

Third Saturday Seminar 2012-2013

Humanity at a Crossroads

Session 01

15 September 2012

**“LoneWolves are Endangering Our
Species”**

Unleashing Your Wisdom in the Brave New World of Tomorrow may be a Challenge.

Curt Gibby

Presentation

**ALL Program, Lone Star College – Montgomery
Conroe, Texas**

Aurora Colorado

The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window displaying an ABC News video. The address bar shows the URL: abcnews.go.com/US/video/colorado-shooting-suspect-spotting-lone-wolf-killer-16822393. The video player features a news anchor in a suit standing in front of a blue background with the text "MOVIE THEATER MASSACRE" and a yellow "POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS" tape. Below the video, the title "Colorado Shooting Suspect: Spotting a Lone Wolf Killer" is displayed, along with the text "James Holmes joins growing list of socially isolated people who challenge law enforcement." and the station logo "KVUE abc". A sidebar on the left shows a search bar and a "Today" button. A banner at the top of the page reads "Insist on customized lung cancer treatment." with a "Hover to Learn More" button. A small advertisement for "The Handy Brothers Big Sur, California" is visible on the right side of the video player.

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/video/colorado-shooting-suspect-spotting-lone-wolf-killer-16822393>

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Lone Wolves Endanger our Species

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University of Texas orders campus evacuation after phoned bomb threat; no bombs found

By Associated Press, Updated: Friday, September 14, 11:12 AM

AUSTIN, Texas — Thousands of people streamed off the University of Texas campus Friday after a phoned-in bomb threat prompted an evacuation of all buildings and officials warned students and faculty to “get as far away as possible.” No bombs had been found by midmorning. The university received a call about 8:35 a.m. from a man claiming to be with al-Qaida who said he had placed bombs all over the 50,000-student Austin campus, according to University of Texas spokeswoman Rhonda Weldon. He claimed the bombs would go off in 90 minutes and all buildings were evacuated at 9:50 a.m. as a precaution, Weldon said.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/university-of-texas-orders-campus-evacuation-after-phoned-bomb-threat-no-bombs-found/2012/09/14/fa773fae-fe86-11e1-98c6-ec0a0a93f8eb_story.html

NDSU

North Dakota State University in Fargo, N.D., also ordered a campus evacuation after a morning bomb threat, but it was unclear whether the two threats were related. NDSU issued a statement shortly before 10 a.m. telling all employees and students to leave 14,000-student campus within a half-hour.

In Texas, police blocked off roads heading in to the UT campus as lines of cars sat in gridlock trying to get out. As a text message alert went out, sirens blared for about five or 10 minutes. Students said they were directed off campus by university staff.

“One of them said to me ‘get off this campus as soon as possible,’” said Elizabeth Gerberich, an 18-year-old freshman from New Jersey.

The university issued another advisory by 10:30 a.m. saying buildings still were being checked and no decision had been made about whether the campus would reopen for afternoon classes.

Ashley Moran, a freshman from Houston, said she was waiting to get into class when word quickly began spreading among students to leave immediately. She described the evacuation as “orderly but tense.” “It makes me really nervous I just know we’re supposed to get out,” she said.

With rain falling, students stood under awnings and overhangs or went inside stores and coffee shops to wait out the alert and said despite the uncertainty, the atmosphere was mostly calm.

Times They are a Changin' (or are they?)

When Barack Obama was elected President, immediately, ammunition started to sell out in stores. In fact, recently, the weekend that President Obama decided he was, by imperial edict, put his own version of the amnesty/dream act into effect, I happened to be in a big box store, and while I was checking out, I commented on the disorderly appearance of some of the shelves and difficulty in finding stuff, *I got a totally unrelated response from the clerk* that they had sold out of ammunition. I asked, “hunting ammo?” and was told “all of it”.

Insanity

“There was a saying, “Insanity is hereditary. You get from your kids”

Today I say, “Insanity is contagious. You get it from your leaders and it’s transmitted by the media”

(If they can act that way, why can’t the rest us?)

Definers of our Culture?

Lately, there seems to be a rash of lone wolf episodes.

Are these lone wolf actors going to be the definers of our generation? Is it inevitable?

There is no shortage of literature on the subject.

Are lone wolves giving in to an uncontrollable (out)rage, or is this a cold calculated act that the actor feels will settle a real or perceived injustice.

Lone Wolf Killers Are Often a Combination of Hatreds and Frustrations

By Brian Levin, J.D., Director, Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism, California State University Posted: 08/06/2012

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/brian-levin-jd/lone-wolf-killers-are-oft_b_1747344.html

Wade Michael Page, the alleged killer, (of six people in a Sikh Temple Aug 6th) according to multiple news sources was a 40 year old Army veteran with a hate symbol tattoo who received a demotion and a less than honorable discharge from the military in 1998 for "patterns of misconduct" according to CNN after six years of service, finishing up at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Disgruntled military veteran killers like Nidal Hassan (who was in the Army), Holocaust Museum shooter James von Brunn, Olympic and clinic bomber Eric Robert Rudolph as well as executed Oklahoma City Bomber Timothy McVeigh and D.C. Sniper John Allen Muhammad (the latter two had accomplices), have led many to mechanistically conclude that military service is part of a profile of loner extremists.

Losees to Warriors

The real story is far more complex, as it is more likely that a first responder or victim to a mass shooting will be a military veteran than the shooter. Irrespective of their military status, these kind of killers are often depressed, socially and psychologically itinerant adult males whose significant and defining life setbacks in career or relationships create a festering anger that explodes into violence against a symbolic target.

These targeted locations and innocent people are the sincere focus of aggression in the contorted thinking of someone whose anger and belief system leads them to settle a score and reaffirm their self worth by achieving notoriety through violence. A violent act transforms them from losers to warriors for a cause that is bigger than they are, and they are hitting back, not only on behalf of themselves, but for others who faced similar unfairness from an uncaring society.

Motivation

There are three main categories of extremist aggressors, and usually one is the primary element with an offender, with at least one other playing a secondary supporting role:

. The Ideologically Motivated (Religious, Political or Hybrid)

. The Psychologically Dangerous (Sociopath or Cognitively Impaired)

. Personal Benefit or Revenge

“Related (?)” incidents to Aurora (Please see the caveat at the bottom of the quote)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2012_aurora_shooting

Following the attack, several people around the U.S. were arrested for threats and suspicious activities at or near screenings of *The Dark Knight Rises*.

- On the same day as the shooting, a man was arrested outside a theater in southern [Arizona](#). The man had been intoxicated, and a confrontation later occurred, leading to "mass hysteria" and 50 people evacuating the theater.^[92]
- In [Westlake, Ohio](#), a heavily armed man was arrested at a screening of *The Dark Knight Rises*.^[93]
- In [Los Angeles](#), a man was arrested before a screening of *The Dark Knight Rises* for holding his cell phone in the air and yelling that he should "go off like in Colorado", after complaining about the movie not starting on time.^[94]
- In [Pittsburgh](#), a man faced criminal charges for being involved in a fight in a cinema restroom. During the fight, a person shouted "Gun!", which then led to panic inside the theater.^[95]
- During a screening of *The Dark Knight Rises* at [Eastridge](#) in [San Jose, California](#), a package was thrown into the theater by a person who claimed it was a bomb, leading to an evacuation.^[96]

A Caveat (by Wikipedia)

This section **contains information of unclear or questionable importance or relevance to the article's subject matter.** Please help [improve this article](#) by clarifying or removing superfluous information.
(August 2012)

- **The above caveat, notwithstanding,** there seem to be elements in our society that are just looking for **merest provocation or inspiration to let out their inner “hulk” (monster).** What about the role played by music in Wade Page’s past?
- With a little bit of research and reading you will find that **there were indicators in the behavior of most lone wolf criminals before they acted.** It seems simple until you realize that in a free society, at any given time there may be thousands of individuals exhibiting similar traits and at similar intensities, but they never present a danger to themselves or others.
- **Would you,** if you observed a good friend or relative showing such patterns, feel empowered to explain your concerns and provide effective counsel, which might well save his life as well as others, and still keep the person as a friend?

Run, Hide, Fight

What is the political equivalent?

August 3, 2012 8:30 AM

PRINT  TEXT 

PSA video: "Run, Hide, Fight" during workplace shooting

 371  35  11  13 [More +](#)

By Manuel Bojorquez



(CBS News) Since the Aurora, Colo., massacre two weeks ago, a six-minute YouTube video called "Run, Hide, Fight" has received more than 250,000 hits. It shows you exactly what to do when someone starts shooting in a public place.

Manicheans Rule

It's turned into a war between good and evil. By definition one side is pure and the other side is impure. It's OK to believe ideological propaganda about the other side, to totally disrespect them and their concerns. To see them only as EVIL. Reality, common sense, intelligence are not in the equation, only the party line and a reason to hate.

Each side has its own media processing resources which with feigned "Church Lady" superficiality seems able to keep advertisers and viewers, listeners and readers motivated and inspired(?)

A Faustian Pact (leading to A Perfect Storm)
may nurture unexpected threats to our tranquility

South African Ambassador Ebrahim Rasool on Confronting Islamophobia in the U.S.

http://www.democracynow.org/2012/9/7/south_african_ambassador_ebrahim_rasool_on

“... that part of my challenge to Muslim communities in the U.S.A. and all over the world is that we must equally, forcefully denounce Islamophobia and, with the same amount of force, denounce extremism done in the name of Islam, that we are creating a Faustian pact of Islamophobes and Muslim extremists who need each other to survive. **The Islamophobes need the extremists in order to drive an anti-Muslim agenda, and the extremists need the Islamophobes in order to keep up an anti-Western rhetoric.** It’s a Faustian pact. And somehow, we can’t be propping up one side or the other, but we’ve got to collapse both extremes and recognize them as mirror images. They are both fundamentalists.”

If Destiny Calls ...

Being realistic, none of us has serious delusions of starting a revolution. On the other hand, I don't believe Rosa Parks was planning a revolution either, but when destiny called, she responded. She was ready. I wonder if she was surprised when she realized just how many other people were as hungry (or hungrier) as she was for it to happen. Did she consciously give herself permission? (Or, like other American heroes, just took the appropriate action ...)

Questions

- Who can predict what will start to happen on the day after Tuesday, November 6, 2012? Will we have a two term president or a brand new one?
- How long does it take to pay off a 15 \$trillion debt? Does someone have a secret business plan on a spreadsheet that has it all figured out?
- Will the world economy miraculously multiply itself by 10?
- Will the sequestration monster be allowed to kick in, end the Bush Tax cuts, enforce austerity on all departments of government?
(Sequestration = In U.S. law, a procedure by which an automatic spending cut is triggered, introduced to the federal budget in 1985 by the **Gramm–Rudman–Hollings Balanced Budget Act** , most recently implemented in the Budget Control Act of 2011)
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sequestration>

In 1965, L.B.J. told M.L.K. to "make me do it."

And the same thing happened with Lyndon Johnson and the Voting Rights Act. He wanted to do the Voting Rights Act, he had used up a lot of chits on the Civil Rights Act and he just engaged in a very long romancing of Martin Luther King, Jr., to make sure that King put his people on the streets and kept the people's feet to the fire and move along and move along and he essentially said to King - - make me do it.

And King put the people on the street, and then there was pressure from inside the government on the president - - with which I was associated - - and it happened.

- Roger Wilkins

1. <http://letters.mobile.salon.com/opinion/greenwald/2009/01/13/obama/permalink/51eb83f63f62212c4ef3c07c9b8111ec.html>

Options

- What options will the people have? What could lighten the load of a debt brought on by 12 or more years fiscal and political irresponsibility on the part of our political and economic leadership and consumers alike?
- Will the dynamic of “top down” pipe dream leadership be continuing? That is, all those entities who have real control of the minds of our elected politicians, continue to flood us with their ideologies and ideologically driven ideas which they will continue to force on to the people whether its more bailouts paid for by the victims for banks and corporations or an “Affordable” health care plan, that is not affordable to a large chunk of the population and preserves all the prerogatives of the medical industry, insurance companies and pharmaceuticals, that are driving the cost of health care through the roof.?
- Will our savings accounts and money market ever start to pay us interest?

We are the 25 %

Approx. 1 in 4 are wage earners in the USA. 310 million people living here and only 77,500,000 are actually earning a wage or have a reportable income!

You and I who are working are paying all the bills, taxes, national debt, or any and all expenses incurred by the Government and or any other entity spending money, including our own needs!!!

http://wiki.answers.com/Q/How_many_wage_earners_are_there_in_the_US

Creative Solutions to some Very Complex Problems

We The People of the United States may need to start seriously and cooperatively looking for Creative Solutions to some Very Complex Problems, because we will not see any promise from those who have been promising us Grandiose Schemes of World Power and Leadership for as long as we can remember, yet they cannot or will not figure out how to pay our bills, nor will they rein in those who see the American worker as a beast of burden ...

Why Won't We be Happy

For some time you have heard me casually predict: It doesn't matter how the upcoming Presidential and Congressional Elections come out, very few people will be will be happy.

It's kind of a four part problem.

There are two major parties Republicans and Democratic. If one says, "Yes," the other says "No!" (It's not a matter of reason or belief, just who spoke first.)

Last election's winner was determined by the "winner take-all rules" of most states. The popular vote gave the winner only a small plurality.

Again, neither party's base is showing an overwhelming enthusiasm for their candidates. It seemed the real enthusiasm came from the "self-identified independents." (Some say 40% of those who voted were independent) Many voting for the first time, or finally (bravely) reengaging with the political process. How will they vote this time (if at all.)

The country

The deadly thing is for the citizen to allow himself to believe that he and all his fellow citizens can never defend against the incompetence, simple mindedness of the leadership country from that of the leadership.

That we cannot expose them as they engage in pettiness and trade intelligence, common sense and wisdom for ideology.

We the people must first realize that we have the ability to see through these pipe dreams that in reality turn out to be designs to fail by our decision makers. We must learn to share them with each other and then have the courage to hold our elected leaders accountable, at least in our hearts and minds. AND, AT ELECTION TIME

They are actually a minority , as are those of many of the governments in the troubled countries of the world.

We are governed by a small cadre of self servers who keep promising change but the change they bring is rarely what we had in mind ...

DON'T PANIC!

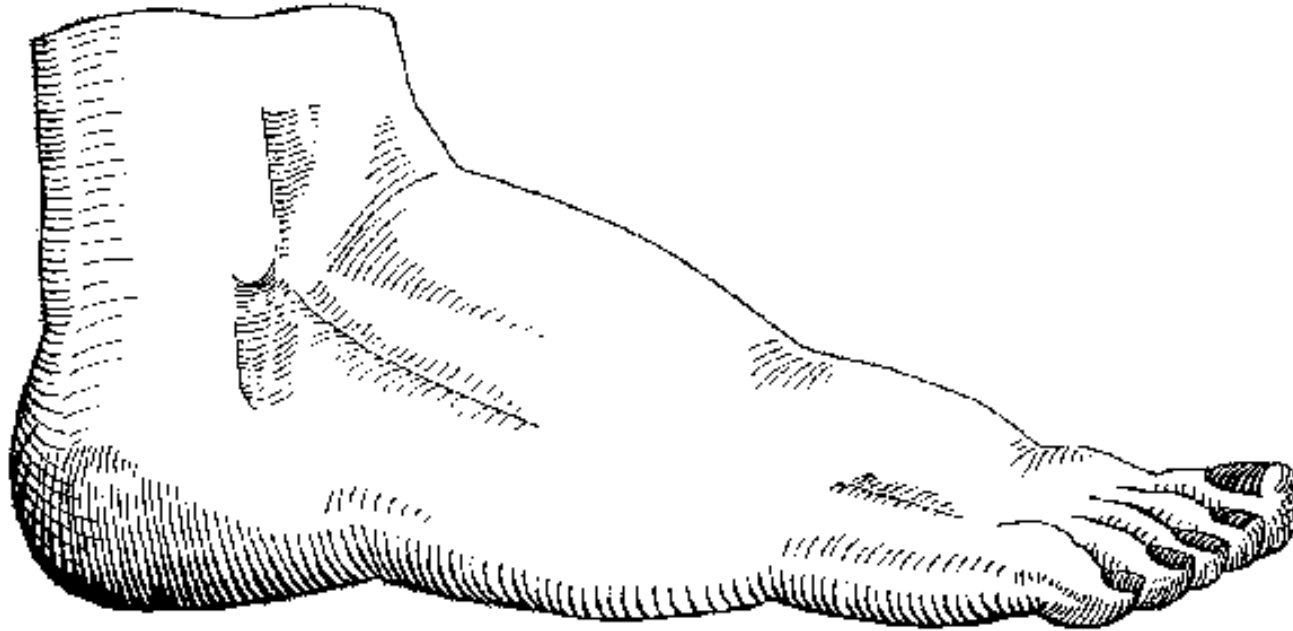
DON'T (be) PANIC(ked)!

Welcome back to interesting times !



See You 20 October 2012

The Monty Python Foot, a convenient way to end something that would seem to go on for ever accomplishing nothing.... (*See deus ex machina*)



The famous Python Foot can here be seen in its original format in the bottom left corner of "An Allegory of Venus and Cupid" by [Bronzino](#) (~1545)

When Monty Python had no ending for a skit, this foot would appear out of the sky and squash whatever was on screen with a rude noise. Allowing the show to move on.

Basic Wilderness Survival Skills

From: **British Columbia Outdoor Wilderness Guide**

Fear - For anyone faced with a wilderness emergency survival situation, fear is a normal reaction. Unless an emergency situation has been anticipated, fear is generally followed by panic then pain, cold, thirst, hunger, fatigue, boredom and loneliness. It is extremely important to calmly assess the situation and not allow these seven enemies to interfere with your survival.

Pain - Pain may often be ignored in a panic situation. Remember to deal with injuries immediately before they become even more serious.

Cold - Cold lowers the ability to think, numbing the body and reducing the will to survive. Never allow yourself to stop moving or to fall asleep unless adequately sheltered.

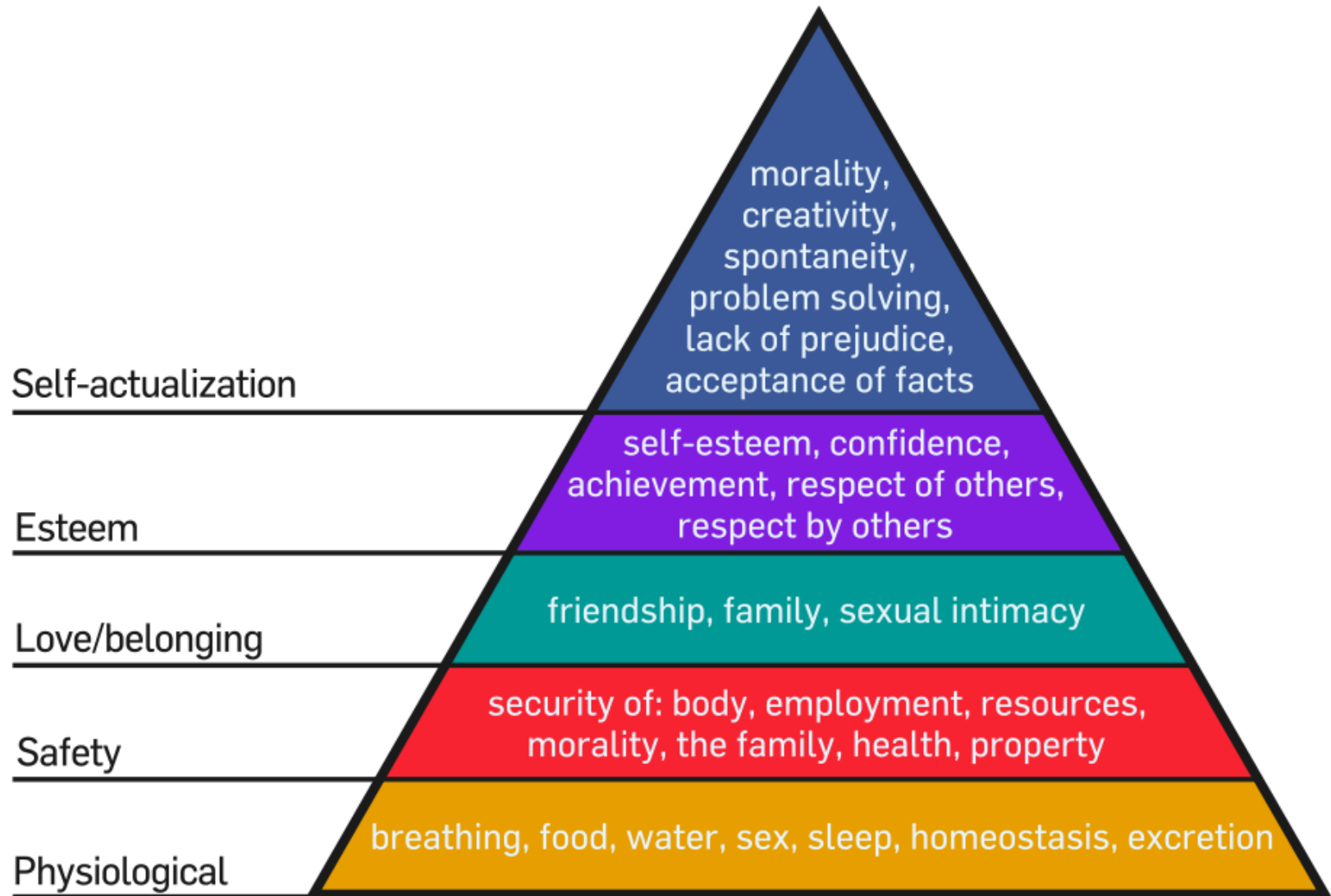
Thirst - Dehydration is a common enemy in an emergency situation and must not be ignored. It can dull your mind, causing you to overlook important survival information.

Hunger - Hunger is dangerous but seldom deadly. It may reduce your ability to think logically and increase your susceptibility to the effects of cold, pain and fear.

Fatigue - Fatigue is unavoidable in any situation so it is best to keep in mind that it can and will lower your mental ability. Remember that in an emergency situation this is often the body's way of escaping a difficult situation.

Boredom & Loneliness - These enemies are quite often unanticipated and may lower mind's ability to deal with the situation.

Mazlow's Hierachy of Needs



**“...we are the leaders we've
been looking for.”**

Grace Lee Boggs