

In search of a Big Brother to restore sanity to an insane world Part I

by Daniel Borchers
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As Time Goes By

The world is going crazy, and we can't stop it or get off. Instead, many seek a Superman to set it right. But will our Clark Kent save us, or enslave us?

We are living in the midst of an age of transformation unlike that of any other, an age of incredible opportunities and growth coupled with unimaginable horror. Global changes are occurring before our very eyes, life-transforming changes which impact everyone who reads this. What does the future hold in store for us? There are many visions of the future. Not being a prognosticator, I cannot tell you what *will* happen. But I can point out some ominous trends.

This three-part series examines four trends which carry with them the seeds of our destruction. These trends have been visible for years and are accelerating at a tremendous pace. Singly, they pose perplexing problems, but combined, they may prove beyond our ability to deal with.

The four trends are balkanization, globalization, technophilia (progress) and technophobia (regress or primitivism). Part I looks at the first trend – balkanization – forces which are tearing us apart. Part II examines the remaining three trends, and Part III shows how these four trends, or forces, work together to further empower Big Brother.

Samuel Huntington envisions a clash between Eight Civilizations; Joel Garreau dissects North America into Nine "Nations." *U.S. News & World Report* describes Seven Tribes in the United States and also pictures the Two Nations of America. Matthew Connelly and Paul Kennedy predict an invasion of the West by the Rest, while Peter Brimelow documents that invasion in *Alien Nation*. Clearly peace on earth has not become reality.

The world *is* falling apart, nations *are* disintegrating, cultures fragmenting, peoples torn asunder, and many question whether Humpty Dumpty can *ever* get a face lift let alone be repaired. The centrifugal forces in society are creating sub-groups within sub-groups, cults within cults, enclaves within enclaves, in a relentless process of fragmentation – all culminating in a drive for a strong hand (e.g., strong *centralized* government) to bring it all back together again.

National Dissolution

In 1981, Joel Garreau, former editor of the *Washington Post*, provided a unique perspective of the New World by dividing the North American continent into nine "nations," ignoring often arbitrary geographical state boundaries, and accenting the cultural character traits of each "nation."¹ His analysis suggests deep and irreconcilable cultural divisions between these nations which are locked in a constant tug-of-war to preserve and extend their own identities.

Whereas *The Nine Nations of North America* attempted to describe the physical, social, cultural and political psyche of different geographical regions of North America, *U.S. News & World Report* profiles seven distinct personalities *within* the United States. These seven “tribes” delineate the various perspectives and worldviews embraced by the American people, worldviews which inform public debate and direct the private lives of the citizens. *USN&WR*’s conclusion is that *culture* (not race, gender, geography or ideology) plays the dominant role.² Yet, many Americans fear an imminent *race* war.

The O.J. Simpson trial underscores "The Great Racial Divide" in America, the subject of the October 16, 1995 issue of *USN&WR*, opining a separate, yet intermingled, Black and White America. (One wonders about the other colors of the rainbow which comprise America.) Speaking at the Million Man March, Louis Farrakhan declared “There’s still two Americas, one Black, one White, separate and unequal.”

During the 1994 election cycle the *Washington Post* provided a portrait of the political landscape which painted an electorate with ten faces,³ and on just the *one* issue of abortion, *National Review* discovered *six* distinct attitudes.⁴ Mark Gerzon proffers his own vision of a divided America, delineating six competing worldviews in *A House Divided*.⁵

As if the United States is not already sufficiently fractured, legal and illegal immigration pose a further threat to social harmony. Peter Brimelow, author of *Alien Nation*, warns “This country is being transformed [by immigration] against its will.” Indeed, he asserts there has been an unprecedented demographic transformation of the nation in the last three decades.⁶

Present immigration policy is “transforming America, while making that transformation impossible to discuss.” Brimelow asserts the Immigration Act of 1965 led to a breathtaking change in the American landscape. “There is no precedent for a sovereign state undergoing such a rapid and radical transformation in the entire history of the world.” He warns of two specific dangers posed by current immigration policy: the threat of terrorism and the prospect of “immigrant-borne disease.” “The evidence already is clear that the post-1965 immigration wave has caused diseases like measles, dangué fever, cholera, malaria and leprosy to flare in the United States. ... [tuberculosis] is now again resurgent in the United States and cannot be combated without better control of immigration.”⁷

International Disintegration

"Balkanization" has entered our modern lexicon, becoming an ever more relevant term to describe the extension of chaos. The *former* Soviet Union, *former* Yugoslavia, *former* Bosnia (and *former* AT&T) all testify to its impact. Will the former *United States* be next? To combat this possibility, House Speaker Newt Gingrich launched a cultural-restoration campaign called Renewing American Civilization. Yet this clash of cultures within America merely presents a microcosm of world conflict.

In *Foreign Affairs*, Samuel Huntington diagnosed a potential clash between eight competing civilizations.⁸ This clash of civilizations could ultimately climax in a war between the West and the Rest of humanity. Matthew Connelly and Paul Kennedy, in *Atlantic Monthly*, predict a "global apartheid" between the prosperous and the impoverished nations, culminating in uncontrolled waves of illegal aliens invading wealthy nations. They present a harrowing vision of millions upon millions of people in abject desperation invading/overwhelming the First World for *survival*. The vision they present is an us-vs.-them, First World vs. Third World, West vs. non-West scenario – a clash of civilizations.⁹

In their view, "we are heading into the twenty-first century in a world consisting for the most part of a relatively small number of rich, satiated, demographically stagnant societies and a large number of poverty-stricken, resource-depleted nations whose populations are doubling every twenty-five years or

less. The demographic imbalances are exacerbated by grotesque disparities of wealth between rich and poor countries."¹⁰ They envision a "borderless world" with *global* migration and all-consuming chaos, with the greatest growth in population occurring in the poorest and most ill-equipped countries.¹¹

Unfortunately, Connelly and Kennedy propose solutions which have proven disastrous in America and elsewhere. Their solutions: 1) redistribution of wealth (international welfare), 2) technological research, 3) population control, 4) giving the United Nations increased authority to intervene in internal national affairs, 5) arms/gun control, and 6) global implementation of multiculturalism in foreign and domestic affairs (not the current "cultural arrogance," rather the axiom that all cultures are equal and equally valuable). While technological research is beneficial, the remainder of their prescription is not. They recommend the flow of welfare funds to poor nations – a redistribution of wealth on an international scale, despite the failure of such programs already in existence.¹² LBJ's Great Society has been an abysmal failure. Can a United Nations-sponsored Global Society yield better results? The neglected "correct" solutions: exportation of democracy and capitalism.

The authors are apparently "global idealists" who view government on an *international* scale as the solution, believe the success of East Asian nations as encouraging but fail to recognize the *cause* of their success (the opposite of their proposed solutions).¹³ They believe the citizens of the world need to adopt "a global ethic that recognizes our common human destiny and the necessity for shared stewardship of our delicate global ecosystem.." In closing, the authors present a chicken little proclamation, warning of "the collapse of continents rather than single states; oceans of dead rather than mere rivers."¹⁴

The African Model

Robert Kaplan, also in *Atlantic Monthly*, suggests that tyranny and lawlessness are twin evils currently ravaging West Africa which could forebode the future of mankind. Many West African nations are drowning in incessant waves of crime as governments hopelessly look on. Necklacings are an emergent form of criminal terrorism in many African nations. Kaplan writes: "West Africa is becoming the symbol of worldwide demographic, environmental, and societal stress, in which criminal anarchy emerges as the real "strategic danger."¹⁵

West African nations are following a pattern: "the withering away of central governments, the rise of tribal and regional domains, the unchecked spread of disease, and the growing pervasiveness of war." "[As an example,] the Ivory Coast faces a possibility worse than a coup: an anarchic implosion of criminal violence – an urbanized version of what has happened in Somalia."¹⁶

Kaplan predicts a "disease wall" will isolate "African and other parts of the Third World" from the rest of the world. He contends that "*nature unchecked*" presents Africa's greatest threat: "The coming upheaval, in which foreign embassies are shut down, states collapse, and contact with the outside world takes place through dangerous, disease-ridden coastal trading posts ..." He further predicts scarce resources will inspire "environmentally driven wars and refugee flow ... [and] environmentally induced praetorian regimes ..." ¹⁷ In his dire warning of the development of "*re-primitivized man*," Kaplan pictures a time of state collapse where "crime and war become indistinguishable."¹⁸

"The coming anarchy: nations break up under the tidal flow of refugees from environmental and social disasters. As borders crumble, another type of boundary is erected – a wall of disease. Wars are fought over scarce resources, and war itself becomes continuous with crime, as armed bands of stateless marauders clash with the private security forces of the elites. A preview of the first decades of the twenty-first century."¹⁹

Will West Africa prove to be the paradigm of the future?

To highlight the depth of this problem, just *one* issue of the *Washington Times* (11/19/95) had **four** items corroborating Balkanization:

- 1) A review of *Dictatorship of Virtue: How the Battle Over Multiculturalism Is Reshaping Our Schools, Our Country, Our Lives*, noted the rise of a *mono-culturalism*, a watering down of culture creating a lack of “a coherent or consistent set of ideas.”
- 2) Many members of the National Council of Teachers of English consider English to be non-inclusive. They want to offer *diversity*, and to change various aspects of their *name* (e.g., national is too nationalistic, English too exclusive, teaching should be facilitating, etc.). One member lamented that “We are trying to be so inclusive we don’t stand for much any more.”
- 3) The National African-American Leadership Summit developed a nine-point plan, including creating a black-run economic development trust, a national health plan for blacks, an international black communications network, and a National Black Political Convention.
- 4) Mexico is beset by Indian tribes seeking autonomous rule to escape the harsh oppression of whites (i.e., Hispanics).

Destructive Disintegration

While many conservatives, libertarians and anarchists would consider *decentralization* a laudable goal, the *fragmentation* envisioned here is quite a different matter. Rather than a benign “peaceful coexistence” among friendly neighbors who live and let live, what we are seeing is verbal and physical violence between groups of every description, each claiming to be the *sole* arbiter of what is right, each *demanding* recognition and legitimacy from the others.

Two examples in the United States serve to illustrate the point. Many militant homosexual activists demand not *tolerance*, but acceptance and *approval* of their lifestyles. Louis Farrakhan, and other separatist black leaders, seek not just equality but *reparations* for past wrongs. These two examples illustrate the *type* of fragmentation which is occurring, one wherein “live and let live” is not an option. These competing groups are not seeking to live in harmony. To the contrary, they are making *demands* on the rest of society. In the one instance mainstream America is asked to approve of *behavior* many consider wrong. In the second instance, black separatists seek to establish a separate nation 🇺🇸 at the *expense* of those they are *excluding*. This would be comparable to the antebellum South seceding from the Union and demanding the North finance the whole endeavor. This is not live and let live. This is *you* pay for *my* living. That is what lies at the heart of much of the fragmentation within America: one group making *demands* of another.

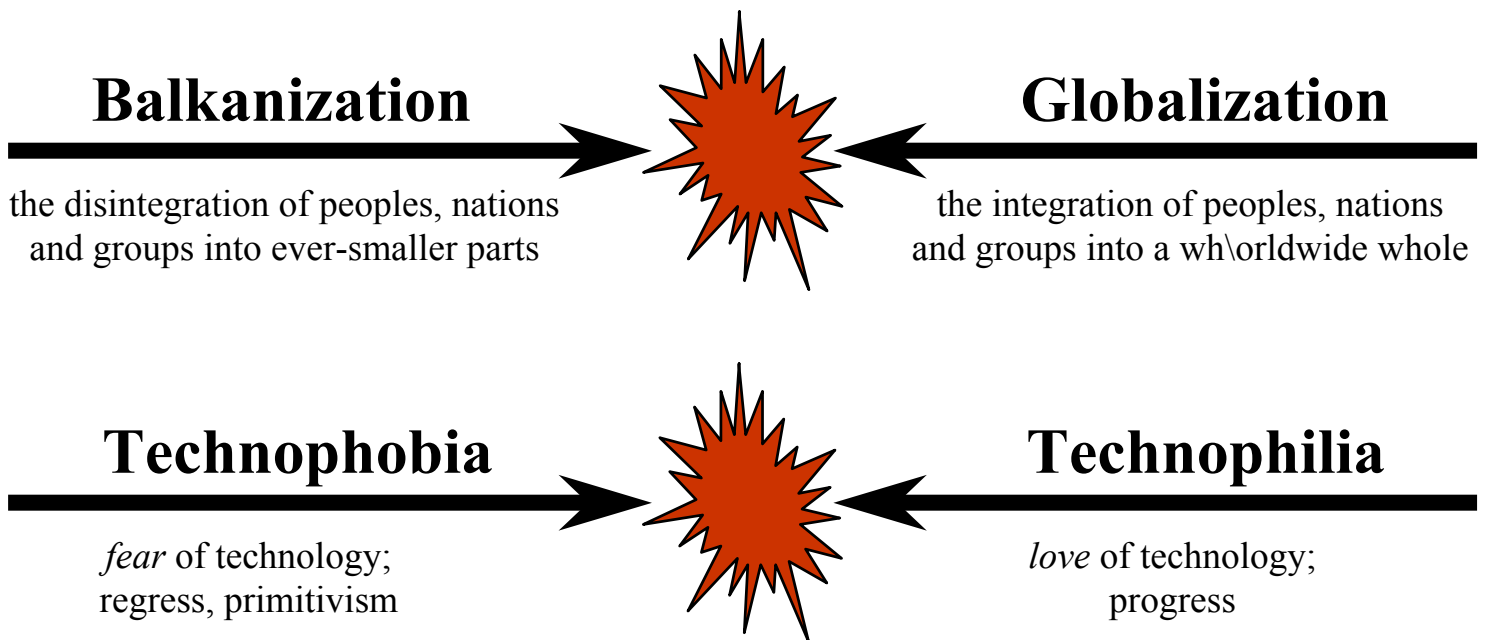
Our benevolent Big Brother uses these disruptive social trends and destructive behavior patterns to destroy traditional institutions and disrupt families and communities, all with one goal: gaining more *power*. By endorsing specific groups and funding particular programs, ostensibly in the name of equality, compassion and fairness, the federal government erodes individual liberty and personal autonomy. With an incredible array of programs across a spectrum of activities Big Brother is literally taking away our freedom – *piece by piece*. This incremental infringement on our rights occurs on personal, familial, community, state and federal levels, all the while overlooking the safeguards contained in the Bill of Rights.

When viewed correctly, the Constitution and Bill of Rights were expressly designed to *limit* the power

and growth of government and to guarantee the autonomy of individuals, families, communities and states. Each Amendment in the Bill of Rights was designed as a *roadblock* to curb the power of government. They were true walls of separation between the various political and societal powers. Tragically for lovers of freedom, those roadblocks have been pushed aside, those walls have been scaled, as the federal leviathan has absorbed more and more power, with a concomitant loss of liberty and reduction of rights.

The methods, manner and scope of reach conducted by the government is a full-length article in itself. Judicial activism has played a critical role in the encroachment of our liberties and the redistribution of our resources. The role of unelected and unaccountable bureaucrats creating standards and regulations has further restricted the rights of individuals. Even the democratic process itself has served to undermine the institutions which support it. For instance, the 14th Amendment snatched states' rights guaranteed in the 10th. The direct election of senators, provided for in the 17th, further undermined *state* power. The power to tax, created in the 16th, *fuels* the leviathan.

This dismantling of American culture gives the appearance of a carefully orchestrated plan, yet, to suggest a clandestine conspiracy among all the contributors would surely imply a magnitude of power and prescience they do not have. Rather, the forces at work are a natural result of human nature and the elitist countercultural paradigm which arose in the 1960s. Those most desirous of power see the path to power through the erection of a new State built upon the ashes of the old. Traditional institutions must be destroyed. Those vestiges of the past are in the way. To accomplish that destruction the cultural elites sanction those things which undermine – and condemn those things which strengthen – the traditional institutions of family and community, individual freedom and personal responsibility. Thus the opposition to home schooling and school choice, and the promotion of aberrant and irresponsible behavior.



In *Lawrence of Arabia* (1962), the title character warns Sheriff Ali: “So long as the Arabs fight tribe against tribe, so long will they be a little people, a silly people, greedy, barbarous and cruel -as you are.” That is the goal of our omniscient and omnipresent Big Brother – to keep us “little people” at one another’s throats. They would have us divided, like the feuding Hatfields and McCoys. The indigenous Indian tribes of North America warred amongst themselves, and succumbed to what they consider a European invasion. Many of their descendants live empty lives devoid of hope. The American underclass,

many descendants of slaves, are trapped in *urban* reservations plagued by gang and drug warfare. In all these cases *sub*-groups struggled against one another, failing to unite, failing to perceive the larger perspective (e.g., pan-Arab, pan-Indian, pan-American). So long as we continue to fight one another, instead of the *real* enemy, we will remain like the *Prisoner* calling out “I am a free man” – with a “freedom” circumscribed by tyranny.

The National Council of Churches (NCC) recently published a workbook, *First We Must Listen: Living in a Multicultural Society*, which vilifies the “dominant European culture,” encourages the formulation of ethnic sub-groups, and promotes recognition that “within each of these groups there are further national/tribal/ethnic allegiances.” [Allegiances!] Robert Royal of the Ethics and Public Policy Center believes the NCC vision “is of an endless fragmenting of our culture along the same tribal divisions (but now including gender) that have been one of the principal sources of war and human mistreatment of other human beings throughout the ages.”²⁰

Where will it all end? How do balkanization and globalization lead to bigger (and not better) government? Where do technophilia and technophobia fit into the picture? These and other questions will be answered in parts II and III. In the meantime, we must all remember we have a part to play in preserving our freedom, and unless we do our part, we can only look forward to chains.

Endnotes:

¹ The nine nations are New England, The Foundry, Dixie, The Islands, MexAmerica, Ecotopia, The Empty Quarter, The Breadbasket, and Quebec. An October 30, 1995 vote for Quebec’s independence from Canada was rejected by a tiny margin (50.6% against, 49.4% for, with a 92% voter participation). This vote, on the eve of Halloween, demonstrates that differences will continue to divide Canada. Certainly the drive for independence has not abated.

² The seven delineated tribes are populist traditionalists (15% of voters), stewards (15%), dowagers (7%), liberal activists (20%), conservative activists (15%), ethnic conservatives (16%) and agnostics (12%). Their respective “heroes” are Dan Arnold, Thurston Howell, Golden Girls, Murphy Brown, Alex P. Keaton, Louise Jefferson / Edith Bunker, and Frasier.

³ The ten faces were split into three categories. In the first category, The “Not So” Left: Partisan Poor (7%), New Dealers (7%), New Democrats (10%), and Seculars (9%). In the second category, The Detached Center: The Embittered (7%), Bystanders (8%), New Economy Independents (18%). In the third category, The Divided Right: Libertarians (4%), Moralists (18%), Enterprisers (10%). “Heroes” for each of the preceding were as follows: Bill Clinton, Jimmy Carter, Hillary Clinton, John F. Kennedy, None, Al Gore, Colin Powell, Ronald Reagan, and Rush Limbaugh. Based on *Times-Mirror* survey reported in the *Washington Post*, September 21, 1994.

⁴ The six attitudes: consistently pro-life (33%), privately pro-life (19%), conveniently pro-life (14%), reticent pro-choice (7%), personally opposed pro-choice (8%), and consistently pro-choice (16%). Richard John Neuhaus, “Combat Ready,” *National Review*, May 2, 1994, pg. 53.

⁵ Mark Gerzon, *A House Divided: Six Belief Systems Struggling for America’s Soul*, G.P. Putnam’s Sons, 1996. From Gerzon’s perspective, the principal worldviews battling for cultural dominance are as follows: **Patria** (*Religious State*), **Corporatia** (*Capitalist State*), **Disia** (*Disempowered State*), **Media** (*Superstate*), **Gaia** (*Transformation State*), and **Officia** (*Governing State*). Whereas Gerzon contends these competing paradigms can live in harmony with one another through a new patriotism of tolerance and civil discourse, these worldviews are, in fact, mutually exclusive, necessitating the dominance of one over the others.

⁶ Peter Brimelow, *Booknotes*, C-SPAN, June 11, 1995.

⁷ Peter Brimelow, “National transformation in the making?” *Washington Times*, May 30, 1995, pg. A1.

⁸ Samuel P. Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations?,” *Foreign Affairs*, Summer 1993. The eight civilizations are Western (European, North American), Islamic (Arab, Turkic, Malay), Japanese (single nation state) and Chinese (populous nation), Confucian, Hindu, Slavic & Orthodox, Latin American, and African.

⁹ Matthew Connelly and Paul Kennedy, “Must It Be The Rest Against The West?,” *Atlantic Monthly*, December 1994, pp. 62,66.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, pg. 69.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 70,72.

¹² *Ibid.*, pp. 79, 82.

¹³ *Ibid.*, pg. 82.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, pg. 84.

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- ¹⁵ Robert D. Kaplan, "The Coming Anarchy: How scarcity, crime, overpopulation, and disease are rapidly destroying the social fabric of our planet," *Atlantic Monthly*, February 1994, pp. 45-46.
- ¹⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 48-49.
- ¹⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 54,59.
- ¹⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 73,74.
- ¹⁹ *Ibid.*, front cover.
- ²⁰ Robert Royal, "Over the Multicultural Rainbow," *Faith & Freedom*, Institute on Religion and Democracy, Summer 1996, p 13.