

LaRouche: ‘Public Opinion Is Fatal Stupidity’

Lyndon LaRouche made the following remarks to associates on Sept. 1, 2012.

The U.S. population, U.S. institutions generally, are not competent to save their own butts! Public opinion is not competent to save its own butt. And that’s the lesson to learn. Popular opinion is fatal stupidity.

Because what people share as poop is criminal stupidity. They believe in things, they believe in practices, they believe in ideas, which are foolish, and which can kill them. Now, thermonuclear war is obviously the big killer, the big threat. But there are other threats down the line, which can come, if mankind continues to think the way it thinks now.

Anybody who likes popular opinion is too stupid to govern nations. Popular opinion, of all forms—forget it! What people popularly believe, what they share, as affirmed authority, with their friends: “Me and my friends, we believe this, we don’t believe what you believe. We believe this.” Stupid jerks! They don’t realize that it is they who have brought this upon themselves. It’s the human species that has voted to kill itself, exterminate itself, because it has evolved habits of thought, habits of opinion, habits of tendencies, which they smugly believe: Popular opinion, popular opinion, you’ve got to go by popular opinion! What killed the United States was popular opinion! Like the case of Andrew Jackson: Jackson was a case of popular opinion that killed the United States, at that time. And the American people are going to die, probably, because they killed themselves, by popular opinion.

Threat of Thermonuclear War

Now, this threat of thermonuclear war is a product of popular opinion. Even thinking about something as foolish as this idea was part of popular opinion; that’s how it came into circulation. And if this [danger] is passed over, then you’re going to have the same problem to solve: Popular opinion will still be there. You saved these guys’ butts, and they’ll still believe in popular opinion, after a shocking effect! They will still believe that their ideas are right, that popular opinion is right. They will still believe that; they’ll just change it a bit. They’ll modify it just a little bit. But if they think what they think now, *they’re incompetent to save their own butt!*

Because the rottenness, the evil, inside mankind will still be there. If we get them out of one way of killing themselves, they’ll come up with another one. That’s the issue you have to deal with. And you have to deal with that now, otherwise, you don’t understand how to deal with the problem as it stands now. You can not make a compromise with popular opinion! That’s the one thing you can not do, if you wish to survive. You have to recognize *the inherent evil of popular opinion*.

And people should recognize, that’s what kills people, that’s what destroys them, is popular opinion. They create an atmosphere of popular opinion. Society is susceptible to this atmosphere of popular opinion; people are controlled by that, because they say they depend upon support from popular opinion. They want acceptance by popular opinion; they want a job, which they get through popular opinion; they want another source of income; they want this kind of gratification, this kind of entertainment. And that’s what kills them; sends them into one trap after the other.

Mankind has got to wake up, to realize what mankind must become. All the cheap-shot solutions don’t work. If we can stop this thermonuclear war, we’ll do it, but that’s not the end of the problem. That’s the beginning of the end of the problem.