

THE ROOT CAUSES OF VIOLENCE IN OUR SOCIETY

SCRIPTURE: **JOHN 17:17- GOD'S WORD IS TRUTH.**

VIOLENCE IS AT EPIDEMIC PROPORTIONS:

A. Washington School Shooter's Death Ruled Suicide

MARYSVILLE, Wash. — Oct 27, 2014, 12:00 PM ET
By MANUEL VALDES and MARTHA BELLISLE, Associated Press.

B. New York (CNN) – OCT. 26, 2014. - [A broad-daylight hatchet assault on a group of New York police officers](#) -- leaving one critically injured with a head wound -- was carried out by a self-radicalized convert to Islam in what officials Friday termed a terrorist attack.

C. Mar 07, 2014 · A 19-year-old Seattle resident was charged with two counts of murder in the shooting death of his parents, whose bodies were found in their upscale home. KTLA NEWS.

WE WRING OUR HANDS AND ASK WHY SUCH VIOLENCE? THERE ARE MULTIPLE REASONS, BUT ONE OF THE FUNDAMENTAL REASONS IS SOCIETY'S ADOPTION OF THE PHILOSOPHY: **EVERY ONE IS HIS OWN JUDGE IN MATTERS OF MORALITY!**

BY TEACHING OUR YOUTH "RIGHT YOU ARE IF YOU THINK YOU ARE" OUR SOCIETY (AND SCHOOLS) ARE NURTURING ONE MAJOR ROOT SUPPORTING THE **POISONOUS PLANT OF VIOLENCE** IN OUR SOCIETY.

OTHER SOCIETAL ROOTS SUPPORTING THE PLANT OF VIOLENCE ARE:

- A. THE DECAY OF MARRIAGE. (BECOMING OLD-FASHIONED.)
- B. SEXUAL DEVIATION-"Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God" ([1 Corinthians 6:9-10](#)).
- C. THE WEAKENING OF THE FAMILY UNIT. (SINGLE-FAMILY PARENTS) (OFTEN THE RESULT OF FORNICATION.)
- D. UNDUE EMPHASIS ON MATERIALISM.
- E. UNDUE EMPHASIS ON THE EXTERIOR RATHER THAN THE INTERIOR. (GOD LOOKS ON HEART.)
- F. UNDUE EMPHASIS ON IMMEDIATE SELF-GRATIFICATION (ME- GENERATION).
- G. REJECTION OF AN ETERNAL, LOVING, ALL-POWERFUL GOD.
- H. ACCEPTING "SCIENCE" AS OUR GOD RATHER THAN OUR CREATOR.

BUT, PERHAPS THE MOST CORRUPTING ELEMENT THAT PROMOTES VIOLENCE IN OUR SOCIETY IS: **RELATIVISM-** EVERYONE BEING HIS OWN JUDGE OF RIGHT, WRONG; TRUE, FALSE. (**MORAL RELATIVISM**.)

Moral relativists believe not only that people disagree about moral issues, but that terms such as "good", "bad", "right" and "wrong" WILL NOT stand AND ARE NON-EXISTENT!

Rather, human actions are relative to the traditions, convictions, or practices of an individual or a group of people. ¹The American anthropologist *William Sumner* was an influential advocate of this view. In his 1906, work *Folkways* , he argues that what people consider right and wrong is entirely shaped by the traditions, customs and practices of their culture. Moreover, since **there is NO higher moral standard than the local mores of a culture OR Individual, no trans-cultural judgment about the rightness or wrongness of an act can be justified.**

Relativists believe that, given the same set of facts, some societies or **individuals** will have a fundamental disagreement about what one *ought* to do (based on societal or individual CHOICES. What's more, they argue that one cannot adjudicate these disagreements using some independent standard of

evaluation—the standard will always be societal or personal. SOURCE: (MORAL RELATIVISM, WICKIPEDIA.)

HOW IS A DISPUTE BETWEEN AN INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY SETTLED? THIS ISSUE IS IGNORED IN THE DISCUSSION.

PHILIPPIANS 4: 8 And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is **true**, and honorable, and **right**, and **pure, and lovely**, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. ⁹ Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Bible is the Word of Truth

Psalm 119:160 *The sum of your word is truth, and every one of your righteous rules endures forever.*

John 17:17 *Sanctify them THROUGH THY truth; THY word is truth.*

EXAMPLE OF CORRUPT SOCIETY AS IS OURS:

SODOM: Ezekiel 16:49-50:

Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good.

Why were Sodom and Gomorrah destroyed? This is what Ezekiel wrote:

"49 Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. 50 And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good."
(Ezekiel:16:49-50)

According to this passage those cities were proud, gluttonous, lazy, and uncaring towards the poor. Another reason God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah appears to be because of the abomination of their homosexual activity; This is written in Leviticus:

"22 Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination. 23 Neither shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: neither shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it is confusion. 24 Defile not ye yourselves in any of these things: for in all these the nations are defiled which I cast out before you: 25 And the land is defiled: therefore I do visit the iniquity thereof upon it, and the land itself vomiteth out her inhabitants."
(Leviticus:18:22-25)

The Book of Jude addresses their sexual immorality by going after "strange flesh":

"7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication (sexual relations outside marriage bond), and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. 8 Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities." (Jude vss.7-8)

In **Leviticus 18**, which we read, God declared that these sins defiled the land the people were living on and thus removed them through His judgment from heaven. Therefore we could say that if a country is breaking His Word, God will one day judge it unless it repents and turns from sin.

WHEN WILL GOD JUDGE OUR BELOVED COUNTRY? ONLY HE KNOWS, BUT THIS IS WHAT HE SAYS ABOUT JUDGMENT:

Proverbs 6:16-19

There are six things which the LORD hates,
Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him:
Haughty eyes, a lying tongue,
And hands that shed innocent blood,
A heart that devises wicked plans,
Feet that run rapidly to evil, A false witness who utters lies,
And one who spreads strife among brothers.

Joel 3:19 pronounces judgment on Egypt and Edom specifically because they shed innocent blood. (MILLIONS OF ABORTIONS PERFORMED EACH YEAR.) (OVER 1.3 BILLION ABORTIONS PERFORMED WORLDWIDE SINCE

1980.)

MOSES, IN [DEUT. 8](#) MAKES THIS STATEMENT--- Wealth building at the expense of God's commandments also wreaks judgment: "Otherwise, you may say in your heart, 'My power and the strength of my hand made me this wealth.' "But you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth, that He may confirm His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day. "It shall come about if you ever forget the LORD your God and go after other gods and serve them and worship them, I testify against you today that you will surely perish. "Like the nations that the LORD makes to perish before you, so you shall perish; because you would not listen to the voice of the LORD your God. ([Deut 8:17-20](#)).

America is guilty of all the above!

ARE WE, INDIVIDUALLY, GUILTY OF ANY OF THESE SINS? IF SO, NOW IS THE TIME TO CONFESS, REPENT, AND ASK GOD TO FORGIVE US AND TO COVER US IN THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF CHRIST, OUR BROTHER AND OUR SAVIOR!

PRAY.