

History Repeats Itself

By
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It has been said many times before that “History repeats itself”. If this statement is true, and many believe it is, then one could get a sense for what the future holds by simply researching and attempting to understand the past. Knowing and understanding true history is the first step to enlightenment if one hopes to learn from and avoid the mistakes of those that preceded us. However, understanding history and learning from history are two completely different endeavors altogether. Unfortunately, history itself demonstrates that a failure to learn from the mistakes of the past is the historical norm which validates the old saying “History repeats itself”.

Media sources have opined that we are living in unprecedented times. I couldn't disagree more. We are living in times which are unfamiliar to ourselves or anything most people of this age have experienced before, however, history shows that times like these have occurred in the past. Pandemics, civil unrest, political corruption, tyranny, social engineering, and economic uncertainty can be found throughout recorded history. The unique aspect of the current state of affairs in America and the rest of the world is the global scale and means by which these issues are being propagated. Yes, I use the word propagated because many of the issues facing us today are not organic in nature or simply the results of misguided political policies or bad societal choices. They are in fact more nefarious than that. It is no surprise to any student of history that the lust for money, power, and control has been the driving force behind many wars and hostilities between nations and peoples. History is clear regarding these facts and, unfortunately, history is in the process of repeating itself.

The current Corona virus pandemic has provided the kind of opportunity for the exploitation of power and control that most of history's despots could only dream of. The kind of political camouflage COVID-19 has given governments to impose their will on citizens in democratic as well as less democratic countries is astonishing! Who would have thought just one year ago that here in America citizens would be under mandatory stay at home orders, forced business closures, food and product rationing, social distancing, mask wearing, restrictions on intrastate travel, denied the right to peaceably assemble, attend sporting events, or express religious freedom to gather for worship. The argument that this is necessary to eradicate a virus that in the United States has killed 250,000 people (the actual number is probably much less if you discount all the false positives, monetary incentives to declare COVID the cause of death, and preexisting conditions that were the main factor in declining health status) can easily be put to rest. According to the CDC there are currently 13 million people infected with latent Tuberculosis in the U.S.⁽¹⁾, yet not a word from the government or media about what should be classified a “pandemic.” Criminals are released from prison for fear they will get the virus but business owners are threatened with hefty fines or jail if they open, abortion clinics and strip clubs are open but dental clinics and churches are forced to close, liquor and cigarettes can be purchased but hydroxychloroquine and garden seeds are banned for sale, people are told they cannot get together with family for the holidays

but it's OK to attend massive Black Lives Matter Inc. marches, etc... See the hypocrisy and the manipulation? But let's get back to history.

A historical parallel and predictive outcome can be drawn between recent events in the United States and events that took place prior to the conflict known as the American Revolution. History reveals that many of the same issues and attitudes, that eventually led the colonials to rebel against the crown, are strongly present among a large population of American citizens today. This paper will briefly attempt to explore some of these issues and present day attitudes. The paper is organized under the following headings:

- 1) Constitutional Authority and Representation
- 2) Imposition of Orders to Restrict Commerce
- 3) Mandatory COVID-19 Restrictions
- 4) Gun Control and Confiscation
- 5) Increased Taxation
- 6) Forced Vaccinations
- 7) Government Corruption
- 8) History's Conclusion

Constitutional Authority and Representation

"You Americans have wrong ideas on the Nature of Your Constitution. The King in Council is legislator for the colonies, and when His Majesty's instructions come there, they are the law of the land."

Comments made by the Earl of Granville to a baffled Benjamin Franklin, explaining why the charters passed in colonial assemblies and approved by the crown were not recognized as the law of the land.

The recent presidential election actually represented a referendum for voters. A referendum on exactly what the future direction of the country was going to be regarding a host of important hot topic issues including: taxation, socialization of the medical system, climate change, gun control, racial issues, illegal immigration, and the strategy to mitigate the spread of the Corona virus. Over 159 million alleged voters, an all-time record number, turned out to cast their ballots during this past election. Polling data showed that the issues, policies and the personalities of both candidates were driving factors behind the turn out. Of particular importance was the imposition of new COVID-19 restrictions or the elimination thereof being touted by the candidates during the campaign.

After weeks of court filings and political spin doctors from both sides arguing the authenticity of the election results, half of the American voting public is losing faith in the election process. Both Democrat and Republican voters believe there was some form of election fraud. According to a recent poll, 77% of Trump voters believe Trump actually won the election along with 26% of Independents and 10% of Democrats (2). Those are staggering numbers. What a dangerous dilemma for a Constitutional Republic to be in where half of the electorate feels a presidential election was rigged. The belief in

the integrity of the election system, by the people of the United States, is the foundation for all voting citizens to accept the results and then move forward after an election with the understanding that if they want change it can happen at the ballot box at the next election. If this sense of self determination to elect representatives is thought to be compromised, then the incoming “elected” officials will have no credibility and will be met with contempt and aversion by those voters who feel the election was fraudulent. Remember the mantra during the late 1700’s in colonial America “no taxation without representation!” There could be nothing worse for the country than have half of the voting public feel this way.

The peaceful transfer of presidential power, which the country has historically enjoyed for over 250 years, literally depends on the people’s belief that they are the self-determiners of the representation they are guaranteed under the constitution. Now, these same disenchanted voters are being told to come together for the good of the country and accept the results of the election. Post-election talk by politicians that changes need to be made so the voting process in future elections won’t have problems, like voting machine ‘glitches’, is no comfort to the large number of voters who feel the election was fraudulent. This narrative totally disregards the true authenticity of the actual winner, be it Trump or Biden, and redirects the focus on doing better next time while coercing half of the American voting population to accept the current outcome of an election even though there is evidence it could very possibly be wrong. The mainstream media wants the population to accept the results of the candidate they supported with little to no coverage of whistleblowers, statisticians, videos and witnesses who have signed affidavits showing fraud and irregularities. Almost all of the major media outlets have repeated the same canned talking points of “no evidence of election fraud.” Only a cavalier mention by some media that there might have been fraud but “not significant enough to overturn the results of the election.” What would the media say had Biden lost and there was even the slightest hint of fraud? If half of the American voting population feels the election results were fraudulent, that the election of Joe Biden was illegitimate, this will create great problems for him when he tries to implement unpopular policies or force more COVID-19 restrictions on a population of over 74 million voters who went to the polls and voted against those very policies and restrictions.

Imposition of Orders to Restrict Commerce

“It was intended as a bill of coercion, to oblige the people of New England to submit to the legal and just power of the mother country.”

Lord Suffolk commenting on the New England Restraining Act that barred American access to the North Atlantic fisheries and restricted trade outside of the British Empire.

At the beginning of 2020, months before the presidential election, the economy was steamrolling ahead. The stock market was hitting new highs, unemployment was at a 40 year low, interest rates were very low, consumer confidence was high and the future economic outlook was good. This was a stark comparison to the previous years of the Obama Administration. Then came the Corona virus and things changed. The virus was

real and if you were one of the poor souls who were part of the at risk population with a compromised immune system or a preexisting condition, it could be deadly. Fortunately, for most healthy people who became infected, it wasn't any deadlier than the flu (3). In spite of this, a pandemic was declared and the deconstruction of the strong U.S. economy for political gain was now the main driver of events concerning the virus. Opportunistic politicians from both sides of the aisle, with the help of the mainstream media, have used the virus as a means of consolidating power and advancing their political agendas. Unconstitutional executive orders from dozens of state governors, mostly from blue states, issued orders restricting commerce. Certain businesses were deemed essential and others were deemed nonessential. No studies or real sense of logic seemed to guide the decisions to close independently owned small businesses while allowing other large corporate owned businesses to remain open. Thousands of small businesses and entire industries suffered under these lockdowns and many will not recover or open ever again. The restaurant businesses were hit especially hard and, according to a published report by Yelp in September 2020, it is estimated that nearly 100,000 businesses will close permanently (4). The livelihood and life's work of many business owners and family owned operations have been destroyed forever. If the virus was truly as deadly as the media and politicians wanted the people to believe, and the application of closures and restrictions were evenly applied, then the case for the extreme measures could have possibly been argued as being necessary albeit probably unconstitutional.

This has caused great resentment among the small business community toward the politicians responsible for the lockdowns and forced closures of their businesses. Not to mention the resentment between business owners who defied the shutdown orders and the people who felt the need to snitch and turn the business owners in to the local and state health departments for violating the unconstitutional orders. Much like the intense resentment between the merchant Tories, who were loyal to the crown because they benefitted financially from the lopsided trade arrangements between the motherland and the colonies, and the colonial patriots who wanted to throw off the oppression and tyrannical edicts of the King of England. The hypocrisy of many of the same people complaining about businesses who defy the shutdown orders is astonishing. It's easy to play the role of the moral torch bearer as the COVID-19 enforcement officer when your paycheck is uninterrupted because your employer is the government or your business is open because it was deemed essential. These tensions only further polarize and cause divisions among the citizenry and fuel even more resentment toward the government by affected business owners. Restricting the ability and capacity of a person, or segment of the population, to make a living will surely result in having negative consequences on not only the individual but the entire economy. When someone is forced out of business, due to no fault of the business owner, but by government edict, it is a form of tyranny.

Mandatory COVID-19 Restrictions

... "And we do hereby strictly forbid, on Pain of our Displeasure, all our loving Subjects from making any purchases or Settlements whatever, or taking Possession of any Lands above reserved, without our special leave and Licence for that Purpose first obtained."

Royal Proclamation of 1763 which forbade the colonists from trading and settling lands west of the Appalachians.

Ever since the late 18th century, when the American colonies gained independence, Americans have known nothing but freedom and a republic of self-governance. The United States was born out of rebellion from tyrannical rule. You might even say it's in the DNA of all Americans to oppose tactics and rebel against any form of oppressive behavior by an overreaching government. Prior to the year 2020, it was a foreign concept to all Americans to be told by state and local governments that they could not: leave their homes, run their businesses, attend local schools, get a haircut, have a wedding ceremony, eat indoors at a restaurant, hold holiday gatherings at their homes, worship at church, workout at a commercial gym, or visit an immediate family member in a hospital. Needless to say, many Americans resent these restrictions and take note of the hypocrisy shown by elected officials who set these rules and issue executive orders only to violate the orders themselves. Videos show elected officials attending private restaurants, getting salon treatments, and not following the social distancing, mask wearing, or travel restrictions placed on the citizens they govern. The incoming Biden administration has pledged to immediately mandate, on day one of his presidency, the wearing of masks and other restrictions for 100 days (5)(6). One advisor to the administration has also suggested a hard lockdown of the country for 4-6 weeks (7). This would have a devastating effect on businesses and on many citizens who are already barely surviving economically due to the first series of lockdowns. All coming by way of executive order from a president that half the electorate believes was the illegitimate winner of a fraudulent election. The seeds of contempt would be sown almost immediately after Biden was sworn in if he implements by executive order these COVID-19 restrictions. One could almost guarantee that those Trump voters that feel disenfranchised by the election would not comply out of spite for the way the Biden campaign and the mainstream media have handled the accusations of election fraud. The question of enforcement of these mandatory orders would then be front and center, pitting the federal government against otherwise law abiding citizens. The optics of the kind of enforcement it would take to penalize noncompliant citizens and business owners could and probably would lead to social unrest. This would foster more social disobedience and noncompliance leading to more confrontation. A study of American history will show that it is never a good idea for a government, be it foreign or domestic, to greatly anger the American people.

Gun Control and Confiscation

“...march to said bridge and pass the same, but not fire on the King's troops unless they were first fired upon.”

Colonel James Barrett's instructions to Major John Buttrick before the confrontation with the British regulars at the North Bridge.

One of the defining moments, but certainly not the single reason, that triggered the start of the American Revolution was the British march from Boston Harbor to Concord Massachusetts on April 19th 1775. The main objective of the mission was to confiscate

and destroy the ammunition and arms that were suspected of being stored at the Barrett Farm by the militias in Concord. Unfortunately for the British, upon arrival to the North Bridge, close to Barrett's Farm, the 'shot heard round the world' was fired and the war officially started.

American citizens are the only people on the planet that have a constitution that guarantees the right of firearm ownership. Many of the founding fathers, sensitive to the evils of tyrannical government, wanted assurances before ratifying the constitution that individual rights were protected from a centralized federal government. This is why we have amendments to the constitution (the Bill of Rights) and in particular the second amendment. For years, determined activist groups and all three branches of government have attempted to undermine this fundamental constitutional right. If ever there was a time for the necessity of the second amendment the year 2020 has proven to be it. The escalation in racial tensions from police killings and the rise of sometimes violent groups have made large areas of urban cities unsafe for many people who live and own businesses there. Liberal mayors and governors, in blue states and cities, spent last summer refusing to enforce the rule of law allowing anarchy and chaos to go unchecked in cities like Portland and New York (8). This often resulted in millions of dollars in damage to local businesses and occupations of public property for months at a time. Almost every night on the news for weeks, Americans watched in horror at the looting, rioting, and arson fires, as police were told to stand down by politicians. Many innocent people were subjected to violence and physically attacked as they were walking down the street or eating at restaurants. The silence of liberal politicians to denounce these groups and activities only enabled the situations to get worse. Many Trump supporters felt all this was done to undermine the president and damage him politically in the months leading up to the election. All the while, innocent American citizens in these urban areas had to tolerate lawlessness, for the sake of political theater, by these politicians refusal to protect their cities. Anarchists and far left groups demanded defunding of major metropolitan police departments only to have their wishes granted by liberal mayors who attempted to appease them. As police departments were undermined by politicians crime skyrocketed including murder rates, which were on the decline nationally before these events started to occur. Police response to crimes was greatly affected with some departments refusing to respond in areas where they felt would put them at risk both physically and legally if they had to use physical force to uphold the law. Threats by groups to spread their violence into the suburbs caused alarm and cries to end the chaos. The most affected victims throughout all of these events were the law abiding citizens who lived and worked in these areas. They suffered at the hands of these extremists groups and politicians who sought political gain over protecting their cities. Many Americans took note of this and realized that the government will not protect them or their families. Is it any wonder gun and ammunition sales are currently at record highs?

A Biden/Harris administration might be the most adverse to second amendment rights than any other in history. At the time of this writing, one of the Biden administration's first acts after the election, even though the Electoral College has yet to meet and President Trump has not conceded, has been to meet with the bureau of Alcohol Tobacco & Firearms (ATF) (9). This shows one of the priorities, if he is sworn in as president, is

gun control. He has already said he plans, via executive order, to issue a host of gun control measures. His plan includes the confiscation or registration of commonly owned and massed produced firearms, banning the manufacturing and sale of commonly owned firearms, banning the sale of online ammo and gun purchases, and to reverse many of the gun friendly policies issued in prior administrations (10). According to the Pew Research Center 4 in 10 adults in America own a firearm and 42% live in a household with a gun (11). It is estimated that Americans possess 434 million firearms (12). Firearms and second amendment issues have always been hot topic issues in the United States. In light of the recent unrest in urban areas, efforts to defund the police, and record high gun sales, instituting strict gun control measures via executive orders can only lead to problems between the high number of gun owners and the federal government. Biden's gun control agenda would effectively make felons out of millions of law abiding citizens. Imagine the outrage from gun owners, many of whom supported Trump in the past election, who felt their constitutional rights were being violated by a president who they strongly feel was illegitimately installed into office through a fraudulent election. History shows that one of the first things tyrants do when they gain control of power is to disarm the population under the guise of safety and keeping people safe. Events this year have shown that politicians care more about power and maintaining their political office than they do about keeping their communities and states safe.

Increased Taxation

“What a man has honestly acquired is absolutely his own, which he may freely give, but cannot be taken from him without his consent.”

Samuel Adams

Make no mistake about it; a tax is a claim on personal property and property rights. Taxation was one of the main driving forces of the American colonies resentment toward the English crown. The most rebellious and sometimes violent confrontations in colonial times were tax related. Think of the Boston Massacre, Boston Tea Party, and Stamp Act Revolt. The British strong armed the colonies by eliminating paper currency. Gold and silver, usually in the form of coins, were rare and most of the precious metals made its way back to the mother country. This left the colonists with little options to purchase goods or pay debts, plunging the economies of the various colonies into depression. The passage of new taxes, such as the Stamp Act which placed a tax on all paper documents, put an even greater burden on the economically stressed subjects. Can you imagine the resentment from the colonists who had to pay a tax on legal documents served on them by the courts to foreclose on unpaid debts? A modern day comparison would be the commercial property owners in high tax states, whose tenants that operated businesses that were forced to shut down or close permanently due to COVID-19 orders, were still expected to pay their full years property taxes on properties that couldn't be used to generate revenue. What great examples of government created economic crises and the mandatory confiscation of personal property to fund the very source (government) of the problem. All of it done at the expense of otherwise law abiding citizens who contribute to the economic health of a capitalist economy.

When large segments of the population become desperate, due to economic despair, behaviors and attitudes change. Many in government feed off of these behaviors and sentiments as a means to consolidated their power and advance their political agendas. These politicians fuel the flames of class warfare, economic disparity, racism, and intolerance, just to name a few. The result is an increase in crime, discrimination, and resentment among the classes. This divide and conquer strategy is the oldest political tactic in the book. Opportunistic politicians use the opportunity to advance such tyrannical policies of high taxation for the purpose of redistribution to their political bases they try to appease. We are now hearing of universal income, \$15/hour living wage, free college tuition, socialized medicine, reparations for slavery, amnesty for illegal aliens, welfare benefits to non-citizens, the elimination of capitalism for socialism, etc. If enacted, every one of these things will require masses amounts of financial resources that someone or some class will have to pay for. There is no free! This can only mean massive tax increases and a greater burden on the middle class, who shoulder a majority of the taxes collected already. Unfortunately, these are the type of policies that half the electorate went to the polls to vote against. With the current high unemployment rate, permanent small business closures, future economic uncertainty, and the huge political divide in the country, the recipe for high tensions and unrest are very probable. A perceived stolen election will add to the resentment and anger, from many in the middle class that voted for Trump , if Biden is sworn in as president and can pass his agenda through the legislature.

Forced Vaccinations

“In the meantime, every Act of Oppression will sour their Tempers, lessen greatly if not annihilate the Profits of your Commerce with them, and hasten their final Revolt: For the Seeds of Liberty are universally sown there, and nothing can eradicate them.

Benjamin Franklin commenting on the Quartering Act in a 1767 letter to Henry Home, Lord Kames

The Quartering Act was a series of three laws regarding the quartering of British troops in the American colonies. The first act in 1765 mandated that all of the provincial assemblies in the colonies provide housing, food, bedding, and supplies (such as firing) to British soldiers for free. The original bill contained a clause that would provide for soldiers to be quartered in private houses but opposition by the colonials was cause for the provision to be omitted. A second law, the Quartering Act of 1766 provided for soldiers to be housed in vacated or public buildings at the expense of the colonists. The third act in 1774 was meant to assert Great Britain’s power over the colonies for the rebellious Boston Tea Party. The 1774 version of the Quartering Act allowed local military commanders to legally house soldiers in private homes if no vacant or public buildings were available. This invasion of privacy and intrusion of the colonist’s personal space and property rights caused them to be incensed.

The only thing more private than one’s personal living space is a person’s own body. A forcible intrusion into any of these two areas can easily make a person feel violated. The

recently approved COVID-19 vaccines are being promoted heavily by the government and the mainstream media. Even before the development and approval stages, a campaign to get people to accept and take a vaccine was being undertaken. The mainstream media's 24/7 coverage of the virus, with constant updates and slanted statistics to bolster fear, glorifies the recent public vaccinations of local healthcare workers, politicians, sports stars, and celebrities. Americans are being coaxed into taking a vaccine that has no long term studies to validate its efficacy or safety, not to mention the rush to get the vaccine developed in a record short period of time. A critical review of the research reveals that the side effects and technology used in the vaccines are concerning and should not be taken lightly. Much of these concerns are being ignored by the mainstream media as the push to get vaccinated to "protect the public" and to "develop herd immunity" is the main driver of the message. Isn't it interesting that the drug Hydroxychloroquine, which has been around for years and used safely by doctors for decades, was blackballed and even banned for use to treat COVID-19 (13)? However, two unproven new drugs, that were fast tracked and allowed to skip the usual FDA protocols, are allowed to be distributed and injected into the mass population with little or no scrutiny. "Shut up and just take it because the government knows what's good for you" even though recent polling shows that 40% of the population are unwilling to be vaccinated (14).

Social pressure and even threats are being used as a form of coercion to sway public opinion. Those who refuse to be vaccinated are labeled as "anti-vaxxers." Many large companies are contemplating mandatory vaccinations of their employees(15). Some airlines have stated they will change their policies and refuse service to anyone who cannot prove they have been vaccinated (16). The same for entertainment companies who sell tickets to large concert venues and sporting events (17). What will happen to those people who are otherwise healthy, have no symptoms, and are opposed to being vaccinated? Will they be forced to stay inside their homes? Will they be allowed to shop at grocery stores? Can they cross state lines in their personal vehicles? Can they attend their kids sporting events? Will their children be denied public schooling? Will they be allowed to enter a restaurant? These are all questions that involve real possibilities in the very near future. Political leaders are hinting that vaccinations will be mandatory to include a possible vaccine ID but God forbid we have a Voter ID. The rhetoric coming from some politicians suggest that the first step is to get voluntary compliance through education and awareness. What is the next step? If the first step is voluntary is the next step involuntary? The threat of impeding a citizen's ability to attend work, social gatherings, sporting events, get groceries, travel, etc. might be enough to get "voluntary compliance" from some of the population but what about the 40% who say they won't take the vaccine? Just like the Quartering Act that Britain imposed on the colonials, forced vaccinations of American citizens, either by duress or physical force, would be the ultimate assertion of authoritarianism by an overreaching government. The level of resentment and anger this type of tyranny would invoke from those that willfully refused the vaccine would be nothing short of indignant. This gross violation and forced intrusion across the intimate boundary of personal space to inject an unwanted vaccine into an unwilling person's body is unconscionable. As Ben Franklin stated this will only "...hasten their final revolt." Unfortunately, this is direction the situation is heading.

Government Corruption

“When once a Republic is corrupted, there is no possibility of remedying any of the growing evils but by removing the corruption and restoring its lost principles; every other correction is either useless or a new evil.”

Thomas Jefferson

Political corruption is certainly not unique to the American form of government. There was a time in American history when a great majority those who participated in the political process did so out of a sense of duty and idealism that they could serve their country and facilitate policy that would meet the needs of and positively impact their constituents. Over the past 250 years, as political parties have gained more power and the government bureaucracy has exponentially grown, many politicians of both the Democrats and Republican party, are more interested in making political decisions to promote self-serving interests over the interests of the country or their constituents. They have used the apparatus of government to enrich themselves and secure their political careers all at the expense of the American citizens. These acts have not gone unnoticed by the citizenry. Term limits, spending restraint, tax reform, a balanced budget amendment, border security, prison reform, and a rollback of burdensome regulations have been demanded by the electorate for years with little or no action by the politicians. The interests of the average hard working American have been completely ignored while foreign entities, large corporations, and special interests groups spend millions in political contributions to influence the votes of corrupt elected government office holders. When legislation is passed that has some beneficial significance for the American people, it almost always contains all kinds of pork spending for things completely unrelated to the main purpose of the bill. For example, the latest COVID-19 relief bill, which was attached to the omnibus spending bill, has so much pork attached to it that it gives millions and millions of taxpayer dollars to special interests groups and foreign governments than it does to the economically hurting American citizens. Funding that would never make it through the political scrutiny and criticisms of the taxpayers if it were proposed and not attached to a bill of such necessity. So it's covertly buried in a 5,000 plus page bill and delivered to elected officials right before the Christmas holiday when many won't have the time to read it and the attached pork spending. This kind of tactic is commonplace in legislatures at both the federal and state levels. Quite frankly, the politicians think the American people are stupid. The politicians have completely forgotten that they work for the people and it is the people's money they are spending not their own.

Recent events, such as the impeachment hearings, Corona virus “pandemic”, and the alleged presidential election fraud, has awoken many in the country to the depth and seriousness of the political corruption in the country. There has been an awakening not seen in generations and an undercurrent of extreme dissatisfaction and anger with the elected politicians of both political parties. In spite of massive rallies and alternative media attention focused on the corruption, the politicians, with the help of the

mainstream media, have largely ignored any calls for investigation. A sense of political and electoral helplessness is threatening to incite a large segment of the American population against the corruption that has permeated the political system. As the inauguration quickly approaches, there is a growing sense of urgency and anxiety regarding the future of the Republic. The country is deeply divided politically, ideologically, and economically. President Trump's refusal to concede what appears to be a fraudulent election, pending legal and political challenges to a clear-cut Electoral College winner, and the distrust between the elected officials and the citizenry is setting the stage for large scale unrest among millions of Americans who feel disenfranchised.

History's Conclusion

"The time is near at hand which must determine whether Americans are to be free men or slaves."

George Washington

If history repeats itself, and let's hope in this case it does not, the year 2021 might be one of the most turbulent years in America since 1775. Will America learn the lessons from history's past or is history bound to repeat itself? It's hard to imagine that a lack of legitimate constitutional representation, restrictions on commerce, COVID-19 restrictions, gun control, increased taxation, forced vaccinations, and government corruption would have anything but a negative effect on the entire country. Collectively, all these issues, along with the harsh and heavy handed tactics by the local, state and federal governments, are stoking the flames of nothing short of a rebellion not seen since the American Revolution. The corrupt politicians and ruling elites have grossly mistaken the restraint and forbearance of the American people as weakness. This misjudgment on the part of those who wish to repress the citizens of America will backfire as history has repeatedly shown in the past. It is in the DNA of Americans to rebel against what they feel is oppressive behavior towards them by an overreaching and tyrannical government. The corruption of the political system has reached an apex with the alleged fixing of a presidential election which has sown distrust in the entire election process by more than half of the voting population. As the presidential inauguration quickly approaches, with half of the electorate feeling disenfranchised, the question of what the response will be by the American public has yet to be answered. Like Benjamin Franklin stated "A Republic, if you can keep it." Let's hope and pray we keep it!

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