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BUSHISM VS. THE SCIENTIFIC MAJORITY

Bush administration policies for America are governed not only by dangerous personal and group pathologies. They even measurably threaten to drive us backward in evolution. The following release of 1700 words reports these and other results of the explosive new Global Sounding study of global health and wellbeing. It's written to easily cut from the end to needed lengths, quote from, or rewrite to varying readership interests. Sections include: Bushism vs. the scientific majority. The Bush test. Global health vs. sickness (including psychiatric profiles of Bushism's leaders and followers). The Bushist syndrome. Bushism and religion. Progressive science and political action. The Global Sounding solution.

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BUSHISM VS. THE SCIENTIFIC MAJORITY

Bush administration policies for America are governed not only by dangerous personal and group pathologies. They even measurably threaten to drive us backward in evolution.

This is the conclusion of an explosive new study that finds a negative impact of Bushist policies not only on global environment but also on a dozen other basic indicators of evolution including economic, educational, technological, and moral and spiritual evolution.

Behind the Global Sounding study are two decades of advanced studies by multinational groups of evolutionary systems scientists, long established psychiatric measures, the forgotten warning of post-World War II investigators of the rise of fascism in Europe and America, and the development over the past decade of a wide variety of new measures of global health and well being.

At the core of the new study is the development of a new scientific measure of global health and wellbeing, the Global Sounding. Explored at length in the report *Bankrolling Evolution: Money, Science, and Politics* and a companion publication *Measuring Evolution* (Benjamin Franklin Press, 2007), the new measure is designed to show whether we are advancing, being

checked in place, or are being driven backward on fifteen basic levels and activities for evolution.

The Bush Test

“Because of rapidly growing global concern about the impact of American policies on the economy, politics, and general well-being of the rest of the world, Bush administration and Republican congressional majority policies were selected for the first pilot test of the Global Sounding,” the developer of the new measure and the report’s author, evolutionary systems scientist David Loye, explains.

It was expected the new measure would register a backward drive on three or four of the fifteen basic indicators, mainly because of anti-scientific Bush and Republican congressional policies on global warming and other threats to the global environment.

“The shock, however, was to find the threat of a backward impact for Bushist policies on all fifteen indicators,” Loye reports. Behind the indicators, according to *Bankrolling Evolution*, lie advanced findings for a dozen major fields of science, ranging from physics and biology to psychology, economics, and political science.

Global Health vs. Sickness

A core facet of the Global Sounding measure is the global health versus sickness perspective Dr. Loye first introduced in his award-winning book *The Healing of a Nation*, then further developed as the research director for a major project for the Neuropsychiatric Institute of the UCLA School of Medicine. One of many models for development of the Global Sounding was the MMPI test widely used by clinical psychologists and psychiatrists with troubled people.

In *Bankrolling Evolution* a chapter, “The Madness of Kings and the Case for Revolution,” looks at the historical parallel between effects of the malady of King George III on the origin of the American Revolution and the current concern of psychologists and psychiatrists about the G. W. Bush years and the economic, political, and religious constituency for Bushism in America.

“It’s a perspective most of us understandably feel uncomfortable with and would prefer not to consider,” Dr. Loye comments. “But given our global situation, the need for a deeper look at the way personal, national, and global mental and emotional illness is interlinked has become inescapable.”

Widely recorded news accounts of the strange initial behavior of U.S. president Bush during the 9/11 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, during hurricane Katrina’s devastation of New Orleans, and an increasing number of incidents have raised questions for which

psychiatrists offer a variety of answers. Most frequent are diagnoses of Narcissistic Personality Disorder, or NPD, in the case of President Bush. The chapter also probes questions about the psychopathology of Bushism's followers and enablers raised by once well known post-World War II scientific studies.

“We need to take a deep and intensive new look at the famous authoritarian personality studies of the Adorno group, the work of psychologists Solomon Asch with conformity and Stanley Milgram with obedience to authority, and economist Gunnar Myrdal's study of the recurrent devastation of the ‘vicious cycle,’” Loye writes.

The Bushist Syndrome

Though the Global Sounding measure is based on advanced evolution studies by leading scientists during recent decades, its findings confirm the warning of Adorno, Asch, Milgram, Myrdal and other well-known social scientists who earlier studied the rise of both the fascism leading to World War II and the spread of “friendly fascism” in America.

The underlying problem, according to *Bankrolling Evolution*, is what anti-scientific Bush administration policies have shared with earlier periods of evolutionary regression and the conclusions of scientists probing the rise of both fascism and communism prior to World War II.

The factor in common between then and now, the new study concludes, is a recurring historical pattern for “a fierce, fearful, and backward-driving backlash against progressive periods of significant evolutionary advance.” When exploited to gain political power by either rightist or leftist authoritarian leadership, as earlier happened in Nazi Germany and Stalinist Russia, this backlash becomes a drive to wipe out progressive science, beliefs, and social advances.

By shutting off human evolution in this way, the Global Sounding study concludes, this recurring pattern for massive regression constitutes a life-threatening illness for our species, which, if not checked and cured, will recur to further devastate the 21st century.

Bushism and Religion

Further evidence of the historically recurring regressive thrust that earlier scientists warn of, Loye notes, has been the fierce drive by a nationally powerful Bushist religious constituency to outlaw the teaching of evolution in American schools, and the distortion and suppression of the work of American scientists by Bush political appointees.

“It's not only been a virtual holy war against science,” Dr.Loye notes, “but also an active holy war against progressive religion.”

The Global Sounding measure includes indicators for monitoring moral and spiritual as well as cultural, social, political, and economic evolution. A further step for the study was the translation of all fifteen indicators into equivalent statements for a scientifically-grounded experimental moral code.

“Politically and socially, a powerful tool for embedding the ultraright in power in America as well as in the Islamic world has been the militant claim of possession of the one and only true God and morality by Christian as well as Islamic extremists,” Loye notes. “For the beliefs and actions of both Christian and Islamic religious factions, we found violations not just of one or two but of a majority of statements for the Global Sounding’s new experimental moral code.”

“The tragedy and the irony is that this study confirms what leading theologians and increasing numbers of both Christians and Islamics are saying—that both Bushist policies and Islamic terrorism violate the teachings of Jesus originating Christianity and much of the teaching of Mohammed originating Islam.”

Progressive Science and Political Action

A former Princeton University and UCLA School of Medicine faculty member, besides the award-winning *The Healing of a Nation* Dr. Loye is the author of other books on evolution, politics, and the new field of evolutionary action science.

The advanced evolution research on which the new measure is based was first reported in a book edited by Loye with chapters by a dozen members of both the multinational General Evolution Research Group and the Darwin Project Council published in 2004 by the State University Press of New York, *The Great Adventure: Toward a Fully Human Theory of Evolution*.

In terms of the Global Sounding’s experimental scientific moral code, *Bankrolling Evolution* identifies an underlying commonality of concern for both liberals and conservatives with moral evolution. If America is to regain its lost stature domestically and internationally, the report concludes, both sides must not only reject “Bushism,” but work together against the over-riding threat of global environmental disaster and the continuing threat of regressive backlash against evolution.

“I am a World War II veteran,” Dr. Loye observes. “What haunts the nightmares of myself and Holocaust survivors I know, including my own wife, is the picture that current events and by now countless ignored scientific studies reveal of how regressive rightwing exploitation of this historically recurring backlash can not only end democracies.”

“Within a long range perspective on the prospect for continuing life on this planet, far more deadly than the plague or AIDS today, what the Global Sounding reveals is a sharp new

picture of how this ancient illness can end human evolution.”

Just as therapy for the individual requires the painful probe of causes, the Global Sounding report concludes that for the national and global social body this is an illness that in terms of the American political situation, for catharsis and renewal, requires three kinds of intensive therapy. First, an unrelenting exposure by a resurrected Congress and press of how and why this happened to America. Second, an unrelenting probe of how the nation can fully recover. And third—of continuing and most vital importance—how our species can prevent it from ever happening again.

The Global Sounding Solution

Beyond the catharsis of political therapy, the solution offered by *Bankrolling Evolution* is a “healing of the nations” driven by use of the Global Sounding measure to shift investment away from activities and goals that check in place or drive us backward in evolution—such as the multi-trillion-dollar global investment in the military—to environmentally sensitive and progressive social, political, economic, scientific and religious policies and action.

Bankrolling Evolution tracks the impact of progressive American philanthropy on global social, political, economic and educational evolution from the years of the formation of the Carnegie, Rockefeller and other great foundations to the new rise of women’s foundations and the current personal impact of George Soros, Ted Turner, the Bill Gates family, and other progressive American billionaires.

In sharp contrast, the book tracks the multi-billion-dollar funding by the Olin, Coors, Bradley, Scaife, and other regressive foundations to underwrite control of America via regressive think tanks in America, college newspapers, professors and graduate students, best-selling books, political contributions, and the launching of radio and television networks and a subtle process of top down control for newspapers and other mainstream media.

The billions of dollars spent on the 2000, 2004, 2006, and the forthcoming 2008 elections in America underline what the study concludes is the most immediate practical importance of these findings.

“A critical factor,” the study concludes, “is the degree to which progressive money instead of status quo money or regressive money prevails in political action, thus determining whether we move forward, are checked in place, or are driven backward in human evolution.”

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NOTE to writers, editors, reviewers, scientists, producers, and educators: For scientific backup and details for this story, see websites for The Darwin Project (www.thedarwinproject.com) and The Benjamin Franklin Press (www.benjaminfranklinpress.com).

For The Darwin Project website: see About the Darwin Project, Council members, General Evolution Research Group, Library and Book Store, Loye's page.

For The Benjamin Franklin Press website: see *Bankrolling Evolution* and *Measuring Evolution* for access to table of contents and key chapters, Author Bio, Global Sounding measure, and Global Sounding Moral Code.

Bankrolling Evolution and *Measuring Evolution*, a companion guide to use of the Global Sounding, are available worldwide in print in English through Amazon, Powells, Barnes & Noble, Abe Books, and other internet book sellers in the U.S., and through major online book sellers throughout Europe and Asia.