BRAINWASHING 2020

I found recently the discussion between two prominent interlocutors an excellent example of brainwashing made by two convincing interlocutors who could convince most uninitiated people, who don't know the facts about socialism history in Europe and the US, about the threat of socialism. And it is really not important who the interlocutors are, as similar conversations happen often.

Since 1980 we experience a recrudescence of populism, neo-liberalism, fake news and distorted facts, with leaders such as Ronald Reagan, Margaret Thatcher, Donald Trump, Emmanuel Macron, Boris Johnson, Jair Bolsonaro, Narendra Modi, Benjamin Netanyahu, Silvio Berlusconi, Viktor Orban, and leaders of many other countries, and to some extent also Augusto Pinochet, Vladimir Putin and Recep Tayyip Erodogan, along the neo-liberal ideology of Milton Friedman. Although the neoliberals did not invent fake news which existed also in socialist regimes.

I could detect the fallacy of the arguments in this discussion, as I became in my academic research quite an expert on the crises and solutions of capitalism, I forecasted the 2020 depression since 2009 when I wrote in a book published in the US that the depression will occur in 2020, as the political and economic leaders did not learn the lessons from the 2008 Great Recession, [**Doomsday Depression in 2020- Reality or Fantasy**](http://www.businessethicscory.com/newbookdoomsdaydepressionvers1219.docx)[***Capitalism: Crises/Solutions***](http://www.businessethicscory.com/CAPITALISMCRISESANDSOLUTIONSvers2.pdf) , and found a strong statistical correlation between the quantitative and qualitative prosperity compared to the level of ethics and lack of corruption of the ten most prosperous and ethical countries in the world – Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Netherlands, Switzerland, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand and Canada – all of them achieved this status after implementing social democratic or humanistic capitalism policies in the last decades,[***Academic Proof that Ethics Pays***](http://www.businessethicscory.com/ACADEMIC_PROOF_THAT_ETHICS_PAYSvers5.pdf) [**Executive Summary**](http://www.businessethicscory.com/ACADEMIC_PROOF_THAT_ETHICS_PAYS_EXECUTIVE_SUMMARY_vers5.pdf) **.**

I found the following fallacies in their arguments: 1. They maintain that the Democrat presidents became millionaires which is true, but it is also true for most of the politicians, Republicans and Democrats, which is a basic flaw in the American democratic system that enables this, ensuing lobbying by the largest American companies getting tax benefits, the richest tycoons, the Wall Street barons, and receiving huge amounts for "lectures", "consulting", "jobs", in the US like in Israel. 2. They advocate in favor of health insurance program in the US which is one of the worst in the Western world and by far the most expensive per capita as compared to excellent programs in Europe, which they criticize. You are advised to watch the most convincing Michael Moore's film [Sicko](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xpk9AuJ4J18). 3. The social distancing policy fighting COVID-19 which proved very efficient in South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand, Norway & Finland, as opposed to the horrendous policy of most of the populist leaders in the US, Brazil, Italy, France, UK, Russia… Actually, it is said that "The Lockdown is the greatest mistake in the history of humanity", while we know that the US has almost 200,000 casualties from Covid-19.

4. The alleged policy of socialism to scare the population in order to implement their doctrines, which is in fact quite the opposite, as the neo-liberals are those who practice ["Shock Doctrines"](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Shock_Doctrine) by the exploitation of national crises (disasters or upheavals) to establish controversial and questionable policies, while citizens are too distracted (emotionally and physically) to engage and develop an adequate response, and resist effectively. 5. They cite many examples against welfare policies. In fact the only welfare measures that were implemented in the US were not enacted in order to benefit the citizens but just because the capitalist government and business were afraid that extreme poverty in the Great Depression or following World War II would induce the American people to adopt a socialist system like in Europe or the Soviet Union. Once the threat of the Soviet Union disappeared at the end of the eighties the neo-liberal ideology could at last prevail unhindered. 6. A complete distorted presentation of the Scandinavian model is given there and the interlocutors suggest that new socialism is actually as in Venezuela and in the last communist regimes, as Scandinavia has in fact a capitalist system, i.e. neoliberal as for them capitalism and neo-liberalism are the same. Nothing is more remote from capitalism and Market Economy than neo-liberalism so called "free" which is actually ruled by monopolies, tycoons, Wall Street inside information…

So, truth is distorted almost totally, except for the allegations that "liberals" are also racists and by far the most hypocrites, that Floyd doesn't deserve to be a model because of his criminal record (although it doesn't justify his horrendous murder), That because some police officers are racists one should abolish police, and that the intelligentsia and politically correct people have adopted an over simplified model judging American history only through the prism of racism, from the nation's origins to the Civil War to George Floyd's murder, which is of course one-dimensional and far from true, as history is much more complex and racism is only one facet of it, entrepreneurship, free trade, humanism and democracy are many others. So, what the interlocutors do is making some justified criticism on minor issues in order to convince the uninitiated people that all their criticism is justified against socialism or humanistic capitalism, which could be only the Venezuelan model, while we know it is false, and they overlook the fact that the American economy and quality of life is by far inferior to that of welfare countries in Europe, which are not afraid from socialism or humanistic capitalism, enabling them to prosper.