



THE COMING COLLAPSE OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION

EMERGING THREATS TO WESTERN CIVILIZATION AND HOW TO
PROTECT YOURSELF, YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR NATION.

A WHITE PAPER BY MIKE ADAMS AND THE EDITORS OF
NEWSTARGET.COM

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Emerging threats to western civilization and how to
protect yourself, your family and your nation.

Analysis + Solutions

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“I am mortified beyond expression when I view the clouds that have spread over the brightest morn that ever dawned in any country... What a triumph for the advocates of despotism, to find that we are incapable of governing ourselves and that systems founded on the basis of equal liberty are merely ideal and fallacious.”

– President George Washington

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Executive Summary

- Several events are converging that could cause major societal disruptions and chaos in the coming months, including the election of a new U.S. president, world conflict, terrorism at home and attacks on our infrastructure.
- Increasing tension between ethnic groups and races is being stoked deliberately for the purposes of empowering political elites up to and including President Barack Obama, who himself has an established history of blaming America for racial injustice.
- This includes an organization founded by Obama, which is currently training hundreds of thousands of “community organizers” who plan to continue agitating for “social and racial justice” after he leaves office.
- There are growing concerns that protests may lead to increased civil unrest, giving the president a reason to declare martial law and perhaps even suspend the presidential election in November.
- Threats are increasing to the nation’s power grid, as are risks of attacks, including nuclear war, a massive solar event, cyber warfare, terrorism and physical sabotage.
- The national debt is spiraling out of control and will not reverse course anytime soon, threatening to bankrupt the country and severely curtail the government’s ability to continue providing cash benefits and other economic assistance to a restless population more dependent on handouts.
- Tensions are increasing in Asia and Europe, making war with major powers like Russia and China more likely now than ever before.

The Coming Collapse of Western Civilization

- The election of Donald J. Trump as president would likely incite rioting and collapse of the civil society as social change forces led by Obama and other activist groups opposed to him turn to violence in protest.
- Incidents of biological and viral threats including Ebola, Zika, antibiotic resistance and other phenomena are rising and threaten to unleash a global plague.
- Mass immigration from the third world is bringing deadly diseases once on the decline or virtually eradicated back into our country.
- Collapse of American cities may be eminent if certain conditions are achieved by those who create crisis in order to permanently seize power.
- The super-wealthy in American cities are investing heavily in so-called “panic rooms” that are high-tech and able to fend off marauding hordes while others are buying retreats abroad in far-away places like New Zealand.
- The good news is there are many solutions that ordinary Americans can begin implementing right now, before things get worse.

Introduction

As America enters another presidential election cycle, there is clear and compelling evidence that the 2016 election is different than any other in modern history. Not only are both candidates of the major parties deeply unpopular,¹ one of them – Republican nominee Donald J. Trump – is a billionaire businessman with no political experience at all, while the other, Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton, is the first presidential candidate to have been under criminal investigation while running for the nation’s highest office.²

What’s more, the presidential race is taking place at a time when the social fabric of our nation is unraveling. Some pundits and political observers have compared today’s riots and protests, fueled by racism, class warfare and loss of economic status, as reminiscent of the civil rights protests and unrest of the 1960s.³ Our college campuses, as in our city streets, seethe with hate, discontent and unrest. Political media engage nightly in dishonesty and discourse, fanning the flames of competing ideologies. Our police are under attack and are being killed by crazed domestic terrorists who have been whipped into murderous frenzy by an activist president who praises the protestors while criticizing the police.⁴ There is also concerted effort by social change artists to fund, guide and lead – even if from behind the scenes – the unraveling of the social order.⁵

At the same time, the current administration has essentially stopped enforcing our national borders. Illegal immigrants by the tens of thousands are being allowed to pour into our country, while our border enforcement officials are rendered powerless and our federal immigration courts overwhelmed.⁶ Hundreds of cities whose governments are more sympathetic to illegal aliens than their own citizens are in fact being turned into sanctuaries for millions who violated our laws to enter our country.⁷

In addition to threats to the civil society at home, there is also much turmoil abroad. Civil strife and terrorism in the Middle East has led to mass migration of refugees out of the conflict zones and into European nations, where their presence has sparked a religious backlash and nationalist fervor. Many of these people are not refugees at all but are using the mass exodus to infiltrate Europe; they are in fact radicalized Islamic militants.⁸ In addition, acts of terrorism committed by Muslim extremist organizations like the Islamic State have been committed in several European nations including France, Germany and Belgium.

Add to this war fears as a resurgent Russia is on the move in the Baltic Sea and Ukraine, while an aggressive China is pushing outsized territorial claims in the South China Sea, threatening \$5 trillion in annual trade commerce. Meanwhile, Iran and North Korea threaten to unleash cyberwar and terrorist organizations abroad are constantly looking for ways to engage in nuclear terrorism.

While the world struggles with unrest and geopolitical problems, the threats to U.S. stability are the most dire. The social struggles and political chaos that threaten to boil over any day and spill into our streets would produce not only domestic instability but instability the world over. Without a stable United States to lead the world and help keep and enforce the peace, conflict would most likely break out in a number of regions.

There may be anything anyone can do to heal our divides and pull us back from the brink at this point, however. One presidential contender has promised to “make American great again” while the other belongs to a party that exists to create social, racial and economic divide. Those two positions seem hopelessly at odds. That said, this paper will not only focus on the most dangerous and likely threats to liberty, freedom and stability, it will also address what each of us can do, individually and in small groups, to prepare ourselves to survive the worst of the violence.

Part One: Summary of Threats

The United States is currently facing several major threats to its stability – most from within our political, social and economic systems, but some from outside our country. The most serious of these stem from the current turmoil that is raging across the political spectrum, between “left” and “right,” “conservative,” “liberal” and “libertarian.” Nearly all of the unrest has been contrived by social change artists, would-be revolutionaries, community organizers and much of it is being directed by President Barack Obama⁹ and financed by well-heeled multimillionaires and billionaires.¹⁰

1. Racism and social unrest created and stoked by the White House

There is little doubt that race relations have worsened under the nation’s first black president. Most Americans believe it.¹¹ So do some of our politicians.¹² Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich says that is because Obama has continually railed against police officers, outright claiming that many white officers are racists in their dealings with black suspects.¹³ In an interview with *MSNBC* morning host and former U.S. congressman Joe Scarborough, Gingrich explained:¹⁴

Well, the risk of, once again, being divisive. I think as long as you have Barack Obama doing what he did over the last few years, if you’ve had 7 1/2 years of a black president, 7 1/2 years of a black attorney general, Gallup reports race relations today are worse than any time in the last 17 years.

Why? Because how often has he hit the police. He hit the police in Cambridge and he was wrong.

He hit the police in Ferguson, he was wrong. He hit the police about Florida. He was wrong. At what point does the president have some obligation to say, you know -- there are two parts of this.

One, we've got to better understand the experience of being black in America and in places like Chicago where 3,200 people have been killed in the Obama presidency, we had better have a strategy that works. We don't.

Apologists for the president claim that the backlash against Obama is itself *proof* of racism. But the record – especially in dealing with police – is clear.

For instance:¹⁵

- He took the side of his former Harvard professor, Henry Louis Gates, when Gates was arrested by a white Cambridge Police sergeant for what looked like a home break-in. Obama said during a televised press conference that the police “acted stupidly,” though he admitted he did not know all of the details of what had happened. In this incident very early in Obama’s first term he began planting the narrative that white police are inherently racist *and always have been* when he claimed, “[T]here’s a long history in this country of African-Americans and Latinos being stopped by law enforcement disproportionately.” The incident shows “how race remains a factor in this society.”
- In the Trayvon Martin case – in which a jury exonerated his killer, George Zimmerman – Obama said Martin “could have been me 35 years ago,” once more insinuating that American society in general (and police in particular) are *racists*.
- After the killing of a black criminal, Michael Brown, in Ferguson, Missouri, Obama again singled out cops, claiming 1) that what happened was police “abuse;” and 2) that the alleged abuse “is not an

isolated incident.” It didn’t matter that eventually a grand jury and Obama’s own Justice Department found 1) police officer Darren Wilson was justified in shooting Brown; and 2) the “hands up, don’t shoot” narrative adopted by the Black Lives Matter movement, which sprang out of Ferguson, was bogus and did not happen.

- After repeat offender Freddie Gray died from self-induced head-bashing inside a police van in Baltimore, Obama once again laid the blame at the feet of police, claiming, “This is not new, and we should not pretend that it’s new.” Translation: *Cops kill black men all the time.*
- Following the death of Eric Garner, who was resisting arrest for selling cigarettes illegally in New York City, Obama began using the word “racist” to describe police killings of black men. And as usual, he claimed that racial discrimination is “deeply embedded in society.”

In March 2015, on the anniversary of the civil rights march in Selma, Alabama, Obama said:¹⁶

A more common mistake is to suggest that racism is banished, that the work that drew men and women to Selma is complete, and that whatever racial tensions remain are a consequence of those seeking to play the ‘race card’ for their own purposes. We don’t need the Ferguson report to know that’s not true. We just need to open our eyes, and ears, and hearts, to know that this nation’s racial history still casts its long shadow upon us. We know the march is not yet over, the race is not yet won, and that reaching that blessed destination where we are judged by the content of our character — requires admitting as much.

In a June 2015 interview with *National Public Radio*, Obama continued the “America is racist” narrative:¹⁷

What is also true is that the legacy of slavery, Jim Crow, discrimination in almost every institution of our lives — you know, that casts a long shadow. And that's still part of our DNA that's passed on. We're not cured of it.

Racism. We are not cured of it. And it's not just a matter of it not being polite to say 'nigger' in public. That's not the measure of whether racism still exists or not. It's not just a matter of overt discrimination. Societies don't overnight completely erase everything that happened 200-300 years prior.

The results of Obama's constant harping about racism and how America isn't "cured of it" yet assumes that every other country on the planet has conquered its racism, which of course isn't true. But Obama – who was well-schooled in tactics of division by his friend and mentor Saul Alinsky, author of *Rules for Radicals*, used "racism" to whip up fervor and unrest to advance his own political agenda.¹⁸ In particular, Obama uses the political tactics in Alinsky's book of revolution to persuade and empower the "'have-nots' in our society to overthrow the haves and take away their power."¹⁹

In particular, Alinsky taught:²⁰

[You must help] the people in the community...feel so frustrated, so defeated, so lost, so futureless in the prevailing system that they are willing to let go of the past and chance the future. [An] organizer must shake up the prevailing patterns of their lives—agitate, create disenchantment and discontent with the current values, to produce, if not a passion for change, at least a passive, affirmative, non-challenging climate. [You must] fan the embers of hopelessness into a flame of fight.

Another observer Obama's agitation this way, noting that the president intends to continue what he began in office after he leaves the White House in January 2017:²¹

After making America poorer, weaker, less free, more race-obsessed and balkanized throughout his tumultuous presidency, Barack Obama is gearing up to use his two tax-exempt nonprofits to continue attacking what remains of the republic's civil society after he leaves office...

His presidency "has been pockmarked by rioting, looting and protests" as he "encouraged the nonstop civil unrest exhausting the nation," writes Paul Sperry, a media fellow at the Hoover Institute.²² Along with an "army of social justice bullies," Obama plans to make things even worse than they are now before he leaves office on Jan. 20, 2017.²³

He will do that, in part, by further empowering organizations that have sprung up in response to Obama's creation of imagined societal inequities and racial injustice. One group that has sprung up in response to the president's agitation is also growing in militancy: the Black Lives Matter movement, which exploded after the death of Michael Brown.²⁴

Obama has feted the group's leaders at the White House, calling them "much better organizers" than he was at their age while thanking them for their "outstanding work" and adding that he is "confident that they are going to take America to new heights."²⁵

Or new lows. Members of this organization have held street demonstrations where they have chanted, "Pigs in a blanket, fry 'em like bacon" – a reference to killing police officers.²⁶

Obama will utilize other groups as well – groups he has actually formed, helped finance and nurture.²⁷ Two groups, Organizing for Action (OfA) and the Barack Obama Foundation, will "continue punishing America for its imaginary sins and to promote manufactured controversies long after he leaves" the Oval Office.²⁸

OfA, which is based in the president's home town of Chicago, has trained "more than 10,000 leftist organizers, who, in turn, are training

more than 2 million youths in [Saul] Alinsky street tactics.”²⁹ This “army of social justice bullies” will be tasked with carrying on Obama’s campaign to fundamentally transform the country.³⁰

One observer describes the millions-strong force of agitators thusly:³¹

OfA is a less violent version of Mussolini’s black shirts and Hitler’s brown shirts, or of the government-supported goon squads that Venezuela’s Nicolas Maduro and Cuba’s Castro brothers use to harass and intimidate their domestic opponents. OfA units brought muscle to the 2011-12 fight in Wisconsin over that state’s out-of-control government labor unions. OfA has bludgeoned Democrats that Obama deemed insufficiently left-wing, especially red-state congressional Democrats who had been wavering on the issue of Obamacare.

The organization uses the Internet heavily to promote its goals and agitate, drawing inspiration from another Left-wing agitprop, MoveOn.org, which has perfected meet-up activism and online fundraising. Often these two groups work together on issues.³²

But OfA is just one part of the plan. The president’s foundation, which hopes to raise \$1 billion or about double what was raised for George W. Bush’s presidential library, may actually overshadow OfA in terms of “destructive, nihilistic, antisocial activism in the post-Obama era.”³³ Obama will use his foundation to continue wreaking Left-wing havoc all around the globe.³⁴ A smaller version of OfA will reside at Obama’s foundation headquarters, which is planned for Chicago’s South Side.

The foundation’s website states, ominously, “As President Obama has said, *the change we seek will take longer than one presidency.*”³⁵ And: “The President’s historic candidacy was never simply about winning an office; *it was about building a movement* to tackle challenges that would define a generation. This *work will live on in the Obama Foundation,*

which will inspire citizens across the globe to better their communities, their countries, and their world.”³⁶ [My emphasis]

What we call the “mainstream media” has also been working in collusion with the president’s Democratic Party to foment unrest as well. “The DNC also made a secret ‘agreement’ with Kenneth Vogel, an influential report for Politico. An email from late April with the subject line ‘per agreement... any thoughts appreciated’ shows that Vogel sent an advanced copy of a story about Hillary Clinton’s fundraising to the DNC even before his editor even saw it.”³⁷ Story content and headlines were changed to suit the DNC narratives.³⁸

Perhaps the president sees himself as a great revolutionary of the times. It may simply be that he wants to decrease American prestige and status because he believes our country has become too powerful and deserved to be taught some lessons.³⁹ Whatever the reason, clearly the president, and his ideological allies, are stirring discontent and disaffection among the American people, and then taking advantage of it.

2. Protests that lead to – martial law?

Most Americans today are not aware that the federal government has declared martial law on its citizens. “During the American Civil War, Abraham Lincoln declared martial law and authorized such forums to try terrorists because military tribunals had the capacity to act quickly, to gather intelligence through interrogation, and to prevent confidential life-saving information from becoming public,” noted the Honorable Frank Williams, chief justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court, in a lecture on behalf of the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank.⁴⁰ During Lincoln’s presidency, and in some corners still today, he was and is criticized for taking *extra-constitutional measures* – so much so that “no president has carried the power of presidential edict and executive order (independently of Congress) so far as [Lincoln] did... It would not be easy to state what Lincoln conceived to be the limit of his powers.”⁴¹

The actions Lincoln took are instructive in their breadth and scope:⁴²

In the 80 days that elapsed between Abraham Lincoln's April 1861 call for troops--the beginning of the Civil War--and the official convening of Congress in special session on July 4, 1861, Lincoln performed a whole series of important acts by sheer assumption of presidential power. Lincoln, without congressional approval, called forth the militia to 'suppress said combinations,' which he ordered 'to disperse and retire peacefully' to their homes. He increased the size of the Army and Navy, expended funds for the purchase of weapons, instituted a blockade--an act of war--and suspended the precious writ of habeas corpus, all without congressional approval."

There are a couple of things that make these actions significant. First, today's modern technology would allow for a much more rapid recall and assembly of a recessed Congress, whereby presidents and the Legislative Branch would be able to discuss and work out plans should another national emergency of this sort arise. But more important is this: Most of what Lincoln did not only survived intact throughout the war -- but was found to be proper by the U.S. Supreme Court -- thereby essentially codifying Lincoln's measures as acceptable uses of Executive power. That included Lincoln's suspension of the writ of habeas corpus -- a recourse in law whereby a person can report an unlawful detainment, usually through a prison official, to a U.S. court. After a former U.S. congressman lost his seat and began to speak out against Lincoln and the North, the president had him banished to the South. He appealed the banishment to the Supreme Court which, in February 1864 refused to hear the case, with justices saying they had no authority to review the rulings of a martial court.⁴³

What would happen if non-stop protests and agitation led to widespread civil unrest and violence? Would a president today consider that a national emergency on the scale of a civil war? He -- or she -- might if the level of violence was producing hundreds or thousands of casualties and causing billions in damage to major cities.

In explaining his suspension of the writ in a letter to congressional Democrats, Lincoln's reasoning sounded a lot like the rationale the administrations of George W. Bush and Obama used from time to time, to justify (or attempt to justify) Executive actions:⁴⁴

Lincoln declared that the regular civilian courts were inadequate during a rebellion. He claimed that those opposing the Unions' cause endangered "the public safety." Ordinarily, he wrote, such people could not be arrested since criticizing the government was not a criminal offense. If such persons were arrested, they would undoubtedly be released on a writ of habeas corpus by a civilian court judge. The necessary solution, Lincoln argued, was to suspend the writ and lock up the troublemakers until the war ended."

The Constitution permits the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus. Article 1, Sect. 9, Clause 2 states: "The privilege of the writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended; *unless where in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it*" [my emphasis]. But as Williams noted, it is not clear who has the power to do so, Congress or the president.⁴⁵

In modern times, presidential administrations and the military have begun preparing for the use of troops to keep the peace during periods of declared martial law. In the late 1990s, Congress and the Clinton administration changed provisions of the Posse Comitatus Act – a 19th century-era law that forbade the military from engaging in civilian law enforcement – that permitted wider use of Defense Department assets in a domestic capacity.⁴⁶ The changes included formation of a new military unit that would deploy to assist civilian law officers during a terrorist attack. The new command was established Oct. 7, 1999, and is called the U.S. Joint Forces Command, which replaced the longstanding Atlantic Command.⁴⁷

Though JFCOM was shuttered in 2011,⁴⁸ its mission was ominous. At the time the command was stood up, then-Defense Secretary William

Cohen made the case that the American public should never fear U.S. troops on their streets and, in fact, “should welcome it.”⁴⁹

The most recent example of actual martial law occurred in 2005 in New Orleans, following Hurricane Katrina. Widespread flooding – then looting – rendered local government ineffective, so then-Gov. Kathleen Blanco activated the state National Guard and ordered them to assist local police in restoring order. In addition, then-New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin, also disgusted by the lawlessness, imposed martial law on his city as well and directed his 1,500-member police force to do “whatever it takes” to restore order.⁵⁰

“Occasionally, when some national emergency or crisis threatens public order... the comment is made that the President may ultimately resort to imposing martial law in order to preserve discipline and good behavior,” says a Congressional Research Service (CRS) report on the subject. “According to one definition, martial law ‘exists when military authorities carry on government or exercise various degrees of control over civilians or civilian authorities in domestic territory.’ More significantly, it ‘may exist either in time of war or when civil authority has ceased to function or has become ineffective.’”⁵¹

So clearly, the president – our current and next president included – has the authority to declare martial law if he/she believes there is sufficient unrest and disorder to warrant it. How long martial law would last after that is anyone’s guess, but some *in the know* do not believe a national state of martial law would be good for the long-term survival of our founding form of government.

Former commander of U.S. Central Command Gen. Tommy Franks, who led the successful invasion of Iraq in 2003, went on record as saying that, if the country suffered another major terrorist attack in which tens of thousands of Americans were killed and wounded, the Constitution would likely be cast aside, probably for good.⁵² Were that to happen, Franks told a pop culture magazine in November 2003, “...the Western

world, the free world, loses what it cherishes most, and that is freedom and liberty we've seen for a couple of hundred years in this grand experiment that we call democracy."⁵³

What about a series of low-level attacks that began happening frequently, or daily – all over the country? What then? Would a President Obama or the next president declare martial law, in the name of “fighting terrorism”?

Or what if our civil society began to unravel with the election of someone – GOP presidential nominee Donald J. Trump – who is very unpopular with Americans of a different political stripe? Already we have seen protests and violence erupt at the Republican National Convention and at Trump campaign events all around the country. It's possible a Trump election could trigger widespread and *massive* Left-wing anger that would spill out into our streets and endanger our civil society. Would martial law be far behind?

That Leftist-inspired anger is already manifesting itself in the targeting and death of police officers around the country. Officers in Dallas, Baton Rouge, La., Kansas City, Kan., and elsewhere have been shot and killed. The Black Lives Matter movement has already been associated with these killings; what if the organization whips up more opposition to police, and on a wider scale – would martial law be far behind?

3. Loss of the power grid

A recent investigation by *The Wall Street Journal* discovered something very unsettling about the nation's power grid and the infrastructure supporting it: The grid itself is highly vulnerable to attack and sabotage, and if attacks are widespread enough and coordinated, large segments of the grid could be rendered inoperable for weeks, months and even years.⁵⁴

The WSJ's investigation found that in recent years there have been a number of attacks and deliberate acts of disruption inflicted on our grid – mainly on power substations – and incidents are growing in numbers. They include cutting of alarms to critical equipment and unauthorized intrusions at a substation in in Bakersfield, Calif. The WSJ reported that attack, which occurred in 2015, left police in the dark and was “among dozens of break-ins examined... that show how, despite federal orders to secure the power grid, tens of thousands of substations are still vulnerable to saboteurs.”⁵⁵

Whether it is a sniper attack on a power station near San Jose, Calif., in 2013⁵⁶ that raised concerns about terrorism, or a cyberattack by a great power, the hard-to-replace equipment that the grid comprises is in danger. And, literally, *so is our way of life*.

What's even worse is that the WSJ investigation found that record-keeping for such incidents is horrible. Nowhere in the vast sea of agencies and bureaucracy of the federal government is a single department that can accurately provide a complete breakdown of incidents to Congress and policymakers, or whether such acts are sinister in nature or merely destructive. Most substations are not guarded and are located behind flimsy fencing that is easily breached. Many don't have electronic security, which means that breaches and attacks are not detected until after the damage takes place, said the paper.⁵⁷

When there are security cameras, quite often they prove to be not worth anything. Also, in other cases, alarms are simply ignored, like we ignore auto alarms.

None of these threats are new to federal officials. They have known how vulnerable the grid and the mass of substations supporting it are for years and years.

For instance, way back in 1990 a report from the federal Office of Technology Assessment warned us that “virtually any region would

suffer major, extended blackouts if more than three key substations were destroyed.” In addition, it noted that individual substations, “if rendered inoperable or damaged, could result in widespread instability,” or escalating blackouts in any portion of the three separate sections of the U.S. power grid.⁵⁸

What’s more, some are even warning that targeting of our power grid is not a legitimate target – in warfare and for terrorists. William A Conklin, associate professor in the Information and Logistics Technology Department in the College of Technology at the University of Houston and director of the Center for Information Security Research and Education and coordinator of the Information System Security Graduate Program at UH, says because of that fact our country cannot just dismiss out of hand that the potential for a cyberattack against the grid by a rogue actor or a nation state doesn’t exist.⁵⁹

In a March 2016 column he noted that most Americans take our national power grid for granted because it has always existed largely uninhibited, save for some brief outages due to storms or natural disasters. He also stated that our grid’s inherent stability has perhaps given us a false sense of security.⁶⁰

He also pointed out that the power grid is one of the country’s most vitally important assets, and that we “assume the electric companies are properly prepared and that government oversight and regulation will protect” it from attack.⁶¹ But that is not even close to being reality.

“Electric grids have been targets during conflicts since we became dependent upon them, and they are frequently first on bombing lists,” Conklin wrote. “Today, it doesn’t take bombs to disrupt electrical service; this can be done via computer hacks.” In continuing, he observed that the grid “is now a valid target, one to be concerned about and protected. This is no joke.”⁶²

To support his view, Conklin noted further:⁶³

In the last couple of years we have had cyber-attacks on grids across the globe, control centers locked out of their systems, ransomware attacks forcing utilities to pay ransom to get back their control. This last December, malware was used as part of a cyberattack to block operators' ability to control the grid in Ukraine. The result was a major blackout.

In March 2015, *USA Today* reported that an analysis the paper did of federal energy records found that "about once every four days, part of the nation's power grid – a system whose failure could leave millions in the dark – is struck by a cyber or physical attack..."⁶⁴

Besides cyberattacks and acts of sabotage, the nation's power grid is also at risk of being wiped out in a nanosecond by the electromagnetic pulse (EMP), which could come either from a massive solar flare or a nuclear weapon detonated in the high atmosphere.

In fact, this almost happened just a few short years ago.

In the summer of 2012, there was a very large solar storm on the Sun, during which a massive coronal mass ejection (CME) was belched out millions of miles. Scientists said the CME barely missed the Earth and if had hit, "we would still be picking up the pieces," according to University of Colorado Prof. Daniel Baker, who led the research into the massive solar storm.⁶⁵

One report described what would happen if the Earth were hit with a massive CME:⁶⁶

Suffice it to say, but it's bad news if the energy and plasma from a big solar flare or CME hits the Earth. Much like a man-made electromagnetic pulse (EMP) weapon, the solar energetic particles strike the Earth with such force that it ionizes the atmosphere, creating a vast cloud of energetic electrons that bounce around inside the atmosphere destroying electronics and fusing conductive wires

everywhere. It would probably take out a few satellites in Earth orbit, too.

The last time an event of this magnitude struck Earth was in 1859. Called the “Carrington Event,” a gigantic CME destroyed much of the Victorian telegraph network that was being built and utilized in parts of Europe and North America. Only one large storm in modern times caused a blackout in Quebec, Canada, in 1989.⁶⁷

Another way in which an EMP event can destroy the power grid is by direct attack using a nuclear weapon. In March 2015, the *Washington Examiner* reported that longtime U.S. enemy Iran – with whom the Obama administration has just made a “nuclear deal” with – endorsed a nuclear EMP attack on the U.S. for the specific purpose of destroying our power grid.⁶⁸

Suspected for years of plotting to dismantle the U.S. electric grid, American officials have confirmed that Iranian military brass have endorsed a nuclear electromagnetic pulse explosion that would attack the country’s power system.

American defense experts made the discovery while translating a secret Iranian military handbook, raising new concerns about Tehran’s recent nuclear talks with the administration.

North Korea is also likely working on a similar capability.⁶⁹

What should really concern us is the societal chaos that will ensue following a massive cyberattack or acts of terrorism and sabotage that put our grid down and out for months or years at a time. In May 2014 experts who testified before a House committee painted a grim picture: An EMP attack could kill as many as *90 percent* of our population.⁷⁰

In a hearing titled, “Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP): Threat to Critical Infrastructure,” before the House Homeland Security Committee’s

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies,” the experts laid out various scenarios.

“Some would say it’s low probability, but the damage that could be caused in the event of an EMP attack, both by the sun, a solar event, or a man-made attack, would be catastrophic,” said Rep. Michael McCaul, R-Texas. “We talk a lot about a nuclear bomb in Manhattan, and cybersecurity threat to the power grid in the Northeast, and all of these things would actually probably pale in comparison to the devastation that an EMP attack could perpetrate on Americans.”⁷¹

Rep. Trent Franks, R-Ariz., has been studying the issue for years. He said “every single facet of modern human life” would be “crippled” by an EMP event. “It strikes me at my very core when I think of the men, women, and children in cities and rural towns across America with a possibility of no access to food, water, or transportation,” he said. “In a matter of weeks or months at most, a worst-case scenario could bring devastation beyond imagination.”⁷²

Everything would be affected by a sudden, long-term loss of electricity. Anyone who depends on a computer for their job would be out of work. The financial sector would be gone (as would any money you had in a bank or financial institution). Water treatment plants would cease to operate, as would mass transit systems. Food distribution would come to a standstill since the logistics chain is electronic. Scores would die in hospitals after emergency and backup power systems failed. Virtually all commerce would come to a halt.

And our cities would erupt in chaos. The civil society would almost immediately unravel. Emergency services would no longer operate as police, fire and EMS personnel retreat to take care of their own families. The military might restore some order in some places, but that order would be short-lived; unit after unit would eventually be overrun in the face of millions of displaced, hungry, thirsty civilians. Enemies far and wide would take advantage of our chaos to make war on

now-vulnerable neighbors that used to fall under our protection. The global order would fall.

At the May 2014 congressional hearing, Dr. Peter Pry, a member of the Congressional EMP Commission and executive director of the Task Force on National and Homeland Security, told lawmakers during his testimony the issue is urgent because an EMP event could kill nearly all of us. “Natural EMP from a geomagnetic super-storm, like the 1859 Carrington Event or 1921 Railroad Storm, and nuclear EMP attack from terrorists or rogue states, as practiced by North Korea during the nuclear crisis of 2013, are both existential threats that could kill 9 of 10 Americans through starvation, disease, and societal collapse,” he said.⁷³

Subcommittee Vice Chairman Scott Perry, R-Pa., told the panel that enemies of the U.S. already possess the capacity to launch an EMP attack. “Currently the nations of Russia and China have the technology to launch an EMP attack, and we have speculated that Iran and North Korea may be developing EMP weapon technology,” Perry said. “This is why we must remain vigilant in our efforts to mitigate the effects of an EMP attack.”⁷⁴

As for the effects of an attack on basic necessities like food and water, *Bugout.news* reported in March 2016 that there is just a *three-day supply* in the nation’s thin, fragile logistics chain.⁷⁵ And some lawmakers and government officials have wondered aloud why the nation’s food chain has not been a target of terrorism.

“I for the life of me cannot understand why the terrorists have not, you know, attacked our food supply, because it is so easy to do,” former Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson has said. Also, U.S. Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, has observed, “In the war on terrorism, the fields and pastures of America’s farmland might seem at first to have nothing in common with the towers of the World Trade Center or busy seaports. In fact, however, they are merely different manifestations of the same high priority target, the American economy.”⁷⁶

4. Failure of government support systems

In the event of an EMP attack, widespread terrorism, or anything that disrupts the normal processes of government, it is safe to assume that widespread social unrest and chaos will follow. Here's one major reason why.

During the presidency of Barack Obama, Americans' reliance on Uncle Sam and taxpayers to provide them with food support has risen to record numbers. In 2013 the participation rate for food stamps and other government-sponsored food security programs rose to more than 47.6 million Americans – a record. That number has since fallen to around 45.7 million but that still amounts to about one-in-six Americans depending on some level of government-provided food support.⁷⁷ And this is despite the unemployment level (supposedly) being the lowest now (4.9 percent as of this writing) that it has been in eight years.⁷⁸

In fact, in *35 of 50 states*, it actually pays better to be on government assistance than to have a job. In 2013 the libertarian CATO Institute conducted a study to determine how much government assistance in the form of food, shelter and other living expenses individuals could expect from federal and state governments. The results were stunning, as you can see below:⁷⁹

How does your state rank?

Rank	Jurisdiction	Pre-tax Equivalent (\$)	Hourly Wage Equivalent (\$)*	Rank	Jurisdiction	Pre-tax Equivalent (\$)	Hourly Wage Equivalent (\$)*
1.	Hawaii	\$60,590	\$29.13	26.	Ohio	\$26,200	\$12.60
2.	District of Columbia	\$50,820	\$24.43	27.	North Carolina	\$25,760	\$12.38
3.	Massachusetts	\$50,540	\$24.30	28.	West Virginia	\$24,900	\$11.97
4.	Connecticut	\$44,370	\$21.33	29.	Alabama	\$23,310	\$11.21
5.	New York	\$43,700	\$21.01	30.	Indiana	\$22,900	\$11.01
6.	New Jersey	\$43,450	\$20.89	31.	Missouri	\$22,800	\$10.96
7.	Rhode Island	\$43,330	\$20.83	32.	Oklahoma	\$22,480	\$10.81
8.	Vermont	\$42,350	\$20.36	33.	Louisiana	\$22,250	\$10.70
9.	New Hampshire	\$39,750	\$19.11	34.	South Carolina	\$21,910	\$10.53
10.	Maryland	\$38,160	\$18.35	35.	Arizona	\$15,320	\$7.37
11.	California	\$37,160	\$17.87	36.	Wisconsin	\$14,890	\$7.16
12.	Oregon	\$34,300	\$16.49	37.	Virginia	\$14,870	\$7.15
13.	Wyoming	\$32,620	\$15.68	38.	Colorado	\$14,750	\$7.09
14.	Nevada	\$29,820	\$14.34	39.	Nebraska	\$14,420	\$6.93
15.	Minnesota	\$29,350	\$14.11	40.	Iowa	\$14,200	\$6.83
16.	Delaware	\$29,220	\$14.05	41.	Georgia	\$14,060	\$6.76
17.	Washington	\$28,840	\$13.87	42.	Utah	\$13,950	\$6.71
18.	North Dakota	\$28,830	\$13.86	43.	Maine	\$13,920	\$6.69
19.	Pennsylvania	\$28,670	\$13.78	44.	Illinois	\$13,580	\$6.53
20.	New Mexico	\$27,900	\$13.41	45.	Kentucky	\$13,350	\$6.42
21.	Montana	\$26,930	\$12.95	46.	Florida	\$12,600	\$6.06
22.	South Dakota	\$26,610	\$12.79	47.	Texas	\$12,550	\$6.03
23.	Kansas	\$26,490	\$12.74	48.	Arkansas	\$12,230	\$5.88
24.	Michigan	\$26,430	\$12.71	49.	Tennessee	\$12,120	\$5.83
25.	Alaska	\$26,400	\$12.69	50.	Mississippi	\$11,830	\$5.69
				51.	Idaho	\$11,150	\$5.36

Source: The Work vs. Welfare Trade-Off: 2013, Cato Institute

That anyone could make more than the average median income on government assistance is mind-boggling.

While that may seem like a low number when compared to the nation's entire population of 321 million,⁸⁰ to put it in perspective, having about one-in-six people desperate enough to commit violence in order to replace food and provisions lost by a collapsed government system becomes a very large number indeed.

And that's precisely what would happen because history proves it. In June 2016 the *Los Angeles Times* reported that riots and looting were occurring more and more frequently in Venezuela, a country whose socialist leaders took control of the economy more than a decade ago and is now seeking chronic shortages of basic food items and supplies:⁸¹

Venezuela, where anger over food shortages is still mounting, continued to be roiled this week by angry protests and break-ins of grocery stores and businesses that have left five dead, at least 30 injured and 200 arrested, according to various news reports. ...

As consumers grow increasingly frustrated with ongoing food scarcities and lengthening lines outside stores, protests are turning more violent. ...

A common thread among protesters demanding the government provide food is that they are suffering from hunger and in some cases heat exposure from spending hours in line. Mired in economic crisis, Venezuela must import the bulk of its food items, but supplies have run short because of the government's cash shortage...

Some political observers think that the country's poor are actually being "weaponized" against one particular presidential candidate, Donald Trump. Should he win, they believe that Clinton supporters already working in the vast government bureaucracy would find a way to ensure that the tens of millions who are currently addicted to government assistance be deprived of it for a prolonged period, perhaps through some sort of electronic "glitch." Anything is possible; after all, anti-conservative factions within the IRS were able to deny Tea Party and patriot groups their tax-exempt status ahead of the 2012 presidential election so they could not organize and oppose Obama's reelection.⁸²

White the U.S. isn't a socialist country yet, as mentioned earlier in this paper, social unrest currently being planned by soon-to-be ex-President Obama and the cadres his organizations are training are likely to

cause major disruptions in the coming months, as well as the continued degradation of American institutions and society.

5. World War

One of Obama's weakest areas, argue many political observers, has been his handling of foreign policy. Since he has taken office, relations with major powers like Russia and China have gradually deteriorated. We are now at a point where open war with either of these powers – or both of them – is a stark possibility.

In May 2016 a defense web site reported that U.S. European Command was shifting to a “warfighting stance” stance as relations between Washington and Moscow – now very cool – have continued to grow colder. Specifically, as Russian provocations became more intense, including breaches of airspace and incidents at sea, EUCOM was shifting from “reassurance to deterrence” and “from a training to a warfighting stance.”⁸³

In June 2016, NATO announced that it would send “combat-ready” battalions to its perimeter facing Russia.⁸⁴ *The Washington Post* noted:

NATO ministers have agreed in recent weeks to amass a contingent of 4,000 troops in Poland and the Baltic States, a decision that will likely agitate Moscow but one that was, nevertheless, in response to Russian aggression in the Crimea and Ukraine.

The same day of NATO's announcement, which came last week, Russia launched a week-long series of snap readiness drills aimed at ensuring its forces were ready to mobilize quickly in the event of a conflict.

The Russian drills also came as NATO countries were preparing the largest military exercise in Poland since the end of the Cold War.

The Baltic States and Poland have all asked for a bolstered NATO presence in the wake of Russian action in Ukraine. Some in NATO and the U.S. were growing increasingly concerned that, if left unchecked, Moscow might begin pressuring the Baltic States – with force, even – to shift away from the military alliance and back towards Moscow.

In July 2016 the Pentagon said it was preparing for a “tank war” with Russia as part of planning “wrapped up in an ongoing project known as The Russia New Generation Warfare study, a secretive effort that would target Moscow in any major war. Some 25 years after the end of the Cold War, the Defense Department is once again growing concerned over Russia’s growing military prowess.”⁸⁵

Some even believe that a new spacecraft being developed by the Russians – a craft that resembles NASA’s old Space Shuttle – is to be armed with nuclear weapons, in violation of a long-held international law and standards not only to keep weapons out of space, but especially *nuclear weapons*.⁸⁶

China is also a rising threat – not so much as an invader of the United States but as a great power seeking to flex its newfound muscle and military power throughout Asia, a region where the U.S. Navy and its allies current dominate.

In May the Pentagon said in a 145-page report that China was restructuring its military from a largely civil defense role to that of a force capable of conducting combat operations in the near abroad. The report noted that the Chinese military underwent major reforms in the previous year to prepare it for war. The armed forces were reorganized into new military regions, a new command structure was put in place and strategies were updated to prepare to fight regional, high-tech warfare.⁸⁷

“These reforms aim to strengthen the Chinese Communist Party’s (CCP) control over the military, enhance the PLA’s ability to conduct joint operations, and improve its ability to fight short-duration, high-intensity

regional conflicts at greater distances from the Chinese mainland,” the report said.⁸⁸

Abraham Denmark, deputy assistant defense secretary for East Asia, told reporters those military reforms “are intended to enhance the PLA’s ability to conduct joint operations by replacing the old military regions with new geographic commands.”⁸⁹

A large part of China’s strategy is the militarization of practically the entire South China Sea, which Beijing claims as its own – a very outsized claim that a world tribunal recently declared null and void.⁹⁰ That mostly has involved ‘building’ manmade islands and reclaiming atolls through dredging. The Chinese strategy has been to then militarize the islands – some which contain airfields and surface-to-air missile batteries. China is also moving warships into the region.⁹¹ This is an important region because some \$5 trillion worth of goods travel through the waters of the South China Sea every year.⁹² While trade is obviously important to China as well, allowing Beijing to make the rules in a heavily trafficked region does not make good foreign policy sense because China would only have *its* best interests in mind.

The Obama administration has repeatedly made it plain that the U.S. Navy will ensure “freedom of navigation” throughout the South China Sea, where U.S. allies Vietnam, Singapore, Japan, Taiwan, the Philippines and other nations depend on Washington’s military might to ensure *their* countries are not harassed by Chinese warships. To that end, the Pentagon has dispatched additional U.S. Navy assets to the region.⁹³

But our buildup has led to a counter-buildup by China, along with warnings from top Chinese admirals that *freedom of navigation* patrols by our navy could end “in disaster” – a not-so-vague warning of war.⁹⁴

6. Political uprising and unrest following the election of Donald Trump

It's no secret that GOP presidential nominee Donald Trump's political rallies and events around the country have stirred no small amount of protests. Sometimes hundreds of people show up to speak out against the Republican billionaire, showing the very same kind of intolerance for another person's political viewpoint the protestors themselves claim to be against.

But the situation is moving on from simple protests – disruptions that have largely been organized and funded by uber-wealthy Left-wing rabble rousers like George Soros.⁹⁵ Now, anti-Trump forces are actively predicting open armed rebellion if a majority of Americans choose him in November.

One of those is Shaun King, a *New York Daily News* columnist who, in a recent tweet, wrote:⁹⁶

If Donald Trump becomes President, you are fooling yourself if you think we're far from having a coup our own selves. I'm dead serious.

King was referencing the mid-July 2016 coup attempt in Turkey where a small group of military commanders and personnel attempted to take over the government but were thwarted by other state security forces and the Turkish people. Still, in the end nearly 300 Turks were killed and thousands of military officers, troops and civilians seen as friendly to the coup planners were rounded up and jailed.

King is not the only agitator. Prominent Black Lives Matter activist Tef Poe has threatened violence and riots if Trump wins the presidency (though he has since claimed he was slandered" and that he never made the comments). In an archived tweet, Poe – whose Twitter handle is "War Machine III" – wrote, "Dear white people if Trump wins young

n**gas such as myself are fully hell bent on inciting riots everywhere we go. Just so you know,” and, “Trump wins aint no more rules fammo. We’ve been too nice as is.”⁹⁷ This is the same Poe who, with other black Left-wing racialists and activists, met with President Obama at the White House following racially charged events in Ferguson, Missouri.⁹⁸

Even the famously liberal “mainstream media” is stoking the flames of unrest over a prospective Trump presidency. In March a reporter asked White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest if Obama was “concerned... that Democrats could possibly resort to violence or pockets of violence could break out.”⁹⁹

If Trump beats Clinton in November, it will obviously be due to the fact that a majority of Americans voted for him. But there will remain a sizeable plurality of already angry citizens who will be livid over his victory. What might they do? Will they take to the streets? And if so, how long will it take to quell the rioting? How many lives will be lost in the meantime? How many homes, businesses and factories destroyed? It is impossible to predict but clearly such unrest is already on the minds of millions.

7. The spreading Zika virus and other biological threats

In early 2015, Brazilian government and health officials began sounding alarms over the spread of the Zika virus, a highly contagious disease that is transmitted largely by mosquitos but also by sexual contact, pregnancy, laboratory exposure and blood transfusions.¹⁰⁰ While the virus is relatively mild for adults – it can cause fever, rash, joint pain and red eyes, lasting less than a week – it’s most dramatic effects are seen in newborns whose mothers were infected. Zika-infected mothers often give birth to babies with severely undersized brains and skulls (microcephaly).¹⁰¹

While Brazilian officials reacted fairly quickly to stop the spread of the virus – especially as the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics approached in the summer of 2016 – top health officials in the U.S. began to worry that the disease would spread to our country.¹⁰²

In April 2016, CDC head Dr. Thomas Frieden said about the virus:¹⁰³

I think the key thing is that we wish we had more answers. We are working 24/7 to learn more and protect women and their developing fetus as well as possible. Zika is a very challenging virus to fight.

He also said it was less likely the virus would spread to the continental United States after it showed up in Puerto Rico, a U.S. possession.¹⁰⁴ But it did.

By July 2016 some 1,400 Americans had been diagnosed with the virus, though all of them were bitten while traveling abroad or contracted it after having sex with an infected partner. But in Miami, local health officials found two new “mystery” cases of Zika, saying they believed the two people who were diagnosed with the virus got it from “local mosquitoes.”¹⁰⁵ Health officials were also in Utah investigating how a man contracted Zika after caring for his father, who caught the virus abroad and died later.¹⁰⁶

How this rapidly spreading virus eventually manifests itself is anyone’s guess at this writing. But it is obviously moving quickly through the Americas and health officials expect more infections. In July, *NaturalNews* reported that researchers were ready to test a controversial new anti-Zika DNA vaccine that many were uncertain about. In fact, “past research suggests that DNA vaccines when injected may cause ‘insertional mutagenesis,’ meaning mutations may result due to the insertion of new genetic material into a normal gene.”¹⁰⁷

What is also alarming is the rise of dangerous, hard-to-treat strains of bacteria. Some of these strains even consume flesh. Decades-long abuse

and overuse of antibiotics has led to the creation of these super-bacterial that are hard to kill and actually consume flesh.

In 2012 *NaturalNews* reported:¹⁰⁸

If you've been following our site and the news in general recently, you're aware of an outbreak of MRSA - methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* - cases involving antibiotic-resistant, flesh-eating bacteria.

Three cases, at the time, stood out:¹⁰⁹

- Thirty-six-year-old Lana Kuykendall, a mother of twins, had been admitted to Greenville Memorial Hospital in South Carolina on May 11 of that year. Just a few days after giving birth, she came to the hospital complaining of a sore spot on one of her legs. In short order she was diagnosed with having contracted a flesh-eating bacteria.
- Aimee Copeland, then a 24-year-old Georgia student who had undergone a number of operations and was in critical condition at the time of the 2012 report at a local hospital, was believed to have contracted the fasciitis after sustaining a large cut on her leg from a zip-line accident. She fell into the Little Tallapoosa River in Georgia on May 1; doctors believe her infection was caused by *Aeromonas hydrophilia* bacteria, found in fresh or brackish water, and entered through her wound.
- A third case, another Georgia resident named Bobby Vaughn, 32, was reported to be in good condition after an initial infection that "went from the size of a little peanut to a grapefruit fast," he told a local television reporter. He had undergone five surgeries at the time the 2012 *NaturalNews* report was published.

In 2012, according to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, there were 10,000 – 15,000 necrotizing fasciitis infections each year in

the U.S.; between 2,000 and 3,000 of those were fatal.¹¹⁰ What's worse, many of these infections are coming from hospitals themselves, if you can believe that.¹¹¹

By 2015 the number of cases involving flesh-eating bacteria had risen dramatically, and was occurring within people who were otherwise healthy. And many began contracting another type of flesh-eating bacteria, *Vibrio vulnificus*, which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says kills victims within 24-48 hours and has an approximate 50-percent fatality rate.¹¹²

Also on the rise is resistance to the antibiotics that not only fight flesh-eating bacteria, but also other, more normal kinds. In fact, this phenomenon has been called a direct threat to humankind, though there is little public debate or discussion about the fact that many of our most common antibiotics are reaching the end of their useful lives.¹¹³

The problem has been mounting for years, and over-prescribing of antibiotics is a big reason why. In February 2016 *NaturalNews* reported that four out of five Americans were prescribed antibiotics at least once every single year:¹¹⁴

The findings reflect a steadily increasing rate of antibiotic use over the past several decades, which has led to a corresponding increase in the prevalence of antibiotic-resistant superbugs. The CDC now tracks at least 20 different antibiotic-resistant bacterial strains.

“There are infections out there that have become almost impossible to treat,” said Lauri Hicks, a study co-author and medical director of the CDC. “We really are on the verge of going down a path where there may be nothing that works. Now we’re seeing young, healthy people getting these highly resistant infections requiring hospitalization where in the past a simple oral antibiotic would have taken care of it.”¹¹⁵

That study was the first ever to study a nationwide prescription drug database for frequency of antibiotic use in each state, as well as the entire population in general. In the past, studies have only examined specific demographics like Medicare patients and children.

In all, researchers discovered that some 258 million antibiotic prescriptions were written in the U.S. in 2010 alone. Given a U.S. population at the time of about 309 million people, that is 833 antibiotic prescriptions per 1,000 people. "Some of the prescribing may not be warranted," Hicks noted.¹¹⁶

Superbugs that have developed in spite of antibiotic therapy are very common in hospitals and, particularly, intensive care units, the head of the World Health Organization, Margaret Chan, has said, making it a "global health crisis."¹¹⁷ She added: More and more governments recognize (it is) one of the greatest threats to health today. ... Super bugs haunt hospitals and intensive care units all around the world," Chan said, and that means we are about to enter "a post-antibiotic era, in which common infections will once again kill."¹¹⁸

8. Disease threats made worse by the U.S. government

The civil war in Syria is heartbreaking for many reasons, not the least of which because of its deadly effects on non-combatants. Hundreds of thousands have been killed or wounded, major powers have sent forces there to fight, and there doesn't seem to be any resolution on the horizon. The war and deprivation has also led to a mass exodus of Syrian men, women and children, most of whom are flooding into Europe, and bringing with them a different culture, competing social mores and values, and disease.

But those refugees are also making their way to the United States, compliments of Obama administration resettlement policies. Scores more

are on their way and if Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton wins in November, she will authorize entry for even more – a 500-plus percent increase over current levels, in fact.¹¹⁹

Here is why that is a problem. First, the terrorist organization known as the Islamic State, or ISIS, has said repeatedly that it is using Syrian refugee resettlement to infiltrate its fighters and operatives into the Western, largely Christian nations that are accepting them.¹²⁰ If the increased threat of terror attacks on our own soil isn't bad enough, many of those coming from that part of the world who *aren't* terrorists are bringing with them something as potentially debilitating and deadly: Tuberculosis.

In July 2016 *NaturalNews* reported that this once-controlled disease (at least in our country) was once more spreading, thanks to the admission of infected refugees who were not properly screened for health issues. Worse, many of those who were already infected and resettled in the state of Wisconsin had a multi-drug resistant strain of the disease:¹²¹

...[T]wo refugees and a foreign student on a visa have been allowed into the country with multi-drug resistant (MDR) tuberculosis. As further noted in a 2014 article published in *Epidemiology and Infection*, an academic journal published by Cambridge University Press, the three settled in Wisconsin in 2009 and 2011 respectively. The article was written in cooperation with the physicians who treated them.

Introducing tuberculosis – especially a strain that is resistant to a number of standard medications – is a major threat to health, and is a danger to U.S. citizens. While active TB *can* be treated over a period of six to nine months – at a cost of about \$17,000 per patient, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, MDR TB treatments are far pricier at a cost in excess of \$150,000, taking between 20 months and two years.

The Wisconsin Department of Public Health Services further noted that between 2005 and 2012, 20 cases of drug-resistant TB were diagnosed, and every patient was foreign-born.¹²² Even the Obama administration has admitted that the problem is getting worse, documenting in a December 2015 White House report that the number of multi-drug resistant TB cases has risen from about 273,000 new cases in 2000 to nearly double that, at 480,000 new cases in 2014.¹²³

Some believe that as more and more infected refugees are admitted into the U.S., that could eventually lead to widespread quarantines, loss of life and even curbs on our liberty.¹²⁴

A separate July 2016 *Natural News* report noted that health officials were becoming both concerned and alarmed by the number of drug-resistant TB infections and local officials' seemingly nonchalant attitude about them.¹²⁵

In recent days, the head of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, Dr. Jane Orient, criticized Vermont health officials for neglecting to warn residents about a latent risk of contracting TB from one of the state's 6,300 newly-acquired refugees, most of them from the war-torn Middle East where the disease is rampant.

"It is grossly irresponsible for a public health official to be cavalier about the introduction of even one case [of active TB] in her jurisdiction," Orient said, after hearing that Vermont State Epidemiologist Patsy Kelso tried to gloss over the fact that health officials had found at least 17 refugees with the disease.¹²⁶

"Because of its easy transmissibility (you can catch it on the bus), TB is one of the most serious health threats. One nurse or one visitor to the labor and delivery suite who turns out to have active TB can require identification and testing and tracking of dozens or hundreds of contacts," Dr. Orient said. "Latent TB is there for life and can activate at

any time resistance breaks down (say a course of treatment for asthma, rheumatoid arthritis, or cancer)."¹²⁷

Why would health officials try to downplay such a dangerous threat to public health and safety, especially involving a disease that is so resistant to standard treatments? Is it just politics? Are they afraid to single out refugees out of fear of being called a name?

Whatever their issue, failing to properly warn the public and resist the Obama administration's efforts to relocated diseased refugees in their communities, they are indeed putting vast numbers of Americans at risk of contracting a disease that could substantially disable them or even kill them.

"TB is one of the most lethal diseases and likely has killed as many people as any other plague in history. It was controlled in the US only with tremendous effort," Orient said.¹²⁸

Other health professionals who study the disease and its global spread say that by 2050, antimicrobial resistant (AMR) tuberculosis will claim 10 million lives a year and cost the global economy \$100 trillion worth of economic output.¹²⁹ Further:¹³⁰

Since the introduction of antibiotics, microbes have evolved a variety of methods to resist them. We are now dealing with "super-bugs" that are virtually untreatable, including colistin-resistant *E. coli*, drug-resistant gonorrhea, carbapenem-resistant enterobacteriaceae, methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis, and extended-spectrum-beta-lactamase-producing strains. The antibiotic pipeline is running dry, and AMR is threatening to undo major gains made in the control of infectious diseases.

These diseases are either already in the U.S. or headed our way, thanks to immigration and refugee resettlement policies that place politics above the health and well-being of the American people.

9. Reintroduction of HIV, via immigration

In addition to allowing men and women into our country via refugee programs without first performing adequate medical screening, poorly-conducted immigration medical screenings have led to the reintroduction of another potentially deadly disease: HIV.

Since 2010, in fact, none of the estimated 400,000-plus refugees who came into the U.S. were screened for the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), due to a change in federal regulations compliments of the Obama administration.¹³¹

According to one report:¹³²

Even though all refugees are encouraged to participate in an initial domestic medical screening that does include HIV testing within 90 days of entering the country, no one knows how many HIV positive refugees have arrived in the United States in the subsequent six and a half years, since participation in these screenings is voluntary and a significant percentage of refugees simply choose not to be screened.

The number of HIV positive refugees who have entered the country since 2010 may be at least 2,000, or approximately 350 per year, and is probably significantly higher.

While HIV is not infectious in the way that TB and measles are, it can still be transmitted via unprotected sexual intercourse and through sharing of intravenous needles, as drug addicts often do. In some cases it has been spread through blood transfusions.¹³³

For reasons known only to the president and his advisors, the federal rules were changed for screening *all* overseas visitors, refugees, students, immigrants and others for HIV. Before the rule change, refugees who were diagnosed with the disease during the required *overseas* medical screening were rated “inadmissible” and thus not permitted to enter the United States. There was one notable loophole, however; HIV-positive refugees could still apply for a medical waiver from the Department of Homeland Security’s U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Agency (USCIS).¹³⁴ A CDC report further notes that, in 2009, a total of 186 HIV-positive refugees were admitted to the U.S.¹³⁵

“If we want to be a global leader in combating H.I.V./AIDS, we need to act like it,” Obama said, according to an Oct. 30, 2009, *New York Times* article. “Now, we talk about reducing the stigma of this disease, yet we’ve treated a visitor living with it as a threat.”¹³⁶

While Obama’s decision may have made sense politically to him and his party, it doesn’t make any sense in the context of protecting *all* Americans, regardless of their political beliefs. HIV has no political allegiance; it truly is a non-partisan disease. And while treatments have improved over the years, it can still prove to be deadly.¹³⁷

Left untreated, HIV can develop into Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), the deadly disease that spread through the world and the United States at epidemic rates in the 1980s. The disease remains a significant ayhealth problem in the United States, with over 6,000 deaths attributable to it on 2014.

The CDC says 1 in 8 people with HIV don’t know they have it.¹³⁸

10. Ebola

In December 2013 an outbreak of the highly contagious, extremely lethal disease known as Ebola occurred in the West African nation of Guinea. The disease spread quickly to neighboring Liberia and Sierra

Leone, causing mortality rates passing 70 percent.¹³⁹ By July 2016, the reported number of cases since March 2014 was 28,652; of those, 11,325 died.¹⁴⁰

As Americans watched the disease spread and wreak havoc from afar, our elected leaders and those who headed up the appropriate health-monitoring agencies assured the country that the Ebola virus could not spread to the United States. In July 2014, CDC Director Dr. Thomas Frieden confidently assured Americans the virus would not spread to them. “It is not a potential of Ebola spreading widely in the U.S. That is not in the cards,” he said.¹⁴¹

Frieden’s assurances were followed by those of President Obama, who said in October 2014 that it was “unlikely” the disease would spread to America.¹⁴² He also said there was little reason to fear that the disease could be spread through the air: “The nature of this disease—the good news is that it’s not an airborne disease. We are familiar with the protocols we need to isolate and greatly reduce the risks of people catching this disease.”¹⁴³

However, shortly before Obama’s assurances that the disease would not spread to the U.S., *it did*. On Sept. 30, 2014, “Patient Zero” Thomas Duncan, a Liberian national in the country visiting family, was diagnosed with the virus at a Dallas, Texas, hospital. By Oct. 4 his condition deteriorated from “serious but stable” to “critical.” He died Oct. 8.¹⁴⁴

But the die had been cast. Two health care workers who cared for Duncan before the diagnosis was finally made - 26-year-old nurse Nina Pham and 29-year-old nurse Amber Vinson, both of whom had taken care of him at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital - contracted the virus.¹⁴⁵

Once Americans were infected, however, federal health authorities began to change their narrative. Suddenly, their focus shifted away from how unlikely it was the disease would show up in the U.S. to how hard

it would be for the disease to spread and how few Americans would ultimately be affected. In particular, U.S. health officials said the disease could not be spread through the air, like the cold or flu.¹⁴⁶ That turned out to be untrue. *NaturalNews* reported Oct. 28, 2014:¹⁴⁷

For weeks now, the CDC chief, Dr. Thomas Frieden, has said that Ebola cannot be spread through casual contact -- even as he also stated that persons suspected of being infected should avoid public transportation. President Obama has made similar statements.

Now, after a pair of northeastern state governors imposed (and then rescinded) 21-day quarantines for anyone returning from assisting infected patients in West Africa, word comes from the CDC that the virus can, in fact, be spread to others up to 3 feet away.

A CDC fact sheet pertaining to how the disease could spread noted:

Airborne spread happens when a germ floats through the air after a person talks, coughs, or sneezes. Germs may land in the eyes, mouth, or nose of another person.

If a germ is airborne, direct contact with the infected person is NOT needed for someone else to get sick. Airborne spread diseases include: chickenpox, tuberculosis.

As of this writing, the original document that had been linked to in the *NaturalNews* story changed. The story was written and published in late October 2014; as of the writing of this white paper, a new document completely devoid of the information above and dated January 12, 2016, titled, "Why Ebola is not likely to become airborne," was loaded at the same .pdf address.¹⁴⁸

The initial document, *NaturalNews* reported, also noted:

“Droplet spread,” the agency said, “happens when germs traveling inside droplets that are coughed or sneezed from a sick person enter the eyes, nose, or mouth of another person. Droplets travel short distances, less than 3 feet (1 meter) from one person to another.

“A person might also get infected by touching a surface or object that has germs on it and then touching their mouth or nose.

“Droplet spread diseases include: plague, Ebola.”

At the time, several news organizations picked up on the new airborne narrative coming from the CDC.^{149, 150, 151}

Also picking up on the language of the CDC document that has since been changed, the *New York Post* reported:¹⁵²

Ebola is a lot easier to catch than health officials have admitted — and can be contracted by contact with a doorknob contaminated by a sneeze from an infected person an hour or more before, experts told the Post...

One online publication, *The Huffington Post*, even documented that CDC had changed its original document after reports began to spread across the Internet that the agency changed its position on how Ebola could spread.¹⁵³

The two lies – that the U.S. would never see Ebola, and that it could not be transmitted through the air – were not the only ones told by the government and the so-called “mainstream” media regarding Ebola. There were others:¹⁵⁴

- That health authorities had everything under control and were on top of the disease and its spread.

- That the only way to protect yourself against contracting the virus was through vaccination or the use of pharmaceuticals.
- That Ebola was random and came out of nowhere.

As the outbreak of the disease in the U.S. progressed, the Obama administration and its various health agencies were not truthful – at least, initially – with the American people. And if the deadly disease – or *any* deadly disease – breaks out again, Americans should expect the same.

11. Nuclear terrorism

In March 2016, nuclear terrorism was a common concern as President Obama convened his final atomic summit in Washington, D.C. On everyone’s mind was a recent ISIS-inspired terrorist attack in Brussels, Belgium, and the potential targeting of a nuclear power plant there:¹⁵⁵

The recent deadly militant attacks in Brussels have fueled concern that Islamic State could eventually target nuclear plants and develop radioactive “dirty bombs,” a topic that may well be uppermost in leaders’ minds as they meet.

In fact, shortly after those deadly terrorist attacks, video footage was discovered indicating ISIS fighters may have been planning an attack on a Belgian nuclear plant, with the express intent of spreading radiological fallout:¹⁵⁶

The hours of film authorities have discovered in an apartment in Brussels that had been raided by anti-terrorist police following the November attack in Paris included the home of the Research and Development Director of the Belgian Nuclear Program, reports said.

Initially, the hours of footage confused investigators as it showed the entrance to the director’s home in Flanders, which is outside of the capital. However, intelligence officials came to the conclusion that

the ISIS cell was likely attempting to gain entry into the nuclear facility after they watched all 12 hours of the footage, which includes images of a local bus.

In late July 2016, as Brazil prepared to host the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, a report from an independent British newspaper shocked many around the world: Brazilian defense authorities were stepping up monitoring of the games' various stadiums and event locations over fears that the Islamic State may attempt to detonate a radiation-laced "dirty bomb."¹⁵⁷

In conjunction with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), high-tech radiation monitors, to include personal detectors and portable scanners, were deployed for use throughout the various game venues. Prior to the start of the games, Brazilian army troops practiced radiation decontamination operations. And the country's anti-terrorism chief even admitted that intelligence showed there was a "credible threat" that ISIS would target the Rio games.

The warning from Brazilian officials – and the nation's emergency preparations – followed a statement made earlier in the year by President Obama's deputy national security advisor for strategic communications, Ben Rhodes, noting that the U.S. government was just as concerned about such a catastrophe. "We have seen ample proof that terrorist organizations like ISIL (another acronym for the Islamic State) have no regard for innocent human life or international norms, and that only redoubles the need for us to have effective international nuclear security approaches," he said.¹⁵⁸

Indeed, the U.S. government has been war-gaming potential nuclear terrorism scenarios for years. A post at the National Security Archive at The George Washington University titled, "Nuclear Terrorism: How Big a Threat?" lays out the potential threat and what the United States is doing to mitigate and/or prepare for it. According to the September 2012 post:¹⁵⁹

Declassified documents have confirmed that the U.S. (and other) governments have anticipated the possibility of a terrorist nuclear incident at such high-profile events as the 2009 inauguration of President Barack Obama and the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. Ever since 9/11, U.S. experts have been particularly interested in whether al-Qaeda is trying to acquire a nuclear device.

Like others, the U.S. government certainly has an interest in tracking nuclear smuggling, and has even implemented an initiative specifically for that purpose: the Nuclear Smuggling Detection and Deterrence Program. The problem is, it is *not very effective*, despite costing taxpayers plenty.¹⁶⁰

A Government Accountability Report issued in late June 2016 found that NSDD “cannot measure its progress toward completing key activities” because its current goals and objectives cannot actually be measured. Also, the program does not deal with all relevant tasks and has other shortcomings as well.¹⁶¹

“NSDD cannot measure its progress toward completing key activities and achieving these goals. NSDD’s goals are not all measurable, some describe actions rather than outcomes, and they do not fully address all of the program’s key activities,” the report goes on to say. “In addition, its performance measures are not aligned with these goals, and its program plan does not detail how it will complete key program activities or achieve its goals.”¹⁶²

The monitoring of illicit nuclear trafficking is important to global security. The IAEA established the nuclear Incident and Trafficking Database (ITDB) in 1995, a few years after the breakup of the Soviet Union, for just that purpose. Since then, there have been about 2,900 confirmed cases of trafficking in nuclear materials as of 2015 – and those cases were gathered just from countries that volunteer the information.¹⁶³

Of those roughly 2,900 instances, 454 involved “unauthorized possession and related criminal activities,” while 762 cases reported “theft of loss,” the report noted.¹⁶⁴

Earlier, in September 2015, Australia’s intelligence service estimated that ISIS in Iraq had taken over enough territory to harvest nuclear materials from hospitals and the university in Mosul – enough to be able to construct a viable dirty bomb. If the organization divides the stolen materials into halves or thirds, there is no telling how many bombs can be made.¹⁶⁵

To summarize, the U.S. government has long been concerned about nuclear terrorism and the detonation of a “dirty bomb” in a U.S. city. There are terrorist elements currently at work to either secure radioactive material or are already in possession of it and are developing a plan to build a dirty bomb and detonate it – likely in the U.S., if at all possible. But the United States’ program to monitor and track illicit nuclear smuggling is an expensive failure, meaning that the only information we are getting on nuclear trafficking is from an international agency that collects data from *voluntary* participants. And the world’s most recent nuclear disaster site is a simmering pool of instability, ready to crumble at the next strong tremor. All in all, this combination makes it extremely likely that a nuclear “incident” of some type is in the offing.

12. Collapse of cities

In the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in August 2005, wide swaths of the city of New Orleans descended into chaos. And while many of the initial reports of murder, mayhem and violence have since been debunked,¹⁶⁶ that doesn’t mean there wasn’t *any* at all.

Despite prior warnings by officials that a major storm was approaching the city, many of its residents refused to leave their homes and, as a result, were caught in a tempest that consumed nearly 80 percent of the city.¹⁶⁷ When it was all over, Katrina’s gale-force winds caused massive

amounts of water to breach levees and flood all of the downtown sector and neighborhoods.

Looting, followed by general unrest and panic, followed after Katrina blew past the city. By Sept. 1, the situation was getting desperate.¹⁶⁸

Federal and local authorities struggled Thursday to regain control of this ruined and lawless city, where tens of thousands of desperate refugees remained stranded with little hope of rescue and rapidly diminishing supplies of food and drinking water.

The chaos that has gripped New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina showed signs Thursday of spreading to Baton Rouge and along the storm-ravaged Gulf Coast, as weary refugees continued their slow and confused exodus to higher ground. Fresh waves of National Guard troops began pouring into the region in an attempt to quell the unrest, but large swaths of New Orleans and other sodden areas remained essentially ungoverned.

The basics – food, water, shelter – had either been washed away, spoiled or, after a few days, stolen by a dazed residents taking advantage of a lawless situation in a primal game of survival of the fittest. There were no police initially in the worst-flooded areas of the city. Electricity was cut off from about 1.8 million customers because of the storm, including many with illnesses that required medical devices to keep them healthy or alive. The survivors huddled on bridges, rooftops, patches of dry ground just waiting for help that never came. There were scores of bodies floating and bloating in fetid water, and they lay amid crowds of hurricane refugees.¹⁶⁹

Areas of respite, such as they were – the Ernest M. Morial Convention Center and the Superdome, stadium home to the NFL's New Orleans Saints, were little more than squalid pits of sewage, stench and trash. Combined with the putrid smell of decaying sea life and filthy water,

such places were eventually abandoned by many, who simply took to wandering around in dirty streets filled with decaying bodies.

Eventually the Louisiana National Guard sent enough troops and air assets into the Crescent City, to rescue survivors and refugees and to help restore order. But the first 72 hours was a living nightmare for tens of thousands. Scores wandered aimlessly, growing hungry, thirsty, hot and more desperate by the hour. The lucky ones were plucked off of roadways by a random National Guard truck. And there was the lawlessness:¹⁷⁰

Amid signs of growing lawlessness, with looters roaming the city with impunity, heavily armed state and local police made a show of force in some places. Police in body armor and carrying shotguns and assault rifles were posted in the French Quarter and other parts of downtown to keep order.

Angry crowds have repeatedly shot at rescue crews. Pilots with a private rescue service were fired on when they tried to air-drop supplies at Kenner Memorial Hospital...

In recent years unrest in American cities has reached new heights. Whether it is White House-stoked racial tension, political unrest, anger and loss of economic opportunity, manufactured distrust of police, or for a variety of other reasons, America – and Americans – are on edge. And our major cities, quite frankly, are on the brink of violent convulsion.

The two most explosive issues at present are those dealing with race and the current presidential contest. In fact, the two intersect on many levels.

Rioting and looting followed police-related incidents in Ferguson, Missouri, as well as Baltimore, Maryland. Demonstrations – many violent – have resulted since, and most involve wanton destruction of public and private property. Murder and violent crime rates are going

up in many major U.S. cities.¹⁷¹ Already, portions of some cities, like Chicago, are war zones where more Americans are dying than on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan.¹⁷²

Retired Army Maj. Gen. Paul E. Vallely, former deputy commander of Pacific Command, sees danger ahead for America. In 2013 he wrote a missive in which he proclaimed that “America is imploding” and that nation stands at a “critical crossroads”:¹⁷³

It is now obvious; from the Obamacare debacle, to the myriad scandals, to our ever burgeoning debt, to the neutering of our world power status, to the rise of our enemies, and the demise of our allies’ trust in America; implosion is imminent.

Obama has taken the seeds of our demise, planted by progressives for over a century now, and amplified their growth at an astonishing rate. We are in a death spiral in terms of whom and what America is, was, and will become. Our ‘exceptionalism’ is the first casualty; we are imploding from within as past Soviet leaders predicted would be the only way we could be vanquished.

“We are sitting on a powder keg,” Charles Ramsey, the former D.C. police chief and one-time Philadelphia police commissioner, told *NBC News’* “Meet the Press” in July 2016. “You can call it a powder keg. You can say that we’re handling nitroglycerin, but obviously, when you just look at what’s going on, we’re in a very, very critical point in the history of this country.”¹⁷⁴

Make no mistake, this implosion will hit our cities the worst. The vast majority of Americans live in our major cities – more than 80 percent live in urban areas, according to the 2010 census.¹⁷⁵ And as many believe, it is all part of a master plan:¹⁷⁶

Sitting in their ivory towers protected by guards, gates and guns while pulling all the levers of power, sycophants like Soros and his

presidential bud, Barack Obama, are taking delight in seeing the country tear itself apart, its cities burn, and its people reaching for each other's throats.

Far from the icon of unity and "hope," Obama's real legacy has turned out to be one of racial distrust, hatred, fear, loathing and now, flight of wealth.

In fact, there is a general feeling of unease that is rising in the country, especially among the wealthy. Many are fleeing the big cities in search of calmer, more stable environments:¹⁷⁷

About 3,000 individuals with net assets of \$1 million or more, not including their primary residence, moved from the city last year, with many citing rising racial tensions and worries about crime as factors in the decision, according to research firm New World Wealth.

The wealthy aren't just changing their ZIP codes, they are also changing their lifestyles – as in, many are building underground bunkers where they can retreat to well-stocked refuges and avoid the chaos above ground:¹⁷⁸

Less than a decade ago most people had never heard the word "prepping," let alone the modern definition of it, but today, following two terms of some of the worst foreign and domestic policy in American history, more Americans not only know what prepping is but they are *actively engaged in it*.

In fact, the fear of chaos is so prevalent these days that prepping – along with investment in "panic rooms" and interest in living "off-grid" – is going mainstream, and the facts/statistics support this contention.

Also, for those remaining in cities, they are building so-called "safe rooms," havens where they can immediately withdraw and lock out

marauding bands of violent looters and rioters. The website *Realty.com* noted that the move towards underground shelters hasn't been so popular since the 1950s and 1960s, as the Cold War was heating up and tens of millions of Americans were concerned about fallout from nuclear war. The site noted that today, however, Americans are not concerned with a Communist takeover, they are much more worried about economic collapse and societal breakdown following the November elections. What's more, many are willing to shell out tens of thousands, or even millions, of dollars for added security:¹⁷⁹

Disaster readiness is not only getting more high-tech, it is also becoming higher-priced, with more and more Americans willing to shell out big bucks to protect themselves from what they see coming. That includes state-of-the-art underground shelters that come with greenhouses, gyms and decontamination units. What's more, these facilities are not limited to the boondocks; they're being added in the form of plush panic rooms in big cities as well.

"There's a lot of uneasiness in society. You see it in politics. You see it in the economy. The world is changing really, really quickly and not always for the better," said Richard Duarte, author of *Surviving Doomsday: A Guide for Surviving an Urban Disaster*. Prepping "gives them a certain comfort that at least they've got some sort of preparations to ... take care of their family if things start falling apart all around them."¹⁸⁰

The uber-rich, meanwhile, are plotting to escape globally:¹⁸¹

As the disparity between rich and poor widens across the globe, the threat of civil unrest intensifies, triggering fear and panic in the elite as they meticulously plan their escape to remote countries.

The distant island of New Zealand ranks as one of the top destinations where the super rich are purchasing hideouts, airstrips, farms and other pieces of property they think they'll need to survive a mass social uprising.

“Nervous financiers from across the globe have begun purchasing landing strips, homes and land in areas such as New Zealand so they can flee should people rise up,” one news report noted.¹⁸²

Adding to the danger of being in a big city is the rise in global terrorism. Increasingly, all major cities including those in the United States, and the various soft targets they present, are being attacked by those who have pledged allegiance to the Islamic State (ISIS). Boston, San Bernardino, Chattanooga, Orlando and Baton Rouge, among others, have seen ISIS-inspired terrorist attacks on civilians and police officers.

The problem with being in a major city is that residents are literally dependent on them for *everything*: Food, water, housing, security and employment, especially. There is little space in major cities for things like gardens. In most big cities you are forbidden by law from practicing what ought to be your Second Amendment *right* to keep and bear arms for self-defense. Residents get their food, water, electricity, trash service, police and fire protection, and financial services from cities. In short, the city is their lifeline, literally.

But what happens when city services are decimated, either by a manmade or natural disaster (or by mass civil unrest and violence)? What will people do when food stores run out of stock? When the power grid fails? When law and order breaks down? There won't be anyone to turn to for assistance, outside of a few neighbors, if you're lucky. As happened in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, the civil society simply breaks down and order vanishes, and very quickly – often within an hour or so.

Some incidents from the past serve as examples – and reminders of how bad things can get in a hurry.

The riots related to the Rodney King trial in the early 1990s are especially instructive, as they could very well be taken from today's headlines.

King, a serial felon out on parole, and two others finally surrendered to police after a lengthy high-speed chase on March 3, 1991. King's two passengers were handcuffed by California Highway Patrol officers but King, the driver of the vehicle who was also intoxicated, resisted arrest and was subsequently beaten for several minutes by white Los Angeles PD officers – a beating that was captured on video and which was aired over and over again on national television. A year later, in April 1992, a mostly white jury acquitted the five police officers, which led to riots over a six-day period throughout the city.¹⁸³

One report noted:¹⁸⁴

Violence first erupted at the intersection of Florence Boulevard and Normandie Avenue in south-central Los Angeles. Traffic was blocked, and rioters beat dozens of motorists, including Reginald Denny, a white truck driver who was dragged out of his truck and nearly beaten to death by three African-American men. A news helicopter, hovering over the street, recorded the gruesome event. Los Angeles police were slow to respond, and the violence radiated to areas throughout the city. California Governor Pete Wilson deployed the National Guard at the request of Mayor Tom Bradley, and a curfew was declared. By the morning, hundreds of fires were burning across the city, more than a dozen people had been killed, and hundreds were injured.

Violence and rioting continued over the next 24 hours. Korean shop owners in African-American neighborhoods were filmed defending their shops and stores with firearms. On May 1, President George H. W. Bush ordered elements of the U.S. military as well as riot-trained federal agents and officers to Los Angeles to help impose a military curfew. By the following day the city was finally under control, though pockets of violence continued for a couple more weeks. In all, the three days of violence and looting left 55 people dead, 2,000 injured, and 7,000 people were arrested. The damage: Nearly \$1 billion in lost property, including nearly 4,000 buildings torched.¹⁸⁵

In July 1977, a major power grid failure caused a blackout in New York City that lasted 25 hours. The grid failed after being struck by lightning. It could not have come at a worse time for the city, which was in the throes of economic decline, rising crime and the fear-inducing Son of Sam¹⁸⁶ murders.¹⁸⁷ Looting and rioting ensued and by the time the lights were turned back on and police restored order, more than 1,000 fires had been started, 1,600 stores had been looted and 3,700 people had been arrested.¹⁸⁸

What if scenarios like these spread? Quite clearly those living in cities are going to be the most vulnerable.

Indeed, has the collapse already begun?

Societies don't tend to collapse overnight unless they are decimated by a natural or manmade disaster. If the earth is struck by a major solar storm, of course the United States will be affected but so will virtually every other nation on the planet, meaning all peoples will be in bad shape. But nations can literally collapse overnight if they are taken over by an enemy or if the world's economic system were to suddenly give way.

In the modern age, however, societal collapse occurs more slowly, over a period of centuries or decades. The Soviet Union, born of revolution in 1917, a year before the end of World War I, and lasting until 1991, collapsed in slow motion. While the USSR, as a communist state, was supposed to be "a society of true democracy," it was generally ruled by one iron-fisted dictator after another. And while that was bad enough, what *really* sealed the USSR's fate was complete state control over the economy – a *planned* economy that had no room for creativity, innovation and free-market growth:¹⁸⁹

After 1924, when the dictator Joseph Stalin came to power, the state exercised totalitarian control over the economy, administering all industrial activity and establishing collective farms. It also controlled

every aspect of political and social life. People who argued against Stalin's policies were arrested and sent to labor camps or executed.

As the centralized economy continued to underperform, the USSR spent vast amounts of resources on an arms race with the West. By the 1980s, the political and economic structure of the union was so entrenched that reform-minded President Mikhail Gorbachev, despite implementing more liberal political and economic policies than ever before, could not stop the inevitable breakup. As the USSR was forced to withdraw from its traditional zones of influence, countries trapped for decades under Soviet rule began to declare independence, in open defiance of Moscow, but the Russian government could do nothing to stop them:¹⁹⁰

Frustration with the bad economy combined with Gorbachev's hands-off approach to Soviet satellites to inspire a series of independence movements in the republics on the USSR's fringes. One by one, the Baltic states (Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia) declared their independence from Moscow. Then, in early December, the Republic of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine broke away from the USSR and created the Commonwealth of Independent States. Weeks later, they were followed by eight of the nine remaining republics. (Georgia joined two years later.) At last, the mighty Soviet Union had fallen.

Could this happen to the United States? Let us examine the five stages of collapse:¹⁹¹

- Stage one of a societal collapse begins after the society has reached the pinnacle of success. There is plenty of opportunity everywhere and the population is generally satisfied and believes the country is headed in the right direction. But there is an aura of entitlement that begins to permeate society, flames that are started and then fanned by groups and leaders interested in political self-enhancement. Over time "and under the guise of fairness and equality, these

policies slowly decrease productivity and increase dependency on government entitlement and welfare programs.”

- Stage two is where productivity begins to decline as more and more people decide that government handouts and largess is a better alternative to an advanced education and hard work to get ahead. More and more people, through various “benefits” programs, are essentially paid for their votes (and not to work). The national debt rises, as do taxes and government fees to cover an ever-widening budget shortfalls. The national mood shifts from one that is generally positive about the future and the direction of the country to one that is generally negative. Inflation begins to creep upward.
- Stage three occurs when a society has begun to collapse in earnest after normal economic indicators and factors continue plunging while efforts to reverse the fall have little-to-no effect, thereby hastening the demise. Sometimes governments issue price controls in order to artificially keep down inflation, but these backfire because market forces – supply and demand – ultimately control the value of goods. Things become scarce, the population more restive. Money supply is tight. New taxes and fees are implemented to head off a financial disaster at the federal level. Labor unions and others strike for more money and benefits from cash-strapped companies and firms. Local infrastructure, already fraying, begins to fail. Local governments, already cash-strapped, appear impotent and helpless to enforce laws or tend to basic services. Gangs and gang violence proliferates. Citizens begin to feel even more desperate; some form local collectives in order to make due. Security is increasingly a personal decision. Even at this phase the downfall can be avoided, but it will take a majority of political leaders to commit to preserving the fundamental rights of citizens and a commitment to upholding the Constitution (a stretch in this day and age).
- Stage four has arrived when the middle class has essentially vanished, and two classes of citizens exist: Those who have and those

who have not. Unrest is growing faster than authorities can deal with it. More people by the week are finding themselves without a job, without money and with little recourse but to take to the streets in protest. Government promises to intervene with emergency food, shelter and other rations, but is slow to deliver because its own systems are failing as well. National infrastructure, like the power grid and air travel, become unreliable and unsafe, respectively. Local and state police forces are stretched to the breaking point, having lost half of their force due to financial inability to pay officers. Store shelves that are filled in the mornings are empty before noon. Long lines form at retail outlets long before they open for business; armed guards are required to keep the peace. Many – even those who have waited for hours – leave disgruntled. Fights break out; people who are lucky enough to obtain a few necessary items like milk, bread, some processed foods and toilet paper, but are unarmed are robbed and beaten, their goods taken from them. Criminal enterprises spring up selling items at high prices for cash, gold, or other items of value (like ammunition and firearms). Desperate people gladly hand over whatever they've got for a couple days' rations, happy to have a small reprieve but not really knowing what they'll do when what they've just bought runs out – soon. Local governments are no help for them, too, are tapped out. There are no jobs, gasoline is in short supply and there is no quality healthcare structure remaining.

Can it get any worse?

Yes.

- Stage five sees a society that exists in name only but which has really completely collapsed. Law and order are non-existent, as all state and local police agencies have collapsed and disintegrated, remaining officers having abandoned their posts to protect their own families and save their own lives. The national government, in tatters, must declare martial law, in an instant vacating all remaining freedoms and liberties. Movement is severely restricted; the military

is given orders to detain and, if necessary, fire on, dissenters. The country everyone once knew – and the world respected – no longer stands. What comes next is what has come next throughout history: A dictatorial regime that, under the guise of claiming absolute power, promises to “fix” everything, but really only ensures its own survival. The masses – those lucky enough to have survived the riots and destruction – will be only too happy to hand over the reins of power, even if it means giving up the last vestiges of liberty they possessed.

By any measure, honest observers would have to conclude that, while the above scenarios could easily describe what is taking place in Venezuela today, some of the early signs of eventual societal collapse are already happening in the United States as well. Chronic unemployment and under-employment; a thoroughly corrupt political class that refuses to uphold the Constitution and hold its own accountable even for treasonous acts; a bloated, expansive, expensive federal government that eats up a large plurality of what the nation produces each year and *still* overspends by hundreds of billions annually; a crushing national debt that grows by the millions every second; and a populace perpetually riled up and pitted against itself for the amusement and empowerment of the elite – and we have the perfect storm brewing for massive societal upheaval in a country that, by all measures, is still quite young.

Now – what to do about it?

Part Two: Solutions

Knowing that unrest and, quite possibly, civil unrest is on the way, it only makes sense to prepare *now* for as many possible contingencies as you can think of. When disaster strikes is *not* the time to “prepare;” reacting to a crisis is always more dangerous than being ready for one.

As such, this section will present several solutions to problems and issues you are going to encounter in an emergency situation. You will

most likely have to rely on yourself for provisions, shelter, and protection, so this section will focus primarily on those factors.

Food and water

Time and again we see in any societal breakdown situation that a person's two primary worries are food and water. That's because as the situation progressively gets worse, those are the two necessities a) that are highest in demand; and b) because of that are the first to disappear. Plus, food and water in the hands of government can be utilized to coerce and control a needy, desperate population, while food and water in the hands of barbarous gangs and criminal enterprises can be expensive to obtain and risky. So with that said, it is best to have your own supply.

A word of caution, though, about stocking up. Understand that a desperate government will adopt desperate measures, including *taking what it considers to be hoarded food* – which is, in reality, just food and provisions that you have stockpiled for an emergency.¹⁹² Like President Franklin Delano Roosevelt who signed an executive order banning the hoarding of gold and silver during the Great Depression, a president today could issue a similar order, under the same guise of a national emergency.¹⁹³ So the lesson to be gleaned here is, simply, *keep your storage secret*.

In terms of food, obviously you'll want something that can be stored for the long-term – years, in fact. But besides just storability, you'll want something that is portable and can be quickly moved if you have to “bugout” of your current location. And finally, you'll want something that is not simply nutritious and made to last, but specifically designed to boost your immune system and keep you healthier for the long haul. Besides food and water, sickness will be one of your gravest concerns when times get really tough. You can't survive on junk food, and often processed storable foods are calorie-heavy but not heavy on nutritional value.

And nutrition will most definitely be *important* to your long-term survival. When a situation arises, especially one involving total societal collapse, it isn't possible to know how long it will last or when some semblance of order will be reestablished. So you will be miles ahead of every other poor soul caught up in the mayhem if your food is of the highest nutritional value. Superfoods should most definitely be included on your list of provisions, including those that have been shown to provide immune system boost and other health and healing qualities.'

Plant-based supplements are also useful in that they don't spoil, are high in nutritional value and filled with vitamins and minerals that you'll need to stay healthy and alert..

Even more important than food is clean, potable (drinkable) *water*. A person can survive many days without food but most humans cannot survive longer than a few days without water. In an emergency, clean water is going to become invaluable. As infrastructure breaks down, that will include water treatment plants and distribution systems.

In fact, because water is so important, it is best to have a redundant system of purification. Drinking contaminated water can literally kill you, and relatively quickly, by causing dysentery and uncontrollable diarrhea, which can dehydrate you.¹⁹⁴ Various methods including water filtration and boiling are useful redundancy methods to ensure that you and your family will have enough water to get you through the tough times. Boiling will disinfect water very well; just boil for a few minutes and let cool¹⁹⁵ (this method also assumes that you have fire-starting capabilities, which should *also* be redundant).

Water filter straws and similar devices also work, of course, and they should definitely be in your multi-layered water purification preparations. But so should a more elaborate, stable and reliable system of water filtration – something that does not require electricity and works by gravity.

Moving through the chaos

Most people have never served in the military forces of their respective nations, and that is also true of the United States; just 0.4 percent of the population serves in the military at any given time,¹⁹⁶ and only about 7.3 percent of the current population *has* military experience.¹⁹⁷

But you're going to find that you'll be in need of some of those skills when stuff hits the proverbial fan. Out of the chaos will come government forces that will seek to monitor and track the population, roving bands of armed criminals and gangs, and any number of rogue elements.

Movement in a chaotic urban environment will require some skill:¹⁹⁸

Any soldier who has been in combat will tell you that the most difficult operations of all are those that take place in an urban environment. When you think about it for a moment, you realize that is true: Danger can come from a variety of different places all at once, and you've got to be ready for each and every one of them.

Basically speaking, here are things you need to consider when moving through chaotic, "enemy-filled" urban areas:¹⁹⁹

- Have a plan before you move; know where you are moving to, the route you'll use to get there, and where you plan to go from there.
- When moving, avoid staying out in the open as much as possible by staying close to buildings rather than walking in the middle of the street.
- Always, *always* be mindful of doorways and windows; move quickly past them as they are excellent ambush sites.

- When moving, be as quiet as possible so as to not alert others to your presence. Use hand signals whenever possible – signals that everyone would understand, like, “go that way,” or “stop.”
- Don’t bunch up when moving. A bunched up group makes for an easier target.
- Pay attention and *keep your head on a swivel*, meaning, always be looking around, 360 degrees, for approaching trouble.
- Have a reaction plan ready in case you come into contact with hostile people.
- Don’t go it alone – single targets are the easiest to pick off.
- Cross streets quickly.

Now, in the event that the authorities regain control of cities, they are going to want to monitor *everyone*, and they will do so largely by electronic means. There are products available that will block electronic snooping equipment designed to read your driver license, credit cards and other similar identity-containing cards using a chip or data strip. Hide yourself as best you can by shielding your personally identifiable cards not just from government snoopers but also identity thieves who will be looking for any advantage in a chaotic world to get money.

Also, good movement techniques that work well during riot situations include:²⁰⁰

- If you’re with a friend or spouse, stay close to them.
- Don’t *ever* get involved in the riot because then you make yourself a legitimate target for reprisals, either from counter-protestors or police/military.

- Always carry some cash or barter bait, so you can buy emergency rations or quickly arrange for transportation out of the danger zone.
- Stay calm and keep your emotions in check because remember, it isn't about you personally, no matter what is said.
- Move out of the riot zone initially by traveling with the flow of people, while constantly on the lookout for an escape route.
- Always carry some sort of personal protective device with you – the more discreet, the better.

How to stay healthy

After the chaos has begun and you have either secreted away to some out-of-the-way shelter or are holed up in your own home for the time being, one thing you'll need to be concerned about is airborne toxins.

As infrastructure breaks down, airborne toxins will increase. Water and sewage treatment plants that have ceased operations will become rancid; trash service will end, meaning all kinds of virus-and-bacteria-producing bugs will be released into the air; fires will break out burning all kinds of toxic materials in buildings, cars and homes; and so on.

Food, water and shelter are obviously important to your long-term survival, but you have to do your best to *stay healthy* because one small bug can take out the biggest, healthiest man. So purifying the air you breathe, if you are able, will become a health priority.

There are already plenty of toxins in the air, and that is especially true of major cities. Violence, widespread looting and other out-of-control behavior will result in tons of environmental damage and poor air quality. If you can find a way to avoid most of it, you'll be far ahead of the game in terms of staying healthy.

You can also do that by adding remedies to your preparedness stash right now. Self-therapies like essential oils and cupping will not only reduce the stress of your environment but also provide you with cleaner air and more natural, holistic health benefits that are free of dangerous chemicals and pharmaceuticals that could kill you if you have an adverse reaction to them.

One item that is generally missing from preparedness kits is vitamin C, which has proven medical and immune-boosting qualities. Vitamin C, researchers have found, is high in antioxidants, which are said to remove harmful free radicals from your body. A deficiency of vitamin C can cause all kinds of health problems like scurvy, which can be debilitating and demobilizing – which you *don't* need if you have to be constantly on the move. Vitamin C is just one of those vitamins that is essential to humans, and since fresh fruits and produce will likely be hard to come by if not impossible to find, your best bet is to make sure you have some clean, proven pure vitamin C in your prep kit.

Besides a basic first aid kit (which every home should have anyway) the *one thing* you can do to ensure better health for the coming hard times is to *get active now*. Get up off the couch and walk your neighborhood 4-5 times a week. Join a gym and lift weights to get stronger. Learn new fitness programs and then actually *do them* the prescribed number of times per week. Make time to invest an hour a day in your fitness because remember, you can't bug out if you can't carry your bug out bag. Be fit enough to fight if you have to.

In addition to a fitness program, antioxidants can help you with your endurance while at the same time boosting your energy levels. Let's face it, in a societal collapse scenario, the weak will become prey first. They will be attacked, their belongings stolen, and many will be lucky to survive. Stronger, fitter people will have a better chance at getting out of a bad situation and surviving. That will take initiative and determination, for sure, but also durability, dynamism, vitality and energy. If you're going to put the time in to get fit – and you should – help yourself

reach your goals faster with the kinds of supplements that will complement your efforts.

Self-defense

A touchy subject, to be sure, because in the context of a societal breakdown, those who survive are going to have to be willing to do *whatever it takes*. That will ultimately involve defending yourself from marauders, looters and common criminals who will use the situation as an excuse to wreak havoc.

The fact is, most people who live in large cities where collapse will be the most devastating have long been conditioned to outsource their personal security – to police, local governments and even the military to a certain extent. They are not accustomed to standing up for themselves.

Most, for instance, have little-to-no firearms training. They have no experience shooting a gun and couldn't tell you the difference between a handgun, rifle and shotgun. They don't know which weapon works best for certain situations.

Is that *you*? Are you someone who has no experience handling a firearm? Honestly, if that is the case, that needs to change, *and quickly*.

Handling a gun is really no different than handling any other tool. A hammer is a tool used to build – like saws, screws, nails and the like. A gun is a tool used for *self-defense*. Yes, it's true that bad people use them for bad purposes, but the reality is, most Americans are *good* people and most gun owners use their weapons as a means of protecting themselves, their families and their property. That was evident in the Rodney King riots, when several Korean business owners in a hard-hit part of Los Angeles took to the streets and roofs of their stores with rifles and handguns to protect their property.²⁰¹

Gun laws vary in cities and you should definitely learn them before purchasing a firearm. But if you value your safety and you're worried about what may happen in the next few months or years, the time to arm yourself *and learn how to both use and clean your firearm* is now.

What sort of weapon(s) should you buy? For self-defense, the choices are very straightforward.

A handgun is easy to learn how to use and clean, and it is very portable. It will fit in a pocket or you can hide it in your clothing (remember, we are NOT talking about doing this under *normal conditions* – you should only do something like this if society has collapsed and there are no police/military personnel around to keep the peace). As to the caliber of the handgun and whether you should get a revolver or a semi-automatic, the latter is probably your better bet just because they have a higher rate of fire and generally hold more rounds. But buy what you are comfortable with; there are plenty of gun resources online for you to research before you make your purchase. Also, there are firing ranges in some cities where you can “rent” a gun for a practice session; there, you can fire different weapons and get a feel for what you like and don't like.

The next best personal defense weapon is a shotgun. It has a lot of fire-power in a small shell. You may have heard someone say once that shotguns are good because you can simply point them without aiming, but that's not really true. If you choose a shotgun, you'll have to learn how to aim and shoot it just like any other firearm. That said, a buckshot round can be very lethal even if your aim isn't the all that good (practice will improve aim though).

Shotguns come in various gauges – one of the most popular is the 12 gauge. This is the gauge used most by police and the military. It is a powerful gauge and will “kick” a bit when you fire a 12-gauge shotgun, so the more practice, the better. Other popular gauges include the 20 gauge and the 4-10; these also will make sufficient close-in self-defense weapons.

In terms of mechanics, shotguns come in semi-automatic, pump-action, double action (double barrel) and single-action (single barrel). Double barrel shotguns hold just two shells; single barrel guns hold just one. And while no one wants to stand on the other end of a double-barrel shotgun, once you expend your two shells you must reload; in a situation where you have two or more attackers, that will be a great disadvantage. So-called “tactical” shotguns hold up to eight shells, giving you a lot more firepower.

Finally, a smaller-caliber tactical rifle like an AR-15 carbine is a good thing to have as well, and for several reasons. First of all, it is a *lot* of firepower. Several 20- or 30-round magazine packs a great deal of punch should you need it (state laws in some parts of the country are changing regarding the amount of bullets you can have in a magazine so *make sure you check them* before purchasing a semi-automatic rifle that holds a magazine). Also, a rifle fires a much farther distance than a pistol or shotgun, both of which are made for close-in self-defense. You may not think that, in a city, you’d need a weapon with some range, but you’d be surprised because threats can come from far away, as the horrific killings of Dallas police officers recently proved.²⁰²

The problem with buying a rifle in a city is that there are likely fewer places to practice with it. Most firing ranges in cities are designed only with handguns in mind, so you may have to drive a while to find a range outside of the city to practice at. Still, it will be worth your time and effort when disaster strikes.

More about food

At some point following a societal breakdown, order will eventually be restored because that is just the natural progression of things following disasters. Of course, the amount of time it takes to restore order will depend on how widespread the collapse and to what extent it damaged the national infrastructure. The only time a reasonably quick return to

order wouldn't happen is in a civil war scenario such as that which is currently playing out in Syria.

But despite the scenario, anyone who has the ability to grow some of their food will be light years ahead of everyone else. That's where portable grow systems come in.

Lightweight, easy to set up and electricity-free, grow boxes and grow towers make excellent investments because they are disaster-free. They don't require electricity, food can be grown in them perpetually (just add water), they are EMP-proof and durable. Another plus: You don't need soil – a traditional garden would be impossible to maintain if society breaks down without a group of survivors large enough (and armed enough) to protect it. Even then it would be difficult.

With a grow box, seeds, water and some sunlight, you can be much more self-reliant when it comes to growing nutritious food that you'll need to stay alive. Grow lettuce and fresh greens, along with carrots, turnips, potatoes, tomatoes, strawberries and even turmeric root with garden towers designed to take up little space and be easy to maintain. Add some nutritious micro-sprouts and grow beans and legumes for protein.

Part Three: Conclusions

While it is impossible to predict what will happen in the future, one thing is certain: Americans are living in tumultuous times. Unrest driven by political ambitions, racial and economic disparities (real and perceived), instability in the global order and a fractious presidential campaign have turned the United States into a smoldering cauldron of mistrust, anger and suspicion.

Our institutions are no longer holding us together. We have no faith in our media, our political system is corrupt, our leaders self-absorbed

and self-serving, there is no accountability at the highest levels of government, we are increasingly ruled by courts not elections, and we are constantly being preyed upon by globalist corporations that distort science for their own purposes and use lobbyists in Washington to buy friendly policies, even at the risk of harming our environment and our future.

The tension brewing in our country will, at some stage, reach a boiling point, and when that happens our cities, towns and communities will explode. This paper has laid out a number of possible scenarios and provided tangible, achievable solutions for those willing to put forth the time and effort to ensure their own survival when that day of reckoning arrives.

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