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Political notes from 2019: July - October

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Each political note has its own anchor in case you want to link to it.

My intention is to make links only to publicly accessible, stable URLs. If you find a link to a page that requires subscription, please report that as you would report any other broken link.

[Link Policy](#)

[Glossary](#)

- 22 September 2019 ([Introduced carnivorous plants](#))

Introduced carnivorous plants, in places they were not naturally found, [can smother other growth like kudzu](#).

They can't eat other plants, but can drive them into extinction.

- 22 September 2019 ([Wind farm blocked](#))

Australia's former destroy-the-environment minister [blocked a wind farm even though the inhabitants of the region were in favor of it](#).

The wind farm would have replaced burning diesel fuel.

- 22 September 2019 ([Restraining corporations](#))

How useful is it to require companies to [give workers some shares and some seats on the board of directors](#)?

This won't directly give most poor people a decent life. It won't do anything for the unemployed, the retired, the students, or those who cannot work. It won't do anything for the millions who are compelled to be "independent contractors".

But it could be one part of restraining corporations from predatory behavior and from lobbying for more suffering and inequality.

- 22 September 2019 ([Repression of homeless people](#))

[The bully](#) is [campaigning for increased repression of homeless people](#).

Plutocrat policies make Americans homeless; now plutocrat politicians aim to make use of their troubles by scapegoating them.

- 22 September 2019 ([Explaining global heating to politicians](#))

"Perhaps we need to explain [[global heating](#)] to politicians [as we would to very small children](#)."

- 22 September 2019 ([Brazil's deforested land](#))

Brazilian Meat Company Which Has Supplied McDonald's And Burger King [Bought Cattle from Farm Using Deforested Land](#) Earlier This Year, Investigation Shows.

- 22 September 2019 ([Bogong moth](#))

A previously safe species of moth in Australia has [almost entirely disappeared in two years](#). The consequence could be the extinction of a species of mammal.

- 21 September 2019 ([The brain injuries of diplomats in Cuba](#))

Doctors [suspect that pesticides were responsible](#) for the brain injuries of diplomats in Cuba.

- 21 September 2019 ([Persecution of journalist](#))

Malta's persecution of murdered journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia [continues after her death](#).

- 21 September 2019 ([Number of planes in sky](#))

Airbus Forecasts That Number of Planes in Sky [Will Double in 20 Years](#).

We dare not let this happen — because if it does, it implies the likely collapse of technological civilization, and planes will be only a tiny part of what we lose.

- 21 September 2019 ([The Canadian medical system](#))

[25 Ways](#) the Canadian medical system is superior to the American system.

- 21 September 2019 ([Risky experimental sacrament](#))

(satire) Pope Francis Tells Sinner Risky Experimental Sacrament [Only Thing Capable Of Saving Him](#).

- 21 September 2019 ([Repression in Indonesia](#))

300,000 Indonesians have signed a petition opposing a [proposed law that would make it a crime to have sex outside of marriage](#).

It would impose many kinds of repression. For instance, since same-sex marriage is not permitted there, homosexuality would also be a crime.

This repression is an expression of religious fanaticism. I would like to coexist civilly with people of various religions, but those religious people refuse to coexist civilly with anyone who won't knuckle under to their laws.

- 21 September 2019 ([Major threat to future global health](#))

[Climate Emergency](#) Poses Major Threat to Future Global Health, Say Top Medics.

Sad to say, focusing on the danger over the next 25 years is short-termism, because the danger in 50 years will be enormous by comparison.

- 21 September 2019 ([Thugs doxing protesters and vice versa](#))

Hong Kong protesters and the uniformed [thugs](#) are now [doxing each other](#).

The [thugs](#) can arrest protesters they identify. How much pressure can protesters put on [thugs](#) they identify?

- 21 September 2019 ([Women's rights in Pakistan](#))

Pakistani feminist Gulalai Ismail criticized Pakistani [thugs](#) for [repression of women's rights](#), including crimes reaching as far as rape. She was charged with "terrorism" (!?) and has fled to the US.

- 21 September 2019 ([Sex workers](#))

Today's Sex Workers, Like Their Victorian Sisters, [Don't Want "saving"](#).

Feminism today is drifting off the track into a campaign of prudery that harms everyone, except those who are asexual.

- 21 September 2019 ([Carbon-capture systems](#))

Carbon-capture systems could be a part of avoiding climate disaster, [if and when they work](#).

What we must avoid is letting hypothetical future carbon-capture systems, systems that don't actually work today, serve as an excuse to do less to reduce our emissions now.

- 21 September 2019 ([Antibiotic-resistant superbugs](#))

Global Outbreak of Antibiotic-Resistant Superbugs [Linked to Overconsumption of Meat](#).

- 21 September 2019 ([Decline in bird populations](#))

Bird populations in the US and Canada have [declined around 30% since 1970](#). This shows how badly we are damaging the ecology.

- 20 September 2019 ([skilled worker shortage](#))

The US has [a shortage of skilled employees](#). Not for unskilled workers, however. What does this say about robots?

Perhaps robots doing skilled jobs are ok for the economy. However, replacing store sales personnel with robots is harmful. Please join me in refusing to use those robots — always go to the human sales clerks.

If you bring a book or computer, you won't mind waiting.

- 20 September 2019 ([Drug slavery](#))

Drug dealers in the UK [enslave adolescents and even children](#) to carry drugs.

The poverty that Tories have imposed on families has made more children vulnerable, and thus susceptible to enslavement. A Labour victory would reverse that change. It wouldn't automatically put an end to the enslavement but would limit the extent.

- 20 September 2019 ([Silenced](#))

['The Silenced'](#): Meet the Climate Whistleblowers Muzzled by [the bully].

- 20 September 2019 ([Extradition for information](#))

[Australia may extradite Veronica Koman](#) to Indonesia for the "crime" of publishing information about the crimes of Indonesian thugs.

- 20 September 2019 ([Climate activism failure](#))

Tim Flannery: "I now look back on my 20 years of climate activism as a colossal failure. The climate crisis is so severe the actions of the denialists are now an immediate threat to our children."

[Source](#)

- 20 September 2019 ([Democrats and greenhouse gas emissions](#))

Plutocratist Democrats are still [giving only lip service](#) to the need to cut greenhouse gas emissions.

- 20 September 2019 ([Trudeau blackface](#))

Canada's [prime minister Trudeau apologized](#) for the perceived slight of using face makeup as part of an Aladdin costume at a costume ball.

Subsequently it appeared that he also appeared in parties wearing blackface.

Blackface is racist because it is part of a longstanding US practice of [mocking blacks using black face makeup on stage](#), in conjunction with denying them legal rights. I've never heard of any comparable practice of mocking Arabs. He certainly wasn't doing that by dressing as Aladdin, whom we know as the hero, not the villain, of an old story from the Middle East. I don't see racism there.

All this is small potatoes compared with his wrongs that have done great practical harm: [silencing ministers to cover up corruption](#) and advancing global disaster by pushing the export of [tar sands oil](#).

Sad to say, his opponent in the election is probably even worse on all issues. The most progressive party with substantial support, the NDP, is half planet-roaster too.

- 20 September 2019 ([Indonesian criminal code](#))

[A revised criminal](#) code for Indonesia could impose terrible repression, both sexually and politically.

- 20 September 2019 ([Radio phone](#))

A giant project to set up anonymous radio phone communication [is under way](#).

- 19 September 2019 ([US suing publisher of Snowden's memoir](#))

The US is [suing the publisher of Snowden's new memoir](#), claiming it reveals "state secrets" — information that was published years ago.

It was Obama that [started that absurd pretense](#).

I am disappointed that Snowden published the book through Amazon. Please do not buy this or anything from [Amazon](#).

Instead, get an unauthorized copy of the e-book. When an e-book is published the way Amazon does it, the unauthorized copies are the only copies that don't [oppress their readers](#).

There is nothing inherently wrong with the printed copies, but if you buy one in the US you are paying royalties to the US government. I wonder if that covers the copies sold in Canada, too. It might, if they are sold by the same publisher.

- 19 September 2019 ([Corporate control of US major media](#))

[Giant corporations](#) control the US major media. No surprise that the major media are pervasively uninterested in the harm big business does.

- 19 September 2019 ([Advances in modeling the climate](#))

Advances in modeling the climate now predict [6C or 7C of global heating by the end of this century](#) — if we don't reduce our emissions.

Of course, modeling is not certain. We might "luck out" and get only 4C of heating — but that [could still kill billions of people](#).

- 19 September 2019 ([The coming climate summit](#))

The UN [will not allow countries without climate defense plans, or countries that promote use of coal, to give speeches](#) in the coming climate summit.

These countries will still be welcome to make commitments — though I expect they won't want to — but they won't have a platform to oppose the goal.

- 19 September 2019 ([Factory farming in Switzerland](#))

Swiss Voters to Decide on [Whether to Allow Factory Farming to Continue](#).

- 19 September 2019 ([Benefits of single-payer medical system](#))

One of the many benefits of a single-payer medical system would be [that companies could not imperil employees' medical care](#), whether by firing them or in any other way.

- 19 September 2019 ([If the US attacks Iran](#))

If the US attacks Iran, that could mean a world war, [the US against Russia and China](#).

One important point of dissimilarity between the present is that, in 1914, none of the European powers had a way to mobilize only part of the army. Mobilization was a complex plan, and the only plan was for complete mobilization. This meant that a country which feared attack had to mobilize completely, which meant its other enemies had to do likewise.

If a country which had feared an immediate attack had had the ability to mobilize partially, that might have deterred its enemies while not threatening them.

There is no such problem today, with mobilizing reserves. But I don't know whether that makes a big difference.

- 19 September 2019 ([Naming rights](#))

(satire) ... [the city once known as Philadelphia will now be called DirecTV, PA](#), after the cream cheese company opted to discontinue its long-held naming rights to the city.

- 19 September 2019 ([Pork plant inspections](#))

The [saboteur](#) of agriculture [proposes to let pork plants inspect their own work](#), which would turn the inspection into a joke. The plants would also rush the workers, so they would more often be injured.

Thus, the workers would get more of one kind of malady and the public would get more of another kind.

- 18 September 2019 ([Iran](#))

Iran apparently [prefers escalating warfare to defeat by sanctions](#). Salafi Arabia's war in Yemen gives Iran a way to do this without starting a new war.

This reminds me of the sanctions the US placed on Japan in 1941. The sanctions, in that case, were intended to make Japan stop conquering China — a morally valid reason.

Japan had the choice to fight the US, be defeated by the sanctions, or leave China alone. It chose war, and was defeated anyway. The cost of that war was tremendous.

The US has no valid reason for sanctions against Iran. The valid goal, avoiding a nuclear-armed Iran, was being achieved by Obama's non-nuclear deal.

- 18 September 2019 ([Preparation for future pandemics](#))

Experts Warn World ['Grossly Unprepared'](#) for Future Pandemics.

- 18 September 2019 ([Impeachment of Kavanaugh](#))

"Kavanaugh [should never have been appointed](#). Impeachment is our only hope."

Alas, as long as Republicans in the Senate are partisan and unscrupulous, impeachment does not offer a hope of removing Kavanaugh from the Supreme Court. What the Senate might be able to do, if Democrats control it in January 2021, is to increase the size of the Supreme Court so as to counterweight his vote.

- 18 September 2019 ([Campaigns for defending climate](#))
[Even in China](#), people campaign for defending the climate.
- 18 September 2019 ([Beef](#))
Not all beef is equally [carbon-burdensome](#).
- 18 September 2019 ([Demands for censorship of OED](#))
Political correctness fanatics have [demanded the censorship of the Oxford English Dictionary](#).
Oxford University Press shows no sign of bowing to this pressure, but people should get ready to support dictionary publishers against it.
- 18 September 2019 ([Jailed for small fine](#))
In the US, a small fine [can put you in jail over and over, if you are poor](#). The article is about Oklahoma, but it isn't only there. Ferguson, Missouri [did the same thing](#).
- 18 September 2019 ([Arms companies](#))
Arms companies have taught Americans to really love weapons — [even jet planes that bust the budget and don't work well](#).
Now these planes [might not be important even if they worked](#).
- 18 September 2019 ([Snowden](#))
Snowden says he [would return to the US for a fair trial](#), in which the jury can judge whether what he did was good or bad for his country.
- 18 September 2019 ([Online trolls](#))
[Stop Engaging with Online Trolls altogether](#), Public Figures Say.
As my experience shows, sometimes a [troll](#) storm does not depend on publicity from the victim.
- 18 September 2019 ([Clinton's 1994 crime bill](#))
Some parts of President Clinton's 1994 crime bill [caused an enormous increase in imprisonment in the US](#). Now some presidential candidates propose to reverse that.
- 18 September 2019 ([Pop-Up National Park](#))
(satire) New Pop-Up National Park Offers [500 Square Feet Of Pristine Wilderness For Next 2 Days](#).
- 17 September 2019 ([The drone era](#))
Middle East drones signal [end to era of fast jet air supremacy](#).
Now many countries can attack in ways that are hard for anyone to stop.
- 17 September 2019 ([USD 1M a minute](#))
\$1m a minute: the farming subsidies [destroying the world](#).
They promote resource exhaustion and greenhouse gas emissions.
- 17 September 2019 ([End the Endless War](#))
On 18th Anniversary of 9/11, Bernie Sanders Calls for [End to Endless War](#).
- 17 September 2019 ([US oligarchs](#))
Russia Has 'Oligarchs,' [the US Has 'Businessmen'](#).
- 17 September 2019 ([Dunkirk gratis bus system](#))
Dunkirk [has made the bus system gratis](#), and some people are giving up their cars.
- 17 September 2019 ([Sackler moving money](#))

Someone in the Sackler family [moved a billion dollars](#) to offshore bank accounts, then brought the money back to the US to invest. The investments are apparently not traceable to the Sacklers.

The usual motive for this is tax evasion. What we really need are laws that make this sort of tax evasion fail to work — for instance, to require information about who owns investments in the US.

- 16 September 2019 ([Resignation](#))

To the MIT community,

I am resigning effective immediately from my position in CSAIL at MIT. I am doing this due to pressure on MIT and me over a series of misunderstandings and mischaracterizations.

Richard Stallman

- 16 September 2019 ([Defending the climate](#))

[2/3 of Americans](#) now say defending the climate is urgent.

Now if only we can overcome [Republican electoral cheating](#) and translate that into votes.

- 16 September 2019 ([Fossil fuels and wars](#))

Ironically, the US fights wars to preserve access to fossil fuels, which it burns copiously and that [creates more occasions for wars](#).

- 16 September 2019 ([Italy permitting entry of refugees at sea](#))

Italy has started [permitting entry of refugees rescued at sea](#).

- 16 September 2019 ([Politics of unabashed dishonesty](#))

The UK is [sliding into the politics of unabashed dishonesty](#), following Russia, Australia, and the US.

- 16 September 2019 ([Requiring burials for fetuses](#))

An abortion doctor who recently died is being vilified by some for violating a recently passed Indiana law [requiring fetuses to be buried as if they were people that had died](#).

I don't think he did anything wrong by violating that law. For one thing, we must suspect it was intended to lead people to condemn abortion for irrational reasons.

I do think the clinic should have followed more carefully the other laws, which are precautions for patients' safety.

- 16 September 2019 ([Water running out in region of Australia](#))

A region of Australia is [close to running out of water completely](#).

I hope climate activists are working to inform the people there of how Australia's planet-roasting government is responsible.

- 16 September 2019 ([Republican cheating](#))

Republicans "won" the 9th Congressional District of North Carolina by cheating — they [removed over 100,000 mostly-Democratic voters from the voting list](#) based on vague suspicions they might have voted in another state as well.

The margin of the supposed Republican victory was only 4,000. It is almost certain that the "victory" was due to cheating.

It is not illegal, or even suspect, to be registered to vote in two states. That is what normally happens when you move to another state and register there. Voters are not asked to tell the previous city, "I have moved away", the requirement is not to vote there.

However, many of the voters who were removed were not really registered in another state. The other registration had a name that was similar but different. Republicans do not fall into voter suppression by accident. These schemes are carefully planned, and [occasionally politicians are heard admitting this](#). They push as far as they think they can get away with.

- 16 September 2019 ([Destruction of National Security Council](#))

In addition to arms-limitation treaties, Bolton [has destroyed the National Security Council](#) which used to consider issues including arms-limitation treaties.

- 16 September 2019 ([India building prisons for 2 million](#))

India is building prisons for the [roughly 2 million people in Assam that couldn't prove they are Indian citizens](#). The construction workers expect to be imprisoned there when they finish.

Merely being born in India is not enough — they have to prove things that their ancestors in 1971 qualified. In many cases there are no records.

- 16 September 2019 ([Compostable and biodegradable plastics](#))

Compostable plastic and biodegradable plastic [require a specially designed composting or biodegrading system](#). Using them now, in the absence of such a system, could encourage people to throw them into the wild.

- 15 September 2019 ([Art of deception](#))

Ralph Nader: Avalanche-Level Liar Trump Learned [Art of Deception From the Pros: US Corporations](#).

- 15 September 2019 ([Biden falsely justifies attacking Iraq](#))

Biden is pushing even harder his [falsifications to justify his voting for attacking Iraq](#).

- 15 September 2019 ([Ban gaming loot boxes](#))

Gamers in general feel manipulated by loot boxes. [When Belgium banned them entirely, the users were glad](#).

Let's ban them everywhere.

Note: I reject all these games for another reason: they are nonfree software.

- 15 September 2019 ([Buying online creates unemployment](#))

Buying on-line not only mistreats you (with nonfree client code and making a dossier of your purchases), [it also has brought about the loss of many jobs](#). In the UK, 75,000 jobs have been lost this way.

- 15 September 2019 ([Saudi Arabia oil facility hit by drone strike](#))

[An oil refinery in Salafi Arabia has been set on fire by a drone attack](#).

It couldn't have happened to a more deserving country.

If the inflow of petroleum can be cut off, the fire itself should not last long. I hope so. Then refinery will be out of service. That will reduce the supply of oil and gasoline. That would be an opportunity for conservation, but I think the planet-roasters will try to make it an excuse to build more fossil-fuel facilities elsewhere.

- 15 September 2019 ([Israeli Arab lawmakers discriminated](#))

Arab members of Israel's parliament face the [constant threat of expulsion for opposing the majority \(as they were elected to do\)](#).

- 15 September 2019 ([Violent harrasment of Arabs in East Jerusalem](#))

Israeli thugs in an Arab area of East Jerusalem practice [continual violent harassment](#) on any excuse. Sometimes the violence is deadly.

- 15 September 2019 ([Two state solution](#))

The "[two-state solution can be achieved through a confederation](#)," proposes the "A Land For ALL" movement.

- 15 September 2019 ([DMVs and data](#))

Bernie Sanders says DMVs [should stop profiting from drivers' personal data](#).

- 15 September 2019 ([Amazon fires](#))

White nationalism and crony capitalism [are the sparks](#) that started fires in the Amazon.

Activists [follow the money](#) fueling Amazon fires.

- 15 September 2019 ([Sedative](#))

(satire) ... longtime Sleepytime Tea addict Katie Ball [divulged Tuesday](#) that she must consume six bags of the sedative brew in order to merely feel drowsy.

- 15 September 2019 ([Electrocution](#))

(satire) ...former conversion therapy practitioner McKrae Game [apologized Friday](#) for the harm his work has caused and offered to electrocute his past patients into being gay again.

- 15 September 2019 ([Polling places](#))

One important method of voter suppression is closing polling places. Over a thousand [have been closed since 2014](#).

- 15 September 2019 ([Execution](#))

Texas officials want to execute Rodney Reed and [disregard the evidence](#) that argues he is innocent.

- 15 September 2019 ([Charities](#))

Charities' mission should include advocating for governments to help the poor better, not merely [give some of the help the government fails to give](#).

- 15 September 2019 ([Nature reserve](#))

The scapegoater's border wall is being built through a nature reserve, which will involve bulldozing parts of it and [do ecological harm to the endangered wildlife](#) it is supposed to protect.

- 15 September 2019 ([Whole Foods](#))

Whole Foods to [cut health-care benefits](#) for 1,900 part-time employees starting next year.

- 15 September 2019 ([Public schools](#))

Public schools in Kentucky now [openly endorse religion](#).

- 15 September 2019 ([Abortion in Austin](#))

Austin, Texas, [has made funds available](#) for women to travel out of state to get an abortion.

- 15 September 2019 ([Arctic Wildlife](#))

The House of Representatives voted to [protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge](#).

It will not be easy to prevail over the sabotage-minded Senate. But it is better to try than not try.

- 15 September 2019 ([Germany and Nazism](#))

Studying Germany's effort to learn to [reject the ideas of its Nazi past](#).

- 15 September 2019 ([Bleach](#))

[Scientists report](#) that dipping chickens in bleach does not kill all the dangerous bacteria. Some of them convert into spores, which are hard to detect without special tests, so the chicken appears safer but isn't.

- 15 September 2019 ([Body cameras](#))

California is adopting a [ban on face recognition in thugs' body cameras](#).

It is a significant first step in making body cameras do good and not harm, but much more is needed. If the system saves the video when there is no specific justification to do so, it becomes a system to surveil people's houses at will. I recommend an automatic system that can determine when to save the footage.

- 14 September 2019 ([Statements about Epstein](#))

I want to respond to the misleading media coverage of messages I posted about Marvin Minsky's association with Jeffrey Epstein. The coverage totally mischaracterised my statements.

Headlines say that I defended Epstein. Nothing could be further from the truth. I've called him a "serial rapist", and said he deserved to be imprisoned. But many people now believe I defended him — and other inaccurate claims — and feel a real hurt because of what they believe I said.

I'm sorry for that hurt. I wish I could have prevented the misunderstanding.

- 14 September 2019 ([Israel](#))

"Israel should receive precisely the same response as Russia got."

[Source](#)

- 14 September 2019 ([Climate defense](#))

[Naomi Klein talks](#) about Greta Thunberg and the do-or-die mission of climate defense.

- 14 September 2019 ([Death sentence](#))

[The bully's](#) various measures to block refugees from Central America can be [a death sentence](#).

- 14 September 2019 ([Food stamps](#))

(satire) Matthew McConaughey was reportedly [forced to apply for food stamps](#) Thursday after his first month working as an adjunct professor.

- 14 September 2019 ([Oil export](#))

[Why I'm Currently Blocking the Largest Oil Export Channel in the U.S.](#)

- 14 September 2019 ([Climate migrations](#))

Climate change [will create 1.5 billion migrants by 2050](#) and we have no idea where they'll go.

As these people desperately try to flee, tens of millions of them will be trafficked. (Maybe hundreds of millions.) They will accept "job offers" in other regions or countries which will turn out to be slavery. They may even do so knowingly, since the alternative would be a substantial chance of death.

Major contributors to [global heating](#), such as David Koch and Stephen Schwarzman, will through their intentional acts of destruction be predictably responsible for a fraction of this result. That fraction, for each one, will amount to thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands, of people enslaved.

I think that MIT should reconsider whether to have institutions named after those people.

I don't think MIT is obligated to return or give away the money they donated. Rather, it should spend the money doing something good. (The introduction to Major Barbara explains the reasoning of the Salvation Army on this question; I found it convincing.) What is clearly wrong is to give those donors something — favorable publicity, or access to people — in exchange.

- 14 September 2019 ([Private prisons](#))

California [has banned private prisons](#).

California had already moved most of the prisoners out of them as preparation for closing them.

The bill covers deportation prisons.

- 14 September 2019 ([Twitter](#))

Twitter [has blocked Raúl Castro's account](#).

If it can do that, it can block the bullshitter's account too.

- 14 September 2019 ([Wetlands and streams](#))

The saboteur in chief [has finished cancelling](#) Obama's rule to protect wetlands and streams.

- 14 September 2019 ([Dolphins](#))

Dolphins in the English Channel have [high levels of persistent toxins in their blood](#). We do not know whether this is causing tangible harm.

- 14 September 2019 ([Face recognition in India](#))

Some airport terminals in India [are imposing face recognition](#) on every passenger.

They say that the biometrics will be stored only temporarily, and deleted after the flight departs, but we can hardly trust that it doesn't send a copy to a government agency in the mean time.

Indeed, I can't see why they would bother implementing this (since the existing system works) if it isn't the basis for some other snooping.

- 14 September 2019 ([Arms in UK](#))

The UK [barred a journalist](#) from covering an arms sale fair. Political bias is suspected.

- 14 September 2019 ([Disappearance in India](#))

"My son is one of Kashmir's 'disappeared'. When will India tell the truth about their fate?" He was disappeared in 1991 and his mother [has had no news of him since](#).

- 14 September 2019 ([Fires in Congo](#))

"West Africa and Congo basin are hotspots for forest loss but receive lower global attention [that the Amazon]."

[Source](#)

- 14 September 2019 ([Trump Hotel](#))

(satire) Trump Under Fire For [Forcing Astronauts To Stay In Irish Trump Hotel](#) While On Specialized Space Mission.

- 14 September 2019 ([Harris and face recognition](#))

Kamala Harris [declines to support a ban on use of face recognition](#) by the government.

Instead she supports "regulation" that would make little practical difference.

- 14 September 2019 ([Mental illness monitoring](#))

The bully [wants to monitor](#) everyone in the US diagnosed with mental illness (almost 100 million) in a vain effort to detect the few who will commit massacres.

It won't have much of the intended effect, but it is a great excuse for extending repression. Many of your friends and colleagues have a mental illness, but you don't know how numerous they are because they don't let on.

- 14 September 2019 ([Death and poverty](#))

With increased inequality of wealth, the US suffers increased inequality in life expectancy. [Poor people die younger](#).

- 14 September 2019 ([Human rights and brexit](#))

If Britain leaves the EU, the EU laws that guarantee many human rights [will cease to apply there](#).

The article lists a few specific areas, but the problem is not limited to those. Many other human rights would also become vulnerable.

- 14 September 2019 ([Healthcare ads](#))

Healthcare ad spending exceeds \$65 million in 2019 as insurance industry [ramps up effort to kill Medicare for All](#).

- 14 September 2019 ([Homeless repression](#))

Now that the [bully](#) has cut support for housing and made more people homeless, he proposes to "fix" what he intentionally broke by [exacerbating repression](#) against homeless people on the street.

We can take action against homelessness nationwide with laws that make it unprofitable to use real estate as a meaningless asset. The only way to profit from it should be by renting it out — and corporations should be discouraged from being the owners.

- 14 September 2019 ([Uber](#))

California's landmark bill giving gig workers the rights of employees causes problems [in a few edge cases](#). For example, for writers of a weekly column.

Would a weekly columnist really be required to become a "full time" employee? That implicit claim seems fishy: surely this law does not put an end to part-time jobs.

Overall, this bill is a great step forward. It means that Uber will have to mistreat its employees less. But it won't stop mistreating *the customer*. If you value your freedom and anonymity, please join me in [refusing to surrender them to Uber](#).

- 14 September 2019 ([NHS privatization](#))

B'liar's partial privatization of the NHS brought about huge debts [which are now starving it of funds](#).

- 14 September 2019 ([Asylum denial](#))

[The US Supreme Court ruled](#) that the bully can deny asylum to everyone from Central America that passes through Mexico.

This policy would be reasonable if Mexico were a safe place.

- 14 September 2019 ([Earthworms and microplastics](#))

Some microplastics in soil can cause earthworms [to lose weight](#).

The article doesn't say what level of microplastic content was used in the experiment, but if we keep dumping microplastics into the environment we are likely to surpass that level sooner or later.

- 14 September 2019 ([Sex between an adult and a child is wrong](#))

Many years ago I posted that I could not see anything wrong about sex between an adult and a child, if the child accepted it.

Through personal conversations in recent years, I've learned to understand how sex with a child can harm per psychologically. This changed my mind about the matter: I think adults should not do that. I am grateful for the conversations that enabled me to understand why.

- 13 September 2019 ([Journalist imprisoned in Tanzania](#))

Journalist Erick Kabendera, political prisoner in Tanzania, is [likely to be in prison for five years before a trial](#) on dubious charges.

- 13 September 2019 ([Stingrays planted near White House](#))

Israel [planted stingrays near the White House](#) to spy on the officials, perhaps including the conman.

- 13 September 2019 ([End to Afghan War](#))

Media [Worry About 'Premature' End to Afghan War](#).

- 13 September 2019 ([Rejection of funds for treating AIDS](#))

Florida's Governor Scott [rejected federal funds for preventing and treating AIDS](#).

- 13 September 2019 ([Overthrowing the Brazilian government](#))

Now Bolsonaro's son has [indicated support for overthrowing the Brazilian government](#). This follows Bolsonaro's endorsement of the military coup in Chile. Bolosonaro ought to be impeached for that, but his party protects him in Congress.

- 13 September 2019 ([The danger that Bolton worked to create](#))

Even though Bolton has been fired, the danger of war he worked to create lives on, and [he will seek opportunities to make more](#).

- 13 September 2019 ([Responsibility for PFAS](#))

Congress called The 3M Company, the Chemours Company and DuPont to [testify about their responsibility for PFAS and their toxic effects](#).

- 13 September 2019 ([Communications Decency Act](#))

Explaining section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, which [protects all internet sites from liability for whatever users post](#).

Every reduction in this protection leads to a massive increase in censorship.

- 13 September 2019 ([Court rules Parliament should reconvene](#))

A court [ruled that Parliament should reconvene](#) despite the orders of Bogus Johnson.

The UK Supreme Court will have the final say.

- 13 September 2019 ([Urgent: Stricter gun control](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to pass stricter gun control.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 13 September 2019 ([Urgent: Stop financing fossil fuels](#))

Everyone: [call on big US banks](#) to stop financing fossil fuels.

Warning to investors: [investing in fossil fuels could leave you broke](#).

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 13 September 2019 ([Courageous gynaecologist fights quackery](#))

A courageous gynaecologist [fights both the antiabortion movement and medical quackery](#) (fantasies of "wellness"), and notes that the two are converging in the language they use.

- 13 September 2019 ([Pressure on NOAA to legitimize error](#))

The [saboteur](#) of commerce, Wilbur Ross, [threatened to fire the staff of the NOAA](#) if they did not legitimize the bullshitter's error about the likely trajectory of the hurricane. They obeyed him.

They should have summoned the courage to refuse. The NOAA's chief scientist [has rebuked them](#).

- 13 September 2019 ([Avoiding worst effects of global heating](#))

Avoiding the worst effects of [global heating](#) (including the consequent extreme weather) [will cost trillions of dollars](#).

However, preventing even worse [global heating](#) must take priority. Since we are almost too late to avoid disaster, we must go all out in trying to avoid it. It is a mistake to treat the steadily increasing symptoms at the expense of effort to prevent the disease from getting worse.

- 13 September 2019 ([Europe's marine sanctuaries](#))

Europe's Marine Sanctuaries Are [No More Than 'Paper Parks'](#).

- 13 September 2019 ([Boeing now primarily a political machine](#))

Boeing, the result of merger of all US companies that made large jetliners, has become [primarily a political machine and only secondarily a builder of machines](#). "A company once run by engineers is now in the thrall of financiers and its stock remains high even as its planes fall from the sky."

The benefit of a free market comes from competition. When Reagan gutted the laws meant to maintain lots of competition, this benefit started to evaporate, not just in making jetliners but all across the economy.

- 13 September 2019 ([Indian repression forces in Kashmir](#))

One neighborhood in Kashmir has [forced out the Indian repression forces](#), using barricades and throwing stones.

The Indian forces attack with tear gas, sometimes fired at people not involved in fighting.

- 13 September 2019 ([Massive surveillance](#))

Study: The Only Place On Earth More Surveilled Than London Is ... [China](#).

(To what extent China is Communist is a difficult question, and not relevant anyway. What matters is that China is repressive.)

- 13 September 2019 ([Spawning of coral in Red Sea disrupted](#))

The spawning of coral in the Red Sea is [disrupted](#). If the coral animals of a species do not try to mate at the same time, they will not reproduce.

- 13 September 2019 ([Heatwave in ocean off US west coast](#))

A heatwave in the ocean off the US west coast [threatens a giant toxic algal bloom](#).

- 13 September 2019 ([Summer heatwaves in France](#))

Summer Heatwaves in France [Killed 1,500](#), Says Health Minister.

After the 2003 heat wave, France took precautions to prevent heat waves from killing people. For the latest heat wave to have killed almost the same number, despite the precautions, it must have been considerably stronger.

- 13 September 2019 ([Bullshitter's approach to diplomacy](#))

The bullshitter said he was about to have a secret meeting in the US with Taliban negotiators, and [cancelled it because they carried out a bomb attack in Afghanistan](#). (No cease-fire had been agreed.)

Lots of politicians criticized him for this, all everyone assuming he was telling the truth about what he had done. I wouldn't believe, on his say-so, that he had cancelled a meeting, or that there ever was a plan for a meeting.

Then the Taliban [affirmed that the bullshitter cancelled a meeting with them](#). Amazing — he told the truth about this!

I don't agree with the critics that there is anything wrong in inviting Taliban negotiators to meet with US representatives, whether in the US, or anywhere else. I am surprised though that they trusted him enough to say they would come.

The bullshitter's approach to diplomacy is to posture as tough by canceling meetings on whatever excuse comes to hand. I don't see anything inherently wrong with that maneuver, but I doubt it pressures other countries' negotiators as he thinks it does. I expect they see through it.

That being so, if it creates a problem in negotiations, at least it won't be permanent.

- 13 September 2019 ([Tories rationing medical treatments](#))

The Tories are rationing medical treatments, and visits to specialists, [in order to give the wealthy a new tax cut](#).

- 13 September 2019 ([Factory farms and toxic algae](#))

Factory farms in Brittany are [causing deadly toxic algae to bloom in sea](#).

- 13 September 2019 ([Terrifying officials](#))

A president [who terrifies officials](#) that correct his mistakes is unbearable for officials that retain a shred of honesty.

- 13 September 2019 ([UK web portal](#))

Bogus Johnson wants to make the main UK government web portal [collect personal information](#).

Does it permit access via Tor? With JS disabled?

- 13 September 2019 ([Firing Bolton](#))

The bullshitter [has fired his hawkish advisor](#), John Bolton.

This is surely a change for the better. But it was the bullshitter [that was responsible](#) for following Bolton's advice.

- 13 September 2019 ([World Trade Center collapse](#))

[A study](#) of the collapse of World Trade Center 7 concludes it could not be due to fire set by the fires in the larger buildings.

I am not competent to evaluate the investigation reported here. In particular, I can't judge whether it is more scientific than other investigations. I can only say that the official explanation of the collapse has always struck me as fishy.

- 13 September 2019 ([Immigrants surveillance](#))

The US is going to demand immigrants [give their user names on many social networking sites](#).

If the US looked only at public postings on these sites, perhaps that would be acceptable. But we now see that the US examines messages sent to the immigrant from others, and will bar people for that.

- 13 September 2019 ([Epstein donations](#))

Media Lab Director Joi Ito confessed that he had secretly [accepted donations from Epstein](#) after MIT had decided not to do so.

He also accepted funds for some personal activities of his own.

That dishonesty, and conflict of interest, make his resignation obligatory.

But I fear for the effect on the Media Lab. Under Negroponte, the lab was notoriously stingy and proprietary. Ito corrected that. I fear that the next director will undo some of Ito's changes.

- 13 September 2019 ([Deportation of the ill](#))

Maria Isabel Bueso's medical condition has no cure, but can be treated in the US. The deportation thugs [told her to leave the US within 33 days](#).

That period is now almost up.

- 13 September 2019 ([Appeal against Evelyn Hernández](#))

Evelyn Hernández was acquitted of "murdering" a stillborn fetus, but the prosecutors [are going to appeal](#).

Allowing an appeal of an acquittal means that even once you are acquitted you remain in jeopardy. This should not be allowed.

- 13 September 2019 ([Drug prohibition inequality](#))

Drug prohibition has had a racist tinge since 1857. Its repression still falls mostly [on the poor and disprivileged](#).

I cheer consumers that are willing to pay 25% more for fair trade cocaine, but I think it will be unnecessary — a decrease in repression would cut the price by far more than that. Legalizing sales only through a regulated market might open the door for fair trade initiatives, as well as make drugs' strength and composition predictable (thus avoiding most of the deaths) and discouraging some new users.

- 13 September 2019 ([Mexico barrier](#))

Mexico [has been rather effective](#) serving as the first barrier for the US against refugees from central America.

- 13 September 2019 ([Agriculture and phosphate](#))

Agriculture depends on phosphate mined from rocks, and if the demand keeps accelerating we could [run out by 2040](#).

If we cut down on beef production, we could eliminate a substantial fraction of the world's agriculture, and maybe have enough phosphate for a century. During that time we could arrange to recycle it.

- 13 September 2019 ([Fossil fuel](#))

Avoiding global heating disaster requires [defeating the fossil fuel companies](#), which want to keep expanding production.

It would be nice if there were a way to finesse this, but I think that is impossible. The companies won't accept a compromise in which their business shrinks to zero, and we won't be safe with anything less. We have known for some years that there is no room in the carbon budget for any new fossil fuel facilities.

- 13 September 2019 ([Flight AF1611](#))

51 years later, relatives of those who died on flight AF1611 [want France to reveal the facts about the crash](#). Due to the secrecy, they believe it was shot down by a missile from a French ship.

When the USS Vincennes shot down an Iranian airliner by mistake, the US eventually admitted it. France should likewise admit its mistake and publish the information that has been secret.

- 13 September 2019 ([Detecting child trafficking](#))

Efforts to train flight attendants to recognize children that are being trafficked lead to [false accusations](#) against parents travelling with adopted children whose skin color is different.

People who are being trafficked do travel on commercial airlines. (How else would they travel?) I'm in favor of efforts to detect and stop trafficking, in principle, but they must reduce the consequences of a false positive or they will do more harm than good.

- 13 September 2019 ([Worker rights](#))

Corbyn promises a new ministry in charge of [enforcing workers' rights](#).

Of all the kinds of illegal actions of businesses, the ones that most need to be enforced directly by the state are those that mistreat workers and customers. If they have to launch proceedings on their own, nasty employers can make that very unlikely for workers that are paid little.

- 13 September 2019 ([Diesel cars on hot days](#))

NOx emissions from diesel cars [rise 20% or more](#) on hot days.

- 13 September 2019 ([Climate crisis](#))

Climate crisis is [greatest ever threat to human rights](#), UN warns.

- 13 September 2019 ([Antitrust law](#))

The perverse reinterpretation of US antitrust law, starting in the 1970s, [allows big businesses to merge with little restraint, while targeting unions](#).

It was proposed and pushed by Robert Bork, but judges adopted it.

- 13 September 2019 ([Amazon responsibility](#))

"Our investigation found Amazon escapes responsibility for its role in deaths and serious injuries even though the company keeps a tight grip on how third-party delivery drivers do their jobs."

[Source](#)

- 13 September 2019 ([Personal Data in Australia](#))

Australia's right-wing government seeks to extend its contempt for human rights to the field of surveillance. Even the inadequate protection of requiring consent for redistributing personal data [will be eliminated from the proposed law](#).

- 13 September 2019 ([Climate minimizers](#))

"Climate minimizers" [don't deny we are heading for disaster, but consistently downplay its magnitude](#). They harm on the cost of avoiding the disaster and never compare that with the disaster itself.

- 13 September 2019 ([India and Assam](#))

India's cruel government says it will expel everyone in Assam [that has been unable to prove Indian ancestry](#).

Since Bangladesh won't let them in, India will have to bribe some country to take them all. Perhaps Papua New Guinea will take them. But India might find it easier to make their lives so difficult that most of them die.

- 13 September 2019 ([Democrats and Medicare for All](#))

With 70% of Americans supporting Medicare for All, you'd expect Democrats in Congress to rush to endorse it — but in fact [we need to pressure them to do so](#).

- 13 September 2019 ([The Kardashian Show](#))

(satire) Kim Kardashian [tried to escape](#) in a rowboat after discovering that her whole life had been a scripted TV program.

- 13 September 2019 ([Corporations tax avoidance](#))

The 2017 Republican tax cuts enabled more companies to do business in the US and [pay no income tax](#).

- 12 September 2019 ([Taking the UK out of the EU](#))

Taking the UK out of the EU would be an [opportunity for neoliberals to make every aspect of Britain cruel](#) — if they are in charge.

- 12 September 2019 ([Censorship of climate mayhem mentions](#))

The International Organization for Migration has [started censoring its communication to avoid mentioning climate mayhem](#), ceding to US pressure.

- 12 September 2019 ([Tourists in danger of arrest in Iran](#))

You don't need any Iranian ancestry to be jailed in Iran as a pawn. [Even tourists are in danger](#).

- 12 September 2019 ([Thug violence against journalists](#))

Hong Kong Journalists Warn of [Rising Police Violence Against Them](#).

- 12 September 2019 ([Indian troops kill teenager in Kashmir](#))

Indian troops killed a teenager in Kashmir, then [claimed he was killed by the nonexistent stone-thrower](#).

Others have been killed as well, but under military occupation it is hard to find out how many.

- 12 September 2019 ([Malaysia wiping out indigenous peoples](#))

Malaysia is [wiping out its indigenous peoples](#) — cutting down their jungle homes, giving them unsafe water, and making them die of unknown diseases they had no immunity for.

This is, I suppose, to [bully](#) them into becoming Muslims. Malaysia officially rejects freedom in the domain of religion.

- 12 September 2019 ([Protection of the Amazon forest](#))

Seven countries which include parts of the Amazon forest have [agreed to steps to protect it](#). Paradoxically, Brazil is one of them.

- 12 September 2019 ([Money from arms sales](#))

Money From Arms Sales (for attacking Yemen) [Dwarfs Aid](#) for Yemen.

- 12 September 2019 ([Children's books](#))

Fat-Shaming Is Just the Start. [Seek Fault in Kids' Books And It'll Never End](#).

- 12 September 2019 ([Australia deporting New Zealanders](#))

Australia's government is demonstrating its cruelty by [deporting New Zealanders that have lived there for decades](#), if they were sentenced to prison.

Australia is not finding many refugees to deport, but its government depends on scapegoating someone.

- 12 September 2019 ([Dangerous wildfires in Australia](#))

It's not yet spring, but northern Australia is [suffering from dangerous wildfires](#).

- 12 September 2019 ([Moscow's internet voting system cracked](#))

An investigating hacker [has cracked](#) Moscow's internet voting system.

Voting over the internet is an absurd idea. In the case of Moscow, it hardly matters since those elections [are rigged anyway](#).

- 12 September 2019 ([Face recognition in China's schools](#))

China [announced](#) it would limit face recognition in schools.

[This is the practice](#) that the new plan would restrict.

Bizarrely, this means China is ahead of the US on one aspect of anonymity protection.

- 12 September 2019 ([DMVs are selling private data](#))

DMVs in States around the US are [taking drivers' personal information and selling it](#) to thousands of businesses.

Even worse, they are making the info available to other government agencies that persecute people for reasons unrelated to driving.

- 12 September 2019 ([Scientist activism](#))

When officials spit on scientific knowledge and invite disaster, scientists must not limit themselves to developing more scientific knowledge for officials to ignore. They need to [join in protests](#) demanding officials heed science.

- 12 September 2019 ([Climate catastrophe in Europe](#))

Europe is [tasting the beginnings of climate catastrophe](#) that will reduce food production as it kills forests.

- 12 September 2019 ([Liberty University's core mission](#))

(satire) ... members of the Liberty University board told reporters Monday they were concerned investigations into Jerry Falwell Jr.'s corruption risked undermining the college's core mission of [subjugating women and gay people](#).

- 12 September 2019 ([Media Lab to return donated girls](#))

(satire) MIT Media Lab [Agrees to Return All of Jeffrey Epstein's Donated Girls](#).

- 12 September 2019 ([Taking UK out of EU](#))

The rogue, Bogus Johnson, has pro-rogued Parliament, but Parliament had made it [illegal for him to take the UK out of the EU without an agreed-on deal](#).

- 12 September 2019 ([Pretending to be perfectly objective](#))

"Conservatives are more open to leftwing arguments when they come from people who don't [pretend to be perfectly objective](#)."

This makes sense, because that pretense is dishonest; people who sense a hint of it are likely to distrust the speaker.

- 12 September 2019 ([Australia's largest river](#))

Lack of water is causing [collapse of the ecosystems in Australia's largest river](#).

The lack is partly due to taking too much for irrigation, and partly due to [global heating](#). Short-termist governments have encouraged both problems at once.

- 12 September 2019 ([FBI tracking border protest groups](#))

Document Reveals The FBI Is Tracking Border Protest Groups [As Extremist Organizations](#).

- 12 September 2019 ([Charter schools](#))

Even nonprofit charter schools [offer opportunities for corrupt profit](#).

- 12 September 2019 ([Australia's late-spring wildfires](#))

Australia's late-spring wildfires are [spreading faster than anyone recalls seeing there](#).

- 12 September 2019 ([Trumpets](#))

Trumpets [seek to raise 2 million dollars](#) to fund fishing expeditions to find accusations to make against reporters that publish bad news about right-wingers.

- 12 September 2019 ([Exclusion of ex-cons from good jobs](#))

Many US states [exclude ex-cons from nearly all good jobs](#). The result appears to be to drive them back to crime.

- 12 September 2019 ([Fundraiser hosted by nation's bison](#))

(satire) ... the nation's bison hosted an opulent gala fundraiser Friday in an [effort to convince the 2020 Democratic candidates to support the environment](#).

- 12 September 2019 ([Social security](#))

Republicans are [looking for a hidden way to cut social security benefits](#), because they don't dare admit that is their goal.

- 11 September 2019 ([Construction of fossil fuel facilities](#))

The giant planet-roaster companies [have not slowed their construction of fossil fuel facilities](#).

Biggest Fossil Fuel Extractors Warned They Risk [Wasting \\$2.2tn](#) "in a Low-Carbon World."

That is to say, the money they put into planet-roasting facilities may win them no profit if governments wake up and prohibit or prevent actually using it for unlimited extraction.

Even worse, they might succeed in preventing governments from shutting off the extraction and the greenhouse gas emission. Eventually civilization will start teetering and their profits will not be worth very much.

- 11 September 2019 ([Proposed AI doomsday machine](#))

A proposed AI doomsday machine [would not even appear necessary if the conman hadn't rejected arms limitation](#).

Of all the ways to avoid a nuclear first strike attack, arms control treaties are the best. They reduce the danger of accidental nuclear war as well as intentional nuclear war. And they save a lot of money, too.

- 11 September 2019 ([Computer game loot box gambling](#))

Buying a loot box in a computer game is effectively [a form of gambling](#), and gambling companies advertise in the games which sell loot boxes.

The article may be using some specific legal definition of "gambling", which excludes loot boxes. I don't see any reason to allow governments to legislate for me what the word "gambling" means.

What governments can legislate is what kinds of gambling to allow. Loot boxes don't make games more fun, only more exploitative. So let's prohibit them.

- 11 September 2019 ([Rohingya refugee camp phone service cut off](#))

Bangladesh has [cut off phone service in Rohingya refugee camps](#).

Since India is getting away with doing [this \(and more\)](#) as part of its military occupation of Kashmir, other countries will soon conclude they can get away with doing similar things to other persecuted groups.

- 11 September 2019 ([Urgent: Affordable insulin](#))

US citizens: [call on Big Pharma](#) to make insulin affordable, as it used to be.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 11 September 2019 ([Panda politics](#))

China uses pandas as instruments of international public relations. Now Germans are turning that around by calling two newborn pandas ["Hong" and "Kong"](#).

To maintain its monopoly on pandas, China only leases them, never selling them, and the lease says that all offspring belong to China. But this is no reason for Germans to call the pandas by the names that China says are "official".

One small but significant way to push back on China is by not making any particular fuss about pandas.

- 11 September 2019 ([Cash in Austria](#))

Austrians have made the right to pay cash [an election issue](#).

Please help do this where you live.

- 11 September 2019 ([Levy on sweets](#))

A 20% levy on cakes and sweets would be more effective than taxing sugary drinks, suggests a [study by nutritionists](#).

- 11 September 2019 ([Dissent in Indonesia](#))

Indonesia plans to [prosecute a prominent human rights lawyer](#) for spreading disagreement with the official line.

Following the [bully](#), Indonesia describes this dissent as "fake news". I've warned for years that laws against "fake news" are an excuse to prosecute whoever disagrees with the lies of tyrants.

- 11 September 2019 ([2020 mission](#))

The American Left's 2020 Mission: Not Just Defeat [the conman] — [But Change The World](#).

- 11 September 2019 ([Hurricane Dorian](#))

Michael Mann: Global Heating Made Hurricane Dorian Bigger, Wetter — [And More Deadly](#).

- 11 September 2019 ([Israeli annexation](#))

Netanyahu said [he would claim to annex](#) the territory of Israel's colonies.

The conman will surely say that the US "recognizes" the annexation. The next president should recognize Palestine as sovereign over the West Bank.

US congresscritters' staff went on a tour which included an [Israeli right-wing extremist](#) who endorsed assassination of the last Israeli prime minister that was serious about making peace.

- 11 September 2019 ([CIA and Abu Dhabi](#))

The CIA makes Abu Dhabi [a blind-spot](#) (surely under orders from above) as it intervenes in various other countries.

- 11 September 2019 ([MUROS surveillance vans](#))

"Discover, identify and interfere": the [MUROS surveillance vans](#).

One use of these is to watch and listen to everyone at a protest or demonstration.

- 11 September 2019 ([Amazon preservation](#))

We can't expect billionaires to donate to preserve the Amazon forest; many of them are profiting from destroying it. In effect, Bolsonaro is [working with and for them](#).

This article goes too far in treating the Amazon forest solely as the property of the indigenous people that live in it, and hyping their authority. If they decided to sell their land, or accept royalties from farmers, that would not make it acceptable to cut the forest down. The reasons not to allow this are global.

Calling it "the lungs of the Earth" is basically correct (even though a little exaggerated, since the rest of the Earth's forest share in the role). The extinction of perhaps half a million species (counting microbes) that live only there would be a disaster even if the forest had no human inhabitants. The [global heating](#) effects would also be disaster.

- 10 September 2019 ([Urgent: No logging in Tongass National Forest](#))

US citizens: [call on the Department of Agriculture](#) not to allow logging in the Tongass National Forest.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 10 September 2019 ([Urgent: Stop Nestle from overdraining river](#))

Everyone: [call on the Suwannee River Water Management District](#) not to let Nestle overdrain the Santa Fe river.

If you live in a place where the public water supply is potable, you can also help by avoiding bottled water. When I travel I carry a refillable water bottle, and I rarely use bottled water except where it is medically necessary.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 10 September 2019 ([Bogus Johnson declares himself autocrat](#))

"Boris Johnson is using the act of leaving the EU as a vehicle for his goal — [showing the impotence of his adversaries.](#)" [And that of Parliament](#). In effect, he is declaring himself autocrat and defying anyone in Britain to prove him wrong. Even though Parliament is fighting back, he could build support for brushing away democracy.

The UK's democracy has grave problems. As in most countries, plutocrats have too much power and subvert the state to their interests. However, the remedy must be more democracy, not less.

- 10 September 2019 ([Robot cash registers](#))

The AFL-CIO is supporting an Oregon ballot initiative to [limit the number of robot cash registers a store can operate](#).

I support this initiative but I'd rather set the limit at zero and extend it to other kinds of stores.

- 10 September 2019 ([Too many small required tasks](#))

Many people's lives have become so full of small required tasks that they [can't keep up with all of them](#).

- 10 September 2019 ([Internet of Stings](#))

The [Internet of Stings](#) has stung users of a proprietary program for adjusting a certain telescopic rifle sight. The US has [demanded the list of all the 10,000 or more people who have downloaded the app](#).

The investigation aims at possible illegal export of the telescopic sight. The goal seems valid to me, but seizing data about over 10,000 people to investigate the crimes of a few of them should not be allowed.

If the program had been free software, the issue would not even arise. Thus, one of the forms of surveillance attached to many proprietary programs is keeping track of who uses it.

- 10 September 2019 (["Canceled" for criticizing thugs and flag](#))

The University of Alabama squeezed out a dean because he had [criticized US thugs and the American flag](#) for their association (over time) with racism.

The flag of the US stands for the country. I love my country but recognize that it kept blacks in slavery for a long time. So even though I would not draw the overall conclusion about the US and its flag that Dean Riley drew, I can't fault his criticism.

I also agree with the article's disapproval of "cancel culture".

- 10 September 2019 ([Funds for military intervention in Yemen](#))

A bipartisan group in Congress [aim to deny funds](#) for US military intervention in Yemen.

- 10 September 2019 ([Greta Thunberg on defense of the climate](#))

Greta Thunberg refuses to be lionized. What counts, she says, is that we all [push for defense of the climate](#).

- 10 September 2019 ([Methane release from ice caps](#))

If the ice caps melt, they will release so much methane that it [could cause a lot worse heating](#).

- 10 September 2019 ([Working in an Amazon warehouse](#))

(satire) unconscious Amazon warehouse employee Anthony Cargill, 41, was reportedly chastised Monday for [failing to file a time-off request](#).

- 10 September 2019 ([Murder rate of women in South Africa](#))

South Africa has a [high rate of murders of women](#).

- 10 September 2019 ([Republican Party primary elections](#))

The Republican Party rigs its own primary elections, too, by [cancelling them entirely](#).

- 10 September 2019 ([Overt endorsement of bloody military coup](#))

Bolsonaro [overtly endorsed](#) the bloody military coup in Chile.

He has kept company with supporters of Brazil's military government, but this is more explicit.

- 10 September 2019 ([Neoliberal economists](#))

"Neoliberal economists present themselves as 'neutral' technocrats, but they're actually [partisans for the status quo](#) [and for inequality]. Don't fall for it."

- 10 September 2019 ([DNC refuses to allow climate policy debate](#))

The Democratic National Committee stubbornly [refused to allow candidates to debate each other about climate policy](#). It refused to sponsor such a debate, and insisting it would exclude any candidates that participated in an unofficial debate.

This illustrates the plutocratic domination of the Democratic Party structure, which we can also see in the [blacklisting of consultants that work for primary challengers](#).

- 10 September 2019 ([The Keystone XL planet-roaster pipeline](#))

Most Democratic candidates have [pledged to cancel the permit](#) for the Keystone XL planet-roaster pipeline.

One, however, is Biden his time, or perhaps under pressure from rich fossil fools that support him.

- 10 September 2019 ([European Green New Deal](#))

Proposing a [European Green New Deal](#), including an Environmental Justice Commission for compensating colonized countries for the harm done by extraction there, and prosecuting ecocide.

- 10 September 2019 ([Medicare for All](#))

How Medicare for All will avoid the [imaginary problems that for-profit medical insurance lobbyists warn us about](#).

- 10 September 2019 ([Conman uses racism to disguise looting](#))

AOC: the conman's real purpose is looting the treasury, but he [uses racism to disguise it](#). (To his followers, racism looks better than looting.) We need to attack the cynical racism to expose the sincere looting.

- 10 September 2019 ([Light sentence for rapist NYC thugs](#))

Two New York City [thugs](#) received a shockingly light sentence for [having sex with a handcuffed prisoner](#).

A prisoner literally cannot refuse, so that was rape.

- 10 September 2019 ([Brazil's indigenous peoples](#))

Bolsonaro has declared his hatred for Brazil's indigenous peoples. Evidently he wants to burn them out of their homes. People in Brazil and elsewhere are [organizing to fight this](#).

- 10 September 2019 ([Google search ads](#))

Accusing Google search ads of being a [shakedown for businesses](#).

- 10 September 2019 ([Legalizing dumpster diving in Germany](#))

The [campaign to legalize dumpster diving](#) in Germany.

- 9 September 2019 ([Urgent: Divestment from fossil fuels](#))

US citizens: [call on Germany](#) to make the European Investment Bank get out of fossil fuels.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 9 September 2019 ([Urgent: Stop funding fake abortion clinics](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to stop HHS from spending medical funds on Obria and other anti-birth control, anti-abortion fake clinics.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 9 September 2019 ([Urgent: Cut funding for ICE and CBP](#))

[Call on Congress](#) to cut funding for ICE and CBP and put a stop to the agencies' backdoor money grabs.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 9 September 2019 ([Monsanto, John Deere, nonfree software](#))

Monsanto and John Deere [want to scan the production of each spot in a farm and analyze how to use it](#).

The farmer should be able to do this using free software on per own computer.

- 9 September 2019 ([Thugs permanently paralyze prisoner](#))

Prison [thugs](#) in Florida attacked prisoner Cheryl Weimer and [broke her neck](#). She is now permanently paralyzed.

The motive for the attack is that she complained that her work was causing her pain due to a physical ailment.

- 9 September 2019 ([Complete ban on fracking](#))

Sanders [urged all candidates to join him](#) in supporting a complete ban on fracking.

- 9 September 2019 ([Crime goes down as thugs reduce presence](#))

New York City [thugs](#) are carrying out a slowdown strike. Interestingly, [crime has gone down](#).

- 8 September 2019 ([Urgent: Accountability for selling PFAS](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to hold companies accountable for selling PFAS chemicals and concealing the danger of them.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 8 September 2019 ([Doomsday machine](#))

Experts Want to [Give Control of America's Nuclear Missiles to AI](#).

This is called a "doomsday machine." See the movie, Dr Strangelove, for what that could do.

- 8 September 2019 ([Fighting Big Agriculture](#))

The [Secret to Democrats Winning the Midwest](#): Fight Big Agriculture.

- 8 September 2019 ([Food producers' role in climate crisis](#))

Global Food Producers ['Failing to Face Up to Role'](#) in Climate Crisis.

- 8 September 2019 ([Military occupation of Kashmir](#))

The military occupation of Kashmir has now lasted [30 days](#).

We cannot believe anything that the Indian government says about what is happening there. Perhaps five civilians have been killed. but it could be 500 or 50,000.

- 8 September 2019 ([Facebook anti-vaccine searches](#))

Facebook to [Redirect Anti-Vaccine Searches to Public Health Pages](#).

- 8 September 2019 ([British oil tanker held by Iran](#))

Iran is [still holding the British oil tanker](#) that it seized in apparent retaliation for the Iranian tanker that the UK had seized.

This does not seem justified to me, nor an effective way to push back against the US tactics.

- 8 September 2019 ([Germany to ban glyphosate](#))

Germany has [announced a ban on glyphosate](#).

- 8 September 2019 ([Agricultural yields](#))

Modelling suggests that European agriculture will [lose around 15% of its yield by 2050](#).

It is probably similar for the US.

- 8 September 2019 ([Assets of US workers](#))

US workers now have as much assets, on the average, as they had in 2007. But still [30% less than in 2003](#).

- 8 September 2019 ([Inclusive new Texas bill](#))

(satire) Inclusive New Texas Bill Prevents Gun Sellers From [Discriminating On Basis Of Background Check](#).

- 8 September 2019 ([Warren's climate plan doesn't go far enough](#))

Warren's climate plan doesn't recognize the need to [cut down on fossil fuel extraction everywhere](#) — not merely on public land.

An infra-red photon doesn't discriminate between CO2 molecules that came from fuel mined on public land, and molecules from fuel mined on private land.

- 8 September 2019 ([Should We Feed Hungry Children, or the War Machine?](#))

[Should We Feed Hungry Children, or the War Machine?](#)

Plutocratist legislators choose the latter because arms manufacturers spend more on lobbying than poor people.

- 8 September 2019 ([The Walton Family Plot to Privatize the Public Schools of Arkansas](#).)

The Walton Family Plot to [Privatize the Public Schools of Arkansas](#).

- 8 September 2019 ([Why is Biden with the co-founder of a natural gas company](#))

"If Biden is serious about taking on the power of the fossil fuel lobby, why is he [going to a fundraiser](#) hosted by the co-founder of a natural gas company?"

Biden may not have known Goldman founded a fossil fuel company, but he knows Goldman is rich. Biden is too friendly with plutocrats to be any use in taking their power away.

- 8 September 2019 ([US citizens on terrorist watch list violates rights](#))

A federal court ruled that putting US citizens on the "terrorist watch list" [violates their constitutional rights](#).

Bravo! But we have to see whether this leads to a real change.

And it is unfair to foreigners, too.

- 8 September 2019 ([Comparing Biden, Sanders and Warren in regard to global heating](#).)

Comparing Biden, Sanders and Warren [in regard to global heating](#).

Each one made a valid point, but Biden's point is useless without the other points. The only way the US can get other countries to do more to curb [global heating](#) is by doing more itself.

- 8 September 2019 ([If AI is an effective lie detector power will grow](#))

If AI leads to an effective lie detector, those that have [dangerous power already will leverage it to get more power](#).

- 8 September 2019 ([NRA designated as a terrorist organization](#))

San Francisco's city council voted to designate the National Rifle Association as a ["terrorist organization"](#).

The NRA uses disinformation tactics to promote sales of guns, and supports candidates that are right-wing extremists (Republicans).

[That is](#) harmful, but it is not terrorism.

It is wrong for any government (or the UN) to arbitrarily attach the label of "terrorist" to an organization. Such designation is legitimate only as the result of a fair trial.

- 8 September 2019 ([US intervention against al-Shabaab cannot succeed](#))

The US intervention in Somalia against al-Shabaab cannot succeed, because it [doesn't recognize the role that al-Shabaab plays in life in Somalia](#).

The article omits to mention that the US is responsible for the very existence of al-Shabaab. The Islamic courts movement had taken control of Somalia had established peace. Peace with incomplete respect for human rights, to be sure — Islamists oppose some aspects of human rights — but peace with incomplete human rights was a big step up from faction war with incomplete human rights.

Then Ethiopia intervened, clearly as a US proxy, to destroy the Islamic courts government. One part of it, no longer in power, was al-Shabaab.

- 8 September 2019 ([Erdoğan demands help for a safe zone in Turkey for refugees](#))

Erdoğan demands western help in setting up a ["safe zone" in Turkey](#) for refugees to return to.

In principle, this is reasonable. But neither Assad nor the Syrian Islamists would run a zone that is safe for Syrians in general. The Idlib domain of the Islamists is [not safe for transgender Syrians](#).

- 8 September 2019 ([Bogus Johnson told aids plan to prorogue Parliament](#))

Bogus Johnson told his aides weeks ago that he planned to prorogue Parliament (and effectively rule without Parliament), even as he continued to say publicly [he had no such intention](#).

- 8 September 2019 ([Solitary confinement has made prisoner severely mentally ill](#))

A prisoner in Virginia was kept in solitary confinement for almost 2 years, [and it made him severely mentally ill](#). For instance, he can no longer communicate in English, only mutter unintelligibly. And he cannot recognize his mother any more.

This makes me think of the terribly sad ending of the great movie, Brazil.

The nastiest part is the fact that prisoners in solitary in Virginia that can't communicate in written English can *never* get out of solitary. What kind of fool cannot recognize the injustice of this?

- 8 September 2019 ([Young Chinese posting messages to attack Hong Kong protesters](#))

Young Chinese are [posting lots of messages](#) to attack Hong Kong protesters and sentimentally support mindless loyalty to their mind-controlling government.

Thoroughly credulous teenager volunteers work along with paid propagandists. They are organized into groups and follow government orders; they simply are not paid.

They can be compared with the credulous Americans who thought that [Dubya](#) did Iraq a favor by hijacking the US military to conquer and occupy that country.

- 8 September 2019 ([Bogus couldn't imitate the whole Tory party](#))

The conman has much in common with Britain's conman (Bogus Johnson), but one difference is that Bogus couldn't intimidate the [whole Tory party into supporting him](#).

- 8 September 2019 ([Carrie Lam has declared extradition bill dead](#))

[Carrie Lam has finally declared the extradition bill dead](#), demonstrating that this was not impossible.

The protesters, meanwhile, have added democratic elections to their demands, as well as release of the political prisoners jailed over the months of protests.

- 8 September 2019 ([Italy's new coalition government excludes League party](#))

Italy has a new coalition government [which excludes the bullying-based League party](#).

[Salivini](#) is no longer a minister, so he won't be able to recruit support by public displays of cruelty.

- 8 September 2019 ([Compassionate conservatives ploy 17](#))

Ploy 17 in the plutocratic repertoire: after taking lots of money away from the poor, [offer a much smaller increment](#) in aid so as to look like "compassionate conservatives".

Proposed Tory tax cuts (not for the poor) would force [even bigger cuts](#) in support for the poor.

As always, right-wing tax cuts are [dooH niboR](#).

- 8 September 2019 ([Never talk to the cops](#))

Officer Mcgruff says, ["Never talk to the cops."](#)

- 8 September 2019 ([Refugee children separated from parents are suffering from PTSD](#))

The inspector general's office in the Department of Health and Human Services reports that some refugee children separated from their parents [suffer from PTSD](#).

- 7 September 2019 ([Sexual violence in Samoa](#))

Sexual violence is rife in Samoa — [60% of women say they have been victims](#). It is part of a society of male domination.

Many Samoan women are [raped and then compelled to marry the rapist](#). Men rape women specifically for that purpose.

- 7 September 2019 ([Devastation in the Bahamas](#))

Hurricane Dorian is devastating the Bahamas. Its winds were stronger than in other hurricanes. No one could get around, not even ambulances. Some houses were flooded up to the second story by the ocean.

[Global heating](#) will bring us even stronger hurricanes in the future if we allow the plutocrats to keep it going.

- 7 September 2019 ([Netherlands tax haven](#))

The Netherlands is a tax haven, and [companies including Uber are taking advantage of it](#).

Rather than convincing tax havens to change their laws, I think other countries should cancel the deductability of payments to businesses in those countries.

- 7 September 2019 ([New constitution for the UK](#))

Proposing that the UK should [let citizens write a new constitution](#), as Iceland did.

- 7 September 2019 ([Bogus Johnson](#))

Bogus Johnson appears to be [lying about negotiations with the EU in order to manipulate domestic politics](#).

I think it would be wiser for the EU to cancel discussions with Bogus so that he can't pretend he is on the verge of making a deal.

- 7 September 2019 ([Artificial creation of memory](#))

Artificial creation of a memory has been [done in a lab in transgenic mice](#).

Although it is several big steps from there to mind control of humans, it is not too early to think about where we need to stop this. And it is certainly not too early to think about establishing democratic control over the state, which is what we would need in order to stop this at any future point.

- 7 September 2019 ([Drones at airport](#))

"Activists [plan to release drones](#) near [Heathrow] airport. Their possible arrest is a small price to pay for fighting the climate crisis."

- 7 September 2019 ([Amazon income tax](#))

Amazon has tripled its income tax payments in the UK, from just barely more than nothing to [little more than nothing](#).

- 7 September 2019 ([Lies about unions](#))

[5 Biggest Corporate Lies](#) About Unions.

- 7 September 2019 ([Retail face recognition](#))

[Public pressure](#) eliminated use of face recognition on cameras in a retail area in London.

- 7 September 2019 ([Carrie Lam](#))

Carrie Lam, who heads Hong Kong's government, was recorded telling Hong Kong business owners that [she wished she could quit](#) but China was somehow stopping her. She also told them they could not expect China to send its army in as a "solution" to the inconvenience of protests.

Of course she could quit. She could flee to the US and ask for asylum. Her whole family could go.

For a government to have a "CEO" is despicable in itself, but that accurately describes the despicable governmental system of Hong Kong.

- 7 September 2019 ([Photos with wild animals](#))

Interacting with wild animals, even coming close to them, can cause them stress that injures them. But tourists now do this [seeking an appealing photo](#).

- 7 September 2019 ([Camden police department](#))

Camden, New Jersey, is [trying to organize](#) a police department in place of the thug department it used to have. Cops are now trained in many ways to deal with problems without force.

- 7 September 2019 ([Extinction Rebellion protesters](#))

Sometimes the British NHS treats nonviolent Extinction Rebellion protesters [as if they were terrorists](#).

- 7 September 2019 ([Expensive school uniforms](#))

Many state schools in England are driving families into penury by demanding students wear [expensive customized uniforms](#).

I can think of two ways parents can work together to resist this swindle:

- Make unauthorized copies of the school's logo and sew it onto cheap generic uniforms.
- Organize a "uniform strike". If enough parents together refuse to buy the expensive uniforms, they can make the school back down.

Meanwhile, they can teach their children how to respond with defiance if anyone in the school sneers at them for not having the fancy expensive school-specific uniform: "My parents are right to prioritize things that we really need. If you want to blame someone, blame the Tories for allowing schools to demand expensive uniforms which are a burden on students' families. And for making so many Britons poor."

- 7 September 2019 ([Free software and GitHub](#))

Why your free software project should be [independent of GitHub](#).

- 7 September 2019 ([Identification of war criminals in Yemen](#))

A UN investigation is identifying war criminals in Yemen. There are [some on all sides](#).

- 7 September 2019 ([Elites golfing](#))

Elites are golfing [as global heating effects destroy and kill](#). How much destruction and death will it take before they stop?

- 7 September 2019 ([Writings from the past](#))

"[Enid Blyton had racist views. But I still read her.](#)"

I agree that we would be fools to "cancel" writings from the past over prejudice in them. Readers who understand what prejudice is will be able to note it and criticize it as they read.

However, young or naive readers may simply accept it as normal, and that is what we would want to prevent. Perhaps it would be good to publish these works with a preface that points out the prejudice mentioning a few instances and challenges the reader to spot other instances.

- 7 September 2019 ([Social media, anxiety and depression](#))

Indirect evidence suggests that social media were [responsible for a big increase in anxiety and depression](#) in US college students, around 2012.

- 7 September 2019 ([Door spy cameras](#))

Ring does not support face recognition ... [yet](#).

- 7 September 2019 ([Message from peoples of the Amazon](#))

"[You destroy our lands, poison the planet and sow death, because you are lost. And soon it will be too late to change.](#)"

If that rebuke is addressed to the plutocrats, the ones that Bolsonaro and the bullshitter serve, it is valid. It doesn't seem fair when addressed to me. I supported Lula; I still do. It is bad to lose a crucial battle, but that's not the same as being on the wrong side.

- 7 September 2019 ([Sex workers' safety](#))

Some cities are setting up [infrastructure to help sex workers' safety and quality of life](#).

What remains to be done is find an effective way to free trafficked workers (whether in sex work or some other kind of work).

- 7 September 2019 ([Georgia Republicans harassing opponents](#))

Georgia Republicans are harassing their opponents with [subpoenas based on no grounds](#).

The Republican Party stands for "power by hook or by crook."

- 7 September 2019 ([Greta Thunberg](#))

Greta Thunberg says that [her form of Asperger's syndrome makes her stronger](#).

Her rebuke makes Andrew Bolt look very small-minded and foolish. However, his mockery may be effective with the right-wing audience he hopes to influence. They often judge people by condemning those who disrespect authority or seem somehow not to be as people "should" be. Pointing out these things about Thunberg might reduce her influence and that may be all he cares about.

- 6 September 2019 ([Teen convicted of sending photo of perself](#))

As has happened many times before, a teenager in the US has been [convicted of sending someone a nude photo of perself](#).

It should never be a crime to send a nude photo of yourself, not for anyone of whatever age.

It could make sense to prohibit persuading a minor to send a nude photo of perself, and redistributing one without permission.

- 6 September 2019 ([Sanders and Warren](#))

The [Democratic presidential race](#) is heading towards Sanders vs Warren.

The article's title is misleading: Sanders is not "fighting" Warren and neither is Warren "fighting" Sanders. I am very glad to see the way that they compete but refuse to be enemies.

I would be terribly disappointed if one of them drops out and does anything other than endorse the other.

- 6 September 2019 ([PISSI infiltrates refugee camp](#))

Reportedly the al-Hawl refugee camp, set up for people who fled [PISSI](#), has been [infiltrated by PISSI supporters who now control it](#). The Kurdish soldiers meant to prevent this are outnumbered.

- 6 September 2019 ([Amazon warehouse workers](#))

(satire) ... horrified warehouse worker Paul Diaz awoke from heavily medicated sleep Friday to find Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos [welding robotic limbs onto the stumps where his arms once were](#).

- 6 September 2019 ([Deportation thugs](#))

Calls to End Inhumane Border Conditions Aren't Enough. ICE (the deportation [thugs](#)) [Must Be Abolished](#).

- 6 September 2019 ([Investigation of US war crimes](#))

The International Criminal Court tried to investigate some US war crimes in Afghanistan. The US [created obstacles which made the investigation impossible](#).

One more victory for crime.

- 6 September 2019 ([Climate defense](#))

Climate defense activists [plan to shut down transportation in Washington DC](#).

The danger is enormous, and such annoying protests may be the only way to make plutocratist officials allow actions to change course.

- 6 September 2019 ([Voting machines](#))

A voter made a video showing a voting machine [altering the vote person had entered](#).

- 6 September 2019 ([Disaster aid funds shifted to refugee prisons](#))

The cruel bastard shifted funds from disaster aid to [fund imprisonment of more refugees](#).

This way he can cause suffering for potentially everyone located in the US whether citizens or not.

- 6 September 2019 ([CEOs and stockholders](#))

Stiglitz: even supposing that CEOs have good will when they say that income for stockholders is not the highest value, we [can't count on them to change in practice](#).

- 6 September 2019 ([Violent thugs enter home without warrant](#))

[Thugs](#) entered a home without a warrant and [one started choking a teenager](#) who had properly refused to open the door. The [thug](#) desisted after being informed he was on candid camera.

A lawsuit is not enough to redress this act of violence. It calls for criminal prosecution.

- 5 September 2019 ([Uber and Lyft](#))

Independent analysis of independently collected data says that [Uber and Lyft keep 10% more of the customer's payment than they claim to keep](#).

The companies say that is false but refuse to cooperate with trying to verify it.

- 5 September 2019 ([Brain-reading software and freedom](#))

More about [brain-reading software and freedom](#).

Brain reading is more intimate than sex. I think that "affirmative consent for each step" is a little too strict for sex, but maybe it is the right standard for neurotech.

- 5 September 2019 ([DeVos's attacks on students](#))

DeVos's latest attack on students: if they were defrauded by schools, they [must still repay the loans that went to pay those schools](#).

- 5 September 2019 ([PISSI operating underground](#))

[PISSI](#) has not been wiped out. It now [operates as an underground terror group](#).

- 5 September 2019 ([Conversing with the conman's supporters](#))

Jane Fonda describes knocking on doors and conversing with voters that supported the conman — to [listen and make a connection](#).

I think it is a good thing to do if your talents lean towards that.

- 5 September 2019 ([Big ag and the climate crisis](#))

Big Ag Is a [Major Obstacle to Combating the Climate Crisis](#).

- 5 September 2019 ([Taking back control from Bogus Johnson](#))

Jeremy Corbyn talks about [plans to take back control of the UK](#) from Bogus Johnson.

- 5 September 2019 ([The time and place to teach empathy](#))

An important Massachusetts high school exam asked students to portray the viewpoint of a white woman refusing to help a runaway slave. Some black students were [so upset by this that they did badly on the rest of the exam from that point](#).

The ability to present viewpoints you disagree with, even strongly oppose, requires empathy. Practising that must be a useful exercise; I think I could have learned a lot if I had practiced it more. But we shouldn't ask students to start that exercise in the middle of a high-stakes exam. If each student does dozens of such exercises, over a period of a few months, with no special pressure, the student may become comfortable with portraying attitudes that disgust per.

- 5 September 2019 ([Pro football and cognitive problems](#))

A study found that [12% of pro football players developed cognitive problems in their 30s and 40s](#), in contrast to 2% of the general public.

Let's put an end to professional football. There are lots of less-dangerous sports that people could obsess over, if they want to obsess over a sport.

- 5 September 2019 ([Another tax cut for the rich](#))

[The bully](#) is [considering ordering another tax cut, mainly for the rich](#).

Non-rich Americans would get some benefit when they sell their houses, but they don't do this very often and the benefit would be small by comparison. What non-rich Americans need more is the government spending that would be cut in order to avoid the deficit that this tax cut will cause.

It adds up to [dooH niboR](#).

- 5 September 2019 ([Technology for deducing thoughts](#))

Technology for deducing thoughts from observations of the brain is still in its infancy, but it is [not too early to discuss legal limits for it](#).

The right number 1 in this article, "to freely decide you want to use a given neurotechnology or to refuse it," is obviously insufficient. You have the right to decide whether an insurance company can track your car's movements with a GPS box, but many people can't afford the extra cost of insurance without tracking. You have the right to work without a LinkedIn account, but many jobs will pass you by if you don't.

We need a stronger version of that right, one which will stop anyone from pressuring you to say yes.

- 5 September 2019 ([Armenia's water supply](#))

A foreign mining company wants to open a gold mine that [could poison Armenia's water supply](#). Protesters have blocked the mine, but the company threatened to use [business-supremacy treaties](#) to sue the country if the government does not attack the protesters.

The government of Armenia [should pull out of those treaties](#) and negotiate new treaties without ISDS ("I Sue Democratic States").

Companies that make exploitative "investment" deals with a corrupt, nondemocratic government deserve to lose the investment. That will teach them not to make exploitative deals with a corrupt, nondemocratic government.

- 5 September 2019 ([Protests against fracking in Britain](#))

Protests against fracking have been [effectively banned in Britain](#). The protesters have lost the legal support from Friends of the Earth because the organization can't afford the risk of being made to pay the frackers' legal bills.

The frackers can make that prohibitively expensive just by spending a lot.

- 5 September 2019 ([Indian army occupation of Kashmir](#))

Kashmiris report [beatings and torture](#) by the Indian army of occupation.

Since India is responsible for the lack of communications in Kashmir and the lack of official responses, we must presume these accusations are valid.

- 5 September 2019 ([Homeless musician in LA murdered in sleep](#))

A homeless musician in LA was [murdered while he slept](#). Someone set his tent on fire.

No word yet on the motive for this killing, but it illustrates the fact that being homeless puts a person in many kinds of danger, not least [destruction of one's meager property by official cruelty](#).

- 5 September 2019 ([Poverty for children in DC](#))

Washington, DC, is [worse than all 50 states](#) in regard to poverty for children.

- 5 September 2019 ([Bully's trade war with China](#))

[The bully's](#) trade war with China [ricochets and hits the Amazon forest](#).

This is a peculiar result, and I don't think it is a valid argument for "free trade" (that is, for [business-supremacy treaties](#)).

- 5 September 2019 ([The British constitution](#))

The British constitution, which consists mostly of traditions, has proved [unable to stand up to the dishonesty-without-bounds of Bogus Johnson](#), who wields the Queen's authority, never mind that he isn't nominally a monarch.

It is not clear that a European-style president and written constitution would keep Britain safe. That did not keep Hungary and Poland safe. Likewise, [the cheater](#) is attacking the weaknesses of the written US constitution.

- 5 September 2019 ([Massive imprisonment in the US](#))

President Clinton [accepted responsibility](#) for contributing to massive imprisonment in the US.

I think he is mistaken in claiming that his law was an important factor in reducing crime. The crime rate fell in the 1990s because of factors such as removing lead from gasoline in the late 70s.

- 5 September 2019 ([Helping bats cross the road](#))

[Installing red streetlights](#) so bats can cross the road.

- 5 September 2019 ([Johnson arranges to shut down Parliament](#))

Bogus Johnson has [arranged to shut down Parliament](#) after just one week, to prevent it from doing anything to alter his plan to take the UK out of the EU without any trade deal. Since most MPs are against this, they are trying to pass a law within that one week.

Meanwhile, Bogus is trying to present himself as the people's hero for defeating Parliament. Right-wing authoritarians operate by scapegoating and condemning democratic institutions. Bogus has found a way to combine the two by making Parliament his scapegoat.

- 5 September 2019 ([Senator attacked by anti-vaxxer](#))

California Senator Pan, a pediatrician by profession, is pushing to make vaccination requirements strict. An anti-vaxxer [attacked him on the street](#).

- 5 September 2019 ([Air conditioning and the carbon budget](#))

The US has set a standard for use of air conditioning that [won't fit its carbon budget](#), and the rest of the world is copying it.

The oil price shock of the 1970s made air conditioning (and buildings designed to require it) a public concern. But that did not lead to much change in construction practices.

Back then, I slept in a room without air conditioning. In periods of hot weather, it was too hot for me to sleep, even with a window fan and a fan blowing at me. I wish now that I knew what the temperature was in my room, but I did not get a thermometer because knowing then would have made no difference.

- 4 September 2019 ([Rising oceans](#))

Leaked UN Draft Report Warns Rising, Warming Oceans ['Poised to Unleash Misery' Worldwide](#).

- 4 September 2019 ([Construction of light rail in Phoenix](#))

Koch money failed to convince Phoenix voters to put an end to [construction of light rail](#) in that city.

- 4 September 2019 ([Misleading shoppers with false savings](#))

Supermarkets [in the UK] Misleading Shoppers with [False Savings](#).

- 4 September 2019 ([Tongass National Forest](#))

The enemies of human civilization will soon be delighted that they [can cut down the Tongass National Forest](#).

- 4 September 2019 ([How Technology is Hijacking Your Mind](#))

How Technology is [Hijacking Your Mind](#) — from a Magician and Google Design Ethicist.

I find it regrettable that the article talks of "consuming" whatever you see on a web site.

- 4 September 2019 ([EPA methane leak regulations](#))

The Environmental Pollution Agency [plans to cancel the regulations that require fossil fuel extractors to limit methane leaks](#).

- 4 September 2019 ([The Amazon forest](#))

Bolivia's president Morales is accused of [letting business cut down part of the Amazon forest, and holding back on fighting the fires](#).

- 4 September 2019 ([Protecting ocean ecosystems](#))

Protecting ocean ecosystems is [linked with curbing global heating](#).

- 4 September 2019 ([Trials for prisoners in Guantanamo](#))

Five prisoners in Guantanamo are [supposed to have a trial soon](#). It is a special "military tribunal" designed not to properly respect the rights of the accused.

- 4 September 2019 ([Guantanamo prison](#))

Guantanamo prison now requires journalists to be accompanied all the time and to submit their articles to [military censorship](#).

- 4 September 2019 ([Independence of western Papua](#))

The movement for independence of western Papua [has come out in the open](#), very strong.

- 4 September 2019 ([United Electrical endorses Green New Deal](#))

United Electrical Becomes [First US Industrial Union to Endorse Green New Deal and Global Climate Strike](#).

This union also supports Sanders for president.

- 4 September 2019 ([Choosing a plutocratist Democrat](#))

Explaining the [fallacies in arguments for choosing a plutocratist Democrat](#).

The Worker's Friend? Here's How Trump Has [Waged His War on Workers](#).

- 4 September 2019 ([Bully's immigration prisons](#))

[The bully's](#) immigration prisons [refused Congress access to inspect them](#).

- 4 September 2019 (["Kessler syndrome"](#))

[Destruction of satellites in war](#) could bring on the "Kessler syndrome" depicted in the film Gravity, making all space travel impossible.

This problem [has already started](#), and it is getting worse, but very slowly. There are efforts to design a system to clean up the debris.

When I saw the film Gravity, all I felt at the end was sadness for this great loss. The survival of one astronaut made hardly any difference relative to that.

- 4 September 2019 ([Consuming less](#))

"A sustainable environment means [consuming less](#), not differently. With retail therapy losing its appeal, that should be easy."

Oxfam Urges Shoppers [Not to Buy New Clothes for a Month](#).

It should be easy. In most months, I don't buy any article of clothing.

- 4 September 2019 ([Residents of Assam declared non-citizens](#))

India has [declared 2 million residents of Assam to be non-citizens](#), supposedly Bangladeshis though India made no effort to verify that.

The aim, I believe, is to kick out Muslims by labeling them as foreigners, but some Hindus were thus designated also. Court cases were decided in such a sloppy fashion you'd think it was Alabama.

In principle these people could be deported, but in practice Bangladesh will not accept them. With the cruelty of the BJP, they could be imprisoned until dead, or made into a caste of enslaved workers.

- 4 September 2019 ([Phone location tracking](#))

Phone systems [don't always track phone location data correctly](#). Errors can lead to false criminal convictions.

In principle, they can also lead to false acquittals.

The crucial point about these errors is that they aren't enough to make phone location tracking safe for society.

- 4 September 2019 ([The sweatshop service economy](#))

Workers in the sweatshop service economy are [inventing ways to organize and even strike](#).

Gaming the system can get you something, but real victory comes only when you make the system change. Unions, when they were strong, achieved that by means of contracts with the company. These forms of resistance rarely reach that point. They need support from the state.

To put an end to this oppression of workers, vote for Sanders and Corbyn.

- 4 September 2019 ([Tucson summer](#))

In Tucson summer, the heat and humidity are not quite at the automatically fatal point, but they come near that point. This [can kill people who are old or who are working vigorously outside](#).

- 4 September 2019 ([Ecocide](#))

A just international order [should stop and punish ecocide](#) as well as genocide.

It will be hard to get plutocratist governments to do this. They are on the side of destruction.

- 4 September 2019 ([Intimidation by DEA agents](#))

DEA agents [regularly intimidate people into allowing their luggage to be searched](#), and hardly anyone dares to stand on per rights not to be searched.

They make use of the passenger name records to find and intimidate individual suspects.

Sometimes they [steal people's money on mere suspicion](#).

- 4 September 2019 ([Educators must demand climate justice](#))

A Teachable Moment: [Educators Must Join Students](#) in Demanding Climate Justice.

- 4 September 2019 ([Rescuing democracy](#))

To Rescue Democracy, We Must Revive The [Reforms Of The Progressive Era \(1900-1910\)](#). And more.

- 4 September 2019 ([Commemorations of WWII events](#))

Various governments are [twisting the 80-year commemorations of World War II events to their various political ends](#).

- 4 September 2019 ([Assassination of Chechen rebel](#))

The assassin who killed an exiled Chechen rebel in Germany last week was apparently [sent by the Russian military](#).

- 4 September 2019 ([Extreme weather reducing wine production](#))

Extreme weather has [destroyed 12% of France's wine production](#) this year.

Governments have focused on fossil fuel income and disregarded the loss of other income that fossil fuels increasingly cause.

- 4 September 2019 ([Democratic establishment](#))

Colorado could elect a progressive Democrat as senator, but [the Democratic establishment is supporting plutocratist Hickenlooper](#).

- 4 September 2019 ([Tribe of isolated rich sociopaths](#))

(satire) Widespread human-caused fires ... revealed a small tribe of [isolated rich sociopaths who are completely untouched by consequence](#), ...

"Decimate" is an interesting word because it means to take or destroy one tenth of something. If what you mean is not about one tenth, why not say simply "destroy", "ravage" or "ruin"?

- 4 September 2019 ([Mainstream media](#))

When mainstream media present unusually hot weather as enjoyable, they are [lulling you to ignore a fever](#).

- 4 September 2019 ([Bully tells officials to break laws](#))

[The bully](#) shows total contempt for law by [telling officials to break laws to build a border wall](#), and he will pardon whatever crimes they may commit in the process.

By January, I wonder, will he pardon murders?

- 3 September 2019 ([Urgent: Pregnant Workers Fairness Act](#))

US citizens: [call on your congresscritter](#) to cosponsor the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 3 September 2019 ([New York City restaurants doing well](#))

New York City raised the minimum wage for restaurant workers, and right-wingers said this would cause restaurants to fail — but they are [doing very well](#).

- 3 September 2019 ([Coalition of parties in Italy](#))

Salvini used his coalition partner, the Five-Star Party, to seize opportunities to show off his cruelty and recruit support based on cruelty. Recently he decided it was time to dump the partner and have another election, after which he hoped for absolute control. However, [the other parties put together a coalition](#) and there will probably not be an election.

He remains dangerous, but at least he won't be able to look so tough.

- 3 September 2019 ([Cameras on cars](#))

Side-view mirrors on cars [may be replaced by cameras](#).

If the cameras were used only to show the driver the view, at the moment, I wouldn't object. But if they record, they are a surveillance threat.

I propose a law that cameras installed in a car by the manufacturer must be designed not to record or transmit the video anywhere. No exceptions.

- 3 September 2019 ([Ring door spy camera system](#))

The ring door spy camera system has ["partnewships" with 400 thug departments](#).

- 3 September 2019 ([US border thugs](#))

A US border [thug](#) has pled guilty for [violently attacking a border crosser](#).

Being punched in the face is not part of the legal treatment of unauthorized immigrants.

- 3 September 2019 ([Citizen's assembly for climate crisis](#))

Politics-As-Usual Can't Fix the Climate Crisis. Maybe It's Time to Try a [Citizens' Assembly](#).

- 3 September 2019 ([10 men sentenced for killing of Dalit](#))

India: 10 Men Sentenced to [Life \[imprisonment\] for Killing of Dalit Christian](#) (for trying to marry the sister of one of them).

- 3 September 2019 ([Fired under orders from China](#))

Cathay Pacific Airlines [fired two employees under orders from China](#).

- 3 September 2019 ([Effective anti-smoking policies](#))

Britain's anti-smoking policies are effective: cigarette use has [fallen by 25% since 2011](#).

Some fraction of them will have been replaced by e-cigarettes, but those are surely not as dangerous as ordinary cigarettes.

- 3 September 2019 ([Safe injection places for addicts](#))

New York's governor, a rather right-wing Democrat, is [blocking the creation of safe injection places for addicts to use](#).

The policy of criminalizing opioid addicts, rather than helping them, is a considerable part of the cause of deaths.

- 3 September 2019 ([Imprisoned refugees in Papua New Guinea](#))

As Papua New Guinea prepares to allow its imprisoned refugees (which it has held on behalf of Australia) move to the capital city, it has also [stopped providing them food and money to live on](#).

- 3 September 2019 ([Unsupervised play for kids](#))

Providence, RI, has attracted kids to parks by giving them [opportunities for unsupervised play](#).

- 3 September 2019 ([Federal Election Commission](#))

[The bully](#) has made the Federal Election Commission completely inactive by not appointing members; now it [does not have a quorum](#).

Republicans had already made the FEC nearly useless by [appointing partisan cheaters who would never enforce complaints against Republicans](#). It's one of many ways in which Republicans try to steal elections. [The bully](#) didn't really win the 2016 election — he [got the last few necessary electoral votes by cheating in a few states](#).

- 3 September 2019 ([Prosecution of thugs](#))

Atlanta has convicted a [thug](#) for a [violent attack on a criminal who was surrendering with his hands up](#).

Bravo! We need to prosecute [thugs](#) who commit gross violence and *not only* when it is fatal.

Even better, the other cops who were present acted like police officers, not like [thugs](#).

- 3 September 2019 ([Urgent: CBS-Viacom merger](#))

US citizens: [call on the Department of Justice](#) to Block the CBS-Viacom merger.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 3 September 2019 ([Urgent: Amazon deforestation](#))

Everyone: [call on BlackRock](#) to stop financing deforestation of the Amazon region.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 3 September 2019 ([Johnson and Parliament](#))

Bogus Johnson wants to knock Parliament for a loop so he can impose a neoliberal fate on Britain, [lying all the way](#).

Parliament will have one week to stop him.

- 3 September 2019 ([United Flooded States](#))

[The United Flooded States of America](#) organizes Americans whose homes have been flooded for collective action, such as demanding aid for moving to higher ground.

- 3 September 2019 ([Face recognition in school](#))

The GDPR may be developing some teeth: a school in Sweden [has been fined](#) for using face recognition to take attendance.

- 3 September 2019 ([Global heating and Hajj](#))

[Global heating](#) will threaten Hajj pilgrims by making Mecca so hot that just being there can cause heat stress. This may happen occasionally [as soon as next year](#).

Will this be enough to sway the heart of [Salafi Arabia](#)'s acting king, and the other Muslim countries that sell fossil fuels?

- 3 September 2019 ([Arrests in Hong Kong](#))

China is arresting prominent supporters of democracy in Hong Kong, hoping that the protests will collapse without them — but the protests have no organizers, and [they continue anyway](#).

Joshua Wong (one of them) [Predicted Hong Kong Crackdown](#) in Interview Before Arrest.

- 3 September 2019 ([Forms of money in prison](#))

Prisoners in the US now use prepaid purchasing cards as a form of cash. They also use [various commodities as money](#).

- 3 September 2019 ([Immigration prison hunger strikes](#))

Some refugees from India are on hunger strike in US immigration prisons. Several are [being force-fed](#), which violates their right to refuse medical treatment.

One of them is in danger of being killed by incompetent medical care.

- 3 September 2019 ([Killings in Afghanistan](#))

The Taliban and [PISSI](#) are [killing human rights activists](#) in Afghanistan, and the US-supported government doesn't care about them.

- 3 September 2019 (['Green' initiatives](#))

Businesses promote "green" initiatives that [make only a tiny difference](#) but may save them money.

If the hotel room is 75 F, I will need a powerful fan in order to sleep.

- 3 September 2019 ([Leather and Amazon destruction](#))

Use of leather is [directly pushing the destruction](#) of the Amazon forest. Apparently the production of beef doesn't produce enough leather as a byproduct.

- 3 September 2019 ([Students' phones](#))

Many US schools require students to [lock their phones into a pouch during the school day](#).

This seems to be a good thing, as far as I can tell from the article, but it doesn't do the whole job. It ought to block the phone's radio reception and transmission, so that the phone can't track the students' movements in school. It should also block sound; otherwise any phone can keep listening to the whole class, if its software has been remotely modified to do that.

- 3 September 2019 ([Infliction of suffering on Palestinians](#))

One of the ways Israel inflicts suffering on Palestinians in Gaza is by [limiting electricity there](#). Israel just cut it in half.

- 1 September 2019 ([Urgent: Reject Steven Menashi](#))

US citizens: [call on the Senate](#) to reject Steven Menashi as a federal judge.

- 1 September 2019 ([Urgent: No President is Above the Law Act](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to pass the No President is Above the Law Act, so presidents that are criminals can be prosecuted after they leave office.

- 1 September 2019 ([Urgent: Oppose Hyten's confirmation](#))

US citizens: [call on the Senate](#) to Oppose Hyten's confirmation.

- 1 September 2019 ([Urgent: End copays for medical care in prison](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress and states](#) to end the copays for medical care in prison.

- 1 September 2019 ([Attacks on Palestinian farmers](#))

The Palestinian farmers of Beit Ummar face continual violent attacks from the nearby Israeli colonies. They are [organizing nonviolent resistance](#).

This is [part of a general plan](#) to force Palestinians out and annex the land.

- 1 September 2019 ([Israel-Palestine two-state deal](#))

Sanders and Warren advocate [pushing Israel and Palestine towards a two-state deal](#).

It was [Netanyahu's toadying to the bully](#) that made it acceptable in mainstream US political discourse to condemn Israel's occupation of Palestine, and advocate using pressure to change it rather than merely begging.

The article speaks of "anti-Israel Democrats", but that is unfair. Sanders and Warren are not against Israel, they are against Israel's occupation of Palestine. That is also my position, and I am very glad to support US presidential candidates who advocate it.

More on how Netanyahu was [obeying orders from the bullshitter](#).

- 1 September 2019 ([Ecuador tries to imprison Ricardo Patiño](#))

Ecuador [tried to imprison Ricardo Patiño](#), one of Correa's ministers, for trying to launch a wave of protests. He fled to Peru before the order was made.

Sorry that I have only a reference in Spanish.

The protests were going to be [against the IMF's "help"](#).

- 1 September 2019 ([US border thugs](#))

Many visitors to the US report being sent back after border [thugs](#) search their phones, reportedly [on account of things said by people they know](#). Currently it seems they are mostly Muslims, but there is no telling what group the [thugs](#) might target next.

- 1 September 2019 ([Nestle wants more water from river](#))

Nestle wants to take [more water from Florida's Santa Fe river than the river can sustain](#).

- 1 September 2019 ([Human chain in Hong Kong](#))

Peaceful protests like this human chain [help to counteract the violence and cynicism](#) shrouding the city (of Hong Kong).

However, the spell didn't take on China's satrap for Hong Kong, Ms Lam, who [threatens to declare something comparable to martial law](#).

- 1 September 2019 ([Accepting "help" from the IMF](#))

When a country accepts "help" from the IMF, it gets a [permanent jolt of oligarchy and inequality](#). Sometimes injustice, too.

- 1 September 2019 ([Amazon forest destruction and the bully](#))

One of the [bully's](#) backers [owns companies heavily involved in destroying the Amazon forest](#).

- 1 September 2019 ([Contract workers' rights](#))

California Uber and Lyft Drivers [Rally for Bill Granting Rights to Contract Workers](#).

- 1 September 2019 ([Site that leads Muslims away from extremism](#))

The UK set up a media web site to lead Muslims away from extremism by [raising other important social and political issues](#).

It seems like a good idea to me, but why treat it as a secret? Is there some other side to it that we still don't know about?

- 1 September 2019 ([Rematerialised ghosts of fascists](#))

The west is being destroyed, not by migrants, but by the fear of migrants. In country after country, [the ghosts of the fascists have rematerialised](#) ... They have successfully convinced their populations that the greatest threat to their nations isn't government tyranny or inequality or climate change, but immigration.

- 1 September 2019 ([Dangerous consolidation of media](#))

Sanders's [plan to protect media from dangerous consolidation](#): block mergers, undo some past consolidation, fund independent media, and limit the dominance of Facebook and Google over media.

I'd like to see more details of how he would limit the dominance of Facebook and Google, but in principle I'm in favor. I support the rest of the plan, too.

This would be a candidate for using my proposed progressive tax on business to pressure media giants to split up.

- 1 September 2019 ([Regulations on lead in water supply](#))

US regulations on lead in the water supply [should be much more strict](#), and we should replace all the lead water pipes.

- 31 August 2019 ([Deportation of gravely ill children](#))

[The bully](#) is moving to deport children staying in the US for medical care for cancer, cystic fibrosis, HIV, and other grave illnesses, along with their parents. This is [likely to kill most of those children](#).

Adding insult to injury (though "injury" is an understatement; they will die if deported), deportation officials are [giving these people confusing information](#).

- 31 August 2019 ([Deportation based on friends' social media](#))

The US border [thugs](#) cancelled freshman Ismail Ajjaw's visa [because of things his friends said on some social media platform](#) (Facebook?).b

- 31 August 2019 ([Revealing bulletproof vests](#))

(satire) "We've been seeing some students wearing revealing bulletproof vests, so I just wanted to remind all you ladies that your kevlar [must cover all your vital organs](#)," ...

- 31 August 2019 ([Subsidized rent](#))

Santa Monica [subsidizes the rent for some of the old people who live there](#).

This is better than not doing so, but it has a drawback: it is a private subsidy for landlords, and as rents increase, the subsidy will increase too. It would be better to build public housing, which means that the state makes the investment and gets the profit, but less profit, because this will expand the housing supply.

- 31 August 2019 ([Witnesses who are thugs](#))

California prosecutors now have [permission to inform defense lawyers when a witness that is a thug](#) has some characteristic that leads to suspicion [perse](#) might give false testimony.

This doesn't assure that they *will* inform defense lawyers.

The mere fact that the witness is a [thug](#) is, in itself, reason for such suspicion. The defense lawyers already know that. Alas, most jurors won't believe it.

- 31 August 2019 ([Tracking devices in Mercedes cars](#))

Mercedes [puts tracking devices into its cars](#), and getting a car loan requires agreeing to be tracked.

- 30 August 2019 ([Urgent: DoorDash tips](#))

In the US: [call on DoorDash](#) to stop confiscating workers' tips.

You can also ask the restaurant, before you order takeout, "Do you use DoorDash for deliveries?" If it does, say "I will order somewhere else."

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 30 August 2019 ([FBI search list](#))

Journalist Dave Lindorff has been put on an FBI-controlled list for an extra search when he boards a plane to the US. He knows this because a British official told him — [the FBI won't confirm it](#).

Fortunately for him, his harassment is minor: the usual quick explosives test, when he flies to the US. For others, it results in substantial harassment. The fact that a journalist is on the list suggests this is all politically motivated.

- 30 August 2019 ([Amazon deforestation](#))

Brazilian Amazon deforestation Surges to [Break August Records](#).

- 30 August 2019 ([Global heating and investments](#))

[Global heating](#) will make our [investments in the future crumble](#).

- 30 August 2019 ([Hostages in Kashmir](#))

India is [taking hostages in Kashmir](#), kidnaping people in order to exchange them for specific people that the occupying forces could not find.

The US [did something similar](#) during the occupation of Iraq.

Israel has [done something similar](#) in the occupation of Palestine.

- 30 August 2019 ([Private social credit system](#))

Private companies including Uber, Airbnb and WhatsApp are building a [private social credit system](#), in which anyone can be banned arbitrarily from the very dis-services that people say they "can't live without".

If a bar or restaurant insisted on knowing who I am before letting me in, I'd leave pre-emptively.

- 30 August 2019 ([Google's browser dominance](#))

Google uses its dominance over browsers to [defend its ad business](#).

This exactly what antitrust law was designed to deal with. It suggests that breaking up Google would do some good. It would not go far enough, however, because it would not put an end to surveillance capitalism.

- 30 August 2019 ([Money for Amazon fires](#))

Burner Bolsonaro rejected the 20 million dollars to help put out fires in the Amazon, not for being too little, but [for being too much](#). (More than zero is too much.)

The latest idiotic distraction is to call this "colonialism". The Brazilian government claims the power to burn every tree in Brazil.

- 30 August 2019 ([The next G7](#))

"We need to [cancel the next G7](#). Let's resume them when Trump is gone."

The point of the G7 meetings is cooperation (even if only partial) among the most powerful countries. The bullshitter has no interest in that. It is useless to make a deal with him, since he may break it the next day or the next month.

He will attend the meeting only to sow discord — he is the drama queen that would be king. Why make an opportunity for him?

- 30 August 2019 ([Koch brothers campaigns](#))

The Koch brothers funded organized campaigns to [block construction of public transport](#) in various cities across the US.

Less public transit means they sell more oil. In a few decades, it means a bigger disaster with a bigger chance of killing you.

- 30 August 2019 ([Vaping and recycling](#))

Vaping's Other Problem: Are E-Cigarettes [Creating a Recycling Disaster](#)?

There is an obvious solution: impose a deposit that is high enough to discourage one-time use.

- 30 August 2019 ([Urgent: Domestic Workers Bill of Rights](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to support the Domestic Workers Bill of Rights Act.

The article brings up race in a way that is not truly pertinent. The US society of extreme inequality dumps injustice on the poor, and due to racism and other forms of prejudice, members of disprivileged groups are more likely to be poor. Therefore, many unrelated injustices hit them harder, including the mistreatment of domestic workers.

But we don't need to refer to that to justify this bill, because it is a simple matter of right and wrong. Domestic workers deserve justice regardless of their demographics and regardless of whether they suffer from prejudice.

- 30 August 2019 ([Urgent: Media coverage of Amazon fires](#))

US citizens: [call on media](#) to cover the fires in the Amazon as much as they covered the fire in Notre Dame cathedral.

- 30 August 2019 ([Useless G7 meetings](#))

The G7 meetings have become useless, [ineffective at doing pretty much anything](#).

The fact that the [bully](#) uses them only as opportunities to humiliate other countries' leaders is only part of the reason. But next year, when the US hosts the meeting, he [will reduce it totally to a manipulatory event](#), once he has filled his pockets with government money by holding the meeting in his own hotel.

- 30 August 2019 ([Stretching the term "autism"](#))

The term "autism" has been [stretched so far that it is incoherent](#): to stretch from the mild abnormalities or Asperger's syndrome to mentally crippling disabilities.

It may be the case that they all result from the same biological cause — does science know? But even if so, we can distinguish them for moral, social and legal purposes.

- 30 August 2019 ([Regulation on face recognition](#))

The EU is [considering a weak regulation](#) on face recognition. All it would do is give people the right to be informed when their face was recognized — and not always even that.

This by itself would not protect society from massive surveillance, but the information obtained could aid campaigns to do that.

- 30 August 2019 ([Bogus Johnson acting like monarch](#))

Bogus Johnson has [openly told Parliament it has no authority over what he does](#).

He is trying to act the absolute monarch. The last time someone tried that, Parliament had him executed. The death penalty is wrong, but Parliament could sentence Johnson to life in prison.

- 30 August 2019 ([TSA traumatizes transgender passengers](#))

Transgender passengers [often find an encounter with the TSA traumatic](#).

- 30 August 2019 ([Singapore to invite people to be tracked](#))

Singapore [will invite people to be tracked as they walk around the city](#) by offering gratis tracking devices.

- 30 August 2019 ([Cuba reforms fishing laws](#))

Cuba Drastically Reforms Fishing Laws to [Protect Coral Reef, Sharks And Rays](#).

- 30 August 2019 ([Bangladesh will stop classifying women as virgin or not](#))

Bangladesh will stop classifying women as "virgin" or not, [when they marry](#).

- 30 August 2019 ([Chinese expat writer Yang Hengjun is being investigated for spying](#))

Chinese expat writer Yang Hengjun [is being investigated for spying](#).

More precisely, with "committing espionage crimes", which could mean anything that China wants us to think of as if it were spying. Tyrannical governments often are very secretive and may consider ordinary journalism, picking up information from the public, as spying.

- 30 August 2019 ([Obama upholds Office tradition](#))

(satire) [Obama Upholds In-Office Tradition By Releasing 2019 Summer Kill List](#).

- 30 August 2019 ([Congress Must Require Voting Machine Vendors to Explain Poor Security](#))

Congressional Committees Must Require Voting Machine Vendors to Explain [Poor Security Record & Practices](#).

- 30 August 2019 ([Bully's harm to contributions for international aid and rights](#))

The bully has done great harm around the world by [cutting US contributions](#) to important international aid and rights programs.

- 30 August 2019 ([US Forest Disservice](#))

The US Forest Disservice proposes to eliminate [environmental disclosure and public comment](#) for over 90% of its decisions about permitting roads and exploitation in national forests.

It would be able to trash any amount of forest land provided it does so in medium-size chunks.

- 30 August 2019 ([Virtually any Democrat](#))

"Virtually any Democrat would be favored to beat [the current Republican senator] in Colorado, and [virtually any Democrat is better than John Hickenlooper](#)."

- 30 August 2019 ([Comparing attackers of Earth's ecosphere](#))

Comparing the [US saboteur in chief with Bolsonaro](#) in regard to attacking Earth's ecosphere.

- 30 August 2019 ([The cruel structure of the gig economy](#))

The cruel structure of the gig economy — or service sweatshop economy — is illustrated by a [British family about to become homeless](#), after the breadwinner died because he didn't dare skip work to see a doctor.

- 30 August 2019 ([Macron tried to use the G7 meeting to push for relaxation with Iran](#).)

Macron tried to use the G7 meeting to [push for relaxation with Iran](#).

So far there has been no visible effect, but it was worth a try.

- 30 August 2019 ([A community college fired a professor for saying he supported Antifa](#).)

A community college fired a professor for [saying he supported Antifa](#).

It appears that someone claimed those views made per feel "unsafe". Such feelings are not justification for punishing anyone.

- 30 August 2019 ([Global aircraft production down after Boeing crashes](#))

[Aircraft Production Down 24%](#) Globally after Boeing 737 Max Crashes.

Each airplane contributes greatly to [global heating](#). If this downturn means less flying in the future, that will be a good thing. But we cannot leave that to chance — we need a tax to make sure it happens.

- 30 August 2019 ([Ten reasons to be worried about facial recognition](#))

[Facial Recognition: Ten Reasons You Should Be Worried About the Technology.](#)

This may help you wake up some of the sheeple who think that powerful governments and companies won't ever hurt them.

- 30 August 2019 ([US economic warfare against Venezuela](#))

US economic warfare against Venezuela has [killed tens of thousands of people](#), though it is hard to be sure precisely who they were.

- 30 August 2019 ([US banking and tax regulations](#))

US banking and tax regulations are ruining the lives of [hundreds of thousands of people in other countries](#), who were born while their mothers visited the US and thus have US citizenship but were not aware of that.

The US should exempt foreign citizens who have not, in the past 10 years or since reaching adulthood, done anything to assert or acknowledge a connection to the US. However, in the mean time, other countries should protect their citizens.

- 30 August 2019 ([Racism pervades the North Carolina courts death penalty](#))

How racism pervades the North Carolina courts in [their application of the death penalty](#).

Bias in trials is always an injustice. The death penalty is also always an injustice.

- 30 August 2019 ([Policy changes are needed to fight the Amazon fires](#))

Some of the G7 countries offered money to fight the Amazon fires, but it will take major policy changes to [correct the problem](#).

- 30 August 2019 ([Bolivia also has a problem of forest fires](#))

Bolivia also has a problem of forest fires in its part of the Amazon forest, [although its government has done nothing to encourage them](#).

- 29 August 2019 ([Correction on Gun Control Note](#))

In 2018 I thought I understood an article to say that military-style rifles make wounds that are more likely to kill or maim than ordinary hunting rifles. I [posted about that](#), and referred back to it several times.

Later it was pointed out to me that the article was really comparing rifles to handguns.

This led me to change my conclusions, so I have changed that 2018 political note.

- 28 August 2019 ([Urgent: Election security reform](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) not to let Mitch McConnell block election security reform.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 28 August 2019 ([Urgent: Oppose racial discrimination](#))

US citizens: [oppose](#) allowing use of algorithms to implement racial discrimination in housing.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 28 August 2019 ([Oil extractors](#))

Oil extractors [want big subsidies](#) to drill in deep waters off Australia's south coast, and risk a big spill.

There will be no risk about the contribution to global disaster, however. That will be a certainty.

- 28 August 2019 ([Repression of protests](#))

Planet-roaster governments are [moving towards strict repression of protests](#).

- 28 August 2019 ([Growing up in immigration prison](#))

Growing up in Australia's Nauru immigration prison causes [grave mental illness](#) for unfortunate refugees.

- 28 August 2019 ([The elk of Colorado](#))

Americans are [putting the elk of Colorado in danger](#) simply by visiting the wilderness so much.

- 28 August 2019 ([Avoiding global heating disaster](#))

David Wallace-Wells feels some hope that we will avoid [global heating](#) disaster because the American public is now [very concerned about the issue](#).

It's just a possibility, not a sure thing,

- 28 August 2019 ([Lead in Newark water supply](#))

The lead in the water supply of Newark, New Jersey, is [due to corroded pipes](#). They need to be replaced. In the mean time, the city is providing residents with water filters.

- 28 August 2019 ([Nauru](#))

Nauru bars the foreign press, but it has enough democracy that [leading politicians can lose elections](#).

- 28 August 2019 (["Centrist" Democrats](#))

Plutocratist "centrist" Democrats could lose the next election. They [could also kill you](#), some decades down the line.

- 28 August 2019 ([Flawed voting machines](#))

"Express Vote", a system that US states are buying in 2019, has [two big flaws](#): the ballots are marked by computer with bar codes (and the voter is required to trust that computer isn't cheating), and even so the scanner can't read them all correctly.

A court [prohibited the use of Georgia's voting machines](#), which make no paper ballots at all.

I hope Georgia won't switch to "Express Vote".

- 28 August 2019 ([A world without David Koch](#))

(satire) "I don't want to keep living in a world without David Koch," said former Wisconsin governor Scott Walker, one amongst [a throng of weeping Republicans](#) including Mike Pence, Ted Cruz, Rick Scott, and Mitt Romney...

- 28 August 2019 ([Christmas-obsessed](#))

(satire) Christmas-Obsessed Woman [Worships Christ Year-Round](#).

- 28 August 2019 ([Gas export plant in Mozambique](#))

The US Export-Import Bank has [resumed financing increased CO₂ emissions](#) with a gas export plant in Mozambique.

[Plutocratist "centrist" Democrats joined with Republicans](#) (always plutocratists) to restart that organization.

The secondary argument that Mozambique might itself have a use for burning that gas rather than exporting it is an example of obsolete thinking. Where that gas might be burnt is a side issue; to reduce global disaster, which will fall on Mozambique along with everywhere else, we must keep fossil fuels in the ground.

- 27 August 2019 ([Watching a lot of shallow cartoons](#))

There is some evidence that spending a lot of time watching shallow cartoons, instead of something they might draw experience from, [leads people to grow up as fodder for shallow politics](#).

Please don't use the term ["consume"](#) for watching or reading anything, not even for silly cartoons.

- 27 August 2019 ([Green New Deal](#))

Greening Your Life Is All Very Well — But [Only a Global Climate Strategy Will Fix This](#).

Bernie Sanders' Manhattan Project: The Game-Changing [Green New Deal](#).

- 27 August 2019 ([Texas thug faces murder charges](#))

A Texas [thug](#) whose lies [led to a "drug raid" that killed two innocent people in their home](#) now faces murder charges.

- 27 August 2019 ([The Israel Project](#))

The Israel Project, which did dirty tricks against US organizations that opposed Israel's treatment of Palestinians, [has shut down](#).

The proximate cause is that it ran out of money, but I wonder whether its supporters have moved to a new organization which has not yet acquired a bad reputation.

- 27 August 2019 ([Assad intends to conquer all of Syria](#))

Assad [stated he intends to conquer all of Syria](#).

That includes Idlib, now ruled by Islamists but inhabited by millions of Syrian civilians that would not be safe in Assad's hands. It also includes Rojava.

If Rojava has no ally to rely on, it cannot resist forever.

- 27 August 2019 ([UK consulate jailed by China](#))

Simon Cheng, employee of the British consulate in Hong Kong, has been released by China [after being jailed with no announcement](#).

It is absurd to jail someone for hiring prostitutes, but when China wants to use someone as a pawn, it will make up any sort of excuse.

- 27 August 2019 ([Total repression imposed on Biarritz](#))

A meeting of the G7 ministers in Biarritz has been the occasion to [impose total repression](#) on that town.

- 27 August 2019 ([Orange County neo-Nazis](#))

Orange County, California, has had neo-Nazis for decades. It should be no surprise that [high-school students there give Nazi salutes](#).

- 27 August 2019 ([Amazon fires](#))

Protesters [Besiege Brazilian Embassies Worldwide](#) over Amazon Fires.

[Brazilians are protesting](#), too.

- 27 August 2019 ([Politicians' interest in interviews](#))

Why politicians, regardless of party, are [less interested in interviews](#).

- 27 August 2019 ([US Republicans promoting deforestation of the Amazon](#))

[US Republicans are promoting US business](#) to invest in deforesting the Amazon.

- 27 August 2019 ([Lead in Newark, New Jersey water](#))

Newark, New Jersey, has a problem with lead in the water. This should not be an excuse to take control of the city's water [permanently away from the city](#).

- 27 August 2019 ([Firefighters with flamethrowers](#))

(satire) Brazilian Government Equips Firefighters With Flamethrowers [To Combat Massive Amazon Rainforest](#).

- 27 August 2019 ([US teachers spend their own money for supplies](#))

US teachers spend an [average of \\$450 a year](#) buying school supplies for their classes.

This reflects the extent to which US plutocracy regards most people as trash.

- 27 August 2019 ([Sander's plan for labor rights](#))

Sanders's plan for [improving labor rights](#) in the US.

- 27 August 2019 ([Me-too frenzy](#))

In "me-too" frenzy, crossed signals about sex can easily be [inflated into "rape"](#). If people rush to judgment, in an informal way, that can destroy a man's career without any trial in which to clear his name.

- 27 August 2019 ([Racist bias in danger of being extended to Jewish roles](#))

The racist bias that presents itself as opposition to "cultural appropriation" is in danger of being extended to [roles that are Jews](#).

I can understand the argument that actors from visually distinctive ethnic groups should be chosen for roles of those groups because they tend to be excluded from other roles. But now that so many old plays are being redone with women in male roles, why couldn't we have non-Caucasian actors in Caucasian roles too?

That issue does not apply to Jews, because Jews have not, in general, been excluded from roles that are not defined as Jewish. Nobody suggested that Zero Mostel should not play Pseudolus on the grounds that that character was a Roman.

That sort of nonsense might happen in the future if the idea that Jewish parts go with Jewish actors catches on.

- 27 August 2019 ([US legal system isn't effective at fair trials](#))

The US legal system is not effective at giving everyone a fair trial. When the US gets desperate about punishing a certain group, it has a tendency to railroad some of them. Hamid Hayat was convicted falsely of being part of a "terror network" that [didn't exist at all](#).

- 27 August 2019 ([University reparations for slave money](#))

Glasgow University will dedicate [20 million pounds to research on development](#), in conjunction with a university in Jamaica, as reparations for donated money obtained from slavery.

I support reparations for slavery (and, in the US, for the century-long subsequent legal discrimination against blacks). The reparations should be designed to correct the self-perpetuating damage that is now inflicted on the descendants of those who were legally discriminated against

I don't know what would be effective at making a long-term change, but I think it needs to be done at the level of society, not just by universities.

- 27 August 2019 ([Pressuring Bolsonaro to curb fires](#))

France and Ireland are pressuring Bolsonaro to [curb the burning](#) of the Amazon forest.

- 27 August 2019 ([Australia wants refugees in prison](#))

The Australian government put hundreds of refugees into prison in its client state, Nauru. When they get sick, Australia wants to [keep them there till they die](#).

- 27 August 2019 ([Urgent: Don't extradite Julian Assange](#))

Everyone: call on the UK [not to extradite Julian Assange](#).

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 27 August 2019 ([Urgent: US climate strike](#))

In the US, on Sep 20, [join a climate strike action](#).

- 26 August 2019 ([Urgent: Oppose Facebook helping FBI spy](#))

Everyone: [call on Facebook](#) not to help the FBI spy on people.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 26 August 2019 ([Urgent: Stop DNA testing of refugee families](#))

US citizens: [call on the deportation thugs](#) to stop DNA testing of refugee families. It is an unjust surveillance system, and not necessary for keeping the family together.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 26 August 2019 ([Urgent: Preserve the right to encryption](#))

US citizens: [call on lawmakers](#) to preserve the right to encryption.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 26 August 2019 ([Pentagon security clearance for Bezos](#))

Bezos got the Pentagon to give him a security clearance and an advisory appointment despite not having been investigated. Naturally he [used this for Amazon sales](#).

A bureaucrat who pointed out the irregularity, through channels, and was punished for doing so.

The government [should never trust businesses to run its computer systems](#).

- 26 August 2019 ([Turkey forcing refugees back to Syria](#))

Turkey is [forcing Syrian refugees back to Syria](#) — even queer Syrians who could be murdered when sent back to Idlib, ruled by Islamist rebels.

I wonder if they would be any safer in Assad's territory.

- 26 August 2019 ([Judges with white nationalist links](#))

The Department of Justice sent email to [immigration judges with links to white nationalist web sites](#).

- 26 August 2019 ([Comedian Samantha Kureya](#))

Comedian Samantha Kureya, who [satirizes the tyrannical Zimbabwean regime](#), was grabbed by armed men, beaten, and made to drink sewage (dangerous to health).

Adding insult to injury, they also stripped her.

- 26 August 2019 ([Bogus Johnson's lies](#))

Bogus Johnson and his pro-rogue supporters keep lying to the British about [imaginary concessions that the EU will supposedly offer](#), any day now.

I think I know what Bogus Johnson intends: to get the UK out of the EU through any lies necessary, so as to force it into a much worse set of [business-supremacy treaties](#) with predatory governments such as the US and China.

- 26 August 2019 ([Koch brothers](#))

One of the Koch brothers [will no longer harm the world](#).

Those who inherit his wealth might be just as bad, or might be better.

- 26 August 2019 ([Amazon rainforest fires](#))

Amazon Rainforest Fires: Global Leaders Urged to Divert Brazil from ['Suicide' Path](#).

- 26 August 2019 ([Indian soldier clamp down on Kashmiris](#))

Kashmiris tried to organize a mass protest in Srinagar, so Indian soldiers [clamped down completely](#).

- 26 August 2019 ([Monsanto](#))

Monsanto lobbied Congress to pressure regulatory agencies to go easy on Roundup. When the International Agency for Research on Cancer declined to do so, Monsanto [organized a campaign to cut its funding](#).

- 26 August 2019 ([America's gun violence problem](#))

A real solution to America's gun violence problem goes beyond regulations on buying guns. We need to have [a lot fewer guns, and more control over where they are](#).

Michael Moore, in *Bowling for Columbine*, reported that Canada has strict safety regulations on handling a gun when taking it out of the house. That might be a good idea.

- 26 August 2019 ([Graph structure of hate networks](#))

Analyzing the graph structure of hate networks suggests [methods of weakening them](#).

- 26 August 2019 ([Urgent: Amazon forest destruction](#))

US citizens: [call on BlackRock](#) to stop financing destruction of the Amazon forest.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 26 August 2019 ([Urgent: Funds for deportation thugs](#))

US citizens: [call your congresscritter](#) and say, no additional funds for the deportation [thugs](#) and their concentration camps.

If you phone, please spread the word!

- 26 August 2019 ([Internet in New Guinea](#))

Indonesia says that its colony in New Guinea has "returned to normal", but ["no internet connection"](#) isn't normal there.

- 26 August 2019 ([Alaska changing](#))

Alaska used to be cold. There, as in many other places, global heating has caused a [permanent change in life](#). [Global heating](#) denial must give way to global heating Denali.

- 26 August 2019 ([Climate debate](#))

The Democratic National Committee didn't approve a climate debate, but did decide to let candidates join to hold [other non-DNC debates](#).

- 26 August 2019 ([Interdimensional immigration prison](#))

(satire) The US deportation [thugs](#) are opening an [interdimensional immigration prison](#) so they can store any number of prisoners. It will also have the capability to drop prisoners into a black hole.

- 26 August 2019 ([Stock buybacks](#))

Stock buybacks enabled CEOs and large stockholders to [screw the rest of the world](#).

- 26 August 2019 ([Google searches](#))

Google is using its monopoly power to drive searchers to Google disservices. [Less than half](#) of Google searches result in a visit to a non-Google site.

I can't access Google search: I browse through Tor, with LibreJS blocking nontrivial nonfree Javascript code, and google.com blocks such access. I find that unfortunate, because sometimes Google searches used to find interesting things I did not find in duckduckgo.com/html. But I won't accept either of those two tracking mechanisms, so bye bye Google search.

- 26 August 2019 ([DRM and the DMCA](#))

DRM [is still evil](#), and the DMCA is still unjust.

[More about the injustice](#) of Digital Restrictions Management.

Nowadays, a cable box is malware in more than one way. It still does DRM, but nowadays it snoops on people too. I refuse to tolerate this injustice, so I do not have a cable box.

- 26 August 2019 ([Informal land titles](#))

Blacks and indigenous Americans often have informal title to their land, and this has been used in the US to alienate their land. Senator Warren has [proposed a plan](#) to help them formally clarify the title.

- 26 August 2019 ([Fighting a class war](#))

Sanders dares to say that the rich people of the US have been [fighting, and winning](#), a class war.

- 26 August 2019 (['Blame the poor' playbook](#))

The "Blame the Poor" Playbook — Used by Republicans and Democrats Alike - Is [Back With a Vengeance](#).

[[The bully's](#)] Re-election Strategy: [Pit Us Against Each Other](#). Specifically, teach the almost-poor to resent the meager help that poor people receive.

The fact that rich people don't pay their fair share of taxes has pushed a lot of the burden onto the not-yet-poor.

- 25 August 2019 ([Melbourne losing water](#))

Melbourne, Australia, is [losing valuable water each year by cutting down mature trees](#) — because the young trees that replace them soak up more water.

- 25 August 2019 ([Diplomacy with Iran](#))

Iran has [jailed another Iranian citizen who works for the UK government](#).

I feel for Tyson, and for Amiri; but when he demands that the British government do something to free Amiri, he mistakes the UK for the great power that it once was. Bogus Johnson tried demanding that Iran free Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, and Iran responded with ["You can't make me, nyah nyah!"](#)

Her husband also wants to meet with officials to demand they "do something" more. But that would be futile again.

Imprisoning people as pawns is cruel and unjust, when Iran does it and when China does it. But there is nothing the UK can do to prevent it.

The only way the UK government could help free Amiri is with quiet, slow diplomacy. But first the UK should stop supporting the conman's plans for war with Iran.

- 25 August 2019 ([New will made by Epstein before suicide](#))

Epstein made a new will two days before his suicide. It seems [designed to prevent his victims from getting damages from him](#).

- 25 August 2019 ([Planned Parenthood](#))

Planned Parenthood's [decision to refuse to parrot antiabortionists' lies](#) was the only moral choice, and the only honorable choice.

- 25 August 2019 ([Opposition to abortion rights](#))

Americans that oppose abortion rights [tend to be against women's rights and women's equality in general](#).

Their obsession about the "life" of a fetus was a rationalization.

- 25 August 2019 ([Global heating](#))

It has become so hot in the UK that [a cycad can reproduce there](#).

- 25 August 2019 ([Algeria](#))

Algeria is still [stuck between the democracy protesters and the military government](#).

- 25 August 2019 ([Hunting intrusive pythons in Florida](#))

Hunting intrusive pythons is becoming a [passionate hobby for some in Florida](#).

It behooves us to think of protecting the Everglades from being inundated, too.

- 25 August 2019 ([Microplastics](#))

Science [has not detected any medical effects on humans](#) of microplastics in water.

- 25 August 2019 ([E-cigarettes](#))

Use of e-cigarettes [does not lead Americans to smoke](#). On the contrary, a lot fewer Americans smoke now than in 2002.

- 25 August 2019 ([Voting with no paper ballot](#))

16 million Americans will be directed to vote in 2020 with [no paper ballot](#). This is [fundamentally untrustworthy](#).

- 25 August 2019 ([Refugee minors and families](#))

[The bully](#) says he will keep refugee minors and families [in prison with no time limit](#).

- 23 August 2019 ([Censorship](#))

When Antifa demands government censorship of right-wing extremists, it [goes too far](#).

We all depend on the freedom to state our political views. We who oppose right-wing extremists must fight against government censorship, because if government censorship is allowed, we will be the first to be stopped from speaking.

- 23 August 2019 ([Urgent: Eliminate abortion gag rules](#))

US citizens: [call on the Senate](#) to eliminate the domestic and global abortion gag rules.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 23 August 2019 ([Israeli army destroys water tank](#))

The Israeli Army [destroyed a water tank used by Palestinians in the Jordan Valley for irrigation](#). Israel is trying to chase them out, so it never gives permission to build anything, not even a water tank. This policy made the water tank "unauthorized", which was an excuse to destroy it.

- 23 August 2019 ([Land confiscated by Israel](#))

The village where Rashida Tlaib's grandmother lives has [lost a large part of its land due to Israeli confiscation](#).

- 23 August 2019 ([Microsoft snoops on recordings of users](#))

Microsoft [recorded users of Xboxes](#) and had human workers listen to the recordings.

Morally I see no difference between having human workers listen and having speech-recognition systems listen. Both intrude on privacy.

- 23 August 2019 ([Review of anarchism](#))

A [review of anarchism](#).

A hundred years ago, there were anarchist societies on Earth, places where there was no state, no government. But that did not in all cases mean that everyone was equal. In some peoples in Melanesia, the men who were most politically adroit gained a kind of political power by drawing other men into client relationships with them. Those who had many clients were called "big men", and sometimes they would lead their clients to fight the clients of other big men.

The fighting continued until European colonial states made them stop. "Big men" continued to exist, but they were limited to peaceful means in their competition for power.

I feel an attraction to anarchy, but I do not endorse anarchism because there are [many jobs we need the state to do](#).

- 23 August 2019 ([Tuvalu and Australia](#))

A message of hope: Australians could yet succeed in [stopping their government from wiping out Tuvalu and then Australia](#).

If peaceful means do not succeed in preventing the murder of billions, violent means will be justified. Given that Australia's present course of action will predictably kill tens of millions of people (that would be Australia's share of the billions), destroying Australia's fossil fuel facilities should be legally justified under the principle of necessity (to prevent a worse crime).

Since the operation of Australia's fossil fuel facilities and shipping will contribute to making many lands uninhabitable, including Tuvalu, they are in effect weapons of mass destruction. Perhaps Tuvalu should declare war on Australia and send commandos to destroy those facilities and sink the coal ships.

- 23 August 2019 ([Bully cancels trip to Denmark](#))

[The bully](#) said he wanted to buy Greenland from Denmark. When Denmark refused to sell, he [cancelled a coming trip there](#), as punishment to Denmark.

I suppose Danes feel relieved rather than punished.

This is not the first time the US demanded to buy another country's territory. In 1845 the US asked to buy a part of Mexico. When Mexico refused, the US Army fought its way to Mexico City and occupied it until Mexico's government agreed to the sale. Henry David Thoreau famously went to jail rather than pay tax for that war of aggression.

The treaty promised that Mexicans in the transferred territory could keep speaking Spanish.

- 23 August 2019 ([Idlib province](#))

As Assad's forces slowly recapture Idlib province, [the millions of Syrians that fled there fear being murdered by them](#).

Assad and Russia have [systematically bombarded medical facilities there](#).

It appears that Turkey [tried to reinforce Khan Sheikhoun a week ago](#), and was stopped by air attacks.

The situation is complicated by the fact that the rebel forces in Idlib, which have Turkey's support, are [the Islamist militants that used to control most of Syria](#) and used to confiscate the arms and supplies that the US provided to non-Islamist militants.

- 22 August 2019 ([Imprisonment of immigrant minors](#))

[The bully](#) wants to keep immigrant minors and families in prison [without limits](#), perhaps for years.

- 22 August 2019 ([Building irrational anti-semitism](#))

[The bully accused American Jews of "disloyalty"](#) — disloyalty to what, one wonders — for being loyal Americans and voting for the Democrats who (more or less) support their views of what is good for the US, instead of supporting his right-wing extremist flunky, Netanyahu.

I think his aim is to build up the irrational anti-semitism which is one of the bases of his support, and an illogical reason is as effective as a logical one.

- 22 August 2019 ([Deportations from Australia](#))

Australia is [following the example of the US](#), in deporting people to places where they have not been since infancy, don't know anyone, and don't speak the language.

- 22 August 2019 ([President of Venezuela](#))

Maduro has been [talking with the US government about stepping down as president of Venezuela](#).

The hard question is, [how to find a replacement that won't sell the whole country to Venezuelan and American oligarchs](#).

- 22 August 2019 ([Arrest of would-be mass shooters](#))

Six would-be mass shooters have been [arrested in the US](#) in just two weeks.

Although these people appear feckless, I think they posed somewhat of a real threat -- more so than the Walter Mitty-ish would-be Islamist terrorists that the FBI used to arrest. Here is why.

Those people dreamed of making a bomb, but would never have been in a position to make one without help from FBI "informants" — thus, they were not really capable of hurting anyone. In addition, sometimes those "informants" persuaded people who were reluctant to get involved at all.

It appears that these people wanted to use guns, which maybe they could have obtained, and they announced the plans on their own.

- 22 August 2019 ([China](#))

China says it makes two commitments: to healthy life and the wild, and to economic growth, In practice, the latter takes priority. Neither China nor the US can easily escape from the [trap of extreme capitalism](#).

- 22 August 2019 ([Amazon forest](#))

Ranchers are [burning down large parts of the Amazon forest](#), deforesting it in the way that contributes the most possible to [global heating](#).

- 22 August 2019 ([Business supremacy treaties](#))

A UK mining company used an ISDS treaty to [force Armenia to allow a gold](#) mine that threatens the country's main water supply: [Lake Sevan](#).

Armenia is rather arid to begin with.

ISDS stands for "I Sue Democratic States", and it is one of the ways business subjugate the governments that are supposed to be democratic.

- 22 August 2019 ([Ads about danger of global heating](#))

Canadian election officials say that advertisements talking about the danger of [global heating](#) are [illegal because of denialist politicians](#).

- 22 August 2019 ([Imprisoning pipeline protesters](#))

American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers, a planet roaster lobbying group, has got [9 US states to pass laws](#) to imprison pipeline protesters.

- 22 August 2019 ([US deportation prisons](#))

A [class-action lawsuit](#) accuses US deportation prisons of failing to provide basic medical care, and sometimes even food.

- 22 August 2019 ([US children and teenagers](#))

US children and teenagers today are more often depressed, more often anxious, and more often suicidal. It may be because their lives are regimented and isolated all the time, like [living in a reeducation camp](#).

- 22 August 2019 ([US missile testing](#))

The US has [already tested a missile](#) banned by the 1987 intermediate-range missile treaty which the numskull just cancelled.

- 22 August 2019 ([Open Arms rescue ship](#))

Spain is [sending a ship](#) to take the refugees off the Open Arms rescue ship that Salvini forced to stay at sea.

- 22 August 2019 ([Air pollution and mental health](#))

Growing Up in Air-Polluted Areas [Linked to Mental Health Issues](#). These include depression and schizophrenia.

- 22 August 2019 ([Carbon offsetting](#))

"Carbon offsetting" sounds simple, but planting a tree is not guaranteed to sequester carbon later. That will happen only if the tree grows large. [But it might die instead](#).

The tree might be cut down. It might burn in a wildfire. It might die because the region becomes arid. It might be killed by a tropical parasite that moves into the area because it is hotter.

- 22 August 2019 ([Moscow internet voting](#))

The Moscow city government will allow internet voting, and the system [is easy to crack](#). That election will be garbage.

- 22 August 2019 ([UK consulate employee in Hong Kong](#))

China has jailed an employee of the UK consulate in Hong Kong, and is [holding him incommunicado](#).

It is not safe to visit China. You could be used as a pawn to punish your country.

- 22 August 2019 ([Climate mayhem and US cities](#))

How [climate mayhem](#) will [directly affect US cities](#).

This does not include the indirect effects of [climate mayhem](#) elsewhere, such as crop failures and expensive food.

- 22 August 2019 ([US oil and gas extraction](#))

US oil and gas extraction is [expected to increase 25% in the next decade](#). That would guarantee global disaster, if it happens.

- 22 August 2019 ([Saboteur of the interior](#))

The [saboteur](#) of the interior is [pushing a pipeline project he was employed not long ago to lobby for](#).

- 22 August 2019 ([Ring creates insecurity for all](#))

Ring [Creates Insecurity for All](#), Including for Owners Whose Life Details Are [handed to the state and the [thugs](#)].

- 22 August 2019 ([Firing of thug who choked Eric Garner](#))

Firing of [\[thug\]](#) Who Put Eric Garner in Chokehold is [Just First Step to Justice](#).

- 21 August 2019 ([Elimination of polio in Nigeria](#))

Nigeria seems to have eliminated polio. The [last case was in 2016](#).

That leaves only Afghanistan and Pakistan, which suffer from the Islamist form of [anti-vaxx superstition](#).

- 21 August 2019 ([Repression of protesters in Queensland](#))

Queensland, in Australia, is strengthening the repression of protesters [in response to Extinction Rebellion](#).

- 21 August 2019 ([Cruel and callous variant of capitalism](#))

The cruel and callous variant of capitalism in the US, and the tight control and regimentation of workers, can be [traced to the system of slavery](#).

- 21 August 2019 ([Pacific Islands Forum](#))

Vanuatu, which will host next year's Pacific Islands Forum, [calls on Australia not to be a climate obstructionist](#) as it was this year.

- 21 August 2019 ([Bright coloring of of Doritos bag](#))

(satire) Experts Confirm Doritos Bag Developed Bright, Distinctive Coloring To [Warn Potential Predators That It Could Kill Them](#).

- 21 August 2019 ([Campaign to ban killer robots](#))

The campaign to ban killer robots is [being held back](#) by the US, Russia, and some other less powerful countries.

- 21 August 2019 ([Voting machines](#))

Voting machines still in use in US elections are [vulnerable to cracking](#).

- 21 August 2019 ([Snoophones](#))

A couple of snoophones on the table [can figure out what someone is typing on a keyboard on that table](#).

- 21 August 2019 ([High rents](#))

Reducing the high rents [in the cities where the jobs will require eliminating the zoning rules and laws that limit housing construction](#).

The people who want low density are getting it at the expense of the poor.

- 21 August 2019 ([Cutting US donations to Israel](#))

Israel's refusal to admit Reps. Tlaib and Omar [has made it acceptable in the US to talk about cutting US donations to Israel](#).

I hope that this enables the US to press to shut down the Israeli colonies in Palestine (specifically, in the West Bank) and hand them over to Palestine.

- 21 August 2019 ([Republicans' stretched moral standards](#))

Now that nearly the whole Republican Party has stretched its moral standards to accept the conman, there is [little chance any of them will pay a political penalty for doing so](#).

- 21 August 2019 ([Rejection of "shareholders above all"](#))

Many large US corporations have [officially rejected](#) the evil principle of "shareholders above all else in the world."

Arguably, what they do in practice isn't maximizing the return to shareholders, but [maximizing the CEOs' pay](#). Nonetheless, the rejection of that supposed obligation will be of help politically.

- 21 August 2019 ([Children held at US border](#))

Appeals Court Upholds Ruling That Children Held at [US] Border [Must Have Adequate Food, Bedding, Sanitation](#).

- 20 August 2019 ([Urgent: Eliminate the bail system](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to eliminate the bail system.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 20 August 2019 ([Urgent: Oppose internet censorship](#))

US citizens: [call on the bully](#) not to impose internet censorship.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 20 August 2019 ([Urgent: Stop supplying immigration prisons](#))

US citizens: [call on Wayfair](#) to stop supplying immigration prisons.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 20 August 2019 ([Property tax rate](#))

California Is Headed Toward a Titanic [Battle Over Raising Property Taxes](#) (for commercial real estate only, not for homes).

I'm in favor of this, but I suggest also establishing a progressive tax rate for property taxes. There is no reason to limit the tax rate on mansions to the same percentage as the tax rate on ordinary homes.

- 20 August 2019 ([Marvel chairman supports Orange Skull](#))

Art Spiegelman wanted to compare the Red Skull, Captain America's enemy decades ago, to the Orange Skull that threatens America today, in his introduction to a book about the first decade of Marvel Comics. But the chairman of Marvel is a big supporter of the conman, and [demanded Spiegelman remove it](#). So Spiegelman published his introduction elsewhere.

- 20 August 2019 ([Voting age](#))

Arguing for allowing people to vote [starting at age 16](#).

- 20 August 2019 ([The refugees on Manus Island](#))

The last 120 remaining refugees dumped by Australia on Manus Island will be [permitted to move to the capital of Papua New Guinea](#).

In a city they may have a better chance to fit in and avoid being noticed in unpleasant ways.

- 20 August 2019 ([Endless wars](#))

Here's why it is so hard for the US to end the wars that it can't win: because [fools say we owe it to the soldiers that died to keep sending more soldiers to die](#).

We did not know in 2001 how the war in Afghanistan would turn out. Perhaps the US could have achieved a better outcome [if Dubya had not conquered and occupied Iraq](#). But now we know that continuing the war achieves nothing except to kill more Afghans and more Americans. It behooves us to stop.

Then [the Taliban can fight PISSI](#).

- 20 August 2019 ([Bombing Idlib into rubble](#))

[Assad's forces and Russian forces](#) are bombing Idlib into rubble, advancing in a wave behind which is a desert. No civilians wait to be captured.

- 20 August 2019 ([California has made it easier to prosecute thugs](#))

California has made it easier to prosecute killer [thugs](#). Now they need a reasonable basis to feel threatened — just claiming to have felt threatened [is not enough](#).

- 20 August 2019 ([NYC has fired thug](#))

New York City has fired the [thug](#) that put Eric Garner in a choke-hold and [thus killed him](#).

It should not have taken years to do this.

- 20 August 2019 ([Salvini is keeping refugees at sea](#))

Salvini is keeping a hundred refugees, rescued at sea, [bottled up for weeks on a ship](#) where they have no room to walk. None of the refugees would stay in Italy — they already have invitations to other EU countries. But that does not deter Salvini's sadism: he hurts them *because he can*, to demonstrate his strength, fascist style. We know the recipe: pick some people too weak to defend themselves, call them a menace, and vent sadism at them. If they die, that proves Salvini's worthiness to rule and wreak more suffering.

- 20 August 2019 ([The land of farmers](#))

US government policies, compared with racist voting restrictions, took away the land of a [million black farmers](#), especially from 1950 to 1969.

Under Reagan, most US family farms (even those owned by whites) were wiped out by luring owners to take [loans they could not pay back](#).

- 20 August 2019 ([Biden's lack of excitement](#))

Perhaps the US voters prefer Biden because of his [lack of excitement](#).

If so, how sad and how foolish, because he won't do anything to restrain the plutocrats, not push hard enough to save us from global heating disaster. If he is nominated, I will vote Green. I'd rather vote for a good candidate that loses than a useless candidate that wins.

- 20 August 2019 ([Mercy killer sentenced to thirteen years](#))

Donna Green asked her boyfriend, Robert Ronald Cooper, to give her a fatal dose of heroin to end her painful illness. He did so, and has been sentenced to [13 years in prison](#).

Given the other stated circumstances, I could understand doubting his assertion that she requested this. But supposing she did so, he does not deserve to be punished *at all* for helping her escape that pain.

- 20 August 2019 ([China is deploying robot judges](#))

Reportedly China is deploying [robot judges](#).

I suppose text-to-speech is sufficient for announcing a verdict that was decided in advance.

- 20 August 2019 ([MD MA helps alcoholics](#))

It appears that MDMA helps alcoholics [stay off](#) alcohol.

- 20 August 2019 ([Iranian oil tanker now freed](#))

The Iranian oil tanker seized by Gibraltar [is free to leave](#). The question now is whether the US will seize it on the high seas.

- 20 August 2019 ([Deceptive abortion clinics](#))

The deceptive "crisis pregnancy centers" that pretend to be abortion clinics use a [loophole to get listed](#) in Google searches without any indication to the user that they are not real abortion clinics.

- 20 August 2019 ([Austrian party says it'll ban right-wing extremists](#))

An Austrian party, likely to form the next government, says it will ban a [violent right-wing extremist group](#).

- 20 August 2019 ([Jamaica has charged thugs for murder](#))

Jamaica has charged six thugs with murder for [shooting a man on the street](#).

- 20 August 2019 ([Investigation of professor Sheck dropped](#))

The New School [has dropped](#) its investigation of Professor Sheck.

Her alleged wrong was to quote author James Baldwin correctly.

- 20 August 2019 ([Amazon workers shipped in packages](#))

(satire) Amazon Workers Now Being [Shipped In Packages](#) To Personally Assure Customers They're Treated Well.

- 20 August 2019 ([Protests against Bolsonaro](#))

The mainstream media are [downplaying](#) large protests against Bolsonaro.

- 20 August 2019 ([Feeling Down? Talk to a Stranger!](#))

Feeling Down? [Talk to a Stranger!](#)

- 20 August 2019 ([North Sea cod crashing again](#))

The cod in the North Sea recovered when given protection, but now they are [crashing again](#).

The water there may now be [too warm](#) for them.

- 20 August 2019 ([Bernie Sanders's plans](#))

Sanders stated [his plans for the criminal justice system](#): eliminating cash bail, shortening sentences, legalizing marijuana, ending the death penalty, and banning government use of face recognition.

I basically support these plans. Naturally I don't agree with them 100%, but they would be a great step forward. We need to prohibit most use of face recognition regardless of what entity is doing it.

I might permit use of face recognition in narrow circumstances, one of them being under a specific court order to look for specified persons in a specified area.

- 20 August 2019 ([Climate crisis nihilism](#))

The next step after climate crisis denial: climate crisis nihilism. Currently it takes the form of [spewing hate and lies towards Greta Thunberg](#).

This is a sign of how right-wing extremists have endorsed bullying and have no respect for truth.

Focusing on her excessively is a fault on the part of her supporters. They should [heed her advice and take action instead](#).

I don't think Thunberg will regret not having had a conventional adolescence. 20 years from now, as everyone her age copes with the climate disaster, she will know that her efforts made it somewhat less. Everyone will know this.

A gang [waited for and attacked UK journalist Owen Jones](#) as he left a pub.

- 20 August 2019 ([The FBI and far-right violence](#))

The FBI [could fight far-right violence if they wanted to](#) — but they don't.

- 20 August 2019 ([Raising minimum wage](#))

New York City Raised Minimum Wage to \$15, And [Its Restaurants Outperformed the Nation](#).

- 20 August 2019 ([Travel warnings against visiting the US](#))

Various countries, and Amnesty International, have published [travel warnings against visiting the US](#), because visitors might get shot, or even that they might get shot by racist [thugs](#).

- 20 August 2019 ([Face recognition in UK](#))

Face recognition [by companies and public agencies](#) is spreading around the UK.

- 20 August 2019 ([Workers ordered to attend conman's rally](#))
Shell Chemicals [ordered workers to attend the conman's rally and pretend to be supporters](#).
- 20 August 2019 ([Difficulties predicted by leaked document](#))
A secret UK government document [predicted grave difficulties at the border if the UK leaves the EU without a trade deal](#). This was leaked. Naturally, the Tories now in power condemn the leak, not their plans.
- 20 August 2019 ([Russian tanks sent to Ukraine](#))
Russia sent tanks into Ukraine to [fight for the Russian-sponsored rebels](#).
- 20 August 2019 ([Head of non-immigration](#))
Cucinelli, appointed head of non-immigration, [tried to make Virginia officials show support for the Confederacy](#).
- 20 August 2019 ([Papuan independence protesters arrested](#))
Indonesia has [arrested 43 Papuan independence protesters](#) for nothing more than throwing the Indonesian flag into a sewer.
Conservative minds want to demand "respect" and punish people for not giving it. This is morally misguided: to get respect, you must earn it, and that goes for states as well as people.
- 19 August 2019 ([Very urgent: Real climate debate by DNC](#))
US citizens: [call your representative](#) in the Democratic National Committee and say you want a real climate debate.
When you enter your zip code, it should show you a number to call.
- 19 August 2019 ([Urgent: Support H.R. 3222](#))
US citizens: call on Congress to pass the [No Federal Funds for Public Charge Act](#) (H.R. 3222). This would prevent implementation of the cruel bastard's rule change that is designed to block low-income Americans from bringing their spouses and children to the US.
- 19 August 2019 ([Tuvalu's global heating presentations](#))
Tuvalu's [presentations about global heating disaster](#) failed to penetrate the closed eyes of Australian politicians, but did spoil their pretense of reaching out in friendship to the Pacific island nations.
- 19 August 2019 ([The vaquita porpoise](#))
The CITES meeting offers, perhaps, [one last chance to prevent extinction of the vaquita porpoise](#), and many other endangered species.
- 19 August 2019 ([UK thugs resisting face recognition](#))
In the UK, [even thug departments are resisting face recognition](#).
- 19 August 2019 ([Pay toilets](#))
A town in the UK is installing extremely expensive toilets that will be [designed to harass anyone that tries to sleep or have sex in them](#).
And if that's not bad enough, they plan to charge money to use them.
- 19 August 2019 ([Destruction of US public lands](#))
Republican saboteurs are [permitting rapid destruction of US public lands](#).
- 19 August 2019 ([Insecurity of wireless networks](#))
The insecurity of wireless networks is making them [dangerous for phone users](#).
- 19 August 2019 ([Biometric ID](#))
Is your bank pressuring you to use biometric ID? If so, please write to rms at gnu dot org. It could be useful if you document what is happening.
- 18 August 2019 ([Huawei helps spy on political opponents](#))
Huawei Technicians Helped African Governments [Spy on Political Opponents](#).

- 18 August 2019 ([Goodyear workers underpaid in Mexico](#))

"They (unionized Goodyear workers) are [not mad at the workers in Mexico](#). They are mad that Goodyear went down there and underpaid those workers. They are mad that Goodyear is taking our work and moving it there."

- 18 August 2019 ([Google's proposed contract with thugs](#))

Google Employees Protest [Proposed Contract](#) with [border thugs and deportation thugs].

- 18 August 2019 ([Answer to burn-out at work](#))

The Answer To Burn-Out At Work Isn't "Self-Care" — It's [Unionizing](#).

- 18 August 2019 ([Crippled Apple devices](#))

When Apple suspects a user of fraud, it [judges the case secretly and presents the verdict as a fait accompli](#). The punishment to a user found guilty is being cut off for life, which more-or-less cripples the user's Apple devices forever. There is no appeal.

- 18 August 2019 ([Planned Parenthood](#))

Planned Parenthood is [on the verge of losing its federal funding](#), which will cut off a large fraction of its activities.

- 18 August 2019 (["Apple's cloud" farms out data](#))

Apple charges a high price for storage on "Apple's cloud", which turns out to be a cloudy thing: it [farms out the data to other companies](#).

- 18 August 2019 ([Sudan accord](#))

Sudan Opposition And Military Sign [Final Power-Sharing Accord](#).

- 18 August 2019 ([Proposed 'war on terror'](#))

Some politicians [call for a "war on terror"](#) in the US which would surely include general repression and denial of our human rights.

- 18 August 2019 ([Nuclear arms race](#))

The Nuclear Arms Race Is Back ... And [Ever More Dangerous Now](#).

- 18 August 2019 ([Mauna Kea telescope](#))

Hawaiians say that blocking construction of a telescope is [fighting "corporate culture"](#).

Notice the words "it is said" which the article used to cast doubt on the practical reasons to put the telescope there, while saying nothing about what they are.

Some obvious reasons why Mauna Kea is an unusually good place to put the world's biggest telescope: Mauna Kea is high (better seeing conditions); the air is clean (better seeing conditions); there is very little light pollution (fainter objects are visible); it is fairly close to the equator (can view nearly all the sky); there is already a good road down to facilities not far away (makes construction cheaper).

Blocking the telescope would do no actual good for Hawaiians and would be a loss for all humanity.

- 18 August 2019 ([Plastic recycling](#))

['Plastic Recycling Is a Myth'](#): What Really Happens to Your Rubbish?

- 18 August 2019 ([Moderate orc voter](#))

(satire) We Need a Wizard Who Can Appeal to the [Moderate Orc Voter](#).

- 18 August 2019 ([Face recognition for marijuana](#))

Some Massachusetts politicians want to repress marijuana purchasers [with face recognition](#).

- 18 August 2019 ([Immigration prison hunger strikes](#))

Hundreds of prisoners [go on hunger strike](#) each year in the UK's immigration prisons.

- 18 August 2019 ([Protest in Melbourne](#))

There was a protest in favor of democracy in Hong Kong in Melbourne, Australia. State-managed Chinese social media stirred up a lot of young Chinese expats to rally against them. A [physical tussle developed](#).

The article does not say, but I expect that the supporters of China started the tussle. Propaganda has taught them that the cause of China's power is sacred and that anyone who questions it is evil.

Many Chinese students go to Australia, and China has a history of using them for [political intimidation](#) in Australia. It is important to develop systematic ways to expose students from China to other values while they are in Australia.

One idea that occurs to me is to have a kiosk which can tell people whether their mobile phones, which they have "switched off", are really off. It would be interesting to tell students from China whether China is snooping on the conversations around them. It would be interesting for everyone else that carries a Stalin's Dream device, too.

- 18 August 2019 ([Bringing relatives to the US](#))

The bully's [latest act of contempt](#) for the non-rich is to forbid them from bringing spouses or relatives to the US.

Ironically, the effect of this is much worse because of the decreasing real wages that employers in the US have been permitted to pay.

- 17 August 2019 ([Urgent: Reject balanced budget amendment](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to reject the balanced budget amendment.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 17 August 2019 ([Urgent: Lawsuit against Sprint/T-mobile merger](#))

US citizens: [support the states' lawsuit](#) against the Sprint/T-mobile merger.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 17 August 2019 ([Cost of war on Uber drivers' cars](#))

Uber drivers are unaware of the cost of wear on their cars, but it adds up to [11 billion dollars a year](#).

- 17 August 2019 ([Tracking people on the road](#))

Mexico's president [threatens to require mobile phones](#) to pay for gasoline, road tolls, and public transportation.

- 17 August 2019 ([Pro-establishment bias in media](#))

Former MSNBC Reporter Spills [Details On Pro-Establishment Bias In Media](#).

If You Are Looking for [Evidence of WaPo Media Bias Against Bernie Sanders](#), Here It Is.

- 17 August 2019 ([English](#))

(satire) Why English is a [weird, incoherent, insane-sounding language](#).

- 17 August 2019 ([Snooper wants to extend "USA Freedom Act"](#))

The snooper wants to extend the "USA Freedom Act", which [gave the NSA power to spy on Americans](#).

Meanwhile, the rest of the U SAP AT Riot Act was already made permanent, but we need to get rid of it.

- 17 August 2019 ([Israeli government policies](#))

Israel [offered to allow Rep. Tlaib to visit Palestine on "humanitarian" grounds](#) — so she could visit her grandmother.

However, this [included a condition of staying silent on politics](#), which she decided she should not accept.

Meanwhile, Israel [bars some Palestinians in Gaza from visiting their sick relatives getting treatment in hospitals in Israel](#).

"The extent to which the Israeli government has [designated opposition to its policies as not just illegitimate but also illegal](#) is now plain to see."

- 17 August 2019 (["Reverse warrants"](#))

"Reverse warrants" threaten privacy because they [permit the state to investigate thousands of people at once](#).

- 17 August 2019 ([Epstein Guards](#))

(satire) [Epstein Guards Placed On Disciplinary Leave](#) For Allowing Selves To Be Distracted By Mischievous Monkey That Stole Key Ring.

- 17 August 2019 ([Australia's overt contempt for the global heating](#))

Australia's overt [contempt for the global heating threat to islands in the Pacific](#) opens the door to Chinese influence.

China is contributing massively to [global heating](#), but there is no such thing as domestic public opinion in China, so you're not as likely to hear about it.

Australia could prosper by dropping fossil fuels, but [the rich people that the right-wing government obeys](#) would not profit as much.

- 17 August 2019 ([Ring Surveillance Cameras](#))

[US thugs] Promised Witnesses [gratis] Ring Surveillance Cameras [If They Testified Against Neighbors](#).

- 17 August 2019 ([Zuckerberg gave a false answer testifying to Congress](#))

Zuckerberg [gave a false answer testifying to Congress](#) about Facebook's audio surveillance.

- 17 August 2019 ([Slavery in Virginia starting in 1619](#))

Many articles are being published which describe slavery in Virginia as starting in 1619. In fact, the Africans arriving then were indentured, like many of the white settlers. It was [several decades later that this was replaced with slavery and racism](#).

Being indentured was rotten, but still left some minimal rights, and the indenture ended after specified term of years.

- 17 August 2019 ([Compostable bowls contain environmental toxin](#))

Compostable bowls contain PFAS, a [persistent environmental toxin](#).

This article explains why that matters.

- 17 August 2019 ([Salafi Arabian deportation thugs](#))

Salafi Arabian deportation thugs [treat Ethiopians the way US border thugs treat Hondurans](#), but with less hesitation.

- 17 August 2019 ([White supremacy seeping into ALEC](#))

[White supremacy is seeping into ALEC](#).

I don't think racism is any part of ALEC's mission. ALEC is a dooH niboR campaign and focuses 100% on promoting class injustice. But it's impossible nowadays to package lots of Republican plutocrats without finding crumbs of white supremacy mixed in.

- 17 August 2019 ([Hong Kong protesters' symbol the woman whose eye was shot](#))

Hong Kong protesters have adopted as their hero and symbol the woman [whose eye was shot by thugs](#).

- 17 August 2019 ([Right to change our minds](#))

"Social media must not rob us of the right to change our minds."

That is [what Twitter does](#).

I refuse to be part of a "tribe" of people who have to agree.

I hope to persuade you of various views, but I don't want to lead a tribe in which people would be compelled to follow my views.

- 17 August 2019 ([Cut off donations to protect the Amazon forest](#))

Germany and Norway have cut off donations to a Brazilian fund that is supposed to be used to [protect the Amazon forest](#).

Bolsonaro has undermined the activity this was supposed to support.

- 17 August 2019 ([Global "epidemic" of face recognition cameras](#))

Big Brother Watch warns of a [global "epidemic" of face recognition cameras](#).

- 17 August 2019 ([Israel Should Not Receive Billions in US Military Aid](#))

Sanders Says, If Israel Wants to [refuse admission to] Members of Congress, It [Should Not Receive Billions in US Military Aid](#).

- 17 August 2019 ([Buenos Aires Judge Bans Delivery Apps](#))

Buenos Aires Judge [Bans Delivery Apps After Road Accidents Spike](#).

The company PR department said its first priority is the health of its couriers, but the dispatcher was evidently taught to value the product more. How can we interpret this contradiction? I suspect that the dispatcher was taught the company's real values by the real pressures placed on per.

Nothing teaches managers to avoid work accidents like making the company pay for them. That's what worker's compensation is for. But the piecework sweatshop economy makes the workers "independent contractors", so they don't get workers' compensation. Change that, and the companies may learn to truly value the workers' health.

- 17 August 2019 ([Help more people sit in crowded German regional trains](#))

Proposing to [help more people sit in crowded German regional trains](#) by making all cars second-class.

- 17 August 2019 ([The Pacific Island Forum](#))

[The Pacific Island Forum almost failed](#) to reach any agreement on a communique, because of the dispute between some countries threatened by [global heating](#) and the planet roasters of Australia. After many hours they reached a compromise which calls for some action — but which Australia will not heed.

I think it was a strategic mistake to compromise with Australia.

These callous right-wingers will continue working for disaster no matter what they say. It would have been better for the event to split and make a statement condemning Australia (and China, and the US, etc.).

- 17 August 2019 ([Hippocratic oath for mathematicians and developers](#))

Proposing a [Hippocratic oath for mathematicians and software developers](#).

- 17 August 2019 ([Listening to people's problems](#))

Listening to people's problems and their causes can sometimes [find an amazingly simple social solution](#).

- 17 August 2019 ([US congress members blocked from Israel](#))

Netanyahu decided [not to allow](#) Rep. Omar and Rep. Tlaib to lead a tour of members of Congress to Palestine.

This has earned him a lot of criticism already. But I think he has become a supporter of his fellow right-wing extremist, the [bully](#), and does not care about alienating Democratic US Jews.

- 17 August 2019 ([Urgent:US citizens: call on Democratic Presidential Candidates to take the "NoKXL Pledge"](#))

US citizens: call on Democratic Presidential Candidates to take the "NoKXL Pledge" — to [cancel the Keystone XL planet-roaster pipeline](#) first thing if elected.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 17 August 2019 ([Urgent:US citizens: call on Walmart to publish plans to stop using HFCs as refrigerants.](#))

US citizens: [call on Walmart](#) to publish plans to stop using HFCs as refrigerants.

To sign without running nonfree Javascript code, use lynx.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 17 August 2019 ([Zimbabwe's new dictator intimidation](#))

Zimbabwe's new dictator has deployed thugs in advance to [intimidate a planned protest](#).

- 17 August 2019 ([Searching with out suspicion](#))

In the UK as in the US, searching people on the street with no specific suspicion does little to reduce street crime, but it's [a great way](#) to harass minority groups and make them resentful.

No wonder Bogus Johnson wants to do more of it.

- 17 August 2019 ([The Third Way](#))

"The Third Way", a think-tank for plutocratists in the Democratic Party, published a report in favor of [business-supremacy treaties](#) with [funding from the Koch brothers](#).

- 17 August 2019 ([Treating racial slurs as unutterable taboos](#))

Americans who oppose racism are going nuts, and treating racial slurs as unutterable taboos, rather than the insults that they are. Even to quote a use of the taboo word, regardless of why, [unleashes condemnation](#).

In fear of that taboo, a famous writers' famous quotation was altered and missed its intended point, and a professor is being investigated for calling attention to that.

I urge people to familiarize themselves with the difference between using a word and mentioning it. I don't *use* racial slurs, because I don't want to insult people, but it is impossible to discuss racism clearly without *mentioning* (talking about) those slurs.

Likewise, I never *use* the term "intellectual property", but I *mention* it to say [why it spreads confusion](#).

- 17 August 2019 ([Destruction of oceans has doubled](#))

Humanity's Destruction of Oceans Nearly Doubled Over a Decade, Scientists Warn, and [Could Double Again](#) Without Urgent Action.

- 17 August 2019 ([Military power religion](#))

[Military power and its use](#) considered as the national religion of the US.

- 17 August 2019 ([Saboteurs in the Department of Energy](#))

Saboteurs in the Department of Energy want to use clean energy funds to build a [fossil fuel storage facility](#).

- 17 August 2019 ([Ryan Twyman](#))

A gang of LA [thugs](#) came up suddenly at Ryan Twyman as he was sitting in his car, and [quickly began shooting](#). Then they harassed his family.

- 16 August 2019 ([US history against Hispanics](#))

The US has a long history of violence against Hispanics; [initially Mexicans](#).

- 16 August 2019 ([Free movement of plant diseases](#))

"Free movement of goods" includes free movement of plant diseases. Many species of trees will be [wiped out](#) in many countries.

- 16 August 2019 ([India's plan to declare Muslims stateless](#))

India is requiring Bengali-speaking inhabitants of Assam to prove their [ancestors lived in Assam](#) before 1971, or face being declared stateless. Many of them are illiterate and can't understand the documents they need to search for. If they can't prove they are descended from Indian citizens at that time, they will be presumed stateless.

This seems to be a scheme to eliminate Muslim citizens from India.

- 16 August 2019 ([Urgent: Accountability for poisoning people](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to hold corporations accountable for knowingly poisoning Americans with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances.

- 16 August 2019 ([Iraq's harvest reduced by fires](#))

Iraq's harvest has been [greatly reduced due to an unusual number of farm fires](#), some of which are due to arson.

I wonder if [global heating](#) is partly responsible. July set a world temperature record as hottest month since records began. Did it set a temperature record in Iraq, too?

- 16 August 2019 ([Urgent: Block fossil fuel developments](#))

US citizens: [call on California governor Newsom](#) to block all new fossil fuel developments and cut back use of existing fossil fuel facilities.

- 16 August 2019 ([Salafi Arabia's attacks on civilians](#))

[Salafi Arabia](#) and its allies [covered up attacks on civilians](#), so any promises it makes about how it will use arms that are sold to it are worthless.

In other words, if you sell bone saws, don't believe promises from [Salafi Arabia](#) that they won't be used for murder.

- 16 August 2019 ([Fish stocks in Belize](#))

Belize has [banned fishing in 16% of its waters](#), including waters near the coast, and enforced fishing licenses. As a result, its fish stocks are stable.

- 16 August 2019 ([Harvard admission process](#))

(satire) Harvard Streamlines Admission Process By [Directly Growing New Students From DNA Of Top Donors](#).

- 16 August 2019 ([Muzzle velocities](#))

When I posted [that assault weapons should be banned because they fire with higher muzzle velocities](#), and therefore the wounds they cause are more grievous and more likely to be fatal, I misinterpreted the article I was referring to. This was pointed out to me by a reader.

The comparison actually described by the surgeon was between high-powered rifles and handguns. The point is that all high-powered rifles produce wounds that are more harmful and more likely to kill, than the wounds made by handguns. This means I need to change the conclusions I drew.

My revised conclusion is that we should require high-powered rifles owned by the public to be designed to hold a small number of rounds, contained in a fixed part of the rifle rather than in a magazine that can be quickly replaced.

- 15 August 2019 ([India is treating Kashmir has just conquered](#))

India is treating Kashmir like a [country it has just conquered](#).

Some Kashmiris expect India to [treat Kashmir the way Israel treats Palestine](#).

I was thinking the same thing myself.

- 15 August 2019 ([The free software movement](#))

By these criteria for [effective altruism](#), the free software movement is a good choice to have a high impact. Their criteria are

- Great in scale (it affects many people's lives, by a [great amount](#))
- Highly neglected (few other people are working on addressing the problem), and
- Highly solvable (additional resources will do a great deal to address it).

Is the free software cause "highly neglected"? Thousands of people are working on developing free programs, but most of them call the programs ["open source"](#) and are not thinking about the injustice of nonfree software. So they don't look for projects that could enable many users to escape from some nonfree software.

- 15 August 2019 ([The "cancel" culture](#))

The "cancel" culture — [one strike and you're out](#).

- 15 August 2019 ([Threatened endangered species](#))

The US is already adopting an [anti-protection agenda for threatened and endangered species](#).

[The plutocrats regard these species as obstacles to untrammled exploitation of the whole world](#).

- 15 August 2019 ([Cause of methane level increase](#))

[How researchers deduce](#) that the increase in methane level since 2000 is mainly due to fracking in the US.

- 15 August 2019 ([Boeing executives](#))

It Is Time to [Haul Boeing Executives Before Congress to Testify Under Oath](#).

- 15 August 2019 ([CEOs' income](#))

The CEOs of big US companies now get an income (on average) of [275 times what the workers get](#).

The expression "1000%" is somewhat inflationary — I think the CEOs' income has increased by a factor of 11 since 1978.

- 15 August 2019 ([India accepts government lies as normal](#))

In India, government lies used for political manipulation [have become accepted as normal](#).

Comparing it to the credulousness of today's US Republicans, it appears not to go to the same lengths, but covers a majority of the people.

- 15 August 2019 ([Koreans conscripted by Japan during WWII](#))

Japan conscripted 240,000 Koreans during World War II. (Japan was able to do this since it had conquered Korea in 1910.) After the war, South Korea called them traitors. [Their families have little information about what happened to them](#).

The people in those families were wronged twice, and I am sorry for them. But sorry also that they put so much importance on scraps of information that wouldn't change anything about those wrongs.

No good can come from obsessing about the corpse of someone who died in 1943. Every Korean, and every Japanese, is familiar with the basic ideas of Buddhism. This attachment causes suffering, and only suffering.

It would be so much wiser to redirect the feeling of loss into efforts to avoid future wars, future conscription, and future suffering.

- 15 August 2019 ([Hallucinogenic mushrooms](#))

A [proposed Oregon ballot initiative](#) would legalize use of hallucinogenic mushrooms in carefully managed situations.

- 15 August 2019 ([The plan to defeat Hong Kong democracy](#))

The Chinese plan to defeat Hong Kong's democracy movement is [subtle and cunning](#).

Drawing them into violence and into annoying other Hong Kongers is part of it.

['Frightened, Angry And Exhausted'](#) Hong Kong Protesters Apologies for Airport Violence.

It looks like they understand the game China is playing.

- 15 August 2019 ([Fracking increases methane emissions](#))

Fracking is the [major cause](#) of increased methane emissions.

- 15 August 2019 ([School board decided to hide murals](#))

The San Francisco school board has decided to [hide, not paint over](#), the controversial paintings that showed George Washington's involvement in fighting indigenous peoples and owning slaves.

If the problem is presenting these paintings without context, the solution is obvious — provide context!

- 15 August 2019 ([Museums showing the interaction of humans and wildlife](#))

Museums of natural history are showing very graphically what human activities are doing to wildlife. This makes a [powerful impression](#) on children.

- 15 August 2019 ([Netanyahu's response to the killing of a Israeli](#))

Netanyahu plans to respond to the killing of an Israeli with collective punishment: [expanding Israeli colonies](#) in Palestinian territory.

Netanyahu assumes that the killing was politically motivated (therefore terrorism) and done by a Palestinian, but that is just a surmise. The facts are simply not known. But he does know who he wants to punish.

- 15 August 2019 ([Chaldean church renovated](#))

Basra's Chaldean church has been renovated, but there are few Christians left in Basra, and not many in Iraq. The upheavals caused by US wars have [chased them out](#).

When they come to the US, is that one of the "faith-based initiatives" that [Dubya](#) wanted?

- 15 August 2019 ([False definition of anti-semitism](#))

The IHRA definition of "anti-semitism" is being used to [demonize criticism](#) of the occupation of Palestine as anti-semitism.

Real anti-semites, including Nazis, find the IHRA definition useful for defending themselves -- they argue that they support Israel, so we should ignore the fact that they hate Jews.

- 15 August 2019 ([Urgent: No vote on NAFTA 2.0 until it's fixed](#))

US citizens: phone your congresscritter and say, "No vote on NAFTA 2.0 until it's fixed."

I think 1-855-973-4213 is a number you can use. Here are points you can mention.

- Big Pharma loves NAFTA 2.0 because it guarantees them monopoly powers to delay generic competition and lock in high drug prices.
- Big oil is lobbying for the deal because it lets them attack Mexican climate and environmental policies.
- Corporations that have used NAFTA to outsource hundreds of thousands of jobs to Mexico to pay workers pennies on the dollar are thrilled the revised deal's labor and environmental terms are too weak to stop more job outsourcing.

- US agribusiness has used NAFTA to ruin Mexican peasants. They can't produce as cheaply as machines in US factory farms, but Mexico had enough food.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 15 August 2019 ([Urgent: Real health care debate](#))

US citizens: [Tell ABC and Univision](#) that we need a real health care debate.

- 15 August 2019 ([Facebook's audio recordings of users](#))

Facebook admits having presented [audio recordings of conversation between users](#) for purposes of improving its speech recognition.

I think this is a secondary issue. The job being done is not malicious in its own right.

What I find more worrisome is that Facebook (or Google, or Apple) could transcribe conversations automatically and use the results automatically for purposes such as surveillance capitalism, censorship, and repression.

- 15 August 2019 ([Yemenite factions](#))

More about the split between various [Yemenite groups that were previously supported by the "coalition" intervention](#).

The "government" of Yemen has no particular legitimacy. It was "internationally backed" in the sense that [Salafi Arabia](#) and the UAE (two cruel and vicious states) supported it, along with their unsavory allies.

May the rest of the world help the Yemenite factions make peace, instead of stirring up war.

- 15 August 2019 ([Propaganda letters from Chinese prisons](#))

Abdurahman Memet [published the propaganda letters](#) his relatives in Chinese prisons were forced to send, and now he has disappeared.

- 15 August 2019 ([Australia's planet-roaster government](#))

Australia's planet-roaster government was [unable to buy approval](#) from the island states that Australia is helping to inundate. The host of the Pacific Islands Forum said that no amount of funding makes up for Australia's failure to cut emissions.

- 15 August 2019 ([Suppression of Arab vote in Israel](#))

Israel's ruling party suppressed the Arab vote by setting up [video recorders inside voting places where many Arabs live](#).

- 15 August 2019 ([Occupied Palestine](#))

Israel is trying to drive the Palestinian inhabitants out of a region of occupied Palestine by [cutting them off from water](#). This includes destroying their water pipes and blocking trucks.

- 15 August 2019 ([Courage of feminist Loujain al-Hathloul](#))

Imprisoned feminist Loujain al-Hathloul in [Salafi Arabia](#) was offered release from prison if she would say, for a published video, that she had not been tortured. [She refused](#).

What courage!

- 15 August 2019 ([6,000 prisoners kept in solitary](#))

Of 6,000 prisoners that the deportation [thugs](#) kept in solitary, [40% had mental illness](#).

- 15 August 2019 ([Statue of Liberty Shown Cuffed and Arrested](#))

Statue of Liberty Shown [Cuffed and Arrested by Immigration Officials in New Mural](#).

- 15 August 2019 ([Bogus Johnson ceasing press conferences where journalists ask questions](#))

Bogus Johnson has followed the bullshitter in ceasing to hold [press conferences where journalists ask questions](#).

- 15 August 2019 ([National campaign against voter suppression](#))

Stacey Abrams will lead a [national campaign against voter suppression](#).

- 15 August 2019 ([Sugar cane farmers funding a denialist](#))

Sugar cane farmers in Australia a funding a tour by a denialist ex-professor who pretends that agricultural runoff from [cane farms](#) [doesn't harm the Great Barrier Reef](#).

The goal of this is to scrap regulations that would protect the reef.

This denialism won't fool the coral. It will die anyway. Then the farmers could argue that it wasn't the runoff, it was the ocean heating and the dissolved CO2 that did it.

Indeed, we must stop all three to save that reef, and all the other coral reefs in the world.

- 15 August 2019 ([Falling snow is full of microplastics](#))

Falling [snow is full of microplastics](#) which it concentrates out of the air. Are they causing lung cancer?

- 15 August 2019 ([Mainstream Media Smear Sanders](#))

Mainstream Media [Smear Sanders for Saying That the Mainstream Media Smear Sanders](#).

- 15 August 2019 ([Clothing designed to appear a license-plate](#))

Clothing has been [designed to appear to license-plate readers as a license-plate](#).

- 15 August 2019 ([Iceland commemorates vanished glacier](#))

Iceland [commemorates the first vanished glacier](#).

- 14 August 2019 ([Global heating denial](#))

Despite the blatant evidence of [global heating](#), a few lingering organized denial campaigns (including the [Heatland Institute](#)) struggle on [with their eyes wide shut](#).

The fossil fools have plenty of money, and as long as they gain a little from these campaigns, they will keep funding them.

- 14 August 2019 ([EPA bans glyphosate warning labels](#))

The Environmental Poisoning Agency [ordered California not to put warning labels on glyphosate](#) about its tendency to cause cancer.

The EPA was formerly the Environmental Protection Agency, but the [saboteur](#)-in-chief took control of it and turned it against its intended purpose.

I hope California will have a chance to overcome this in court.

- 14 August 2019 ([Yemenite forces](#))

Yemenite forces backed by the UAE are fighting with Yemenite forces backed by [Salafi Arabia](#). Those two countries were [supposedly intervening in Yemen as allies](#).

- 14 August 2019 ([Demanding "consent" for personal data](#))

Cathay Pacific's solution to the risk of data breaches: demand nominal "consent" from passengers [to](#) collect data from cameras and other sources, and keep it as long as the company wishes.

This is an example of the "manufacture of consent," and shows why "you must get the surveillance object's consent" is ineffective for protecting privacy.

- 14 August 2019 ([UK involvement with CIA torture](#))

The UK government was [closely involved in CIA torture](#).

- 14 August 2019 ([Companies with connections to bullshitter](#))

A [list of companies](#) that some people are boycotting because of connections to the bullshitter.

They explain why they don't advocate boycotting Facebook. I also do not advocate boycotting Facebook. I advocate [protecting yourself from Facebook](#) (including Instagram and Whatsapp) by not letting them *use you*. Don't be a zucker!

- 14 August 2019 ([Protection of species](#))

The [saboteur](#)-in-chief [plans several changes to undermine protection of species](#).

With [global heating](#) putting more species in danger, this is the other arm of the pincers: undermining efforts to protect them. Both measures will assure maximum destruction to Earth's natural ecosystems, getting them out of the way so that plutocrats can build, mine and farm anywhere they like.

- 14 August 2019 ([Urgent: Not to make food stamps harder to get](#))

US citizens: [call on the US government](#) not to make food stamps harder to get.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 14 August 2019 ([Wireless car keys make car theft easier](#))

Wireless substitutes for car keys [make car theft even easier](#).

The wireless switch can screw you even without a thief. Once two of us were borrowing a car, and my friend drove to an errand without having the key. (We didn't realize it was in my pocket.) It worked fine on the way to the errand ...

- 14 August 2019 ([Trade controlled by business-supremacy treaties](#))

Faced with [trade controlled by business-supremacy treaties](#), which were designed to boost the rich owners of companies, the idea of being "tough on trade" only repeats the bullshit that national interests are competing.

What we need from officials in the area of trade is that they be honest rather than stooges.

- 14 August 2019 ([Sanctions on businesses owned by the Burmese army](#))

Since Burma continues expelling Rohingya, and is buying arms from North Korea to attack other minorities, Congress should impose [sanctions on businesses owned by the Burmese army](#).

- 14 August 2019 ([Global heating has only started melting Greenland's ice](#))

[Global heating](#) has only started melting Greenland's ice, but it is making [traditional ways of life impossible for Greenlanders](#).

Extreme weather at the North Pole, including lightning, may be related to a [new record for loss of sea ice](#).

- 14 August 2019 ([No to the Cashless Future and to Cashless Stores](#))

ACLU: Say [No to the "Cashless Future"](#) — and to Cashless Stores.

I have made "cash-only" my firm policy for buying any product. Aside from flights — which cannot be bought anonymously anyway — I never use my bank cards to pay for anything. Once you make this a firm policy, you won't be tempted to make any exceptions.

Don't be apologetic about refusing to pay by tracked digital methods.

A store which tries to pressure you into identifying yourself is doing an injustice to you and the public. Show indignation when you say no!

- 14 August 2019 ([Developers in London](#))

Developers in London are [increasing the amount of "affordable housing"](#) by stretching the definition of "affordable".

- 14 August 2019 ([Rocky Mountains polluted by plastic microfibers](#))

Rain in the Rocky Mountains is [polluted by plastic microfibers](#).

- 14 August 2019 ([Salman al-Odah tortured and brainwashed in prison](#))

Salman al-Odah has been a political prisoner in [Salafi Arabia](#) for two years, ever since he suggested, two years ago, that it resume friendly relations with Qatar. He has been tortured and brainwashed in prison.

He is [likely to be executed](#).

- 14 August 2019 ([American supporters of India's Hindu-nationalists](#))

American supporters of India's Hindu-nationalists pressured a US congresscritter into apologizing for a letter which criticized India's [repressive suppression of Kashmir](#).

- 14 August 2019 ([London face recognition cameras](#))

People in London seem to be [bothered by face recognition cameras](#), except for those that have already surrendered to Big Brother.

You can help inspire them to un-surrender by standing firm against use of snooping technologies yourself.

- 14 August 2019 ([Christ coming back would be weird](#))

(satire) Christ announced Monday that He has [called off plans](#) for His return upon coming to the realization that He has been gone so long at this point that coming back "would just be weird."

- 14 August 2019 ([Salmon farm can do harm](#))

A salmon farm on a small island in the middle of protected wildlife could do [many kinds of harm](#).

- 14 August 2019 ([Oscar Myer](#))

(satire) the Pentagon awarded Oscar Mayer a five-year, \$102 million contract Monday to develop [military-grade hot dogs](#), complete with all the fixings.

- 14 August 2019 ([Exxon's intimidation](#))

New York State says that Exxon's subpoenas to its investors are meant to intimidate them from testifying in [court against Exxon](#).

Remember to avoid the solecism of pronouncing "[Exxon](#)" like "[exon](#)"; :-).

- 14 August 2019 ([Foxconn's deal with Wisconsin](#))

Foxconn's "pay us to make jobs" deal with Wisconsin is complete crap, and can't be fixed to "benefit" the state even when judged by the foolish standard of "[getting enough jobs for the money](#)."

"Subsidize a business to make jobs" is a form of trickle-down: making welfare payments to businesses so that a fraction of the money will reach non-rich citizens. As governments do this, they help businesses pressure them to do ever more of it.

Wisconsin should cancel the Foxconn deal the way New Yorkers [cancelled NYC's Amazon deal](#).

- 14 August 2019 ([Domestic terrorism](#))

The FBI Told Congress Domestic Terror Investigations Led to 90 Recent Arrests. It [Wouldn't Show Us Records](#) of Even One.

- 14 August 2019 ([US pharma system's design](#))

The US pharma system was designed so that the public pays for the research, and the profits [go to rich owners](#). It was set up this way by a scheme advised by right-wing economists and carried out by business lobbyists.

More recently, private equity companies have taken over many pharma companies and drive the gouging.

Pharma is one of the areas where patents do [special harm](#).

It is unfortunate that the article occasionally says "IP" when it means patents. This encourages the confusion that the bogus [overgeneralization "intellectual property" embodies](#).

The article suggests using compulsory licenses to knock down these patents when they endanger the public. I'm entirely in favor of that, but I think we need to cure the disease, not just treat the symptoms.

The cure I recommend is to take the testing of drugs out of the hands of drug manufacturers, thus eliminating their argument for artificial monopolies, and turn them into generic manufacturers.

- 14 August 2019 ([Sanders and Biden beats the bullshitter](#))

In [opinion polls](#), Sanders beats the bullshitter by the same margin as Biden.

So they are equally electable. However, Sanders would make a dent in plutocracy, while Biden would protect it.

- 14 August 2019 ([China offers surveillance](#))

China now offers any would-be totalitarian state the technology to [watch and control everyone](#).

[Mobile robots with face recognition](#) now spread state control on streets.

China invites users of social media to [act as stool pigeons](#) in case any dissent goes unnoticed by the professional monitors and AI.

- 14 August 2019 ([Brain injuries from football](#))

A study of college football players' brain scans found most of them showed signs of brain injury after [just one season](#).

I think schools should not promote football.

- 13 August 2019 ([The bully's rejection letter from the KKK](#))

(satire) The bully shows [his rejection letter from the KKK to prove he is not a racist](#).

I can't tell whether the [bully](#) is really racist, or cynically faking it for the sake of political manipulation. Perhaps he is doing both at once. I don't think it makes much of a moral difference, though.

- 13 August 2019 ([Determine whether a driver is high on marijuana](#))

Massachusetts Governor Baker wants to use an [invalid method to determine whether a driver is high on marijuana](#).

This is clearly unjust. And there is no pressing need to punish stoned drivers, because they are much less of a danger than drunk drivers. It is better to wait until there is a test for being stoned.

In the mean time, it should be possible to test whether a driver is currently mentally impaired, never mind the reason (marijuana, illness, lack of sleep). If so, it is possible to lead the driver to a place to pull over and rest.

- 13 August 2019 ([Trace connections between homeless people](#))

Is it ethical to use AI to [trace connections between homeless people](#) so as to more effectively convince them to use condoms?

I don't see anything wrong with *using* AI for that, but it is wrong to collect that social network data in any way except by interviewing them for this specific purpose, and the data should be discarded afterward.

- 13 August 2019 ([Refugees seeking asylum in the US are totally vulnerable](#))

Refugees seeking asylum in the US are totally vulnerable to whatever immigration thugs write on their forms. If the [thugs lie, and make the refugee look bad](#), there is no way to disprove the lie — unless it is so absurd that it disproves itself.

- 13 August 2019 ([Versace cringeworthy apology for the mistake](#))

Versace humbled itself to Chinese nationalist market power with a cringeworthy apology for the mistake of [presenting Hong Kong and Macau as countries](#).

It is true that they are not independent countries (unfortunately for them). If the shirt is meant to be factual, it would make sense to correct it. But there is no justification for the knowing.

- 13 August 2019 ([Criminal Facebook advertising](#))

Carole Cadwalladr [explains the hidden, criminal Facebook advertising](#) (implemented by Cambridge Analytica) which manipulated the UK's referendum about leaving the EU.

Her investigation and reporting made this known. But Facebook is still blocking further investigation.

Collecting data about people is an injustice. Profiling people is an injustice. Instead of looking for the smallest tweaks to prevent this problem, we should sweep away profiling and targeted advertising.

- 13 August 2019 ([Violent Hindu extremists in India](#))

On Tulsi Gabbard's ties to [violent Hindu extremists in India](#).

[More information](#).

- 13 August 2019 ([US thugs kill 25 dogs a day](#))

US [thugs](#) kill at least 25 dogs a day when they raid houses.

Recently one tried to [shoot a dog, which was not actually threatening him](#), and killed the dog's owner instead.

- 13 August 2019 ([The bully is "farming out" violence to individuals](#))

The bully is ["farming out" violence to individuals and private groups](#) that are prepared to go further than official thugs.

Unlike the writer, I will not presume that the [bully](#) specifically intended that people respond to his scapegoating only with actions that fall short of murder. He's seen enough acts of right-wing terrorism in the US that he knows that some people respond that way.

- 13 August 2019 ([Urgent: endorse restoring Obama's network neutrality regulations](#))

US citizens: [call on presidential candidates](#) to endorse restoring Obama's network neutrality regulations.

True network neutrality goes further than those regulations. An ISP should not be allowed to make a dossier of your network contacts unless a court order says to do this specifically to you.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 13 August 2019 ([Trump Executive Order to 'Censor the Internet'](#))

Leaked Draft of [Trump Executive Order to 'Censor the Internet'](#) Denounced as Dangerous, Unconstitutional Edict.

- 13 August 2019 ([Refugee Behrouz Boochani forcibly dumped on Manus Island](#))

Refugee Behrouz Boochani, [forcibly dumped on Manus Island by Australia](#), has won Australia's national biography award.

- 13 August 2019 ([Bogus Johnson punishing harder the bulk of street crime](#))

Bogus Johnson is aiming for a cheap and meaningless "success" by [punishing harder the bulk of street crime](#), which is falling anyway.

Meanwhile, the kind of crime that Britain is not effectively handling is rape. But this needs changes in investigation and trial, not more [thugs](#) on the street.

- 13 August 2019 ([Russia developing a cruise missile](#))

Russia is developing a [cruise missile powered by a nuclear reactor](#). It could fly for hours, perhaps days, on an evasive path, making defense very difficult — if it doesn't explode on the ground and release fallout.

- 13 August 2019 ([US neo-Nazi leader](#))

A US neo-Nazi leader, who adores the bully, has been [ordered to pay 14 million dollars in damages](#) for leading a campaign of harassment against Tanya Gersh.

It is unfortunate that the article promotes the incoherent term "intellectual property". Since it "refers" to many unrelated kinds of assets, it would have been clearer simply to say "assets".

- 13 August 2019 ([Cure for Ebola](#))

There is now a [more-or-less cure for Ebola](#). When people seek treatment quickly, over 90% of them can be cured.

- 13 August 2019 ([Invasive species threaten US forests](#))

Invasive species [threaten 40% of US forests](#).

The death of trees means that trees will not absorb CO2 as we expected them to. In addition, it means that planting trees will be less effective than it might seem. Planting a sapling does no good unless it lives to become a large tree.

If a tree is going to die anyway, it could be better to cut it down and soak it in something that will kill the pests and keep the carbon in the wood, than to let pests convert its carbon into CO2.

- 13 August 2019 ([Government saboteurs are making hard to protect species](#))

US [government saboteurs are making it hard to protect species](#) that are one step away from being endangered. To start the protection later means more chance they will ultimately become extinct.

- 13 August 2019 ([Goldsmiths College banned selling beef on campus](#))

Goldsmiths College in London has banned selling beef on campus, [because of its greenhouse gas impact](#).

This is in addition to divesting from fossil fuel companies.

I support this change. However, the article errs when it says that the best way to reduce your climate footprint is to avoid meat and cheese. The real best way is to [avoid having children](#).

- 12 August 2019 ([Fiji's greenhouse gas reduction plan](#))

Fiji is proposing a [strong greenhouse gas reduction plan](#), hoping it will exert moral suasion at the coming Pacific Islands Forum.

At the forum: Tuvalu Children Welcome Leaders with a [Climate Plea](#).

- 12 August 2019 ([NPR's biased coverage of Venezuela](#))

Analyzing NPR's [biased coverage](#) of Venezuela and other countries in Latin America.

- 12 August 2019 ([Large animals that live in rivers](#))

Large animals that live in rivers are [rapidly being wiped out](#), around the world.

- 12 August 2019 ([Foxconn](#))

Foxconn hires workers 16 years old, then [illegally has them working at night and in overtime](#).

Even worse, their work is to make spy devices intended to seduce users into leaving them on and listening. What Mata Hari only pretended to have done, these devices really do.

This is bad enough when presented without distortion, so let's avoid the exaggeration of calling 16-year-olds "schoolchildren".

- 12 August 2019 ([The Amazon rainforest](#))

Ricardo Galvão, formerly in charge of protecting the Amazon, says that [if Bolsonaro's attack continues, the forest will be ruined](#).

- 12 August 2019 ([The US gun debate](#))

Arguing that "the intensity and polarization of the US gun debate makes much more sense when understood [in the context of whiteness and white privilege](#)."

Black men who carry guns lawfully are [likely to get killed for it](#), because a thug will feel threatened by it and kill them, so in practice that is a privilege for white man only.

- 12 August 2019 ([Bully's "maximum pressure" foreign policy](#))

Why [the [bully's](#)] "Maximum Pressure" Foreign Policy [Yields Minimum Results](#).

- 12 August 2019 ([Brands](#))

20 years after No Logo warned against [colonization of people's thoughts by brands](#), "The biggest change since... is that neoliberalism has created so much precarity that the commodification of the self is now seen as the only route to any kind of economic security."

I point out that I do very little that directly boosts Google, Facebook, Amazon, Apple or Microsoft. It is not as hard as the article makes it out to be. Just reject services that mistreat you.

- 12 August 2019 ([Urgent: stop Japanese companies funding coal plants](#))

US citizens: [call on Japan](#), and some big Japanese companies, to stop funding more coal plants.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 12 August 2019 ([Palestinian human rights defender](#))

An Israeli government web called a [Palestinian human rights defender a "terrorist"](#), which inspired comments calling for murdering him.

- 12 August 2019 ([Sell drugs to a sex worker](#))

A proposed law to make certain crimes even more illegal would also make it possible [to charge anyone that sells drugs to a sex worker with "sex trafficking"](#), and likewise anyone that trades drugs for sex (even with someone that isn't a sex worker).

- 12 August 2019 ([Drought killing German forests](#))

Drought is [killing German forests](#).

The article does not specifically relate this to [global heating](#) but they surely are connected.

- 12 August 2019 ([The bullshitter following Hitler's methods](#))

The bullshitter is [following Hitler's methods](#) — and not by coincidence. He studied Hitler's speeches.

Here's substantiation for what it says about his [having a copy of Hitler's speeches](#).

It is strange to include rejection of [business-supremacy treaties](#), or even outright protectionism, in a list of similarities to Hitler's methods. Protectionism was standard practice in the 1930s, while [business-supremacy treaties](#) as found today did not exist then.

But the overall point is valid even without those. The agreements Hitler tore up included arms limitation treaties, and the bullshitter is doing the same.

- 12 August 2019 ([US public libraries fighting to lend ebooks](#))

US public libraries are [to continue "lending" unjust ebooks on terms that no one should stand for](#).

- 12 August 2019 ([Myth of ideal communities fades](#))

"The good old days? Look deeper and the [myth of ideal communities fades](#)."

- 12 August 2019 ([Amazon trying to defeat Seattle city councillor](#))

Amazon is spending lots of money to [defeat Seattle city councillor Kshama Sawant](#).

Let's give our support to [defeating Amazon](#).

- 12 August 2019 ([Give thugs a license to kill](#))

Bolsonaro wants to give thugs a [license to kill with impunity](#).

- 12 August 2019 ([US Rights Volunteer](#))

Philippines: US Rights Volunteer Branded ["Enemy of State" Shot Outside Home](#).

- 12 August 2019 ([Ethical AI](#))

Study if the idea of "ethical AI" often suffers from a lack of firm starting principles to base it on, which makes it easy to be stretch to [serve the interests of whoever in charge of the system](#).

- 12 August 2019 ([Forced labor in Eritrea](#))

An estimated [10% of the population of Eritrea has fled the country](#) to escape from forced labor, which can continue for any number of years.

- 11 August 2019 ([March for free elections in Moscow](#))

[50,000 people marched in Moscow](#) for free elections for the city government.

- 11 August 2019 ([Loss of Joshua tree habitat](#))

"Even with major efforts to reduce greenhouse gases, [80% of the \[Joshua\] trees' habitat](#) will be whittled away by the end of the century."

A species confined to a small territory is vulnerable to any sort of local accident. If the Joshua trees become extinct, the other species that depend on them will be extinct too.

- 11 August 2019 ([Tory cruelty](#))

The UK continues the Tory cruelty of [making disabled people destitute if they miss a welfare appointment](#) (because, for instance, of being in the hospital).

- 11 August 2019 ([Monsanto's manipulation](#))

Monsanto [Manipulates Science to Make Roundup Appear Safe](#).

"Attorneys have cited [internal Monsanto records](#) that they say demonstrate how the company has manipulated and corrupted the scientific record with respect to the herbicide's safety."

- 11 August 2019 ([Increase in use of oil slowed](#))

The US-China trade war has [slowed the increase in use of oil](#).

That's good, but not enough. We need to reduce world oil use, not just slow its increase.

- 11 August 2019 ([Marine heatwaves](#))

Marine heatwaves kill coral instantly — and it is [already happening in tropical reefs](#).

The death of the coral animals doesn't just leave the reef static. The exoskeletons that make up the reef degrade. Many marine species could go extinct as a result. And half a billion people could starve.

- 11 August 2019 ([DNC proposes no debate about climate](#))

Perez, head of the Democratic National Committee, has [proposed a vague resolution](#) calling for climate defense action — instead of a candidates' debate about climate.

- 11 August 2019 ([3-cup bra](#))

(satire) critics unanimously [accused lingerie brand Victoria's Secret of promoting unattainable beauty standards](#) Friday with the release of their new 3-cup bra.

- 11 August 2019 ([China's big banks](#))

Because China's big banks are [mostly government-owned](#), they cannot collapse, and the state doesn't let them shut down a company that is useful to society.

- 11 August 2019 ([Israel confiscates hiking boots](#))

Israel [confiscated a shipment of hiking boots to Palestine](#), saying that they were "hidden in a shipment of civilian goods".

Hikers need pants, too, but don't tell the Israeli government that.

- 11 August 2019 ([SWAT team shoots 12-year-old](#))

A SWAT team [thug](#) shot 12-year-old Amir Worship [as he was sitting on the bed with his hands up](#). He will never be able to walk normally again.

- 11 August 2019 ([Campaign funds from big banks](#))

Plutocrat Democrats in Congress want Rep. Maxine Waters to squeeze campaign funds out of big banks and share it with them, but she [decided to champion their customers' rights](#) instead.

- 11 August 2019 ([New Machu Picchu Airport](#))

Unesco Demands Answers from Peru over [Impact of New Machu Picchu Airport](#).

People often wonder why there are two c's in "Picchu". It's because the first c is pronounced separately. In Quechua, at least in that area, a c at the end of a syllable stands for the Spanish j sound. So if it were written using Spanish orthography, it would be "Pijchu."

- 11 August 2019 ([For-profit prisons](#))

Democratic Socialist Lawmaker Persuades Fellow Denver City Council Members to [End Contracts With For-Profit Prison Operators](#).

- 11 August 2019 ([Branding for infants](#))

(satire) infant-mobility giant Graco issued a recall of several stroller models Thursday after [discovering that the company's branding was not visible enough](#).

Viewing logos from the earliest age is now considered crucial for babies' mental development.

- 11 August 2019 ([Cars with cellular data connections](#))

Cars nowadays send lots of data to the manufacturer through a cellular data connection. A proposal in Massachusetts would require manufacturers to give users access to that data — [through a nonfree app](#).

Yuck! This is oppressive practice of the [Internet of Stings: making you communicate with the products you own via the manufacturer's server](#).

The cellular data connection enables the phone network to track the car's movements, but it wouldn't surprise me if the data includes GPS location. (Does anyone know for a fact?)

The right thing to require is that the car offer a data-only interface, such as a slot to put a memory chip into and the car will write the data on it. This way you could show that data to an independent repair shop when you want to, even though you disconnected the cellular data antenna and the GPS antenna just after you bought the car.

- 11 August 2019 ([Ecological-social curriculum](#))

Proposing an ecological-social curriculum [to complement the Green New Deal](#).

Extending the same ideas into computing, it incorporates the free software movement.

- 11 August 2019 ([Transgender student rights](#))

A US judge ruled that transgender students have the [right to use the toilets corresponding to their gender identities](#).

This decision is only tentative, since the appeal is likely to go up to the Supreme Court, which is dominated by right-wingers.

- 11 August 2019 ([Tesla force-installed software](#))

Tesla users claim Tesla force-installed software to [cut down on battery range, rather than replace the batteries](#).

- 11 August 2019 ([Urgent: Stop Walmart selling guns](#))

Everyone: [call on Walmart](#) to stop selling guns.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 11 August 2019 ([Urgent: Join a climate strike action](#))

In the US, on Sep 20, [join a climate strike action](#).

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 11 August 2019 ([Urgent: Preventing nuclear war](#))

US citizens: [ask your senators and representative](#) to confirm they've read Daniel Ellsberg's letter about preventing nuclear war.

To sign without running nonfree software [use the Salsalabs workaround](#).

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 11 August 2019 ([Released political prisoner Najah Yusuf](#))

Bahrain [released political prisoner Najah Yusuf](#), who was imprisoned specifically for criticizing the tyranny that rules Bahrain.

Bahrain crushed protests with the help of troops from other Arab countries and subsequently applied repression to the majority of Shi'a.

- 11 August 2019 ([The economy of Zimbabwe is collapsing](#))

The [economy of Zimbabwe is collapsing](#). It seems to be partly the fault of local corruption, and partly the fault of IMF-imposed policies to let the poor starve.

The author thinks that allowing foreigners to own local businesses is a change for the better; but that is a neoliberal policy which is meant to enable foreigners to drain the country's money (instead of the local elite which does so now). I would guess that was imposed by the IMF. Does anyone know?

In the long run, if poor people keep increasing the population, they are driving themselves into ever-deeper poverty.

- 11 August 2019 ([Ring gave rewards to snitch whoever looked suspicious](#))

The Ring company (before it was bought by Amazon) gave customers rewards for getting together to [snitch on whoever they thought was "suspicious."](#)

- 11 August 2019 ([Election support systems](#))

Election support systems are supposed to be [kept off the internet as a security measure](#), but at least 35 US localities disregarded that precaution.

- 11 August 2019 ([US summer camps](#))

Many US summer camps maintain parents' engagement with their web sites by showing them lots of photos of their kids, [whom it identifies using face recognition](#).

With this goes a team of photographers to make sure that every activity is monitored.

- 11 August 2019 ([Kashmir populace is ready to explode](#))

Journalists operating in Kashmir say that days of curfew have enraged almost everyone in Kashmir, even people who were not separatists. The [populace is ready to explode](#).

People are running out of food. Sick people cannot get to the hospital and some are surely dying. The BBC saw 10,000 people protest; the Indian forces fired tear gas at them, [because protest is forbidden](#).

- 11 August 2019 ([Jeffrey Epstein committed suicide](#))

Jeffrey Epstein appears to have committed suicide in his cell. Or perhaps he was murdered — it is not unusual for prisoners to murder prisoners [accused of sexual crimes](#).

Epstein was accused of trafficking: bringing people long distances on false pretenses and then pressured them into sex or prostitution. He also reportedly raped some of those people. I believe those accusations, and I think he deserved to be imprisoned.

Some of his victims were legally adult. Some were teenage minors. I don't think that makes any moral difference. I don't think rape is less wrong if the victim is over 16.

- 10 August 2019 ([Millennial teaching their own parents to protect privacy](#))

Millennial generation parents are [teaching their own parents to protect the privacy of their young children](#).

Alas, they are probably also [snooping on those same children 24 hours a day](#).

But appreciation of any aspect of privacy is a step forward.

The next step is to spread awareness of how companies and schools spy on their children.

- 10 August 2019 ([Federal law against domestic terrorism](#))

Making a federal law against "domestic terrorism" is superfluous in regard to real terrorists, but [would endanger others who might be falsely labeled as terrorists](#).

This includes [animal rights activists](#) who have already been labeled as "terrorists".

It might also lead to [injustices against non-terrorist right-wingers](#), comparable to those that have been inflicted on US Muslims.

However, I tend to think that their political power will more or less protect them from that.

- 10 August 2019 ([Plant researcher Lewis Ziska](#))

Plant researcher Lewis Ziska quit the Department of Agriculture in [protest against its political censorship of scientific work](#) (especially, but not only, his own).

The [planet roasters](#) fund propaganda campaigns to undermine respect for science. Now they think they are in a position to kill off the science. They have thrown out reference libraries, killed of repeated measurements so that there won't be a series of comparable measurements to study later, and now censoring scientific publication.

Remember how [global heating](#) denialists argued that past climate measurements could not be analyzed over decades because they were not all made the same way?

When there's a new system of measurement, scientists must do careful work to correlate the old measuring system with the new one, and even after they arrive at the best correlation, it offers the denialists an avenue for injecting and magnifying doubt.

By killing off repeated measurements, the denialists hoped to create another opportunity to do that in the future.

- 10 August 2019 ([Honduran President Hernández's campaign](#))

Honduran President Hernández's campaign has been accused in the US of [taking money from drug dealing and using it for bribes](#).

What we know for certain is that he is in office as a result of the coup that Clinton apparently approved when she was Secretary of State.

Ever since then, the government in Honduras has been plutocratist.

- 10 August 2019 ([Myth that a poor person can succeed on per own](#))

The American [myth that a poor person can succeed on per own](#) is used to distract poor people from the collective actions that have a better chance of really helping them.

This situation exists because of the combination of low social mobility and too little help for the poor. I think we should correct both of those problems, but the second one is the more important one.

- 10 August 2019 ([Gun buyback programs](#))

Some cities operate ["gun buyback" programs](#).

I think it makes sense to run a buyback program for guns that are no longer available to buy. Under those circumstances it is a way of reducing the number of such guns available to the public.

- 10 August 2019 ([Facebook Reportedly in Talks](#))

Facebook Reportedly in Talks with News Publishers to [Offer 'Millions' for \[the stories they publish\]](#).

This plan would help counteract the harm Facebook does to newspapers' finances; but it would cement and increase Facebook's power. Thus, overall it would make the situation worse.

Please do not refer to publications as "[content](#)". That adopts a point of view which treats them as a fungible commodity.

- 10 August 2019 ([The bully above the country](#))

The former acting chief of the FBI has sued, alleging that the [bully arranged with Wray and Sessions to oust him and others](#) who did not put the bully above the country.

- 10 August 2019 ([Uber intentionally operated at a loss](#))

Uber has always intentionally operated at a loss. This enabled Uber to undercut competition. However, lately it has been [losing more than a billion dollars a month](#).

This makes Uber vulnerable. Drive in the stake — cut off Uber now!

- 10 August 2019 ([Global Heating](#))

Global heating has caused a [plague of oak processionary caterpillars](#) in Germany. They release tiny toxic hairs.

Large numbers of them might kill some oak trees, too.

- 10 August 2019 ([Urgent: Oppose the Senate's anti-asylum bill](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to oppose the Senate's anti-asylum bill.

If you sign, please spread the word!

(satire) The Republican's backup plan to get rid of immigration is for right-wing terrorism to make the US so dangerous that people will feel safer in Guatemala.

- 10 August 2019 ([Urgent: Stop supporting white-nationalist](#))

US citizens: [call on Faux News](#) to stop supporting white-nationalist talking points.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 10 August 2019 ([Apple is putting DRM on batteries](#))

Apple is [putting DRM on batteries](#), and the system software turns off certain features when batteries are replaced other than by Apple.

- 10 August 2019 ([Retire the word taxpayer](#))

Suggestion: avoid the word "[taxpayers](#)".

It focuses attention on the part of the public that pays taxes rather than on the whole public which [the state exists to serve](#).

- 10 August 2019 ([Monsanto strategy to destroy reputation](#))

Cary Gillam: "I'm a journalist. Monsanto built a step-by-step [strategy to destroy my reputation](#)."

- 10 August 2019 ([Kashmir converted to a pair of territories](#))

India has converted Kashmir [from a state to a pair of territories](#).

This means less possibility of any kind of self-government.

India has blocked all communications and travel. If this continues, people will have to rebel to survive. It is effectively military occupation, even more strict than the occupation of Palestine.

- 10 August 2019 ([Creative adventure playgrounds](#))

The brief history of creative adventure playgrounds — before obsessive [safety culture started crushing childhood](#).

- 10 August 2019 ([Canada Prescription Drugs Price Cut](#))

Canada Announces Regulations to [Cut Price of Prescription Drugs](#).

The prices are much lower in Canada than in the US because Canada doesn't have the US laws that were [adopted to keep the prices high](#).

- 10 August 2019 ([Palestinian terror group Abu Nidal](#))

After a deadly terrorist attack in France by Palestinian terror group Abu Nidal, in 1982, France made a deal with the group: France would not [hassle the group as long as it did not attack in France](#).

- 10 August 2019 ([Avoid environmental disaster](#))

To avoid environmental disaster, we need to eliminate consumption competitions and [consumption pressure — such as the "fashion industry"](#).

- 10 August 2019 ([Moist towelettes](#))

Wet wipes, aka moist towelettes, can't be broken down by sewage treatment plants. When they get into a sewer, they give structure to fatbergs and [make them hard to break up](#).

It is better to avoid these wipes. I never use them.

Four squares of two-ply toilet paper, folded four times and wetted, make something that works to wash your behind with, and no plastic in it.

- 10 August 2019 ([Biden attacked for verbal slip](#))

Biden is being attacked for a [minor verbal slip](#).

He contrasted "poor" with "white", when saying that children of both groups have the same potential. Maybe he meant to condemn racial discrimination, or maybe he meant to condemn economic discrimination, but he got the two confused and ended up condemning a mixture of both.

Is that a bad thing? We know that the two discriminations often operate in parallel.

I will not vote for Biden, but that's for reasons of substance: he does not oppose the plutocracy which promotes racism and it makes economic discrimination so bad.

- 10 August 2019 ([Jimmy Aldaoud](#))

Jimmy Aldaoud had never been in Iraq, and knew no one in Iraq, but he was an Iraqi citizen. So the [US deported him there](#), where he predictably became homeless, and predictably died from lack of insulin just two months later.

The US targeted refugees associated with Iraq, including Aldaoud, as part of the [bully's "Muslim ban"](#). Ironically, Aldaoud was a Christian, but that didn't save him.

- 9 August 2019 ([Microsoft Contractors Listening Skype Calls](#))

Microsoft Contractors Are [Listening to Some Skype Calls](#).

- 9 August 2019 ([iPhone was reportedly growing paranoid](#))

(satire) a local iPhone was reportedly growing paranoid Wednesday that its owner knew [it was working with the FBI](#).

[\(Every one of them does that, if the FBI wishes.\)](#)

- 9 August 2019 ([Felony murder rule](#))

The felony murder rule punishes criminals for murder when killings happen [incidentally in a crime they participated in, even slightly](#).

It is evidently unjust, and when the state presents it as justice, it distorts the basic idea of justice.

The mention of [Ryan Holle](#) in the article is somewhat misleading. He was aware that his roommate wanted the car that day for a robbery.

It would have been just to prosecute him as an accessory to robbery.

It is clear on the general principles of penology why this bonus punishment does nothing to deter other crimes: the situation is so unlikely to arise (when people carry out some other crime) that it is effectively a freak accident. It won't affect the mental calculations of anyone planning a robbery.

Making freak accidents worse is not a service to the public.

- 9 August 2019 ([Bribing AT&T employees to unlock phones](#))

Someone is being prosecuted for [bribing AT&T employees to unlock phones](#), and later to plant spyware in AT&T's systems.

Planting spyware should be a crime — too bad they don't prosecute companies for making [software that spies on users](#) but there is nothing wrong about unlocking phones, because it is an injustice to lock them in the first place.

Selling locked phones is an example of the "suffer injustice now, pay later" business model that is a major factor in sucking freedom out of life.

- 9 August 2019 ([Anti-vaxxer FUD](#))

Developing methods to guide parents away from [anti-vaxxer FUD](#).

- 9 August 2019 ([Private medical insurance in the US](#))

Private medical insurance in the US is a [totally lousy system](#).

Medicare for All means getting rid of it entirely — and good riddance!

- 9 August 2019 ([Adversarial interoperability](#))

"Adversarial interoperability" led to useful competition among many manufacturers of PCs. Various bad US laws have created obstacles which [contribute to today's systems as prisons](#).

- 9 August 2019 ([Investing a lump sum](#))

Businesses are working hard to convince workers (and retired workers) to bet that they will do better at [investing a lump sum than their pensions](#) will do. It's a sucker's bet.

- 9 August 2019 ([Mitch McConnell](#))

(satire) Mitch McConnell Wonders If He [Could've Done More To Harm People In Private Sector](#).

- 9 August 2019 ([Israeli soldier was stabbed](#))

An [Israeli soldier was stabbed and killed](#) in the occupied West Bank (part of Palestine). Israelis presume it was done by a Palestinian.

Suppose that was so. If the killing was done for a personal motive, then it was murder. If it was done as an act of resistance to occupation, it was war. In neither case does it qualify as "terrorism", because terrorism means making war on civilians.

If Palestinians attack Israeli noncombattant civilians, that is terrorism. If Israelis attack Palestinian noncombattant civilians, that too is terrorism.

- 9 August 2019 ([Climate Crisis Reducing Land's Ability to Sustain Humanity](#))

Climate Crisis [Reducing Land's Ability to Sustain Humanity](#), Says IPCC.

The article mentions population growth as one of the causes of this problem.

Agriculture produces almost 1/4 of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. Considering also the long-term effect on ecosystems shows [farming to be even more destructive](#).

- 9 August 2019 ([Big Pharma's Trail of Greed](#))

Ralph Nader: Message to Congress: [Big Pharma's Trail of Greed](#), Power, and Cruelty Must Be Stopped.

- 9 August 2019 ([Hong Kong thugs arrested a protester](#))

Hong Kong thugs arrested a protester [for carrying a laser pointer](#), so others held a laser-display protest.

- 9 August 2019 ([Impeachment designed presidents like the bullshitter](#))

Impeachment was designed for [presidents like the bullshitter](#).

Alas, it was designed for a country without political parties, one in which almost everyone in Congress would want to kick out a president that is a slimeball.

- 9 August 2019 ([Coal miners in Kentucky](#))

Coal miners in Kentucky are blocking a coal train because the mine [declared bankruptcy and is cheating required workers](#).

I am in favor of smoothing the transition to renewable energy.

However, survival of civilization requires cutting off coal mining, and soon. Whatever suffering this causes to the discharged workers, that will be much less than the suffering continued extraction would cause.

The sooner we do it, the more resources will be available to help the ex-miners.

We could give all the ex-miners what they deserve, if we can tax the rich. But we have to stop the mining whether we can tax the rich or not. At the point of desperation, it is better to save some than save none.

- 9 August 2019 ([Save old footpaths in the UK](#))

About the campaign to [save old footpaths in the UK](#), which are in danger of being legally eliminated if they are not redocumented by 2026.

- 9 August 2019 ([Officials resigning from the US State Department](#))

Several officials have [resigned from the US State Department](#) for reasons of conscience.

- 8 August 2019 ([Israeli soldiers use teargas canisters as deadly weapons](#))

B'tselem: Israeli soldiers use teargas canisters as [deadly weapons by firing at people's heads](#).

Israeli orders say soldiers should not fire them even near to human beings. The soldiers who do this are evidently hoping to kill someone.

This practice is not limited to Israelis. [Thugs](#) in Portland, Oregon, [did something similar](#).

- 8 August 2019 ([Reject the EPA's new excuse](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to reject the EPA's new excuse to conceal information about pollution.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 8 August 2019 ([Employer-Based Health Insurance](#))

Take Away My [Employer-Based Health Insurance](#). Please.

- 8 August 2019 ([The New York Times morning's front page](#))

(satire) The New York Times announced Tuesday that it had amended a headline from the morning's front page reading "[Hero Trump Disarms Would-Be Shooter](#)". "The original headline did not live up to our standards of objectivity..."

(auto-satire) [The bullshitter] Praises New York Times Headline That [Sparked Uproar after Shootings](#).

- 8 August 2019 ([Israel's annexation wall](#))

Israel sited the annexation wall as close as possible to Palestinian buildings. Now it says that the Palestinian buildings the wall runs close to are a security threat and [use that as an excuse to demolish them](#).

- 8 August 2019 ([Customary congressional visits to Israel](#))

Representatives Tlaib and Omar are organizing a congressional visit to Palestine to counteract the [customary congressional visits to Israel](#).

The visitors will get a chance to see what life is like under occupation.

- 8 August 2019 ([Israeli thugs interrogation](#))

Israeli thugs interrogate [young Palestinian children](#), age 4 and 6.

The [thugs](#) could pressure and intimidate them into saying almost anything the [thugs](#) wish.

- 8 August 2019 ([California's coasts erosion](#))

California's coasts have been eroding for a long time, but sea-level rise and stronger storms, both due to global heating, [are accelerating the erosion](#).

- 8 August 2019 ([Hong Kong's lawyers](#))

Hong Kong's lawyers (3,000 of them) [protested "political prosecutions"](#).

- 8 August 2019 ([UK is repressing protests by disabled people](#))

The UK is repressing protests by disabled people by [reporting them for the welfare payments bureau](#), which then treats presumes them guilty of cheating.

- 8 August 2019 ([Officials from El Paso](#))

Officials from El Paso told the racist [bully](#) to stay away; the mayor of Dayton encouraged the [city's residents to protest when he comes](#).

- 8 August 2019 ([EU countries proposing to register for trains](#))

EU countries are proposing to [make people register for trains](#) as they must for flights.

Please, EU citizens, organize to fight this. At very least, phone or send small mail to your MEP.

- 8 August 2019 ([Tropical prawns](#))

Tropical prawns can be farmed on land [even in temperate-zone countries](#).

This farm is surely better than getting prawns from Asia, but I can think of two sustainability questions not addressed in the article.

- How does the farm dispose of the waste from the operation?

- Are the wood chips made sustainably?

- 8 August 2019 ([Lonely millennials](#))

Are millennials lonely because society in general [doesn't value friendship enough?](#)

- 8 August 2019 ([Bully racist's followers](#))

"Hatriots" — a funny word to describe [the bully and his racist followers](#).

- 8 August 2019 ([Toxicity of the environment for all insects](#))

We could lose most insect species by the end of the century, [because neonicotinoids are killing them](#).

Each year the US uses them, they build up in the soil in greater concentration, increasing the toxicity of the environment for all kinds of insects. There is no way to remove neonicotinoids from the soil. Today they are found only in some areas, but over time they may spread everywhere.

We need to stop adding more of them before it is too late.

- 8 August 2019 ([Extinction Rebellion protester](#))

Steve Melia, Extinction Rebellion protester [convicted in the UK of making an annoying protest](#), calls for action.

- 8 August 2019 ([US and Rojava peace deal](#))

Turkey, the US and Rojava have made a sort of peace deal including a plan for a [buffer zone of some kind between them](#).

- 8 August 2019 ([Luxembourg plans to legalize marijuana](#))

Luxembourg plans to [legalize marijuana](#).

- 8 August 2019 ([Boston thugs threw wheelchairs into crusher truck](#))

Boston [thugs](#) picked a few disabled homeless people, stole their wheelchairs and their other meager belongings, then [threw it immediately into a garbage crusher truck](#). This was to make sure that their cruelty could not be reversed.

Nothing delights a sadist like the chance to hurt someone who is totally helpless.

- 8 August 2019 ([The developing global disaster](#))

The climate researcher's grief — and rage — on seeing [the developing global disaster](#) that it is still barely possible to avoid.

The rate of melting of Greenland [last week reached a level that was forecast to occur only in 2070](#).

- 8 August 2019 ([Military spending reduces employment](#))

Wasteful military spending in the US is justified in the name of "creating jobs", but it doesn't even do that. The main military contractors have [reduced their US employment even as they have received more money](#).

Aside from being counter to fact, the argument is fundamentally misguided, because it would justify spending government money on anything whatsoever that involves paying workers. How about building a pipeline to pipe water across Manhattan from the East River to the Hudson River? How about hiring a thousand workers to manually power the pumps?

Creating jobs can be one of the valid reasons for the state to hire people, but let's put them on a job that will produce useful results as well.

- 8 August 2019 ([Histories of mass shooting perpetrators](#))

[Lessons learned](#) by studying the histories of many perpetrators of mass shootings.

They made a possibly unwitting bad side point by referring to publications as "[content](#)" and reading/watching them as "[consuming](#)".

Their avoidance recommendation applies only to violent "content", but that implicitly applies "content" to *all* publications, including their own article.

- 8 August 2019 ([Whistleblower pleads guilty](#))

The whistleblower that [revealed Australia was spying on East Timor's negotiators](#) has pled guilty.

It seems that the the whistleblower's name has been concealed.

- 8 August 2019 ([North Korea](#))

It looked like the bullshitter might have achieved a move towards peace with North Korea, by deciding to drop the impossible demand that North Korea get rid of nuclear weapons. But this turns out to have been a mirage. North Korea is [taking its traditional belligerent attitude again](#) in response to US-South Korean war games.

It looks like the bullshitter's weakness of character led Dictator Kim to think of pushing him around with bluster.

- 8 August 2019 ([Michelle Fawcett](#))

When Portland [thugs](#) attacked the antifascist counterprotesters a year ago, a [thug fired a flash bang grenade straight at Michelle Fawcett](#), who was just standing around. It exploded on her arm, scarring her and causing nerve damage that may never heal.

- 8 August 2019 ([Negotiation with Iran](#))

Mohammad Javad Zarif, Iran's foreign minister, says he was invited for White House talks and [threatened with sanctions if he did not attend](#).

What a cloddish way to make an overture for negotiation.

- 7 August 2019 ([Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart](#))

(satire) before leaving to pursue his solo career, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart fronted an [ultra-popular Viennese boy band](#).

- 7 August 2019 ([The bullshitter speech](#))

(serious) The bullshitter read a speech which [condemned racism \(but not his own\)](#).

(satire) Trump Aides Go Into [Crisis Mode After President's Errant Remarks](#) Condemning White Supremacy.

- 7 August 2019 ([Stochastic terrorism](#))

"Stochastic terrorism" is a term used to describe the practice of stirring up hatred so that occasionally some [weak-minded person will commit a "random" act of murder](#).

It is used by various right-wing causes. In the US it started in the "pro-life" anti-abortion movement. Nowadays it is practiced by white supremacists and Islamist extremists.

- 7 August 2019 ([Sentence protesters to 20 years in prison](#))

Mexico's president advocates laws to [sentence protesters to 20 years in prison](#).

- 7 August 2019 ([US Trade Deal](#))

UK Too Desperate to [Secure US Trade Deal](#).

Or at least, to get anything but a crappy deal.

- 7 August 2019 ([Obtain Surveillance Footage Without a Warrant](#))

Amazon Is Coaching Cops on How to [Obtain Surveillance Footage Without a Warrant](#).

- 7 August 2019 ([New e-cigarette](#))

A new e-cigarette is designed to [require authorization form](#) a mobile phone, using a nonfree app that collects data about the user.

I suspect that app also tracks the user's movements all the time.

- 7 August 2019 ([Christian Science church](#))

The Christian Science Church [is shrinking rapidly](#).

That in itself is a good thing. However, the Christian Science Monitor used to be renowned for serious coverage of important news topics. Its decline is a loss to all of us.

- 7 August 2019 ([Business organizations](#))

Business organizations in the US spend a billion dollars a year to [pressure for the interests of business](#).

- 7 August 2019 ([El Paso Shooter](#))

If the El Paso Shooter [Had Been Muslim ...](#)

- 7 August 2019 ([One-day general strike in Hong Kong](#))

A one-day general strike in Hong Kong [was very effective](#). However, China is threatening to attack and repress.

- 7 August 2019 ([Face recognition at marijuana stores](#))

Marijuana stores are using face recognition against [giant databases of people who are not in any way suspects](#) and have not done anything wrong to or in the marijuana store.

This should be illegal.

- 7 August 2019 ([Bully responsible for mass shooting](#))

Beto O'Rourke [held the bully responsible](#) for the mass shooting in El Paso.

We know this is true. It is important that prominent people say it.

Republicans are trying to evade responsibility by saying that the killers must be mentally disturbed. Perhaps they are. However, when people are predisposed to follow some hate campaign or other and commit violence for it, they look for a hate movement that is powerful. Politicians that support certain hate movements help draw killers to support them.

- 7 August 2019 ([Programmer sentenced to life in prison](#))

Iranian programmer Saeed Malekpour was [sentence to life in prison for releasing a program for "uploading photos to the web"](#). He has escaped somehow from Iran.

- 7 August 2019 ([Three mass shootings in one weekend](#))

The US had [three mass shootings in one weekend](#).

Only a small fraction of US gun killings are part of mass shootings, but mass shootings seem to inspire more mass shootings, and they are often acts of terrorism inspired by hate movements.

The first of these two shootings, in Dallas, [was an act of right-wing terrorism](#) and so [was one other](#).

These are clearly inspired by the bully's [support of racism and violence](#).

He surely knew this would happen; it isn't the first time, after all. Therefore it must be intentional. Even people who already agreed with white supremacy are encouraged to leap into violence by their crowds of supporters.

He has converted the whole [Republican party into supporters of racism and violence](#).

Some may not entirely like it, but they haven't the courage to resist the mob that boils around them.

- 7 August 2019 ([US military Hikvision internet cameras](#))

The [US military has installed lots of Hikvision internet cameras](#). This is a problem for two reasons: Hikvision is Chinese, and the cameras have (reportedly) a universal back door.

Even if the company weren't Chinese, the universal back door should make people distrust these cameras.

- 7 August 2019 ([AI for marketing](#))

Temporal [AI for marketing attempts to predict when you are in the mood for any given product](#). They rely on collecting and correlating the data collected by many surveillance systems.

If we prohibit the collection of data like these, systems like this will be entirely impossible. Otherwise, they will make a worse dystopia.

- 7 August 2019 ([Powerful way of manipulating people](#))

The decoy effect is a [powerful way of manipulating people](#) into making one choice rather than another.

I suspect that a policy of dismissing options that are clearly inferior and writing down a list of only the options you are really considering would help resist the decoy effect. It is worth doing this for many reasons if the choice is important.

And stay away from flight connections that are just 60 minutes, because that makes a significant risk of a missed connection. I would choose option B for those flights, by intentional policy, regardless of C. If I had seen only option A, I would have asked my travel agent, "Can you find a longer connection time?"

- 7 August 2019 ([Thug departments give special access to Amazon](#))

Some US thug departments give Amazon [special access to 911 call data](#).

- 7 August 2019 ([Who will pay the costs of global heating](#))

The question about paying the costs of [global heating](#) is not "Can we pay" but "[Who will pay](#)".

The article does not mention all the ways [global heating](#) is killing people. For instance, it doesn't include the people killed, directly or indirectly, by the Syrian civil war and PISSI even though [global heating](#) was a major cause of that war.

It also doesn't mention the tropical diseases that are spreading north, or the people that lose their income and then die because they can't afford medical care.

- 7 August 2019 ([Public domain books published in the US](#))

A list now exists of which books published in the US before 1964 are in the [public domain](#) because the copyright was not renewed.

- 7 August 2019 ([Private equity companies](#))

Private equity companies own "doctor groups" that gouge patients with enormous bills.

Hospitals [send patients to those doctors without informing them](#) — sometimes even when they are unconscious.

What this shows is that two of the big sicknesses of the US economy are linked.

- 7 August 2019 ([Future genetic enhancements](#))

We should make sure that [future genetic enhancements are not limited to the rich or their children](#). One part is preventing them from being patented.

In addition, we need not and should not rely on private investment for development of these enhancements. The government funds a lot of medical research and it can fund this.

We won't have such treatments soon. You wouldn't want to give an embryo that will develop into a your child a treatment intended as an enhancement until its safety and efficacy have been verified. But we don't know how to verify that except by trying it. With gigantic advances in simulation of fetal development we might someday have another way.

- 7 August 2019 ([Trade treaties](#))

Senator Warren's progressive approach to [trade treaties includes allowing democratic participation in negotiating them](#), require joint crackdown on business tax-dodging and greenhouse emissions, and reject the secret aim of [dooH niboR](#).

- 7 August 2019 ([Nazis are drawn to commit massacres](#))

A proposed analysis of why Nazis are [drawn to commit massacres](#).

This shows a parallel with how [PISSI](#) has changed its approach since losing its territory: turning from group actions to individual massacres.

- 7 August 2019 ([People live in vehicles in the San Francisco](#))

Thousands of people [live in vehicles in the San Francisco area](#), and the city hits them with repression.

I heard of a person who lives in a house in San Francisco and got an RV, which [perse](#) kept outside the city, but using it for a vacation was difficult because the punishment for parking it for even a short time near home was so strict. This came up in conversation as a curious side effect of repression.

- 7 August 2019 ([Forbidden to beg for money](#))

In Eskilstuna, Sweden, it is [forbidden to beg for money unless you have money to pay for a permit](#).

- 7 August 2019 ([Candidate Marianne Williamson](#))

Candidate Marianne Williamson [raised some deep issues that other candidates don't](#).

She is too flaky for me to vote for her, but I hope she has influence with deep points.

- 7 August 2019 ([Hindu extremist government plans](#))

India's Hindu extremist government plans to [permit Hindus from other parts of India to colonize Kashmir](#).

This reminds me of Israel's colonization of occupied Palestine.

India promised Kashmir a referendum on whether to be part of India, but never held the referendum.

- 7 August 2019 ([Urgent: Pass stricter gun control](#))

US citizens: [call on the Senate](#) to pass stricter gun control.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 7 August 2019 ([Urgent: Expand Social Security](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to expand Social Security, not privatize it.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 7 August 2019 ([Engaging in violence against Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez](#))

A video presents men wearing with Mitch McConnell supporter shirts [engaging in violence against Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez](#).

This looks like support for stochastic terrorism. The photo seems to have been taken at a rally to support McConnell, so they seem to be real supporters of his. Will he denounce them firmly, or only with a wink, or not at all?

- 7 August 2019 ([A new form of repression](#))

A new form of repression by the Russian state; threatening to [take away protesters' children for bringing them to protests](#) and exposing them to the violent repression of the Russian state.

- 7 August 2019 ([Blaming Mass Shootings](#))

Blaming Mass Shootings on Mental Illness [Leads to Stigma](#), Experts Warn.

- 7 August 2019 ([New York Times manipulated yet again](#))

The New York Times [let itself be manipulated yet again](#) by the bullshitter's bullshit.

Yes, it was a mistake to report something the bullshitter said as if it were sincere. But the first mistake was to pay so much attention to something he said.

Here is how [The Onion satirized what the newspaper did](#).

- 7 August 2019 ([The US froze Venezuela's assets](#))

The US [froze Venezuela's assets in the US](#).

As is generally the case with economic sanctions, this is likely to [hurt the public more than Maduro](#).

It may be difficult for Venezuela to buy food, which could increase the shortages.

- 7 August 2019 ([Australia plan to reduce alcohol excess](#))

A plan in Australia to encourage people not to drink alcohol to excess were evidently [greatly influenced by the alcohol companies](#), which suggests they were designed more for show than for effect.

- 7 August 2019 ([Cyprus Police](#))

UK Woman Says Cyprus Police Forced Her to [Retract Rape Claim](#).

- 7 August 2019 ([Hindu extremist ruler](#))

Modi, India's Hindu extremist ruler, has imposed total repression on Kashmir. He has [arrested the elected leaders of Kashmir](#), and cut off phones and internet.

The order to [allow outsiders buy land in Kashmir](#) is based on arbitrarily negating an article in India's constitution.

What does a constitution mean if the government in power can arbitrarily sweep it away? Nothing.

I think Modi is planning something far worse than allowing non-Kashmiris to buy land there. I suspect some horrible act of repression is in the works, something that will look so horrible that he wants to make sure the world can't see it.

- 7 August 2019 ([Shooters supported Warren for president](#))

Republicans are trying to distract attention from the violent effects of their racism by asserting that one of the shooters last weekend [supported Warren for president](#).

Perhaps he did, but that is not a valid parallel, because Senator Warren doesn't spew hatred the way Republicans do.

- 7 August 2019 ([Powerful Christian preacher](#))

A Nigerian woman accused a powerful Christian preacher of raping her.

The response was a [collection of criminal charges against her](#).

- 6 August 2019 ([Prosecuting whistleblowers](#))

The US collects data from many sources to identify and prosecute whistleblowers. After publication, this includes information from many databases about [which employees contacted a journalist](#).

The article suggests how messaging software might help protect whistleblowers; but this won't keep them safe for very long after the leak is published.

Above all, the article explains why the US must eliminate the practice of prosecuting whistleblowers for "spying" is fundamentally wrong anyway.

Meanwhile, real spy chiefs want to make things worse by [banning secure encryption](#), and thus put our freedom in more danger — from them.

- 6 August 2019 ([Russian protesters](#))

Russian protesters are more stubborn now than in the past. Arresting some of them has [not made them give up](#).

- 6 August 2019 ([Confronting plutocracy](#))

Both Republicans and Democrats (plutocratist "moderate" Democrats) harp on right-wing racism to [avoid confronting plutocracy](#).

- 6 August 2019 ([Facebook political ads](#))

Facebook is still showing zuckers targeted political ads to serve right-wing causes, and [it's a secret](#) where the money comes from.

Revealed: [Johnson Ally's Firm](#) Secretly Ran Facebook Propaganda Network.

- 6 August 2019 ([Al-Qa'ida operations](#))

Al-Qa'ida is still operating, but instead of trying to draw attention using shocking attacks on the West, its method is to [build support](#) in various parts of the world.

Since this is not a direct threat to the West, perhaps the West has no reason to fight it. However, any region that al-Qa'ida comes to dominate will suffer a great loss of human rights. The US should not intervene militarily, since that would only create an Afghanistan-like situation. But if local people want to fight back, it would be good to give them support while leaving the effort mainly in their hands.

- 6 August 2019 ([Conjoined daughters](#))

A father plans to [let his two conjoined daughters die](#) rather than approve an operation that would probably save one of them.

This is a real-life variant of [the trolley problem](#), with a crucial difference: in this case there was time to study the issue carefully and establish with near certainty what each choice would lead to before making the decision. He cannot rationally deny that his choice of "do nothing" means death for both of daughters.

His choice is a form of moral cowardice. The kind of cowardice that makes someone lose a tooth rather than get a filling. The kind of cowardice that makes someone die of late-stage cancer rather than get early treatment and survive. So even though I empathize with his distress at the need to choose between horrible and doubly horrible, I can't excuse his decision. The daughters deserve life. If you can't save both, at least save one.

I don't think that we should be more concerned about the couple because they have four other children. Having so many is a bad thing to do, but it has no effect on the issue of saving these daughters.

- 6 August 2019 ([Tick populations](#))

Global heating [helps tick populations grow](#), and this makes Lyme disease more prevalent.

- 6 August 2019 ([Freezing ovarian tissue](#))

Freezing ovarian tissue and reimplanting it later could enable women to [delay menopause for decades](#).

I hope this won't require them to actually menstruate. I also hope it won't lead to more births.

- 6 August 2019 ([EU refugee agreement](#))

[An EU agreement](#) provides for southern coastal countries to receive refugees who will be distributed to other EU countries.

- 6 August 2019 ([MP Rosena Allin-Khan](#))

Trolls [attacked MP Rosena Allin-Khan](#) for trying to convince Israel to let Gazan parents of sick children getting medical care in Israel to visit their children.

MP Allin-Khan describes the abuse as "antisemitic", but what I see in the examples quoted is condemnation of Israel rather than anti-semitism as such. I agree, however, that these examples were unjustified exaggeration. Her attempts to convince Israel to loosen some of the restrictions of the occupation is not support for the occupation.

It is one thing to say that a small step is not a full solution to a problem. It is another to say that the small step is bad. We should make sure campaigns for small steps don't distract us from advocating a full solution, but that doesn't require condemning them.

- 6 August 2019 ([China surveils students abroad](#))

Students from Hong Kong protested in an Australian university. Some Chinese people (perhaps students, perhaps not) [physically attacked them and surveilled them](#); some protesters later received threats, clearly organized by China.

Many Chinese studying abroad remain [so connected to the state-controlled Chinese systems of state control that they do not question the propaganda](#). I think the university should impose requirements on Chinese students that they reduce their involvement in those systems, so that they are not dominated by them. It should be a requirement for educational purposes to expose themselves to other ways of thinking.

A few months ago I met some Chinese students in MIT CSAIL and urged them to take advantage of being in the US to read extensively the things that China does not want them to know. I specifically recommended the book, *Life and Death in Shanghai*, by Nien Cheng, which describes surviving the cultural revolution of the 60s and 70s.

- 6 August 2019 ([UK's bullshitter](#))

Bogus Johnson is tossing out [pledges to spend money to correct little pieces of Tory budget cuts](#). Sometimes a new pledge is just part of a larger previous pledge.

The UK media are using the same bad approach that the US media use with the bullshitter: taking his promises seriously. The proper response any time Johnson says he will do some good thing is, "If he really does this, we will take it seriously."

- 6 August 2019 ([Mexican journalists killed](#))

[Third Mexican Journalist Killed in a Week](#) Amid Record Murder Rate.

- 6 August 2019 ([Inadequate solutions](#))

Andrew Yang's proposes a universal basic income as a substitute for various existing welfare benefits, and he [doesn't intend to curb the political power of business](#).

His [proposed policy for limiting surveillance](#) is similar to the GDPR, and [inadequate in the same ways](#).

It seems to be designed for a world in which a person entrusts specific information to a service so it can do specific jobs with that data, the data comes directly from per, and the service labels it explicitly as from per. A world in which there is plenty of competition among services, and no one ever feels compelled to use a specific service which [perse](#) knows will misuse that data.

And it ignores what the US government might do with that data after using the PAT RIOT act to collect the whole database.

- 6 August 2019 ([Annual fund-raising event blocked in UK](#))

A UK local council blocked an annual fund-raising event for Palestinian children [because they thought criticism of Israel could be labeled as anti-semitic](#).

- 5 August 2019 ([Unboxing videos](#))

"Unboxing" videos which show adults playing with toys, when sponsored by the toy manufacturer, are in effect [advertising to children](#).

They may be illegal. They are certainly manipulative.

- 5 August 2019 ([Fishermen saving drowning migrants](#))

Some Italian fishermen save drowning migrants because they live by the [law of the sea](#).

- 5 August 2019 ([China playing US's game](#))

China is trying to play the US game of [intimidating countries that grant asylum](#) to Chinese political refugees.

One background flaw in the article is its use of the term "intellectual property", which always spreads confusion because it lumps together various [unrelated laws that affect different issues](#).

This article seems to use "intellectual property" to refer to trademarks. In many other articles about "intellectual property" and China, the term refers to trade secrets. Trademarks and trade secrets have nothing to do with each other, but that bogus over generalization tries to lead you to think they are one single issue.

- 5 August 2019 ([Tony Timpa](#))

Dallas [thugs](#) killed Tony Timpa by grinding him into the ground, gleefully disregarding his cries that they were killing him. It took his family [three years](#) to pry loose the video which showed what happened.

- 5 August 2019 ([Banning the sale of plastic water bottles](#))

San Francisco airport will [set an example](#) by banning the sale of plastic bottles of water. Other disposable plastic items are being limited, too.

- 5 August 2019 ([Greenland's ice sheet shrinking](#))

Greenland's ice sheet shrunk more in past month than in an [average year](#).

[In just one day](#), 12 billion tons of ice melted.

- 5 August 2019 ([Immigrants in privatized prisons](#))

Putting immigrants in privatized prisons is giving privatized prisons the [bad name they always deserved](#).

- 5 August 2019 ([Tax increases for the rich](#))

Mayor de Blasio, also running for president, has proposed [big tax increases](#) for the rich,

as well as the financial transaction tax (also known as the Tobin Tax and the Robin Hood Tax), whose principal benefit is to stabilize financial markets, but which would also bring in some useful revenue.

This isn't enough to convince me to vote for him instead of Sanders or Warren, but it's a good target for approach to the issue of taxation.

- 5 August 2019 ([Food aid for the poor](#))

Food aid for the poor [benefits the US economy](#) as a side effect. To cut it would be spiteful, and irrational unless the goal is to scapegoat the poor.

- 5 August 2019 ([Urgent: Block thugs from conspiring with Amazon](#))

US citizens: [call on your city officials](#) to block the thug department from conspiring with Amazon to establish video surveillance in your city.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 5 August 2019 ([Urgent: Stop EPA from hiding information](#))

US citizens: [call on the Senate](#) to stop the EPA from hiding information from the public.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 5 August 2019 ([US women happier without children](#))

Women in the US are [happier, on the average, if they do not marry or have children](#).

In some countries, which give more support to parents, that is [not so](#).

Nonetheless, the birth rate [continues to decline in developed countries](#).

This is a positive change, given that the world's population is still increasing. Now if only we could bring about a decline in the countries which still have a high birth rate. The survival of civilization depends on this.

- 5 August 2019 ([Sudan's transitional constitution](#))

Sudan's protesters and military have announced a sort of [transitional constitution](#).

- 5 August 2019 ([Asylum for man mistaken for trafficker](#))

Italy Grants Asylum to Eritrean Man [Mistaken for Years for Trafficker](#).

Everyone makes mistakes, but they should not have been so slow to believe the victims who said he was the wrong man.

- 5 August 2019 ([Human-monkey chimera embryos](#))

Human-monkey chimera embryos raise [theoretical moral questions about possible future mixture between humans and monkeys](#). Should such beings be permitted to be born? Or come close to being born?

I recommend reading Cordwainer Smith's science fiction

- 5 August 2019 ([Subsidized Amazon surveillance](#))

Some US cities are [paying to subsidize the "private" installation](#) of Amazon surveillance cameras.

- 5 August 2019 ([Economics](#))

Economics systematically leads to bad (even disastrous) decisions because the mathematics are [based on simplifying assumption which are often not even close to the truth](#).

Indeed, the neoliberal policies founded on those economics have moved reality even further from some of these assumptions — for instance, by allowing massive concentration of many industries.

- 5 August 2019 ([Turtle doves](#))

Wondering [whether the far-migrating turtle dove can be saved](#) in England.

- 5 August 2019 ([Democratic presidential debates](#))

The Democratic presidential debates are run by Republicans, and [the "moderators" are Republicans](#). They [manipulate the debates in a biased way](#), trying to make progressives look bad and to provide Republicans useful information for the campaign.

Unfortunately, to the extent that the plutocratist-biased DNC controls the debates, that is [bad in other ways](#).

We are still pushing it to hold a debate about [global heating](#) and approaching climate disaster.

- 5 August 2019 ([Global heating](#))

The IPCC warns that [global heating](#)'s major effects show the need to change agriculture, and in particular, [eat a lot less meat](#).

Jake Inslee used his short speaking time in the Democratic presidential debate to [emphasize the need to curb global heating](#). That was good use of it.

It may be true that [global heating](#) underlies the other major issues. But, more fundamentally, plutocracy underlies all the other major issues and [global heating](#) as well. This is why I believe that a firm enemy of plutocracy is our best hope for defeating the planet roasters.

- 4 August 2019 ([Attacks on medical facilities](#))

Amnesty International reports that Assad's forces are [systematically attacking medical facilities in Idlib](#). The UN has called for an investigation.

- 4 August 2019 ([Ads](#))

Ads [influence many people unconsciously](#), even people who are trying to pay attention to something else.

- 4 August 2019 ([Urgent: Public consultations about public land](#))

US citizens: [call on the Forest Service](#) not to eliminate public consultations about mining and logging on public land.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 4 August 2019 ([Urgent: National Defense Authorization Act](#))

US citizens: call on Congress to [keep the good provisions in the House's version](#) of the National Defense Authorization Act.

To sign without running nonfree software, please use the [Salsalabs workaround](#).

I replaced their suggested line about the Korean War with

—support a peace treaty to formally end the Korean War.

because it's not as if a hot war were still raging there.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 4 August 2019 ([Helping parents](#))

More effective than punishing grieving parents: [a practical scheme to help parents avoid forgetting babies in a car](#).

An idea that occurs to me is a button the baby can push, which makes a soft and fun sound when the car is switched on, but makes a loud one-minute alarm outside when the car is switched off.

- 4 August 2019 ([Carbon emissions](#))
 (satire) EPA Administrator Proves Carbon Emissions Not Harmful By [Inhaling Directly From Truck's Tailpipe](#).
- 4 August 2019 ([Mistreatment of underage cars](#))
 (satire) Theaters across the country pulled the film Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw Friday following reports of the [on-set mistreatment of \(underage\) cars](#).
- 4 August 2019 ([Greenhouse gas emissions](#))
 Several Pacific island nations [rebuked the countries that don't cut their greenhouse gas emissions](#).
- 4 August 2019 ([Ronald Reagan's racism](#))
 Knowing that Ronald Reagan was secretly a racist helps make sense of his [public statements that were designed to win support from racists](#).
 What is different about the bullshitter is that he overtly declares support for overt racists.
- 4 August 2019 ([Nonviolent protest](#))
 A symbolic protest against Macron's lack of climate defense policy: [carefully removing his photo from public administrations](#).
 They are being investigated by the "anti-terrorism" [thugs](#), which exemplifies the world-wide tendency to use "anti-terrorism" laws against nonviolent protesters. This is why those laws are a threat to democracy.
- 4 August 2019 ([North Atlantic right whales](#))
[How global heating endangers](#) the North Atlantic right whales.
- 4 August 2019 ([Women's rights in Salafi Arabia](#))
[Salafi Arabia](#) has given women equal rights in regard to [travel and employment](#).
 They are [still a long distance from legal equality](#).
- 4 August 2019 ([Trains instead of planes](#))
 To encourage climate-saving use of trains instead of planes, [employers could offer extra "journey days" on top of vacation time](#), for those who use them to travel by train.
- 4 August 2019 ([Wide-area total surveillance systems](#))
 The Pentagon has developed wide-area total surveillance systems, which [track all cars' movements in an area 25 miles across](#).
 We should make sure that the state does not operate these systems to look at anything but a war zone.
- 4 August 2019 ([Jailed for "offensive and vulgar" poetry](#))
 The "president" of Uganda demonstrated he is a dirty, delinquent dictator by [jailing a poet whose poetry was called "offensive and vulgar"](#).
- 4 August 2019 ([Protesters threatened before rally](#))
 Russian Protesters [Threatened with Jail on Eve of Planned Rally](#).
- 4 August 2019 ([Urgent: No landlord-imposed facial recognition](#))
 US citizens: call on Congress to [get facial recognition technology out of public housing](#).
 It should be illegal for landlords to impose facial recognition or internet-connected locks on tenants in *any* rental housing.
 If you sign, please spread the word!
- 4 August 2019 ([Urgent: Support AB 1215](#))
 Everyone: call on the California Senate to pass AB 1215 to [ban use of face recognition on body camera videos](#).
 If you sign, please spread the word!
- 4 August 2019 ([Urgent: HSBC divestments](#))

Everyone: [call on HSBC](#) to fully divest from fossil fuel and arms companies.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 4 August 2019 ([Right-wing death threats](#))

Right-wing death threats were [posted against Amnesty International](#) in Israel.

That's the right wing for you.

- 4 August 2019 ([The Politics of Petulance](#))

The Politics of Petulance — [nihilism whipped up by telling people that it is impossible to make our situation any better](#).

In the US, the [bully](#) has laid out a simple plan to make things much better: reverse all the changes he has made. That plan may not be the best possible choice — perhaps we could agree on a handful of things he has done that we should keep — but clearly it would be a big step forward. Beyond that, we know other things we need: single-payer medical care, the Green New Deal, prohibiting mass surveillance, and others.

- 4 August 2019 ([Intermediate range nuclear missile treaty](#))

[The bully](#), whose general policy is to come close to nuclear war, has killed the intermediate range nuclear missile treaty and is [not trying to negotiate a replacement](#).

About the [campaign of protest](#) which got that treaty started.

- 4 August 2019 ([Reaching a new agreement with Iran](#))

[The bully](#) claims to want a "better" agreement with Iran, but [his sanctions against Iran's foreign minister will prevent negotiations](#).

Here is [what experts recommend](#) as the way to reach a new agreement.

- 4 August 2019 ([Antique steam trains](#))

This note was a false alarm. Old steam trains which run old cars at low speeds can continue doing so.

- 4 August 2019 ([Today's advertising](#))

Advertising considered as a [cancer on society](#).

I largely agree. I think that the worst aspect of today's advertising (and the reason there is so much of it) is the collection of personal data — but the article identifies other ways in which advertising corrupts society which don't depend on knowing anything about who sees the ads — for instance, paid-for articles (I won't use the euphemism "sponsored" or the derogatory term "content" for this) and individuals who are paid to insert advertising into their lives as "influencers".

However, if you are like me, you probably wouldn't notice what brand of coffee appears in your friend's photo, so it would fail to exert any influence.

- 4 August 2019 ([Reversing the Corporations United decision](#))

The [Democracy for All constitutional amendment](#) would narrowly reverse the [Corporations United](#) decision which ruled that corporations have a "human right" to spend money on electioneering.

I prefer the [more powerful proposed amendment](#) which would reject the idea that corporations are entitled to human rights.

- 4 August 2019 ([New trial for Lamar Johnson](#))

Lamar Johnson was convicted of murder, but the real killers confessed in 1998 and 2002. Even though it was known that the "evidence" him was falsified by a [thug](#), it took him until now to win a [new trial](#).

This is because many judges and officials would rather keep an innocent man in prison for years than admit that their system made a mistake. They think that if they never admit a mistake, we will believe they never make any.

- 4 August 2019 ([Election rigging](#))

Republicans are hard at work [removing blacks and poor people from voter lists](#).

They know they can't win an election, so they put their efforts into rigging elections. [The bully](#) was ["elected" this way](#) and so in 2018 was the [governor of Georgia](#).

- 4 August 2019 ([Republicrooks](#))

20 Republicrook senators have asked the Treasury Department to [change a rule so as to cut taxes on capital gains](#).

This would benefit billionaires enormously, middle-class people a little, and poor people not at all.

- 3 August 2019 ([Urgent: Stop private equity buyouts](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to stop private equity buyouts that profit from destroying a company.

- 3 August 2019 ([Urgent: Election security upgrades](#))

US citizens: [call on Senator McConnell](#) to stop blocking election security upgrades.

- 3 August 2019 ([Right-wing murder-incitement campaign](#))

A [right-wing murder-incitement campaign](#) targets Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Ilhan Omar, Ayanna Pressley, and Rashida Tlaib.

[The bully](#) knows that when he targets people for hate, this sort of hate campaign is likely to come along. And they all know that this sort of hate campaign has a good chance of inspiring murders. The fanatic who shot Gabrielle Giffords didn't kill her, but injured her so gravely that she could no longer serve in Congress. From the point of view of right-wing murderers, that's success.

- 3 August 2019 ([Secondary punishments](#))

Some US cities require [evicting a whole family from an apartment if any one of them commits a crime](#).

The US has a general tendency to of heaping various secondary punishments on top of the actual sentence. Ex-cons can be barred from education, barred from many kinds of work, barred even from places to live. Ultimately they are barred from anything except a life of crime.

- 3 August 2019 ([Legalization of assisted suicide](#))

Legalization of assisted suicide is spreading to more US states, but it is [limited to people expected to die anyway in under 6 months](#).

The people who need this the most are those who are condemned to many years of suffering, by a condition that keeps them helpless or in horrible pain, and could continue for decades.

- 3 August 2019 ([Australia's planet-roaster government](#))

Australia's planet-roaster government has set up a scheme to cut greenhouse gas emissions. The cuts are [so small that it will make no real difference](#).

- 3 August 2019 ([Deforestation in Brazil](#))

Bolsonaro has fired the head of Brazil's space institute, [calling the satellite measures of deforestation "lies"](#). We know who is the liar, of course.

Bolsonaro's men are [trying to set up a second system for monitoring deforestation](#), perhaps with the aim of reporting a smaller amount of it.

- 3 August 2019 ([Burma](#))

Burma is a [jigsaw puzzle of different ethnic groups that want to be independent](#). To a large extent, in practice, they are.

- 2 August 2019 ([Militarism and violence towards women](#))

Militarism can encourage people to tolerate and downplay [men's violence against women](#). It carries an imperative to "stand by our troops" even when they rape

- 2 August 2019 ([Felony Water Throwing](#))

A right-wing nut wants to [make it a felony to throw water at thugs](#). Unfortunately, that nut is a state legislator in New York.

I wonder if the Burmese water festival is celebrated anywhere in NYC. Under that proposed law, if [thugs](#) show up there, they could arrest lots of the participants.

- 2 August 2019 ([Hong Kong is charging protesters with "rioting"](#))

Hong Kong is [charging protesters with "rioting"](#), which is defined in such a way that almost any protester can be found "guilty" of that.

- 2 August 2019 ([Wildfire in Russia](#))

There are 11 thousand square miles of [wildfire in Russia](#) now.

This releases massive amounts of CO2 which will exacerbate the heat that is responsible for the fires.

- 2 August 2019 ([UK Housing Shortage](#))

A proposal for how the UK could [fix its shortage of housing](#) over the coming decade.

- 2 August 2019 ([Totalitarian surveillance](#))

The bully hopes that [totalitarian surveillance](#) will stop people from fleeing El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras to the US.

The reason I don't think so is that the governments will control the surveillance and the governments are not interested in making those countries safe for ordinary people. The surveillance won't eliminate the gangs because the gangs are too powerful

- 2 August 2019 ([Israeli soldiers demolished Palestinians' houses](#))

When Israeli soldiers [demolished Palestinians' houses](#) in the West Bank, saying they were too close to the border between land that Israel claims to have annexed as part of Jerusalem and land Israel does not claim to have annexed, they attacked a number of solidarity witnesses.

For instance, British solidarity witnesses were in the bathroom, so soldiers threw in tear gas which had no way to dissipate. And that was only the start of the violence against them.

The attackers broke the witnesses' bones and in some cases maimed them.

- 2 August 2019 ([Training to thugs in Central America](#))

The US has giving [misguided training to thugs in Central America](#).

- 2 August 2019 ([Amazon's Ring](#))

Everything Cops Say About [Amazon's Ring Is Scripted or Approved by \[Amazon\]](#).

It should be a crime to set up such an agreement: the [thugs](#) that sign it should be criminals and so should the company they make it with.

Meanwhile, Ring's massive video surveillance is dangerous in substance.

- 2 August 2019 ([Ban on covering your face in public transit](#))

The Netherlands' ban on covering your face in public transit and public buildings [turns out to be problematic to enforce](#).

That is good — because face coverings are the only known way to block face recognition personally. The ban harms anyone that wants privacy in movements.

- 2 August 2019 ([Prove Missing Relatives Are Free](#))

Uighurs Challenge China to [Prove Missing Relatives Are Free](#).

With the state control over communications, it would be easy to kill people and claim to have released them.

We still know nothing of the fate of the new Panchen lama, disappeared by China while still a child, and his family.

We would not trust claims by the bullshitter's agents about what has become of arrested refugees, so why believe what China says.

- 2 August 2019 ([Subsidies for fossil fuels](#))

Subsidies for fossil fuels, globally, amount to 4 times the subsidies for renewable energy. Shifting 30% of the fossil subsidies to renewable energy could make [renewable energy so advantageous that the world would switch quickly](#).

That is not enough by itself to avoid disaster. We need also to cut down on cattle and growing crops to feed cattle.

We need to increase forests instead of cutting them down.

We need to put an end to energy-expensive bitcoin mining.

But we could do those things, if we do the big job.

- 2 August 2019 ([CO2-removal technology](#))

CO2-removal technology could be useful, but the [obvious methods can't remove enough to save us](#). We must not allow planet roasters to treat these technologies as an excuse to keep pumping out greenhouse gases.

- 2 August 2019 ([Radioactive nuclear waste](#))

What should we do with [radioactive nuclear waste?](#)

- 2 August 2019 ([Bogus Johnson](#))

Bogus Johnson, [from whom lies are expected](#), could poison the honesty and objectivity of the civil services.

The bullshitter has already done this in the US.

- 2 August 2019 ([Bad implications of the word migrant](#))

On the bad implications of the [word "migrant"](#).

- 2 August 2019 ([Kamala Harris's medical care plan](#))

Kamala Harris's medical care plan is a step up from today, but [has many flaws compared with Sanders's Medicare for All](#).

In particular, it supposes that the companies that sell medical care plans operate from good will, instead of the chisellers and gougers we see.

Harris was persistently harsh to the accused as attorney general of California, opposing criminal justice reform. When she does take a progressive stand, [she sometimes changes her mind under pressure](#).

More about her [past as a prosecutor](#).

She also championed a law for internet censorship, which equates ignorance to guilt.

The overarching political issue of our times is democracy vs plutocracy; an official that works for the plutocrats [is not going to help restore democracy](#).

As Biden falls in the polls, plutocrats are [moving their investment to Kamala Harris \(and Buttigieg\)](#).

Harris accepted [campaign funds from pharma executives](#) this year.

Kamala Harris Set To Raise Money With [Former Wells Fargo Executive](#).

- 1 August 2019 ([Urgent: Oppose Eugene Scalia's nomination](#))

US citizens: [oppose](#) Eugene Scalia's nomination as secretary of Labor.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 1 August 2019 ([Scientist resigns from US State Department](#))

Scientist Rod Schoonover worked for the US State Department to prepare a report about how [global heating](#) would affect US national security. He has resigned because saboteurs working for the bullshitter [blocked him from presenting it to Congress](#).

Referring to organized, well-paid denial of evident truth as "skepticism" [gives it a kind of legitimacy exactly where it does the most harm](#). Likewise the term "climate change".

Please avoid using those terms.

- 1 August 2019 ([Adding more thugs in the UK](#))

A regional thug chief in the UK said that adding more [thugs will not work to reduce crime without also canceling the Tories' starve-the-poor policies](#) that make people desperate and offer them no help in avoiding crime.

- 1 August 2019 ([Punishing thugs for false witness](#))

A Florida [thug](#) is being prosecuted for [framing a series of people on phony drug charges](#).

It is important to punish [thugs](#) for false witness [in all kinds of situations](#), not only when it is a followup to killing someone.

As a separate matter, we should end the war that's on drugs.

- 1 August 2019 ([Martial law in Philippines](#))

[President Do-dirty](#) seeks to use a state of martial law, aimed initially at a branch of [PISSI](#), to [crush an indigenous group](#), the Lumad.

- 1 August 2019 ([The "purity" movement](#))

The Christian extremist that sparked the "purity" movement in the US [has repented and apologized](#).

- 1 August 2019 ([Why the Irish PM looks like an adult](#))

"(Irish prime minister) Leo Varadkar looks like an adult [because the UK is acting like a spoilt toddler](#)."

- 1 August 2019 ([Plastic bags](#))
ALEC [helps plastic companies lobby](#) against laws to limit plastic bags.
- 1 August 2019 ([Torries do not care about poor people](#))
Bogus Johnson's principal aid acknowledged 2 years ago that the Tories do not care about [poor people or the NHS](#).
It was helpful for him to admit that the Tories are lower than vermin. Will Britons take their blindfolds off and see [this?](#)
- 1 August 2019 ([Johnson and Trump risk disaster for planet](#))
Johnson And Trump's Close Ties Risk Disaster for Planet, [Says Corbyn](#).
- 1 August 2019 ([California requires all candidates to release tax returns](#))
California has passed a law requiring all presidential candidates to [release their tax returns](#) in order to get on the ballot.
There is surely something in his tax returns that might have cost him votes in 2016. But would it have that effect on today's Republicans, who have become inured to lies, hatred and racism? It might seem like small potatoes compared with the vicious things that Republicans are already inured to.
I can imagine that the conman might abandon California (since he has little chance of winning there) to defy this law. But if a swing state does this, he might have to yield.
- 1 August 2019 ([Gilroy murderer advocated white supremacists](#))
The Gilroy murderer advocated white supremacists, which suggests that his shooting was an [act of white supremacist terrorism](#).
- 1 August 2019 ([Father forgot his children in a car](#))
A father forgot his children in a car all day, and they died. Does it make sense to [prosecute him?](#)
Does it make sense to make a law against leaving children in a car for a few minutes?
- 1 August 2019 ([DEA has been stalling for years over research](#))
The Drug Enforcement Agency has been stalling for three years over an application for a permit to grow [marijuana for research](#).
- 1 August 2019 ([Hong Kong protesters trying to identify thugs](#))
Hong Kong protesters are trying to identify thugs [by their faces](#), now that the [thugs](#) have stopped wearing identification badges.
The [thugs](#) generally have an advantage in this kind of conflict.
- 1 August 2019 ([NSA says it deleted a database](#))
When the NSA says it deleted a database, it sometimes finds [another copy later](#).
- 1 August 2019 ([New head of Bureau of Land Management](#))
The new head of the Bureau of Land Management wants to privatize all public land by [selling it to rich people](#).
I suspect the rich buyers will get it at a very low price.
- 1 August 2019 ([Tech executives apologies](#))
Tech executives are making a show of apologizing for the damage their companies have done ... without having to [fix it or even halt it](#).
- 31 July 2019 ([The Democratic debate](#))
The Democratic debate was ["Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren v the 'No We Can't' Democrats."](#)
- 31 July 2019 ([Stop arguing with Bogus Johnson](#))
Stop arguing with Bogus Johnson — [it only feeds the troll](#). What is needed is action, not disputation.
- 31 July 2019 ([José Ramos-Horta calls on Australia to drop charges of whistleblower](#))
José Ramos-Horta, former president of East Timor, calls on Australia to drop charges against the whistleblower that revealed how Australia was [spying on the negotiations between those two countries](#).

I agree completely. I also agree that it was wrong of Australia to steal oil located in what was to become East Timor's waters. But the biggest wrong was that Australia allowed that oil to be burned, contributing to [global heating](#).

If East Timor had extracted this oil and allowed it to be burned, that would have been almost as bad. For a just outcome, just to humanity and nature, we need to leave that oil in the ground.

- 31 July 2019 ([\\$70 million fine for preventing making of generic drugs](#))

Pharma companies will be fined 70 million dollars for [conspiring to prevent](#) the making of generic drugs.

- 31 July 2019 ([Criminal charges for throwing a ball](#))

A student from a town near Detroit [faces criminal charges](#) for throwing a ball that injured another student, in a game similar to dodge ball.

I was unable to play volleyball because I was afraid to be hit by the ball. If you are afraid of being hit by a ball — whether for emotional reasons like me, or valid medical reasons like the student that was injured, you really should decline to play.

- 31 July 2019 ([Border separations since last year](#))

US border thugs have separated over 900 minors [from their parents since a year ago](#). Almost 200 of them are children under 5 years old.

There are valid reasons why a compassionate state might do this in some cases, but when a state and its officials have explicitly declared hatred for migrants, we must expect it to distort those reasons into excuses to do harm.

- 31 July 2019 ([Remaining Vaquita Porpoises](#))

The number of remaining vaquita porpoises is [between 6 and 19](#).

The species might survive if Mexico cracks down on use of gillnets. It is too late to be sure of that — if there are just 6, and none is a female capable of reproducing, it's too late — but we should try.

- 31 July 2019 ([India is almost done abolishing biased divorce law](#))

India has almost finished abolishing the [one-sided law](#) for divorces among Muslims. Men alone had the right to declare a divorce unilaterally.

People should have equal rights in divorce, but I hope this doesn't result in making divorce too difficult for everyone.

- 31 July 2019 ([Nigeria's 'economic boom'](#))

Nigeria shows how extreme inequality of income can [spread poverty](#) in an "economic boom".

- 31 July 2019 ([European websites responsible for like tracking](#))

The European Court of Justice ruled that a web site with a Like button is [responsible for the tracking it does](#).

This ruling won't make a big difference if the site can make the issue go away by adding one more clause to its terms of service. But it might make a small difference, if sites can no longer show a Like button to a visitor who has not yet explicitly accepted the terms of service.

- 31 July 2019 ([Kamala Harris's Medicare for All](#))

Kamala Harris claims to support Medicare for All, but her [version is ersatz](#).

- 31 July 2019 ([Earth overshoot day](#))

This year, Earth Overshoot Day is calculated to occur on August 1. [After just 7 months](#), humans have used what the Earth can regenerate in a whole year.

- 31 July 2019 ([Population of wild boar is exploding](#))

The population of wild boar is exploding in Europe, and many have moved into cities where they [injure humans](#).

Fortunately, they taste great. If you are in Europe, try some.

- 31 July 2019 ([Venture capitalists see Buttigieg as an investment](#))

In Pete Buttigieg, Venture Capitalists See a Campaign [to Invest in](#).

That shows he's on the plutocrats' side, not ours.

- 31 July 2019 ([Arguments against the death penalty](#))
Reminder of [some arguments](#) against the death penalty.
- 31 July 2019 ([Tanzania has arrested a famous investigative journalist](#))
Tanzania [has arrested a famous investigative journalist](#), Erick Kabendera.
One must suppose he investigated something the government didn't want the public to know about.
- 31 July 2019 ([Killings of 500 Activists Since Peace Accords](#))
Mass Protests in Colombia and Abroad Decry [Killings of 500 Activists Since Peace Accords](#).
- 31 July 2019 ([Israel never gives Palestinians the compensation](#))
Under Geneva conventions, every occupying power has an obligation to compensate any damages it does members of the occupied population, whether to their bodies or their property. Israel has changed its laws so that it almost [never gives Palestinians the compensation they are owed](#).
- 31 July 2019 ([Hindu extremist party](#))
A local leader of India's ruling Hindu extremist party [called for gang-raping Muslim women](#).
She was expelled from the party, but men who said similar things have generally been tolerated.
- 31 July 2019 ([Chinese border guards](#))
When foreigners enter Xinjiang (China) from Kyrgyzstan, Chinese border guards have [taken their phones away to put malware on them](#).
The malware searches files in the phones for various things that China considers hateful. It might do other things as well.
I have to point out that people suspect the US of doing similar things to people entering the US, and in other circumstances as well.
- 31 July 2019 ([Enforcement of food and drug safety](#))
Enforcement of [food and drug safety regulations](#) has fallen by 33% under the corruptor.
- 31 July 2019 ([Mistreating the prisoners](#))
Ocasio-Cortez pushed past border [thugs](#) so she could speak to imprisoned immigrants. This enabled her to find out [how they were mistreating the prisoners](#).
The [thugs](#) had gone to extreme lengths to block visiting congresscritters from observing or finding out the prison conditions, and the visitors felt menaced by them. Sounds like a visit to North Korea.
- 31 July 2019 ([US insurance company](#))
A major US insurance company has announced it [will stop insuring coal companies](#) (or investing in them).
- 31 July 2019 ([Influence over the department's decisions](#))
Saboteur of the Interior Bernhardt gave his former client [influence over the department's decisions](#).
The department has adopted [new secrecy rules](#), too.
- 31 July 2019 ([Systems for supporting musicians](#))
When you buy a record, or pay for music streaming (even via ads), the [money usually goes to some company](#), not to the musicians.
I've proposed systems for [supporting musicians without depending on record companies](#), and in a way that encourages sharing.
- 30 July 2019 ([Al Franken](#))
Al Franken now [regrets resigning from the Senate](#). Some senators that pushed him to resign [now regret that too](#).
The first (main) article does not state clearly whether Franken touched Tweeden in the process of making the photo, but it seems he did not. If that is correct, it was not a sexual act at all. It was self-mocking humor. The photograph depicted a fictional sexual act without her fictional consent, but making the photo wasn't a sexual act.
If it is true that he persistently pressured her to kiss him, on stage and off, if he stuck his tongue into her mouth despite her objections, that could well be sexual harassment. He should have accepted no for an answer the first time she said it. However, calling a kiss

"sexual assault" is an exaggeration, an attempt to equate it to much graver acts, that are crimes.

The term "[sexual assault](#)" encourages that injustice, and I believe it has been popularized specifically with that intention. That is why I reject that term.

Meanwhile, Franken says he did not do those things, and the other actors he previously did the same USO skit with said it was not harassment, just acting. Tweeden's store is clearly false in many details.

Should we assume Tweeden was honest? With so many demonstrated falsehoods in her accusations, and given that she planned them with other right-wing activists, and that all of them follow a leader who lies as a tactic every day, I have to suspect that she decided to falsify accusations through exaggeration so as to kick a strong Democrat out of the Senate.

I have no proof of that suspicion. It is possible that she made the accusations honestly. Also, in a hypothetical world, someone might really have done them. Supposing for the moment that those accusations were true, should Franken have resigned over them?

I don't think so. They are misjudgments, not crimes. Franken deserved the chance to learn from the criticism that surprised him. Zero tolerance is a very bad way to judge people.

However, the most important point is to reject the position that if B feels hurt by what A said or did, then automatically A is wrong. People judged Franken that way, and he judged himself that way. But that way degrades the concept of "wrong" into a mere expression of subjective disapproval. What can legitimately be asserted subjectively can legitimately be ignored subjectively too. To judge A that way is to set B up as a tyrant.

If B's feelings were hurt, that's unfortunate -- but is that A's fault? If so, was it culpable, or just a mistake? That is what we have to judge, and if we want others to think our judgments worth following, they must be based on objective facts and objective standards, including objective standards for what words and gestures objectively mean.

Traister is wrestling with a solvable problem. She says, "When you change rules, you end up penalizing people who were caught behaving according to the old rules." Maybe people do, but that is a sign of carelessness. It isn't really hard to change the rules and then judge old actions by the old rules. We just have to remember to do so.

- 30 July 2019 ([Danger of surveillance](#))

One big danger of surveillance is that [people come to believe that breaking a rule is impossible](#), and then it becomes unthinkable.

- 30 July 2019 ([Unfollow the bullshitter](#))

If you use Twitter, [unfollow the bullshitter](#). Posting your outrage does not hurt him — it's what he wants.

- 30 July 2019 ([Your Family Is None of Their Business](#))

Your Family Is [None of Their Business](#).

You, too, are none of their business, but that point is more radical.

- 30 July 2019 ([Tories make it easy to mistreat workers](#))

The Tories have made it easy to get away with mistreating workers in the UK. They have [cut the funding to employment tribunals](#) to the point where it takes 8 months for a case to be heard.

- 30 July 2019 ([Privatization of government services](#))

The UK [privatized applications for student visa renewals](#). Naturally the company gouges the students, using a dark pattern in which there are supposed to be gratis appointments but in practice they are not available.

This particular work has a peak season in September. In a government office, the staff would focus on this during the peak season, then most would shift to other tasks for the rest of the year. A private business may not have an opportunity to do that. Its staff is less stable than civil servants, and its other contracts come and go.

This adds to the [other reasons](#) that government services should never be privatized. Occasionally some government service can simply be eliminated.

- 30 July 2019 ([Being green](#))

Can You Afford To Be [Green When You're Not Rich](#)? I Kept a Diary to Find Out.

The article shows that many forms of conservation are made far more difficult by the fact that society's current pushes people in the other direction.

The most important choice, to reduce your contribution to the ecological footprint of humanity, is not mentioned in the article. It is to choose [not to have a child](#). The writer apparently does not recognize that that was a choice.

- 30 July 2019 ([Plastic waste from fishing](#))

Isolated, uninhabited Henderson Island receives [tons of plastic deposited by the Pacific Ocean](#). Scientists visited for two weeks and collected 6 tons to study it.

60% comes from fishing. This accords with reports that most plastic waste in the ocean is from fishing. That should be much easier to eliminate than waste from a billion consumers.

If the fishing was done near Henderson, it was illegal. But this trash could have floated for thousands of miles.

- 30 July 2019 ([How Stonewall reversed justifying police surveillance](#))

How Stonewall Reversed a Long History of Justifying [Police Surveillance \(and entrapment and jailing\) of gays](#).

- 30 July 2019 ([Deforestation of Amazon driven by meat](#))

Revealed: Rampant Deforestation of Amazon Driven by [Global Greed for Meat](#).

The new business-supremacy treaty between the EU and Mercosur trade blocks [could speed up the deforestation](#).

- 30 July 2019 ([Mangrove trees methane](#))

After mangrove trees die, they [emit lots more methane](#).

- 30 July 2019 ([God orders swallowing of cyanide](#))

(satire) God ordered His followers to swallow cyanide capsules Monday in [preparation for their voyage to Alpha Centauri](#).

- 30 July 2019 ([ICANN eliminated limit on fees for org domain](#))

ICANN has [eliminated the limit](#) on fees for having a .org domain name.

It disregarded almost complete opposition to the move in the public comments it received.

The .org domain overseer would make the same amount of money by collecting \$10k for each of 1000 domains as it would by collecting \$10 for each of a million domains. And the former would be a lot less hassle. I fear that is what we will see.

- 30 July 2019 ([The refugees that fled from Hitler](#))

Americans, remember the refugees that tried to flee from Hitler. All countries turned them away, [and they were killed by Nazis](#).

- 30 July 2019 ([Rafael Acosta tortured](#))

Venezuelan navy captain Rafael Acosta was arrested on June 21 and accused of plotting a coup. Since then he has [died, showing signs of torture](#).

Maduro calls for investigation of the accused torture rather than trying to deny it.

- 30 July 2019 ([Wife of Dubai's emir fled](#))

The wife of Dubai's emir has fled and wants a divorce. The emir thinks of her as property and wants the UK to forcibly [send her back to him](#).

He got his daughter back by sending commandos to grab her.

- 30 July 2019 ([Eli Lilly puts profits over lives](#))

An employee of Eli Lilly, a Pharma company, [reports on when the goal of](#) maximizing profit replaced that of saving lives.

- 30 July 2019 ([3 Billionaires](#))

Bernie Sanders Is Right: 3 Billionaires Really Do Have More Wealth [Than Half of America](#).

- 30 July 2019 ([Ethiopia is trying plant 4 billion trees](#))

[Ethiopia is trying plant 4 billion trees this year](#). Each citizen is supposed to plant 40 at least trees.

If they are planting the right kinds of trees, [in places where forests can grow](#), these trees might do good, if they don't die. Due to [global heating](#), trees may not survive the next 20 years in places where they used to grow. However, it is better to try than not try.

- 30 July 2019 ([Poisoning from lead pellets](#))

We should ban use of lead shot for hunting. The lead pellets remain lying around, [birds eat them, and die of lead poisoning](#).

Eating the poisoned birds, including the birds shot with lead, poisons people.

- 30 July 2019 ([Geneva convention to protect wildlife and nature](#))

Scientists suggest making a Geneva convention to [give wildlife and nature reserves protected status in conflicts](#).

What about [museums with unique objects](#), and [libraries of rare books](#)?

I think they should have similar protected status.

Even accidental [destruction of these special places](#) should be considered a crime — the crime of negligence.

- 30 July 2019 ([Encryption Backdoors](#))

Barr Says Police [Need Encryption Backdoors](#), Doesn't Mention [Cracking] Tools They Use All the Time.

- 30 July 2019 ([Children started early on being tracked](#))

China is getting children started early on [being tracked all the time](#).

- 30 July 2019 ([Communications Decency Act](#))

Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, which protects web site operators from liability for what their users post, is being attacked in Congress. [This puts all sorts of Internet commenting in danger](#).

- 30 July 2019 ([Indian teenager accused a politician of rape](#))

An Indian teenager [accused a politician of raping her](#). A truck collided with the car she was in, killing two of her relatives and injuring her and her lawyer.

There is suspicion that [thugs](#) beat her father to death.

- 30 July 2019 ([Forcing women into sex work](#))

The UK is [forcing women into sex work](#) to get a place to live.

- 30 July 2019 ([Thugs beating up prisoners](#))

Thugs in Harrisburg have a predilection of [beating up prisoners and causing them serious injuries](#), then not taking care of them.

- 30 July 2019 ([Measles attacks the immune cells](#))

[Measles attacks the immune cells that guard the memory of resisting past infections](#). It takes 4 or 5 years for those immune cells to regrow and provide immunity again to those past infections.

Thus, if you get measles, you become vulnerable again, for several years, to infections you were previously immune to. And they can kill you.

- 30 July 2019 ([China sentences 'cyber-dissident'](#))

China's First 'Cyber-Dissident' [Jailed for 12 Years](#).

- 30 July 2019 ([Disastrous deregulation](#))

If the UK needs to make a new trade agreement with the US, the US will impose [disastrous permanent deregulation](#).

The bullshitter's billionaire backers want this, and Bogus Johnson will surely rush to obey. But it would not have been much better under Obama, or any previous US president since the 1970s.

- 30 July 2019 ([Global heating](#))

[Global heating](#) is [making whole families flee Guatemala](#). The seasons have changed, there is less rain, and crops fail.

- 30 July 2019 ([Urgent: Ask candidates about net neutrality](#))

US citizens: [call on CNN](#) to ask the candidates about net neutrality.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 30 July 2019 ([Urgent: Stop giving Nazis a platform](#))

US citizens: [call on CNN, and its head, Zucker](#), to stop giving Nazis a platform.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 30 July 2019 ([Urgent: Fossil fuel divestment](#))

Everyone: [call on the European Investment Bank](#), and the governments that own it, to adopt the fossil fuel divestment proposal and fully implement it.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 30 July 2019 ([Chief aide of UK's new prime minister](#))

Bogus Johnson, the new prime minister of the UK, has appointed as his chief aide a man that has been censured by Parliament for [refusing to testify about fake news activities](#).

- 30 July 2019 ([Unionization](#))

A study reports: Countries with higher levels of unionization have [lower per-capita carbon footprints](#).

- 29 July 2019 ([Supreme Court allowed Pentagon funds to go towards wall](#))

The Supreme Court allowed the cheater to use [\\$2.5bn in Pentagon funds to build a border wall](#).

- 29 July 2019 ([British honours named after empire](#))

British "honours" (non-military medals) named after the no-longer-extant British Empire [cause a moral quandary to some recipients](#), whose ethnic background includes a group that was colonized by said empire.

- 29 July 2019 ([Mueller's testimony basis for impeachment](#))

Rep. Schiff, head of the House Judiciary Committee, said that Mueller's testimony provided the [basis to consider impeaching the conman](#).

It seems to me that we had plenty of basis already.

- 29 July 2019 ([Moscow protesters not daunted](#))

Moscow [thugs](#) have arrested 1300 pro-democracy protesters, but the [protesters are not daunted](#).

All they demand is that the candidates they nominated be allowed to run.

- 29 July 2019 ([Miners attack village](#))

Gold miners in the Brazilian Amazon have [attacked and captured an indigenous village](#) and killed the tribe's leader.

- 29 July 2019 ([Ban on glass skyscrapers](#))

Experts Call for Ban on Glass Skyscrapers [to Save Energy](#).

They need extra cooling to make up for the greenhouse effect of the glass.

- 29 July 2019 ([Hong Kong thugs](#))

Hong Kong [thugs](#) indiscriminately attacked subway passengers who were [simply trying to ride the train](#).

Some of the passengers had previously been in a protest.

- 29 July 2019 ([UK rape victims](#))

UK women have become more willing to report rape, [but only 2% of the cases are actually pursued](#). This discourages the victims, who say "forget about it."

- 29 July 2019 ([Analysis of Hong Kong's Politics](#))

[An analysis](#) of the Hong Kong political situation.

Let's look at the argument that Hong Kongers should surrender their rights to assuage the hurt feelings of a billion Chinese. Are their feelings really hurt? That could be a fiction fabricated by Chinese state.

But let's suppose that 30 million really do have hurt feelings. It could be so. If so, why are their feelings hurt? Why do they even pay attention to Hong Kong? It's because they are more or less Xi-ple; the state media tells them to feel hurt, and they do not doubt what they are told.

Any number of people who demand your surrender because they herded to do so amount to no reason for you to do that.

- 29 July 2019 ([Extreme weather has damaged Australasia's marine life](#))

Extreme Weather Has Damaged Nearly Half Australia's Marine Ecosystems Since 2011. [Some were damaged irreversibly.](#)

The crucial points are that (1) this is surely not limited to Australia and (2) it will get a lot worse unless we stop it soon.

- 29 July 2019 ([MSNBC altered Sanders data](#))

MSNBC alters arithmetic to make [Sanders look bad.](#)

- 29 July 2019 ([Right wing PAC turns out to be less effective](#))

A big right-wing PAC turned out to be much less effective than it might have been, because the organizers directed [much of the money to themselves.](#)

- 29 July 2019 ([DOJ approved T—mobile and Sprint](#))

The Department of Justice [approved the merger](#) of T-Mobile and Sprint.

The political power of large companies is such a threat to democracy that we should make sure they do not merge with or acquire other companies.

- 29 July 2019 ([EU requires online payments with phone](#))

In the EU, online credit card payments will require two-factor identification [using a mobile phone.](#)

Many people are up in arms about the inconvenience of this, but that is only the superficial level. A mobile phone tracks you, and buying on the internet tracks you. The wise thing to do is to go to a physical store and pay cash.

- 29 July 2019 ([Guatemala called safe](#))

The US made Guatemala agree that the US should call it "safe" so that refugees that cross Guatemala (from Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua) [have to apply for asylum in Guatemala.](#)

That policy is ridiculous and unjust because it is based on a falsehood.

- 29 July 2019 ([Pressure to curb global heating](#))

Australia's ruling planet-roasters are [facing pressure from Papua New Guinea](#) to help curb global heating.

Bullshit won't be enough to quell this.

- 29 July 2019 ([Reducing severe storms in Europe](#))

[Planting a lot of forests](#) in Europe could reduce severe storms there.

- 29 July 2019 ([Israeli snipers](#))

In a human advance, Israeli snipers are now [being told to shoot \(unarmed\) Gaza protesters in the lower leg.](#)

This reinforces the point that when they shoot someone in the head, it is [no accident.](#)

- 29 July 2019 ([Talking points on US major media](#))

US major media [continually print interviews with supporters of the bullshitter showing that they have not changed their stance.](#)

This promotes their talking points, but it isn't news any more.

- 29 July 2019 ([Urgent: Call on Harvard to divest fossil fuels](#))

US citizens: [call on Harvard](#) to divest from fossil fuels.

If you call, please spread the word!

- 29 July 2019 ([Urgent: Pass domestic workers bill of rights](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to pass the Domestic Workers Bill of Rights.

If you call, please spread the word!

The Capitol Switchboard numbers are 202-224-3121, 888-818-6641 and 888-355-3588.

- 29 July 2019 ([Urgent: Stop pushing death penalty](#))

US citizens: call on [Los Angeles DA Lacey](#) to stop pushing for the death penalty.

If you call, please spread the word!

- 29 July 2019 ([Urgent: Pass MORE Act](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress to pass the MORE Act](#) to legalize marijuana in a thorough way.

If you call, please spread the word!

The Capitol Switchboard numbers are 202-224-3121, 888-818-6641 and 888-355-3588.

- 29 July 2019 ([Urgent: Allow shorts](#))

Everyone: [call on Walmart](#) to let staff wear shorts.

If you call, please spread the word!

- 29 July 2019 ([Urgent: US citizens: call on Alabama Governor Ivey to give clemency to Rocky Myers.](#))

US citizens: [Call on Alabama Governor Ivey](#) to give clemency to Rocky Myers.

The reason he could not present these arguments in an appeal is the law past under President Clinton to sharply limit appeals against death sentences.

If you call, please spread the word!

- 28 July 2019 ([Replacing human workers](#))

Why are companies rushing to replace human workers with robots based on machine learning? Because that is a way to [make the rich richer](#), and the poor poorer as a byproduct.

Additional robots are greatly reducing the number of jobs in manufacturing, and are likely to [continue doing so](#).

The fact that one particular factory in the UK has more staff now than in 2007 is neither here nor there. Evidently a bigger fraction of the country's manufacturing has been concentrated there.

The increase in productivity is a benefit to whoever owns the factory, and the small fraction of people employed there. But it is not good for society overall unless those benefits are shared with society overall.

It is a mistake to see the issue in nationalistic terms as a competition with other countries. It does no good to country C to have robot factories there rather than in D, E and F, if the benefits go in each case only to the few owners. What matters to country C is making sure the people there who don't own plenty of stock in robot factories can nonetheless enjoy the products of these factories, and everything else one needs for a good life.

- 28 July 2019 ([Antifascist counterprotesters](#))

Portland [thugs](#) harassed and attacked antifascist counterprotesters, based on [accusations that may be phony](#).

However, it seems they really did attack the right-wing journalist, Andy Ngo. We should not do that.

- 28 July 2019 ([Prisoners' phone calls](#))

A sheriff's office and a special gouge-'em prison phone company conspired (in effect) to [record prisoners' privileged phone calls](#) with lawyers.

- 28 July 2019 ([Obrador's policies](#))

The substantive policies of Mexican President López Obrador [put business and the US first](#).

If this is a "win for Mexico's left", then Clinton was a progressive.

- 28 July 2019 ([Privatized probation officers](#))

Privatized UK probation officers say [bigger caseloads and unrealistic targets](#) prevent them from following their professional standards.

This is the standard result of privatizing a government service. We should renationalize all privatized government services.

- 28 July 2019 ([Mao 2.0](#))

China is now ruled by a networked totalitarianism, "[Mao 2.0](#)".

When the article says what "we" believed, the author should speak for himself. I never believed that capitalism would by nature bring democracy. Democracy is how the non-rich organize the state to protect them from the power of the rich.

Back when capitalists needed lots of factory workers, that gave the workers one advantage in their fight for democracy. But it did not guarantee victory. And now that advantage is gone.

- 28 July 2019 ([Husband's guns](#))

Courtney Irby took her husband's guns to the [thug](#) department because he had been trying to kill her. The thugs [charged her with burglary](#) and jailed her.

- 28 July 2019 ([Transmountain tar sands pipeline](#))

Trudeau [gave Canada's approval](#) to the Transmountain tar sands pipeline. This makes a mockery of the climate emergency declaration Trudeau made this week.

- 28 July 2019 ([The new NAFTA](#))

The new NAFTA improves many specific points, but its fundamental effect is still to give businesses more power and democracy less power, and thus to transfer income [from workers to business owners](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([NYC mesh network](#))

A mesh network is [providing true internet service](#) to large parts of New York City.

I used to think that community mesh networks could not be more than toys, but it's a great surprise to see this is not so.

- 28 July 2019 ([Bills to improve security of US elections](#))

Senate Republicans [blocked](#) bills to improve the security of US elections.

- 28 July 2019 ([Cruel "tough on crime" approach](#))

Progressive US district attorneys are making inroads into the cruel ["tough on crime" approach to street crime](#).

Toughness for toughness' sake causes a lot of collateral damage and can backfire by increasing crime.

The case where toughness is exactly what we need is for business crime, whether against workers or against customers. For instance, [stealing workers' pay](#) and [foreclosing on millions of Americans' homes using fraudulent papers](#). The perpetrators do this for profit, and if it ceases to be profitable, they will stop doing it.

- 28 July 2019 ([Plutocracy](#))

If we have recourse to a billionaire to defeat the impositions of other billionaires, the result will be to [ensconce plutocracy more deeply](#).

A society where a small number of the powerful compete for power could [turn into an empire](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Deregulation of business](#))

Mulvaney is pushing [deregulation of business in many areas of the US government](#).

By contrast, the [bully](#) wants more regulation of [activities that help poor people, refugees, and women](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Urgent: End federal attacks on abortion rights](#))

US citizens: [call on presidential candidates](#) to commit to ending federal attacks on abortion rights.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 28 July 2019 ([Urgent: Shut down Google's location tracker](#))

Everyone: [call on Google](#) to shut down its location tracker Sensorvault.

Sensorvault stores the locations tracked in great detail by Android apps, which do this even when location tracking is "turned off".

This is what you have to expect from nonfree software.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 28 July 2019 ([Urgent: Reject disinformation tactics](#))

US citizens: [call on Democratic and Republican parties](#) to denounce and reject disinformation tactics.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 28 July 2019 ([Urgent: Investigate illegalities in use of soldiers](#))

US citizens: [call on the Pentagon's inspector general](#) to investigate illegalities in use of soldiers to patrol the border.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 28 July 2019 ([Urgent: Pass the ROE Act](#))

Citizens of Massachusetts: [call on your Mass legislator](#) to pass the ROE Act.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 28 July 2019 ([Unusual sexuality](#))

Hatred of unusual sexuality still [causes gratuitous suffering around the world](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Pentagon's bloated funding deal](#))

Even some "progressive" Congresscritters voted the [Pentagon's bloated funding deal](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Jewish religious leaders](#))

Jewish religious leaders reminded Congress that [rejection and cruelty to refugees can hurt anyone](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Russian hacking the 2020 election](#))

(satire) ... Russian operative Pavel Artemyev reportedly expressed disappointment Friday that gerrymandering has [taken all the fun out of hacking the 2020 election](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Comparing foreign policy](#))

Comparing Warren with Sanders on [foreign policy](#).

I disagree with the author on some points. Russia and China do threaten the security of Americans, though not as much as the bullshitter does. I think the US should keep troops in Rojava (the Kurdish part of Syria) for as long as Rojava wants them.

If we care about democracy in the Middle East, we should defend it when it is threatened.

- 28 July 2019 ([Thugs' video surveillance](#))

Detroit is playing games to expand the [thugs' video surveillance](#) and obfuscate its relationship with face recognition.

- 28 July 2019 ([Remaining refugees on Manus](#))

The remaining refugees imprisoned on Manus Island have been invited to move to New Zealand, but Australia's right wing hate regime [won't let them](#).

It is good that the [bully](#) did not stop the US from accepting many refugees from Manus. As for the ones that have moved to Port Moresby, the capital of Papua New Guinea, I wonder what their lives are like there.

Australia is still ashamed of its actions there. An opposition Australian senator went to Manus Island and asked to visit the prison. Not only was he denied permission, [Papua New Guinea immediately deported him](#).

It is clear that Papua New Guinea's government is acting as a puppet for the Australian minister in charge, Dutton.

By the way, Dutton is the same minister that could have you imprisoned if you disobey secret orders to sabotage your clients or your free software. Don't go to Australia.

- 28 July 2019 ([UK extends abortion and same sex marriage in Northern Ireland](#))

The UK parliament voted to [authorize abortion and same-sex marriage](#) in Northern Ireland. These were blocked because the parliament of Northern Ireland ceased to function some years ago.

- 28 July 2019 ([Advice about militarism](#))

Important advice about militarism that President Roosevelt received in 1940, [but the US is forgetting](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Woman's soul in purgatory](#))

(satire) A woman's soul [complains of gender bias](#) in purgatory.

There is surely gender bias in [CIA torture, too](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Biden championed Dubya's war with Iraq](#))

Biden didn't just vote for Dubya's war with Iraq. [He championed it](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Israelis' houses on Palestinians'](#))

Israel has decided to legitimize Israelis' houses on Palestinians' land, if the [Israelis dealt "in good faith" with the Israeli government](#).

Israelis are not required to show "good faith" to Palestinians themselves.

Contrast this with how Israel grabs for excuses to make Palestinians [demolish their own homes](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Evidence supports Iran's claim](#))

The [weight of the evidence supports Iran's claim](#) that the US spy drone that Iran shot down was over Iran's waters.

Making war plans and running war games do not strike me as matters of special concern. Those kinds of preparations are, in most cases, not followed by an actual war. Thus, if the [bully](#) does attack Iran, I won't consider that planning to be the cause.

The US has cancelled and violated the nonnuclear accord with Iran but [still criticizes Iran for not obeying it](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Alexa recordings](#))

Amazon keeps Alexa recordings and transcripts [indefinitely](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Arctic wildfires](#))

"Unprecedented": More Than 100 Arctic Wildfires Burn in [Worst Ever Season](#).

In some places the peat is burning and could burn for months.

The relation between this and [global heating](#) is direct in both directions. The Arctic has heated much more than anywhere else on Earth, and that temperature makes for fire. And the fire spews CO2 which will increase [global heating](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Mobile phone personality](#))

A person's pattern of using a mobile phone allows deducing [a lot about per personality](#).

Phone companies around the world could use this to help profile people.

- 28 July 2019 ([The right trees in the right place](#))

In order for planting trees to be environmentally beneficial, they need to be the [right trees, in a suitable place](#).

I conjecture that a good rule would be to plant trees in places that used to be forests a few centuries ago, and plant the trees that used to live there.

- 28 July 2019 ([EPA plans to allow polluters to appeal](#))

The EPA plans to allow polluters to [appeal rulings](#) but not allow pollution victims to do so.

Plutocratists have directed that agency to do the opposite of its job. That is why I now call it the Environmental Poisoning Agency.

- 28 July 2019 ([Moscow police arrest 200 protesters](#))

Moscow Police Arrest up to 200 [Ahead of Election Protest](#).

Putin openly visits contempt on democracy as an act of intimidation, like what the [bully](#) does in the US.

- 28 July 2019 ([Woman forced to wax testicles](#))

In [the Guardian](#) we read,

Surely a woman shouldn't be forced to wax testicles if that makes them feel uncomfortable?

Who or what does "them" refer to? The testicles? The woman?

Notwithstanding my delectation in occasional wildly funny ambiguities such as that one, I continue to advocate systematically avoiding them by using [singular gender-neutral pronouns](#) when referring to just one person. In this particular case, since the person is specified as a woman, "her" would also have fit.

- 28 July 2019 ([Siri records](#))

Siri Records Fights, Doctor's Appointments, And Sex ([and contractors hear it](#)).

- 28 July 2019 ([Israeli who had to prove his guilt](#))

The Israeli Who Had to Prove He's Guilty of Beating a Palestinian, and the [Palestinian Who Had to Prove He's Innocent of Raping a Jewish Girl](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Australian mines cut corners](#))

The workers in Australian mines now have precarious jobs (and, apparently, no unions to defend them). So they are afraid they will be fired if they report how the mine [cuts corners and endangers people's lives and health](#).

The underlying cause of this is right-wing government that lets mines get away with precarious employment. Give miners more power and their union will attend to the safety.

- 28 July 2019 ([Machine learning patents](#))

Machine learning / automated classification is going to be [loaded down with patents](#), like other fields of computing.

(The article uses the misleading over-generalization, "IP". It covers a bunch of disparate laws, which in itself is spreads confusion by leading people to [think those laws have something significant in common](#).)

We need laws that [directly exclude software and use of software](#) from the domain of patents.

- 28 July 2019 ([Jewish activists protest deportation thugs](#))

Jewish activists protest the deportation thugs, saying "[Never Again Means Close the Camps!](#)"

Jews have two different interpretations of "Never again!" One is narrow: "Never again to us!" The other interpretation is broad: "Never again to anybody!" I admire that side of Judaism (although it won't convince me to believe in supernatural entities).

- 28 July 2019 ([Amazon strike](#))

A strike planned in an Amazon warehouse is meant to draw a contrast between the carefully cultivated image Amazon presents to consumers and the [reality for the company's workers](#).

By contrast, in the Free Software Movement we aim to draw a contrast between that same image and the reality for those who make the mistake of accepting the [company's services](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Ocean tipping point](#))

Evidence suggests that excess CO2 in the ocean can reach a tipping point after which the ocean [would rapidly become much more acidic](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Legalizing recreation marijuana](#))

Legalizing recreational marijuana [correlates with decreased use](#) by high school students.

- 28 July 2019 ([Instagram AI](#))

Instagram is testing AI-implemented [kind communication guidelines](#). In the GNU Project we ask people to learn and consciously practice our kind [communication guidelines](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Defense attorneys vow](#))

(satire) Defense Attorneys Vow To Present Irrefutable Evidence [Proving Jeffrey Epstein Billionaire](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Employee's fingerprints](#))

The staff of a Chicago medical organization are suing because it [identified them with fingerprints for each shift](#).

I think it is bad that the employer has their fingerprints at all. Is it possible to authenticate people with a biometric that is normally hidden?

- 28 July 2019 ([US schools monitoring social media](#))

US schools are monitoring social media postings of everyone living near by, using [Artificial Stupidity to detect "threats"](#). Nearly every alarm is a false alarm.

One thing that the article doesn't mention is that the contracts for using the school's computers and their nonfree software, and the online dis-services that the school wants to let spy on students, are fundamentally unjust.

- 28 July 2019 ([Christchurch Mayor](#))

Christchurch Mayor On Mass Shooter: ['I've no idea what his name is'](#).

I didn't pay attention to that name either.

- 28 July 2019 ([Face recognition and body cameras](#))

Real-Time Facial Recognition [Should Never Be](#) Coupled with Body-Worn Cameras.

I agree, but that is not enough. We must also them from being used to make and store videos without limits. My proposed automatic system to decide [when to save the recording could take care of this job](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Mining drivers licenses](#))

The FBI frequently identifies people by running their photos through many [states' data bases of drivers license photos](#).

The deportation thugs do it too, which means that the [states which permit this expose their residents](#) gratuitously to deportation.

- 28 July 2019 ([Tsipras and Syriza](#))

Tsipras and Syriza lost the first battle to the global plutocracy. Then, instead of fighting for every inch, they [capitulated eagerly](#).

Then most Greeks did the foolish thing that a defeated people often do: they decided to support a different set of right-wing plutocratists instead. This was pitiful and stupid. Despair can drive a people to do self-mutilation, just as it can drive an individual to it, but don't help your enemies subjugate your people.

- 28 July 2019 ([Global heating in Somalia](#))

Global heating is causing havoc in Somalia, [through repeated drought](#).

As the number of people who can't feed themselves any more increases, it is clear that other countries will eventually let them die. But in the mean time, climate strikers and Extinction Rebellion can present their example of a foretaste of what is coming if we don't decarbonize.

- 28 July 2019 ([Redirecting pipeline profits](#))

["\[Trudeau's\] promise to direct pipeline profits to clean energy](#) is like allowing cigarettes to be sold to kids as long as tobacco companies make generous donations to cancer research."

There is [no room in the carbon budget](#) for strip-mining [Alberta's tar sands](#).

- 28 July 2019 ([Disasters caused by global heating](#))

Local disasters due to [global heating](#) are happening at a rate of [roughly once per week](#).

Mizutori's stance is misguided. We must give priority to long-term reduction of the harm that [global heating](#) will do. We must do all we can in that direction. Defending cities from floods and fires of the 2020s must take second place to reducing the floods and fires of the 2030s, 2040s, 2050s and beyond.

It is good to defend cities better in the short term, provided this is not at the expense of measures to reduce the long-term threat.

- 28 July 2019 ([Refusal to cover up murals](#))

[Scholars implore San Francisco](#) not to cover up the murals that depict misdeeds of George Washington.

It is true that we can't tell the school's students (or anyone else) how to feel. That doesn't mean we must cater to misguided demands that are motivated by those feelings.

- 28 July 2019 ([US concentration camp cruelty](#))

In US concentration camps for immigrants, the officers let [thugs vent cruelty at the prisoners](#).

"The conditions in the border cells are shocking — but the right[-wing] will use [public outrage \[as an excuse to\] to build more jails](#)."

- 27 July 2019 ([Bully's act of terror](#))

For the [bully](#), threatening massive deportation raids then not carrying them out added up to a successful act of terror. He used [cruelty to send a message](#).

I did not post about this, because it is a mistake to talk about whatever the conman says. Next time he tries to terrify people with a threat, let's please not talk about it. The things has actually does cause enough harm on their own; we need not add to them by quoting his threats.

- 27 July 2019 ([25 year wealth gap](#))

Wealthy white males in the US today are about as healthy (on the average) as were the wealthy white males of 25 years ago, but all other demographic groups in the US have [got less healthy since then](#).

The study doesn't show the reason for this, but the increasing expense of medical care in the US is surely part of the reason. The increasing stress of living in the US under plutocracy may be another.

The hospital that became famous for suing poor people for medical charges they can't pay has dropped some of the lawsuits. [It is going to reconsider that policy](#).

Maybe after this public outrage the hospital will cease all such lawsuits. Or maybe it won't. If it does stop, it might start again in a year or two and hope nobody notices.

No word on whether it will rename itself as "Le Malheur".

- 27 July 2019 ([Boris Johnson, evil clown](#))

Boris Johnson, an evil clown, may now become prime minister of the UK by [burying a real scandal under an assertion so unbelievable](#) that the press got distracted by how unbelievable it was.

The assertion was also apparently calculated to disguise one of his past failures in search engines.

I didn't post any notes about the unbelievable statement, because it was not important. Additional reasons to distrust someone's word are hardly needed when that [someone is a Tory](#).

- 27 July 2019 ([Border thugs discussion group](#))

US border [thugs](#) tried to cover up their secret discussion group for posting their hatred of immigrants, but the [Intercept saved it and has posted about it](#).

The quotation, "Fuck the whole country of Honduras," is ironic because that's [exactly what the US has done](#).

- 27 July 2019 ([Urgent: Block Facebook's planned currency](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to block Facebook's planned currency.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 27 July 2019 ([Outspoken progressives](#))

(satire) ... House Speaker Nancy Pelosi expressed concerns Thursday that outspoken progressives [could do permanent damage to Democrats' reputation as ineffectual cowards](#).

- 27 July 2019 ([Deportation thugs](#))

'I Was Ready to Sign' Deportation Papers, Says US Citizen After Three Weeks in [Horrific Immigrant Detention Center](#).

The conditions included denial of medical care.

The deportation [thugs](#) released him after negative publicity, but there is no reason to think that they will make the conditions for the other prisoners any less nasty.

- 27 July 2019 ([Australia's new coal projects](#))

All insurance companies in Australia [now refuse to insure any new coal projects](#). This may put an end to most of them, but really large companies might self-insure.

Now what about oil and gas?

- 27 July 2019 ([Natural gas disinformation campaign](#))

A natural gas company in California [set up an unnatural astroturf disinformation campaign](#) to keep the methane leaking.

The term "balance" has a powerful irrational appeal. We've seen this in the [copyright field](#) for ages, and now in energy as well.

- 27 July 2019 ([The British bullshitter](#))

About Boris Johnson, the British bullshitter that is [allied with the US bullshitter](#).

- 27 July 2019 ([Deadly heat in tropical regions](#))

If we don't curb [global heating](#), many tropical regions will experience deadly heat every year. Often this will follow [storms that cut the electric supply to the air conditioning that would be necessary to save people's lives](#).

- 27 July 2019 ([Mueller's testimony](#))

Mueller's testimony did not deal a political blow to the bullshitter, because he [gave little if any new explanation](#).

I think the bullshitter deserves to be impeached and removed from office, for treating the US political system with contempt, as well as multiple crimes and acts of cruelty and dishonesty. But it is impossible to do that, and without that possibility, whether to impeach is simply a matter of political tactics.

- 27 July 2019 ([RT TV disinformation](#))

How RT TV [designs its disinformation to serve Russia's interest](#).

- 27 July 2019 ([Opioids executive convicted of bribery](#))

An opioids executive was convicted of [bribing doctors](#) to prescribe the opioid "subsys."

- 27 July 2019 ([Extinction rebellion](#))

Extinction Rebellion: "[Fashion Week Should Be a Declaration of Emergency](#)."

It is bizarre to think that clothing makes a big contribution to [global heating](#), but it is true: "fast fashion", the practice of wearing clothes just a little and discarding them, has turned clothing into something to consume rather than a durable good.

- 27 July 2019 ([Right to repair for farm equipment](#))

Sanders and Warren advocate [right to repair for farm equipment](#).

- 27 July 2019 ([Barcelona will try to prevent airport expansion](#))

Barcelona will try to prevent [expansion of its airport](#).

Bravo! The world cannot sustain the increase of air travel.

- 27 July 2019 ([The UK is trying to corrupt charities](#))

The UK is trying — again — to [corrupt charities that help homeless](#) people by getting them to participate in a scheme to identify foreigners and deport them.

In doublespeak, this scheme is called "support" for homeless people.

- 27 July 2019 ([India is shipping water by train](#))

India is shipping water by train from Kerala to Chennai. But since the [lack of water is due to global heating](#), the shortfall will increase over time.

If Delhi runs out of water next year, I doubt that shipping water from Kerala will be a solution.

In the long term, IUDs can help prevent the need for water from increasing, and solar-powered desalinators can compensate (a little) for the decrease in supply. But farms need water, too. I fear India is headed for massive starvation.

- 27 July 2019 ([Microsoft's anti-Right-to-Repair](#))

Debunking Microsoft's [anti-Right-to-Repair FUD](#).

Bravo for the article, but one quotation falls into a widespread confusion: that spread by the term "intellectual property".

and "If you hire a managed service provider to do your network security they could, instead,... steal your intellectual property."

In general, that statement is false. It could not steal your copyrights, or your patents, or your trademarks, or your plant variety monopolies, or your IC mask monopolies, or your publicity rights — those are legal privileges, so they can't be "stolen". I think the only things it could possibly steal that way are trade secrets.

Please [don't ever say "intellectual property"](#) if what you mean is "trade secrets" or if what you mean is "copyrights", or if what you mean is any other specific thing, because that is a big generalization. It is likely to convert a narrow true statement into a broad false one.

If you think that what you mean is all of them, then please study the issue more carefully — a statement so general is usually false, and probably most of them are not even relevant to the issue at hand.

If you want to quote a statement where someone else used the term "intellectual property", please check whether the statement was false due to this confusion. Any statement that used that term probably was confused.

- 27 July 2019 ([Law to publish the tax returns of corporations](#))

To make Amazon pay its fair share of taxes, and Apple, Google, Facebook and others too, [we need to see their tax returns](#). Let's change tax law to publish the tax returns of corporations.

We could extend this to every company that files a separate tax return, or to every company that isn't a sole proprietorship.

With that exception, it would respect personal privacy adequately,

- 27 July 2019 ([Face tracking](#))

Private use of [face tracking is widespread and dangerous](#), but the proposed regulations only aim at use by public agencies. Not enough!

Government [surveillance cameras watching the street](#) are a great disguise for private surveillance cameras put up by nobody-knows-who.

Surveillance cameras — [cameras transmitting video somewhere else — should be illegal](#) except when authorized by a court for a specific place and period of time.

- 27 July 2019 ([Unfair trials](#))

Pressuring Bahrain to cancel executions of people whose [trials were thoroughly unfair](#).

- 27 July 2019 ([Tobacco Epidemic](#))

Battle Against Tobacco Epidemic [Is Far from Won](#).

- 27 July 2019 ([European Investment Bank](#))

The European Investment Bank will [stop funding fossil fuel projects](#).

This could make a real difference if other investors follow this example.

- 27 July 2019 ([An interview with Manual Zelaya](#))

An interview with Manual Zelaya, who [was president of Honduras until the coup](#) that appears to have been approved by Hilary Clinton.

- 27 July 2019 ([Contrasting codes of conduct](#))

Contrasting codes of conduct and accusations with [trying to be kind to other people](#).

- 27 July 2019 ([California require bots to identify themselves](#))

California now has a law [requiring bots to identify themselves](#) as such when used for advertising or electioneering.

I think this is a good idea, but I wonder whether enforcing the law will prove difficult.

- 27 July 2019 ([Brazil frozen chicken infested with salmonella](#))

Brazil is a big exporter of frozen chicken, and 1/5 of it is [infested with salmonella](#).

The EU should blacklist Brazil until its infestation rate gets down to the achievable level? I doubt it will do so, but why not? Is it only lack of moral commitment, or is there some legal obstacle?

I wonder if some [business-supremacy treaties](#) forbid this.

Can anyone suggest who to ask?

- 27 July 2019 ([Plants exchange signals](#))

Plants [exchange signals and respond to some stimuli](#). Don't leap to the conclusion that this means they can feel or think.

- 27 July 2019 ([Trustworthy AI](#))

An independent expert group sponsored by the European Union has published a plan for [promoting "trustworthy AI"](#).

It does not seem to propose how to develop an AI to be trustworthy, how to determine whether a given AI program is in fact trustworthy, or how any AI program can be trustworthy. As far as I know, these are totally unsolved problems, but the report takes for

granted some solution is used.

- 27 July 2019 ([Captured an Iranian oil tanker](#))

The British navy [captured an Iranian oil tanker](#) said to be taking oil to Syria.

This was clearly an act of war, and justifies military action Iran's part.

The capture [took place in disputed waters near Gibraltar](#), and Spain has objected to it.

I can't see what relevance EU sanctions have. If there are sanctions, they prohibit certain dealings between EU entities and Syria. I don't see how an Iranian ship would come under EU sanctions, unless it is owned by a European company.

Only a blockade would purport go that far, and a blockade, if there were one, would be an act of war in itself. (Remember when Egypt blockaded Elat? Israel responded to that, legitimately, by capturing the Sinai.)

I don't think the EU has announced a blockade of Syria. Indeed, it is unable to do such a thing; the whole field of war is outside the EU's scope.

So there is some bullshit here. I hope someone sorts out the facts.

- 27 July 2019 ([China taking thousands children](#))

China is [taking thousands of Uighur children away from their parents](#) and putting them into boarding schools designed to assimilate them.

This resembles what the US and Canada did to indigenous peoples during much of the 20th century. Public opinion made the US and Canada stop this, but in China public opinion is not allowed to exist.

Even fairly mild reproach of China for [putting a million Uighurs in brainwash camps](#) has discomfited China. Firm pressure might accomplish a great deal.

Perhaps Hong Kong should be the main target of the pressure, for now.

- 27 July 2019 ([Plutocratist party](#))

An explicitly [plutocratist party is expected to win](#) the elections in Greece.

I think Syriza's surrender discredited the idea of resistance. Perhaps Greeks have thrown in the towel, and are now telling themselves that surrender will get them some trickle-down. However, we've seen that that's bullshit. The plutocrats will be nice to you until you have swallowed the hook, but then they squeeze ever harder.

Getting a little more privileges in the labor camp, through assiduous obedience, will never get you freedom.

- 27 July 2019 ([We'll pay for your personal data](#))

ACLU: beware dis-services that say, "We'll pay for your personal data" — that would only [legitimize the basis of their power, not weaken it](#).

Shushana Zuboff's take on why "owning the data about you" would be [ineffective as protection from surveillance capitalism](#).

- 27 July 2019 ([Keep information on who paid for each political ad](#))

Canada required social media companies to [keep information on who paid for each ad political](#). Google responded by not running any political ads.

The author seems to think that Google somehow defeated Canada. I say it's just the opposite: Canada achieved a bigger success than it aimed for!

This suggests it may be possible for one country to succeed in defeating a system that spreads fake news, *if* it can identify the crucial nexus at which to operate. Different networks function differently.

- 27 July 2019 ([Shell's Sleazy Censorship](#))

Shell's Sleazy Censorship: arranging a [joint event with climate defenders](#), then cancelling the participation of the researcher who was going to show how Shell is still working to hamper climate defense.

- 27 July 2019 ([Restricting diesel fuel](#))

Less well-off areas have least to lose from [restricting diesel fuel](#), and most to gain from clean-air zones, study finds.

- 27 July 2019 ([Australian aboriginals](#))

The University of New South Wales has [told teachers not to talk about the fact that the Australian aboriginals](#) reached and colonized Australia around 40,000 years ago. Science is to be suppressed so as to respect their nonscientific traditional views.

I think that lying to children is likely to backfire on them. I resent when parents demand I support their lies about Santa Claus, because I think I'd be doing wrong.

Lying to adults about their group's origin could be even worse.

- 27 July 2019 ([OPEC climate defense campaigns](#))

OPEC acknowledged that climate defense campaigns including the school [strike for climate threaten fossil fuel extraction industry's future profits](#).

Greta Thunberg called this "our biggest compliment yet".

OPEC calls criticism "unscientific", but that can only mean that the likely fragments of the coming disaster have not been specifically proved. It would be irrational to wait for such detailed proof before protecting ourselves.

[Striking students can influence officials even in right-wing parts](#) of the US. They can mobilize their parents, too.

- 27 July 2019 ([Damage caused by global heating](#))

A study covers 1300 [lawsuits against governments and businesses](#) over damage caused by [global heating](#).

- 27 July 2019 ([High stress cause fetuses to miscarry](#))

Situations of high stress cause fetuses to miscarry. [The effect is stronger for male fetuses](#).

I wonder whether in Alabama anyone that imposes stress on a pregnant woman who subsequently has a miscarriage could be prosecuted for homicide.

- 27 July 2019 ([US farmers](#))

US farmers are growing a lot of food but making little money. At the same time, they are exhausting and losing the soil and spreading toxins. [Here are ideas for how to fix both](#).

Another cause of the failure of farms is being compelled to sell to a few large middleman companies. Many farms have gone broke recently. The pressure means farmers cannot invest in [regenerative agriculture](#).

Sanders proposes how to [restructure agriculture in the US](#) for the sake of farmers.

- 27 July 2019 ([Venezuela's suppression forces](#))

A UN human rights report says that [Venezuela's suppression forces have killed almost 7000](#) people since Jan 2018 for "resisting arrest". This is the government's own figure, so it is clear they were all killed in raids, but it is inconceivable that they all died in that way.

More information about [torture discovered by the UN visit](#).

- 27 July 2019 ([Corrupt judge Sergio Moro](#))

Brazil has thoroughly condemned [corrupt judge Sergio Moro](#).

In the past, this sort of exposure would compel an official to resign. Nowadays, corrupt officials have discovered that trying to tough it out may succeed. What will it take to kick Moro out of office?

- 26 July 2019 ([Racist stop-and-frisk](#))

US Judge Shira Scheindlin pronounces on racist stop-and-frisk in Israel based on her decisions about [racist stop-and-frisk in New York City](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Military occupation of Palestine](#))

Israeli right-wing extremists, from Netanyahu on down, have decided to deny the fact that [Palestine is under Israeli military occupation](#).

When anyone points out this fact, they call it "anti-semitism". They do so, while maintaining an alliance with [real anti-semites in the US](#).

- 26 July 2019 (["Influencers"](#))

"Influencers" [try to extort gratis food from restaurants](#), even ice cream trucks.

The best way to deal with them is to stay away from Instagram. It's a branch of Facebook and participating in it is for zuckers.

- 26 July 2019 ([Military bill forbids fighting with Iran](#))

House Democrats put an amendment into a military bill that would [strictly forbid fighting with Iran](#), other than defending against attacks.

- 26 July 2019 ([iBad tracking in schools](#))

If your school provides you with an iBad, it's not merely imposing user-subjugating software and online dis-services. It may also be [tracking your movements in the school](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Tree planting](#))

Tree planting [could be a big part of preventing climate disaster](#).

However, I have to raise two questions:

- Will the trees we plant live to grow large? [Global heating](#) could kill them. Migrating parasites and infections could kill them. Humans desperate for firewood could kill them.
- Will we be able to plant trees faster than deforesters cut them down?
- 26 July 2019 ([Migrants imprisoned next to military base](#))

One of Libya's governments imprisoned migrants next to a military base. Haftar's army attacked the base and bombed the prison too. This [caused over 100 casualties](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Release of Captain Rackete from arrest](#))

An Italian judge rebuked Salvini and [releasing Captain Rackete from arrest](#). It is not clear whether any of the charges have been dropped.

- 26 July 2019 ([Hong Kong legislature](#))

A hundred or so protesters [took over the building of the Hong Kong legislature](#), after [bashing down its door](#). Then they destroyed computers and other facilities.

That legislature is elected through a biased system; it is not democratic. It does not deserve much respect; I won't say that damaging its property is inherently wrong, But this violent action, and the subsequent vandalism, play into China's hands.

- 26 July 2019 ([Demand anyone's New York state tax returns](#))

New York State has authorized the head of a congressional committee to [demand anyone's New York state tax returns](#). That congresscritter should now demand the conman's tax returns.

This won't have immediate results — I suppose the conman will sue, hoping to get the Supreme Court to overturn that law.

- 26 July 2019 ([Bee-Killing Pesticide](#))

USDA Indefinitely Suspends Honey Bee Tracking Survey as [eleven] States Get [special emergency] [Approval to Use Bee-Killing Pesticide](#).

I wish this were satire.

- 26 July 2019 ([Many compostable plastics remain inert](#))

Many "biodegradable" and even "compostable" plastics remain [inert and undamaged in home composting, or in the ocean](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([UK ambassador to the US](#))

The UK ambassador to the US has been sending his government [an honest appraisal of the conman](#).

If ministers continue fawning on the conman, it's not due to ignorance.

- 26 July 2019 ([Business-supremacy treaties](#))

[Business-supremacy treaties are a big screw](#). If the UK pulls out of one (the EU), another one (the WTO) will clobber it.

- 26 July 2019 ([Right-wing policies](#))

Right-wing policies make people homeless, and right-wing politicians make an excuse not to care: they regard the [homeless people as a disgusting nuisance, to dehumanize them](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([The Green New Deal](#))

The Green New Deal [can do more than avoid disaster](#). It can be an opportunity to make the world better in other ways.

- 26 July 2019 ([Company with phony information](#))

The UK makes it easy to [set up a company with phony information](#) about the owners. It doesn't even bother to check whatever information it is given.

- 26 July 2019 ([Risk of fraud in games](#))

1/3 of gamers reportedly refuse to pay for anything in games simply because of [the risk of fraud](#).

However, there is a deeper reason to refuse to pay for anything in a game: because that enables the game company to track you. And the deepest reason is that the game is a [proprietary program](#).

Playing against someone who buys better skill or better equipment is equivalent to playing against someone who cheats.

- 26 July 2019 ([Britain's Obsession with "anti-Semitism"](#))

Let's Be Honest about Britain's [Obsession with "anti-Semitism"](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Fix Food System](#))

We [Americans] Have the Money to [Fix Our Food System](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Sued for giving patient data to Google](#))

The Chicago Medical Center is being [sued for giving patient data to Google, in a form that can be reidentified easily](#).

[I think that clinics and schools should be required to keep their personal data on their own computers, located in their own facilities, not in servers run by companies that operate them in a cloudy way. A contract in which the company says how it can use the data is not enough to trust that it will remain private.](#)

- 26 July 2019 ([Norway prison system](#))

Norway focused its prison system on [rehabilitation](#), and recidivism declined from 60-70% to 20-25%.

Rehabilitation costs more per prisoner but results in having much fewer prisons.

I suspect that lowering recidivism that much depends on having a society that offers ex-cons a way to get by, other than through crime. My impression is that in the US it is so hard to get a job with an income you can live on, if you have a criminal record, that many ex-cons that want to go straight are unable to make a go of it. If the goal is to reduce the harm done by crime, this is self-defeating.

But then, the US also puts a terrible burden on poor people, and on various disprivileged demographics, even if they don't have a criminal record. It is a general pattern of dehumanization, rather than a constructive attempt to address a problem.

- 26 July 2019 ([Posting the nude photos](#))

For years I've recommended that the way to defeat extortion through nude photos is by [posting the nude photos](#). Now the idea is catching on.

If defeating extortion nudes (and revenge porn, which differs by its motive) were the only benefit, perhaps it would not be crucial. However, it will also help decrease the general nudity taboo, and that is very important.

Please don't refer to the people who carry out extortion via nudes as —hackers—. There is no reason to think that they are hackers; in any case, routine extortion is not [hacking](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Starbucks worker](#))

A Starbucks worker asked a few [thugs](#) (who were there as customers) to move because someone [felt threatened by them](#). Starbucks apologized.

If the representative of the [thug](#) association really can't imagine why some customers felt threatened, he is mentally deficient, but I think it more likely he is covering up that side of the truth. I know, from reading the news and talking with acquaintances, why blacks may feel endangered by the presence of [thugs](#). Other people, with less grounds, may feel endangered by the presence of blacks.

A store should not ask customers to leave, or to move, because "someone feels threatened by you" — not blacks, and not [thugs](#) — because people should not be judged based on how someone else feels about them.

- 26 July 2019 ([Letting children play freely](#))

FAQ for evidence-based defense of [letting children play freely](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([National Health Service](#))

Persistent Tory cuts to the National Health Service has [pushed some doctors to refuse overtime](#).

Under new pension rules, they will have to pay to work overtime.

Meanwhile, non-medical staff are going on [strike against privatization](#).

I think it is the Tories' intention to destroy the NHS by cutting its funds to the point it cannot possibly function. Then they will claim, as right-wingers like to do, that government programs can't work right.

- 26 July 2019 ([Korea's smart city](#))

Korea's made-from-zero "smart city" replicates The Village, complete with [audio announcements that people can't shut off](#).

I mean The Village from the TV show, The Prisoner.

- 26 July 2019 ([A survey of sales sites](#))

A survey of sales sites, [checking for use of dark patterns](#), found them in 1200 out of the 10000 sites tested.

I think these practices should be regulated, just like other practices of retail stores.

I think that my decision not to buy anything on line has saved me more practical annoyance than it has caused me.

That is in addition to protecting my freedom.

- 26 July 2019 ([The Veterans Administration](#))

The Veterans Administration has its own [thug](#) department, and these thugs occasionally [turn on veterans seeking medical care](#) — causing grave injuries and even death.

Naturally these [thugs](#) lie to protect each other. The article recounts that one of them tried to act like a [police officer](#) rather than a thug and was attacked by the [thugs](#).

The VA officials protect them, too.

- 26 July 2019 ([Gaza pollution crisis](#))

Israel has forced Gaza into a [pollution crisis](#) which is now spreading to Israel.

- 26 July 2019 ([Israel seizing public archives](#))

Israel is systematically seizing and hiding public archives to [eliminate evidence of threatening Palestinians in 1948](#) to make them flee.

Here's more about the important [vanished document about atrocities against Palestinians](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Automated face recognition](#))

There is now a campaign to [prohibit government use of automated face recognition in the US](#).

This would be an important step forward, but not enough to protect human rights. We need to prohibit systematic use of automated face recognition by business, also.

- 26 July 2019 ([New options for disposal of corpses](#))

New options for disposal of corpses are [less polluting than cremation and ordinary burial](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Climate defense measures](#))

Attenborough: [climate defense measures "cannot be radical enough"](#).

I think he meant "cannot be too radical".

- 26 July 2019 ([Amnesty International](#))

Amnesty International denounced the Taliban's ["chilling disregard for human life."](#)

The US makes some effort to avoid killing Afghan civilians, but it does not consistently try hard.

And when it does kill civilians, it tends to try to cover that up.

- 26 July 2019 ([UK prime minister](#))

Boris Johnson, whose contempt for truth matches that of his US buddy, looks to be the next prime minister of the UK. By refusing to defend Ambassador Darroch for commenting honestly and privately on that buddy, [he effectively forced Darroch to resign](#).

Darroch's resignation may have been necessary anyway. An ambassador that is detested by the head of the receiving state cannot be very effective. However, Johnson has demonstrated [he wants to be prime minister of a puppet government](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([School uniforms](#))

If there have to be school uniforms, at least the [rules should not be gender-biased](#).

I never wore a school uniform. Public schools in New York in the 1950s did not have uniforms, nor did the private secondary schools I went to. Some schools had them; but in the 70s, counterculture youth rebelled against uniforms and more or less did away with them. I was repulsed when I heard, a decade ago, that the practice was spreading in the US.

- 26 July 2019 ([Stop covering homeopathic treatment](#))

France's medical system will [stop covering homeopathic "treatment"](#).

It is no more than a placebo, based only on [irrational pseudoscience](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Promoting competition in the field](#))

The EU has a goofy idea: [promoting competition in the field of surveillance capitalism](#) by requiring big companies to make their data bases available to other companies.

If done right, this could reduce the special political influence of the biggest companies. But it will do privacy no good at all.

- 26 July 2019 ([War between India and China](#))

As India dries out, one of the bad consequences could be [war between India and China](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Conflict of interest](#))

Congress's ethics rules allow lots of [conflict of interest](#).

A congresscritter can even trade stock in companies knowing that per actions as congresscritter will drive the stock price up or down.

- 26 July 2019 ([Law to censor the press](#))

Congress is considering a law to [censor the press to protect the CIA](#) — including its torturers.

- 26 July 2019 ([Detaining Real Baby](#))

(satire) ICE Sends Agents Home With [Sacks Of Flour To Practice What It Like Detaining Real Baby](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([High-pitched sound](#))

Some parks play a [constant high-pitched sound](#) intended to drive away people under 25 years of age.

They should play classical music instead.

- 26 July 2019 ([Extreme weather events](#))

As [extreme weather events become common](#), being hit by two at once is no longer ridiculously unlikely.

- 26 July 2019 ([The Climate Movement](#))

Bill McKibben: The [Climate Movement](#): What's Next?

- 26 July 2019 ([Pigs factory farms](#))

Burning some of the methane produced by pigs in factory farms is being offered as an [excuse to make more factory farms](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([List of billionaires](#))

Sanders has proudly published a [list of billionaires who call him an enemy](#).

If you don't earn their hatred, you're not worth voting for.

- 26 July 2019 ([US government lobbies](#))

The US government lobbies internationally for [increasing pharma companies' power to use patents to overcharge](#).

It has been doing this for decades.

I must criticize, however, the basic confusion spread by use of the term "intellectual property", which misrepresents the facts about various disparate laws by leading people to think of them as one single thing.

Patent law is different from copyright law on nearly every point. Neither of them has any similarity to trade secrecy, and they have hardly any relationship with trademark law. If you have a category of "intellectual property" in your thinking, it will always mislead you.

Please join me in shunning that term. See <https://gnu.org/philosophy/not-ipr.html>.

As for the World Trade Organization, it is a business-supremacy treaty, designed to [give business more power over society](#).

We must either change it so it ceases to have that effect, or get rid of it entirely.

- 26 July 2019 ([Bullshitter praises Boris Johnson](#))

[The bullshitter] Praises Boris Johnson, [Who Once Called Him "Unfit to Hold the Office of President of the United States."](#)

The bullshitter looks for submission, not for sincerity. He does not care what Johnson said 4 years ago, as long as Johnson obeys today. Likewise, praise from the bullshitter means, simply, "You're obeying now; keep it up and I will keep praising you."

- 26 July 2019 ([Global Heating](#))

By the end of this century, if we don't curb global heating, [humans won't be able to work safely outside in the southern US](#) for half the year.

I wonder if people will still be able to do agriculture in tropical regions.

- 26 July 2019 ([Poor People's Campaign](#))

The Poor People's Campaign [endorses challenging the lobbying power of the military-industrial-oligopoly complex](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Company behind coal mine](#))

The company behind a big planned coal mine in Australia [demanded to know the names of the scientists participating in environmental evaluation](#).

This was, we must suppose, for the sake of trying to intimidate them or gag them.

- 26 July 2019 ([Bully training followers in racism](#))

The bully has started training his followers in [undisguised racism](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Indonesian domestic violence](#))

No matter how "modestly" an Indonesian woman dresses, [she can still be raped at home](#).

I can't begin to understand why men want to demand sex with someone who isn't thrilled by it.

- 26 July 2019 ([Do ditty's murder Campaign](#))

[Francisco Santiago Jr. is one of the few victims of the Do-dirty's murder campaigns](#) who by luck survived his arrest and torture, and was not shot.

His case shows that [thugs](#) pick people more or less arbitrarily, shoot them while they are prisoners, then decide what to accuse them of. In the US, [thugs](#) typically do this to black males, but but the Philippines thugs are not bigots -- any Filipino can be the victim.

- 26 July 2019 ([Donations from the rich](#))

"Charitable" donations from the rich [are not really donations: they are attempts to buy public admiration](#). And often they get enough by just announcing the donation — they see no need to actually give the money.

- 26 July 2019 ([Sudan protesters and military signed agreement](#))

Sudan's protesters and military have signed an agreement about [governing the country](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([The Bully's devastating blow to Planned Parenthood](#))

[The bully](#) has done a devastating blow to Planned Parenthood. It will not be able to accept federal funding for any services unless [it complies with requirements that would be a surrender of its mission](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Textbook DRM](#))

US students will be pressured to [rent textbooks on subscription](#), which require proprietary malware with DRM to read them.

- 26 July 2019 ([Trump warns public](#))

(satire) Trump Claims He Tried To Warn Public About Epstein [By Praising Him As A Terrific Guy](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Amazon workers](#))

(satire) Amazon Workers Attempting Walkout Enter 7th Hour Wandering [In Ever-Expanding, Labyrinth Warehouse](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Ecuador surrendered to IMF](#))

Ecuador has surrendered to the IMF, [and the non-rich will suffer greatly as a result](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Whole Foods workers](#))

Whole Foods Workers Say [Conditions Deteriorated after Amazon Takeover](#).

For instance, they have been told to pressure customers to make deals with Amazon. This would subject them to Amazon's [many abusive practices](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Biden's health plan](#))

Biden's health plan is estimated to [fall short of Medicare for All](#) by 125,000 avoidable deaths.

[Sanders Accuses Biden of Parroting Pharma and Insurance Industry Script](#) With Attacks on Medicare for All.

- 26 July 2019 ([Domestic workers should have same rights as employees](#))

We should give domestic workers the [same rights that other employees have](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Israel school propaganda](#))

Israel requires students traveling on school-sponsored foreign trips [to pass a class in exaggerated political propaganda which insults Palestinians](#). Even Arab students are required to learn how to give these answers.

- 26 July 2019 ([Israel locking foreign academics](#))

Israel is blocking foreign academics from [working at \(or visiting\) Palestinian universities](#).

By contrast, the Palestinian boycott asks people not to work at Israeli universities, and does not try to stop any individual from doing anything.

- 26 July 2019 ([McDonalds exploits schools](#))

McDonalds exploits public school teachers to [market junk food to their students](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Nepal babies malnutrition](#))

In Nepal, babies under 2 years old are eating junk food, and it leads to malnutrition which [stunts their growth](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Direct neural interface](#))

A [direct neural interface for controlling a computer could be a very good thing](#), provided that you the user are the only one who controls the interface.

In order for that to be reliably true, the software must be free.

I think testing this on animals is legitimate. It can't be developed without testing, and testing on animals is better than testing on humans.

- 26 July 2019 ([Head of border patrol finds Facebook group abhorrent](#))

The head of the border patrol was a member of the private Facebook group for venting hatred at immigrants. [Then she told us she found it abhorrent](#).

One thing that the US does to some immigrants is demand passwords to their Facebook accounts. This is supposedly done for our "safety". Perhaps the people this should be done to are officials.

- 26 July 2019 ([Multilevel marketing](#))

"Multilevel marketing" is not identical to a pyramid scheme, but in practice it often works out that way. This article shows how they lure people with promises of profits that few participants get. [Many lose a lot of money instead.](#)

- 26 July 2019 ([Detainment center conditions](#))

(satire) ["It's Not So Bad,"](#) Mike Pence Reports On Conditions Of Detainment Center While Hazmat Suit Disinfected.

- 26 July 2019 ([Apple nonrepairability](#))

Reevaluating Apple's reputation for good design: [design for nonrepairability is not good design.](#)

- 26 July 2019 ([Recording devices](#))

[Journalists obtained 1000 leaked audio recordings](#) and showed some of them to the people who were speaking.

150 of the recordings were made when the device was not supposed to be recording.

If you're in a place with Google a listening device (or Apple, or Amazon), disconnect it! [Note that every portable phone is a potential listening device.](#)

- 26 July 2019 ([Wildlife defenders recognize need to limit human population](#))

Finally, wildlife defenders recognize the crucial need to limit the human population, [in order to leave some land wild.](#)

Investment by plutocracy also plays a role in eliminating wilderness, but the two work hand in hand (in deforestation in Brazil, for instance), so reducing births will help.

- 26 July 2019 ([Israeli right wingers attack Jonathan Pollak](#))

Israeli right-wing extremists set upon anti-occupation activist Jonathan Pollak on the street and [beat him up, then stabbed him.](#)

As for the charges made by the right-wing extremists, they are the friends and allies of US right-wing extremists. I do not believe their accusations.

- 26 July 2019 ([Stalin praise](#))

As Putin imprisons historians that study Stalin's terror, [Stalin receives public praise promoted by the state.](#)

- 26 July 2019 ([Jeffrey Epstein rape career](#))

Jeffrey Epstein intimidated the [whole US press into silence about his rape career](#), starting in 2003.

- 26 July 2019 ([New Zealand gun buybacks](#))

New Zealand is buying the [now-illegal semiautomatic rifles that people already own.](#)

- 26 July 2019 ([Thug dossier](#))

Any thug in parts of the US can immediately get a [large dossier about most Americans](#) from just a name or other identifier.

What bothers me is not that they can get it quickly, but that so much information has been collected about millions of people who are not suspects and about which no search has been authorized.

If we don't ban commercial use of face recognition to track people, this commercial data base will be extended to include people's movements as recorded by billions of surveillance cameras spread across US cities and roads.

- 26 July 2019 ([Relieve worries about vaccination](#))

How to [relieve the worries some parents have about vaccination.](#)

A bigger and deeper question: how can we fix the systems that make it so easy to stir up conspiracy theories about anything whatsoever, especially if it relates to children, or adolescents being called "children"?

People with damaged immune systems can die from measles even if they were vaccinated against it. [They depend on the rest of society to get vaccinated.](#)

- 26 July 2019 ([Whistleblower site for tech companies](#))

There is now a whistleblower site for tech company staff to [report their employer's egregious attacks on human rights.](#)

Unfortunately this will do nothing to push back on those kinds of attacks on human rights that have become standard practice -- for instance, [proprietary malware and internet dis-services](#) that spy, manipulate, restrict, swindle and addict people.

- 26 July 2019 ([Disabled people in the UK are now crippled](#))

Disabled people in the UK [are now crippled](#) — by the stinginess of Tories.

- 26 July 2019 ([Advantages of trees in pastures](#))

Planting trees in a pasture can make it stay usable through [9 months without rain, and produce other crops too](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([German school privacy](#))

[Microsoft Office 365: Banned in \[some\] German Schools over Privacy Fears](#).

It is a bit silly that the legal objection is limited to sending data to servers in the US. Snooping software should be eliminated, inside and outside of schools, no matter who it spies on people for.

- 26 July 2019 ([Thugs crash into passerby](#))

[Thugs](#) crashed their vehicle into that of a passerby, [then pulled him out and handcuffed him](#).

It is vitally important to punish [thugs](#) for everything they do wrong in nonfatal attacks like this. We can't convert [thugs](#) into police officers by punishing them only on the rare occasions when they murder someone, not even if the punishment is severe. Most of them will never murder someone, and never know another [thug](#) who murdered someone, so they will not feel any pressure to change their ways. To achieve that, we must punish the many small incidents.

- 26 July 2019 ([Trump honors brave heroes](#))

(satire) Trump Honors Brave Heroes [Who Slept With Wives Of Deployed Soldiers](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Systemic thug department flaws](#))

The UK held an inquiry into the killing of Anthony Grainger (shot dead by a thug) and [determined that systemic flaws in the thug department were to blame](#). Whether to blame individual thugs remains to be decided.

In general the UK seems to do a better job of holding killer [thugs](#) accountable than the US usually does.

- 26 July 2019 ([Predatory game](#))

Resourceful grandchildren figured out how to [max out their grandfather's credit card](#) buying special players for a predatory fantasy soccer game. [The random element of loot boxes strengthens their activeness](#),

but the fact that players must keep spending in order to win is enough reason to classify it as predatory. Any game of competitive spending makes each player pressure the other players to spend more.

The fact that the game is proprietary software is enough reason to refuse to run it, and not to get a copy of it for yourself or anyone else. The only good reason to have such a game is to study it for free software development.

- 26 July 2019 ([Selling medical records](#))

The ACLU warns of a legislative campaign to [legitimize selling people's medical records](#) by giving the patient a cut of the revenue.

That money won't come anywhere near compensating for the advantage that companies will take of you given that knowledge about you.

- 26 July 2019 ([Japan's music licensing](#))

Japan's music licensing gang is [demanding royalties from music schools](#), calling music lessons "public performance".

- 26 July 2019 ([Extinction Rebellion protesters](#))

Extinction Rebellion [protesters glued themselves to doors in the US capitol building](#), blocking legislators from getting to the chamber to vote.

The person who decided [perse](#) "can't bring a child into this world" has understood the situation thoroughly. But I wonder what "I broke down my car" means. "I disassembled it"? That is the proper grammatical interpretation but seems implausible. If the article garbled the words a little, it could mean "I caused it to malfunction" or "I started crying at the wheel".

[More information](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Ban secure communication](#))

The US government is going to try again to [ban secure communication for users](#).

They think they can get Americans so frightened of the terrorists (who do exist, but are not a big danger as dangers go) that we will [surrender our privacy to a state which can be far more dangerous](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Amazon Alexa](#))

Amazon servers save transcripts of some [Alexa conversations indefinitely](#).

It would be absurd to delete a reminder before reminding you, but a privacy-respecting reminder system would keep that reminder only on your own computers, so it would protect your privacy both before and after.

You probably want to save a record of your purchases, but a privacy-respecting system would keep that record private by keeping it only on your own computers. With a proper anonymous payment system, such as [GNU Taler](#), no one but you would ever know who made the purchase.

- 26 July 2019 ([Electronic Monitoring](#))

How [Electronic Monitoring Drives Defendants Into Debt](#) (and then back into jail).

- 26 July 2019 ([Pfizer's new regulatory capture](#))

Pfizer's new experiment with regulatory capture: [putting the former Saboteur of the FDA on its board](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Peace and Climate Justice](#))

Why [Peace and Climate Justice Are the Same Project](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([War with Iran](#))

Cory Booker [supports war with Iran](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Facebook's currency](#))

Stiglitz: "Only a fool would trust Facebook with his or her [financial well being](#). But maybe that's the point: with so much personal data on some 2.4bn monthly active users, who knows better than Facebook just how many suckers are born every minute?"

- 26 July 2019 ([Border thugs](#))

The border [thugs](#) are supposed to transfer prisoners to immigration agencies within 72 hours, but the bully's orders have made this difficult to do — so [prisoners accumulate in overcrowded and unsanitary conditions](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Mismanaged a major regional river system](#))

Australia has mismanaged a major [regional river system](#) to the point where fish regularly die in large numbers.

The cause, of course, is putting the short-term demands of profit over the long-term needs. This is what leads to [dangerous mining, deforestation](#), and fertilizer runoff that harms the Great Barrier Reef.

- 26 July 2019 ([Help poor people reduce their debt](#))

Senator Warren proposes measures to [steer the US away from risk of another financial crisis](#) — notably to limit leveraged loans to businesses, as well as to help poor people reduce their debt.

- 26 July 2019 ([Snoopphone read sensors on your body](#))

An advance in how a [snoopphone \(if you carry one\) can read sensors on or in your body](#).

It may be that this method would actually protect you from those sensors as long as you don't carry a snoopphone. What is not clear is how far away from other people's snoopphones you would need to stay.

- 26 July 2019 ([Smart city technology](#))

A shopping mall that serves as a testbed for ["smart" city technology](#) doesn't collect personal data except through an app.

If a real "smart" city does that, it might be acceptable — unless it puts pressure on everyone to use the app so as to get convenience.

- 26 July 2019 ([Right to Spy on Media](#))

UK Hosts Press Freedom Summit While Fighting for [Right to Spy on Media](#).

If the UK wins that case, the outcome will affect all of Europe.

- 26 July 2019 ([Cubans trying to move to the US](#))

Cubans trying to move to the US now [get treated like people from other countries in Latin America](#).

This despite the fact that at home they face the effects of US sanctions.

- 26 July 2019 ([Fear climate change](#))

(satire) ... the average American must have [per] life destroyed by a natural [sic] disaster every six minutes in order to [finally fear climate change](#).

Meanwhile, back in reality, [New York City got two within two days](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Revolving Door Between Government and Industry](#))

Iowa, North Dakota and Maryland Lead the Way on Curbing the [Revolving Door Between Government and Industry](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Bully's expedited deportations](#))

More about the [danger of the bully's "expedited deportations" plan](#).

Border thugs could [deport US citizens fast, rather than giving them time to establish their citizenship](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Men with sticks attacked people](#))

When men with sticks attacked people in Hong Kong's remote Yuen Long train station, [the victims were not protesters, just passersby](#).

Why they attacked people there is not clear, unless China just wanted to make people in Hong Kong afraid.

- 26 July 2019 ([Kick out European citizens](#))

The Tories are so determined to kick out European citizens that they have [planned to keep the data on which they base the decisions secret](#).

In other words, they are planning to make lots of mistakes and don't want them to be corrected.

- 26 July 2019 ([Palestinian medic killed](#))

A Palestinian medic, Muhammad al-Judaili, was [shot in the head by an Israeli sniper](#), and he eventually died from this.

Rubber-coated bullets are said to be "non-lethal", but we know and snipers know that they can kill if they hit someone's head. Snipers don't hit someone's head by accident.

- 26 July 2019 ([Israeli soldiers demolished apartments](#))

Israeli soldiers demolished 16 Palestinian apartment buildings on the pretext that they [were too close to the annexation wall](#).

There must be hundreds of apartments buildings that the wall was built close to. Now they may all be demolished.

- 26 July 2019 ([The Guardian cartoonist censorship](#))

The Guardian [censored its regular cartoonist for satirizing](#) the crusade to cleanse the Labour Party of what is accused of being anti-semitism.

- 26 July 2019 ([Drug-Resistant Superbug](#))

As fungi adapt to living outside in temperatures close to human body temperature, some of them [may become able to colonize the human body](#).

This may be the reason that a new fungal disease with no known treatment is spreading on several continents.

- 26 July 2019 ([Crash test dummies](#))

A woman in a car crash is more likely to be injured than a man in a similar crash. Could that be because [crash test dummies have mainly been designed to simulate men?](#)

- 26 July 2019 ([LinkedIn surveillance](#))

LinkedIn has staged a [surveillance coup against libraries](#) through an education service set up specifically for libraries.

For instance, it demands that users make individual LinkedIn accounts so that it can profile them.

That page represents libraries' pushback; some have dropped the service and others surely will if LinkedIn does not retreat.

I have no other details about that service, but simply based on knowing the usual practices I expect it is a disservice in other ways.

- 26 July 2019 ([Stop abuse by private equity](#))

Moe about Senator Warren's plans to [stop abuse by "private equity" takeovers](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([solar system's real estate agents](#))

(satire) the solar system's real estate agents have begun trying to attract home buyers to the neglected, [run-down planet of Earth by renaming it "West Saturn."](#)

- 26 July 2019 ([Big climate defense rallies](#))

Big [climate defense rallies](#) are planned world-wide for Sep 20-27.

- 26 July 2019 ([Progressive trade policy](#))

Suggestions for what progressive trade policy should look like: [putting human beings and nature first](#).

What it says about "intellectual property" tries to go in the right direction, but it is flawed by taking the [bogus concept of "intellectual property" as a basis](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Facebook's personal data abuse](#))

After the FTC's slap on Facebook's wrist, we can expect it to [abuse personal data over and over](#).

However, even a bigger fine could at best have limited how Facebook abuses personal data. The real problem is that Facebook collects personal data.

So don't be a zucker — don't give Facebook any data. And use a browser such as IceCat that blocks Like buttons, so Facebook can't get data about you in any other way.

- 26 July 2019 ([Puerto Rico's governor agreed to resign](#))

Puerto Rico's governor has finally [agreed to resign](#), after many protests including 1/3 of the island's population, plus plans to impeach him.

The sad thing about Puerto Rico is that the US has saddled it with so much debt, and imposed so much privatization, that good politicians wouldn't have much chance to do a good job.

- 26 July 2019 ([Hide climate crisis](#))

"I'm a scientist. Under [the saboteur] I lost my job for [refusing to hide climate crisis](#) facts."

- 26 July 2019 ([Intellectual debt](#))

Use of AI techniques whose functioning nobody understands puts society in a state of "intellectual debt". That is not necessarily bad, but it can easily [lead to bad consequences](#) when competition and conflict get into the matter.

By contrast, the fact that we did not understand how aspirin reduced headaches did offer anyone an opportunity to cause mysterious headaches that aspirin would make worse.

- 26 July 2019 ([Megadroughts Coming to the U.S.](#))

[Megadroughts Are Likely Coming to the U.S.](#) Southwest Within Decades, Scientists Say.

Long droughts wiped out the small cities that existed in parts of the southwest. The big cities that need a lot more water would have more trouble surviving. Unless perhaps solar-powered condensers can save the day.

- 26 July 2019 ([Violent porn](#))

Violent porn has made the idea of strangling a woman and calling it "sex" appear normal, so women go along with it. If that's not disgusting enough, men that [murder their lovers or wives](#) can now pretend that "it was just a sex game".

- 26 July 2019 ([Random drug tests](#))

A school in Texas says that it will require all students in extracurricular activities to submit to [random drug tests](#).

I hope many students will refuse.

- 26 July 2019 ([Destruction of the Amazon forest](#))

Bolsonaro has succeeded at [accelerated destruction of the Amazon forest](#).

Scientists warn that this may kill the trees that remain.

- 26 July 2019 ([Schools uniforms](#))

UK public schools require specific uniforms, [which can be so expensive that poor families cut back on food](#). Or else find another school which isn't trying to keep poor people out.

This is one of the symptoms of the policy of making schools compete to avoid being forcibly privatized as "academies".

I consider the very idea of requiring a uniform outrageous.

- 26 July 2019 ([Marshall Plan for Central America](#))

The US Needs a [Marshall Plan for Central America](#).

(Instead of the current martial plan that drives people to flee.)

- 26 July 2019 ([Phoenix law](#))

(satire) ... Phoenix law enforcement officials confirmed Tuesday local man Rod Cleighborn had been hired as a cop for [posting a racist rant on social media](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Drop a group of children in the woods](#))

It's a custom in the Netherlands to [drop a group of children in the woods](#) and challenge them to find their way back to civilization.

They succeed, and in the process learn self-confidence.

"Stijn is 11," she said. "The time window in which we can teach him is closing. He is going into adolescence, and then he will make decisions for himself."

- 26 July 2019 ([Backfire against progressive president](#))

Pelosi made a deal with the Republicans that will [backfire against any progressive president in 2021](#).

Sanders will have to cut harmful spending, such as nuclear weapons development and secret foreign wars, if he can't get a debt increase or a tax increase through the Senate.

- 26 July 2019 ([Increasing industrial agriculture](#))

Increasing industrial agriculture is [not the way to feed more poor people](#).

In the US, it doesn't seriously try.

Growing corn or soybeans to make fuel is especially foolish since it uses petroleum-based fertilizer. When that's subsidized, it is a handout for agribusiness. Biofuel is efficient only when it's made from byproducts of growing something else that's worth growing in its own right.

- 26 July 2019 ([Sociology of gun violence](#))

US citizens: call on the Senate to vote to support [research into the sociology of gun violence](#).

- 26 July 2019 ([Confirmation bias](#))

Confirmation bias, [group think and pressure to find the perpetrator quickly](#) are major factors in convicting innocent people.

- 26 July 2019 ([Smart diapers](#))

"Smart" diapers [spy on the baby](#) and maybe the rest of the family.

If the manufacturers wanted to, they could make this info available directly and solely to the parents.

- 26 July 2019 ([Global Heating](#))

Today's global heating, affecting the whole globe, has [no parallel in historical temperature changes](#).

- 25 July 2019 ([Urgent: Oppose oil drilling](#))

US citizens: [call on the Bureau of Land Management](#) not to allow oil drilling in Chaco Canyon.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 25 July 2019 ([Crime of being "disgusting" in UK](#))

In the UK [it is a crime to do something in public that people in the vicinity find "disgusting"](#).

I too would find it disgusting, but so what?

- 25 July 2019 ([Bully's plan to take away food stamps](#))

[The bully](#) has a [new plan](#) to take food stamps away from some poor Americans.

- 25 July 2019 ([UK nuclear power plants](#))

The UK is so desperate to build new nuclear power plants that it [will pay in advance from the treasury](#).

This is a decision of the same Tory government that has pretty much put an end to land-based wind power and cut subsidies for solar power.

There is a report that the reason is a [disguised subsidy](#) for the UK's planned new nuclear missile submarines.

- 25 July 2019 ([Effects of increasing minimum wage](#))

Economists studied the effects of increasing the minimum wage in many low-wage US counties and found [no sign that this causes loss of work](#).

- 25 July 2019 ([Planned natural gas projects](#))

The world's planned natural gas projects [won't fit in the carbon budget](#).

Indeed, the world cannot afford *any* new fossil fuel infrastructure, because once new infrastructure is built there will be [tremendous pressure to use it and roast Earth's ecosphere](#).

The idea of natural gas as a "bridge fuel" is an excuse, which appeared plausible only because we did not know the amount of methane leaks.

- 25 July 2019 ([Audio recordings of people in public](#))

ACLU: [Bogus "Aggression Detectors"](#) Are Audio-Recording People In Public.

If we had proper laws, anyone trying to sell a system for aggression detection would be required to make it send nothing except reports about aggressions — not recordings of ordinary conversations.

The audio recordings on buses in San Francisco (and maybe elsewhere) should be illegal too.

- 25 July 2019 ([Seizing people's money without a trial](#))

Congress and the [bully](#) have passed a law to stop the IRS from [seizing people's money without a trial on mere suspicion that they were evading the requirement to report depositing more than \\$10,000 by depositing smaller amounts](#).

Yes, it was as absurd as it looks.

- 25 July 2019 ([Urgent: BOOST Act](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to pass the BOOST Act, which would give a sum of money to each poor person or family in the US.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 25 July 2019 ([Murals in San Francisco](#))

San Francisco will [cover up murals](#) that were painted to show how some of the US founding fathers participated in owning slaves and in conquest of indigenous peoples.

People who can't bear to see a depiction of an injustice are useless for fighting it. Schools should lead people to face moral issues, not cower helplessly from them.

- 25 July 2019 ([Richard Zimler](#))

Author Richard Zimler reports that some of his talks in Britain have been cancelled because the hosts [fear protests or violence](#) because he is Jewish. They seem to fear they will meet with protests if they invite a Jew to speak.

I am not convinced that his friends are correct in blaming Palestinian activists for this. That claim is not based on direct evidence.

- 25 July 2019 ([Refugees in Australia](#))

When Australia brings its refugees from Nauru or Manus because it can no longer deny they need medical treatment, it [guards them like dangerous criminals](#).

They are not allowed to see their families.

Australia even exposes them to bedbugs, which it could easily avoid.

- 25 July 2019 ([Thugs shooting blacks](#))

Why do [thugs](#) often gratuitously shoot and threaten blacks? It seems that some [thugs](#) literally [think of blacks as subhuman](#).

- 25 July 2019 ([Solar Foods](#))

Solar Foods makes a protein supplement from [electricity, water and air](#).

- 25 July 2019 ([Extinction Rebellion](#))

Extinction Rebellion [blocked a bridge in Paris](#) to call attention to the implications of the hottest day ever recorded there.

- 25 July 2019 ([Fearful of the Census](#))

['The Damage Has Been Done'](#): Despite Court Ruling, Experts Say Trump Succeeded in Making Immigrant Communities Fearful of Census.

- 25 July 2019 ([Piecework sweatshops](#))

10% of the workers in Britain have been captured by the [piecework sweatshop dis-services](#).

We must extend all the rights and benefits of employees to cover these forms of work.

- 25 July 2019 ([Evidence of product defects](#))

Thousands of Americans — perhaps hundreds of thousands — have been killed because judges sealed evidence of deadly defects in products and kept the defects secret for years as more people died. The dangerous flaws of OxyContin, which spread opioid addiction, were [concealed for 12 years](#).

Trade secrecy is *always* bad for the public. Occasionally it is deadly, but usually merely harmful. We should change the law so that no significant problem can be concealed in this way.

Businesses should not be allowed to enforce an NDA to conceal mistreatment of workers, customers, or the public.

Agreeing to nondisclosure of generally useful technical information, such as software, is betrayal of society as a whole. I refuse on principle to do this.

- 25 July 2019 ([Getting shot while pregnant](#))

A woman in Alabama has been [charged with manslaughter](#) for getting shot while pregnant. The state treats the fetus as a person.

[More information](#).

This is the natural conclusion of the twisted premises of those who treat fetuses as sacred.

But the problem may be broader than that. Suppose she had been shot while carrying a three-year-old child in her arms? Suppose someone else had shot at her and killed the child.

I don't think people should be prosecuted for the effects of being shot at.

- 24 July 2019 ([Conman's appointees](#))

The conman's appointees on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission [want to inspect nuclear power plants less often](#).

The owners won't need to fix problems if they can avoid finding out about them. The only way we will know about them is if they lead to an accident.

A nuclear power plant accident typically results from a [combination of factors](#), each one of which might have seemed not to be a big deal by itself. Just the sort of the things that the owners would suggest could be ignored.

- 24 July 2019 ([Right to operate a union](#))

An appeals court [decided it had no authority over whether the conman could effectively eliminate federal workers right to operate a union](#).

I wonder how many of the judges involved were appointed recently by Republicans.

- 24 July 2019 (["Prominent politicians" on Twitter](#))

Twitter will give "prominent politicians" an [exception from its rules against posting hatred](#).

I think this is a combination of circumstances in which there is simply no choice that Twitter can make which isn't bad.

- 24 July 2019 ([Democratic politicians](#))

Americans are ready to stop trying to dominate the world. Most Democratic politicians [have yet to catch up](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([British state arrested dissident for China](#))

China pressured the British state to [arrest an exiled Chinese dissident preemptively](#) for Xi's visit in 2015.

- 24 July 2019 ([The bullshitter and North Korea](#))

The bullshitter is making progress with North Korea — progress towards [a deal that would accept its possession of nuclear weapons](#).

This is the only possible avenue towards any sort of deal, since Dictator Kim will not give up those nuclear weapons. Thus, in a way this is a wise policy. But the bullshitter can't acknowledge it, as it would highlight the [absurdity of his policy towards Iran](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Katharine Gun](#))

A [two-part interview](#) with British whistleblower Katharine Gun, who revealed how the UK was helping Dubya try to [bully](#) UN security council members into approving his attack on Iraq.

- 24 July 2019 ([Emotion recognition](#))

Experts Say 'Emotion Recognition' [Lacks Scientific Foundation](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Banksters funding Bully's racism](#))

Banksters and plutocrats are happy to keep [funding the bully's racism](#). [The bully](#) promotes and spreads racism, but is he really racist? He lies almost all the time, so why expect him to be sincere in this? Maybe he spreads racism as a cynical strategy. [The strategy can be very effective](#).

However, since plutocratist Democrats support much of the wrongs that Republicans do, it is a mistake to conclude we would be better off if we had not elected progressive leaders such as Ocasio-Cortez.

To win in 2020, [Democrats need to motivate massive turnout](#), and they are the ones who can do that.

- 24 July 2019 ([River floods](#))

Using levees to contain flooding [rivers makes for bigger floods downstream](#). Cities need to leave space along the river for floods to spread out.

- 24 July 2019 ([Private browser modes](#))

"Private" and "incognito" modes of browsers are [no protection against being tracked by Google and Oracle \(and to a lesser extent Facebook\)](#).

Tracking people's porn browsing could cause trouble for some people who pretend to be prudes, but there are much more damaging things they could track.

- 24 July 2019 ([Plastic manufacturers](#))

Plastic manufacturers [are buying state laws](#) to make sure nothing gets in the way of selling lots of plastic bags (and plastic everything else).

- 24 July 2019 ([North Carolina hurricanes](#))

Fair Bluff, North Carolina, was half wiped out by rain from two recent hurricanes. [If another hurricane hits there, it could finish the job](#).

[Global heating](#) tends to make storms drop more rain.

- 24 July 2019 ([Online photo editing dis-service](#))

More concern about how online photo-editing dis-services [make use of the photos people send them](#).

The deeper problem with these "apps", which send photos to a remote server to edit it, is that they send photos to a remote server to edit it. We call that ["service as a software substitute"](#) because the job ought to be done by a program you install on your own computer — a free program, in order to respect your freedom and autonomy — and never sent *anywhere*.

- 24 July 2019 ([Hawaiians protest telescope](#))

[Hawaiians are protesting against plans to construct a new telescope](#) with a very large mirror, which would advance our knowledge of the universe.

The idea that a place is "sacred" is an irrational sensitivity. It is good to cater to such sensitivities as long as that doesn't sacrifice something important -- such as the telescope.

The telescope should be built. However, removing obsolete structures and making those areas of land nice again does no harm, and doesn't involve sacrificing anything more than funds. Hawaii should make and carry out such a deal.

- 24 July 2019 ([Centralist PAC](#))

Democrat-Backed Centrist PAC [Is Supporting a Republican Against a Vulnerable Swing-District Incumbent](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([California Uber employee law](#))

California is considering a law to make Uber treat drivers [as employees](#).

This would eliminate one of the huge injustices of Uber. But it would not eliminate the injustices to the customers. I hope therefore that it would make Uber give up.

- 24 July 2019 ([Thugs infiltrate anti-fascist protests](#))

Thugs in Los Angeles are infiltrating anti-fascist protests, [and using it to charge organizers for protesting](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Israel spraying herbicides](#))

Israel is spraying herbicides near the Gaza border, and it drifts almost [400 yards into Gaza and kills Palestinians' crops](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Persecution of nonreligious](#))

Prominent humanists [decry the persecution of the nonreligious](#) in various countries.

- 24 July 2019 ([EPA drops surprise inspections](#))

[EPA Drops Surprise Inspections](#).

This will help companies that deny their polluting activities.

- 24 July 2019 ([Births near oil wells cause heart defects](#))

Babies Born Near Oil and Gas Wells Are Up to [70% More Likely to Have Congenital Heart Defects, New Study Shows](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([\(satire\) Trump store discount](#))

(satire) In an effort to distance the President from a racist remark chanted about Congresswoman Ilhan Omar (D-MN) earlier this week, the [Trump campaign store reportedly began offering a special disavowed discount Friday on all 'Send Her Back' merchandise](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Greta Thunberg explains accomplishment](#))

Greta Thunberg explains [what it means to have accomplished something](#).

People always tell me and the other millions of school strikers that we should be proud of ourselves for what we have accomplished. But the only thing that we need to look at is the emission curve. And I'm sorry, but it's still rising. That curve is the only thing we should look at.

In the same way, I don't measure the advances of the free software movement simply by how much free software we now have and use, but also in terms of how much nonfree software remains in use — which we need to eliminate.

- 24 July 2019 ([Nonfree browser extensions](#))

Many nonfree browser extensions snoop on the user's browsing and [inform some company](#).

The article does not say that these extensions are nonfree, but that seems pretty certain from the information given.

The author of the article did not recognize that this was a part of the problem. So people are likely to draw misguided conclusions such as "Don't trust browser extensions", instead of the correct conclusion, "*Don't trust nonfree programs anywhere.*"

- 24 July 2019 ([Small doses of radiation](#))

Small doses of radiation promote the spread of a [mutation that is one step on the road to cancer](#).

At least, that is true in the esophagus of mice. Nothing is known about how this might affect other mouse tissues, or any human tissues.

Humans have, in general, much better defenses against aging than other mammals, so I would not generalize from non-human animals to humans about any of these effects.

- 24 July 2019 ([Contraceptive pills eliminate periods](#))

Thanks to contraceptive pills, [women do not have to menstruate at all](#).

This reminds me of a story by James Tiptree (Alice Sheldon) about a woman whose daughter decided to join a movement for natural menstruation. She couldn't convince her daughter to abandon this foolish idea, but the experience of menstruating did the job pretty fast. (What is the story's name?)

- 24 July 2019 ([Private space missions](#))

Should all crewed space missions be [run by private business?](#)

In some cases, there is no harm in that. But if we let them build settlements in space or on the Moon, those will be "company towns" in which no one can do anything except under the control of the company. Working there will be like working [in an Amazon warehouse](#).

- 25 July 2019 ([Kazakhstan HTTPS spying](#))

The government of Kazakhstan has injected itself as a man-in-the-middle for all HTTPS communication — in effect, [spying on the browsing of everyone in the country](#).

We would expect such things from an overtly repressive state, but powerful "free" countries such as Australia, UK and US have done, or are trying to do, comparable things.

- 24 July 2019 ([Unprivatization of government](#))

Labour will [organize the unprivatization of local government activities](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([UK &mdash Iran tanker standoff](#))

UK and Iran are now in a [tanker-seizure standoff](#).

It appears that Bolton told the UK, ["Let's you and them fight."](#)

- 24 July 2019 ([Tech's battle for attention](#))

People are becoming aware that there is a [battle against digital tech companies for control of each person's attention](#),

What people do not yet recognize is that this as a consequence of the unjust power that companies (even small companies) derive from nonfree software and from online disservices. So their proposed solutions are not deep enough.

- 24 July 2019 ([Job inequality](#))

New US jobs are now [concentrating in a few cities, with others left behind](#).

Of course, it is expensive to live in the few successful cities. So the overall effect of this is to screw the poor in yet another way.

- 24 July 2019 ([Ban face recognition](#))

Opinion: Don't Regulate Facial Recognition. [Ban It](#).

This article is noteworthy because it attacks face recognition by business, not just by government.

- 24 July 2019 ([Cost of preventing childbirth death increases](#))

Cost of Global Push to Prevent Women Dying in [Childbirth to Increase Sixfold](#).

This goal requires a combination of better medical care for when women do give birth, and contraception and abortion to help women avoid giving birth.

- 24 July 2019 ([Crimes against nature](#))

The Rich Are [Committing Crimes Against Nature](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([EPA refused to ban chlorpyrifos](#))

The Environmental Poisoning Agency [refused to ban the pesticide chlorpyrifos](#), which seems to cause brain damage in children.

Wheeler, the head of the Environmental Poisoning Agency (EPA), is more personally honest, [and that has enabled him to arrange for a lot more future damage to our environment and our health](#).

- 24 July 2019 ((satire) [Cop vows revenge](#))
(satire) [Cop Vows To Get Revenge On Eric Garner](#) For Trying To Frame Him For Murder.
- 24 July 2019 ([Rising economic inequality](#))
As rising economic inequality gives the rich more power, [they use it to push the inequality even harder](#).
- 24 July 2019 ([Replaced US constitution if Republicans win](#))
With a big Republican victory in 2020, plutocratists could replace the US Constitution with something as plutocratist as they wish. [And they are already designing it](#).
Pompeo is [already trying to redefine human rights](#).
Their idea of human rights will say that if you're a plutocrat you have the right to grab anyone's genitals, and if [perse](#) complains, to get per fired.
- 24 July 2019 ([Republican's case for medicare](#))
This [Republican's Case for Medicare for All](#).
- 24 July 2019 ([Jewish Voice for Peace](#))
Jewish Voice for Peace [praised Rep. Ilhan Omar's resolution](#) affirming the right to boycott.
- 24 July 2019 ([Remove Confederate ghosts](#))
(satire) Virginia [Agrees To Remove Confederate Ghosts From State Capitol](#).
- 24 July 2019 ([Exaggerated idea of technology](#))
The fairly quick achievement of landing on the moon gave people an [exaggerated idea of what we can expect to achieve with technology](#).
It turns out that technology can't necessarily cure the harm that massive use of technology is doing.
- 24 July 2019 ([Getting tough with Extinction Rebellion](#))
UK thugs [want laws changed](#) so they can get tough with Extinction Rebellion protesters.
This will avoid some annoying small disruptions, and guarantee enormous disruptions starting 20 or 30 years from now and continuing for centuries.
- 24 July 2019 ([UK extends global heating](#))
The UK has extended global heating by [cutting insulation improvements](#) from 65,000 per month to 10,000 per month.
- 24 July 2019 ([Bully wants to send Iraqis back](#))
The bully [wants to send Iraqi Christian refugees back to Iraq](#), where they would face murder. Some might starve first because they don't know anyone there and don't speak Arabic.
- 24 July 2019 ([Moscow rally](#))
Thousands Rally in Moscow over Opposition [Exclusion in City Parliament Vote](#).
The machine said that the nominating signatures were fake.
- 24 July 2019 ([Councils refusing to share data for deportation](#))
Some local governments in the UK refuse to [give homeless people's personal data to the deportation office](#).
- 24 July 2019 ([Artificial snow](#))
Proposing a [mega project to make snow](#) on top of the west Antarctic ice sheet.
I think it would be better, and less practical work, to curb the CO2 emissions. What's more, that would also end ocean acidification and avoid heating the land. But if the plutocrats block that, it would be better to do this project than not do it.
- 24 July 2019 ([Urgent: Ban FBI and ICE access to DMV photos](#))
US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to ban FBI and ICE from accessing drivers' license photos.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 24 July 2019 ([Population in Congo](#))

Population is [reaching crunch point](#) in the Congo. The Pygmies, who lived there before, demand to cut down the forest that lowland gorillas live in.

As the world's human population bloats, there won't be enough land for everyone. People will get desperate, and try to hang on a little longer by destroying forests, farming land that isn't suitable, catching the last few fish, and so on. But that won't do more than postpone the end.

The human population will eventually be limited — after everything else is gone. We need to limit the human population earlier, before that destruction occurs.

- 24 July 2019 ([Thugs attack protesters in Hong Kong](#))

[Masked non uniformed thugs](#) attacked protesters in Hong Kong.

Protesters say that the uniformed [thugs](#) took a suspiciously long time to arrive, but the article does not indicate how long that was.

- 24 July 2019 ([Thailand's military rulers](#))

Thailand's military rulers have gone beyond charging democracy activists with crimes. Now it is [sending non uniformed thugs to club them on the head](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Discouraging searches without censoring](#))

Platforms can discourage searches for dangerous extremism by adopting [methods that stop short of censoring the search results](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Labour Party proposals](#))

A Labour Party study proposed a [list of ways to restructure the global economy to replace plutocracy](#).

It is a good start, but I think it can be improved in some areas. For example, it makes general statements about "intellectual property" which lump together various laws as a single confused mixture, and considers this only in regard to its effects on taxation of business.

Making big businesses pay more tax is [very important](#), but some of these laws also harm people directly — while others do not. A wise policy on each of these laws can't be formulated at the vague, abstract level that the term "intellectual property" implies. And [my tax proposal](#) can deal with the problem with no need to pay any attention to any of these specific laws.

- 24 July 2019 ([Corruption investigation in Brazil](#))

Sergio Moro [privately talked about protecting Bolsonaro's son from a corruption investigation](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Sabotage by political party operative](#))

A political party operative was the middleman in leaking the [confidential messages of the UK's ambassador](#) to the US.

That's not journalism, that's sabotage.

- 24 July 2019 ([Extremist hatred and falsehoods](#))

Illinois Republicans Remove Offensive [Facebook Post About "Jihad Squad."](#)

This is interesting because it demonstrates how extremist hatred has no scruples about falsehoods, The four representatives they attack are progressives, not Islamists, but right-wing extremists don't care. (Ocasio-Cortez and Pressley are not even Muslims.)

It reminds me of when Bush I called Michael Dukakis a "card-carrying member of the ACLU". In effect, Bush equated defending the US Constitution with Communism. That just goes to show what Bush really thought about the Constitution he swore to uphold.

- 24 July 2019 ([Psychedelic drugs](#))

Arguing that psychedelic drugs should be [decriminalized but not fully legalized](#).

I could support this option if there is a lawful way for adults to get these drugs, made in properly regulated factories, so that they don't need to but who-knows-what on the black market.

- 24 July 2019 ([Memorial to a glacier](#))

Iceland has put up a memorial to a glacier which has [almost completely melted](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Guaidó's supporters](#))

Guaidó's supporters have [lost their enthusiasm but mostly still support him](#). Except for the conman, who finds different scapegoats more useful for the moment than Maduro.

I can estimate what Guaidó would do to Venezuela, with support from US plutocrats. They don't give a dam about anyone in Venezuela except those that will serve as their agents. The country would come out like Honduras or Colombia, and the trees of the Amazon region would be made into products for the Amazon warehouse.

- 24 July 2019 ([Urgent: Rights of queer people](#))

Everyone: [call on AT&T, T-Mobile, Google, Amazon, Microsoft and Dell](#) to stop supporting politicians that attack the rights of queer people.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 24 July 2019 ([Credit card with zero credit limit](#))

A credit card with zero credit limit is [ideal for signing up for a "free trial period" and avoiding the dark patterns that are designed to stop customers from cancelling afterward](#).

Is it possible to use that service without running nonfree Javascript code? Would someone like to test it and tell me?

- 24 July 2019 ([California Nazis sentenced to prison](#))

Three California Nazis Sentenced to Prison [for Their Participation in the Charlottesville "Unite the Right" Rally](#).

Their crime was planning to have physical fights with antifascists.

- 24 July 2019 ([Google retaliates against employees](#))

The Google employees who led the campaign against certain egregious projects have been [pushed out by retaliation](#).

While it was refreshing to see tech employees object to projects based on moral scruples, their scruples cover only unusual kinds of wrong, not the everyday wrong in the foundations of most computing nowadays.

- 24 July 2019 ([Urgent: Campaign contribution rejection](#))

US citizens: call on Democratic candidates to [reject campaign contributions from big pharma and big insurance](#).

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 24 July 2019 ([Urgent: DCH1 Amazonians United](#))

Everyone: [call on Amazon management](#) to meet with the new union, DCH1 Amazonians United.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 24 July 2019 ([Women with lack of time](#))

One reason why it has been unusual for women to do great creative work was that women [could barely find 10 minutes at a stretch to think about something](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Librarians protest CIA's recruiting](#))

Citing CIA's Dark History, Librarians [Protest Agency's Recruiting at Their Conference](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Energy efficiency for poor people](#))

The state [needs to invest](#) in energy efficiency for poor people; they can't afford to do it themselves.

- 24 July 2019 ([Shopping while black](#))

Blacks are allowed nowadays to shop in any retail store, but they [often face nasty treatment from the staff](#), apparently due to their skin color.

- 24 July 2019 ([Survival of the natural world](#))

The survival of the natural world upon which humanity depends [hangs in the balance](#), according to the new chair of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

- 24 July 2019 ([Individuals can change course of history](#))

Individual people — whether great or merely grandiose — can change the course of history. Here is [an example](#). And [more](#).

Powerful impersonal forces are also at work in the UK's decision about leaving the EU. They constitute the pinball machine in which this loose cannonball bounces around. That does not imply the outcome is predictable.

- 24 July 2019 ([Mayor of Istanbul](#))

The [secularist opposition candidate](#) for mayor of Istanbul has won again, with a much bigger margin this time.

- 24 July 2019 ([College economics courses](#))

College economics courses [teach students that the economy has nothing to do with the ecosphere](#). Most of the students don't recognize the error in this.

This may not be coincidence. It may be the result of business influence on academia.

- 24 July 2019 ([Four-day work week](#))

A four-day work week, in the wealthy (and high carbon footprint) countries, [would cut greenhouse gas emissions a lot](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Weak "data protection" laws](#))

Google and Facebook are campaigning for the US to adopt the sort of weak "data protection" laws that [won't hamper surveillance capitalism much](#).

The concept of "ambient privacy" refers to what I have [campaigned for years](#) to protect: not having data collected about you.

- 24 July 2019 ([Domestic abuse](#))

"Today, we know that that [the techniques common to domestic abuse](#) match those used by practically anyone who trades in captivity: kidnappers, hostage-takers, pimps, cult leaders."

- 24 July 2019 ([Life expectancy of wealthy vs poor](#))

In a wealthy neighborhood of Chicago, [the life expectancy is 90](#). In a poor neighborhood, it is 60.

In other words, the plutocratic trickle-down that condemns people to poverty also condemns them to death.

The Chinese economic system [serves Chinese people better than America's system serves Americans](#).

I disagree with one point: the article says not to blame US corporations for taking advantage of this system. Their political influence, their money, changed our system so that it serves them rather than us. They deserve to be blamed for that.

But even a corporation that done nothing beyond taking advantage of laws in ways that harm people still deserves our condemnation. "We are not violating laws" is not a defense for spreading suffering. The condemnation will provide the impetus to make them stop.

- 24 July 2019 ([non white thugs](#))

Hiring more non-white thugs [does not protect blacks from being shot by thugs](#).

Maybe [de-escalation training](#)

- 24 July 2019 ([Urgent: call on CNN](#))

Everyone: [call on CNN](#) to add a progressive questioner in the Democratic debates.
If you call, please spread the word!

- 24 July 2019 ([Urgent: US citizens: call on the DNC to hold a debate on global heating.](#))

US citizens: call on the DNC to [hold a debate on global heating](#).
If you call, please spread the word!

- 24 July 2019 ([Urgent: US citizens: call on Congress to pass the Private Prison Information Act.](#))

US citizens: call on Congress to [pass the Private Prison Information Act](#). If you sign, please spread the word!

- 24 July 2019 ([Republican anti-sexuality](#))

Some male Republican politicians say they [refuse to meet privately with female reporters](#).

Aside from promoting anti-sexuality, this can harm women's careers.

Shouldn't they impose the same requirement on male reporters, for the same reason? There is no telling what two men might get up to in private.

- 24 July 2019 ([Legality of vegetable names](#))

On the legality of [calling a vegetable product by names that imply meat](#).

I think the term "veggie burger" is legitimate. There are many kinds of "burgers", so the term does not imply any specific ingredient. I think it's the same for "sausage" &mdash sausages also can have many kinds of ingredients.

However, it should be illegal to use the words "meat" or "beef" to name a product which isn't made (respectively) from meat, or from beef.

- 24 July 2019 ([Animals threatened by global heating](#))

Even (currently) common animals are threatened by [global heating](#) because they [can't adapt as fast as the changes are happening](#).

The changes will accelerate over the course of this century.

- 24 July 2019 ([Anonymizing data isn't anonymous](#))

A general demonstration that anonymizing data is [ineffective for protecting privacy](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Public conservation on private land](#))

Why Isn't [Publicly Funded Conservation on Private Land](#) More Accountable?

- 24 July 2019 ([Cuban brain illness](#))

The US embassy staff that reported a strange illness in Cuba have shown a [special and unusual pattern of brain structure abnormalities](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Germany bans schools from cloud](#))

The German government is just beginning to recognize that "the cloud" is [too cloudy and shady to be trusted for personal data](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Boris Johnson's Iran decision](#))

In dealing with Iran, Boris Johnson will have to choose between two conflicting pressures: [the interests of his country, and demands of the bully](#).

[The bully](#) wants the UK to be in conflict with Iran; specifically, to hold Iran's tanker no matter how Iran retaliates. The UK's interest is to make a deal and free both tankers.

I expect that Johnson values the [bully's](#) backing more, so I predict he will not exchange the two ships.

- 24 July 2019 ([Burning the Amazon rainforest](#))

As the city of Manaus grows, people are constantly burning off part of the Amazon rainforest [in order to make space for houses](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Abandoned oil ship](#))

An oil storage and transfer ship, moored off the coast of Yemen, has been sitting unused and unmaintained since 2015. [It could leak much more than the Big Spill](#). It could also explode.

- 24 July 2019 ([Australian thugs](#))

[Australian thugs arrested French documentalists](#) who were filming a protest against the planned new Adani coal mine.

If [global heating](#) disaster kills billions of people, this mine's contribution will amount to thousands. The principle of necessity would justify sabotaging the mine to prevent it from killing those thousands.

- 24 July 2019 ([Teachers stress](#))

The UK's department of education did a survey to see what was causing stress and extended work hours for teachers. [It discovered that its inspections were responsible](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([Canadian marijuana regulations](#))

Advantages and disadvantages of [Canada's manner of regulating marijuana](#).

- 24 July 2019 ([US troops in Salafi Arabia](#))

[Sending US troops to Salafi Arabia](#) will strengthen the recruiting of jihadist groups, including al Qa'ida and [PISSI](#).

If there were a real need to send troops there, I would not encourage being dissuaded by something like this. But since there is no reason to send them, we should recognize that this is an additional reason not to send them.

- 24 July 2019 ([Greta Thunberg answers](#))

[Greta Thunberg answers questions from the public.](#)

- 24 July 2019 ([England hospitals' parking lots](#))

Hospitals in England have contracted out their [parking lots to companies whose business model is to trick and trap drivers](#), using rules that are opaque or impossible in practice to follow. Even the staff get gouged.

Laws should require that any parking enforcement contracts require giving the institution power to (1) forgive anyone's charges and (2) limit the fees.

- 24 July 2019 ([Bully's deportation plans](#))

The bully plans to deport people from [inside the US fast, without a hearing.](#)

[US citizens will occasionally be deported, too.](#)

If [the cheater](#) can't officially abolish legal rights, he will arrange procedures that are likely to trample them, accidentally on purpose.

- 24 July 2019 ([Mayor Wilmot Collins](#))

Mayor Wilmot Collins of Helena, Montana was told to "go back to Africa", but he stayed. [Now he is running for senator from Montana, to replace a racist Republican.](#)x

- 24 July 2019 ([Scientific data mining](#))

The scientific publishers are opposed even to [data-mining the corpus of scientific literature.](#)

I will be glad if Carl Malamud's hack succeeds, but let's not be distracted by it. The most important use of the scientific literature is exactly what he will take care not to make possible: to read it. Sci-Hub, by contrast, does achieve that. Thus, I admire Sci-Hub more.

- 23 July 2019 ([Secret 911 Recordings](#))

Many US states protect thugs and other emergency responders by [keeping emergency calls secret](#) &mdash even when the caller has died. The relatives can't find out what happened.

- 23 July 2019 ([Bully Denies Medical Care](#))

The bully's plans will deny medical care to [8 million minors who are US citizens, whose parents are not citizens.](#)

This will kill or permanently harm thousands of them.

- 23 July 2019 ([UK Censorship](#))

The UK government censorship/surveillance program which is supposed to prevent terrorism represses students and studies in UK universities. [You don't need to come anywhere near wishing to commit violence before the program threatens you or blocks an event.](#)

Now, for where I disagree with the article. Sad to say, student anti-racism also aims in that direction. It is not backed by state power, so it does not threaten individuals, but if it prevents events from being held, that amounts to censorship.

The UK government, while imposing its law-backed censorship, is hardly in a position to sincerely defend freedom of speech on campus.

- 23 July 2019 ([French Thugs and Extinction Rebellion](#))

[French thugs](#) used pepper spray on Extinction Rebellion protesters who were sitting on a bridge in Paris.

The heat wave has made some French people understand what global heating disaster means. Protests will spread the awareness.

- 23 July 2019 ([Tips For Staying Civil While Debating Child Prisons.](#))

[Tips For Staying Civil While Debating Child Prisons.](#)

Most of the imprisoned immigrants are adolescents rather than children. But they do include children, too. Let's remember that imprisoning teenagers who are not threatening anyone is roughly equally bad.

- 23 July 2019 ([Nazis' euphemisms](#))

Making the dictionary of the Nazis' euphemisms [that they used to make mass murder sound like a minor matter.](#)

I see the same sort of euphemism in today's terminology such as "detain", "custody", and "security forces."

- 23 July 2019 ([Consumer Paralysis](#))

[Inducing Consumer Paralysis: How Retailers Bury Customers in an Avalanche of Choice.](#)

One additional source of complication is when you can't choose each option independently, only a combination. If there are 10 two-way choices to make, there are in principle 1024 combinations. If companies offer just 30 different combinations, you will be overwhelmed with options, of which probably none is what you really want.

With free software, you could make each choice the way you like, so it will be simple rather than overwhelming.

- 23 July 2019 ([Future Elite](#))

It would be good to change the system so that the [children of the elite don't have a near-lock on becoming the future elite.](#)

That alone cannot do enough. There is no way that most people can become elite. We need to make sure that non-elite people have a decent life.

- 23 July 2019 ([Punished for Saving Refugees](#))

Captain Rackete of the Sea-Watch 3 brought [refugees rescued at sea into an Italian port](#), and faces the possibility of 10 years in prison for this.

She says her decision was necessary, and that bringing the refugees back to Libya (a country at war) was illegal too.

- 23 July 2019 ([Syrian's Bully](#))

[Lebanon is pressuring Syrian refugees to leave](#), using cruelty that we would expect from the [bully](#).

- 23 July 2019 ([Republican Violence](#))

Oregon's Republican senators [threatened violence and mobilized violent supporters to protest](#), to kill the climate protection bill.

This illustrates Republicans' basic attitude towards the American people. They want to take power and hold it, by intimidation, violence, or any other means.

- 23 July 2019 ([Internet Trust](#))

The internet is increasingly a low-trust society — [based on an assumption of pervasive fraud](#). This can lead to autocracy, in this case dominion by big companies that erase freedom.

This is an additional reason to stay away from the dis-services where these frauds abound.

- 23 July 2019 ([Green New Deal](#))

If you think about the cost of *not* doing the Green New Deal, you see we can afford it. [It is an investment in survival.](#)

- 23 July 2019 ([Giving The Bully Money](#))

Right-wing Democrats joined Republicans to give the bully [more money for repression at the border](#).

- 23 July 2019 ([Rich Getting Richer](#))

Rich Will Keep Getting Richer and 'Nothing Will Change,' Says Bernie Sanders, [Unless US Leaders Have Guts to Take on Powerful Corporations](#).

This is why I support Sanders (and Warren); they want to do this. The other candidates shy away from it and focus on secondary issues alone.

These secondary issues may be very important too: some are matters of life and death for millions. But plutocracy is the one ring that rules all the rest.

[And plutocracy will fight us as we try to fix the secondary issues, each of them one by one.](#) We need to cripple plutocracy in order to be allowed to address other wrongs,

- 23 July 2019 ([Performance Indicators](#))

Optimizing "key performance indicators" destroys the relationship that made them appear to be worth optimizing, [Optimizing apps \(or web sites\) for "engagement" \(how much time users spend in them\) tends to makes them, at very least, a persistent annoyance -- if not a tool for right-wing hatred and disinformation.](#)

With a free/libre program, the users can exercise control and override these the decisions they don't like.

- 23 July 2019 ([Ma Jian About Hong Kong](#))

Author Ma Jian: ["I felt the fear of abduction by China in Hong Kong. Appeasing Beijing has to stop."](#)

- 23 July 2019 ([German Extremists Kill List](#))

Right-wing German extremists assembled a [list of politicians and activists to kill](#), based on data obtained from thugs and the military.

- 23 July 2019 ([UK Planet Roasters' Victory](#))

In a victory for planet-roasting, protesters in the UK were [convicted of violating an anti-protest injunction set up to protect a fracking company](#).

The protesters were attempting to save the lives of the people that fracking would kill a few decades from now. The judge will pressure them to say they were sorry for this. They should refuse to apologize for protecting the ecosphere. The only thing they should be sorry about is that they did not succeed.

- 23 July 2019 ([EU Resists One Party States](#))

[The EU is starting to resist authoritarian national governments that try to set up one-party states.](#)

I hope this is not too late.

- 23 July 2019 ([Nazanin Zaghari &mdash Ratcliffe](#))

[Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe is hunger striking in prison on Iran.](#) Her husband is hunger striking in support of her outside the Iranian embassy in London.

- 23 July 2019 ([Wang Quanzhang'S Trial](#))

Chinese human rights defender Wang Quanzhang has been in prison four years. [Just recently he had "trial" which sentenced him to four more years in prison.](#)

His wife was just allowed to see him for the first time since he was grabbed, and says he is falling apart as a result of brainwashing conditions.

[The US does not generally imprison prominent human rights lawyers, but it persecutes journalists and their sources.](#)

I don't know of any government that comes even close to respecting human rights.

- 23 July 2019 ([Pride Capitalism in Disguise](#))

LGBTQ+ Pride celebrations today are ["rainbow-branded capitalism": instead of liberation](#), they demand for queers the same strictures that most straights suffer under.

- 23 July 2019 ([China Paying for Personal Data](#))

In China, [companies actually pay people](#) (with household goods) for personal data to train AIs.

Is this any better than what happens now in the US? I don't think so. A little pay cannot compensate for the loss anonymity cause by the spying and control that the AIs will enable.

- 23 July 2019 ([Agriculture and Seaweed](#))

[Human agriculture may be causing the excess of seaweed that is making Mexico's beaches unpleasant.](#)

Fertilizer runoff does other damage. Mexico needs to curb it, rather than cleaning beaches twice a day.

- 23 July 2019 ([Phones in Schools](#))

"You can't enforce a ban on mobile phones in the classroom &mdash [we should teach kids to hate them instead.](#)"

I am doing my part &mdash please join me.

- 23 July 2019 ([Politics Need to Consider Poor](#))

US politics must consider the poor again. [A fight between the middle class and the wealthy has pushed them down for decades.](#)

- 23 July 2019 ([Jamal Khashoggi's Warning](#))

Jamal Khashoggi warned Moroccan journalist Taoufik Bouachrine [that he was a target too.](#)

Bouachrine was subsequently jailed on political charges.

- 23 July 2019 ([Increase in Abortions](#))

Ironically, the US global campaign against talking about abortion has led to a [big increase in abortions in some African countries](#).

That results from an increase in the pregnancy rate. Sad to say, not all the unintended additional pregnancies will be terminated. Some will lead soon to an increase in unintended births, which will lead in a couple of decades to an increase in unintended deaths.

- 23 July 2019 ([Japan Resumes Whaling](#))

[Japan is going to resume overt commercial whaling](#).

For decades, Japan has dishonestly called its whaling "scientific".

- 23 July 2019 ([Chennai Water Crisis](#))

[The city of Chennai is copying with running out of water, but how long can it go on?](#) Drought is expected to spread to 20 more cities by next year.

- 23 July 2019 ([EPA Revokes Employee's Union](#))

The Environmental Poisoning Agency has become the Employment Punishing Agency, [by unilaterally revoking the employees' union representation in all but name](#).

- 23 July 2019 ([Fake News](#))

[Singapore, Russia and France are trying to dictate what news is "fake"](#).

- 23 July 2019 ([Citizenship Question](#))

[The Supreme Court blocked the citizenship question in the 2020 census, but not finally](#). Republicans will have a chance to offer another excuse.

- 23 July 2019 ([Hong Kong](#))

["Beijing will not rest until it controls Hong Kong. We must keep fighting."](#)

- 23 July 2019 ([Berlin Hacker](#))

A hacker in Berlin posted advertisements of nonexistent and subtly absurd construction projects, [and got real offers to buy in](#).

- 23 July 2019 ([Cervical Cancer Vaccine](#))

Cervical cancer is caused by a virus. [An effective vaccine makes eradication of that virus a plausible future goal](#).

If, that is, misogynist anti-vaxxers don't stop it.

- 23 July 2019 ([Abdul Aziz Muhamat](#))

Abdul Aziz Muhamat, who was dumped by Australia in Manus Island, [plead for the UN Human Rights Council to give the effectively imprisoned refugees new homes](#).

- 23 July 2019 ([Businesses now blocking FOIA](#))

The Supreme Court gave [businesses the power to block FOIA requests for information about what they are doing in government contracts](#).

Since trade secrecy is generally harmful to society, we need to move in the opposite direction: to reduce the power of business to impose secrecy when that harms society or community in any way.

- 23 July 2019 ([Guantánamo Medical Care](#))

The report, ["Deprivation and Despair: The Crisis of Medical Care at Guantánamo,"](#) finds systemic failures of medical care for the prisoners.

- 23 July 2019 ([Warren's Election Reform](#))

Senator Warren's plan to reform elections is aimed at [securing elections from rigging and theft, and removing obstacles to voting](#).

At the general level described in the article, it looks good to me. On some issues, the details may be crucial.

- 23 July 2019 ([London Thugs Pay](#))

The London thug department has been forced to [pay compensation to anti-fascist protesters](#) that it besieged for hours on the street, then arrested.

- 23 July 2019 ([Sander's Student Debt Abolition](#))

Sanders advocates [blanket abolition of Americans' college debt](#) because programs that serve only people with low incomes tend to get cut down to zero.

Plutocrats want those funds to go to them, not to be used to help non-rich. If the program doesn't include the middle class, the plutocrats can propagandize the middle class to support ending the program by shrinking it step by step to nothing.

[Millions of Americans of the age at which Americans used to retire are weighted down with college debt](#) &mdash their own, or their children's.

- 23 July 2019 ([Facebook Crypto currency](#))

Facebook's proposed currency is marketed as "decentralization" but actually it is an attempt to [supplant banks with a system under complete centralized private control](#).

The name "libra" refers to a unit of weight (a pound), but I expect it was chosen for its false association with "libre". It has nothing to do with freedom, though; it would create a system of unitary power rather than a system of freedom. The name is a fib.

How about calling it "Fib-Lib"?

- 23 July 2019 ([NYC Thugs Racism](#))

The New York City [thug](#) department continues racist practices despite the court order to cease them. [Its internal "investigations" of reported racism are bogus.](#)

- 23 July 2019 ([Dartmouth Tracking Workers](#))

Dartmouth University [developed a system to monitor workers in many different ways together](#). It can "assess worker performance" by tracking all sorts of behavior.

Some research should not be done, and this is one example.

- 23 July 2019 ([Palestine Biometrics](#))

[Fingerprint and face scanning](#) makes the occupation of Palestine less inconvenient, but more oppressive.

- 23 July 2019 ([Oil and Gas industry](#))

["Stop obsessing over your environmental 'sins.' Fight the oil and gas industry instead."](#)

I agree, as regards personal consumption. However, working to construct fossil fuel facilities does a specially concentrated form of harm. I don't think that you can justify oil drilling in the name of "feeding your family", because [global heating](#) is already causing tens of thousands of American families to become destitute, and any wells you drill will make that worse in the future. The first way to fight the oil and gas industry is to stop working for it.

- 23 July 2019 ([Social Media Regulations](#))

Op-Ed From the Future: "The way we regulated social media platforms didn't end harassment, extremism or disinformation. [It only gave them more power and made the problem worse.](#)"

- 23 July 2019 ([Anti Abortion history](#))

[The Long, Cruel History of the Anti-Abortion Crusade.](#)

The writer is wrong on one point, when he asserts that "no one is pro-abortion". I am pro-abortion. I expect each additional human baby born today to result in more than one additional premature human death a few decades from now. For this and [other powerful reasons, have an abortion, not baby.](#)

However, trying to [discourage excess births by cutting welfare benefits](#) for large families is cruel and unjustified.

Children did not choose to be born, or in which families they were born, and growing up in poverty can stunt them physically and mentally for life.

- 23 July 2019 ([Global Heating Impacts Rights](#))

"Philip Alston, UN special rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, said the impacts of [global heating](#) are likely to undermine not [only basic rights to life, water, food, and housing for hundreds of millions of people, but also democracy and the rule of law.](#)"

- 23 July 2019 ([Candidate Israel Criticism](#))

Only Sanders and Buttigieg, of the well-known presidential candidates, dared to [criticize Israel's treatment of Palestinians](#).

- 23 July 2019 ([UN Face Surveillance](#))

U.N. Food Chief Refuses To Deliver Food To Starving Yemen's [Unless They Can Be Identified Using Facial Biometrics](#).

- 23 July 2019 ([Sanders VS Terrorism](#))

Bernie Sanders: [We Must Stop Giving Terrorists Exactly What They Want](#) (in the Middle East).

- 23 July 2019 ([FCC Sides with Comcast](#))

The [FCC Is Siding With Landlords and Comcast Over Tenants](#) Who Want Broadband Choices.

- 23 July 2019 ([AI Gore economy](#))

AI Gore: only big solutions can [offset impact of systemic shifts and avert disaster](#).

- 23 July 2019 ([Instagram Influence](#))

The madness of people influenced by Instagram is [causing trouble for the rest of us](#).

The simplest way to stop Instagram from annoying your life is to stop using it and stop paying attention to it6.

- 23 July 2019 ([Self Driving cars](#))

[The \(so-called\) Self-Driving Car Is a Surveillance Tool](#).

I say "so-called" because remote-drive software has already been developed, Unless you own the car and the software that controls it is free/libre, you cannot ever be confident that it is driving itself rather than being driven under someone else's control.

- 23 July 2019 ([Aggression Detection](#))

"Aggression detector" systems for schools throw an [alarm whenever someone's voice sounds "stressed"](#).

Even if the system were entirely accurate, attempting to use it would make people more stressed. Only a tiny fraction of these events represent people who are about to attack someone. In the rest of the cases, bothering them will only make their lives more miserable and more stressed.

Suppose you are a teacher or school principal. How could use use these data without making the school worse? You can't. So don't use it.

- 23 July 2019 ([Tashif Turner](#))

US [thugs](#) will hunt desperately for an excuse to arrest someone. Chicago artist Tashif Turner had a permit to paint a mural, but he didn't have it with him, so they arrested him. [But it gets worse](#).

- 23 July 2019 ([US Citizenship revoke](#))

Naturalized US citizens now face the terrifying threat of having their [citizenship taken away without their even being informed](#).

- 23 July 2019 ([UK Visa Discrimination](#))

The head of a department of Unesco has decided not to hold conferences in the UK any more. [It is too hard for even sponsored participants to get a visa to attend](#).

- 23 July 2019 ([UK Visa Discrimination](#))

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- 23 July 2019 ([Insulin Murder](#))

Extension of patenting, together with general encouragement of greed, has made insulin so expensive in the US that American diabetics have to skimp on everything else — [and even then they may die from not being able to buy insulin](#).

It amounts to murder.

- 23 July 2019 ([Manus Island Refugee](#))

The refugee who tried to kill himself by fire in Manus Island will [face charges leading to life imprisonment](#) in a smaller prison.

Those who imprisoned him in Papua New Guinea and those who denied him medical treatment should be considered responsible for his "crime", which is not as grave as theirs.

- 23 July 2019 ([Environmental myth](#))

It's a myth that environmental regulations stifle economic productivity. Harmful chemicals cost the US \$340bn a year.

The [benefits of using those chemicals are concentrated on businesses, while the damage is dispersed among lots of families](#), mostly not rich. Politically, under the plutocratist system, the former counts more than the latter.

- 23 July 2019 ([Plastic and Global Heating](#))

"Every stage of the plastic life-cycle [releases harmful carbon emissions into the atmosphere, contributing to global heating.](#)"

This is in addition to poisoning sea animals and land animals.

- 23 July 2019 ([Thug's Facebook Posts](#))

Some US thugs are being investigated and may be fired because of [fomenting violence on Facebook](#).

Cops are supposed to be police officers, not [thugs](#). Firing them for statements that contradict the mission of their profession is right and proper.

- 23 July 2019 ([Companies' Facebook](#))

An Australian court ruled that [companies are negligent in permitting "defamatory" comments](#) to be posted on their Facebook pages.

Facebook does not give the companies any authority to moderate the comments, so the only way they can comply is by setting up a filter which rejects all comments. This is ridiculous.

- 23 July 2019 ([Congo Population](#))

[Population is reaching crunch point in the Congo](#). The Pygmies, who lived there before, demand to cut down the forest that lowland gorillas live in.

As the world's human population bloats, there won't be enough land for everyone. People will get desperate, and try to hang on a little longer by destroying forests, farming land that isn't suitable, catching the last few fish, and so on. But that won't do more than postpone the end.

The human population will eventually be limited — after everything else is gone. We need to limit the human population earlier, before that destruction occurs.

- 22 July 2019 ([Urgent: Ban use of face surveillance](#))

US citizens: [call on Massachusetts](#) to ban government use of face surveillance.

[Background information](#).

Since this bill would only apply to government use of face recognition, it addresses only part of the problem. But that's a good start.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 22 July 2019 ([EU considers broad censorship system](#))

The EU is considering a [broad system of censorship](#) to apply to all internet sites and services; even to ISPs.

It would that the European internet becomes like the Chinese internet.

- 22 July 2019 ([The Cambridge Analytica scandal](#))

"Cambridge Analytica may have become the byword for a scandal, but [it's not entirely clear that anyone knows exactly what that scandal is](#)."

To try to prevent election manipulation using systems that profile people is difficult. It requires outthinking the people who are looking for clever ways to use the databases to achieve their goals.

Preventing it by prohibiting data collection and profiling would be more reliable. If a database does not exist, there is no clever way to use it to undermine society.

- 22 July 2019 ([WTO rules against local jobs](#))

The WTO [ruled against some US states' support for local jobs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions](#).

One thing the conman has shown us is that the US can defeat [business-supremacy treaties](#) if it attacks them. The US could force the WTO to back down from this, especially if it does so in a fair way, demanding to permit this practice for all countries.

However, the emissions reduction programs would be good even without this particular aspect.

- 22 July 2019 ([Mobile phone scamming](#))

More mobile phone scamming: companies [can put charges on a person's phone bill and falsely claim person approved the payments](#).

- 22 July 2019 ([Encrypted messaging](#))

EFF: [Don't Let Encrypted Messaging Become a Hollow Promise](#).

The article presumes that nonfree programs such as WhatsApp are legitimate. I hope you know better.

- 22 July 2019 ([Oklahoma suing Johnson & Johnson](#))

Oklahoma is suing Johnson & Johnson [for aggressively promoting sales of fentanyl](#).

I think it is wrong to aggressively promote sales of any medical treatment. We must establish that corporations are not entitled to human rights, so that they can't claim they have a "human right" to publicize medicines. But the issue goes beyond advertising. We must require drug companies to include "serving patients" alongside "making money" as their responsibilities, and require participation of patient representatives in business decisions about medicines.

- 22 July 2019 ([Tiffany Cabán](#))

Tiffany Cabán, running for district attorney in Queens, New York, [will not prosecute sex workers or their customers](#), and will not put poor people in jail for months awaiting trial by demanding bail money.

- 22 July 2019 ([Neoliberal Democrats](#))

Here's [What Neoliberal Democrats Who View Bernie Sanders as an 'Existential Threat' Have Yet to Realize](#).

- 22 July 2019 ([Bully's terror theater](#))

[The bully's threat to arrest thousands of immigrants](#) was more of his usual terror theater.

- 22 July 2019 ([Urgent: Estate tax](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to raise the estate tax. This is a way to tax the ultra-wealthy more.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 22 July 2019 ([Urgent: Face surveillance](#))

Everyone: [call on Massachusetts](#) to ban government use of face surveillance.

[More information](#).

- 22 July 2019 ([Australian elite](#))

Australia's denialist voters [have been bamboozled](#) into thinking they are resisting an elite that is gratuitously forcing change on them.

They don't understand that they are helping the real elite, the planet-roaster plutocrats, arrange to murder their grandchildren. But the grandchildren know this.

- 22 July 2019 ([Offshore oil drilling](#))

The House of Representatives put amendments into a funding bill that would [block new offshore oil drilling](#).

This is very important to do.

- 22 July 2019 ([US border guards](#))

Reporter Seth Harp describes how US border guards threatened to keep him in the airport indefinitely until he let them search through his phone and laptop. They lied to him sometimes, and one threatened repeatedly to [kill him and lie as an excuse](#).

I hope he is not using that phone and laptop any more. They could contain key loggers.

In my personal experience, the border guards that give me the most hassle are those of Canada. A Canadian border agent, which appeared human but was apparently a robot, demanded I say what I would do when I returned to the US, while threatening to send me to the US (but not the US city I was connecting for).

Once in the 90s a couple of US customs agents decided to harass me by searching my luggage, slowly. As I was not in a hurry and had only permitted goods to import, I responded by taking a friendly tone and complying with utmost diligence and care, which required me to go even more slowly than they did. Eventually they realized that their harassment tactic had backfired, so they finished the search quickly.

- 22 July 2019 ([US soldier conscription](#))

For the US to defeat Iran, it would need to [conscript soldiers](#).

If you are a young man, or a teenager, it is time to start organizing draft resistance now!

- 22 July 2019 ([Concentration camps](#))

Jewish Human Rights Scholar: Yes, America Has [Built Concentration Camps](#). And it is not surprising that some of the prisoners in them have died as a result of the systematic mistreatment.

The term "concentration camp" was initially used as a euphemism for prisons into which colonial powers (Spain, the US, and Germany) and conquerors (including the UK) forced a civilian population which was sheltering and aiding rebels. Killing them was not the specific intention, but in many of these camps the general mistreatment and lack of medical care killed substantial numbers of the prisoners. This is [what the US is doing now](#) to unauthorized immigrants.

The Nazis built political prisons which were referred to as "concentration camps". Initially they did not murder prisoners outright but systematically worked prisoners to death. Later the Nazis began directly murdering large numbers of Jews (and others) in some of these camps. Thus, the term became associated with outright mass murder.

The writer of that article believes that massive imprisonment is the penultimate step on the road to genocide. This may be right, because the conditions that lead to setting up such camps generate hatred. The [thugs](#) running US concentration camps [hate the unauthorized immigrants](#). It wouldn't take much to loose the demons in them.

- 22 July 2019 ([Psychiatrists 'in the network'](#))

Blue Cross / Blue Shield offers subscribers a list of psychiatrists who are "in the network", but only a few of them will actually accept a new patient covered by insurance. Many of the phone numbers [don't even work any more](#).

Many other insurance plans are equally bad, and it affects other medical specialties, not just psychiatrists.

There is evidence that insurance companies keep the errors intentionally to discourage patients from getting care, and thus reduce what they have to pay for.

- 22 July 2019 ([KPMG](#))

One of the Big Four accounting companies, KPMG, has been caught cheating. Specifically, its executives [cheated on ethics exams](#).

To shut down that company would leave only three companies to choose from. We need to do the opposite: make KPMG split up — and the others, too. We need to make them so numerous that we can shut them when necessary.

- 22 July 2019 ([Net neutrality regulations](#))

[None of the predicted "benefits"](#) of ending the FCC's network neutrality regulations has actually occurred.

When businesses claim that deregulating them will lead to benefits, they are asking the public to give them something on credit, without even a commitment to pay it back. Businesses often cheat on their commitments, so how likely are they to keep a non-commitment?

The proper response to any such a proposal is, "And if that doesn't happen, then what?" Followed by, "Let's make the deregulation provisional, to be terminated automatically if any of the following problems occurs..."

- 22 July 2019 ([Facebook video moderators](#))

Facebook [treats the video moderators like shit](#). And that's in addition to the depression they feel from watching the videos.

The article gives no evidence that Uteley's death was caused by his job, but the way the managers treated it is despicable even if they did not cause it.

Naturally, these workers are subcontracted, so that Facebook can deny responsibility for how they are treated. But Facebook is in fact responsible: it demands contractors offer a low price, which they achieve by treating the workers like shit. We need laws to hold companies like Facebook responsible for the treatment of indirect workers, and give them employee rights such as sick leave.

It should be a felony for employees of a company to ask a worker to sign a nondisclosure agreement covering any aspect of the working conditions, benefits, or pay.

- 22 July 2019 ([British citizenship](#))

Tories are gradually resolving the artificial problems they have created for people that moved to Britain decades ago with citizenship but can't prove it — by [waiting for them to die](#). In a few years, there may be no problem left.

The reason they can't prove their citizenship is that Tories deleted the government data base which [would have proved it](#). In recognition of its own fault, the British government ought to give them the benefit of the doubt.

- 21 July 2019 ([Urgent: End support for deportation thugs](#))

Everyone: [call on Deloitte](#) to stop providing services to the deportation thugs.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 21 July 2019 ([Tax incentives for leveraged buyouts](#))

In support of Senator Warren's bill to [cut off tax incentives for leveraged buyouts](#).

I disagree with part of the argument — namely, arguing from efficiency as the primary goal. There are other important goals, such as avoiding concentration of whatever industry.

These other goals strengthen the case for this law.

- 21 July 2019 ([Minimum wage](#))

The House of Representatives [voted for a \\$15 minimum wage](#).

However, some right-wing Democrats in the House want to pass a law to let the funding for community clinics [decline over time](#).

- 21 July 2019 ([Charter of the Trump Organization](#))

The State of New York should dissolve the charter of the Trump Organization for its [persistent history of crime](#).

- 21 July 2019 ([Curbing global heating](#))

To overcome the threat of [global heating requires putting a stop to the practice of aggressive war](#).

- 21 July 2019 ([Thugs bearing false witness](#))

Chicago [thugs](#) have been [fired for helping to posthumously frame Laquan McDonald](#) after another [thug](#) had killed him.

It is crucial to punish [thugs](#) for bearing false witness and not only (rarely) for killing.

- 21 July 2019 ([Salt in foods](#))

In 2011, the Tories eliminated the UK's targets for reducing salt in foods. This is now estimated to have caused [over 10,000 cases of heart attack, stroke, and cancer](#).

- 20 July 2019 ([The hate-spewer's own country](#))

The hate-spewer [should go home to his country](#), but where is that?

I think his country of origin is the one located, mythically, straight down from wherever you are.

- 20 July 2019 ([Iran seizes oil tanker](#))

Iran has [seized an oil tanker](#).

Now I suppose it will suggest to the UK an exchange of captured ships.

I have not seen any explanation of why the EU's refusal to trade with Syria would have anything to do with Iran's trade with Syria.

Syria, Assad's empire, is an ally to be ashamed of, but not worse than the US's ally, [Salafi Arabia](#).

- 20 July 2019 ([IUCN red list](#))

IUCN Red List Reveals [Wildlife Destruction from Treetop to Ocean Floor](#).

- 20 July 2019 ([Flaw in collapsed dam in Brazil](#))

A dam in Brazil that collapsed had a flaw, which a company (the builder of the dam?) [knew about and concealed](#).

- 20 July 2019 ([Yang Hengjun imprisoned in China](#))

Chinese expat writer Yang Hengjun has been made a [political prisoner in China](#).

He is accused of "crimes" which are bullshit excuses for political persecution, comparable to the US charges against Julian Assange and Edward Snowden. However, China nowadays applies its repression far more broadly; mere opinions are enough.

This is why I decided, a few years ago, not to go to China any more.

- 20 July 2019 ([Flood of opioid pills from drug makers](#))

Drug Makers flooded Us with Billions of Opioid Pills [as Epidemic Surged](#), Data Shows.

- 20 July 2019 ([Privatized state surveillance](#))

The [most egregious aspects](#) of Palantir's privatized state surveillance of just about everyone.

- 20 July 2019 ([Boris Johnson's support for the EU](#))

Boris Johnson, who stands to become the next prime minister of the UK, wrote privately that he was in favor of keeping the UK in the EU. A year later he [supported the dishonest campaign to take it out](#).

- 20 July 2019 ([The bully's grandfather](#))

[The bully's](#) grandfather was an [organizer of the KKK and helped lead a protest to tell Irish and Italian immigrants to go home](#).

- 20 July 2019 ([Europe must defend Taiwan](#))

Hong Kong showed China is a threat to democracy. Now Europe [must defend Taiwan](#).

- 19 July 2019 ([Expulsion of bigots](#))

There is a [proposal to require expulsion of any member of the Labour Party if there is clear evidence that the member is bigoted](#).

The title of the article is misleading -- mere accusation would not require expulsion. There would have to be "irrefutable evidence."

I am in favor of this rule. I don't think that parties should tolerate bigotry against any group, and that includes Jews. The Republican Party should adopt the same rule.

What I disagree with is the party's decision to adopt a controversial criterion for judging anti-semitism, which was designed to shift the boundary that separates criticism of Israel from anti-semitism.

- 19 July 2019 ([Urgent: Fossil fuel divestment](#))

US citizens: [call on Harvard](#) to divest from fossil fuels.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 19 July 2019 ([Extinction denialism](#))

Extinction denialism: right-wing politicians [undercount actual extinctions](#) in order to block policies to prevent future extinctions.

This reminds me of the way right-wing politicians cited Iraq Body Count to undercount the number of Iraqi war dead from [Dubya's](#) occupation of Iraq. Iraq Body Count did (does?) a valuable job by making a list of the identified, reported deaths, but using that to estimate the total will obviously give a low result.

I think Iraq Body Count ought to make a prominent statement to this effect. Maybe the IUCN Red List should do likewise.

In the case of extinction, we cannot detect the extinction of species whose existence we have not yet recognized. These could number in the millions.

- 19 July 2019 ([Extinction Rebellion die-in](#))

Extinction Rebellion [held a die-in](#) in front of the New York Times, demanding the newspaper do justice to the danger.

- 19 July 2019 ([Palestinian deal](#))

The conman's "deal of the century" for Palestinians includes a lot of money to be paid to Palestinians [in the future](#).

In other words, he's asking the Palestinians to give him something on credit.

You'd have to be nuts to give the trumpets anything on credit. Remember the building contractor that did work on a Trump building, and was still suing to get paid for it when the conman was inaugurated? He was [not the only one](#).

- 19 July 2019 ([Getting paid for data](#))

[Evgeny Morozov agrees](#) that getting paid for data by Facebook will not compensate for the damage done by the power Facebook gets by having that data.

The idea that "you should own your data" is too weak a foundation to resist the systematic manufacture of consent. It puts each person in the position of negotiating a deal with various giants — exactly the way the giants want it.

Instead of negotiating individually with them, we need to join together and pass laws that stop them from snooping on us.

- 19 July 2019 ([Iran and the bully](#))

Iran is talking and acting tough, in response to damaging economic warfare. [The bully](#), and his men condemn this as [inexplicable aggression](#).

Several years ago I reported on how Israel used the same propaganda ploy against Hamas in Gaza. In a cycle of attacks by both sides, Israel described Israeli bombing as ["retaliation"](#) and Hamas missiles as "aggression". At that time, it was noticeable that it was generally Israel that broke the truce. That does not seem to be the case in the past year, though.

- 19 July 2019 ([Surveillance and persecution](#))

Yuval Harari: Pervasive digital surveillance will offer numerous ways to determine who is homosexual — or even has an unconscious leaning that way — [for the sake of persecution](#). Likewise for any other quirks that people could be mistreated for.

If you belong to some group that is targeted — blacks, Palestinians, animal rights campaigners, whatever it — the secret police of your country won't hesitate to use your quirk to force you into informing.

This is another reason we must stop systems from collecting data about people.

Make or sell TVs that reports on people? Go to prison! Put up a camera that identifies people? Go to prison!

- 19 July 2019 ([Eliminating private prisons](#))

Senator Warren proposes to [eliminate private prisons](#) completely in the US, including immigration prisons.

She also plans to ban gouging prisoners for products and services.

What I like best is that she endorses the idea that certain areas of activity should be off limits to profitmaking businesses. It is not yet the idea that government services [should never be privatized](#).

- 19 July 2019 ([Attacking the idea of truth](#))

Today powerful tyrants don't merely lie. [They attack the idea](#) that there is such a thing as truth.

What made life under the rule of Stalin and Mao so terrifying was that no lie was too much for them. The truth of your innocence meant nothing to them if they found it useful to proclaim you guilty. Today's cruel liars, including the conman, are no better.

Let's compare them with the plutocrats and [planet roasters](#). They don't mind lying, and they lie constantly about their opponents. But they do not attack the very idea of truth.

- 19 July 2019 ([Refugees in France](#))

Hundreds, maybe thousands, of refugees are living in France near Calais and Dunkirk. Thugs [regularly chase them around](#), steal and destroy their tents, break their water vessels, and poison their food with tear gas.

- 19 July 2019 ([Bombing Iran](#))

[The bully's](#) ambivalence about bombing Iran could result from a [conflict between two inner impulses](#).

It could also be theater.

- 17 July 2019 ([Urgent: Stop digital support for deportation](#))

US citizens: [call on Amazon](#) to stop providing digital support for deportation.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 17 July 2019 ([The UK's bullshitter](#))

Boris Johnson is the UK's bullshitter — he [takes lying beyond the usual level, and plays the hero by defeating the weak](#).

- 17 July 2019 ([Royal Shakespeare Company's links to BP](#))

"With its [links to BP](#), I can't stay in the Royal Shakespeare Company."

- 17 July 2019 ([Violence towards protester](#))

A Tory minister [grabbed a Greenpeace protester by the neck to push her out of the hall](#).

Initiating pre-emptive violence on the off chance that someone else might do so is not justified, not for ministers any more than it is for [thugs](#).

The minister has been dismissed as minister, but that is not enough. He should be prosecuted. [The cheers he got from other Tories and plutocrats in the room](#) make prosecution necessary.

Some see this as an example of the pattern of [male violence towards females](#). That is a valid point, and it might be that he has a habit of violence towards women and that it played a role in his actions. Ultimately, though, I don't think it changes the conclusions in this particular case. It would not be any more legitimate to have done the same thing to a male.

- 17 July 2019 ([Preventing war with Iran](#))

Bernie Sanders: [We must stop the US from going to war with Iran](#)

- 17 July 2019 ([Threat of censorship in France](#))

Now that France threatens a [24 hour censorship deadline for deleting articles](#), some politicians are trying to include revealing how farms treat animals.

The tendency of governments to label animal rights activism as "terrorism" has been observed [in the US](#), and the UK. It seems to be a natural progression. So whenever you think about a proposed "antiterrorism law", remember that animal rights activists may be included too.

I do not advocate animal rights below a low level. I do advocate freedom of speech for those that advocate more (or less) animal rights than I do.

- 17 July 2019 ([Nonfree software](#))

The EFF has alerted the public to a particular of variety of malicious functionality of nonfree software: [artificial restrictions on interoperability](#).

This is useful, but it would have been more insightful to mention that the underlying cause: proprietary (nonfree) software. Proprietary software [tends to be malicious in various other ways](#).

- 17 July 2019 ([Empty federal government positions](#))

The bullshitter doesn't want anyone in the federal government to correct his lies. [Over 85%](#) of the federal government positions that have to do with science are now empty.

- 17 July 2019 ([Detroit thugs impose face recognition](#))

The Detroit Police Commission excluded one commissioner from some of its meetings where it decided to impose face recognition on the public. He came to an open meeting and [tried to condemn this, and the thugs arrested him](#).

Thus tyranny marches on, imposing the tools for more tyranny.

- 17 July 2019 ([Endless war not inevitable](#))

"Endless War Isn't Inevitable": House [Votes to Stop \[the bully\] From Launching Unauthorized Attack on Iran](#).

- 17 July 2019 ([Allowing children free time to play](#))

What parents suggest for [allowing children some free time to play](#).

- 17 July 2019 ([June protests in Hong Kong](#))

Protesters in Hong Kong passively [blockaded the thug department's headquarters for 15 hours](#), then left.

- 17 July 2019 ([Bottles of novichok](#))

Charlie Rowley, suffers permanent neural damage from the novichok which killed his girlfriend. He says that the bottle he found was [packaged in hard plastic](#) and is surely not the same bottle of novichok that was used to poison the Skripals.

- 17 July 2019 ([US aggression against Iran](#))

Explaining the [decades of US aggression against Iran](#) which are the historical background for today's US aggression against Iran.

If the US had not overthrown the elected government of Mossadegh, political Islamism probably would not be a significant factor in the world today. We would have no Islamic State, no al Qa'ida, no [PISSI](#), no Boko Haram.

(satire) Bolton Argues [War With Iran Only Way To Avenge Americans Killed In Upcoming War With Iran](#).

- 17 July 2019 ([Facebook prediction of diseases](#))

Facebook [could predict diseases such as diabetes, anxiety, depression, and psychosis](#), based on what zuckers post there.

Their doctors could also do this, but that might be acceptable, so let's focus on what is *not* acceptable.

- 17 July 2019 ([Manus Island refugee prison](#))

A refugee imprisoned by Australia on Manus Island has been denied medical treatment for a long time. He [set himself on fire in his room](#).

His action seems to me as rational as any other option, under the circumstances. I suppose he hoped he would die, but so far he is still alive.

Maybe now they will give him medical treatment.

- 17 July 2019 ([Leaks say bully approved bombing](#))

Leaks say the [bully](#) approved bombing of Iran, [then cancelled it at the last moment](#).

We can't presume any of this is true. The bullshitter uses bombastic threats as a style of diplomacy. Maybe he told the troops to get ready to attack as a form of theater, intending to cancel it. Or perhaps that never happened and some flunkies were ordered to "leak" a false story.

Either way, this was better than launching a real attack.

- 17 July 2019 ([Ballot boxes in supermarkets](#))

New Zealand [will put ballot boxes in supermarkets](#) so people can vote more conveniently.

It is good to make voting more convenient, all else being equal, but that is not the most important issue at stake. Is it feasible to prevent election-rigging via ballot boxes in a "crowded shop"? Will it be feasible to have poll watchers from all parties at each supermarket?

- 17 July 2019 ([Drop in donations to UN relief efforts](#))

Foreign aid donations to UN relief efforts have [dropped by over 25% compared with the first half of 2018](#).

[Global heating](#) increases the need, and weakens and impoverishes donor governments. Plutocracy and its increased inequality contributes to the latter also.

- 17 July 2019 ([Personal data collections](#))

Assigning a monetary "value" to collecting data about you [would not substitute for privacy](#).

The monetary income of selling and renting that data is not a measure of the harm done to you by collecting it. It also completely ignores the consequences of making the data available to the state.

- 17 July 2019 ([People throw their freedom away](#))

Swedes Are [Getting Implants in Their Hands](#) to Replace Cash, Credit Cards.

It is hard to protect the freedom of people who are desperate to throw their freedom away.

- 17 July 2019 ([Federal thugs interrogate whistleblower](#))

The Australian federal [thugs](#) interrogated a whistleblower in [an attempt to build a case against journalists](#). Even worse, the minister of repression defends this.

He is the biggest threat to Australians in the short term. (In the long term, [global heating](#) is the biggest threat.)

- 17 July 2019 ([Extinction rebellion protests](#))

Extinction Rebellion Protests [Block Traffic in Five UK Cities](#).

Each city has a theme: rising sea levels, floods, wildfires, crop failures and extreme weather.

- 17 July 2019 ([Right-wing extremists](#))

[The bully](#) has put right-wing religious extremists [in charge of US policy towards Israel and Palestine](#).

Right-wing extremist Jews, right-wing extremist Nazis, right-wing extremist Christians, right-wing extremist Muslims — they all work together in the name of right-wing extremist cruelty.

- 17 July 2019 ([Spying on children](#))

Spying on Children [Won't Keep Them Safe](#).

- 17 July 2019 ([Power to imprison anyone forever](#))

The US government [argued in the Supreme Court that it has the power](#) to imprison anyone forever, including even US citizens, simply by asserting that [perse](#) is planning terrorism.

It is easy to make such an accusation against anyone, for those who don't mind lying. The US has [labeled various sorts of protesters as "terrorists"](#).

- 17 July 2019 ([Rising oceans](#))

Seawalls to Protect US Against Rising Oceans [Could Cost \\$416bn by 2040](#).

That spending would be as futile as trying to bail the water out of the ocean. By 2070 we would need to spend another 400 billion, or perhaps another 800 billion or 2 trillion, because (1) the cost of each cm of sea wall increases as it gets taller and (2) sea-level rise will accelerate with time.

We can't afford to cure this problem. The only remedy we can afford is to prevent it.

- 17 July 2019 ([If Biden were elected](#))

Vowing Not to 'Demonize' the Rich, Biden Tells Billionaires ['Nothing Would Fundamentally Change'](#) If He [Were] Elected.

- 17 July 2019 ([Cheater rewards campaign support](#))

It looks like [the cheater](#) rewarded campaign support from William Koch by [telling the IRS to dismiss an investigation into reported tax fraud](#) at his businesses.

- 17 July 2019 ([Deepfakes](#))

Deepfakes are [already being used in political manipulation](#). The success of the bullshitter, and Republicans who pressure each other to believe even obvious lies, has made the US more vulnerable to them.

The hypothetical deepfake described at the end of the article goes only a little beyond what the bullshitter has already hinted at. It would not surprise me if he really said that, before the 2020 election. By lying repeatedly about his past statements, he has prepared a situation in which we would be unable to tell if such a video is true or fake.

I think this is precisely his intention.

- 17 July 2019 ([Bully basing campaign on racism](#))

[The bully](#) is [basing his campaign on racism](#), and the saddest thing is that he might win.

- 17 July 2019 ([Town replaces public transit with Uber](#))

In one town in Canada, Uber has advanced towards its goal of eliminating other transport options. The town has [eliminated its own public transit](#), replacing it with being spied on by nonfree software.

- 17 July 2019 ([Britain's law against discarding by-catch](#))

Britain's law against discarding by-catch has been ineffective because [British fishermen ignore it](#).

- 17 July 2019 ([User-tracking Android apps](#))

Many Android apps can track users' movements [even when the user says not to allow them to](#).

This involves an apparently unintentional weakness in Android, exploited intentionally by malicious apps. But those apps can't do anything to "your" phone, if you recognize they are proprietary software and won't allow them in your machine.

Warning: parts of Android are proprietary programs too, and many phones sold with Android come with proprietary modifications, even preloaded proprietary apps that the customer [may not be informed about](#). And that's not to mention the [proprietary radio software in the modem processor](#), with its universal back door.

- 17 July 2019 ([Bully's Title X gag rule](#))

[The bully's](#) artificial restrictions, [designed to wipe out Planned Parenthood and stop other clinics from telling women about abortion](#), has been approved by an appeals court and will go into effect.

I hope someone will report on what role judges recently appointed by Republicans played in this decision.

- 17 July 2019 ([What the American people deserve](#))

(satire) ... Schumer stated to members of the press Thursday that "the American people deserve [a president who can more credibly justify war with Iran](#)."

- 17 July 2019 ([GOP Medicaid work requirements](#))

Study Confirms GOP Medicaid Work Requirements Succeeded in Taking Away People's Healthcare, But [Did Nothing to Boost Employment](#).

At a time when life is such a struggle for the poor, poor people all try to get work. The question is whether they can get enough work, and fit it into life alongside sleep and commuting.

- 16 July 2019 ([Refugees from Libya](#))

Libya is [not a safe place to send refugees back to](#), so the EU should not send anyone there.

- 16 July 2019 ([Right-wing populism](#))

(Right-wing) populism means [never having to say you're sorry, and never having to say you're wrong](#). You just change the subject.

- 16 July 2019 ([Teen resentment of surveillance](#))

The experience of being tracked constantly by their parents is [making some US teenagers resent digital surveillance](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([The surveillance state](#))

What Love Island Can Tell Us About [the Surveillance State](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([Idolizing the English upper class](#))

Movies and TV that idolize the English upper class and its former dominant position serve now to [propagandize Britons and Americans to bow down to the rich](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([US suicide rate](#))

The US suicide rate [has been rising for years](#), especially among rural men with less education and less income.

The full cause is not evident, but the widespread gun ownership in the US could be one factor. However, the industrial non-policy that allows devastating decline in many rural areas could also be responsible.

- 16 July 2019 ([Elected Palestinians face thug violence](#))

Palestinians who are Israeli citizens can run for parliament, but if elected they [still face violence from thugs who cover it up with lies](#).

Also described in the article is how Israeli soldiers murdered a Palestinian driver by blocking paramedics from stopping his bleeding.

Israeli soldiers have done this before. Tarek Loubani reports that he saw this happen to a wounded medic at a Gaza protest: a sniper wounded him, then snipers kept shooting near him to stop other medics treating him. Eventually the wounded medic bled to death.

- 16 July 2019 ([Demolition of Arab neighborhood](#))

Israel [plans to demolish an entire Arab neighborhood in Jerusalem](#), evicting 500 people.

- 16 July 2019 ([Israelis and Palestinians](#))

The only path to reconciliation (in whatever form) between Israelis and Palestinians is to have an [independent Palestinian state](#). It is not a mere "solution", it is a necessary first step to an end to military occupation.

- 16 July 2019 ([Iran](#))

US officials are [hinting at a US missile attack at some facility in Iran](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([What to do about killer cops](#))

In the US it proves almost impossible to convict killer cops. Here are [suggestions for what we could try to do instead](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([Bully orders denial of asylum](#))

[The bully](#) ordered [denial of asylum to people fleeing Central America that pass through Mexico and didn't ask for asylum there](#).

This would make sense if Mexico were a safe country for refugees, but if that were the case, they would probably ask for asylum in Mexico, where people mostly speak Spanish which most of them already speak.

This [may be rejected by courts](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([Trademark extortion](#))

Yosemite national park [paid a ransom to recover the right to use the traditional names for hotels and other activities](#), which had been seized by a trademark extortionist.

The article spreads confusion between trademark law and several other laws by using the overgeneralization "[intellectual property](#)" to refer to trademarks. Please don't ever use that term.

- 16 July 2019 ([Having views on controversial questions](#))

Academics [should not be fired for stating controversial views about gender issues in the abstract](#).

We must distinguish having views on controversial questions from discrimination.

- 16 July 2019 ([School meals](#))

Many public schools in the US [publicly humiliate children whose families have not paid for school lunch](#).

No family should have to pay for school meals, unless perhaps one so wealthy that the fee is nothing to it. The cost should be paid out of general tax revenue, funded by a progressive income tax, so that the poor don't have to pay anything.

However, I see a deeper and bigger issue here: how can we teach children from poor families not to feel ashamed of this? Children are not responsible for their families' fortunes, but even the adults should not feel ashamed of getting bad breaks.

- 16 July 2019 ([Heathrow Airport expansion plans](#))

Heathrow's Expansion Plans Make a [Mockery of the Zero Emissions Strategy](#). We need to cut down on flights, not increase them.

- 16 July 2019 ([PFAS and pancreatic cancer](#))

PFAS appears to cause pancreatic cancer even at a very low concentration, about [1/700 of the current maximum level in drinking water](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([Arctic permafrost thawing](#))

Scientists Shocked by Arctic Permafrost Thawing [70 Years Sooner Than Predicted](#).

They found that the whole landscape was melting.

- 16 July 2019 ([Being less punitive](#))

Newly elected Massachusetts District Attorney Rachael Rollins is trying to provide better justice by [being less punitive in some cases](#).

We can't evaluate the effect of this by looking at specific cases. It can only be judged as an aggregate.

- 16 July 2019 ([Journalists to be punished](#))

Burkina Faso will [punish journalists that report on attacks by Islamist rebel groups](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([Export of solar electricity](#))

Plans to export solar electricity from Australia [through a power cable, or in the form of hydrogen](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([Enemy of Hong Kong](#))

The head of Hong Kong's puppet government has apologized for the extradition bill, and said she would not try to push it again before July 2020, but [refuses to go promise not to bring it back after that](#).

One must suspect that she plans to try again later next year. Having chosen to serve China, she will not have a change of heart. She will remain the enemy of Hong Kong.

- 16 July 2019 ([Death penalty in the US](#))

The death penalty in the US is "as predictable as a lightning strike." The system is [so random](#), in some ways, that it makes no sense.

One thing that is not random is the racism. An extreme case: [in Los Angeles, only non-whites get sentenced to death](#).

(I refuse to use the expression "[of color](#)". Color is not something one can be "of".)

- 16 July 2019 ([Republican power against public will](#))

In many of the states where Republicans are banning abortion, the voting public does not support them and did not vote for them. They [hold power via gerrymandering](#), against the public will.

- 16 July 2019 ([US regime's policy towards Iran](#))

The US regime's policy towards Iran is [divorced from reality in regard to strategy](#).

This is in addition to being [divorced from reality in its goals](#).

Iran's regime does not respect human rights, but it's not as bad as [Salafi Arabia](#). If the latter is good enough to be a US ally, so is Iran.

- 16 July 2019 ([Elizabeth Warren](#))

Warren's [many good domestic policy plans](#) have won her more support.

As I've read articles about Warren's plans, I have agreed with them, more or less. They show me that she is progressive and will fight the plutocrats.

Sanders is also a progressive and has fought the plutocrats for decades. If we elect him, there will be no lack of good plans. What we may not have is enough progressives in Congress to enact them. Sanders is dedicating his efforts to boosting their campaigns.

Moreover, Sanders [rejects US wars, and the crimes of US allies](#), in a way that Warren has not.

I support Sanders. I would settle for Warren.

- 16 July 2019 ([Wasting water](#))

Changing underwear every day [wastes water for so much washing](#). Until everyone had washing machines, people didn't do this.

- 16 July 2019 ([Analysis of latest Greek election](#))

Yanis Varoufakis' [Analysis of the Latest Greek Election](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([Data protection in Brazil](#))

Brazil [plans to put a right to data protection into its constitution](#).

This reflects good intentions, but adopts an ineffective avenue for solution. The constitution should guarantee a right to anonymity.

- 16 July 2019 ([Equal opportunity for actors](#))

Actors should have equal opportunity, rather than a [system of privileges based on dozens of different demographic identities](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([Partial reactor meltdown at Simi Valley](#))

The partial reactor meltdown at Simi Valley scattered a lot of radioactive material which joined toxic chemicals. These pollutants spread on water and wind, [causing elevated rates of many kinds of cancer](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([PTSD](#))

Some studies [suggest that trigger warnings don't really help protect people with PTSD — indeed, they could hurt instead](#).

[I don't regard this as proven yet](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([Record heat in Alaska](#))

'The Changes Are Really Accelerating': [Alaska at Record Warm While Greenland Sees Major Ice Melt](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([US needs industrial policy](#))

Here are [many reasons why](#) the US needs an industrial policy.

- 16 July 2019 ([Attacking civilian infrastructure](#))

The New York Times says that the US is [infiltrating malware into Russia's power grids](#).

This seems like dangerous brinkmanship to me. Power grids are civilian infrastructure, and should not be targets in war. If Russia is doing this to the US, one could argue that threats in return are justified. But then there should be negotiations for a cease fire in that terrain.

- 16 July 2019 ([Criminalizing compassion](#))

"Is showing compassion to migrants a crime?" Right-wing regimes, founded on cruelty, are [trying to make it so](#).

The US prisons for border-crossers are [insufficient to handle the overload caused by the bully's](#) policies of imprisoning them. This will systematically put them in danger of losing life or limb.

- 16 July 2019 ([Economic growth and global heating](#))

The world cannot continue economic growth and avoid [global heating](#) disaster. There is [no way to decouple growth from greenhouse emissions soon enough](#).

I guess we need to take from the rich in order to give poor people a better life.

- 16 July 2019 ([Ban on use of human fetal tissue](#))

The [saboteur](#)-in-chief has attacked medical research by [banning use of human fetal tissue](#).

Sooner or later, you will develop a disease that today is fatal. Will it still be fatal when you get it? Understanding and curing some diseases depends on fetal tissue research. Forbidding that research could be your death.

- 16 July 2019 ([Fossil fuel facilities](#))

The Environmental Poisoning Agency is moving to [strip states of the authority](#) to block pipelines and other fossil fuel facilities.

Each fossil fuel facility creates an investor that has a giant stake in continue to operate it, thus continue destroying the ecosphere. To survive, we will have to eliminate their legal right not to lose this investment.

As Study Shows Methane Emissions 'Vastly Underestimated,' Warnings That US Fracked Gas Export Bonanza [Imperils Planetary Stability](#).

Carbon Emissions from Energy Industry Rise at [Fastest Rate Since 2011](#).

"The process of corporate plunder in the global mining industry is severely [aggravating social and economic inequalities](#) across the planet."

- 16 July 2019 ([Refugee homes in Syria](#))

Assad [Demolishes Refugee Homes](#) to Tighten Grip on Rebel Strongholds.

Former rebels don't dare return home — many of them will be tortured.

- 16 July 2019 ([US Coast Guard searches](#))

"[Under this policy](#), the [US] Coast Guard stops boats in international waters, searches them and their crew for drugs, destroys boats, and detains crew members for prolonged periods of time in inhumane conditions, regardless of whether any drugs are found aboard."

- 16 July 2019 ([Tanker attack](#))

The Japanese shipping company says its tanker was [attacked by a missile](#), not a mine.

This does not conclusively say who attacked the ship. Perhaps some ally of the conman did it, to add to the military threats and economic warfare we know about. Or perhaps Iran did it in response to those military threats and economic warfare. Either way, the US is the aggressor overall.

- 16 July 2019 ([Dominion of the internet](#))

Each step in increased regulation of the internet has reinforced the [dominion of the existing giants](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([Wealthiest and poorest Americans](#))

Since 1989, the wealthiest 1% of Americans have gained 21 trillion dollars, while the poorest 50% have [lost almost 1 trillion](#).

The poorest 50% amount to roughly 150 million people, which means that their loss averages roughly 6000 dollars *each*.

- 16 July 2019 ([Facebook payment system](#))

[Facebook's new payment system](#) will try to seize total surveillance and control of monetary transactions.

Using this would be even worse than using a credit card.

- 16 July 2019 ([Deep fake videos](#))

Deep fake videos will aid the bullshitters that aim to eliminate the idea that the truth matters, by burying the truth under [heaps of contradictory lies](#).

- 16 July 2019 ([Environmental footprints](#))

[700 large companies](#) are under pressure to stop concealing their environmental footprint.

- 16 July 2019 ([Platform censorship](#))

The pressure on platforms to censor certain points of view is spilling over inevitably [into broader censorship](#).

- 15 July 2019 ([Urgent: Abolish ICE](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to abolish the deportation thug department, ICE.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 15 July 2019 ([Urgent: Bullshitter's tax returns](#))

US citizens: [call on Rep. Neal](#) to get the bullshitter's tax returns from New York State.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 15 July 2019 ([Touch-screen ballot-printers](#))

The State of Georgia is replacing its voting machines, but plans to go against security recommendations and buy [touch-screen ballot-printers](#).

- 15 July 2019 ([Making Africa self-sufficient in food](#))

Arguing that a [one-time expenditure of 5 billion dollars](#) could make Africa self-sufficient in food.

To make that benefit last, assuming a stable climate, requires ending population growth in Africa. That would cost money, but there may be other obstacles — religious — that money alone might not easily address.

To make this solution lasting we [need to curb global heating](#).

- 15 July 2019 ([Australia's cruelty to refugees](#))

Australia's exaggerated cruelty to refugees is [driving them to suicide](#). I expect that Australian politicians are celebrate every suicide attempt as proof of success.

- 15 July 2019 ([Catholic Church and birth control](#))

The Catholic Church is [pushing women in Nigeria to a malicious app](#) as a substitute for real birth control.

There is a word for women who use this method: "mothers".

- 15 July 2019 ([Urgent: Protect Rights to Organize Act](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to pass the Protect Right to Organize Act.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 15 July 2019 ([Urgent: Resignation of US border thug head](#))

Everyone: demand that the head of the US border [thugs resign for promoting bigotry](#) (and hatred towards immigrants).

I oppose prudery, so I reject the idea that there is something necessarily wrong with "vulgar jokes." Those particular jokes may have been nasty for some other reason. By contrast, hostility towards immigrants is clearly unacceptable from anyone that works in government agencies that deal with immigrants.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 15 July 2019 ([Urgent: Drop deportation thug contracts](#))

Everyone: [call on Palantir](#) to drop its contracts with the US deportation thug agency.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 15 July 2019 ([Urgent: Cuts to military budget](#))

US citizens: call on your congresscritter to [make certain cuts in the US military budget](#).

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 15 July 2019 ([Chernobyl](#))

Many civilians who lived near or visited Chernobyl after the explosion [died from illnesses that can plausibly be attributed to radioactive fallout](#). No one investigated, so there is no established count, and those in favor of nuclear power can still claim it never hurt anyone but the workers.

Some still try to argue that we need to build new nuclear power plants to avoid [global heating](#) disaster. This is bogus because it would be far cheaper to build renewable generation.

- 15 July 2019 ([Department of Agriculture](#))

The staff of the Department of Agriculture research agencies believe that moving the agencies out of Washington is a way of [sabotaging them](#).

- 15 July 2019 ([Cops' racist thuggishness](#))

Research has discovered that racist thuggishness on the part of cops [originates in racist attitudes on the part of many cops](#).

- 14 July 2019 ([Urgent: Housing assistance](#))

US citizens: [call on the Department of Housing and Urban Development](#) not to restrict housing assistance.

Here's the text I sent:

I call on the Department of Housing and Urban Development not to tighten eligibility for housing assistance. When some of the people in a family are US citizens, it is entirely legitimate to support housing for family. There is no justification for putting those citizens out on the street or breaking up their families. A great country shows its greatness through compassion.

- 14 July 2019 ([Urgent: 'Black identity extremism'](#))

US citizens: [call on the FBI](#) to stop pretending there is such a thing as "black identity extremism".

This phantom threat distracts attention from the real threat of white identity extremism.

I focus my politics on issues, not on identity.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 14 July 2019 ([Rescuing drowning refugees](#))

Salvini has imposed a [fine of 50,000 euros](#) on organizations that rescue drowning refugees and bring them to Italy.

- 14 July 2019 ([Eliminating death penalty](#))

Two legislators whose fathers had been murdered [helped eliminate the death penalty](#) in New Hampshire.

- 14 July 2019 ([Climate emergency](#))

Pope Francis [Declares 'Climate Emergency'](#) And Urges Action to avoid "a brutal act of injustice toward the poor and future generations."

- 14 July 2019 ([US 'social credit' system](#))

Making loan decisions based on [tracking people's online activity](#) constitutes linking up the US "social credit" system.

The injustice of this goes far beyond indirect race or gender bias.

- 14 July 2019 ([Glenn Greenwald](#))

Glenn Greenwald exposed the corrupt intentions behind the prosecution of Lula. Now he is receiving death threats and a [threat from the state](#) to deport him.

Greenwald lives in Brazil and is married to an elected official.

- 14 July 2019 ([Young adult books](#))

The "young adult" book category is consuming itself with censorship demands. Many books have been [withdrawn or cancelled](#) in response to pressure campaigns accusing the authors of various sorts of "insensitivity" or "cultural appropriation".

The critics demand authors portray every minority in a "sensitive" way. Is there anyone in the world that can do this? Any given human being belongs only to a few groups. An author will have to play safe by assigning every character to the groups [perse](#) belongs to. But this would trigger condemnation for a lack of diversity.

It looks like young adult books will have to be written by committees that can provide sensitive treatment of many different intersections of minority groups. The publisher would apply for a sensitivity certification from the Sensitivity Authority, which might demand changes. Then it would direct readers to send their complaints to the SA if they think its evaluation standards ought to be changed.

I have decided to oppose *all* campaigns that demand publishers withdraw a book, or a contribution to a book — regardless of what reasons are cited. Demanding censorship of books is in itself destructive. Even if the name presented on the book as author were "Donald Trump", I would not demand the publisher withdraw it.

- 14 July 2019 ([War on education](#))

The conman's [war on education](#).

- 14 July 2019 ([Climate blindness](#))

Climate blindness: Canadian west coast indigenous tribes are opposing a tar sands pipeline, but cite only its local dangers while [ignoring its global danger](#).

Meanwhile, not far away, Alaska has had record heat this spring and [its permafrost is melting](#). To avoid disaster is getting harder and harder.

The melting permafrost also poses a short-term local threat, but we should not be distracted by that.

- 14 July 2019 ([Hong Kong surveillance](#))

[Hong Kong demonstrates](#) how surveillance tech threatens democracy.

It CAN happen here; indeed, it is already happening, just not to this extent. We, in countries that allow some space for public opinion, must demand an end to the systems that track people.

- 14 July 2019 ([Pentagon and climate crisis](#))

[New Report](#) Exposes Pentagon's Massive Contributions to Climate Crisis.

- 14 July 2019 ([Thugs "running a plate for a date"](#))

Australian [thugs](#), like US thugs, practice "running a plate for a date". However, an Australian [thug](#) actually [got convicted for it](#).

- 14 July 2019 ([Google home listening devices](#))

Google contractors [can listen to what people say to its home listening devices](#).

I am sure that [thugs](#) can, too.

- 14 July 2019 ([Rich jerks in San Francisco](#))

Rich jerks in San Francisco [say that homeless people are bad for the environment](#).

We can see they are jerks because they refer only to their own local environment, and they are stretching the term to include mere annoyances.

Excess humans are bad for the environment, and the bigger their homes, the worse they are. Let's [stop making so many humans!](#)

- 14 July 2019 ([Charter school profits](#))

Charter schools are very profitable, partly due to scamming the taxpayer. They use these profits to [lobby against efforts to curb charter schools](#).

I think we should eliminate charter schools entirely so that they won't have a lobby any more.

- 14 July 2019 ([Innovative ecological farming](#))

Big Agro [attacks innovative ecological farming](#) by equating it with prescientific traditional farming.

- 14 July 2019 ([The Democratic National Committee](#))

(satire) ... voters across the country criticized the Democratic National Committee Tuesday for [requiring candidates to articulate at least one policy position](#) before they can participate in debates.

- 14 July 2019 ([Citizenship for occupied Palestinians](#))

"If Israel annexes Palestinian land and closes the door on a sovereign Palestinian state, then the international community [must demand that Israel extend citizenship to occupied Palestinians](#)."

- 14 July 2019 ([Driving while black](#))

In Missouri, a black driver is [almost twice as likely to be stopped by thugs as a white driver](#).

- 14 July 2019 ([Destruction of forests](#))

Corporations are [on track to destroy forests the size of Spain](#) from 2010 to 2020.

- 14 July 2019 ([Abuses committed in Khartoum attack](#))

Sudan Military Admits [Abuses Committed in Khartoum Attack](#).

- 13 July 2019 ([Arctic wildfires](#))

Arctic wildfires in June [emitted as much CO₂ as Sweden does in a year](#).

That positive feedback could force disaster.

- 13 July 2019 ([Anaheim thugs](#))

Anaheim [thugs](#) shot and killed Hannah Williams, who may really have pointed a toy gun at them. But it looks like they [might have saved her life afterward if they had made that the priority](#).

- 13 July 2019 ([Do-dirty's death squads](#))

The UN Human Rights Council [will investigate](#) Philippine president Do-dirty's death squads, which are accused of killing 27,000 people.

- 13 July 2019 ([Measles vaccination](#))

Measles has killed almost 2000 people in the DR Congo in the past 6 months, due to [many who are unvaccinated](#).

- 13 July 2019 ([Hong Kong](#))

"The extradition bill might be 'dead' but in Hong Kong, we [cannot afford to back down](#)."

The reluctance of China's chief agent to officially withdraw the bill has to inspire suspicion.

- 13 July 2019 ([Greenpeace protesters on oil rig arrested](#))

The Greenpeace protesters on an oil rig in the North Sea were [arrested](#).

The [thugs](#) make an exaggerated fuss about the danger (to a few volunteers) of holding a protest at sea. This is an excuse to ignore the big threat to safety: the oil well that that rig is going to drill. They should arrest the would-be mass murderers at BP.

- 13 July 2019 ([Pence gay-preventative checkup](#))

(satire) Pence Visits Conversion Therapist For Routine [Gay-Preventative Checkup](#).

- 13 July 2019 ([US economic warfare](#))

Juan Cole said that mines that damaged oil tankers [could have been planted by Houthis](#).

I don't think that the bullshitter or his allies would hesitate to make a false flag attack. If someone published a leak as evidence of this, they would only call that "fake news" and prosecute the leaker.

However, Cole thinks it is possible the attack was done by Iran. Here's a writer who considers it a [natural result to US economic warfare](#).

- 13 July 2019 ([Global heating and financial crisis](#))

A Commodities Futures Trading Commission member warns that global heating [can lead to a global financial crisis](#).

- 13 July 2019 ([The GDPR](#))

An AI booster claims that the GDPR is significantly [limiting businesses' collection and use of personal data](#).

The effects described in the article are beneficial for privacy, and maybe Europe is falling behind China in setting up totalitarian surveillance. But that is not to make people safe.

- 13 July 2019 ([The second amendment](#))

The second amendment was [designed to make sure slave states could put down slave revolts](#).

- 12 July 2019 ([Seizing oil tankers in the Persian Gulf](#))

After Britain seized a tanker carrying Iranian oil, Iran [tried to seize a British oil tanker in the Persian Gulf](#).

[Makes sense to me. Sooner or later Iran will capture one. Maybe then they can swap captures.](#)

- 12 July 2019 ([Privacy](#))

Can We Talk in Confidence? The Death of [Candour in the Age of Surveillance](#).

Most of the recommendations are good ones, and I agree with the main point that society as a whole needs to protect everyone's privacy, and not merely "protect" data bases.

However, the article does not recognize the issues of free software, and peer-to-peer vs centralization.

- 12 July 2019 ([New French tax on foreign companies](#))

France has adopted a [new tax on large foreign companies doing business there](#).

Bravo! Taxing the rich more enables the country to do more.

France disregarded [threats from the US government](#) to do this.

- 12 July 2019 ([Voting machines](#))

Voting Machine Makers [Claim The Names Of The Entities That Own Them Are Trade Secrets](#).

Calling something a "trade secret" is just a way of saying "I don't want to tell you." Why do governments so often allow companies to conceal important information simply because they want to? Many countries have adopted laws and policies which give undue respect to the wishes of companies.

We should change that. Let's not allow companies that make or sell election systems to keep anything about them secret, except the password that they give to the purchaser. The software in them should be free.

However, making the software free/libre [does not make a computer trustworthy for recording votes](#). We have to do that on paper!

- 12 July 2019 ([The Grenfell tower fire](#))

Two years after the Grenfell tower fire, the UK [has not even started to upgrade the fire safety standards](#) of other buildings with the same problem.

- 12 July 2019 ([Investigation of lead in Flint's water](#))

Michigan [dropped the charges against state officials connected with lead in Flint's water](#), in order to start the investigation again.

- 12 July 2019 ([Violation of Hatch Act](#))

The US Office of Special Counsel [called for firing Kellyanne Conway for violating the Hatch Act](#).

- 12 July 2019 (['Deja Vu' of Iraq War Lies](#))

['Deja Vu' of Iraq War Lies](#) as Mike Pompeo Blames Iran for Tanker Attack Without Single Shred of Evidence.

- 12 July 2019 ([President's use of "national emergencies"](#))

A bipartisan bill would [clip the president's power to use "national emergencies" to bypass Congress](#).

- 12 July 2019 ([Hong Kong protesters](#))

Hong Kong [thugs](#) attacked protesters; the protesters then attacked the [thugs](#). The head of the government, chosen by a process fundamentally controlled by China, now [reproaches them for that](#).

I can't say that the protesters did wrong, but it would have been more effective to maintain nonviolent discipline.

- 12 July 2019 ([Socialism and plutocracy](#))

When plutocratists call something "socialism", it means ["not good for plutocrats"](#).

President Truman: "Socialism is what they called public power, ... social security ... bank deposit insurance ... free and independent labor organizations, anything that helps all the people."

- 12 July 2019 ([Koch brothers money](#))

The Koch brothers and other rich plutocrats are putting millions into [defending the Democrats](#) that serve them in the 2020 election.

- 12 July 2019 ([Barr and Ross](#))

The House of Representatives found Barr and Ross [in contempt of Congress](#) and will ask courts to make them turn over materials.

- 12 July 2019 ([Monitoring drivers](#))

Radar could make it possible to [monitor a driver's health](#) without identifying per.

Using radar probably doesn't automatically assure the driver is not identified. It's possible that the radar system could measure the driver's height, for instance. We need free software to guarantee that the radar is not misused. After all, you can't trust a car company to be honest about what its software does, [or even to obey laws](#).

- 12 July 2019 ([UK emissions proposal](#))

The UK has a proposal for net-zero-emissions by 2050. Due to [weaknesses and escape routes](#), it won't get the job done.

- 12 July 2019 ([Attack on tankers](#))

Someone [attacked Japan-bound tankers](#) in the Persian Gulf just as Japan was holding negotiations with Iran.

The UAE says Iran did it, but it would make no sense for Iran to do that — it would be self-defeating. So I suspect Iran's enemies (US allies) of doing the attack.

- 12 July 2019 ([UK drug policy](#))

"I was blocked from advising on UK drug policy — because I [criticised UK drug policy](#)."

- 12 July 2019 ([Imprisoned in Nicaragua](#))

Nicaragua has freed [many, but not all](#), of the people imprisoned for protests in 2018.

- 12 July 2019 ([Ivan Golunov](#))

Putin made journalist Ivan Golunov [a national hero](#) by framing him and torturing him.

The article also explains how complete the repression of protest is in Russia. [Planet roasters](#) in the US are trying to [head in that direction](#) now.

Amazingly, the state has backed down and [dropped the bogus charges](#). They must have caused too much international embarrassment.

The high-level political support Golunov has received leads me to suspect that the frame-up was organized by local officials without Putin's approval.

- 11 July 2019 ([UK parliament](#))

The UK parliament is afraid that Boris Johnson, if he becomes prime minister, would prorogue (dismiss) parliament and not call it back into session until after the UK drifts out of the EU. Therefore, some members of parliament [plan to pass a law they hope will block that](#).

Should we call the supporters of Johnson "pro-rogue"?

- 11 July 2019 ([Right-wing extremism in Italy](#))

Salvini's right-wing extremist party is [being investigated](#), accused of making a deal to get Russian funds.

I have a sad hunch he won't lose any support for this.

Communism was once an international movement. Then, Communists professed good, idealistic goals, while some carried out repression that they hid from the rest. Communists considered it entirely proper for the Soviet Union to aid Communist parties all around the world.

Now fascists have made an international movement, with repression as the overt goal. I have a hunch Salvini's followers will say, "It's great that you got funds from Putin so we subject Italy to repression."

- 11 July 2019 ([Lying thug charged for framing people](#))

A lying [thug](#) in Florida has been charged for [framing many people](#).

A hundred criminal cases were dropped because he was involved in them. Eight convictions have been overturned, but I think it is unlikely that he succeeded in framing people only eight times.

- 11 July 2019 ([400 Poles trafficked to UK](#))

A Polish gang trafficked 400 Poles to the UK [to enslave them](#).

The victims were forced to do work — but not, it appears, sex work.

- 11 July 2019 ([Corbyn](#))

Corbyn [rejected the goal of "social mobility" as a substitute for giving everyone a decent life](#).

It is important to give everyone a chance to put per talents to good use, but the people who are not especially talented deserve a good life too.

- 11 July 2019 ([Tax cuts that hurt the poor](#))

Syriza is telling Greeks it [will cut taxes to stimulate economic growth](#). Syriza was started as a "leftist" party, but this sounds awfully right-wing to me.

With the euro rules forbidding deficit spending, tax cuts will force cuts in spending, and that will hit the poor hardest.

To rebuild Greece "from the beginning", as Tsipras said, could be possible only with debt relief.

- 11 July 2019 ([French doctors strike](#))

Macron is [cutting funds for France's medical system](#) so much that doctors are going on strike.

- 11 July 2019 ([The EU](#))

Britain has [forgotten the supposed advantages of leaving the EU](#); its supporters now demand that for its own sake at any cost.

The EU is the world's most powerful business-supremacy treaty. There is a motive for wanting to escape from it — think of the [automated copyright censorship](#) and [pissing on Greece](#) — but not if it means surrendering to even nastier [business-supremacy treaties](#) with countries such as the US and China.

- 11 July 2019 ([Urgent: Shut US military revolving door](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to shut the revolving door between the US military and military contractor companies.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 11 July 2019 ([Urgent: Legalize marijuana](#))

US citizens: [call on the US](#) to legalize marijuana.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 11 July 2019 ([London subways to track passengers](#))

The London subways plan to track passengers' movements [by their phone WiFi](#).

Supposedly this will be "anonymous", but I am sure they can put a name to most passengers.

I have taken pains to make sure my laptop's WiFi interface is always off except when I explicitly switch it on. Every time I reboot, every time I suspend and unsuspend, it switches off.

- 11 July 2019 ([Investigation of CIA torture](#))

The Bureau of Investigative Journalism has independently investigated CIA torture. Its report details [where prisoners were seized, where they were tortured, and what the CIA did with them afterward](#).

- 11 July 2019 ([Guardian adopts term "global heating"](#))

The Guardian [has adopted the term "global heating"](#).

Other major media are [considering making the same change](#).

- 11 July 2019 ([US system of medical "insurance"](#))

The US system of medical "insurance" could [at any moment dump on you a bill for thousands of dollars, or hundreds of thousands of dollars](#), and make you wish you had been left untreated.

- 11 July 2019 ([Plutocrats](#))

Plutocrats are offering public employees discounts from stores [if only they quit their unions](#).

- 11 July 2019 ([Repression of sex workers](#))

The countries that have criminalized paying for sex [still repress sex workers](#), even if sex work is ostensibly legal. Helping sex workers be safe and free is not the goal.

"Talking about 'decriminalisation' lends the Nordic model campaign a veneer of progressiveness that a more honest 'stamp out prostitution' is lacking."

- 11 July 2019 ([Tokyo's crackdown on public protests](#))

Tokyo cracked down on public protests by [eliminating nearly all public places where people could do anything but walk](#).

- 11 July 2019 ([International humanitarian aid organizations](#))

International humanitarian aid organizations are [pervasively given to coercing local people into sex](#). This targets both the local workers and the people asking for aid.

- 11 July 2019 ([Facebook personal data collection](#))

Facebook [Launching App That Pays Users for Data on App Usage](#).

When we see the effects of this, I forecast we will learn that it is no less dangerous than all the other personal data collection.

- 11 July 2019 ([France tax airline tickets too small](#))

Delayed departure: France will add a tax on airline tickets for the sake of environmental protection, but it is [too small to have much effect](#).

- 11 July 2019 ([Apollo moon landings](#))

[Many Americans](#) believe that the Apollo moon landings were a hoax.

I watched Apollo 17 take off — its launch into space was no hoax. To spend billions to do that much for real, then do the rest only as a mere hoax, makes no sense. If you can get that far, you will go all the way.

If you haven't got your bearings to identify the absurd conspiracies, a heuristic you can use is to ignore anyone who endorses the moon landings hoax claim.

As for bigger jobs, such as curing cancer, we are doing that. A considerable fraction of the people who get cancer live many years, even decades, after treatment. In a few decades, if civilization survives, we will do even better.

The truly difficult jobs, such as cleaning up the inner cities, and ending [global heating](#), are hard because we face human enemies — plutocrats — that profit from keeping these problems going. They might even tell you these problems are hoaxes.

- 11 July 2019 ([Press freedom in Salafi Arabia](#))

[Salafi Arabia](#) doesn't think that [jailing 30 journalists and murdering one](#) should earn it a low ranking for press freedom.

- 11 July 2019 ([Tame deer of Nara dying of hunger](#))

The tame deer of Nara in Japan are dying of hunger [after their stomachs fill up with plastic bags](#) discarded by tourists.

I suppose the bags smell somewhat like the food they contained.

Once, in Nara, I got a baked sweet potato for my own enjoyment. As I went strolling while eating it, I felt a thump on my back. A deer was butting me, demanding my food. I did not hand it over; beggars should not try to demand or intimidate.

- 11 July 2019 ([Harassment by Delta Airlines](#))

Workers at Delta Airlines report [harassment and threats against those that support unionization](#).

- 11 July 2019 ([Pakistani visas for Afghans](#))

Pakistan has [made it hard for Afghans to get a visa](#), which 100,000 of them seek annually to get medical treatment or even a diagnosis.

I suppose the motive for this is to block travel by Taliban and other rebels. But ISTR that there was a large region of Pakistan near the frontier in which the government had little power, and that the islamists didn't need passports to cross the frontier. Has that situation changed?

- 11 July 2019 ([Designing good genes for children](#))

In the long run, there is [nothing wrong in principle with designing good genes for children](#).

In the short term, there are reasons to prohibit it: the great danger that the artificial genes will backfire is one. The danger of malware in genes may arise, too.

- 11 July 2019 ([State monitoring of prescriptions](#))

State monitoring of prescriptions has little effect in limiting abuse of prescription opioids, but it is a [big intrusion on patients' privacy](#).

Abuse of prescription opioids is only a small part of the problem of opioid addiction anyway.

- 11 July 2019 ([Tried for giving water, food shelter](#))

Scott Daniel Warren was [tried for giving water, food and a night's sleep](#) to border crossers. The jury was unable to reach a verdict.

Given the cruelty of the US government towards border crossers, I expect it will try him again and again until it gets a verdict.

- 11 July 2019 ([Self-inspecting beef processing](#))

The US Department of Agriculture [wants to allow beef processing plants to inspect their own products](#).

Allowing Boeing to do that resulted in the [death of hundreds of people](#).

Allowing this for meat could kill a lot more people, with less public attention. Rather than dying hundreds at a time in a few spectacular incidents, they will die one by one and the cause won't be immediately obvious.

- 10 July 2019 ([Side-effects of massive surveillance](#))

[When a robot's right hand doesn't know what its left hand is doing](#), it will insist there is no reason why it should know. It may even claim that the two hands are two separate robots.

The details are lacking, but I suspect that part of the cause of this problem was that the parking system knew who was parking there. In other words, this was a harmful side-effect of massive surveillance, in addition to the fundamental injustice of surveillance.

- 10 July 2019 ([African business-supremacy treaty](#))

[55 African countries have signed a business-supremacy treaty](#). Whether this is good for non-rich Africans in general is something I doubt. It [will give businesses more power in those countries](#).

- 10 July 2019 ([Australia's planet roaster government](#))

Australia's planet roaster government [keeps violating its laws in order to approve a new coal mine](#), and keeps getting caught.

- 10 July 2019 ([UK "domestic extremists"](#))

Five ridiculous reasons [why \[UK thugs\] label campaigners as "domestic extremists"](#).

- 10 July 2019 ([Conman's "human rights" panel](#))

The conman will institute a new "human rights" panel so as to set a new, narrower definition of what rights humans have, and [give more power to religions instead](#).

- 10 July 2019 ([UK citizenship](#))

The UK [strives to find excuses to deny citizenship](#) to children that are normally entitled to citizenship.

- 10 July 2019 ([Pacific gray whales](#))

Pacific gray whales are [dying from hunger](#).

Some crucial food species must have crashed. If this is a random fluctuation, it might recover next year or the year after. If it is due to [global heating](#), it could get worse and worse, and perhaps wipe out those whales.

- 10 July 2019 ([Internet censorship in Britain](#))

The UK's ISP association [condemns DNS-over-HTTPS](#), saying it would help people in Britain get around censorship.

The way to defend censorship is to call it "online safety", which subtly leads people to think of noncensorship as a personal threat.

Iran shows [where the UK is headed](#).

- 10 July 2019 ([ISP customer data](#))

Maine has [passed a law forbidding ISPs from distributing customer data without the customer's consent](#).

While the ISPs say this means the sky is falling, I consider it inadequate. First, because it doesn't apply when the FBI sends a "national security letter" to get a copy of all the data. Second, because the ISPs have ways to get almost every customer to consent, in formal terms. The engineering of consent is very effective.

What we need is a law forbidding ISPs from *keeping data about* what customers do.

- 10 July 2019 ([Astrology](#))

The minister in charge of education in India [actively supports astrology](#).

- 10 July 2019 ([Teenager faces execution for protest](#))

A teenager in [Salafi Arabia](#) is [being tried secretly](#) for participating in a protest when he was 13 years old. He could be executed.

His brother reportedly engaged in violence at the same protest.

The US has also [executed people under such circumstances](#) — which is wrong, of course. But even with a lesser penalty, it isn't just to punish A for a crime B committed, if A was only planning a much lesser crime.

- 10 July 2019 ([Extinct plant species](#))

Botanists have identified [571 plant species that have been made extinct since 1750](#), but there are probably thousands more.

This does not count the species that are headed to extinction because they cannot reproduce — for instance, the *Torreya* trees of Florida.

- 10 July 2019 ([The Republican Party](#))

Rep. Amash says that the Republican Party is now so rigid there is [no room for any disagreement or independence](#).

- 10 July 2019 ([Technology and the labor market](#))

Technology and the labor market [combine to make many people too busy to think much](#).

- 10 July 2019 ([Heat wave in Europe](#))

The heat wave in Europe [interfered with nuclear power plants](#) because they couldn't get the river water they require for cooling.

- 10 July 2019 ([Mexico](#))

[The bully's](#) tariff threat to Mexico [was theater](#). Mexico had agreed to most of the concessions already.

Mexico [has been serving as a US border control agent for years](#).

- 10 July 2019 ([Methane from melting permafrost](#))

"Abrupt thawing" can make the melting permafrost release [large amounts of methane in a short time](#). The release of the methane won't be spread safely over centuries — it could be concentrated in decades.

[Arctic Is Thawing So Fast Scientists Are Losing Their Measuring Tools](#). Several meters of soil can come loose in a few days.

Abrupt thawing can cause landslides and [transform terrain beyond recognition](#).

- 10 July 2019 ([Plutocratists](#))

Biden [said that banksters are "positive" \(influences in the US\)](#), and said that Republicans would become better if the [bully](#) were out of the way.

Republicans in Congress were not quite as bad, overall, a decade or two ago. But that has changed. [The bully](#) has pressured Republicans to join him in open contempt for any aspects of our democracy that stand in their way. The new Republican Party is the plutocratist party, and only a crushing defeat can make it change.

- 10 July 2019 ([Heat and drought in India](#))

Record heat, combined with drought, is forcing people to [flee from parts of India](#).

- 10 July 2019 ([Raids on Australian media](#))

Why the Raids on Australian Media Present a [Clear Threat to Democracy](#).

- 10 July 2019 ([Homeless people in LA](#))

Los Angeles provided housing for 20,000 homeless people, but [30,000 more arrived](#) on the streets.

In the long run, we need (1) fewer births, (2) more housing construction, and (3) more sharing of apartments and houses.

- 10 July 2019 ([Fooling advertisers](#))

Surveillance capitalism's success may be based on [fooling advertisers](#) about how effective it is.

- 10 July 2019 ([Biden 1988](#))

In 1988, Biden ran for president, and [falsely claimed](#) he had participated in civil rights marches.

Bernie Sanders [really did march](#).

- 10 July 2019 ([ISPs and network services](#))

The few big US cable and wireless ISPs are pushing to regulate the few big US network services, mainly so as to [cut in on the profits](#) from surveillance capitalism.

A pox on both their houses — we need to forbid massive surveillance by anyone.

- 10 July 2019 ([Protesters raped](#))

Sudanese Troops Raped Protesters at Sit-In, [Doctors Report](#).

- 10 July 2019 ([Extradition bill](#))

Some Hong Kong businesses believe that China's extradition bill will be [bad for business](#), and asked their staff to join protests against the second reading of the bill.

This has a chance of convincing China to back down, and I think it is worth a try. However, given China's increasing business success, I think China's rulers regard Hong Kong as dispensable. I think they want to wipe Hong Kong off the map and call it "China".

- 10 July 2019 ([Billionaires and global heating](#))

Having a few billionaires that donate to fighting [global heating](#) does not make up for the harm done by the planet-roaster billionaires — and by the [system that produces billionaires](#).

- 10 July 2019 ([Candidates in Europe](#))

Across Europe, right-wing repressive candidates are using conservative religion as a [base for their campaigns](#).

- 9 July 2019 ([Urgent: Stop face recognition by airlines](#))

If you live in the US or visit it regularly, [call on airlines in the US](#) to stop using face recognition to identify passengers.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 9 July 2019 ([Urgent: Ratify the Equal Rights Amendment](#))

Everyone: [call on Virginia](#) to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 9 July 2019 ([Urgent: Respect for refugees](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to give refugees respect rather than concentration camps.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 9 July 2019 ([Tracking movements of cars](#))

New York City [wants to use "congestion pricing" as an excuse](#) for total tracking of the movements of cars.

- 9 July 2019 ([Deportation decisions based on "evidence"](#))

The US government rejects and deports immigrants based on ["evidence" in a secret database](#) that supposedly indicates people's gang affiliations.

Supposed gang affiliations have been [based on unverified speculations in other circumstances](#). There is no reason to expect them to be better founded when used for deportation. And secrecy positively invites lies.

- 9 July 2019 ([Facebook](#))

Facebook [stands ready to promote right-wing extremism in 2020 just as it did before](#). "The more extreme the message, the farther it will travel."

The article proposes a law to require political ads to target the whole constituency that is voting. It sounds like a good idea. However, Facebook is [nasty in many other ways](#), so show your friends that Facebook is not where you can be found.

- 9 July 2019 ([Thwaites glacier](#))

The melting of the Thwaites glacier in Antarctica is [heading for a tipping point](#), after which it will slide into the ocean and raise sea level by around half a meter (20 inches) over the next 150 years.

- 9 July 2019 ([Minimum wage in California](#))

What's worse than paying \$1200 per month to rent a slot in a bunk bed? Working 45 hours a week for that slot, in lieu of pay — which comes out to [roughly \\$6 per hour](#).

For life's other expenses, you need another job on top of that.

The minimum wage in California is over \$10 an hour, so I think the "volunteer" sales agents are being cheated.

- 9 July 2019 ([Amazon's tax dodging and low wages](#))

Some propose to boycott Amazon for [dodging taxes and paying low wages](#).

I don't disagree, but a mere boycott is inadequate. It fails to recognize that [>Amazon does wrong to its customers directly](#).

To think of buying from Amazon as a "sin" means closing your eyes to how it mistreats you. I think of it as being spied on. If I bought from Amazon, if I let Alexa listen to me, I would feel ripped off — not merely guilt. I protect my rights; I don't give Amazon a chance to mistreat me.

- 9 July 2019 ([Union activism in "conservative" states](#))

The strength of union activism in "conservative" states shows that [progressive Democrats that stand for workers can win those states](#).

- 9 July 2019 ([Underlying evidence for Mueller's report](#))

The conman [made a deal with the House of Representatives](#), under which it is providing some of the underlying evidence for Mueller's report.

- 9 July 2019 ([Salafi Arabia, UAE and Egypt](#))

Why don't [Salafi Arabia](#), UAE and Egypt criticize China for [putting perhaps a million Uighurs in brainwashing camps](#)?

They generally work closely with the US. I suspect they have discussed this issue with the conman. He does not care about imprisoning Muslims, or killing them, and neither do those other countries.

- 9 July 2019 ([Old poor people in Japan](#))

Old poor people in Japan are pushed into living in a giant housing project where there are no elevators, no stores to buy anything, and no medical clinic. That tells them, in effect, "Please die soon."

[Many never have visitors](#).

In the future, when many of the old people will have spent their lives habituating themselves to isolation except over the internet, they may find this isolation normal, but it will be even deeper.

- 9 July 2019 ([Labour Party](#))

The Labour Party needs to [expel real antisemitism and launch a political debate about Israel and Palestine](#).

- 9 July 2019 ([Greenpeace activists board BP oil rig](#))

Greenpeace Activists Board BP Oil Rig [As It Is Towed out to Sea](#).

There is no room in the carbon budget for new fossil fuel mines. Every one that is made is a step too far, towards disaster.

- 9 July 2019 ([Teaching children about LGBT issues](#))

"Teaching children about LGBT issues is not brainwashing — it [equips them for life](#)."

I also like the quote, "No parent has a right to restrict [per] children from learning about other perspectives on the world."

- 9 July 2019 ([National security as a bargaining chip](#))

The conman's aide, Mnuchin, made it clear that the motive for sanctions against Huawei is partly [economic pressure](#) (as distinguished from protecting national security).

How foolish of them to treat this important issue as a mere bargaining chip.

Using a Chinese company's proprietary software threatens national security in any other country, just as using a US company's proprietary software threatens national security in any other country.

- 8 July 2019 ([Nauru refugee prisoners](#))

Australia [pretends that its puppet government in Nauru is stopping it](#) from bringing its refugee prisoners to Australia for medical care that is impossible on Nauru.

Nauru could delay even the consideration of the "request" for months or years, until the patient is dead.

- 8 July 2019 ([Attacks on civilians in Idlib](#))

Assad's air force is [persistently attacking civilians](#) in Idlib, with Russia's help.

- 8 July 2019 ([Global population](#))

Global Population of [Eight Billion And Growing: We Can't Go On Like This](#).

- 8 July 2019 ([Spying on children](#))

Spying on Children [Won't Keep Them Safe](#).

- 8 July 2019 ([Republican "by hook or by crook" spirit](#))

Republicans in North Carolina demonstrate their "by hook or by crook" spirit by [threatening over and over to vote on overriding the governor's veto of an abortion restriction](#). To defeat it, every Democrat needs to be present, over and over.

- 8 July 2019 ([Reporter beaten by thugs](#))

Doctors believe that Russian [thugs beat reporter Ivan Golunov badly enough to break his ribs](#), but they can't tell for certain, because the [thugs](#) won't allow him to have an x-ray.

- 8 July 2019 ([Martin Luther King Jr](#))

There is an attempt to accuse Martin Luther King Jr. of being a bystander at a rape, based on an [unattributed note written on part of his FBI file](#). Historians say that such a note is not real evidence.

Aside from that, he is also accused of peccadilloes such as having sex outside of marriage. As if that mattered.

Individuals and their actions can make a big difference in the course of history. I consider Martin Luther King a great man.

- 8 July 2019 ([New laws banning abortion](#))

40 prosecutors [refuse to enforce](#) new laws banning abortion.

- 8 July 2019 ([Multi-drug-abuse crisis](#))

It is more accurate to talk about a [multi-drug-abuse crisis](#) than about an opioid crisis.

- 8 July 2019 ([Intractable war in parts of Africa](#))

Many parts of Africa are wracked by [intractable war](#).

It is easy to call for world powers to "do something", but what should they do? Some of these wars may be fueled by actions of foreign powers — for instance, corruption that sucks Africa's money out into tax havens — and we can see at least in principle how to stop that. But it is hard to see how to put an end to the violent Islamist extremist groups.

- 8 July 2019 ([Protests in Hong Kong](#))

Hundreds of thousands [protested in Hong Kong against the extradition law being imposed by the legislature](#), which has been elected under a system designed to give China control.

- 8 July 2019 ([Military rule in Sudan](#))

The protesters in Sudan have launched a [general strike](#).

Sudan's military rulers are [arresting people to try to end it](#).

- 8 July 2019 ([Urgent: Anti-discrimination laws](#))

US citizens: [call on the Department of Health and Human Services](#) not to allow discrimination on basis of gender identity or sexuality.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 8 July 2019 ([Relations and identity](#))

Isn't it perverse to think that "who you are" is defined by [which people you are related to](#)?

If I were to find out that the mother and father that raised me were not my biological parents (unlikely in my case), it would not change who I *am*. It would not even change *what* I am. It might affect what I think about some of the parents, but it would be irrelevant to what I think about me.

- 8 July 2019 (['Intelligence' about Iran](#))

Some of the "intelligence" about Iran that the conman cites comes from the propaganda campaign of the US-supported terrorist group Mojahedin-e-Khalq, which attributes it [to a fictional person](#) — in effect, a US sock-puppet.

This group was formerly designated by the US as a terrorist group, but a campaign backed apparently by powerful influence and funds [got that designation changed](#) a few years ago.

It is an injustice to designate groups as "terrorist" [without a trial](#), but there was a factual basis to consider it a US-sponsored terrorist group.

- 8 July 2019 ([Biden and Iraq](#))

Biden, as a senator in 2002, pushed actively to invade Iraq; he [blocked careful examination](#) of Dubya's false claims.

- 8 July 2019 ([Smear against Warren](#))

[Analyzing](#) a right-wing disinformation smear against Senator Warren.

Compare this with the disinformation smears [against Julian Assange](#).

- 8 July 2019 ([Modern concentration camps](#))

An historian of modern concentration camps (first used in the Boer War to imprison the Afrikaner women and children) says that US prisons for refugee minors [are an example](#). "I expect to see contagious diseases, malnutrition in some cases, and mental health crises."

- 8 July 2019 ([Restructuring the Supreme Court](#))

[Ideas for restructuring](#) the US Supreme Court to be less partisan.

- 8 July 2019 ([Arctic Ocean](#))

The Arctic Ocean is becoming [hot, acidic, and short of oxygen](#).

- 8 July 2019 ([Killer of Justine Damond](#))

The [thug](#) who shot and killed Justine Damond has been sentenced to [12 years in prison](#).

Since it is so rare for [thugs](#) to be punished for crimes, I think we should celebrate each time this occurs. At the same time, I hope that such convictions will not be limited to cases where the [thug](#) is a Muslim and the victim is white.

- 8 July 2019 ([Sites blocked in China](#))

China [has blocked access](#) to many journalistic sites from the US, Canada and UK.

- 8 July 2019 (['Death tax'](#))

The Australian election was affected by right-wing propaganda about a [nonexistent plan](#) for a "death tax".

This was a double dose of bullshit: the idea that there is something bad about an inheritance tax, and the idea that Labor was in favor of one.

Every country needs an inheritance tax to limit the accumulation of great wealth across generations. The US needs a bigger inheritance tax, and needs to eliminate the ways that rich people can avoid it.

- 7 July 2019 ([Deforestation](#))

A plague of forest-destroying monsters are rapidly [converting the Amazon forest](#) into a minimalist ecosystem of pasture, cattle, and soybeans.

I think the first decade of food shortage, a few decades from now, will look like this all around the world, as agribusiness pushes to compensate for loss of yield by pushing even marginal land into production.

- 7 July 2019 ([Immigrant Policy](#))

Australia has a policy of [making immigrant families leave](#) if they have a baby that turns out to have an expensive disease.

- 7 July 2019 ([Census Question](#))

[The bully](#) is still hunting for an excuse to [add a citizenship question to the US census](#).

"In the real world, the fact that the executive branch plans to offer 'a new rationale' [for the citizenship census question] [is proof it has been lying](#). In the legal world, however, this maneuver might yet succeed."

Given the evidence of its real purpose, any other supposed purpose must be another lie.

- 7 July 2019 ([Gaslighting](#))

Don't stretch the term "gaslighting" too far — [it will lose its useful meaning](#).

- 7 July 2019 ([Heating Up](#))

[Anchorage, Alaska, hit 90F](#). This follows a whole month of June which was 5F hotter than the past average.

June 2019 was globally the [hottest month ever measured](#).

Reportedly one wildfire in Spain started because a field of manure spontaneously combusted. With another few degrees of [global heating](#) this will happen frequently.

Alaska's Republican governor wants to cut 40% of the University of Alaska budget, and [especially the Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy](#).

The [planet roasters](#) know if they can starve climate research for 20 years, we will miss the chance to use it to avoid disaster.

- 7 July 2019 ([Goodwill Punished](#))

Other ship captains faced, or now face, prosecution in Italy [for rescuing people drowning](#) in the Mediterranean sea.

- 7 July 2019 ([Jeremy Corbyn](#))

The Plot to Keep Jeremy Corbyn [Out of Power](#).

I still support Corbyn. I condemn antisemitism, and I am satisfied that he does, too.

- 7 July 2019 ([Urgent: Surveillance](#))

US citizens: call on Massachusetts legislators to support the moratorium on [government face surveillance](#).

This does not go far enough, not nearly, but it is a good first step.

- 7 July 2019 ([Urgent: Iesha Harper](#))

US citizens: call on Phoenix to fire and [charge the thug](#) that threatened to kill Iesha Harper.

I think it is morally irrelevant that Harper was female, that she was pregnant, and that she and black. Doing the same thing to me would have been equally wrong — no more, no less. It's wrong for agents of the public to threaten people that way — any people — or to threaten any kind of violence against people who are not violent.

The [thugs](#) might have treated a white man with more respect, but that's a different question.

- 7 July 2019 ([Glenn Greenwald](#))

Glenn Greenwald published evidence that former judge Sérgio Moro corruptly targeted Lula. Now Moro in his new position as minister has [ordered a criminal investigation of Greenwald](#).

I would be surprised if Greenwald had really committed a serious crime. So I expect this is meant as intimidation or revenge.

- 7 July 2019 ([The conman's tax returns](#))

House Democrats have [sued to demand copies](#) of the conman's tax returns.

I fear that the Republican-chosen Supreme Court will defend the other Republicans.

- 7 July 2019 ([Cost of global heating](#))

With Poorest Bearing the Brunt, Report Warns Searing Temperatures of Global Heating [Could Cost World Economy \\$2.4 Trillion by 2030](#).

- 7 July 2019 ([Scholars rebuke US Holocaust Museum](#))

Historians and other scholars rebuked the US Holocaust Museum for rejecting [the idea that Nazi atrocities carry any lesson about circumstances that aren't precisely similar](#).

- 7 July 2019 ([Eliminating patents on medicines](#))

Eliminating patents on medicines [would do a lot to make medicines cheaper in the US](#), but even the most progressive candidates are not talking about it.

I have not seen how Baker proposes to do something similar to copyleft in the domain of patents. When I've looked at this, I found no way to do it. Basically, copyright law and patent law are so different that it is a mistake to try to generalize from one to the other. However, if he has a good idea, I hope I get to see it.

- 7 July 2019 ([Defending Earth's climate](#))

There [isn't time left for a meek approach](#) to defending the Earth's climate.

I am in favor of the measures described, including establishing legal requirements to preserve natural ecosystems and the conditions they depend on. However, to say that they have legal rights is conceptually incoherent. Only a being capable of wanting and deciding can have rights, because exercising rights is a matter of wanting and deciding.

- 6 July 2019 ([Urgent: Private prison tax breaks](#))

US citizens: [call on Congress](#) to exclude private prisons from the REIT tax break.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 6 July 2019 ([Fantasy terrorist](#))

It looks like the FBI has caught [another fantasy terrorist](#).

The article does not say, but it sounds like he bought arms illegally that were offered to him under the auspices of the FBI. I can't be certain, but I suspect he would never have been a real threat without FBI help.

In some such cases, state informants have spent months persuading the accused person to undertake the fantasy act of terrorism. Those people would not even have wanted to commit terrorism if not for the activities of state agents.

These activities give the impression of protecting the public, but they don't really do that.

- 6 July 2019 ([CIA chief](#))

WSJ Says CIA Chief Wouldn't Do Anything 'Inappropriate' — Despite [Record of Torture and Coverup](#).

"Inappropriate" is used precisely because it is totally vague. It is often used to exaggerate and treat a mere disagreement of judgment as a grave wrong. Here it is being used to portray a grave wrong as a mere disagreement of judgment.

- 6 July 2019 ([Whitewashing war crimes](#))

[Whitewashing War Crimes](#) Has Become the American Way.

- 6 July 2019 ([Drug pricing bill](#))

Citing Fears of Americans Getting 'Screwed,' Progressive Democrats [Call Out Pelosi](#) for Crafting Pharma-Friendly Drug Pricing Bill in Secret.

- 6 July 2019 ([Use of economic sanctions](#))

Economic sanctions are devastating weapons, which the US is [using against many countries](#).

- 6 July 2019 ([YouTube's purging attempts](#))

[Journalist and Educator](#) Among Those Caught Up in YouTube's Latest Attempt to Purge Online Hate Speech.

A centralized publishing platform provokes demands for centralized censorship. A centralized private publishing platform can censor however it wishes — while people organize to demand that certain works be censored, or not be censored.

I think that centralized publishing platforms are the root of the problem.

- 6 July 2019 ([Walmart and minimum wage](#))

Walmart's CEO asked Congress to [raise the US minimum wage](#).

I agree, but this doesn't excuse Walmart for not giving its employees a wage now.

- 6 July 2019 ([Bomb tech to Salafi Arabia](#))

[The bully](#) wants to give Salafi Arabia [some US bomb technology](#) so it can make its own bombs for devastating Yemen.

- 6 July 2019 ([Measles vaccine 'fix'](#))

Homeopaths are [misleading the public](#) about measles vaccine by pretending that it does some sort of damage and that they can fix it.

This "remedy" is less absurd than the usual homeopathic "remedies", which contain approximately none of the supposed active ingredient. At least it contains vitamin C, which can cure scurvy (but nothing else). However, it is particularly dangerous.

- 6 July 2019 ([Drilling in Aegean Sea](#))

The euro banks have forced Greece into leasing a large part of the Aegean Sea for oil extraction. In the short term this is likely to [kill lots of whales](#).

In the long term it will contribute to global disaster. The euro banks and the [banksters](#) that run them must be treated as the enemies of civilization.

- 5 July 2019 ([Charged for being shot while pregnant](#))

The DA dropped the charges against Marsha Jones, who was [accused \(in effect\) of being shot while pregnant](#).

However, the fundamentally wrong idea that a fetus is a person has been used against hundreds of women, and [could be used against thousands more](#).

Any woman who is pregnant and located in one of those repressive states is taking a risk. Best to leave that state and not return until you're no longer pregnant.

- 5 July 2019 ([Letting Boeing regulate itself](#))

Obama boasted of his success in [marketing Boeing planes while allowing the FAA to let Boeing regulate itself](#).

Keep in mind also that expanding aviation exacerbates [global heating](#).

- 5 July 2019 ([Judicial independence in Italy](#))

Salvini is [attacking judicial independence in Italy](#).

This is a standard part of the fascist attack on human rights: to eliminate anything that can limit their power over individuals.

- 5 July 2019 ([Prosecution of Julian Assange](#))

The US major media are waking up to how the prosecution of Julian Assange [threatens them too](#).

- 5 July 2019 ([Fracking](#))

Fracking in the US is the [path to global disaster](#).

- 5 July 2019 ([US election system](#))

America Is [Missing Its Chance to Fix Our Election System Before We Vote in 2020](#).

There are [obstacles to making a recount really occur](#), and Republicans have taken advantage.

This article doesn't cover the other great flaws of US elections: gerrymandering and voter suppression.

- 5 July 2019 ([DNC](#))

The Democratic National Committee [refused to hold a presidential debate about climate defense](#). Furthermore, if any of the candidates set up a debate outside the DNC, the DNC will punish them.

If enough of the candidates get together to organize a climate debate outside the DNC, they can make it gag on this decision. ["Debates" including only Biden](#) and a few unpopular candidates would make the DNC ridiculous.

- 5 July 2019 ([Presidential candidates](#))

(satire) [Media Urged Not To Release Names Of Any More Presidential Candidates](#) In Effort To Prevent Copycats.

- 5 July 2019 ([Pressuring officials to change views](#))

Biden has [reluctantly dropped his opposition to government funding of abortions](#).

It is useful to pressure officials to change their views, but when candidates change their views under pressure, that is no reason to vote for them.

- 5 July 2019 ([Experiments on wealthy people](#))

Many experiments show that wealthy people [tend to me inconsiderate, even jerks](#).

- 5 July 2019 ([Rent control for New York State](#))

Tenants in New York State are pushing to [extend rent control to the entire state](#).

- 5 July 2019 ([Urgent: Ban face surveillance](#))

US citizens: [call on Massachusetts](#) to ban face surveillance.

To sign this without running nonfree Javascript code, use lynx.

- 5 July 2019 ([Failures of humanitarian aid funds](#))

The UK government and other major donors of humanitarian aid funds [exaggerate how effective the aid is](#).

They go so far as to harass people who want to report on problems or failures.

- 5 July 2019 ([Mining the sea bottom](#))

Mining the sea bottom with today's technology could [wipe out bottom-dwelling sea life and mobilize sediments into pollution that could travel thousands of miles](#).

The damage could take centuries to fade away.

- 5 July 2019 ([Brazil's presidency](#))

Bolsonaro has [alienated a substantial fraction of his right-wing supporters](#). Alas, they are stuck with him for several more years.

- 5 July 2019 ([Elected to Parliament while black](#))

A newly elected Green MEP is black, and when he went to the Parliament for the first time, [someone told him to leave](#).

- 5 July 2019 ([Animal testing](#))

The Environmental Pollution Agency [plans to stop using animals to test whether chemicals can damage humans](#).

Despite the advances made in testing via simulation, it would be foolish to take for granted that the reality matches the simulation.

- 3 July 2019 ([Chase bank imposing binding arbitration](#))

Chase bank is [imposing binding arbitration on use of its credit cards](#).

If you have one of those cards, you may as well send the letter to opt out. But it would be even better to switch to some other bank, one which does not do this, and tell both Chase and the other bank your reason for doing so.

Whichever credit card you use, every time you use it it will inform the bank and the store. Don't be tracked, pay cash!

- 3 July 2019 ([Ad-blockers impossible in Chrome](#))

Google has modified Chrome so that [ad-blockers are impossible](#).

- 3 July 2019 ([Terms of Service](#))

Public pressure has [killed an attempt turn clickthrough terms of service into legally binding obligations in the US](#).

- 3 July 2019 ([Google Assistant contractors](#))

Google outsources the work of training Google Assistant to contractors that hire workers and pressure them to work [unpaid overtime](#).

I don't think Google would cheat its own employees, but the level of indirection makes cheating almost automatic.

- 3 July 2019 ([Interfering with oil pipelines](#))

Republicans [want to make interfering with an oil pipeline \(actual or under construction\) a federal crime with a 20-year penalty](#).

We should go in the other direction, and legalize damaging pipelines as long as this does not result in spilling any significant amount of toxic chemicals.

- 3 July 2019 ([Apple tracking](#))

Apple can track iMonsters [even when they are suspended](#).

This distributed bluetooth network is said to be "secure", but it is obviously *not* secure from Apple or from governments that can command Apple's obedience (such as the US and China).

- 3 July 2019 ([Urgent: War promotion](#))

US citizens: [call on US media outlets](#) not to promote war with Iran.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 3 July 2019 ([Urgent: Concentration camps](#))

US citizens: [call on the US](#) to shut down the concentration camps where the government imprisons thousands of migrant minors (children and teenagers), subject to brutal conditions.

If you sign, please spread the word!

- 3 July 2019 ([Reusable boxes for shopping](#))

A supermarket in the UK is encouraging customers to buy many products [without throwaway packaging](#). One can get a reusable box from the store, with a refundable deposit.

- 3 July 2019 ([Teacher strike bill](#))

The Republicans that control West Virginia are [working on a bill](#) to authorize firing teachers that strike.

This is retaliation for the effective strikes that teachers held last year.

- 3 July 2019 ([Thailand dissidents](#))

Thailand appears to be [murdering dissidents in exile](#).

- 3 July 2019 ([Concert face recognition](#))

A concert near you may be a little piece of China: a new system would let them use face recognition systems to identify anyone who tries to enter. The developers of the system explicitly state that the purpose of this is to exclude people [based on what they have said](#). If a concert required me to identify myself, I'd refuse outright.

If it is only concerts, it would not be a disaster. We can live without going to large concerts. But the developers want to use it to keep people out of train stations (and trains). That would be little different from [what China does now](#).

- 3 July 2019 ([Pre-planned spontaneous responses](#))

The UK government has [pre-planned spontaneous responses](#) of grief and sympathy to foreseeable kinds of terrorist attacks.

To channel the public response away from hatred and demonization of some segment of society seems like a good thing to me, provided it is done in an honest way. The article suggests that these campaigns pretend to be something other than what they are, but I am not sure that they do so.

- 3 July 2019 ([Press freedom in Europe](#))

Freedom of the press can [no longer be taken for granted](#) in Europe. Right wing governments are clamping down on the media.

Macron in France is trying to start this: some sort of secret police have [interrogated reporters](#) about their sources for information about crimes of the state.

- 3 July 2019 ([Carbon neutral Finland](#))

Finland Pledges to Become [Carbon Neutral by 2035](#).

That could be doing their share of solving this problem, or almost.

- 3 July 2019 ([Punishing suicide attempts](#))

Punishing people who try to commit suicide can make them more depressed. Meanwhile, it encourages others to [treat them with contempt](#).

- 3 July 2019 ([Koch research funding](#))

The Koch brothers fund [right-wing biased "research"](#) inside universities.

- 3 July 2019 ([Oakland gun violence](#))

The Oakland [thug](#) department has [cut gun violence in half](#) by taking a less thuggish approach — the first move is to try to help people get out of the violence.

- 3 July 2019 ([San Francisco](#))

Even some tech workers in San Francisco agree that they have [ruined what was special and good about that city](#).

Most of the big, prominent companies mentioned in the article either distribute malware or offer spying, manipulatory dis-services, or both. I reject all that malware, and I mostly don't use their dis-services.

- 3 July 2019 (["Fans"](#))

The internet has [elevated the importance of charismatic leaders over political movements and their programs](#). These leaders become the targets of intense adoration by their supporters (or, should we say, "fans"?).

I admire some progressive hyperleaders, and I even have confidence in them to make better strategic decisions than I could. But no way will I ever adore them in the pitiful fashion described in the article.

I don't want to have an imaginary, one-sided "personal" relationship with the president of the US. I want per to do the right thing for the country and the world.

I urge you to support the free software movement. I hope you see the need to do what advances freedom in the long term, rather than what is convenient for you in the short term. But please don't be my "fan" in an adulatory sense. Don't lower yourself to the level of a mere "fan" of anyone. It's freedom that deserves such loyalty.

- 3 July 2019 ([Urgent: Oppose sale of government student loans](#))

US citizens: [call on the Department of Education](#) not to sell government student loans to Wall Street.

- 3 July 2019 ([Haiti](#))

Haiti has a [worse crisis than Venezuela, and it has continued for much longer](#). The US press and the OAS protect "President" Moise, because he was imposed by Washington through a rigged election.

- 2 July 2019 ([System that makes the rich richer](#))

Capitalism wasn't designed by an "invisible hand". It was [built by legal decisions made on a political basis](#), with the rich insisting on privilege. The result is a system that makes the rich richer.

- 2 July 2019 ([Mussels cooked by heatwave](#))

Heatwave [Cooks Mussels in Their Shells on California Shore](#).

- 2 July 2019 ([reCAPTCHA version 3](#))

reCAPTCHA version 3 supposedly figures out "are you human?", and Google won't say how, but experiment shows that [the main question it uses is "are you logged in on a Google account?"](#)

Anti-trust rules could help deal with this, if they prohibit Google from inviting lots of web sites from making use of a Google account their criterion for letting people log in. Competitors to Google can't possibly test that.

It also penalizes users that browse via Tor. Since I won't trust these companies to know where I am, I won't turn off Tor to use a web site. I simply won't use it.

- 2 July 2019 ([Imprisonment of minors](#))

The sadist has made rules that bring about imprisoning minors that cross the border, so they are being kept in primitive, unbearable, disease-inducing conditions. The sadist is [using them as political pawns](#).

The border [thugs](#) say they have the necessary supplies to alleviate some of the imprisoned minors' suffering, so apparently the suffering that occurs is what they intend.

We have a president and officials that intentionally practice sadism, carrying out laws that presume at least a modicum of human decency.

- 2 July 2019 ([Silicon Valley and fake news](#))

"By framing deepfakes as a tech problem we allow Silicon Valley to evade responsibility for its [symbiotic relationship](#) with fake news."

- 2 July 2019 ([Workplace violence and harassment](#))

The International Labour Organization has produced a [treaty to establish global standards for stopping workplace violence and harassment](#).

- 2 July 2019 ([Industry lobby group](#))

The "International Life Sciences Institute" is meant to be mistaken for a research organization. Its real work is [infiltrating regulatory bodies](#) to exert influence on behalf of business.

- 2 July 2019 ([The climate emergency](#))

"We [must mobilise](#) for the climate emergency like we do in war time. Where is the climate minister?"

- 2 July 2019 ([India's history of lynching Dalits](#))

India's [long history](#) of lynching Dalits.

- 2 July 2019 ([Alaska's ice highways](#))

[Global heating](#) is making Alaska's ice highways dangerously thin, sometimes [fatally so](#).

- 2 July 2019 ([Voter registration campaigns](#))

Tennessee Republicans are creatively trying another form of voter suppression: fining organized voter registration campaigns [for any mistake](#).

- 2 July 2019 ([China 30 years ago](#))

Ai Weiwei [calls on other countries](#) to help the world remember the Chinese state's massacre of student protesters, 30 years ago. It was the foundation of the repression of China today.

- 2 July 2019 ([Surveillance art hack](#))

[An art/hack project](#) teaches people about government surveillance of their Stalin's Dream devices.

It wouldn't affect me!

- 2 July 2019 ([Corporate polluters](#))

You Can't Save the Climate By Going Vegan. Corporate Polluters [Must be Held Accountable](#).

Changes in our personal consumption habits are needed — especially the habit of making more humans and increasing the population. But we won't achieve those changes soon enough by leaving it up to people to go against social and economic pressures. We need to change those social and economic pressures.

- 2 July 2019 ([Neglected Google Home](#))

(satire) [Neglected Google Home](#) Sits By Window Barking At Passersby.

It was probably doing face recognition on them, too.

- 2 July 2019 ([PFAS chemicals](#))

Food products tested by the FDA held [substantial levels of PFAS chemicals](#).

- 2 July 2019 ([Protesters in Sudan](#))

Sudan's military rulers have [massacred protesters](#), apparently with the support of [US-backed axis of evil](#) (Egypt, Salafi Arabia and the UAE).

- 2 July 2019 ([Global heating and public health](#))

[Global heating](#) is already a [grave public health problem](#).

- 2 July 2019 ([High-heel requirement](#))

Japanese women are pressuring to prohibit employers from [requiring use of high-heeled shoes](#).

Since I learned about the pain, and the difficulty of walking, that high heels impose, seeing them leads me directly to think about how uncomfortable the women wearing them must be — and it reminds me of old Chinese foot-binding.

- 2 July 2019 ([Apartments for homeless](#))

Helsinki has [eliminated homelessness](#) by giving every homeless person an apartment, and welfare benefits with which to pay the rent for it.

San Francisco would not be able to do this. The first step is to make enough apartments available, and that requires pushing aside the zoning laws that get in the way, as well as money for the construction.

- 1 July 2019 ([World-wide threat to encryption providers](#))

The Australian Labor Party voted to enact Australia's world-wide threats to those that provide reliable encryption, while saying that it went too far. The party said it would fix the problem if it won the next election.

Then the Labor Party lost. The end result is that it [helped create the threat and cannot do anything to fix it](#).

[More information about that menacing law](#).

- 1 July 2019 ([Reward for blocking net neutrality vote](#))

GOP Blocking of Net Neutrality Vote Rewarded as [47 Democrats Ask for Compromise](#).

2019 July - October | [Previous \(2019 March - June\) >>](#)

Each note starts with a date and a brief topic in parentheses. That text is also a link to that note.

For instance, if the note starts with "20 July 2003 (Iraq)" then you can link to it with "https://www.stallman.org/notes/may-aug-03.html#20 July 2003 (Iraq)".

Return to [Main page](#).

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