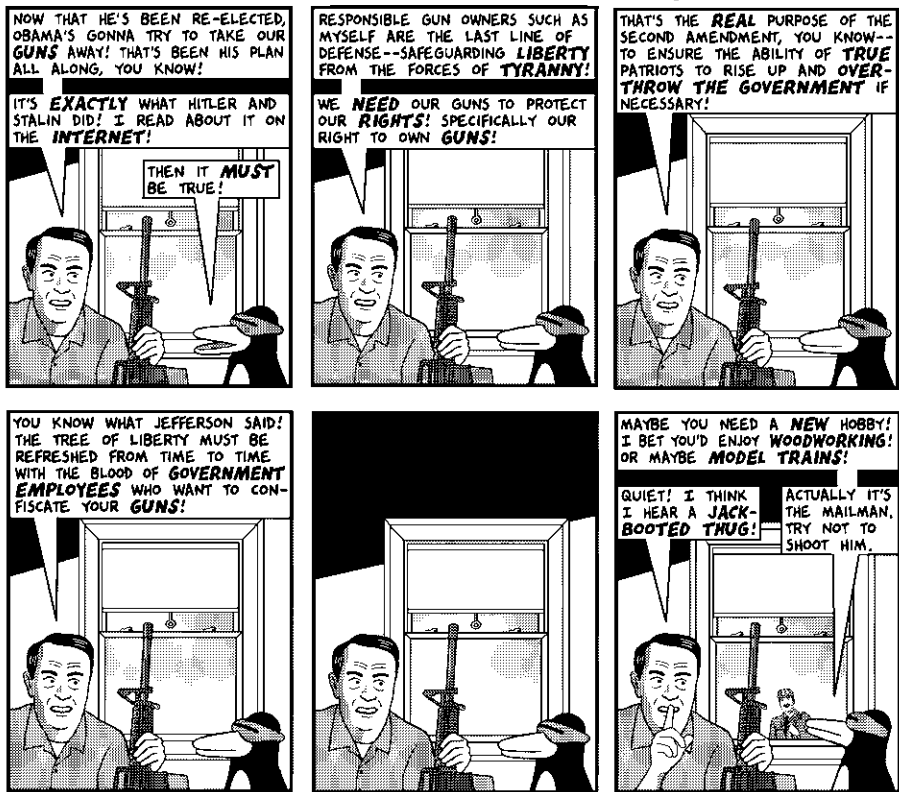


THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



I have identified 37 causes of why a child could misbehave, better expressed as having a reaction to causes in their daily life. In Eugene alone 6,000 school children are hungry and 700 families are homeless. That's a good cause for being real restless, out of it or not feeling well, which is translated as misbehaving on a school level.

In addition to the cause stated, how about plenty of domestic violence, drugs, alcohol, hefty air pollution and countless children with asthma, or a reaction to medication for our so-called ADD children? Once the seclusion room school team of hired professionals look much, much deeper into a child's life to recognize reactions that a child has to deal with, they will be able to help and heal that child. It might just take a whole society to look at itself, instead of finger-pointing to our little ones, a heartless thing to do.

Please call our state representatives to prohibit HB 2756. We are our children's guardian angels.

Jutta Akulina Benner
Eugene

SAFE ROOMS REVISTED

Camas Ridge had taken the door off their safe room in response to your article ["Use of Seclusion Rooms Challenged," 12/20/12]. Some children actually missed the privacy. Unfortunately they had to put it back on, but they are open to it. The behavioral program at this school is based on a no-touch approach. A no-touch approach can only be achieved through having the time to form a relationship with the child. The program has five employees who cover the whole school. Posses of parents could in no way perform this service. Relationship is essential.

Thanks to the great staff there who give it their all despite the many insecurities of working with the school district, such as layoffs and temporary assignments.

Nancy Young
Eugene

RELOCALIZE ALL

The most important question facing the human race is how we respond to the interconnected crises of peaked oil, climate chaos, overpopulation and resource conflicts.

These crises resemble the parable of the blind men touching an elephant. Each observer is correctly describing what a part of the elephant is, but none have a holistic understanding. Peak oil and climate change are two facets of ecological overshoot, and neither can be mitigated without the other.

The global crises of the end of cheap oil and the start of climate change require global levels of solutions — we need to relocalize everywhere.

We are not merely at peak oil, we are at peak technology, peak money, peak communication and peak everything else. Real solutions would require us to redirect the energy, talents, resources of global capitalism, the military-industrial complex, universities, media and other pillars of our society.

We have enough resources and talent to shift civilization to create a peaceful world that might be able to gracefully cope with the end of concentrated fossil fuels, or to create a global police state to control populations as the resources decline. The "War on Terror" is actually a long-planned world war to control finite fossil fuels that power civilization.

Understanding why civilization did not respond to the warnings of resource depletion decades ago is needed if a shift toward sanity is still possible. These decisions were not made democratically. Addressing peak and climate issues would require world peace instead of peak oil wars.

We are not "addicted" to oil; the modern world is completely dependent upon fossil fuels for industrial agriculture systems, transportation networks and the growth-based monetary system. Addictions are things you can give up — but oil runs our civilization.

Mark Robinowitz
Eugene

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