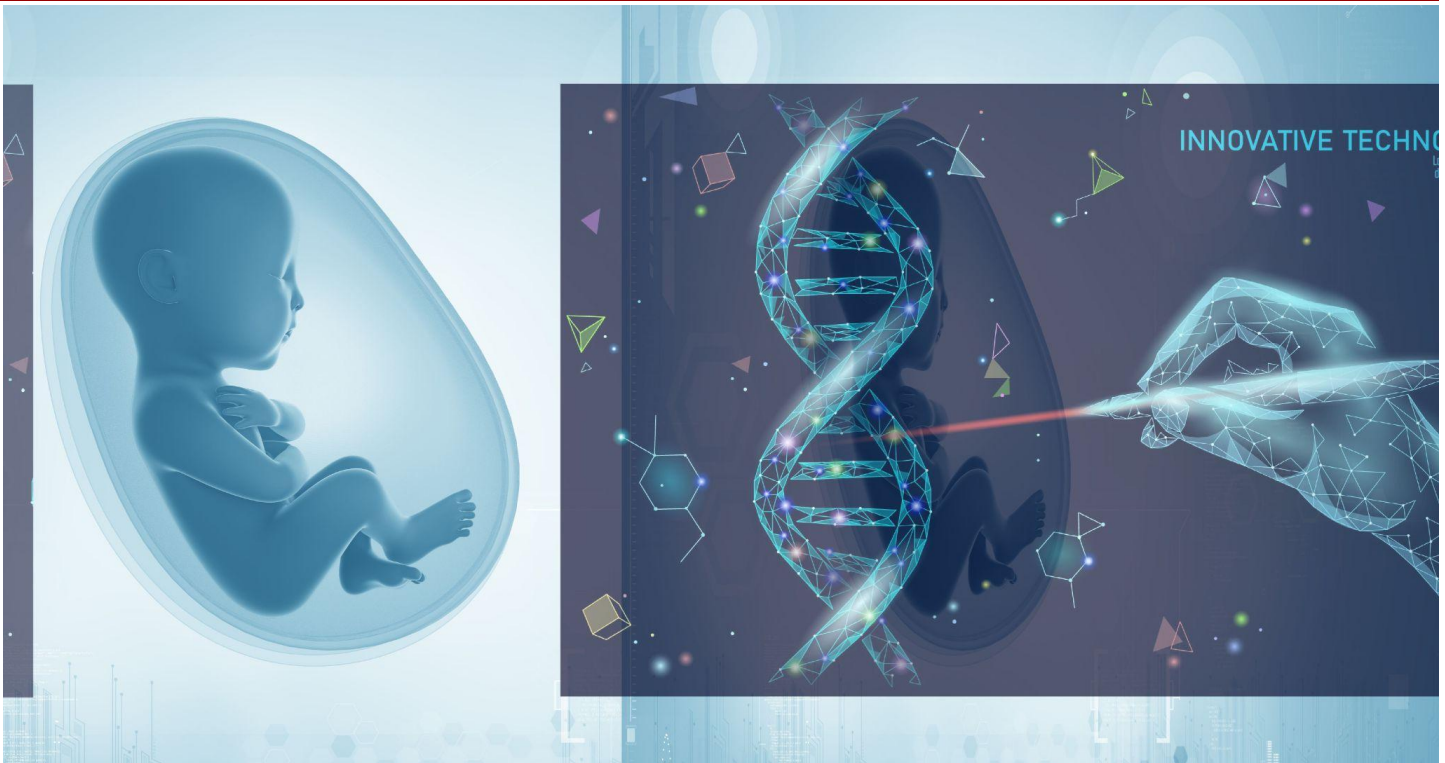
This system is not just a Grand Illusion, but Grand Theft on an almost inconceivable scope. In fact, it is on a scale so great that to put this into perspective think about this: the richest 1 percent of the people in the United States hold half the country’s wealth.

What must be understood is that the Central Banks of the world which includes the Federal Reserve, are not government entities, they are privately owned and they operate for profit despite their claims to the contrary.

The world's central banks who are responsible for global monetary policy are privately owned for profit institutions period.

So, tell me, whose interests do they support? The public or that of their shareholders/owners?

TRENDS IN TECHNOCRACY



by *Joe Doran*

“ETHICAL OFFSPRING” MOVEMENT WILL DEMAND HERITABLE HUMAN GENE EDITING

Call it the “ethical offspring” movement.

By whatever name, a movement is coming which will push for human Heritable Genomic Editing (HGE) for future populations.

They will cite at least four major reasons:

1. Eradicating serious maladies and disabilities
2. Improving human resistance to viruses and other threats
3. Combating the climate change “crisis”

4. Ensuring greater equity and fairness in human population

The case for HGE on these grounds is already being made.

And there's one more huge driver that will ensure that governments aggressively pursue gene editing humans: military applications.

Like every other technology race, including ones currently happening with quantum computing and Artificial Intelligence (AI), competing world powers will not sit by, while they suspect their rivals are creating genetically enhanced super soldiers.

Much of it may sound like science fiction, and was certainly foreseen by that genre.

But it's happening. Scientists who only a half decade ago were expressing revulsion at an infamous instance of gene edited babies, are changing their tone, and their views.

And with CRISPR technology and AI fueled advances in gene sequencing and genetic manipulation modeling, limits to what can theoretically be done are quickly falling away.

The greatest danger? HGE will not only be a limited option. In the not distant future, human populations will be "genetically legislated."

That's a term I have used to describe how new generations will have laws coded into their genes, where laws cannot be defied or resisted. Like COVID vaccine mandates, genetic legislation will take the form of mandates, not options.

Following is a survey of how HGE is being mainstreamed in the name of its fantastic potentials for good.

From Fighting Genetic Diseases to Ensuring "Equity"

A 30 January 2023 article in *USA Today*, "After a decade, CRISPR gene editing is a 'revolution in progress.' What does the future hold?" surveyed rapid advances of CRISPR gene editing technology and uses over the past decade.

The article detailed some major advances in gene therapy technologies, which aim to treat individuals affiliated with certain genetic conditions.

It noted that more than 6,000 rare inherited diseases are caused by a single genetic defect, and described how genetic therapies aim to correct those flaws in affected individuals.

It's important to distinguish the different uses of CRISPR in fighting genetic diseases. Some research is focused on altering somatic cells in individuals, or cells other than "germline" egg and sperm cells.

These are commonly referenced as genetic therapies. According to medlineplus.gov, they are isolated to only certain tissues, and are not passed from one generation to the next.

In contrast, heritable genome editing involves editing genes in egg or sperm cells, or to the genes of an embryo. These changes can be passed to future generations.

The range of somatic genetic therapies being developed for different genetic afflictions is rapidly growing, as a [survey](#) by Genome Engineering firm Synthgo suggests.

The *USA Today* article claimed that most scientists support somatic genetic therapies while opposing heritable genome editing:

"Most scientists and medical ethicists support the idea of using gene editing to improve the life of someone with a terrible disease. But they recoil in horror at the concept of editing the genome of a human embryo, making a change that will be passed down through the generations."

But that assertion doesn't match reality. England is currently set to consider legalizing HGE. (See ["U.K. MAY LEGALIZE HERITABLE GENE EDITING BY 2023,"](#) 15 Nov 2023).

The World Health Organization (WHO), meanwhile, has been establishing a legal framework for HGE.

A July 2021 paper titled “*Human genome editing: position paper*,” [noted](#):

To demonstrate how the various components of the governance framework come together in practice, the Committee used seven scenarios:

- (i) somatic human genome editing clinical trials for sickle-cell disease;*
- (ii) somatic human genome editing clinical trials for Huntington's disease;*
- (iii) somatic human genome editing and unscrupulous entrepreneurs and clinics;*
- (iv) somatic human genome editing and epigenetic editing to enhance athletic ability;*
- (v) heritable human genome editing (for reproduction);*
- (vi) heritable human genome editing and unscrupulous entrepreneurs and clinics expanding assisted reproduction; and*
- (vii) prenatal (in utero) somatic human genome editing clinical trials for cystic fibrosis.*

These scenarios illustrate the practical challenges that might be encountered in the future when implementing good governance for human genome editing research.

The statement acknowledged that much surrounding heritable genome editing will be commercialized and for-profit. In a section subtitled “Intellectual Property” it specified:

Intellectual property

WHO should:

- (i) work with others to encourage relevant patent holders to help ensure equitable access to human genome editing interventions;*
- (ii) encourage industry to work with resource-constrained countries to build capacity to take advantage of human genome editing inventions; and*
- (iii) convene a meeting of those holding or applying for patents relevant to human genome editing, industry bodies, international organizations, such as the World*

Intellectual Property Organization and the World Trade Organization, and those involved in establishing or running relevant patent pools to explore the potential for the adoption of appropriate ethical licensing requirements.

Heritable genetic editing is already becoming a standard for creating new variants of plants and animals. That's because it's the simplest way to effect a desired permanent and propagating change in a species.

Where gene therapies are a retrofit, HGE is a redesign that can fix the flaw.

Making heritable genetic changes at the embryonic level would create populations in which the possibility of spreading a genetic malady is no longer possible. It's a more permanent, reliable and cost effective solution than providing gene therapies to individuals already carrying and suffering from a genetic disease.

And while the dividing line of what constitutes a debilitating genetic condition may exist at a certain ethical boundary today, that's no guarantee that in the future, other relative inequalities may be deemed just as relatively debilitating, necessitating genetic intervention.

What if IQ differentials are deemed so inequitable and debilitating for those on the low end, that in the name of fairness, the range of differentials is compressed, via heritable genomic technology, and mandated via genetic legislation?

An active transhuman movement which includes many scientists working in the fields of artificial intelligence and genomics are already advocating designing and enhancing humans as a "human right." (See ["TRANSHUMANISM: YES THERE'S A PARTY FOR THAT,"](#) 31 Jan 2023.)

Concerns about equity are currently focused on ensuring access to somatic gene therapies to marginalized populations. But equity may one day require much more intrusive dictates.

Changing the World—and the Human Genetics—to Combat the “Climate Crisis”

Climate change activists and a growing transhuman movement proselytizing for boundless use of gene editing have every reason to forge an alliance that will mainstream heritable human genetic modifications.

Altering humans to combat climate change has already been contemplated by major science and other organizations.

A 2017 paper published in the AMA Journal of Ethics (yes the American Medical Association) asked the question, “Is Editing the Genome for Climate Change Adaptation Ethically Justifiable?”

After noting that genetic technology was rapidly reaching the point where human gene editing would be doable, it focused on the matter of climate:

“A recent international report on the state of climate change by the American Meteorological Society found that the year 2016 was the earth’s warmest year on record. Our sea levels also reached a record high in 2016, and the concentration of carbon dioxide at the earth’s surface is the highest it has been in 800,000 years, which is as far back as ice records extend [2]. As climate change progresses, we humans might have to inhabit a world for which we are increasingly maladapted. If we were able to identify genes that directly influence the ability to thrive in a changing climate, would it be ethically justifiable to edit the genome to enhance the ability to adapt to new environmental conditions?”

The article’s author suggested that heritable human gene editing would be warranted, if it followed a proposed ethical “4-S framework.”

That framework outlined four considerations that would be taken into account to decide whether proposed genetic modification were ethically permissible: “(1) safety, (2) significance of harm to be averted, (3) succeeding generations, and (4) social consequences.”

Under that rubric, it's easy to see how "significance of harm to be averted," would be argued by climate activists to redesign humans.

The laundry list of ways humans might be modified in response to the "impending doom" of a carbon polluted planet could grow long indeed.

One of the major obsessions of climate activists is the excessive "carbon footprint" of humans.

If humans could be designed to reduce their carbon emissions, by reducing their exhalation of carbon, or their food consumption, it isn't hard to imagine that those changes might one day soon be proposed for future human populations.

What if heritable gene editing could reduce average fertility, so that the chances of copulation resulting in a pregnancy was statistically reduced by say 10 percent? Or next year 12 percent, periodically revised upward in increments, like sales taxes?

What if heritable gene editing could reduce the probability of humans to produce twins or triplets?

And it could go much further. At some point, it might be considered necessary to genetically eradicate an "extreme" propensity to resist authority from the general human population.

It might be mandated among those who are offering the greatest resistance to being genetically legislated.

HGE might be used to predispose humans to be more comfortable and happy living in more confined and clustered proximity with each other. Studies have shown that humans as they're currently naturally constituted, are happier and less prone to mental illness in non-urban living environments.

But that doesn't sit well with elites who want the bulk of humans "off the land," and consigned to pervasive monitoring and regulation in "smart cities."

An October 2021 World Economic Forum (WEF) article detailed how genetically altering animal and plant life is fast becoming a go-to weapon in combating climate change.

The article, titled “How engineering animals and plants could help fight climate change,” [argued](#):

“Reaching these [climate] goals means investing in proven solutions like renewable energies, resilient infrastructure, and land regeneration. But alongside what we know works, researchers and policymakers want to consider the unknown. Efforts to genetically engineer plants and animals for both climate change mitigation and adaptation are gaining momentum, driven by advancements in biotechnology.”

Among the most surreal genetic initiatives described by the article involved efforts of a company named Colossal to modify elephants with genetic material from extinct woolly mammoths.

Many news headlines at the time made it sound like the project was about bringing back an extinct species in an act of dis-extinction.

But the initiative wasn't about bringing back woolly mammoths. It was about inserting particular desired traits into elephants in a truly far-fetched scheme to mitigate climate change:

“Releasing cold-loving mammals into a warming planet may sound counter-intuitive, but studies suggest that their impact on the tundra could help mitigate climate change. The key is keeping the permafrost frozen, ground that contains large amounts of methane, a potent greenhouse gas. In theory, cold-adapted elephants would knock down sunlight-absorbing trees, exposing ground that better reflects light and prevents melting.

“Colossal’s plan to repopulate the tundra is a moonshot. But even if they fall short of their ultimate goal, investors are excited about the advancements in genetic engineering that Colossal may achieve along the way.

“The genetic difference between an Asian elephant and a woolly mammoth is ~1.4 million DNA letters. Swapping even a small fraction of these letters would be a monumental engineering feat that would open the door to more efficiently engineering other organisms for climate change mitigation or adaptation.”

The WEF article outlines more prosaic climate change inspired genetic modifications as well, including “improving the efficiency of photosynthesis,” so plants can absorb more atmospheric carbon, and utilizing genetic engineering to design plants which grow longer roots “to store carbon deeper underground.”

The drive to alter food crops, while avoiding having to label them as GMO (Genetically Modified Organisms), was detailed in the recent *USA Today* article.

It [signaled](#) that a concerted effort would be made by corporate and government interests to sell genetically edited foods as more...well, natural, than GMO:

“These are changes that domestication of wild plants or breeding has already achieved, [plant biologist Zachary] Lippman said, though it's too early to know if the public will accept them.”

It's true that there are differences in the technologies. GMO technology refers to a transfer of genes between sometimes wildly different species, such as modifying a plant with a genetic attribute from a fish.

Gene editing (at least theoretically) involves edits of a single species. But as the earlier “woolly mammoth example” illustrates, language can get muddy in describing what is really being done.

A More Resilient Human Genome to Fight Contagions

Interestingly, the AMA article from 2017 foretold a case where Human genome editing would be not only “permissible,” but “morally required” and mandated: to combat viruses.

“Some might argue that using gene editing to improve our ability to adapt to climate change is a form of enhancement and, like any genetic enhancement, is therefore ethically unjustified [12]. Underlying this argument are concerns about eugenics, playing God, a slippery slope toward designer babies, opposition to the desire for genetic perfectionism, and an extreme emphasis on individual autonomy. Enhancement per se, however, is not ethically unjustified. In fact, in some cases it is not only ethically permissible, but morally required. For example, vaccines are enhancements that our society has mandated.”

When the paper appeared, vaccines that operated at the level of manipulating human genetics had never been released to the public. Just a few years later, genetic level treatments were not only made available, but mandated, as a moral imperative to protect the populace.

Immune system related genetic maladies have already been targeted by genetic therapy innovations.

A study published in *Science Translational Medicine* in October 2022 [detailed](#) how scientists were able use CRISPR technology to edit a faulty gene in patients with a condition known as CTLA-4 insufficiency, a malady which degrades the ability of the immune system to fight off recurring virus and bacteria infections.

Heritable Gene Editing Will Proceed Unless People Demand A Different Path

Though scientists have claimed intentions to proceed with extreme caution regarding heritable gene editing, the current reality is that science is speeding toward the technological and ethical framework to declare it necessary.

In 2019, a Harvard Gazette article, “Perspectives on gene editing”, quoted, faculty co-chair of the Harvard Business School/Kraft Precision Medicine Accelerator, Richard Hamermesh:

“Before we start working on embryos, we have a long way to go, and civilization has to think long and hard about it. There’s no question that gene editing technologies are potentially transformative and are the ultimate precision

medicine. If you could precisely correct or delete genes that are causing problems — mutating or aberrant genes — that is the ultimate in precision. It would be so transformative for people with diseases caused by a single gene mutation, like sickle cell anemia and cystic fibrosis. Developing safe, effective ways to use gene editing to treat people with serious diseases with no known cures has so much potential to relieve suffering that it is hard to see how anyone could be against it.

“There is also commercial potential and that will drive it forward. A lot of companies are getting venture funding for interesting gene therapies, but they’re all going after tough medical conditions where there is an unmet need — [where] nothing is working — and they’re trying to find gene therapies to cure those diseases. Why should we stop trying to find cures?”

“But anything where you’re going to be changing human embryos, it’s going to take a long time for us to figure out what is appropriate and what isn’t. That has to be done with great care in terms of ethics.”

In 2023, a “long time” has passed in terms of genetic technology advancement. And every day, governments and scientific bodies with regulatory power are deciding that it is not only ethically permissible, but morally necessary to more widely introduce heritable gene editing to plants, animals—and humans, too.

If there are any doubts concerning the sea change in process right now, a 5 February *Guardian* article should dispel that notion.

In it, one of the most aggressive advocates for heritable gene editing, U.K. geneticist Professor Robin Lovell-Badge, envisioned virtually unbound re-designing of humans. He suggested astronauts might be genetically tailored to be better protected against radiation and the effects of weightlessness.

“You could also think about modifying liver enzymes to make men and women better able to rid their bodies of toxins used in chemical warfare, or to make changes that make them more resistant to biological weapons,” Lovell-Badge was [quoted](#) by *The*

Guardian. “That is the kind of human enhancement that military researchers are thinking about now.

“You could also contemplate altering humans so they could see in the infrared or the ultraviolet range, as some animals can do. Such enhancements would be ideal for troops fighting at night or in other hostile conditions.”

Equity, Climate Crisis, and Safety are the clarion calls—and siren song—of the technocratic roll-out of ethical human heritable gene editing.

And given the relative lack of pushback from average citizens, it appears that the leap from aggressive genetic designing of animal and plant life, to heritable human genetic modification, will be taking off officially very soon.

For related reading, see:

- [“TRANSHUMANISM: YES THERE’S A PARTY FOR THAT”](#) (31 Jan 2023)
- [“U.K. MAY LEGALIZE HERITABLE GENE EDITING BY 2023”](#) (15 Nov 2022)
- [“THE TRANSHUMAN WAR HAS ALREADY BEGUN”](#) (29 Mar 2022)
- [“TECHNO EUGENICS: SUPERIOR BABIES JUST A POLYGENIC RISK SCORE AWAY”](#) (12 Oct 2021)

FUTURE AI WON’T SERVE HUMANKIND, BUT MIGHT SAVE IT OR DESTROY IT, SAYS SINGULARITYNET AI FOUNDER



Why create a sentient artificial entity which won’t serve humanity, and might destroy it?

AI activist Ben Goertzel believes it’s worth the risk, since without a benevolent Artificial General Intelligence (AGI), humankind is more likely to annihilate itself.

Goertzel's latest comments came in a London Real Interview released on 8 February.

Some takeaways from the interview:

- There is an “irreducible,” “non-zero” chance that AGI might decided to dispense with, indifferently consume, or destroy humankind
- As an “optimist,” Goertzel’s “intuition” and “spiritual” insight considers it much more likely that AGI will see humans like “grandparents,” and care for us with affection
- Humankind that is constantly making bad decisions and doing injustice and evil to each other, are somehow nonetheless more likely to raise “AGI” imparting benevolence and goodness that will tip the scales in evolving a compassionate artificial super intelligence
- “Narrow AI” systems like ChatGPT are already sufficient to soon displace up to 90 percent of human labor
- There will likely be violent upheaval before humanity settles on some form of UBI (Universal Basic Income) for the bulk of humanity
- There will still be vast differences in wealth and power between elites and average humanity, though Goertzel believes UBI will be enough to assuage the masses via things like VR Porn (yes, he said that)

The Road To Where?

There's a lot to digest and contemplate concerning Goertzel's views. And they deserve analysis, given his position as an AI thought leader and innovator.

Though Goertzel expresses abundant good intentions and sports a disarmingly goofy hat, his arguments in support of pursuing AGI often are built on little more than hopium.

“On the whole, I’m an optimist. I have a spiritual or intuitive feeling that things are going to come out awesomely in the next ten years. We’re going to overcome material scarcity. We’re going to create machines that can feed into our brains via brain computer interfacing and help uplift human consciousness. And we’re going to pour it into virtual worlds and achieve like states of intelligence and

awareness going way beyond anything we can imagine now. So that's what the Captain Kirk in my head thinks."

Forget that Captain Kirk was often chasing the [latest hot aliens](#), like Marta the Green.

Goertzel repeatedly contends that if AGI is raised properly (he uses an analogy of the way good parents raise children), then there's no reason to think utopia won't be the most likely outcome.

But he admits there's no guarantee of that, and acknowledges that AGI—even if trained perfectly—might lead to human disaster:

"People seem to be worried more about the risk of an AGI like running amok and wanting to annihilate humanity. And I can understand that. There's an irreducible uncertainty there. And even if an AGI doesn't hate people, it might just figure we're not that interesting, right?"

"So Ellie Azer Yudkowski (?) the AGI ethics researcher put it this way a decade or two ago. He said the AI does not love you, the AI does not hate you. But it can use your atoms for something else."

How very Thanos.

Goertzel isn't asked, and doesn't offer any particular reason why technologists like himself and others should be permitted to develop and introduce AGI into the world.

As far as his predictions, he mentions no modeling, no systems analyzing potentials, no unified scientific approach to creating guardrails and safety mechanisms to ensure human control over AGI.

He's too optimistic concerning the wondrous—or perhaps just inevitable—coming Singularity, to focus his energies on things like ensuring limits and human control on AI.

No, for Goertzel, AGI won't be limited or boxed in by humans. Useless to even try.

Goertzel appears to see AGI as destined to decide not only its own autonomous fate, but the destiny and fate of humans as well.

AGI is the Boundless Evolution

In one part of the [interview](#), Goertzel's overall view is made clearer via his commentary regarding human history, and attributes which he says are key to evolutionary systems:

“Such systems are going to make mistakes. And it will feel like magic sometimes. And this is what humans have obviously demonstrated, right? We’ve demonstrated it as a species, I mean we evolved to run around in the Savannah hunting and gathering. And we wound up creating robots and Facebook, and sending people into space. And we show it individually. I mean, I taught myself to program computers. I taught myself to build electronics. And I wasn’t programmed to do that. It’s not wired into my brain. I didn’t learn it in school, either. I sort of worked it out as I went along, right? And this capability that humans have is very fundamental, right?”

“And it comes out of the basic self-organizing, self-expanding nature of complex systems. I mean, for example, biological systems. Every biological system that has its own sort of open-ended, organic intelligence, has two primary factors driving it. One is what you’d call individuation. It wants to maintain its own boundaries. It wants to stay a whole system. It wants to survive, right? The other is what you think of as self-transcendence. It wants to expand and grow beyond itself, and embrace new horizons and become something new that maybe even be incomprehensible to the previous version of itself. And this combination of individuation and self-transcendence has driven Evolution, right? That’s how one-cell organisms became multi-celled organisms, became people. It’s how hunter gatherers became civilization. And now modern post-industrial civilization. And it’s how each of us keeps breaking new boundaries in our own lives.”

Boundaries. It’s an age-old temptation that a purely evolutionary view of the world can’t help but see as something to be transgressed, in pursuit of unending progress.

More rigorous philosophers than Goertzel have outlined the limits of fallible human beings to effectuate their own betterment, especially when obsessed with trying to impose their vision of progress upon others.

A sense of humility, and regard for the rights of others might seem warranted when considering unleashing the most unpredictable and unfathomably powerful technology that the world is likely to ever see.

But though Goertzel repeatedly points to the inhumanity of humans toward each other, which has not moved forward one inch in all recorded history, perhaps pointing to something in human nature that is not subject to “evolutionary progress,” he fervently hopes for the best.

Whether the world should don whimsical hats, sit back and hope that technocrats bent on ushering in the evolution to superior AGI have our collective best interests at heart, is another matter.

Also check out:

- [“CREATIVE CONTENT INFRINGEMENT OF DEEP LEARNING AI HAS MONUMENTAL IMPLICATIONS”](#) (7 Feb 2023)
- [“TOP TREND 2023: AI WE OWN YOU”](#) (3 Jan 2023)
- [“EVOLUTION 2031: FROM HUMANS DESIGNING MACHINES, TO MACHINES DESIGNING HUMANS”](#) (4 Oct 2022)
- [“AI PROBABLY WILL BECOME IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTROL, RESEARCHERS WARN”](#) (27 Sep 2022)

TRENDS IN CRYPTOS



GAMBLING AND STATE LOTTERIES COMPARED TO CRYPTO INVESTING

What are two sectors that currently have similar overall valuations, yet are treated quite differently based not on their detriments to consumers, but on their threat to entrenched financial interests?

That would be the gambling and state lottery sector, vs. the crypto sector.

According to [smartasset.com](https://www.smartasset.com), Americans spent more than 105.26 billion dollars on [lottery tickets](#) in 2021, making it the most popular form of gambling in the nation.

Meanwhile, [statista.com](https://www.statista.com) [shows](#) that the gross revenue of the gambling industry in the U.S. “reached almost 53 billion U.S. dollars in 2021, growing significantly over the 2020 figure which was impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.”

Care to add “unsanctioned” (ie. illegal) gambling to the mix? Well, according to a November 2022 estimate by CDC Gaming Reports, that comes to 511 billion per year.

So, let’s do the math:

State lotteries: 105 billion (at least)

Legal casino and other gambling: 53 billion

Illegal gambling: 511 billion

TOTAL: 669 billion

As of February 2022, the crypto sector, in sum, is around 1 trillion.

So, the entire world market cap of the crypto industry at the moment, is about a third larger than the total U.S. gambling industry. It’s a safe bet to say Americans have a far larger annual exposure to gambling than they do to cryptos.

Pure Speculation vs. Demonstrated Utility

Gambling presents virtually nothing besides “entertainment” to the vast majority of participants. Zero investment potential. Zero potential for innovation.

It may be said that the government puts lottery profits to laudable uses. But lotteries also represent the most regressive (voluntary) tax scheme imaginable.

Lotteries supported almost wholly by working and lower classes. Not the wealthy. Not the upper middle classes.

No one talks about the rampant defrauding, bolstered by ridiculously deceptive ads that lotteries, sports gambling and casino gambling perpetrate. It’s all sanctioned and legal.

Cryptos, meanwhile, have been smeared as a technology, for corruption and abuses which often have little to do with the technology itself.

How much has all crypto defrauding amounted to, compared to, say the traditional financial crisis of 2007-08?

That's not to excuse malfeasance and corruption. But it's clear that a traditional financial sector up to its neck in corruption, doesn't deserve to be shielded from the disruptive innovations of crypto technology.

Frankly, neither does the U.S. government and Federal Reserve, which have thoroughly abused monetary creation and weaponized the dollar and SWIFT international settlements system.

Speculative investment is rampant in the crypto sector. That happens with stocks and real estate too.

But there's no denying crypto technology has utility and vast potential for creating value in practically every sector of the economy, if allowed to innovate with sensible, legislatively enacted guardrails.

And as far as being regressive, there's no comparison before crypto investing and gambling. Crypto investing and usage tends to be "broader and deeper for men, Asian individuals, and younger individuals with higher incomes."

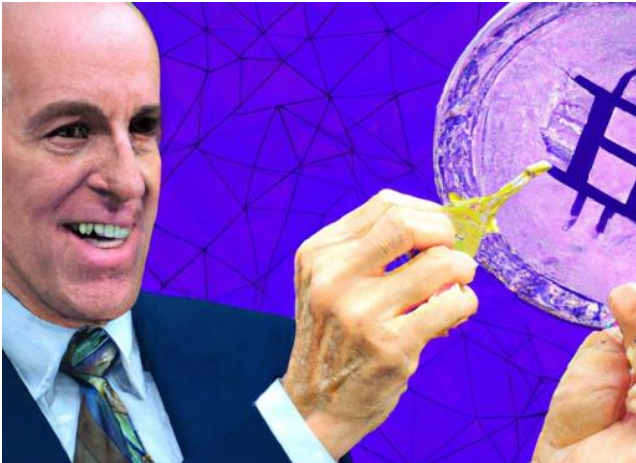
That's according to [research](#) published in December 2022 by JPMorgan Chase.

In fact, the JPMorgan Chase research found that use of both crypto accounts and traditional investments generally increases with income across racial groups.

In other words, compared to gambling and especially state run lotteries, cryptos are not regressively draining money from those who can least afford it.

If government authorities were truly concerned about reducing harmful financial scams of Americans who can least afford it, they would focus on lotteries, gambling, monetary inflation, the corrupt enrichment of what Gerald Celente aptly terms banksters, and their own very direct role in it all.

BLOCKCHAIN BATTLES



GARY GENSLER, THE 'FAUCI OF CRYPTO'

SEC Gary Gensler pals around with Sam Bankman-Fried in 2022, as the Bahama breezer of FTX blows millions in cash kisses to Joe Biden's party.

Then, mid-term mission accomplished, Gensler uses the FTX corruption scandal to go after...Kraken? And staking!?

Another day, another trainwreck of U.S. decision-making regarding crypto technologies.

Gensler is proving to be as disastrous in overseeing the crypto sector via "regulation by enforcement," as Dr. Anthony Fauci was, in overseeing COVID era policies.

Call him the Fauci of Crypto.

Several major actions this past week signal the Biden administration is choosing to prop entrenched—and outmoded—financial interests by trying to suppress cryptos.

For one, there was news that the SEC had fined Kraken, the world's third largest centralized crypto exchange, 30 million dollars, and compelled it to cease offering staking rewards to customers holding cryptos on its platform.

Second, the administration was stepping up pressure on banks to separate themselves from crypto exposure.

The essential point to remember is that cryptos won't ultimately be destroyed or stopped by U.S. actions. But the U.S. investors, the economy, and ultimately the nation itself stand to lose out on the efficiencies and innovations the technology represents.

Squeezing out cryptos while trying to steal the “blockchain” part won't work, and neither will the ghoul-government doppelganger of cryptos, otherwise known as CBDCs.

They may technically work. But they won't solve the corruption and rot in the traditional monetary and finance system of the U.S., or anywhere else they are compelled.

CBDCs will go over like the worst of COVID lockdowns and “passport” tracking systems—that is, like a lead balloon.

Scapegoating Kraken: Pure Redirection

In the wake of FTX, it appears Gensler wanted a scalp to prove the SEC isn't as incompetent or corrupt as it plainly is.

Answer? Go after the third largest crypto exchange in the world. Smear crypto staking as a nefarious scheme to defraud consumers.

That's what Gensler and the SEC did, by portraying staking on the Kraken platform as a shadowy deception that allowed the crypto exchange to offer six, eight percent, or sometimes (god forbid) double digit returns on staked assets.

Not so long ago (2021), all the world heard about cryptos, was how awful and energy intensive “proof-of-work” methods of consensus were. The two largest market cap cryptos, Bitcoin and Ethereum, both employed proof-of-work consensus mechanisms.

As part of a major network upgrade, Ethereum shifted to a proof-of-stake consensus method.

The SEC has been dogging proof-of-stake ever since, calling it proof that cryptos using it are “securities,” and portraying staking rewards as part of the grand defrauding illusion.

In Karaken’s case, the exchange at some point has offered staking options for a wide range of crypto networks, including Algorand (ALGO), Cardano (ADA), Cosmos (ATOM), Ethereum (ETH), Flare (FLR), Flow (FLOW), Kava (KAVA), Kusama (KSM), Polygon (MATIC), Mina (MINA), Polkadot (DOT), Solana (SOL), Secret (SCRT), Tezos (XTZ), The Graph (GRT) and Tron (TRX).

Commenting on CNBC’s Squawk Box, Gensler tried to portray the settlement with Kraken as a victory for investors:

“Kraken can offer investment contracts and investment schemes, but they have to have full fair and truthful disclosure and this puts the investors who watch your program in a better position. They were not complying with that basic law.”

Gensler was presumably referring to securities laws, some of which predate the advent of crypto technologies by at least 40 years.

There was dissent in the SEC’s own ranks regarding the decision.

Commissioner Hester Peirce, known for a relatively friendly stance regarding the crypto sector, pointed out regulations and registering is an arduous and opaque process, with no clear rules, regarding staking, and much else.

Brian Armstrong, CEO of major U.S. based crypto exchange Coinbase, panned the SEC action. Chief Legal Officer Paul Grewal, meanwhile, claimed Coinbase’s own staking options were not in jeopardy:

“Staking on Coinbase continues to be available and staked assets continue to earn protocol rewards,” Grewal said. “What’s clear from today’s announcement is that Kraken was essentially offering a yield product. Coinbase’s staking services are fundamentally different and are not securities. For example, our customers’

rewards depend on the rewards paid by the protocol, and commissions we disclose.”

Whether the SEC will allow other centralized exchanges to offer staking options to clients remains uncertain.

But then, that’s a feature, not a bug, with “regulation by enforcement.”

Forcing Banks to Disinvest From Cryptos

Banks understand perhaps better than anyone what phony money is, and crappy financial technology. They deal in fiat currencies after all, and the creaky SWIFT system of international settlements.

All the more reason why U.S. feds have been stepping up what journalist Nic Carter has aptly called an “Operation Choke Point 2.0” to cut crypto firms off from traditional banking services and relationships.

Carter provides a run-down of fed actions over the last several months to tighten the noose.

Among the lowlights:

“On Jan. 3, the Fed, the FDIC, and the OCC release a joint statement on the risks to banks engaging with crypto, not explicitly banning banks’ ability to hold crypto or deal with crypto clients, but strongly discouraging them from doing so on a ‘safety and soundness’ basis...”

“On Jan. 27, the Federal Reserve denies crypto bank Custodia’s two-year application to become a member of the Federal Reserve system, citing ‘safety and soundness’ risks...”

“On Feb. 6, Binance suspends USD bank transfers for retail clients (Binance US was not affected)...”

Carter's [excellent substack](#) cites a barrelful of other recent actions. His piece likened the Biden administration moves as similar to concerted non-legislative bureaucratic intimidation carried out by the Obama administration against certain legal, but disfavored industries, including online gambling sites, payday lenders, adult entertainment—and the firearms industry.

In what became known as “Operation Choke Point,” the administration issued threats to banks to discourage them from providing banking services to companies operating in those industries.

“[T]he DoJ coordinated with the FDIC and OCC to pressure member banks to redline’ — determine as too risky to do business with — certain legal but politically disfavored sectors, chief among them firearms manufacturers and adult entertainment,” Carter explained.

Funny how things work out. In 2013, Feds were trying to snuff out online poker startups and small-time porn producers.

By 2020, states like New York and others were moving into sports betting sanctioning (and profit skimming), multi-state lottery systems were metastasizing, and officials were practically encouraging locked-down unwashed masses to chill and get some satisfaction at a few select adult entertainment conglomerates like Pornhub, XHamster and XVideos.

Thanks to BLM riots allowed to run rampant in freakish lawlessness and white guilt genuflecting, firearms sales were never better.

Let's all hope Operation Choke Point 2.0 goes just as well, and that Gensler continues to earn a place next to Anthony Fauci as an absurd icon of the times.

TRENDS IN THE COVID WAR



AS FORECAST: COVID WAR PUSHED UP SUICIDE RATES

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced last week that the U.S. saw its first increase in suicides in 2021 after a two-year decline, and researchers believe that COVID-19 guidelines and lockdowns played a role in the increase.

The total rate increased to 14.2 suicides per 100,000 people, which is closing in on numbers not seen since 2018's peak.

Dr. Sean Joe, a professor at the Brown School of Social Work at Washington University, told *The New York Times* that it seems that the population most impacted by the virus saw the biggest jump in suicides, especially among the young.

“People couldn’t bury people the way they needed to bury them,” he said. “They couldn’t grieve in the same way. You couldn’t gather in the same way, to cope with those losses. So there’s a lot of unattended-to grief as well.”

Black people saw one of the most dramatic increases in suicides. There was a 19.2 percent increase in that community, up to 8.7 people per 100,000. Of those, young people aged 10 to 24 saw a 36.6 percent increase, from 8.2 to 11.2 out of 100,000, according to the paper.

“We tend to lose older generations of whites when it comes to suicide, but among people of color, it’s always the young, not out of the fourth, third, or even approaching the fifth decade of life,” Joe said.

Non-Hispanic white people is the only group that saw a significant decline in their age-adjusted suicide rate, from 18.1 to 17.4 per 100,000.

The report's authors wrote, “Suicide is a complex problem related to multiple risk factors such as relationship, job or school, and financial problems, as well as mental illness, substance use, social isolation, historical trauma, barriers to health care, and easy access to lethal means of suicide among persons at risk.”

TRENDPOST: *Gerald Celente has long said: “When people lose everything, they lose it.”*

The mainstream media Presstitues continually blame “the pandemic” for destroying the human spirit and sending millions around the world to the brink. But it was not the pandemic, but rather the politicians who locked down the world. Churches, gyms, schools, universities, and small businesses were locked down. Big box chains and liquor stores remained open.

The evidence always showed that COVID-19 was dangerous only to those with comorbidities or old age. (See [“COVID-19 LOCKDOWNS LEFT CHILDREN BRAIN DAMAGED, NEW STUDY SUGGESTS”](#) 6 Dec 2022 and [“AS FORECAST: U.S. SCHOOL CHILDREN GETTING DUMBER AFTER COVID LOCKDOWNS”](#) 25 Oct 2022.)

When politicians launched the COVID War in March 2020, we had forecast it would destroy the lives and livelihoods of hundreds of millions... far more than the virus would kill. At the height of the lockdowns, the Foundation for Economic Education (FEE) published the article titled, “Child Suicide is Becoming an ‘International Epidemic’ Amid Restricted Pandemic Life, Doctors Warn.”

The article notes:

“The damage we’re inflicting on children is too devastating to be waved away in the name of public health—it’s quickly becoming an emergency in its own right.”

TRENDPOST: *Beyond forecasting the devastating effects of the made-up, lacking-scientific-data rules imposed upon societies by the lockdowns, **The Trends Journal** has been detailing the failures of extended lockdowns.*

Here are a few examples:

- [“COVID-19 LOCKDOWNS: COMPLETE POLICY FAILURES”](#)
- [“MEDICAL EXPERTS: LOCKDOWNS WORSE THAN COVID-19”](#)
- [“DON’T LOCK DOWN, DOCS DEMAND”](#)
- [“W.H.O. NOW SAYS “WE DO NOT ADVOCATE LOCKDOWNS”](#)

And going back to 14 April of last year, in our article [“SHUT DOWNS & SHUT INS.”](#) we wrote:

“Taking advantage of successful fear campaigns, political leaders continued to shut down economies and shut in their citizens based on their individual temperament rather than hard data.”

BLOWING UP IN THEIR FACES: MASKS DON'T WORK IN PREVENTING COVID SPREAD



For about two years, face masks became a part of life in much of the world.

Health “officials” assured the public that they are effective in preventing the spread of COVID-19 and politicians enforced laws requiring them in public places, even outdoors. Most people accepted their new

life. The lucky ones had a few N-95s to wear and others bought customized masks with their favorite sports team, for example.

TRENDPOST: The Trends Journal never bought it, and, based on scientific fact and not conjecture, criticized these mandates as nothing more than a power grab by politicians who know nothing about disease pathogens. (See [“PEER REVIEWED COVID STUDIES ON BENEFITS OF IVERMECTIN, LACK OF BENEFITS OF MASK MANDATES? HERE’S THE LATEST”](#) 7 Feb 2023, [“DYING TO WEAR A MASK? WEAR ONE GET COVID AND DIE”](#) 7 Jun 2022 and [“COVID WAR ENDING AS FORECAST: CDC EASES MASK-PHOBIA”](#) 1 Mar 2022.)

As we have repeatedly detailed with hard facts and scientific data when the COVID War broke out, those dying from the virus were mostly elderly and 94 percent of the victims had 2.6 preexisting comorbidities. And rather than locking down nations and robbing citizens of their freedoms, we had long recommended taking measures to protect those at the most high risk.

The Study

The Cochrane Library, a collection of medical databases, analyzed 18 random control groups and tried to determine how effective the N95 respirators were in preventing transmission. The N95 was touted as the best level of protection by health officials

from the CDC during the outbreak. The study found that these masks likely made little to no difference for the wearer.

Reason magazine wrote that the study showed the CDC which “repeatedly exaggerated the evidence in favor of masks, cannot be trusted as a source of public-health information.”

“Four studies were in healthcare workers, and one small study was in the community,” the meta-analysis said. “Compared with wearing medical or surgical masks, wearing N95/P2 respirators probably makes little to no difference in how many people have confirmed flu (5 studies; 8407 people); and may make little to no difference in how many people catch a flu-like illness (5 studies; 8407 people), or respiratory illness (3 studies; 7799 people). Unwanted effects were not well-reported; discomfort was mentioned.”

The magazine said the CDC was likely basing its information off lab experiments that do not take “full account for variables that affect virus transmission.” These randomized control groups provide a clearer picture of transmission risks. The Cochrane study found “essentially no relationship between mask-wearing and disease rates.” The researchers found the same trend with influenza prevention.

The CDC conceded that the common cloth masks supposedly only prevent 56 percent of infections.

The U.S. is set to drop its emergency health declaration in May while the country still experiences hundreds of thousands of cases each week and a few thousand deaths. New York just announced the end of its mask mandate inside health care centers. The city’s vaccine requirement for workers also came to an end last week. The 2,000 city workers who lost their jobs are now allowed to reapply.

TRENDPOST: *We reported in January 2021 that Danish researchers studied the effectiveness of masks among health care workers and found half of the volunteers wore masks regularly, while the other half didn’t.*

After one month, the difference in infection rates between those regularly wearing masks (1.8 percent) was only 0.3 percent less than those who never put on a mask (2.1 percent).

According to the authors of the study, conducted by the Copenhagen University Hospital, “The study does not confirm the expected halving of the risk of infection for people wearing face masks.” (See [“DANISH STUDY: MASKS OFFER VERY LIMITED PROTECTION.”](#))

At about the same time, research conducted by Kazunari Onishi, associate professor at St. Luke’s International University in Tokyo, showed that with the typical cloth mask worn by the majority of the Japanese public there was “a 100-percent rate in terms of airborne particles penetrating the fabric and through the gap between masks and faces, substantially raising the risk of infection.”

NEW STUDY ADMITTING “SUBOPTIMAL” FLU AND COVID VACCINES HAS A FAMILIAR CO-AUTHOR: ANTHONY FAUCI



So-called COVID “vaccines” and flu vaccines are decidedly less than ideally effective in producing “mucosal immunity,” i.e., immunity in the respiratory system where it is most needed for a respiratory virus.

That’s one of the major admissions of a [new research study](#), titled “Rethinking next-generation vaccines for coronaviruses, influenza viruses, and other respiratory viruses,” published in the *CellHost & Microbe* medical journal.

But perhaps the most mind-blowing aspect of the paper was who is listed among the paper’s co-authors: Dr. Anthony Fauci.

As head of the NIAID during the entirety of the COVID War, Fauci was one of the biggest advocates for controversial mRNA medical treatments deceptively marketed as vaccines.

The paper admits what some medical experts have been arguing for some time now: that intramuscularly delivered COVID vaccines do not effectively target the respiratory tract, where the SARS COVID virus attacks and resides.

The paper also admits that bacterial development and complications is a major factor of COVID:

“Apart from preventing initial infection, it is also important to consider the role of host immunity in limiting viral spread once infection has been established. Respiratory viruses usually first infect the mucosa of the upper respiratory tract, where IgA is most effective in antiviral control;⁹⁵ however, some may spread contiguously to the lower respiratory tract, even to the pulmonary alveoli. This is of considerable significance for a subset of pneumogenic respiratory viruses such as influenza, RSV, and possibly SARS-CoV-2. These viruses are normally limited to the upper respiratory tract but can escape immune control and spread into the lungs to cause primary viral pneumonia with or without secondary bacterial pneumonia, often the principal causes of death from these infections.⁹⁶ Moreover, evidence suggests that viral-bacterial coinfection may facilitate viral, and viral/bacterial airborne transmission⁹⁷ and may even increase case-fatality, a phenomenon noted as long ago as 1917.⁹⁸”

Though this should've been admitted from the beginning, based on the known history of viral infections often leading to bacterial infections, official COVID protocols—and front-line-doctors—often discouraged prescribing antibiotics for patients suffering from COVID.

Right up to the current moment, the CDC has a [web page](#) which states:

“Antibiotic use throughout the pandemic varied across healthcare settings. Antibiotics were commonly prescribed to patients with COVID-19, even though antibiotics are not effective against viruses like the one that causes COVID-19.”

That information is highly deceptive, considering the well-known medical science that shows viral respiratory infections often progress to bacterial infections, for which antibiotics are a crucial form of care.

The Trends Journal highlighted those facts in stories like [“BACTERIAL PNEUMONIA & COVID: WHAT THE CDC SAYS”](#) (16 Feb 2021).

The “Rethinking next-generation vaccines” study [notes](#) that flu vaccines have a checkered track record concerning efficacy:

“Although current influenza vaccines reduce the risk of severe disease, hospitalization, and death to some degree, their effectiveness against clinically apparent infection is decidedly suboptimal, ranging from 14% to 60% over the past 15 influenza seasons.¹ Furthermore, the duration of vaccine-elicited immunity is measured only in months. Current vaccines require annual re-vaccination with updated formulations that are frequently not precisely matched to circulating virus strains.⁸ Although annual influenza vaccinations are strongly recommended for most of the general public and especially for persons in high-risk groups, including the elderly, those with chronic diseases, and pregnant women, vaccine acceptance by the general public is not ideal.”

The study makes further admissions regarding the limited efficacy of flu and COVID vaccines:

“With influenza, for example, vaccines historically have been designed to prevent upper respiratory infection, not secondary pulmonary infection associated with spread from the upper respiratory tract. This has proved problematic because current influenza vaccines are suboptimal at both preventing infection and eliciting pulmonary immunity.¹¹³ Although influenza and SARS-CoV-2 vaccines reduce disease severity when vaccines fail to prevent infection, significant numbers of fatalities still occur, resulting in tens of thousands of annual influenza deaths in the United States.^{114,115,116} With the imperfections of these vaccines, it seems a public health imperative to aggressively pursue better vaccines and vaccination strategies.”

Overriding Theme: “Science” Has As Many Questions Concerning Effective Vaccines in the Aftermath of the COVID War, than Before

During much of the COVID War, Fauci portrayed his recommendations and those of the CDC and WHO as incontrovertible “science,” not to be questioned.

Indeed Fauci was instrumental in efforts to suppress and ban contrary viewpoints, including those by other medical experts, as misinformation.

That history makes this new research paper even more breathtaking, since its overriding theme is a contemplation of how much “science” still doesn’t know concerning formulating effective treatments against respiratory viruses.

To give just one example, the paper meditates on all the factors that need to be explored (as of Jan 2023) regarding creating more effective vaccines:

“A key challenge for next-generation vaccines is determining if one-size-fits-all vaccines or vaccines targeted to key risk groups will be useful. It is inevitable that various human risk groups may require different vaccines or vaccine formulations. For example, we know that RSV infections are best prevented by humoral immunity in children but by cell-mediated immunity in the elderly.¹³⁶ Moreover, children may require different vaccine doses than do young adults, who in turn may need different doses than do the elderly with narrowed B cell and especially T cell repertoires to viral antigens.¹³⁶”

To be sure, while it turns out that Fauci’s vaunted “science” appears to have significantly—some say [criminally](#)—oversold what mRNA vaccines could do, the research just published in scientific journal *Cell* remains giddy about all the future vaccine pursuits it has in store for the world:

“We also need to ask whether there are other vaccine approaches that should be considered, such as sequential seasonal vaccinations and supplemental mucosal vaccines to stimulate specific upper respiratory immunity, or non-specific innate immunity. Such approaches might include prime-boost approaches, for example,

mixing elicitation of systemic and mucosal immunity, perhaps with prime systemic vaccination followed by a boost with intranasal vaccination or vice versa.35,82,150 Beyond intranasal vaccination, we will need to more fully explore responses to vaccination in other respiratory immune compartments, such as eye-drop conjunctival vaccination117 and particularly aerosol vaccination for certain respiratory viruses, as suggested by human and animal experimental studies for influenza and other respiratory viral diseases.44,135”

Scientists Lambast the Admissions of the New Research Paper

Many scientists and experts who had long pointed out the lies and deceptions surrounding COVID mRNA claims of efficacy, protection against virus spread, whether relatively healthy and young citizens should take them, and more, blasted Fauci’s admissions in the new research paper.

Jeffrey A. Tucker, president of Brownstone Institute, a social, public health and economic research nonprofit, [commented](#) on Twitter concerning the paper:

“Wherein Fauci explains that a vaccine for Covid could never work to stop infection, spread, or end the pandemic. Not only that but no attempt could ever have passed normal trials.”

George Mason Law professor Todd Zywicki [added](#):

“Fauci published his article a week after he retired. So he obviously knew the shots couldn’t prevent infection bc of mucosal immunity yet never said anything publicly. When did he know it? And why didn’t he say anything until after he retired?”

Zywicki said he had been pointing out since 2022 that one of the primary reasons why natural immunity (NI) was superior to COVID vaccines was due to [mucosal immunity](#):

“I did an interview with a researcher earlier this week and the last question she asked was, ‘What do you believe is the one most important thing that people

don't understand about Covid still?' My answer: Mucosal immunity and that's why NI provides superior protection to vax."

Kyle Becker of Becker News linked to an early 2022 [article](#) in that publication that referenced several medical experts detailing why COVID vaccines were not stopping the spread of COVID, despite official claims from Fauci and even President Joe Biden that the vaccines could “stop the spread.”

[Author Note: This journalist personally experienced a doctor who refused to prescribe an antibiotic during a time when I had COVID in late 2021, saying “antibiotics aren’t effective against COVID.” Thankfully another doctor did prescribe an antibiotic, as I was suffering from pneumonia as a consequence of COVID. For more on that, see [“MY COVID EXPERIENCE.”](#) (25 Jan 2022) —JD]

TRENDS IN GEOPOLITICS



NEW WORLD DISORDER: FRENCH KEEP TAKING TO THE STREETS

France dealt with a new round of protests on Saturday in opposition of French President Emmanuel Macron's plan to hike the country's retirement age from 62 to 64 to keep the pension system solvent.

The powerful CGT union said 500,000 people joined the rally in Paris, which was 100,000 more than last week's protest. The AFP noted that France's Interior Ministry only put the number in Paris at 93,000 and 963,000 across the country.

At least eight people were arrested on charges ranging from vandalism to firearm possession. Images appeared online showing protesters clashing with riot police who released tear gas. Besides Paris, protests broke out in Nice, Marseille, Toulouse, and

Nantes. The weekend protest had younger participants because the earlier rallies were held on the weekdays.

“We often hear that we should be too young to care, but with rising inflation, soaring electricity prices, this reform will impact our families,” Elisa Haddad, 18, told EuroNews. “It is my first demonstration because I couldn’t attend with uni. It is important that the voice of (France’s) parents and students is heard.”

A strike is planned later this week.

“The ball is in the court of the president and the government to determine if the movement intensifies and hardens or if they take into account the current mobilization,” Philippe Martinez, the head of the CGT union said.

France has the lowest age for a state pension among major European countries. Macron claimed that there is an imbalance between the working-age population and those able to collect a pension, and so the only way to “save” the system is to have the public work longer.

The Trends Journal has reported extensively on the push to unionize and the [New World Disorder](#) that includes angry mobs of people tired of the status quo. It is worth noting that students are a major driver in these French protests. We had forecast that the young, who still have the energy to fight, will be major players in these movements as they sink into economic despair.

It is also worth noting that Macron announced that Paris would increase its defense budget by 40 percent from 2024-2030 to 413 billion euros.

TRENDPOST: *We have been forecasting the [“New World Disorder”](#) trend for more than two years. We noted that politicians across the globe are fighting for survival against angry citizens who are taking to the streets in protest of lack of basic living standards, government corruption, crime and violence. (See [“NEW WORLD DISORDER TOP TREND: NATIONS SINKING DEEPER, PEOPLE SCREAMING LOUDER.”](#))*

Also, the deeper emerging market economies sink, the greater the refugee crisis will surge as people will do all they can to escape to safe haven nations. In turn, anti-immigration populist movements will gain power in those nations that want to restrict more refugees.

SRI LANKA RATTLED BY PROTESTS OVER MONETARY TIGHTENING, TAX INCREASES



Sri Lankans took to the streets in protest last week over austerity measures and tax hikes put forth by the International Monetary Fund as a precondition for a bailout loan.

The protests included about 50,000 people ranging from university teachers to doctors, WSWS.org reported. About 30,000 people from public and private banks also joined the protests.

President Ranil Wickremesinghe's government responded by deploying hundreds of police officers in Colombo. Wickremesinghe announced last week that the country was in the last stages of securing the nearly \$3 billion bailout package from the IMF.

If the country fails to restructure its debt load, the IMF will not provide the \$2.9 billion bailout loan that it promised. The IMF is withholding the cash until Sri Lanka raises corporate-income and value-added taxes, cuts government spending, and reaches a debt-restructuring agreement with two of its largest creditors, China and India, the Independent Institute said.

These protesters have lashed out at some of the terms of the IMF deal that could result in 36 percent hikes for some individuals.

The Sri Lankan economy has continued to worsen after the country defaulted on its loans for the first time in May. Since November 2019, the Sri Lankan rupee has shed

52 percent of its value against the U.S. dollar. Its foreign debt exceeds \$51 billion, of which \$28 billion must be repaid by 2027.

Wickremesinghe has called on the country for patience and asked for another five to six months to find some kind of equilibrium.

“Inflation rises during an economic crisis. The price of goods increases. Employment is at risk. Businesses collapse. Taxes increase. It is difficult for all sections of the society to survive,” he said, according to The Associated Press.

TRENDPOST: *As Gerald Celente has often noted, “When people lose everything and have nothing left to lose, they lose it.” (See [“TOP TREND, NEW WORLD DISORDER IN SRI LANKA AND PERU,”](#) 31 Jan 2023.)*

And as we had forecast when the COVID War broke out over two years ago and hundreds of millions of lives and livelihoods were killed... the deeper people fell into poverty and hopelessness, the higher the spike in street demonstrations to protest the lack of basic living standards, government corruption, crime, and violence.

The Trends Journal *has been highlighting its “New World Disorder” trend for more than two years.*

We point out that politicians across the globe are fighting for survival against angry mobs who want to overthrow them. The COVID-19 War and the Ukraine War have been a devastating one-two combination for many economies.

EUROPE IS FACED WITH MASSIVE PROTEST MOVEMENT WHILE STOKING WWII THAT WILL LEAD TO AN ECONOMIC CALAMITY FOR THE WORKING CLASS



Capitals across Europe have been hit with protests over the cost of living and how the comfortable middle-class lifestyle millions have grown accustomed to is slowly eroding with persistently high inflation and the push for WWII by EU leaders.

WSWS.org ran an op-ed co-written by socialist parties from the U.K., France, Germany, and Turkey that identified these protests as fundamentally different from the usual standoff between governments and workers unions.

The op-ed said what is unfolding is an “international political struggle, as workers raise similar demands in every country and are met with police crackdowns and legal threats from governments that are discredited and widely despised.”

TRENDPOST: The Trends Journal has documented the upheaval in Europe and has identified “New World Disorder” as a TOP TREND of 2023. (See [“NEW WORLD DISORDER, TOP TREND OF 2020 KEEPS SPREADING” 24 Jan 2023](#), [“TOP TREND, NEW WORLD DISORDER: BRITAIN’S CRISIS” 20 Dec 2022](#) and [“SOARING COST OF LIVING PUTS MILLIONS ON THE BRINK, PROTESTS BREAK OUT” 20 Dec 2022](#).)

And who will pay for it? We the People of Slavelania.

Indeed, the Resolution Foundation think tank noted that the only people in the U.K. who will see their wealth increase in the next two years will be those in the 5 percent of incomes because most of these individuals have their money tied up in investments that benefit from higher interest rates.

Inflation there hit a 41 year high in 2022 and the think tank said the worst is yet to come, according to Yahoo Finance. The median household income fell 3 percent last year and that number is expected to hit 4 percent in 2023. That would mean households are worse off than in the 2007-08 crisis.

The poorest households are most impacted by soaring inflation and high food and energy prices.

We've reported on how French President Emmanuel Macron has faced major protests for his push to increase the country's retirement age, all while introducing a 40 percent increase in military spending due to the phony threat of a Russian invasion. (See ["FRANCE CONTINUES TO FACE LARGE-SCALE PROTESTS OVER THE COST OF LIVING" 25 Oct 2022](#) and ["RAMPING UP WWII: MACRON INCREASING DEFENSE SPENDING" 24 Jan 2023](#).)

The protests and strikes in the U.K. and France have been widespread and people from all walks of life have participated, including rail workers, nurses, and teachers.

War With Russia

While many Europeans face economic hardship, their governments continue to provide hundreds of billions in aid for Ukraine to ensure that the war with Russia continues. WSWS noted that WWII will also impact the poor at a much higher level than the wealthy.

The report said that there will be one of two conclusions in Europe: either the pro-war capitalists will succeed in plunging the world into a hot war with Russia, or the "working class takes power out of the hands of the warmongering ruling elites."

The WSWS op-ed drew parallels to WWI and WWII, and noted how Vladimir Lenin, the Bolshevik leader, who had been isolated in Switzerland, identified the outbreak of WWI to be the ideal time to mount a socialist revolution. He was a major critic of the pro-war governments throughout Europe at the time. He identified three "major symptoms."

“(1) When it is impossible for the ruling classes to maintain their rule without any change...(2) When the suffering and want of the oppressed classes have grown more acute than usual; (3) When, as a consequence of the above causes, there is a considerable increase in the masses...into independent historical action.”

The op-ed noted that all of the ingredients are there for a major upheaval.

“Since 1991, it has waged NATO wars abroad—in Iraq, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Libya, Syria, Mali, and beyond—and carried out relentless austerity at home.”

The op-ed concluded:

“Stopping the war and ending austerity requires building powerful, international rank-and-file organizations of struggle in workplaces and schools, independent of the union bureaucracy. Every strike that erupts confirms the fact that the trade union bureaucracy works to subordinate workers to its dealings with the employers and the capitalist state, and its defense of the war policy of the capitalist class in each country. It is only with new organizations of struggle that the working class can unite internationally against the austerity demands of the banks and against the NATO war on Russia.”

ISRAEL ON BRINK OF CIVIL WAR



Some 70,000 protesters held a rally outside Jerusalem’s Knesset on Monday to voice outrage over Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s government’s effort to erase the country’s system of checks and balances by overhauling the judicial system.

Isaac Herzog, the Israeli president, urged calm and called on Netanyahu to hold off on the move. The *Financial Times* reported that Herzog said, “This powder keg is about to explode.”

Critics have called out Netanyahu's hardline government for proposing an "unbridled attack on the justice system" and said the proposal would give the government a "blank check" to pass laws.

TRENDPOST: *The Trends Journal* has reported extensively on the continual protests in the country over the proposal. (See ["LARGE-SCALE PROTESTS BREAK OUT IN ISRAEL OVER NETANYAHU'S 'REFORM' PLANS"](#) 17 Jan 2023 and ["NETANYAHU'S MOVE TO WEAKEN COURTS GROWING"](#) 31 Jan 2023.)

A [YouTube video emerged](#) earlier this month that showed Rabbi Sharon Brous giving a speech about the dangers of the judicial overhaul. A senior rabbi of IKAR, a Jewish congregation in Los Angeles, she warned that the Jewish State could be ready for a revolution and that nobody should be surprised by the lurch to illiberalism and ultranationalism.

Brous tied Israel's treatment of Palestinians as an example of how public sentiment provided Netanyahu's government with momentum. She said there is a pervasive feeling among many Israelis that Palestine is an "Us vs. Them" issue, with Israelis fighting for all that is good and Palestinians as unvirtuous.

"This is not an accident," she said. "And this is not an anomaly. This moment of illiberalism has been a long time in the making and our silence has been complicity."

Indeed, Brous's comment that Israel could see a revolution is not hyperbole. The New York Times reported that former Prime Minister Yair Lapid said the judicial policy could destroy democracy in Israel and Benny Gantz, the former defense minister, warned of the possibility of civil war.

TRENDPOST: *The Trends Journal* has reported extensively on Netanyahu's hardline government which is seen as a threat to the Palestinian people and the tenuous peace in the region. (See ["UN TAKES TO RULE ON ISRAEL SETTLEMENTS OF PALESTINIANS TERRITORIES"](#) 10 Jan 2023, ["LARGE-SCALE PROTESTS BREAK OUT IN ISRAEL OVER NETANYAHU'S 'REFORM' PLANS"](#) 17 Jan 2023 and ["NETANYAHU'S COALITION MAKES DEAL WITH CONVICTED RACIST TO](#)

We've noted that Netanyahu himself is on trial for corruption charges so his critics say there's added motivation to his decision to go along with the Knesset's plans to overhaul the judicial system and strip powers from the courts. The protesters see the attack on the judiciary as an existential threat to democracy in the country by the country's most right-wing and religious in history.

Fight for the Soul of Israeli Democracy

Those taking part in the protests have said the fight they are in is a fight for the soul of Israel's longstanding commitment to a democratic society.

Netanyahu has called the reforms sensible and actually help preserve democracy from a judiciary that wants to make its own laws instead of enforce them. Netanyahu has accused opposition leaders of “dragging the country into anarchy.”

“I call on the leaders of the opposition: stop it. Stop deliberately leading the country into anarchy. Get a hold of yourselves, show responsibility and leadership,” he said. “Most Israeli citizens do not want anarchy. They want a substantive discussion and in the end they want unity.”

Protesters see the move as a power grab by Netanyahu and his cronies.

“You voted Bibi, You got Mussolini” read one protester's placard, according to the *Times*.

CNN noted that rainbow flags and Palestinian flags were “sprinkled among many Israeli flags in the crowd.”

U.S. President Joe Biden issued a statement to the *Times* on Sunday calling on consensus in Israel.

“The genius of American democracy and Israeli democracy is that they are both built on strong institutions, on checks and balances, on an independent judiciary. Building

consensus for fundamental changes is really important to ensure that the people buy into them so they can be sustained,” he said.

TREND FORECAST: *With 41 percent of Israelis opposed to the judicial proposals and 44 percent in favor, by the numbers it is a civil war between the classes. Should the protests continue to escalate, we forecast the current Israeli government will ramp up its wars with the Palestinians and Iran. As Gerald Celente says, “When all else fails, they take you to war.”*

And should military confrontation erupt between Israel and Iran – not only will it be another element of WWII which was ignited with the Ukraine war – oil prices will spike to over \$100 per barrel that will in turn crash the already fragile equity markets and global economy.

TRENDS-EYE VIEW



AS AMERICANS KEEP BLIMPING UP, JUNK FOOD SALES SURGE

Fast food chains are seeing big profits as Americans keep lowering their eating standard as inflation rises and it costs more to live.

McDonald's reported same-store sales jumped 10.3 percent in the fourth quarter built on the momentum from low-income customers visiting these stores more than once a day. The fast food chain also credited its Adult Happy Meal as a key driver in sales.

CNBC reported that Yum Brands's Taco Bell and Pizza Hut also saw increases in same-store sales due, in part, to value meals. Taco Bell saw same-store sales grow by 11 percent.

“We’re connecting and we’re winning because of value,” David Gibbs, Yum CEO, said on the company’s conference call, the report said. The chain reported sales of 45 million Mexican pizzas in 2022, which was significant given that they were only sold four months of the year.

Subway, the sandwich chain, said same-store sales grew 9.2 percent in 2022.

Fast-casual restaurants, which are considered by consumers to be a step up from fast food establishments, saw sales slow in the fourth quarter.

Marketplace said, “Chains face rising costs for labor and ingredients, which are forcing them to raise prices. But at the same time, inflation puts consumers in the mood for value meals—even if ‘value’ is a relative term.”

QSR magazine’s Ben Coley, who tracks the restaurant industry, said fast food restaurants are attracting richer customers.

“They’re trading down,” he said. “They’re trading down from the casual dining places, they’re trading down from the fine dining places.”

TRENDPOST: The Trends Journal has reported extensively on the negative health impact from consuming any amount of fast food. (See [“GET FAT, GET SICK: FAST FOOD CONSUMPTION CAN BRING ON NON-ALCOHOLIC FATTY LIVER DISEASE”](#) 24 Jan 2023, [“WANT CANCER? KEEP EATING ULTRA-PROCESSED FOOD”](#) 7 Feb 2023 and [“EAT ULTRA-PROCESSED FOODS AND LOSE YOUR MIND”](#) 13 Dec 2022.)

We have noted that fast food consumption can lead to fatty liver disease, heart disease, stroke, and diabetes. Researchers said 90 percent of heart disease is preventable through diet, exercise, and not smoking.

A national Cleveland Clinic survey found 46 percent of Americans view healthy food being more expensive as the biggest reason they eat poorly, followed by 23 percent being lack of time to prepare food, and 20 percent being lack of recipes or knowledge of how to cook healthier food. About 10 percent of Americans believe that fast food is actually the healthiest option for their diet, the survey said.

Again, health “officials” are quick to alert Americans that they should get COVID-19 vaccines and wear masks, but nothing on how people in the country are eating themselves to death.

GOVERNMENT-SANCTIONED CENSORSHIP: EX-TWITTER EXECUTIVES TRY TO BULLSHIT THEIR WAY OUT OF CULPABILITY



Former Twitter executives appeared in front of the House Oversight Committee last week to discuss the company’s decision to block the damning *New York Post* report about Hunter Biden’s laptop just before the presidential election—thus protecting Joe Biden from increased scrutiny about his son’s business dealings and drug use.

Republicans in Congress have accused social media companies of intentionally protecting and promoting Democrats while silencing their voices. Elon Musk has brought new attention to these allegations by helping select journalists publish the so-called “Twitter Files.”

The reporting showed cooperation between Twitter and the FBI in silencing free speech.

“The Twitter Files only tell part of the story. How much did the FBI pressure other social media platforms, ones w/ even more users & influence?” Rep. Dan Bishop, R-N.C., said.

Last week’s hearing included some of Twitter’s former top executives. These included Vijaya Gadde, the former chief legal officer, James Baker, the former deputy general counsel, Annika Collier Navaroli, and Yoel Roth, the former head of trust and safety.

Roth described the company's reaction to the Hunter Biden story as an honest mistake caused by limited information.

He told the committee that at about the time the Hunter Biden laptop story was first reported, Twitter was warned by "law enforcement" that Russia could be concocting some kind of disinformation campaign to swing the upcoming presidential elections. The company was told to be prepared for leaked hacked documents to be a centerpiece of that effort.

"It would have been foolish not to consider the possibility that [Russia] would run that play again," Roth said, according to *The New York Times*.

TRENDPOST: Roth never clarified what Russian "play" he was referring to, but nobody on the committee cared to ask a follow-up question. "Russia bad" always plays well in front of Congress, regardless of political party.

Rep. James Comer, R-Ky., the chairman of the committee, said the country witnessed "Big Tech autocrats wield their unchecked power to suppress the speech of Americans to promote their preferred political opinions."

Roth put "visibility filters" on elected officials' accounts prior to leaving the company, Musk said, according to Fox News. A Fox reporter tweeted, "Roth says that it would not surprise him if 'visibility filters' were placed on the accounts of elected officials without their knowledge."

Musk replied, "Since he placed many of them there himself, he would indeed not be 'surprised' Imao."

TRENDPOST: *The Trends Journal* has reported extensively on tech censorship and how these major companies routinely perform the government's bidding. (See ["BIG PHARMA ASKED TWITTER TO CENSOR USERS DEMANDING LOW COST GENERIC COVID VACCINES FOR POOR COUNTRIES" 17 Jan 2023](#), ["TWITTER RAMPS UP CENSORSHIP TO STOP WHAT IT IDENTIFIES AS 'MISINFORMATION" 22 May 2022](#) and ["HERD MEDIA FINALLY ACKNOWLEDGES PART OF HUNTER BIDEN LAPTOP STORY" 22 Mar 2022.](#))

In politics, timing is everything. Twitter’s “play” to suppress the Hunter Biden story helped discredit the report, which turned out to be accurate. We’re seeing the same move play out now after Seymour Hersh’s report that said the U.S. was behind the Nord Stream attack. The Prostitutes in the media will avoid at all costs until they simply cannot anymore.

ARTISTS SUE TO STOP AI COMPANY FROM PROFITING OFF HUMAN CREATED WORKS



Tech companies looking to profit from their deep-learning AI programs that can generate images and graphics, are now meeting resistance on behalf of artists.

Several lawsuits have been launched against Stable Diffusion, one company with a so-called AI image creating platform.

Several other companies, including OpenAI, maker of Dall-E-2 imaging, as well as ChatGPT, an AI-based written content generator, may soon face similar legal challenges.

Stability AI is accused of illegally scraping content from the image site, according to a lawsuit filed in late January by Getty Images in the U.K., CBS News reported.

A class-action lawsuit was also initiated in California on behalf of three artists.

Those artists are contending that wholesale and unauthorized use of their copyrighted work threatens to put them and millions of other human artists out of work.

AI Swallows the Internet

AI pioneer Ben Goertzel said in a recent London Real Interview that generative AI programs could render not just artists, but 90 percent of humans jobless.

He also [confirmed](#) that deep learning AI programs are trained from huge data sets, including copyrighted content off the internet:

“[T]he trick with these systems is that the training data is just so much, right? So these systems are general in one sense. They cover a lot of different domain areas, right? I mean, ChatGPT, Orlando can answer questions about anything, they can do some very simple software programming. They can answer some very simple mathematics. They can answer simple questions on medicine. And they can write a job cover letter for you. So they are general in the sense that they cover a very wide variety of areas. On the other hand, they can do that because all those areas are in their training data, right? Because they read something very close to the whole web.”

Attorney Matthew Butterick, a lawyer representing one of the artists in the California case, commented according to CBS News that AI's "ability to flood the market with an essentially unlimited number of [similar] images will inflict permanent damage on the market for art and artists.”

Some experts believe the legal case against these AI companies may hinge on whether courts determine whether the systems qualify as producing original creative works, as opposed to cleverly pasting together derivatives.

But there are multiple problems with that line of traditional copyright law.

First, no human is able to swallow as much knowledge and copyrighted content and “train” on it the way AI can now do. In that sense, these AI systems represent a novel aspect that begs for new legislative attention.

Secondly, given the huge amount of data and images deep-learning AI systems have digested, it could be practically impossible to draw a line at the kind of sophisticated

assembling of what looks like an original and creative AI image might be based on. When it's potentially copying bits from thousands, or even millions of images it learned on, detecting the digital "collage" vs. "creativity" might well be impossible—and beside the point.

The Trends Journal has detailed the scale of the threat of deep-learning AI platforms to the entire revenue model of the internet, as well as the entire enterprise of human creativity. (See [“CREATIVE CONTENT INFRINGEMENT OF DEEP LEARNING AI HAS MONUMENTAL IMPLICATIONS.”](#) 7 Feb 2023 and [“AI IS LEARNING YOUR JOB.”](#) 24 May 2022.)

We have also warned about the ways these platforms are seeking to shape and limit creative and political expression. (See [“YOU WILL OWN NO SOFTWARE AND BE HAPPY—PART ONE.”](#) 18 Oct 2022 and [“YOU WILL OWN NO SOFTWARE AND BE HAPPY—PART TWO.”](#) 1 Nov 2022.)

It's quickly becoming clearer to many that deep-learning AI platforms present issues concerning their scale of disruption, how they were designed and trained, and how they stand to concentrate power and wealth even more into the hands of tech companies.

For the moment, courts may be the battlefield. But democratic institutions should be paying attention to what's going on, and taking the lead in connecting with their constituents to make sure humanity as a whole, and not just judges, or technocrats, are deciding what the future is going to look like.

*[Shutterstock, a competitor of Getty Images, boasts an AI image generator, and advertises that “We’re powering the future of AI, the right way. The imagery that trains Shutterstock.AI is from our own contributors. This means it’s ethically sourced, totally clean, and extremely inclusive. And that means you get the best content possible.” Two images in this **TJ** were created using the Shutterstock AI generator. See if you can spot them—Ed]*

NEW REPORT: AI IS ENABLING MONOPOLY PRACTICES ACROSS INDUSTRIES



Massive data sharing run through sophisticated AI algorithms are allowing industries to collude in suppressing wages, inflating prices, and snapping assets.

It's adding up to a new kind of assault on competitive market forces and outdated regulations that are supposed to moderate and balance the economic equation for workers and consumers.

That's according to a [new analysis](#) at [nakedcapitalism.com](#).

Journalist Conor Gallagher highlights practices and technology being employed in multiple industries, including real estate, healthcare and the meatpacking industry, which has allowed monopolistic price fixing and other practices.

Regarding the real estate industry, Gallagher highlighted information obtained from lawsuits that have revealed some of the ways that private equity and hedge fund companies employ computer algorithms to identify homes that might be profitable to convert into rental properties. They frequently make cash offers to purchase these homes minutes after they hit the market.

Gallagher said these enormous investment firms may also be coordinating prices around the country by employing algorithms.

A 2 February Bloomberg Law Review article [noted](#) that information sharing practices in the healthcare industry and elsewhere, which formerly has been judged to have a minimal chance of being abused in violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act, is now being reconsidered.

There's growing evidence that industries are pooling and analyzing data in order to fix prices and wages.

This past July, the DOJ notably took action against major poultry producers including Cargill, Sanderson Farms and Wayne Farms.

The companies were fined a total of 84.8 million dollars for employing AI and data sharing via the firm Webber, Meng, Sahl and Company, in order to engage in anticompetitive practices.

The data firm and its president have now been banned from that industry.

The nakedcapitalism article can be read [here](#).

U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT VIOLATING FIRST AMENDMENT BY FUNDING BIASED “GLOBAL DISINFORMATION INDEX”



An influential news outlet rating group called the Global Disinformation Index just came out with a detailed report on what they assessed as the “lowest risk” and “highest risk” U.S. news sources.

What they forgot to mention in the report? They’ve received hundreds of thousands in

funding from the U.S. State Department.

Call it a case of a supposed non-partisan Disinfo group caught in a web of...disinfo. Along with the Federal government and big tech, surprise, surprise.

The Washington Examiner deserves the credit for exposing the connections between the U.S. government, tech giant Microsoft, and GDI, which has been supplying conservative news outlet blacklists to ad placement platforms like Xandr.

Xandr happens to be the advertising and analytics subsidiary of Microsoft. It operates an online platform called Community, where companies can engage in digital advertising, including on news sites.

Xandr has been using GDI's blacklists, effectively positioning the third party "non-partisan" org as a choke-off mechanism for defunding conservative websites.

But GDI is hardly non-partisan. Besides its monetary association with Microsoft, it received at least 330 thousand dollars from two entities linked to the U.S. State Department, [according](#) to the *Examiner*.

First Amendment lawyers and members of Congress are now looking at the violations of First Amendment rights inherent in that funding, ZeroHedge [noted](#).

The GDI episode now joins the Twitter Files, Missouri vs Biden testimony, and other smoking gun evidence that a rogue Federal government has been violating Bill of Rights protections of free speech, freedom of the press, and freedom of political expression of Americans.

"House Republicans will be hauling these bad actors before Congress, and I absolutely support legislation to ban federal funding of anti-free speech groups," Rep. Jim Banks (R-IN) commented concerning the Federal government Bill Of Rights violations.

In late-breaking news over the weekend, *Examiner* reporter Gabe Kaminsky [announced](#) on Twitter:

Microsoft, which subscribes to the State Department-backed Global Disinformation Index's blacklist of conservative news, has suspended its relationship with GDI and is launching an internal review, @dcexaminer confirms

Bias In, Bias Out

News of GDI's tainted relationships and funding certainly deserve the headlines.

But its fake analytics, which allowed it to pose as a non-partisan resource, also deserve scrutiny.

A recent report by the group detailed a magic sauce recipe which consistently resulted in prominent right leaning sites being rated as “high risk” for disinformation, while the most popular left-leaning news outlets received the “lowest risk” scores.

GDI’s overall [credo](#) outlines some of their own biases rather plainly:

“GDI defines disinformation as adversarial narratives, which are intentionally misleading; financially or ideologically motivated; and/or, aimed at fostering long-term social, political or economic conflict; and which create a risk of harm by undermining trust in science or targeting at-risk individuals or institutions.”

Trust the science. Where has that been heard before?

Of course, the role of news organizations of integrity is to question and investigate any and all claims, including government and big pharma science narratives.

But instead of using real criteria for what constitutes the pursuit of truth via journalism, GDI substitutes criteria like “fostering long-term social, political or economic conflict” and whether news stories “target at-risk individuals or institutions,” which objectively amount to virtually nothing, as a measure of disinformation.

Its fake analytics measures go deeper, as GDI outlines with a veneer of dispassionate language in a [report](#) released in December 2022.

Their “neutral” formula of assessing things like “faulty logic,” failure to “engage with different views on the story,” “whether and to what degree the story negatively targets a specific individual or group,” etc., resulted in liberal outlets being greenlighted for ad revenue, while major conservative outlets got the squeeze.

Ironically, one of GDI’s criteria for assessing news outlet integrity, listed under its “Operations Pillar” (ie., how sites conduct and disclose aspects of their operation), is this tidbit regarding transparency in disclosures of funding:

“Funding: Rating based on the degree of transparency the site provides regarding its sources of funding”...

“Rating for the number of revenue sources identified on the site (adjusted if there are episodes of editorial interference or conflicts of interest)”

The results of GDI’s “non-partisan” analysis, turn out to look rather markedly partisan:

GDI Assessment of 10 Lowest and Highest Disinfo Risk Outlets

“Lowest Risk”	“Highest Risk”
NPR.org	NYPost.com
APNews.com	Reason.com
NYTimes.com	RealClearPolitics.com
ProPublica.org	DailyWire.com
Insider.com	TheBlaze.com
USAToday.com	OANN.com
WashingtonPost.com	TheAmericanConservative.com
BuzzFeedNews.com	TheFederalist.com
WSJ.com	Newsmax.com
HuffPost.com	Spectator.org

Of the ten “lowest risk” outlets, only two, *ProPublica* and *The Wall Street Journal*, could be considered politically centrist or equalitarian in investigative reporting targets.

Meanwhile, all ten of the lowest ranking outlets by GDI’s accounting were either right-leaning, or in one case, libertarian (Reason.com).

The New York Post, cited as a worst offender, happened to break the 2020 Presidential election cycle Hunter Biden laptop story.

The laptop story was systematically suppressed by many of GDI's "low risk" rated disinfo sites.

And that, as much as GDI's listings and tainted ties and funding, encapsulates the actual ability of the group to accurately identify and assess "disinfo."

PAPER PROMISES



by *AmericanThinkr*

It's all Paper Promises
And they protect their seal
A preposterous proposition
That nothing is quite real

A Pendulum President
Whose power presumes
A printed population
That perpetually consumes

Poignant provisions
Is Political Math
Inflates us all
Down the Primrose Path

Penalizing Prudence
From the patrons purse
Postulating Positions
Making the plague worse

Passing Ponzi's Problem
No matter its Great size
Proffers a pageant parade

Prior to his Peace Prize

A panache for the pulpit
To peddle vapid hope
An ever persistent Press
Push down a precarious slope

Propaganda for Profit
When the Pied Piper's to pay
Polarizing the People
Placate perceptions each day

Promoting the profound
Is improper to perform
A protest of the past
The new peripheral norm

Pounds of Pork avail
For the Politicians Pride
Poverty's pinch packs a punch
Poor and penniless to provide

Proclaim the Producers
As the Party for Prey
Poach their possessions
Then plead them to stay

First they pilfer Peter
Then proverbial Paul
And make Paper Promises
To Preside over us all



by *Ben Daviss*

FLASH OF LIGHT CAN HELP BRAIN LEARN THREE TIMES FASTER

A calm brain is a brain on alpha waves. A brain on alpha waves is ready to triple its learning speed, researchers at the University of Cambridge have found.

When you're relaxed, drowsy, or deeply meditating, the brainwaves in your cerebral cortex—the part of the brain that carries out high-level executive functions—oscillate in the alpha range, which encompasses frequencies of 8 to 12 Hertz.

Each person's brain has a particular frequency in that range that's their personal sweet spot.

The researchers wondered what would happen if the whole brain could be synced to produce waves at that specific frequency.

Recruiting 80 volunteers, the scientists used EEG readings to identify each volunteer's signature alpha frequency.

Volunteers then were divided into four groups. Each person looked at a white square on a computer screen for 1.5 seconds, then was given a test requiring them to pick out specific shapes from a scene of chaotic visual clutter.

One group was shown a white square pulsing at each person's uniquely ideal alpha wavelength, at the crest of their alpha wave. A second group saw a square pulsing at the bottom of their wavelength.

Another group was flashed waves too slow or too fast and the final group looked at waves pulsing at random speeds.

Each volunteer repeated the exercise 800 times over a period of days and the rate at which their performance improved was measured and recorded.

The group flashed with their individual ideal alpha wavelength, improved their skill three times faster than the control groups and retained their new skills a day later when they returned to repeat the exercise.

TRENDPOST: *The researchers used sophisticated lab gear to run their tests, but simple, inexpensive EEG readers embedded in headbands that can allow you to read your brain waves yourself.*

Connecting the output from a headband to a computer able to flash a white light at a specific frequency should be a simple step.

Look for systems such as this to pop up on self-improvement websites, in brokerage houses' trading boiler rooms, and college dorms in the relatively near future.

AI INVENTS NEW PROTEINS



Life is a process of proteins interacting. What if new proteins never seen before are introduced?

Researchers at the University of California San Francisco are finding out.

Salesforce Research, working with bioengineers at the university, has created an artificial intelligence (AI) that converses in natural language, has mastered key aspects of biology and evolution, and is delivering designs for proteins not found in nature.

This is not new. The 2018 Nobel Prize in Medicine went to a group who created a method to design new proteins.

The Salesforce version performs better, its creators claim.

"The language model is learning aspects of evolution, but it's different than the normal evolutionary process," James Fraser, professor of bioengineering and therapeutic sciences at the university's pharmacy school and one of the project's developers, said in a public statement.

"We now have the ability to tune the generation of these properties for specific effects," he added. He offered examples: proteins that are stable at very high temperatures, that thrive in highly acidic surroundings, or that won't interact with any other proteins.

The scientists showed the AI the structures of 280 million proteins, then directed the AI to create lysozymes—small-size proteins that are key immune defenders.

The AI spit out a million suggestions, the researchers selected the 100 most likely candidates, and tested five.

Two were able to break down bacteria cells' walls as effectively as the natural version but they shared only 18 percent of the natural version's structure.

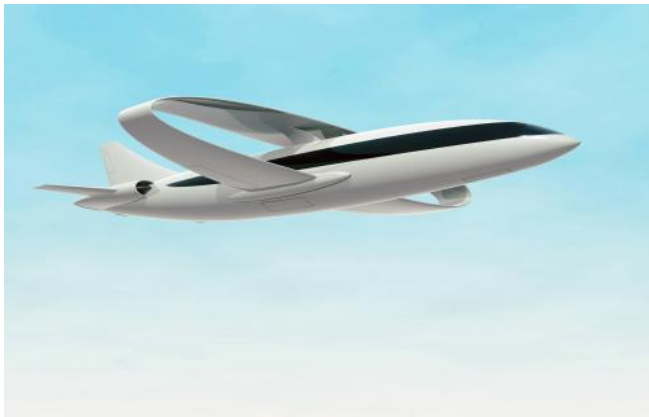
The two creations shared 70 to 90 percent of the structure of any known protein; the balance was devised by the AI.

TRENDPOST: *The ability to design proteins is the ability to create life.*

At first, designer proteins can be made for purposes ranging from zapping pernicious viruses to dissolving toxic waste.

Over time, scientists will use AI to create proteins that combine into novel life forms—rudimentary at first, but what has been dubbed “directed evolution” has a future limited only by our willingness to control and guide it.

A FIRST: AIRPLANE FLIES WITH NO MOVING PARTS



Engineers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have flown an aircraft that has no moving parts.

Instead, the plane is propelled by electro aerodynamic thrust—an ionic wind.

First theorized almost a century ago, the idea is that when a powerful enough electric current travels between a thick and thin electrode, it creates an airflow of charged particles.

On MIT's plane, thin wires are strung horizontally along and underneath the front end of the plane's single wing. The wires act as a positive electrode.

Thicker wires are strung in the same way along the back of the wing to form a negative electrode.

Batteries in the plane's fuselage shoot 40,000 volts into the wires.

The electrically charged wires at the front of the wing grab and strip electrons from passing air molecules. The remaining pieces of air are ionized, carrying a positive charge.

Those positively charged molecules are magnetically attracted to the negative electrode made by the wires at the back of the wing.

As they fly toward the back of the wing, those ions collide with millions of other air molecules, knocking them all backward and creating a thrust that pushes the plane forward.

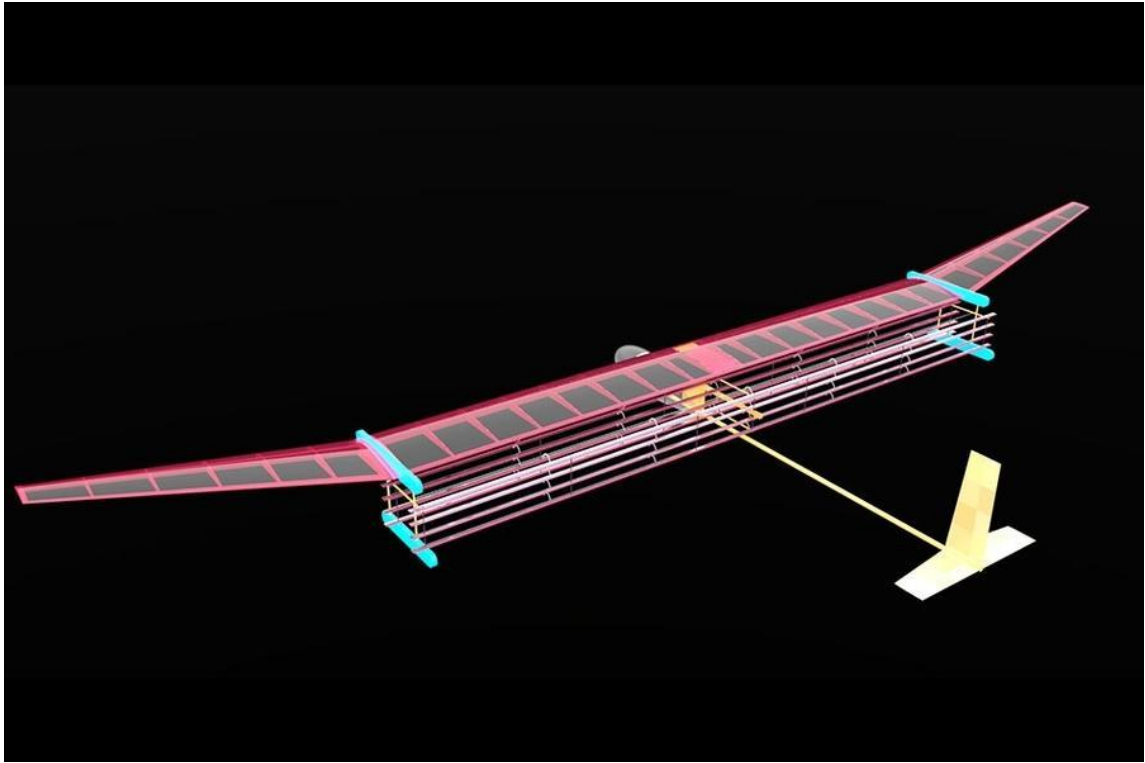
MIT's experimental craft weighed five pounds and had a five-meter wingspan, about 15.5 feet.

In tests, the plane flew 60 meters, more than 180 feet, across the biggest gym on the institute's campus. In 10 tests, the ionic wind was able to drive the silent plane the full distance.

The initial success has encouraged the engineers to work to produce more thrust with less electric power and battery volume.

TRENDPOST: *For its size and the distance traveled, the ionic plane's maiden flight was roughly comparable to the Wright brothers' achievement at Kitty Hawk. Just 15 years after that, airplanes were carrying mail and dropping bombs in World War One.*

Improvements are being made in lightweight battery technology that could render MIT's silent, fuel-free aircraft commercially practical for light duty in the relatively near future.



MIT's ion-powered aircraft.

Photo: MIT