Why the Left Can't Govern

by Earl P. Holt III

George Santayana immortalized the aphorism that "Those who fail to learn the lessons of history are condemned to repeat the past." His famous quote is particularly useful when applied to the New Communist Party of the USA (NCPUSA) -- often wrongly applied to the "Democrat" Party -- which proves on a daily basis that its members have learned nothing from 6,000 years of recorded history. That's why none of them can even make a pretense of governing intelligently.

HISTORY'S LESSONS: There is one commonsense principle of economics that has endless applications in nearly every context. It's the principle that if you subsidize or reward something, you get *more* of it: conversely, if you penalize or tax something, you get *less* of it. This principle is especially applicable to the tax-base of most BLUE cities.

There, many residents and businesses are assessed higher taxes at the same time they experience declining city services, such as diminished police protection and haphazard infrastructure repair. Despite this, **BLUE** city governments often find it necessary to *raise* taxes on residents and businesses to generate enough revenue to compensate for their own incompetence, graft and nepotism. That's why businesses and residents in most **BLUE** cities are currently fleeing them in droves for destinations in **RED** states and cities with lower taxes

On the other hand, **BLUE** cities and states are particularly generous with other people's money, and reward their political supporters with free healthcare, nearly-free housing, free food and free schooling. They find myriad ways to transfer the wealth of others to their supporters. If you are an illegal alien, they'll even throw in free cellphones and free room and board at luxury hotels. It should not come as a surprise to any

normal person that this generosity has spawned accelerating numbers of needy and parasitic residents, particularly in New York and San Francisco.

Likewise, this same principle applies to criminal justice: to reduce the incidence of violent crime, one must first increase the penalties for that crime and ensure that they are applied in every instance. Crime deterrence is based on both the severity of the sanction and the likelihood that it will be applied. Unfortunately, most large, BLUE cities have rejected this principle by de-funding their police, which diminishes the likelihood that criminals will ever be arrested for a given crime.

Many **BLUE** cities have also adopted so-called "woke" criminal justice reforms that reduce the severity of punishment for criminality, such as eliminating cash bail, shorter sentencing, more lenient parole, and decriminalizing theft under \$1,000. Not surprisingly, most of these cities have experienced skyrocketing rates of murder and car-jackings. They have also endured "flash mobs" of black, teenaged parasites that descend on businesses and plunder them like a swarm of locusts devouring a field of ripe wheat.

Another lesson from history is found in Plato's *Republic*, where he warns that (paraphrase,) "*Democracy will cease when the public learns it can vote itself wealth from the public treasury.*" The phenomenon of government at any level transferring the wealth of others to their supporters -- wealth the recipients have never earned -- is a very poor idea, and generates entitlement and sloth. The growth of welfare and black idleness in every large **BLUE** city is powerful proof of this.

Moreover, in a democracy, the purpose of voting is to elect the best, possible individuals to govern on behalf of fellow citizens, and not merely an opportunity to enrich oneself through one's elected officials. Plato also stated in *The Republic* that "*The heaviest penalty for declining to rule is to be ruled by someone inferior to yourself.*" This principle is true

in *spades*, because the mayors of New York, Chicago, Atlanta and Washington are as incompetent and destructive as any you could find in America.



Absolute *Bottom-of-the-Barrell*

A final lesson of history is that it's an egregious error to spend beyond your means, and to do so will inevitably lead to your financial demise. This principle is true for individuals, true for families, true for municipalities, true for states, and true for the federal government, which has set a horrendous example. With some help from worthless RINO "Republicans," the NCPUSA has generated a national debt that is 40 percent greater than our highest measure of Gross Domestic Product in any one year. Likewise, BLUE states like New York, Illinois and California have borrowed from their state employee's pension funds to the tune of trillions of dollars, none of which can ever be repaid.

The failure of **BLUE** cities, states and the NCPUSA to observe these basic lessons of history -- and then blindly repeat the errors of earlier civilizations -- is why each of them has experienced nearly identical societal malignancies. The latter include skyrocketing rates of violent crime, terrible public schools, so-called "*flash mobs*" of teenaged parasites, dangerous and violent gangs, rampant illiteracy, lives

rendered useless by drugs and alcohol, and a drug-like addiction to welfare.

It is the epitome of arrogance and ignorance for elected officials of the NCPUSA to reject the wisdom of the ages, and arbitrarily substitute their own judgement for the customs and institutions that have evolved through trial and error over the previous 6,000 years of recorded history. Only fools, crooks and those driven by some form of ideology would do such a foolish thing.