Subject: Trouble in the Making
Posted by Rusty on Mon, 13 Jul 2026 18:17:49 GMT
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I could only go for so long here before starting up my true Dungeon nature by posting some subject calling attention to these times we live.
I like this young blogger for his thoroughness with his analysis. Which with this subject counters the usual articles put out on what our country's economic status is. I think that is typical of many subjects in the news too.

Here Ben Norton goes over objectively with our economy with a healthy dose of interpreting data unadulterated with cherry picking. Most Americans are not wealthy. That's the 90% of the population. If you make it through this blogs lengthy presentation, you'll get an idea of how we really fare with the rest of the world. Our healthcare system, rent, insurance, child care and so many other metrics of modern living are what drags our cost of living down with other nations that may surprise some.

My favorite chart he shows is one showing the wealth of the .00001% that owns 12% of the total income in the US. But it's the time period of the late 40's to the 1980's when Neoliberalism took over from Keynesianism showing the Golden Period of American prosperity for most people. We baby boomers know of it, grew up in it. And now our young generation is not part of the once American Dream.

https://blog.syzgroup.com/syz-the-moment/wealth-at-the-top-0.00001-owns-12-of-us-income

I think our country has lost its principles when it eschewed our manufacturing and industry away to maximize profit. And our economic system became financialized and service oriented. Its made us weak and dependent and loaded down with debt. The rest of the once 3rd world as was known is the manufacturing centers now. Their standard of living is rising. Our's is declining. You wouldn't know that reading and listening to corporate media though.
This is why I like alternative media. There's no editorial board to tailor the truth.
Ben Norton, Geopolitical Economy Report:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kzFUd8uj7pA

Subject: Re: Trouble in the Making
Posted by gofar99 on Tue, 14 Jul 2026 02:33:51 GMT
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Hi, I agree. Our image of ourselves and place in the world is seriously flawed. As a "boomer" I am doing rather well. My daughters and their families are not.

Subject: Re: Trouble in the Making

Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 14 Jul 2026 02:55:20 GMT
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The mathematics of scale-free networks could be used to determine when to manage resources of any organization. Preferential attachment is natural, but it is also dangerous. It puts too much emphasis on too few nodes. Using scale-free network analysis could be used as a modernization of anti-trust laws.

Subject: Re: Trouble in the Making
Posted by Rusty on Thu, 16 Jul 2026 16:54:37 GMT
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Our country's founders wisely incorporated a separation of church and state for determining how to legislate in behalf of the people. At this point in time of our nation, judging from the graph showing the wealth distribution in our nation from such a tiny fraction of our population. Incorporating a separation of wealth and state could wisely promote legislation also in behalf of the people. The majority. And the ones in our nation that currently have little say in what favors the minority.

That would also preclude extricating our legislative process towards following a revised economic doctrine. As also evident from that same graph from when the Neoliberal financialized economics was established. Adapting to an economic doctrine that has allowed over time for wealth to influence our legislative process.

Subject: Re: Trouble in the Making
Posted by Rusty on Sat, 25 Jul 2026 20:41:44 GMT
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This lady reinforces how I feel about this country of ours. That this has been going on for some time, and through both political parties. Her new book called, "Crime & No Punishment: Wealth, Power and Violence in America". She goes over through how most certainly is our economic doctrine that has allowed for wealth to accumulate at unprecedented levels since the 1980's, basically from when Neoliberal economics took hold. And through the capture of the legislative process through campaign financing.

Which has corrupted our democracy to the point there isn't much left of it. She emphasises how corporate and big banking has managed to escape being accountable to being punished for their crimes inflicted on the public. Big Pharma, the real estate bubble collapse in 2008 for example.

And the gun lobby that has made violence an everyday occurance, mass shootings a regular news happening. And privatized prisons everywhere. America is one of the most violent advanced countries in the world.

Our war mongering throughout the world unabated. And a military complex that with a budget over a trillion a year now. Can't provide the weaponry to sustain our war machine for any length of time. Which may be it's only saving grace. Though at the expense of our society and our wellbeing.

From the Chris Hedges Report, (a fine journalist). Marie Gottschalk and her book.

https://chrishedges.substack.com/p/how-americas-corporate-class-became

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Subject: Re: Trouble in the Making
Posted by Rusty on Thu, 30 Jul 2026 15:51:04 GMT
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A very nice primer with what our country's foreign policy is rooted in. A modern version of colonialism. The trade of oil/energy in the world is advantageous to be done in US dollars. Our exorbitant privilege since WWII. The circular flow of dollar denominated trade serves to be a financial incentive to perpetuate it. And a world full of American military bases serves to bolster that.

Alex Kraimer a former hedge fund manager speaks with Glenn Diesen a Norwegian political scientist addressing this advantage and how it works with the big banking industry of the US and Europe. A nice laypersons explanation to how the system works.

And a noticeable connection to the wars that our country has involved itself in.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ixj1Q7j904

Subject: Re: Trouble in the Making
Posted by Rusty on Sat, 08 Aug 2026 17:39:08 GMT
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More and more, the standoff of the war with Iran is from what I'm learning, is leading to an economic downturn. If not a depression in the worst case. The United States in its longstanding belief in its primacy is behind this. It isn't the fiction of nuclear proliferation with Iran that has caused this. That's the smokescreen. Iran has been the last of the 7 Gulf states to be made to come under the US Petrodollar system through military intervention, proxy intervention or sanctions. Syria, Libya, Lebanon, Sudan, Iraq, Somalia.

Iran has had other intentions. Ever since their liberation in the late 70's from their dictatorship installed in 1953 by the US & Great Britain. They have prepared for this eventuality of war with the US since then. And their preparations have been very effective. Missile technology has progressed significantly to the point now of being unstoppable with conventional defensive missile systems. And the guidance systems now are very precise with targeting.

The US has underestimated Iran's capabilities and now the attrition of our weapon stockpiles are such that further engagement makes for serious reconsideration. Our most expensive military complex in the world that has itself become monopolized, cannot replace stockpiles at any reasonable time period.

But the closure of the Strait of Hormuz is seriously now creating a chokepoint for many industries in the world. Oil production in the Gulf now is a trickle and Iran has disabled or destroyed some key oil production in neighboring countries tied to the US with our military bases surrounding Iran.

Negotiations are hampered by our US lack of real diplomacy. There is no good faith left in negotiating with a nation that has attacked and torn up prior good faith proposals.
So, the longer this stalemate goes on, the more serious are the world's financial and industrial capabilities are to cope.

Military diplomacy and trying to keep up appearances in the world are self defeating and counter productive. I wonder if that pain has to come to our nation from it to make our leadership wake up to the folly followed for way way too long.

Subject: Re: Trouble in the Making
Posted by Rusty on Sun, 09 Aug 2026 15:39:23 GMT
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Reading this article today give great clarity to what is actually going on in the Gulf region and basically throughout the world. Michael Hudson sees the really big picture that drives our nation's domestic and foreign policy. With his analysis one can throw out the political theater crafted for public consumption. That are in essence... Lies.

Geopolitical ulterior motives are themselves very devoid of ethics and virtue. But the pattern that our government has followed over the years has been consistent. Policy papers from think tanks within the political spectrum have crafted a how to guide that guide our government. Dominated with politicians from the legal profession who thanks to our campaign finance laws have taken on their "clients" concerns from the donor class which doesn't trickle down to the majority without the means to help elect officials.

Here Hudson puts into perspective the one commodity that our nation is using to try and control dominance and financial good fortunes for that donor class.

https://michael-hudson.com/2026/08/global-shakedown/

Reading this I can't help but liken it all to that fictional character created by Mike Myers great comedic abilities. DR. EVIL.

Subject: Re: Trouble in the Making
Posted by Rusty on Wed, 12 Aug 2026 17:23:07 GMT
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I found this a wonderful layman's guide to the economies of the United States and China's. Steve Keen an Australian economist who understands Modern Monetary Theory and classical economics is interviewed with someone not fully comfortable with the Chinese system in that it may harbour remnants of authoritarianism from Mao's and the "Gang of Four" after their periods in China. Is brought up to date with the Chinese system vs our western financial economic system.

As the video header says from Keen. "China is run by Engineers. American is run by clowns"! And that doesn't just encompass our current POTUS. But our system of governance run by Lobbyists and Lawyers, Bankers & Wall St..

For me at least a wonderful synopsis of what the reality is. I'd wished these fools that foment war and aggression the world over could be replaced by pragmatic and rational people like what China has accomplished.

Not in my lifetime left for sure. I'd welcome some semblance of direction that way.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=763MsHhxmTM

Subject: Re: Trouble in the Making
Posted by Rusty on Mon, 17 Aug 2026 16:31:58 GMT
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It's interesting to see all the threads factoring into where our nation has been and is today. Some of the principal drivers contributing to where we are right now. Where are we? At war(s) in the world. An economy in denial from our administration. And a host of other issues that get bandied about but never solved.

Here's an interesting segment with Professor Glenn Diesen, (a Norwegian political scientist) with an academician colleague, historian and professor at the University of Arizona, David Gibbs on the scope of influence the CIA has with academia and media. In essence, propaganda.

The autonomy and a conflict of interest of academia and media is underwritten by the CIA. Its influence is subject to editorialism. Which with the perception of academia's being neutral and media just reporting the facts is undermined by a secretive agency that works above and beyond laws and public scrutiny.

For me, the great British author George Orwell, his novels and private take on governments and society looms large in this discussion.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wKUBjOgIHAQ&t=2963s
