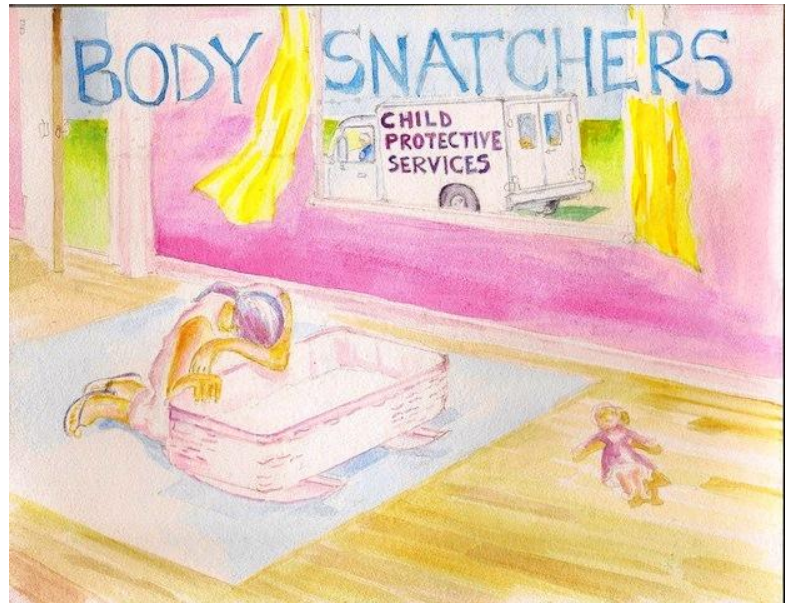


OFFICIAL BODY SNATCHERS

Values and beliefs do not suddenly appear – they have a long history of development: what are considered modern rational ideas have ancient roots in a superstitious and oppressive past. The official right for government to remove children from their families is an old, legal right of the English monarchy. In the case of English speaking America, its notions of proper child care originate out of near medieval times of 'ole England; like today, a time when human nature was perceived as sinful in need of guidance. The legal principle of *parens patriae*, assigned the royal crown authority over "*charities, infants, idiots, and lunatics returned to the chancery.*"



This legal principal of *parens patriae* is the statutory basis for modern governmental intervention in families' child rearing practices; and those practices deemed good are culturally and religiously biased.

Unfortunately, these biases are taught as rational in the curriculum of the social work programs across American universities. Simply put, it's a "*white bread*" mentality licensed as the odor of goodness come to the rescue. Truly, it is rational policy to rescue abused and neglected children of overt, identifiable abuse, but notions of what constitutes latent abuse are debatable. In the absence of overt physical abuse or neglect, this ambiguity has empowered bureaucratic government to stretch the credulity of rational practices by defining neglect and abuse – and those definitions are questionable when applied to psychological abuse and economic neglect. Since the values and beliefs of the social psychology of US society are primarily Christian communicated and impressed by the English language, its phobias are of the Anglican mind obsessed with purifying what it perceives as social ills.

Every citizen, native Indians, immigrants, former black slaves, all young and old alike are really the property of an entire village called a nation state – corporatized government engaged in the business of moral entrepreneurship cleaning up social ills of its own making; hence the creation of houses of labor where abandoned children were placed; placed in institutions engaged in some sort of enterprise while preaching Christianity. Today, those houses have evolved into orphanages in need of finance. Unshackled, individual freedom is a condition that has not seen the light since humans became chained to civilization in need of participants that function as fuel. Civilizations are organized, violent enterprises, in competition with other societies and everybody must be drafted to do their part. All children are registered as citizens with obligations to the state; so all are slaves of state identified with a unique number; and that social security number does not guarantee your security of body and mind, but the right for societal institutions to oppress one's mind and behaviors into compliance with subjective norms as to what constitutes socially acceptable values and beliefs. It is the business of moral entrepreneurship informed by subjective biases that are the basis of most government policies and practices when it comes to managing populations.

BY HUBERT KLEINPETER, PHD

Recently, I heard a report on NPR radio of the government kidnapping Indian children from the South Dakota Indian reservations.¹ In the walking dead spirit of the white man's goodness, the state welfare agency has found a lucrative source of funding – the payment by the federal government of children in foster care. Since South Dakota has no real economic engine, federal funds are the source of employment for welfare workers to enjoy their careers. It is the white man's biblical goodness having come so far and fast traveling in the guise of secularized rationality. Yes, that awful right judge other cultures as inadequate to the task of being modern; even worse - being moral – clean of drugs and alcohol. Since this is the justification for seizing Indian children who are over represented in the ranks of the foster care, most children of Americans qualify under the definition. But, this definition is one that reflects a compulsive obsession to clean up the alienated behaviors by disappearing the reality of a society totally drugged in some form. What drugs do the welfare workers subscribe too?

But this kidnapping of indigenous children by a raiding party of “*white bread*” welfare workers armed with a graduate degree in social work backed by guns of the state police, is reminiscent of the ‘Ole West, a pioneering American experience of “*onward Christian soldiers*” armed with guns, bibles and barrels of whiskey. Nineteenth Century policy was to Christianize the heathens by kidnapping their children and placing them in boarding schools; and still today, white people want to discourage the old Indian traditions by farming out Indian children to white families who cut their hair and certainly have no sweat lodges. NPR reported that in one case, a traumatized Indian child who wet their pants, their white foster care parents made her wear the wet underwear on her head. Now that is a sadistic perversion of denigration endemic to white culture. Acts like that occur when one is taught they are superior to others.

Child protection services as a moral idea to rescue and care for abused and neglected children is a rational policy. However, of the 120,000 children age 5 and under in foster care, only 100,000 were returned to family custodians.² Moreover, welfare workers have too much power to determine what exactly what abuse and neglect means, and it may not bode well when an agency reflects an antiseptic, antifamily mindset by removing children as the first resort, not the last. With insufficient checks and balances on a system intended to protect children has become the greatest perpetrator of harm to remove children. A critique of the system reveals habitual violations of the Fourteenth amendment denying family members due process of law while forcibly removing children; beatings, poisoning and pregnancies while in protective custody, as was the case with the Texas system; and in the South Dakota case, a state without adequate industries to employ people, the state is the largest employer in want of economic incentives as the fuel to power large scale bureaucracies motivated by a need to snatch children despite erroneous, unproven allegations of parental unfitness.

All government programs managing people are linked to the self deprecating program against the poisoned psyche of the public playing “*hide and seek*” – pretending everything is ok with the war on drugs – a war on ourselves, our children. There is always the link to the oppressive apparatus of the police state; an enterprise engaged in the alchemy of purifying the American soul from its sins; social ills grown by the neglect of educational and medical institutions fertilized by a militarized mindset that pervades throughout all government agencies in need of making some sort of war upon a target group. Yet, there must be balance in holding accountable linked bureaucracies to a core basic function of protecting the public from overt violence and at risk children – not the budget of a machine in need of fuel, be it money or people: i.e., identifying without debate, cases of abuse, not “*witch hunts*” against people with habits who are in need of welfare, workfare, educational training and medical assistance; programs which are not so forthcoming in difficult times. While the police state is the “*cheaper*” alternative in the short term, it is parasitic over the long term as it has an artificial life of its own in need of this thing called people.

¹ NPR Radio, October 25, 2011.

² “The AFCARS Report Preliminary FY 2010 Estimates as of June 2011”. www.acf.hhs.gov. Retrieved 2011-10-06