

Andrew Galloway

English 101

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Argumentative Research Paper

The Fall of a Nation (working title)

“I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of Timocracy¹, and to the hypocrisy for which it stands: one nation, under those unfit to lead, very much divided, with Liberty and Justice just out of reach.”

Harsh and bitter as they are, these words may in fact be much more truthful and much better suited to be spoken in this nation’s educational facilities than the deceptive propaganda currently being drilled into our children’s naïve little heads every morning in class, accumulating in their unwitting minds into the false belief of a democracy built upon a wonderful piece of paper that still means what it once did to a generation long deceased.

What, one might ask, is so dreadfully wrong with the United States of America that could possibly cause me to think so lowly of it? Determining where to begin is quite a chore in itself. So many problems plague this country, with little or nothing being done to take care of them, that it utterly sickens me. Homelessness, poor education levels, rising materialism and over-consumption, among other problems, pollute our nation, refuting the very ideals it is built upon. Worst of all, the arrogance of the country’s people, and the ignorance displayed towards these tribulations allows them to self propagate. America, my dear reader, is failing.

I. Greed

McDonald’s lawsuits (two girls getting fat/ hot coffee incident)

¹ Government in which attainment of office is dependant upon personal wealth

Tobacco industry lawsuit

Bill Gates? / U.S. President?

II. Fear

Imagine there's no heaven	...
It's easy if you try	Imagine no possessions
No hell below us	I wonder if you can
Above us only sky	No need for greed or hunger
Imagine all the people	A brotherhood of man
Living for today...	Imagine all the people
	Sharing all the world...
Imagine there's no countries	
It isn't hard to do	You may say I'm a dreamer
Nothing to kill or die for	But I'm not the only one
And no religion too	I hope someday you'll join us
Imagine all the people	And the world will live as one
Living life in peace...	

- John Lennon, "Imagine"

Imagine a world like that. Think hard and lose yourself in that world.

Now, snap out of it and realize that such a world will never come into being, existing only in our imaginations. Socialism is a wonderful implication, but an impossible implementation. Even if the hopelessly arduous task of converting America into a socialist nation were carried out, it would not last. It is human nature to argue over anything, even the smallest things. Arguments lead to conflicts. Conflicts require settlements. Settlements require one who is

a leader, one who is popular with the people, and who can persuade the conflicting parties to see things his or her way. Thus, leadership is born anew, and, through the gathering of the leader's followers in the name of his or her cause, a government is created. For as long as free-thinking animals roam the Earth, governments will exist.

Every government fears its own downfall. The American government bears no exception. When something threatens the ideals of those whom hold power, public opinion is manipulated and turned against the accused.

Richard Nixon, his administration and other right-wing politicians (including ultraconservative ancient Senator Strom Thurmond, who personally memoed Attorney General John Mitchell on the matter) were fixated on what they saw as the Lennon problem. To them, the politically outspoken singer-songwriter was an insidious subversive of the worst kind, the famous and beloved kind. (“Assassination”)

Assassinations of: Gandhi, JFK, Abraham Lincoln, and MLK Jr.

People who stand up to the system: controversial figures

- 1. too politically incorrect by government standards**
- 2. liberals/ radicals/ extremists**

“In George Bush's America the poor were not a priority. And after September 11th correcting America's social problems took a back seat to fear, panic and a new set of priorities.”

(Bowling)

II. Violence/ Crime

Rates in America

III. Arrogance

...When a dude's getting bullied and shoots up his school
and they blame it on Marilyn .. and the heroin
Where were the parents at? And look where it's at
Middle America, now it's a tragedy
Now it's so sad to see, an upper class city
having this happening..
then attack Eminem cause I rap this way...

- Marshall Mathers, "The Way I Am"

It is saddening that those who deviate from the conventional are those whom culpability is assigned. The thinkers, the misunderstood, the daring. These are the victims of social prosecution, day in and day out, for everything that goes wrong in this country.

On Tuesday, April 20, 1999, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold executed twelve fellow students and a teacher in what has become widely known as the Columbine High School Massacre. ("Columbine") Following the nightmarish event, the nation immediately pointed its fingers at the most obvious explanation, the popular crowd. The jocks and cheerleaders of Columbine High became easily recognizable as the source of Eric and Dylan's rage. "The pair of supposed "Trench Coat Mafia outcasts" were [simply] taking revenge against the bullies who had made school miserable for them." (Cullen) When the parents of the jocks and cheerleaders simply couldn't stand to witness their children become the target of the media, they turned the nation onto the next plausible cause for the shootout: the media. Music, television, and video games soon became the monsters every American parent loved to hate.

Artists such as Eminem, Marilyn Manson, and other controversial musicians gained a noticeable rise in their infamously. "In his film The Young Poisoner's Handbook, director

Benjamin Ross revealed a fictionalized view of a notorious real-life, adolescent killer, Graham Young, who poisoned multiple friends and family members in England in the 1960s. Young, unlike Columbine's Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, did not play Doom². Perhaps a chemistry set was not a good idea for Young.” (Gonzalez) Blaming a video game for committing mass murder is cause enough to be declared clinically insane. Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold were responsible for the Columbine High School Massacre, no one else.

Hurricane Katrina- Mayor?

IV. Solution

In an effort to solve America's problems, I would suggest an unconditional worldwide socialist reform. However, even if pure socialism was a socialist world is doomed to last only a small amount of time.

The only conceivably effective solution to the abundance of problems in America, and in the world for that matter would most certainly be ruthless worldwide genocide. Musical group Mudvayne writes:

All over with,

Fuck all the flags, the greed, the world leaders

Run for the fence

We're coming, We're killing, We're changing the faces

Stop talking, negotiating,

Your feeble attempts towards world peace,

Gimme a fucking break

Need world-wide genocide, planetary suicide

² Popular video game recognized as being the first in the widely popular “first person shooter” genre of video games.

And when the whole damn world is dead...

There's your fucking peace

Harsh, cruel, evil, taboo, yet sensible all at the same time, the destruction of the human race may possibly be the only feasible choice available to the human race to prevent, believe it or not, the destruction of the human race.

I am sure that the vast majority of the world would agree with me when I say that this is not the fate I wish for humanity.

Find some way to redeem yourself here... ask Lubick. Maybe tone down the harshness a bit.

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