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Call It What It Is

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The best way to understand a concept, and idea, or an ideology is to reduce it to its simplest meaning. There is nothing to be gained by trying to discern the intentions of those who propose an ideology, because those proponents may be ignorant of the likely outcomes – or they may be dishonest about what they really want to achieve.

Take socialism, for example. Those who advocate socialism claim that their motivation is to share the benefits of society among all people. They claim that all they want is to provide for those who are disadvantaged. Sounds like a pure motive, doesn't it?

But how "pure" is it? Forcing the productive members of society to give up what they have earned in order to benefit those who have produced nothing can never create a good or just society, because it is founded on theft. The alleged "intent" of socialism does not change that fact. That's what I mean by reducing an idea to its simplest meaning.

Proponents may adorn the concept with clichés such as "social injustice" or "basic fairness," but the real outcome is still theft. Human experience has not provided a single instance of a socialist system that truly benefited society's producers – those who actually create and sustain public prosperity. You may choose to believe that those who advocate wealth redistribution (our current President, for example) want only to help the disadvantaged; but history has demonstrated, without exception, that unearned handouts serve only to reinforce habits that keep the poor from becoming anything other than poor.

There is no excuse then, for those who promote socialism – other than ignorance, stupidity, or insanity. There is an adage that says repeating a failed process over and over with the expectation of a different outcome is the definition of insanity.

So, we need to understand the motivations that drive the proponents of socialism. Are these people simply ignorant and uneducated? Are they lunatics, and therefore oblivious to the destruction they create – or are they evil?

While many in the front lines of the march toward collectivism are insane or deplorably ignorant, there are the elitists, whose motivation is the power and material gain they intend to reap from the misery of the masses. There is no way to put it charitably. These people are rotten to the core.

There is nothing new about socialism; it is as old as mankind itself. The urge to live off the labors of others while regarding themselves as superior has always appealed to the corrupt and the arrogant. The mechanics of the collectivist state are the same evil strategies utilized in every age and in every part of the world. Our modern-day "progressives" (as they like to call themselves) are no better than those who have looted nations and subjugated their fellow men in statist (read totalitarian) regimes of the past.

Stripped to its basics, socialism – and its bigger and more vigorous brother, communism – are systems of plunder directed by a tiny ruling class and enforced by the threat of violence. Coercive force is a state monopoly that must keep those who are ruled powerless – even to the point of denying them the basic right of self-defense. The State deters any challenge to its supremacy by maintaining a corps¹ who are unaccountable to the common people they allegedly protect, and whose profession is the use of violence. Under State rule, the masses have privileges only if their rulers confer them, and there is no recognition of rights endowed by a Creator.

Point by point, there is no practical difference between what we call socialism today and the feudalism of past ages. Socialism is every bit as destructive to human freedom and to the human spirit.

So, let's just simplify the discussion by calling the isms – whether it be socialism, collectivism, communism, or the new “progressivism” – for what they really are at their core: neo-feudalism.

Editor's Note: Plainly put, “progressivism” is being forced upon us in 21st century America by a corrupt and power-hungry administration, its compliant party members in Congress, and an equally corrupt (or ignorant) liberal media. Together, the institutions of corrupt power are moving us rapidly down the road toward an updated version of the repressive political system that prevailed in Europe from the 9th to the 15th century. My, how far we have come!

¹ In the August/September 2009 issue of this publication, the cover article (“Corruption in Obama’s Army”) reported that Barack Obama stated during his campaign, “We cannot continue to rely on our military in order to achieve the national security objectives we’ve set. We’ve got to have a civilian national security force that’s just as powerful, just as strong, just as well-funded.”