

100 Years of Communism, and How the World Changed Forever

December 17, 2017

Tuesday November 7 marked the 100 year anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia, thus marking the 100 year anniversary of communism on earth. It is no debate that communism is one of the worst things to happen to civilization, yet there is a horrifying trend happening in our country.

According to the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation's annual report, and information collected by the data firm YouGov, approximately half of millennials would prefer to live in a socialist or communist country. Yet, according to the same information, 71 percent of those surveyed could not define what communism was.

Now, I don't think communism is making a comeback, but it might be the trendy ideology to prefer in some young political circles. Some may be screaming at this article right now because I'm using the words communism and socialism in the same light. Well yeah, because socialism is the adolescent little brother of communism. There's no denying it. Both believe in the idea of a utopian, post-state society, yet the only way to achieve such an idea is the complete and total takeover of all facets of people's lives and bowing down to the state.

Even Vladimir Lenin agrees with me: "The goal of socialism is communism."

Here are some warning signs to know if your home country is on the verge of becoming a socialist state: complete takeover of the nation's healthcare system by perpetuating single-payer healthcare, and the ending of an armed citizenry. Sound familiar?

In China under the communist Mao regime, where Mao attempted to collectivize agriculture and do away with any form of private property, the regime induced a man-made famine that led to the death of 45 million people. China, which is technically still communist today, outlaws Christianity because they don't want the citizenry to have any other ideas other than the communist party. In fact, just last week, China's communist party leaders threatened to revoke poverty relief packages designated for rural Chinese Christians if they don't replace images of Jesus with images of Chinese president Xi Jinping.

Millions of people died under the Soviet Union's Gulag camps, millions died in the "Killing Fields" of Cambodia, and millions more in communist Ethiopia. Altogether, 100 million people have died at the hands of tyrannical communist governments.

The fact of the matter is that a centrally planned economy, where the state regulates production and distribution of goods and services, with high tax rates, no individual property rights, poverty ensues. You create a dependency state. In turn, what would happen is that the workers would do as little as possible because there is no incentive for their work. The amount of items produced would decrease, which drives up the price of the goods. The items that would be produced would go back to the state and spread where it was needed. There is an old Soviet adage that can still be applied to this economic system: "we pretend to work, and they pretend to pay."

Want to know another example of communism? North Korea. End of story. Want to know a modern-day example of socialism? Venezuela.

Socialist economies, which lead to communist societies, are the same thing as theft. It is a complete brainwashing of the populace where you and your items don't belong to yourself, you belong to the state and the society.

Socialists like to defend the northern European countries as the bastions of modern-day socialism. Yet, prosperity has occurred because Sweden introduced school-choice into their society, and Denmark has cut their corporate tax rates as well as partly privatizing their social security.

Socialists harken their policies to the utopian "I want free stuff" economics. But unfortunately there is no such thing as free. Our spending deficit continues to skyrocket, and our combined gross national debt is hovering around \$19 trillion.

According to the National Review, if we wanted to fund social programs, like free college, single-payer healthcare, enforcing a "living-wage," we would have to double our federal revenue. I promise you, the "one percent" won't be the only people getting taxed.

What nobody wants to hear is that free-market capitalism works. Ever since the fall of the USSR, the global poverty rate dropped from 37 percent to 10 percent. Why? More and more countries embraced the idea of working yourself to the top without the dependency of anybody. The free market opens up opportunity to innovate in ways that the state would not allow you to, because then you become competition to the state.

Look no further than the auto industry of Germany. In the former West Germany, they had the Mercedes-Benz. While in East Germany, they had the Trabant. Has anybody ever heard of the Trabant? I'll wait.

Whether you like it or not, the United States of America was founded on the principle that no government ought to tell the people what to do. In fact, we are a system where "governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." We seem to have lost the idea of personal responsibility and "We the People." America is a shining city on a hill, spreading its light for all of the world to see. I don't apologize for defending market-based capitalism, because it works. I don't want this country to become a Venezuela or Cuba, because this is America.

So for those millennials who would rather live in a socialist or communist country, take a lesson from the late, great Merle Haggard: "If you don't love it, leave it."