



FINANCIAL PREPAREDNESS

"One of life's most painful moments comes when we must admit that we didn't do our homework, that we are not prepared." ~ Merlin Olsen

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Bad Ideas Spread Like Kudzu

This week my son and I were driving somewhere when I noted that the kudzu was in full force. [Kudzu](#) is a fast-growing, prolific vine native to Asia. Its roots "can reach a depth of 12 feet in older patches and weigh as much as 200 to 300 pounds....Mature stands may contain tens of thousands of plants per acre and can create mats up to 8 feet thick....Climbing vines can reach 10 inches and greater in diameter."

It was imported by individual homeowners as an ornamental in the late 19th Century. But as Bill Bonner notes, [too much of a good thing leads to disaster](#). The real fun began when it was planted on a massive scale in the Southeast U.S. thanks to a government program during the New Deal:

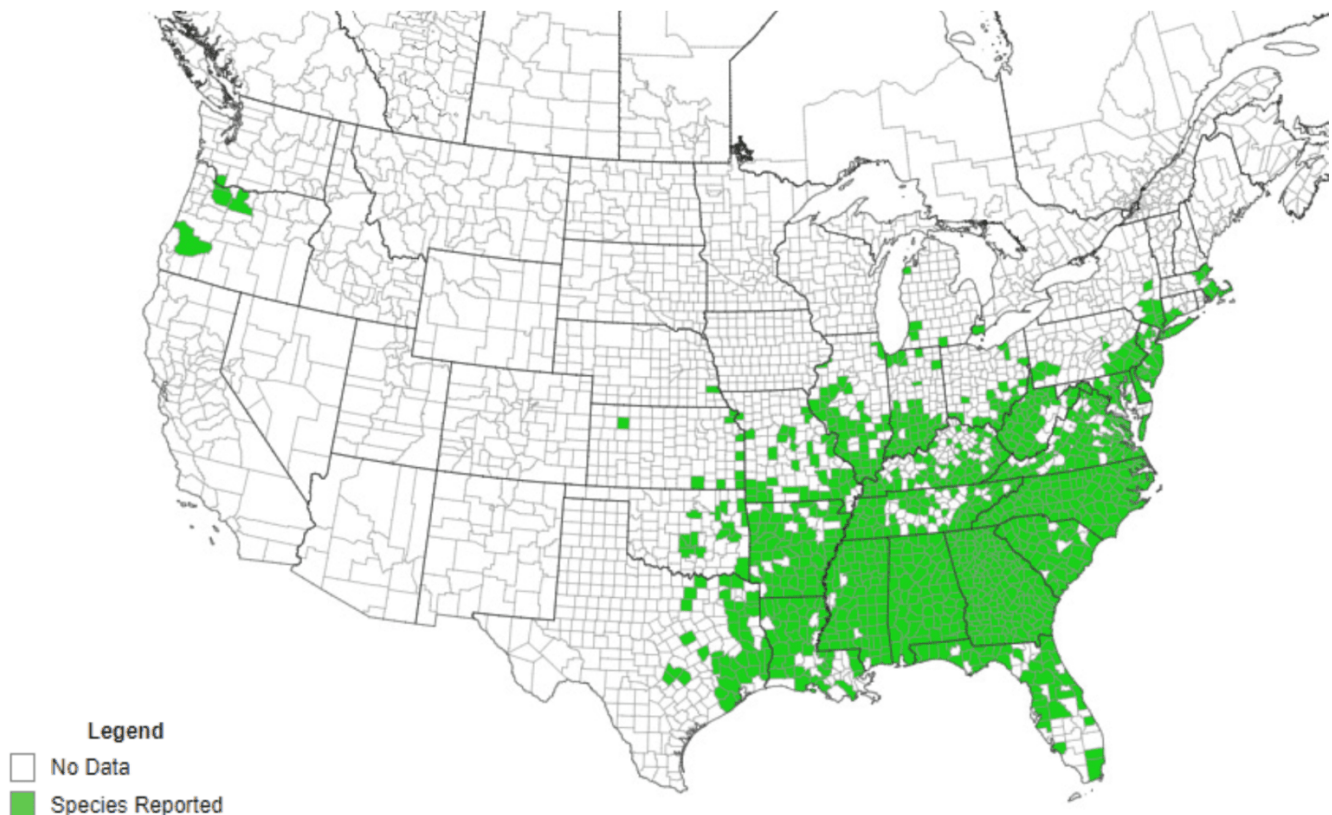
"The Soil Erosion Service...established by Congress in 1933, was charged to reduce soil erosion caused by poor farming practices in the South. About 85 million kudzu plants were given to southern landowners by the Soil Erosion Service for land revitalization and to reduce soil erosion and add nitrogen to the soil. The Civilian Conservation Corps also planted kudzu throughout the South. The government offered up to \$8 per acre as an incentive for farmers to plant their land in kudzu. About 3 million acres of kudzu had been planted on farms by 1946."

I have a theory (though it's probably actually a law) that every government program produces the opposite result of its stated purpose. (There's also Ringo Starr's similar observation that "Everything government touches turns to crap.") Usually the results are unintended, though sometimes they're intended (such as when the name of the bill is designed to deceive you about its actual purpose).

So what do you think happened after millions of acres were planted with a vine with no local animal or insect enemies that can grow up to 60 feet per season and a foot per day during early Summer? Ecological catastrophe. Kudzu is gradually spreading and killing all other vegetation, including tall trees, turning the Southeast into a monoculture. So yes, during the warm months, there is now less erosion. But kudzu leaves die after the first frost, so during the cold months, there is no erosion control from any plant whatsoever.

Sometimes during the warm months, you'll see where the local government has sprayed herbicide along the edge of a patch just to try to keep it in check. But I'm sure that leaches into the drinking water.

Kudzu has become a permanent, endemic burden on the South. It's like General Sherman's ghost is continually plowing our fields with salt, and every year he plows more. This issue is about bad ideas that the federal government implemented on an industrial scale that have become permanent, endemic, and grow like kudzu.



And you thought Sherman's march ended at Savannah.

My son asked me if anyone did any small-scale experiments or longitudinal studies with kudzu before planting millions of acres with it, to see what would happen.

I replied, “Great question! No, see, the ruling elite class who come up with ideas like this and implement them on an industrial scale spent four to six years studying at Ivy League schools under professors who have a lot of *theories* about how the world works but have never actually spent any time outside of the Ivory Tower. [Nassim Taleb calls them the [Intellectual Yet Idiot](#), in contrast with Fat Tony, who has at most a high school education but is street-smart and knows how the world works.] The ideas of The Anointed and World Improvers are so good that they should be implemented immediately, on a massive scale, with compliance enforced through coercion.”

Lyme Disease

In 1975, a new disease suddenly appeared in Old Lyme, Connecticut that was carried by the Lone Star tick, which at the time could be found only in Texas. Hmm, that's strange. How did that happen? Well, as former local Henry David Thoreau wrote, “Some circumstantial evidence is very strong, as when you find a trout in the milk.”

Just south of Old Lyme, across Long Island Sound, was Plum Island, where the federal government had been operating a biological weapons lab for decades, using former Nazi scientists to develop new diseases. Some of those diseases were transmitted by ticks, including the Lone Star tick. And one of those scientists admitted that they conducted “open air” experiments, meaning the ticks were free to roam the island. What could go wrong? Well, ticks bite birds, and birds can fly to and from islands.

Please take a few minutes and read [this great article](#) about Plum Island.

Lyme disease leads to a lifetime of debilitating pain. The documentary “[Under Our Skin](#)” makes this clear. (BTW, the day after we watched this, I found a tick on my wife, which freaked us out.)

Now go to [this map](#) and click the arrows to go from 2001 to 2019. Do you think the federal government wants to be held responsible for this permanent and spreading ecological catastrophe (which makes it much riskier to be outside)? No way, which is why they renamed the lab and moved it to Kansas. (Whenever something is renamed, usually it's because someone wants to hide something. I see this all the time either with companies that are dying or that want to ditch a bad reputation.)

Interestingly, Long Island Sound may be the site of [another massive government blunder and coverup](#), but I haven't really looked into that yet.

COVID-19

During the Obama administration, several labs in the U.S. were conducting experiments on bat coronaviruses. Someone realized how dangerous this was and brought it to Barry's attention, and to his credit, he signed an executive order that banned using federal funds

for such research in the U.S. Problem solved, right? So Dr. Fauci thought it would be a good idea to send \$4 million to the Chinese communist government to conduct the research there (forget about the fact that the CCP is America's biggest long-term threat), even though the U.S. embassy there had warned that procedures at the [Wuhan](#) lab were so lax that it was an accident waiting to happen. What could go wrong?

Fauci gets the prize for the lowest ROI in human history. For an investment of a mere \$4 million, the world got many trillions of dollars of lost wealth and income, [hundreds of thousands of businesses destroyed](#), millions of deaths and illnesses (and not just from COVID), social isolation and depression, fear and anxiety, despair, addiction, a constantly mutating virus resulting in an endemic disease, and permanent government tyranny.

Then this buffoon became the point man for the U.S. response to COVID, which would be like putting Dr. Mengele in charge of the Nuremberg Trials. It was the perfect place for him to hide, because no one could have ever imagined that he was the one responsible for the worst catastrophe in human history.

Welfare

One of the books I'm reading to my son right now is [Curious? Discover the Missing Ingredient to a Fulfilling Life](#), which includes this passage:

“Starting with the plight of our ancestors from 500,000 years ago, social groups always had to be selective....Groups were more willing to invest their time, energy, and resources if a new person appeared to be attractive, intelligent, competent, strong, and cooperative. Every human being was vulnerable because they were constantly being evaluated by the group. This was not the place to slack off, as the lazy and weak were the first to be tossed out to fend for themselves against hungry packs of raptors and wolves. To be accepted, our ancestors needed to prove that they could pull their own weight. How did we protect ourselves against rejection? We constantly monitored where we stood from the perspective of other people in the group. *Do I contribute enough? Am I contributing as much as the others? Am I doing anything foolish to warrant rejection and banishment?*”

Well, thanks to government welfare programs since the New Deal, we no longer have to worry about what our fellow humans think of us. We can be as lazy and irresponsible as we want, and we'll still get benefits from the federal and state government that are comparable if not better than those provided by a full-time job. And you no longer have to worry about your community or a charity holding you accountable; these are *entitlements*—you're entitled to them no matter what you do. What could go wrong?

This great idea—implemented on an industrial scale at massive expense for nearly a century—has created a permanent and growing underclass, generations of lazy, irresponsible, ignorant and uneducated people who think they have the right to live at the expense of others. The results are well known:

So what's the end game? I think the subconscious part of your mind already knows, though the conscious part may be too terrified to admit it. Well, [here's an animated](#)

[preview of the future](#) (California is 5-10 years ahead of the rest of the U.S.) in living color. Watch it closely. These young people are the future of this country. Note their joyful smiles and gleeful eyes. About half of them are recording video of the event, some with semi-pro rigs. (I have long been fascinated by the juxtaposition of high technology being used to document the collapse of civilization. *The collapse will be live-streamed.*) For what purpose? To post it on the Internet and show everyone that the barbarians are now in control and are sacking Rome. It used to be that graffiti or a broken window would signal that civilization in that area was in retreat. Now woke platforms such as Twitter, YouTube and the CCP's TikTok are happy to provide the looters with a terrifying, high-tech Rebel Yell before their frontal assault on civilization.

One day—perhaps sooner than you may be willing to admit—these people will show up at your house to kill you, take your stuff, torch your house and rape (and perhaps torture) your family. Will you be prepared?

BTW, my favorite fellow citizen in that video is the gordo Latino (Or is it Latinx? I've heard that's already frowned upon; I can't keep up.) hombre in the gray shirt. As he reaches overhead with both arms outstretched to catch whatever random plunder that a fellow looter threw up in the air before falling down, it reminded me of Teddy Roosevelt's [Man in the Arena](#), or Churchill's “finest hour” quote.

The other book I'm currently reading to my son is [The Thinking Life: How to Thrive in the Age of Distraction](#), which includes this quote by John Adams from 1798: “Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.” This country cannot survive a permanent and growing underclass that no longer fears being shunned by the tribe. It is the tribe that will end up being ripped apart by wolves.

What You Should Be Doing Now

Book to read: [Laptop From Hell](#) by Miranda Devine, a MUST READ. This is like a combination of a raging dumpster fire and a massive, gory car crash that you can't look away from. It's simply unbelievable; one could never write fiction that was so outlandish. And it's not just Hunter. To quote Joe's brother Jim, the Bidens are one “f*cked up family.”

Here's a sample quote: “Here was someone for whom life had no boundaries. No indulgence was too gross, no perversion was taboo, there was no risk he wouldn't take, no rule he couldn't break with impunity. He recorded every sordid, banal moment of his life as if he were afraid that he would not exist otherwise.”

Joe claimed that he didn't know anything about Hunter's many overseas business deals, usually with foreign governments or corrupt oligarchs. But Hunter's own laptop provides voluminous and irrefutable proof that not only is Joe “the Chairman” of a large and decades-old crime family, but the biggest and most recent deals they were doing (for tens of millions of dollars) involved obtaining approval for Chinese acquisitions for the CCP's Belt and Road Initiative, which the Trump administration deemed a threat to national

security. No wonder the Legacy Media, Big Tech and [the Deep State](#) colluded to censor this story just before the election. This country is finished!

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I would love to hear from you! I thrive on feedback from readers. If you have any comments, suggestions, insight/wisdom, or you'd like to share a link to a great article, please [email me](#).

Generally, I don't have time to answer questions about your specific situation, but if you have a general question that I think other readers also have, [let me know](#) and I will provide an answer in a future issue.

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