

# Disparities in Happiness

by Earl P. Holt III

A recently published study at **Columbia University** revealed a striking disparity in **happiness** between self-selected "conservative" and "progressive" 18 year-old high school seniors. In general, conservative teens were found to be happier than their leftist peers by a significant margin, and the disparity is particularly pronounced among girls. (C. Gimbrone *et alia*. "The Politics of Depression." **SOCIAL SCIENCE & MEDICINE**. December, 2022.)



The study evaluated "**depressive attitudes**" reported among conservative and *progressive* teens between 2005 and 2018. The authors inadvertently exposed their own ideological bias by crudely and clumsily defining conservatism as "**support of individual liberty, right-wing social and religious values, and unregulated free markets.**" Progressivism was defined as "**support of equal opportunity, free but semi-regulated markets, civil liberties, and social justice.**"

It would have been far more accurate to define conservatism as *"balancing individual liberties with civil order, cultivating religious convictions, and preferring market solutions to government mandates."* Likewise, *progressivism* should be more accurately defined as *"preferring government control of the economy, expanding the rights, liberties and wealth of loyal supporters, and a strong inclination to use government power to pursue arbitrary and subjective definitions of 'social justice'."*

If the anachronistic and fraudulently concocted definitions of the study's researchers sound as if they implied that *"conservatives are bad, progressives are enlightened,"* that's no coincidence. In any event, while the existence of this happiness "gap" was easy to demonstrate, these clueless researchers were far less certain of its cause. Let me help them understand a little better.

The U.S. Constitution was founded on a *Natural Rights* philosophy of government in which our rights are derived from God and not from government. Since Marxists believe all rights are exclusively granted by the state, they believe (and practice) that **religion must be eradicated**. That's why the left has worked ceaselessly for 75 years to purge any vestige of religion from American public life. It's also why churches were shuttered during the COVID lock-downs in **BLUE** states, while liquor stores, marijuana shops and casinos were permitted to remain open.

*Progressive* teens have been indoctrinated with and have internalized the falsehood that the *Ten Commandments* and *The Golden Rule* no longer retain any validity, and the only moral limits to our behavior are that they be acceptable to the state. The inevitable conclusion is that **morality is subjective**, allowing the law of the jungle to prevail, as it does in black ghettos. This must be a sad and depressing way for

*progressives* to view life, and may account for some of their depression.



Moreover, not only are ***The Bible*** and Constitution outdated, but the Framers were racists as well, since some of them owned slaves. Hence, **America's founding was flawed**, our 247 year history is tarnished, and our experiment in self-government was merely an illusion. This is what the last two or three generations have been taught by sixth-rate imbeciles from seventh-rate departments of education. (China's Third Graders are taught Calculus, while ours are taught to hate their country.) It's no wonder *progressives* are depressed!

Not only were the Framers racist, but all **white people are racist**, as well. That's why blacks fail to achieve academically at the same level as whites, and why whites are often wealthier than blacks. Such disparities are alleged by *progressives* to be a result of "*systemic white racism*" rather than any shortcomings on the part of blacks, themselves, such as drugs, criminality, laughable work habits, and sleeping through 12 years of schooling. White kids are often forced to

grovel and apologize to blacks for a system that ended 150 years before they were even born, and **THERE'S NO EXEMPTION MADE FOR PROGRESSIVES** from such ritual humiliations. That must be very depressing, as well.

Yet, although profound disparities exist between blacks and whites in crime rates, income, academic achievement, illegitimacy rates, IQ and welfare participation rates, these too must merely be illusions because progressives are taught that **race is a false construct**. So race has validity only when it's useful to attack whites, but has no validity in other contexts. Juggling such a contradictory ideology must be very confusing to *progressives*, and may lead to some of that depression.

Likewise, since race is a false construct, we are equally free to conclude that **gender is a false construct**, as well. Hence, biological males can become females if they wish, and can become pregnant. "*Transgenders*" are even allowed to participate in women's sports, where they often dominate. Experiencing indoctrination from such delusions **MUST** be a source of depression to any *progressive* teen who is in the least bit thoughtful. When authority figures gaslight them with such depressing lies, they must wonder what kind of future do they face?

Well there's an answer to that question, as well: according to noted climatologists like Alexandria Ocasio Cortez (D-Puerto Rico,) the Earth will become uninhabitable within the next five years because of **"climate change."** Progressive teens are apparently stupid enough to believe such bilge, and it comports nicely with the thousands of apocalyptic films they devour, each of which features relentless armies of zombies that attempt to kill survivors of our impending apocalypse. These *end-of-the-Earth* scenarios have got to be a source of depression, as well.

Finally, our *progressive president* claims that our **southern border is secure**, and more so than it's ever been. *Progressive* teens have probably seen the same claim made by *Immigration Commissar Harris*, and by Biden's Secretary of *Homeland Security*. Thus, they must frequently experience what psychologists call "**cognitive dissonance**" when they later see TV news reports of millions upon millions of illegal aliens streaming across our southern border, unimpeded. Our immigration *tsunami* is depressing to everyone, not just *progressives*.

If conservative teens are less depressed than *progressive* teens, it's probably because conservative teens are able to see through the lies of the left and scoff at them, much like the boy who cried out "**the Emperor is naked**" in that Hans Christian Andersen short story. Most conservative teens correctly recognize that America is currently governed by the most corrupt and traitorous people in our nation's history.

On the other hand, *progressives* are apparently too dishonest, too ignorant, too blind, too cowardly or too damned stupid to acknowledge the mess their Marxist Ideology has made of our nation and culture. Yet, at some level, they must recognize that things are definitely rotten in America, and their future is increasingly dubious.

**That's why *progressives* are depressed, and no one with any sense needed foolish and biased Cultural Marxists from *Columbia University* to tell them so.**