

The law of diminishing racial returns

I have a theory about what's going to happen in the very near future with respect to all this White supremacist and White racist claptrap and all the CRT teaching that's being pushed at us from every corner of society. I might as well own up right now while I have your attention and admit that the original theory isn't really mine; it is borrowed from Mr. Thomas Malthus, an English cleric, philosopher and economist who was born in the 18th century.

Malthus called his theory, "the law of diminishing (marginal) returns" and he used it to state the correlation between the profits or benefits gained from something and how they represented a proportionally smaller gain as more money or energy was invested in it. When it came to manufacturing (something he was particularly interested in) he predicted that after some optimal level of capacity is reached, adding an additional factor of production will actually result in smaller increases in output. Malthus introduced the idea during the construction of his population theory which was that population grows geometrically while food production increases arithmetically, resulting in a population outgrowing its food supply. Like many men of his time, Malthus was influenced by other learned scientists and economists like Charles Darwin and John Maynard Keynes, among others.

If old Malthus had witnessed then the massive, widespread and on-going efforts now being made to convince the White population (especially those of us living in the United States) that we are at our very core racists and serial abusers of Black Americans going all the way back to 1619, he would have said, "Eureka," dropped his quill pen and rushed to the publishers to persuade them to stop the presses and write about his prediction that the law of diminishing returns was alive and well and living within America's activist Black movement and the organizations they've created. I can hear him now as he announces to his scholastic peers that these organizations were bound to implode and their quest fail because they simply didn't realize that by heaping on more and more guilt (the equivalent of more investment of time and energy) that their return would be severely diminished because the 'market' for that guilt (we Whites) had become marginalized and we weren't interested in buying any more of it!

It is my contention that we are rapidly reaching our saturation point. Soon we will be tuning out all the daily messages of racism that are being thrown at us by the ideologues on the Left, by the media, by Black activists, by corporate America's advertising, by celebrity athletes' preaching, by our politicians and by the 'woke' academics in the halls of ivy. I would argue that Malthus' theory is based on human nature. When human beings have had enough they do one of two things. Either they stop listening to the messages they regard as oppressive or untrue and go their merry way or they aggressively pushback to stop the messaging.

I believe that we are quickly approaching the fail safe point when it comes to our patience and forbearance with all the lies being told about our country's *systemic racism* and about our own 'White guilt' and that we will soon be switching over to 'irritation mode' and will start to hold the messengers accountable for their actions and punish them for abusing our tolerance. I do not wish to speculate on just how the next few years will play out and what form that pushback against these people will take, but my optimism is bolstered by a piece of true American insight expressed by a man who was only 25 years old at the time of Malthus' death and who was killed for his courage at the age of 56. This man said, "You can fool all of the people some of the time, and some of the people all of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time." To that last nugget of wisdom, I would add: "Neither can you expect some of the people to accept blame for something for which they had no fault in creating...not for long anyway."

Stephan Helgesen is a retired career U.S. diplomat who lived and worked in 30 countries for 25 years during the Reagan, G.H.W. Bush, Clinton, and G.W. Bush Administrations. He is the author of ten books, four of which are on American politics and has written over 1,100 articles on politics, economics and social trends. He operates a political news story aggregator website, www.projectpushback.com. He can be reached at: stephan@stephanhelgesen.com