



*Buffalo wings for all*

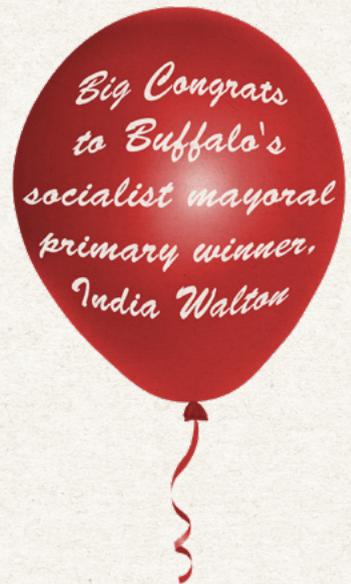
*and roses too.*

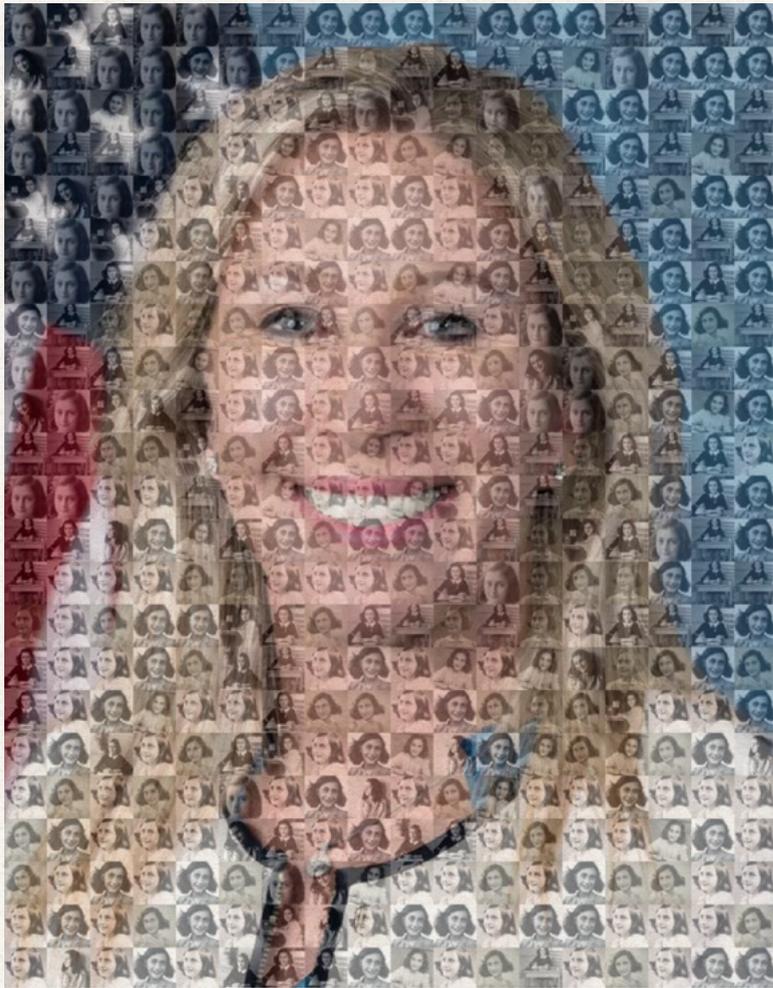
*Functionally Dead*

JUNE 28, 2021//VOL. V, ISSUE 7

# *The boys of summer have def gone.*

- 2 Just Heard About the Holocaust :( BY MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE //BRADY O'CALLAHAN
- 3 "Believe in Science" Crowd Shocked to Discover Capitalism's History of Weaponizing It //LIZ WIEST
- 4 "Space Travel *Shmace* Travel: Billionaires Really Get Their Kicks From These New Versions of Classic Game Shows"  
//WILLIAM VAILLANCOURT GUEST CONTRIBUTOR
- 6 #VicePresidentNoob: Joe Sends Kamala Into the E3 Trenches //MATTHEW BRIAN COHEN
- 8 You Are Patriotically Invited to Christian's (FKA Doug's) Fourth of July BBQ //THE FUNC DEAD HEADS
- 9 I Am the Bo Burnham of Northeastern Pennsylvania //DIANA KOLSKY
- 11 Inspiring: How One Man Broke Into the Film Industry While Trapped Under a Horse //CHRIS WEIR GUEST CONTRIBUTOR
- 13 🗿
- 14 I Guess I Need to Explain My Recent Political Cartoon //JAMES DWYER
- 17 Nice Hustle: A Gym Teacher's Impassioned Defense of Critical Race Theory  
//MATTHEW BRIAN COHEN
- 18 One Man Solves Climate Change With Brilliant Solution: Drink the Ocean  
//M. RENE BOYTS GUEST CONTRIBUTOR
- 20 A Tribute to the Quarantine Pieces We Didn't Write //THE FUNC DEAD HEADS
- 21 What Do I Do Now? // DAN LOPRETO





# JUST HEARD ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST :(

BY MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE

//BRADY O'CALLAHAN

## OH MY GOD, YOU GUYS!!!

I *just* heard about the Holocaust, and it's *really* sad. I hadn't really heard of it except as, like, a saying for when you're having a bad day or someone is rude to you, but now I get why people say it like that, even though the real thing (it was real!?) was so so so much worse than those things.

If you want to know about it, you can go to the Holocaust Museum, like I did. It's a little boring (like normal museums—I'm looking at you THE LOUVRE), but it's also really informative about the Holocaust being really bad, which I didn't totally know, so I found that interesting.

I wanted to get a t-shirt or like a cool billfold wallet from the gift shop to show everyone how much I learned, but they kept telling me that was in “incredibly poor taste,” which I think is a Holocaust term for “currently sold out.” They mostly had books which are, as I understand it, kind of like paper museums (a little boring).

Did you know Hitler was a real guy and not just a Halloween costume? I just found out he did some really bad things, like the Holocaust. Now I know why President Trump slept with a book of Hitler's speeches next to his bed! You've got to keep your friends close and your Hitlers closer, just so we have no more Hitlers (which I've come to understand is a bit of an exaggerated thing to call other representatives suggesting that school lunches be free for children).

All this said, I've learned a lot this past week, and I'd like to apologize for comparing having to wear a mask some places sometimes as being like the Holocaust. While I still think it's really bad, I understand that it's not *quite* genocide. Going forward, I'll probably try to refer to something else that's >>

>> pretty bad but not as real or bad because America did it, like the Trail of Tears (also real!?).

The whole Holocaust thing is really sad, not just for Jews (who really got the short end of the stick), but for me as well. I'm sorry for anyone I hurt, offended, or triggered with my comments. I want to reaffirm that it's not really my fault, since they didn't teach us this in school or, if they did, I didn't listen. I will push to be better and stand boldly against antisemitism in all of my daily choices so we can make a stand against all past, present, and future Holocausts. Which is why I'm proud to reassert my support of Israel in their brave rounding up, evicting, and elimination of troublesome Palestinians.

I hope once and for all you'll stop bothering me about this stuff. I just don't have another museum trip in me. 🗿



//LIZ WIEST

## “BELIEVE IN SCIENCE” CROWD SHOCKED TO DISCOVER CAPITALISM’S HISTORY OF WEAPONIZING IT

HAVERTOWN, PA – A shocking and devastating wave is sweeping the richest zip code in the great state of Pennsylvania as local liberal Alanis Johnson has been sharing her recent discovery that “science” has—astonishingly—not always been utilized for the common good.

“I was just trying to find a cute Instagram graphic about Biden making Juneteenth a national holiday, but then I fell down a rabbit hole,” she shared as she smoothed out her bright pink “VACCINATED” shirt. “Did you know that the CDC OPENLY conducted the Tuskegee Experiments on Black men in Alabama? In the ‘70s too! Like, my DAD was alive then!”

The father in question declined comment, as the ‘70s was when he was both acquiring his MFA and “too busy and too high” to concern himself with anything happening outside the brick walls of his predominantly white Ivy League college.

“I just don’t understand how this could happen in America. After all, those who vehemently believed in science at any and all costs have never been wrong!” her mother, a distinguished professor of history at the local university, chimed in. “That was obviously the past, and we know much better now! This is the most progressive presidency in history!”

(Editor’s Note: *Functionally Dead* examined her course syllabus, which did not, in fact, include any mention of phrenology, lobotomies, or the history of the practice of gynecology.)

When asked if they believed it possible to have nuance on the topic of pharmaceutical companies, we had to be sure our on-site medics were ready to prevent the family from entering a full state of psychosis. Our team clarified the question for them to be sure there was no confusion:

“Obviously, receiving the Pfizer, Moderna, or J&J vaccine is critical for our communities to safely achieve herd immunity and reenter society, but is it perhaps simultaneously possible to still maintain an active, nuanced critique of these large corporations who are so driven by profit over people that they have nearly single-handedly fueled the opioid crisis and knowingly sold cancerous baby powder to the public for years?”

This notion had clearly never occurred to them, so we left them to ponder our query while they furiously attempted to contact Richard Dawkins for his presumably sound and unproblematic take on the matter.

UPDATE (6/27/21): Alanis has removed “Believe in Science <3” from her Instagram bio. 🗿

# SPACE TRAVEL, SHMACE TRAVEL: BILLIONAIRES REALLY GET THEIR KICKS FROM THESE NEW VERSIONS OF CLASSIC GAME SHOWS

//WILLIAM VAILLANCOURT GUEST CONTRIBUTOR



WITH A MASSIVE SPIKE IN WEALTH DISPARITY decimating the American middle class, it's just no fun to watch "regular folks" on TV anymore (unless it's so depressing that it's fun, like *Cops*). Polling shows most Americans just want to escape into the fantasy of unachievable wealth, i.e. having their basic needs met, hence the new batch of BBFB (by billionaires, for billionaires) pitches flooding the market:

*THE PRICE IS RIGHT... BECAUSE IT'S  
DISPROPORTIONATE TO THE STAGNANT  
MINIMUM WAGE!*

Contestants guess the price of small homes, compact cars, and groceries. When they see that their bids are far too low, they're often surprised that anyone can afford to live in America, let alone on the federal minimum wage. Despite this, they still refuse to recognize the need for change. However, in a recent episode, Charles Koch did state his intention to consider making a plan to decide whether or not to sign the Giving Pledge.

*25 WORDS OR LESS ABOUT MY RELATIONSHIP WITH  
JEFFREY EPSTEIN*

Twelve billionaires pitched this show to NBC in early 2021, saying they needed to practice being tight-lipped in front of cameras when asked how they knew Epstein should they be deposed in the trial of Ghislaine Maxwell. Words or phrases designed to gloss over their relationship with the convicted sex offender include "entrepreneurship," "island life," and "social gatherings with zero kids, none whatsoever—no, really." Bill Gates is expected to tape an episode this summer.

*'WHO WANTS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE?'  
(SAID RHETORICALLY)*

The equivalent to saying "final answer," contestants must use this phrase in such a way to make it clear that no, they don't want to go back to a time in their life when they only owned oceanfront property in three countries. Lifelines include 'phone a personal assistant' and 'consult the first page of results in a search engine, but only if you've jerked off in a coffin at Yale with its creator.' >>

## **FAMILY FEUD... OVER WHETHER TO PUT A 7-FIGURE OR 8-FIGURE AMOUNT IN THE CHILDREN'S TRUST FUNDS**

Rather than two different families competing against each other, contestants in this game are all from the same family (excluding legal counsel). The team in favor of the lower dollar amount is comprised of the mother, father, and a governess whose ample salary precludes her from taking the other side. Besides the children, the opposing team often features a folksy grandparent or cute pet in order to gain sympathy from the judges, should any scoring disputes arise.

## **DEAL OR NO DEAL? I REALLY DON'T NEED THE MONEY ANYWAY**

Gameplay initially featured an extra zero being added to the value inside each briefcase, but this still led to contestants either taking the first deal or rejecting each one until the very end because such low-stakes decisions were, in Elon Musk's words, "mind-numbingly boring." A revamped version of the show has contestants playing for charity instead, but with the original values back in place.

## **TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES OR, MOST LIKELY, NEITHER**

Inspired by the Panama Papers, billionaires are asked to be transparent about their offshore holdings. If they aren't, they may face consequences, but probably not. Definitely not. Donald Trump, the series's only repeat contestant thus far, can attest to this. The most he had to do was write an apology letter to the I.R.S., but even then it was just one line: "Sorry you suck!"

## **THE \$100,000 PYRAMID IS MASSIVELY UNDERVALUED**

Gameplay goes one step further than the original version, in which contestants guess a certain word while their teammate gives them clues without saying too much. Here, the answers are names of historic or natural sites that nobody thought were actually for sale, but actually are if the price is right. Notable purchases include the Appalachian Mountains, the Great Pyramid at

Giza, and London. Jeff Bezos demanded to be on the first episode in order to bid on an extensive tract of land in South America, which is now known as the Amazon-Whole Foods-IMDb Rainforest™.

## **PRESS YOUR LUCK WHILE I EXERT MY CONTROL, BECAUSE CHANCE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH MY WEALTH**

Each episode features a middle class contestant playing under the old rules, wherein it's anyone's guess which space on the board will light up after hitting the button. Things are different for the billionaire competing against him: by wearing a special pair of glasses manufactured by Google using top-secret technology from Area 51, he is able to see the board in slow motion, even as time continues normally for everyone else. Accordingly, should he land on a 'whammy,' it is purely intentional, and done to ensure the appearance of a level playing field.

## **THE WEAKEST LINK IN THE CORPORATE CHAIN OF COMMAND**

In this case, the billionaire is actually the host, while the contestants are his manager-level employees, one of whom he gets to fire at the end of the episode. Reasons for being voted off have included saying that President Biden's tax plan is "actually not that bad," and being out of the office for only one week, not two, after announcing layoffs at the junior level.

## **NAME THAT TUNE, WHICH IS ON THE PLAYLIST FOR OUREYES WIDE SHUT GATHERINGS**

The playlist's genre is all classical, except for Peter Gabriel's "Big Time" and Tears for Fears' "Everybody Wants to Rule the World." Since contestants are encouraged to not only get in the right frame of mind during the game, but to keep their identity hidden as well, they are allowed to wear a mask. Mark Zuckerberg opted against one, saying the face everyone recognizes him by is actually his mask. 🧟

---

*William Vaillancourt's humor writing has appeared in Points in Case, Weekly Humorist and The Satirist, among other places. Coincidentally, it has not appeared in other places as well.*



## #VicePresidentNoob: Joe Sends Kamala Into the E3 Trenches

//MATTHEW BRIAN COHEN

**While the President was attending** the G7 summit in Cornwall, Vice President Kamala Harris was at an entirely different convention—E3, the Electronic Entertainment Expo.

“Nothing is more important to the health and stability of America than the video game industry,” President Biden said in a recent statement. “That’s why I’m sending Vice President Harris to E3 to sort these pixels out.”

The Vice President’s visit hit an unexpected snag when she was informed that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year’s E3 was an online-only event. Sadly, no one would be seeing her dope sneakers this time.

Aides to the Vice President scrambled to find a location within the White House to stream into E3. After finding a spot in the

Lincoln bedroom with an Ethernet jack and an Alienware PC set up during the George W. Bush administration, the Vice President delivered her opening remarks to gamers and game developers around the world. up during the George W. Bush administration, the Vice President delivered her opening remarks to gamers and game developers around the world.

“America was founded on the unalienable right to game,” Vice President Harris said during Saturday’s Ubisoft Forward pre-show. “E3 is the ultimate expression of that right. Gamers of the world, America welcomes you with open arms. Unless you are trying to seek asylum near the border. In that case, gamers: *do not come.*”

While E3 is a four-day-long event with presentations lasting from 8:00 in the morning to well into the night, Vice President >>

>> Harris, at President Biden's insistence, remained on the stream to watch everything.

I told Kamala to stream for the whole thing. Americans don't leave early. Period." President Biden said. "Video games are a top priority of my administration, next to voting rights, immigration reform, and whatever other issue I'm dumping on her plate that I couldn't care less about. Ahh, I shouldn't have said that."

The stream was not without controversy. During an exclusive first look at *Mario+Rabbids Sparks of Hope!* Vice President Harris was asked by guest host Ryan Reynolds what other characters she'd like to see team up with Mario.

"There's so many, I don't think I can just choose." Harris said.

"Just pick one," Reynolds said.

The Vice President stared into the distance for what felt like minutes before responding: "*Tetris?*"

Gamers took to the chat en masse, decrying the Vice President as a "fake gamer girl" and begging for an Adam Sessler appearance. The hashtag "Vice President Noob" briefly trended on Twitter.

Things got even worse for the Vice President when, during the trailer for *Breath of the Wild 2*, she was asked what her favorite Zelda game was.

"After seeing this amazing trailer, I think it's got to be *Breath of the Wild 2*."

"Oh yeah? You a big fan of the original?" guest host Soulja Boy asked.

"Mmmhmmm," Vice President Harris responded.

"How many shrines did you get?"

"Please don't do this to me, Soulja Boy," The Vice President meekly whispered, before her stream cut out due to technical difficulties (we found out later that First Dog Major had chewed through both the ethernet cable and the legs of Kamala's chair).

Despite setbacks, the Vice President continued to stream. Nintendo even sent the White House a demo of the new Metroid game, *Metroid Dread*, for the Vice President to play on stream.

After spending a few minutes trying to figure out how to go left, she encountered a space pirate and died immediately.

"This game has *Dark Souls* difficulty," Harris remarked, showing a grit and determination to succeed that we haven't seen since she dropped out of the 2020 Presidential race before Super Tuesday due to abysmal polling. "Very *Souls*-like."

"Chat is saying you suck," guest host Post Malone commented.

"Well, it's harder to control Metroid than you think," Harris said.

"Metroid is the alien. Samus is the character," Post Malone said, stifling a laugh.

"Well, with graphics like these, Samus is looking better than ever." Harris said, pivoting immediately as if she was asked about her past support for Medicare For All. "And gamers everywhere can look forward to controlling him very soon."

"You know Samus is a girl, right?"

"Yes, sorry. I was still thinking of Zelda," Harris said.

"Zelda's a girl, too."

"With the sword and the shield? That's got to be a boy."

"That's not Zelda. That's Link," Post Malone said slowly, as if he were talking to a small, confused child. "Link is the player character."

The Vice President took a second to compose herself. "Whether we're fighting Metroids or securing America's borders from dangerous refugees, This E3 has shown that while women have come far, we still have a lot further to go."

The stream then cut to a pre-tape of Kevin Hart on the set of the *Borderlands* movie. 🤖

# You Are Patriotically Invited to Christian's (FKA Doug's) FOURTH OF JULY BBQ

My fellow Americans,

The world's best holiday is coming up, and, as usual, I'm throwing the biggest and best birthday party for my one true love: America. It's always really fun, and everyone's still invited, BUT I do want to set a few ground rules for the event, so we don't risk having any UNPATRIOTIC INCIDENTS like we stumbled into LAST YEAR.

## PATRIOT'S RULES:

- ★ You must say a prayer to the one true God before eating your hamburger or hot dog. I legally changed my name to Christian last year to show you how serious I am about this. America was founded as a Christian nation where everyone would have freedom of religion to choose to be Christian, and we want to honor that.
- ★ If Mark is there, please refer to his drink as "the drink of Mark" or "the drink belonging to Mark." If you say "Mark's drink," it sounds like "Marx," which is Communism and unpatriotic.
- ★ NO VODKA (Russian interference!)
- ★ This is NOT a potluck where everyone contributes their fair share and we all get to enjoy the bounty of each other's contributions (s'cialism). I've sent separate letters instructing what to bring to some of you I don't really care as much about. Susan and Daniel don't need to bring anything.
- ★ Critical R'ce Theory WILL NOT BE DISCUSSED. If anything so much as sounds like it's an examination on America's role in upholding white supremacy from its founding to present day, YOU ARE OUT OF HERE.
- ★ Absolutely NOTHING VEGAN will be served. Every food item will have some sort of meat item in it, including the soda (wet carne asada), ice cream cake (raw NY strip steak), and potato salad (ground up skunk I mowed down with my SUV).
- ★ Just to be on the safe side, NO DISCUSSION OF ANY THEORIES, CRITICAL R'CE OR OTHERWISE. If anything so much as sounds like a hypothesis, YOU ARE OUT OF HERE.
- ★ If you sign up for health insurance on my property, providers now have the legal right to deny you coverage based on pre-existing conditions (I worked a deal out with Anthem).
- ★ The color red (c'mmunist color) is COMPLETELY FORBIDDEN. Don't wear anything red, don't eat anything red (get bent, Commie ketchup), and certainly don't fly a flag that has the color red (all my American flags are Blue Lives Matter flags because I BACK THE BLUE)
- ★ Everyone MUST bring FIREWORKS (I flushed mine down the toilet when I learned that fireworks were invented in China) (My toilet is backed up from fireworks so be prepared to shit outside) (All my fireworks caused a sewer main to burst so my front lawn is soaked in shit water and I refuse to have the township fix it because public works is s'cialism)
- ★ Have fun!



Stills from "Turning 50"

# I AM THE BO BURNHAM OF NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

//DIANA KOLSKY

OKAY DUDES, I'M JUST GONNA COME OUT AND SAY IT: I am basically the Bo Burnham of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

That special got a lot of love, and it's definitely good or whatever, but the thing is, I could for sure do that, too. I am not only super creative and weird, but I also have a Casio keyboard, a lease-to-own smart phone with a 4K camera, and some Christmas lights. Sorry, *holiday* lights.

I am also always making up funny songs. My roommate (husband) is always laughing when I sing dark stuff at really random

times. One example is this morning when he told me that Demi Lovato OD'd on Fentanyl—she had three strokes and a heart attack. I immediately—like without skipping even one beat—sang, “three massive strokes and heart attack” to the tune of Beck’s “Where It’s At” (“two turntables and a microphone,” get it??). My roommate (husband) laughed and said that I was a fucked up person. I feel like if Netflix had overheard that interaction, they would’ve hired me over Bo on the spot.

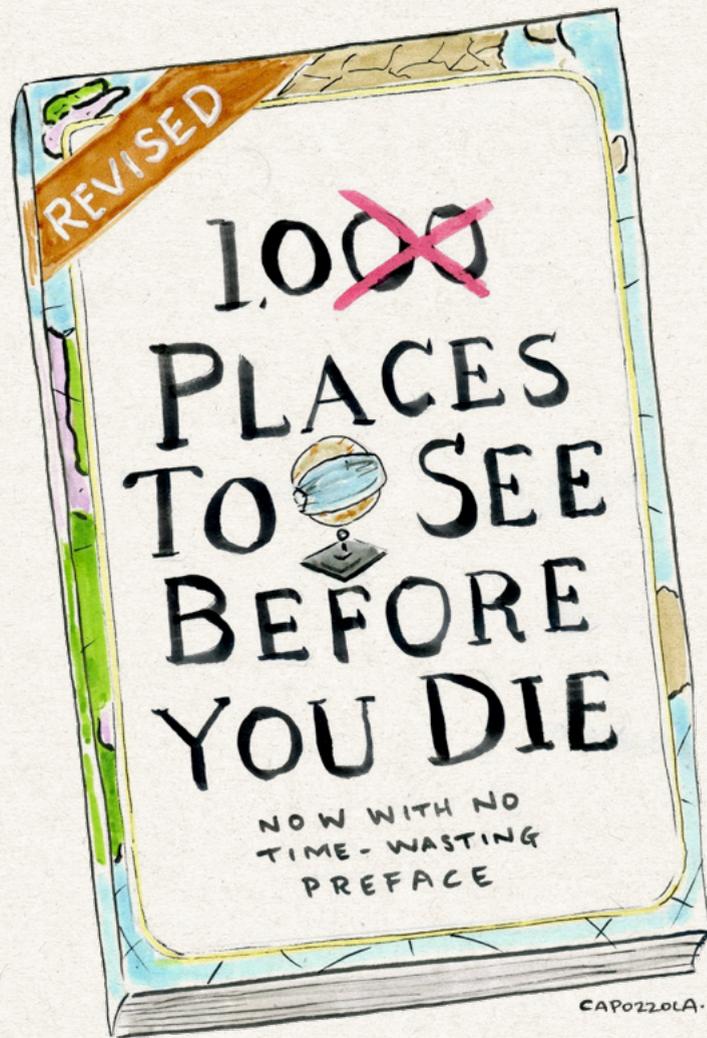
It’s like Bo is getting all this credit for being lonely and sad. Um, hello? I am so fucking lonely and really fucking sad. Yeah, I’m married to my roommate or whatever, but don’t be fooled: Bo >>

>> has a hot girlfriend! It's true. I Googled him. Sometimes you can feel very alone even with another eating, farting, snoring being nearby. My roommate (husband) makes me call him my roommate and plays video games all day while I sit in the laundry room smoking bad weed and thinking about how I def should be a famous comedian/director/musician by now, just like Bo. And I totally could be if someone would just bankroll the extravagant lifestyle my insane creativity requires for a few years (decades).

Recently I took a whole bottle of Benadryl just to see what's up. I'm wild like that! I slept for like five days. When I finally woke up, I had shit myself, and my brain felt like a brick. Wait, that gives me an idea for a song. Something like, "I shit a brick and that brick was my brain. Help me, I'm in the future and I'm going insane..." Sing that to yourself in a robot voice, cuz that's the plan. I have an app that can do voices—robot, high-pitched baby, serial killer—like, not to sound like a dick, but Bo isn't the only one who ever had the idea to produce his own stuff. Yeah it's the free version of the app and I can only do one recording a month, but that's all I need.

Bo talked a lot about the current state of things, like technology (I have it), isolation (um, yeah), capitalism (kill me now), racial tension (my neighbor has a "Protect ICE" sign in their yard), etc. He was also honest about being a dude who can pretty much sail through life on a yacht of white male privilege. And he's tall. Tall people just do better. It's true. I Googled it. The NBA, man. Those are some big guys. And they're all doing great.

The way I could improve on what Bo did with his special is by being honest about being a woman. Like, I admit it, I am white (sorry). But I am also a



very short (sorry), old (sorry) woman with weird boobs (not sorry) and no money (very sorry). I'm not shooting my special in my Los Angeles pool house. I'm shooting it in my Rust Belt laundry room. Like, I think people would want to hear about/see that? My roommate (husband) has a friend (our dog) and they both indicated they'd watch.

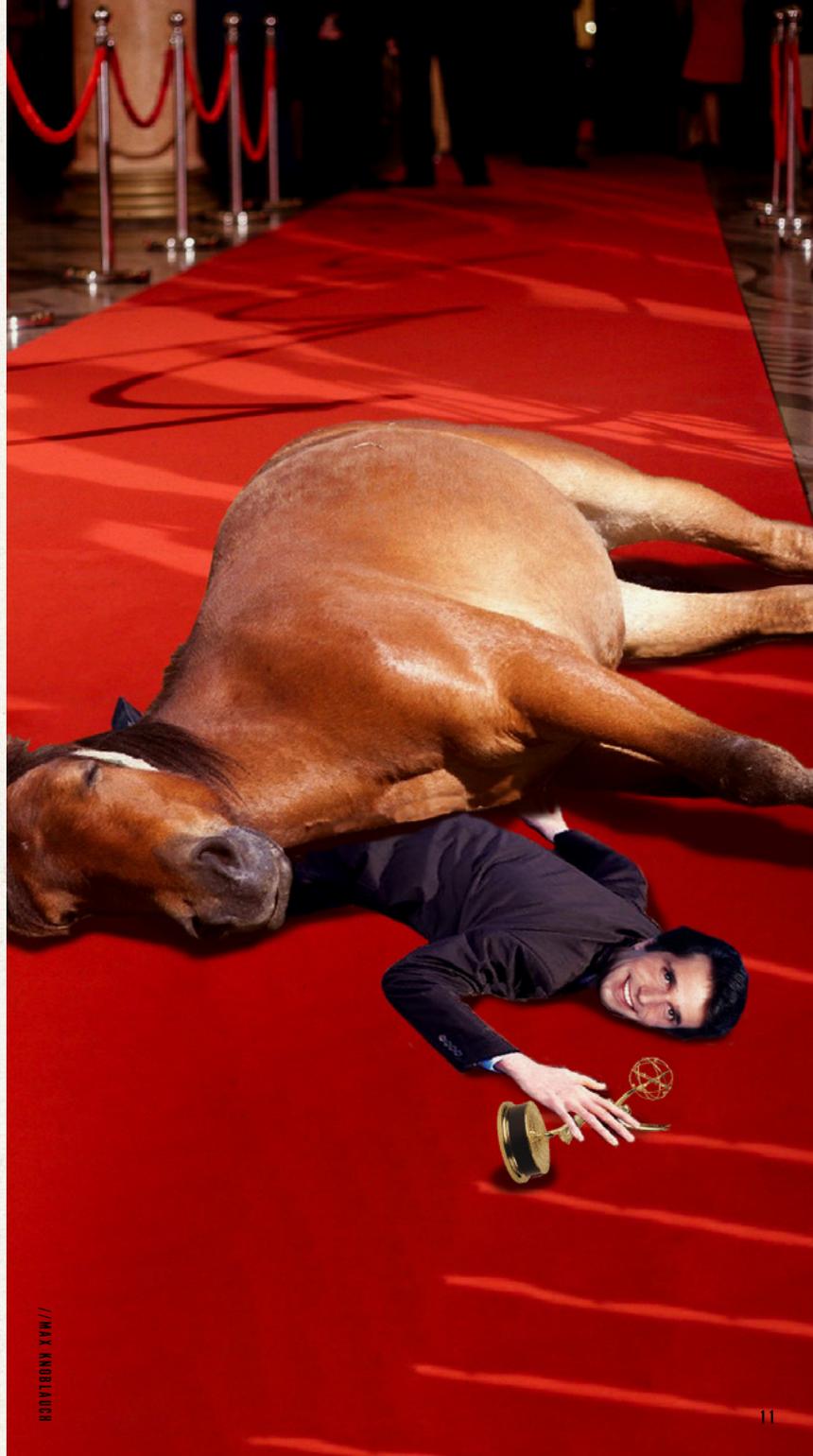
Anyway, hit me up soon, Hollywood. I'm ready to be the Bo Burnham of Northeast Pennsylvania. Let's do this before I turn to coal dust. 🙄

# INSPIRING: HOW ONE MAN BROKE INTO THE FILM INDUSTRY WHILE TRAPPED UNDER A HORSE

//CHRIS WEIR GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

EVERY YEAR, BILLIONS OF STARRY-EYED thespians travel to Hollywood America City Los “L.A.” Angeles hoping to make it big. When a 22-year old Henry Winkler stepped off the bus, he was no different. He too had dreams. Dreams of stage, screen, and changing his name to something other than already well-established actor Henry Winkler in order to join SAG. But the first issue pressing on him was the carcass of a mustang physically pressing on him after it collapsed in the street. (Don't feel bad for the horse; it's TikTok presence was laughable.)

Henry Winkler could have given in right there, but the thing about ol' H.W. is he sees opportunity in every situation. He also loves wordplay, so he started calling them “hoppportunities,” because he was in shock and mistakenly thought horses hopped. >>



//MAX ANGLAUCH

>> His first opportunity came when a passerby noticed Henry and screamed, “Oh my God, are you alright?!” He simply replied, “I will be—once you bring me a typewriter so I can brush up my resume.” She laughed uneasily and never returned.

Another stranger wanted a selfie with “dead Seabiscuit,” so Henry took his chance to photobomb the background and get some new headshots. By this point, numerous blood vessels had popped in his right eye, so he went for a winking pose. Casting directors love a cheeky scamp!

Just before sunset, as the magic hour hit, Henry found himself with the perfect natural lighting to film a scene for his reel. Sure, his skin was sallow from lack of nutrients, but across town, Jared Leto looked exactly the same as he prepped for his next role as a Venetian plague doctor. It’s called character acting! Undaunted, Henry turned to the nearest security camera and performed a comedic monologue for the ages.

As the days wore on and the offers failed to materialize, Henry developed the cynicism that’s enraptured many a struggling actor in the City of Angels. Unprompted, he’d yell “This town reeks! Specifically, of rotting flesh and horse sinew!”

But one morn, he had a revelation. If the roles aren’t coming to you, you’ve got to bring yourself to the roles! And so, a one-man (and horse corpse) show was born. Henry could have gone with the obvious choices, like *Equus* or a dramatic reading of “Mustang Sally,” but that’s some amateur being-pinned-by-a-horse shit! This show required something personal and raw, something the lower half of his body now lacked: feeling.

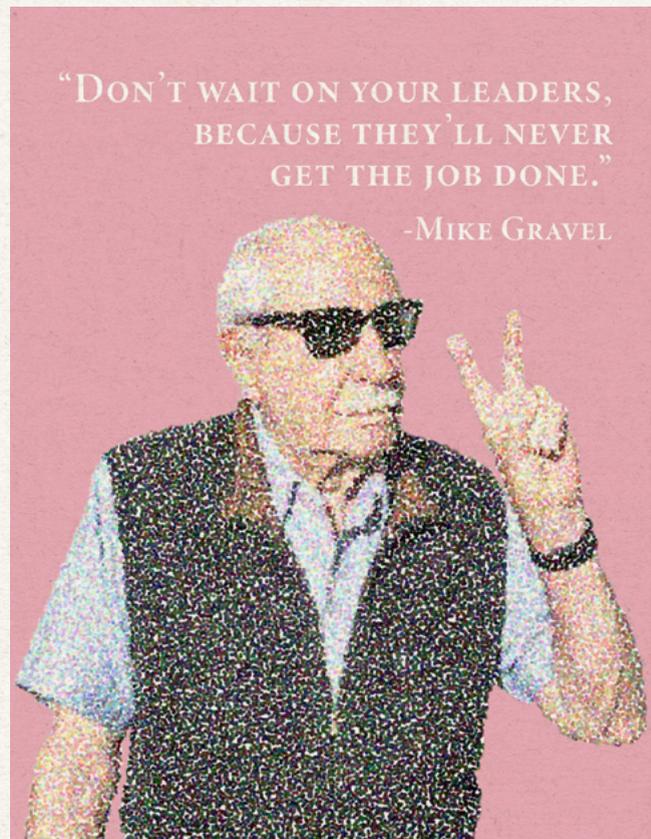
A crowd gathered, either drawn by Henry’s talent or the misunderstanding that they would be seeing veteran of the small screen Henry Winkler. Nevertheless, they listened to his story. A story about growing up as a young Iowa farmhand, whose passion was mocked by his alcoholic father and the abusive bullies on the playground. Who lost his mother at a young age, and could only connect to women through meaningless, mutually orgasmic sex. Who received a scholarship after winning a chess tournament, and became the first African American to go into space. It

wasn’t Henry’s story, but his brain was rapidly losing oxygen, so he thought it was.

Upon his final word, applause blared around him like a siren. Cameras flashed blue, similar to ambulance lights. A couple of fans even rushed towards him and started shining torches in his eyes, as those Gen Zers are wont to do. Henry turned to the nag and joked, “They don’t say ‘Bright Lights, Big City’ for nothing!” But they say that about New York, so the decaying horse ignored him. 🐾

---

*Chris Weir is a writer, performer and Gollum-esque creature lurking in Edinburgh, Scotland. Send nudes to @pieceofweirk on Twitter and Instagram.*



//JAMES DWYER

functionally dead

# Left Feel'd



hosted by  
matthew brian  
cohen

A lot happened  
this week—  
Let's see how  
the *Left Feel'd*  
about it.

Topic of  
the week:  
**ERIC ADAMS**

Hey, while you're reading this, you could be listening to  
*Functionally Dead's* new podcast, available to our \$5 tier  
Patreon subscribers... click below to check it out.



[OUR PATREON](#)



# I Guess I Need to Explain My Recent Political Cartoon

//JAMES DWYER

WHO KNEW POLITICAL CARTOONS COULD BE SO CONTROVERSIAL? I certainly didn't, and I've been emailing original political cartoons made on my iPad while I watch *The Kominsky Method* semi-monthly to my pseudo-friends, proxy-confidantes, and the Assistant Editor of *The New Yorker* for over two years.

A recent cartoon of mine entitled "Christ Nazi or: How I Learned to Love Jeffrey Epstein" went viral on Twitter, TikTok, and Weibo for being "deeply offensive in its content, its lack of artistry, and because no matter how much I look at it, I really do not understand what this freak is going for." It was the cartoon that "broke the internet," just like Kim Kardashian's big, beautiful ass did when an amateur photographer snapped a candid of her using her badunk as a shelf while she poured herself a glass of Cupcake prosecco. Now that the controversy has died down, I'd like to take the time to explain what I was going for in this piece, hopefully starting a civil discourse surrounding the power that illustration wields upon our minds, especially when brandished as a sword in the political arena.

The naked man with a small penis who looks kind of hot despite his penis being extraordinarily small is meant to be Jesus Christ. If you zoom in on the penis, you can see "J.C." on the tip. I have always believed that Jesus Christ is a very hot man with a very small penis ever since I first heard the story of The Loaves and the Fishes. I believe it was Peter who said, "Jesus, by the grace of your divine presence—despite your dinky little dong, which everyone could see the whole time because your robe is quite short today—we have fed the hungry masses." I may be butchering the quote as I haven't touched a Bible since age 13 after I burned my hands on a King James that I set fire to in front of my least favorite nun (Sister Courtney) as a Jackass prank I did on spec, but I think that was the gist of it.

The 12 pigs in bishops' hats feasting on Jesus's body are meant to represent the American Catholic bishops who have said they will deny The Eucharist to pro-choice politicians. I made them pigs because pigs smell bad. The reason they smell bad is because they roll around in the slop all day long—the very slop they poop and piss in

because pigs do not use a litter box, nor are they trained to duke in a toilet or bidet. You see, the bishops are just like these dirty little piggles to me. They're feasting on Jesus's hot, delicious body in the form of the Eucharist, but they're pooping everywhere while they do it. When pigs eat, they eat in the slop; the very same poop and piss slop that I just described. The "pooping" by the bishops is their recent proclamation. If you actually zoom in on one of the poops, the poop says "I am being political." I made 12 bishops because Jesus had, if I remember correctly, 12 apostles, and it made me feel clever to draw that connection. There is no meaning to there being 12 bishops otherwise.

There is a woman who looks gay and modern just off to the side of this scene, staring at the hog bishops who are eating Jesus's sweaty body (before the cartoon, Jesus had just done a 45-minute High Intensity Interval Training session that he found on PopSugar's Youtube page). This woman is wearing a t-shirt that says "Planned Parenthood." Does this person frequent Planned Parenthood? Are they pro-choice? Do they get a new abortion >>

>> every single day, for fun, because it's their favorite thing to do, even when they are not even a little bit pregnant? That is ultimately up to the viewer to decide. However, the backs of this person's legs say "Proud Gay Modern Catholic" because that part is NOT for you to decide. It was for me, the artist, to decide. Sometimes art is about being so clear that you can't help but think, "this part is NOT up for interpretation."

This is the point where I want you to notice that Jesus is pointing at the modern, gay woman and in a speech bubble says: "No me for you!" A memory should flood your cerebral cortex. A memory of a simpler time when your former family, future coworkers, and most notorious neighborhood medical device salesman would gather around the boob tube to watch your favorite program, *The Jerry Seinfeld Show*. "No me for you" is meant to sound like "No soup for you," the famous catchphrase of Cosfeld Kramer's good friend, The Soup Nazi. When you see "No me for you," I want you to think, "Jesus, it turns out, is just like The Soup Nazi in a way." It's funny because the American Catholic bishops DO want us to believe that Jesus is like the Soup Nazi—he doesn't want us to have soup (his body), but in reality, Jesus wants everyone to have soup (his body), and the only soup (his body) he doesn't want anyone to have is his tiny piddle pusher (mulligatawny recipe).

As for the title, I chose "Christ Nazi" due to the obvious allusion to The Soup Nazi. As for "How I Learned to Love Jeffrey Epstein," well, this is meant to be a reference to *Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Love the Bomb* because that movie also uses the "or" feature. "Or" has always been one of my favorite sentence features. I thought it would be fun to have an "or" in my title so I inserted the "or" that made you think the most. How could any-

one learn "to Love Jeffrey Epstein?" Well, there are probably a lot of ways someone could learn to love him, aren't there? It might also depend on who the person is that is speaking the title... Is that a hint? Hint: it is..

The piece is meant to have been titled by Ghislane Maxwell, the famous gay ex-confidante of former titan of Little St. James industry, Jeffrey Epstein. Wait a second, is Ghislane the person in the Planned Parenthood t-shirt, then? That's up for you to decide, unless you've spotted the sentence I embedded in her hair that says,

"This person is Ghislane Maxwell." If you found that, then it turns out, it was up for me, the artist, to decide all along.

I have now gone through each point that needs clarification\*. I hope this explanation will help the public to better understand my intent with this exciting piece. I never meant to offend anyone. I simply hoped to make you think. 🤪

\*No one seemed to have any questions about the copy of "*The FountainDEAD*" by "MAYN Rand" that Jesus was holding, so I will not be providing any follow up on that.





Mike Capozzola is a New York-raised, London-based stand up comic and cartoonist. His work has appeared in *The Best of McSweeney's* and *Private Eye*. More at [www.Capozzola.com](http://www.Capozzola.com) (another of Mike's cartoons appears on p. 10 of this issue)



# NICE HUSTLE: A GYM TEACHER'S IMPASSIONED DEFENSE OF CRITICAL RACE THEORY



//MATTHEW BRIAN COHEN

HIYA, THANKS FOR COMING TONIGHT. GO EASY ON THOSE CHEESY PRETZELS, JERRY! NAH, I'M JUST KIDDING. PLENTY OF CHEESY PRETZELS.

For those of you that don't know me, I'm Coach Parker, also affectionately known as Coach Pothole. I'm the gym teacher, track coach, and former driver's ed instructor here at Northern Highlands Regional High School. It has recently come to my attention that a bunch of parents at this PTA meeting are looking to ban critical race theory from the curriculum.

Now, I may just be a gym teacher and not some fancy investment banker or hot tub salesman like some of you, but I know more than the average Joe about fitness, and I think you're making a big mistake trying to take critical race theory out of our school. Though some of you parents might be too blinded in your own privilege to see this, my track team has been running slower than ever since Biden took office! I did some research and I learned it's because these kids are eating chicken nuggets and french fries for lunch instead of fruits and vegetables. They don't understand how a proper diet gives them the energy they need to run fast on the track. This kind of race theory is absolutely crucial if we're going to stand a chance against some of the tougher schools like Ramsey, Mahwah, and Don Bosco.

I realize that critical race theory is controversial. People don't want to take a look at what their kids are eating because it might reflect poorly on them as a parent, teacher, or school administrator. But this is America. We believe in freedom of speech for Christ's sake! We don't just censor an idea because some people in power don't like it. I may not have an Ivy League degree, but I always thought school was about expanding minds and exposing kids to new ideas. Another perspective, especially one backed by decades of academic research, is never a bad thing. And again, we're just not gonna stand a chance against Millburn and Glen Ridge if we don't examine our past eating habits and acknowledge that kids with better diets are inherently going to perform better than kids eating junk.

And to be clear, I'm not even saying everyone needs to act in accordance with what critical race theory teaches. At the end of the day, people are going to eat what they want to eat, and sometimes you can't change their minds. But that doesn't mean you shouldn't at least provide the history, the background, and the context for living and exercising in a healthy way. Worst case scenario, they ignore it. But you might just open someone's eyes to a better understanding of running fast.

OK, I'm getting a sense from the way you're burying your faces in your hands that I've done something wrong. Is there a cheesy pretzel drip on my shirt, Jerry? No. Are we not talking about the same critical race theory? We're not? OK. Wait, *that's* what you're trying to ban?! We're having this meeting to get rid of *that*?!

Of course, we absolutely need to censor that critical race theory. White students and Black students must not be allowed to think about race in America in any other way other than that slavery is over and everything is great, or else their brains might turn to mush. But again, the stuff about fixing students' eating habits so they win track races—we do have to teach that. It's a slippery slope if we start banning whole schools of thought. But the Black people thing, that's gotta become illegal. Like these pretzels. They're too good. 🍌



# ONE MAN SOLVES CLIMATE CHANGE WITH BRILLIANT SOLUTION: DRINK THE OCEAN



//M. RENE BOYTS GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

**A**ROUND THE GLOBE, CLIMATE CHANGE has made a major impact on the way each of us views our impending doom— er... near future. Scientists predict that by the year 2100, Earth may have an average rise in temperature of three degrees Fahrenheit causing irreparable damage to human habitats on all continents. Individuals from nearly every nation have committed themselves to tackling the issue of climate change. Some Americans are even attempting to reverse the effects of pollution by creating powerful and moving Facebook posts, Instagram posts, and Tiktok posts. Shockingly, this has had little to no effect.

One of the biggest climate issues that's currently plaguing ocean-side cities is the continuously rising sea-levels due to the melting of ice sheets and glaciers. Florida residents are unsure of the sustainability of their fresh water sources and are concerned about the destruction of operating sewer systems. While some cities have constructed new seawalls to combat rising sea-levels, one patriot has a better idea: drink the ocean. >>

>> “If we could all just grab a cup, head down to the beach, and start drinking the ocean, we could solve the issue pretty quick,” said fifty-two year old minor baseball league enthusiast Ricky Troffman.

Ricky notes that he figured out the brilliant solution when drinking Bud Light one summer evening with his buddies.

“You know, I was just grabbing another cold one with Steve and Burt-o when it came to my mind. We had poured some beer from our keg into a big bowl because it was all foamy going straight into the cups, and when I scooped up the beer with my glass, I noticed the beer level went down in the bowl. Me and the guys knew we were onto something, so we decided to call a few more friends and make a trip to Rockport, both for some gnarly suds and to chug some of that sweet, sweet ocean.”

Ricky states that he has been trying to contact both President Biden and climate activist Greta Thunberg with his solution for almost a year, with no success.

When asked about the logistics of his plan, Ricky seemed confident in his discovery.

“Yeah, I definitely think it’s gonna work. The only problem will be that people might need to pee after they drink all that water, and will just pee right there into the ocean, causing the sea-levels to rise again. Plus, this time it’s full of piss. I’m thinking we’ll need long piss tubes that go from everyone’s pants over to a nearby lake.”

When *Functionally Dead* reached out directly to Thunberg for a public comment on Ricky’s solution, she refused, and subsequently blocked us on Twitter. Ouch.

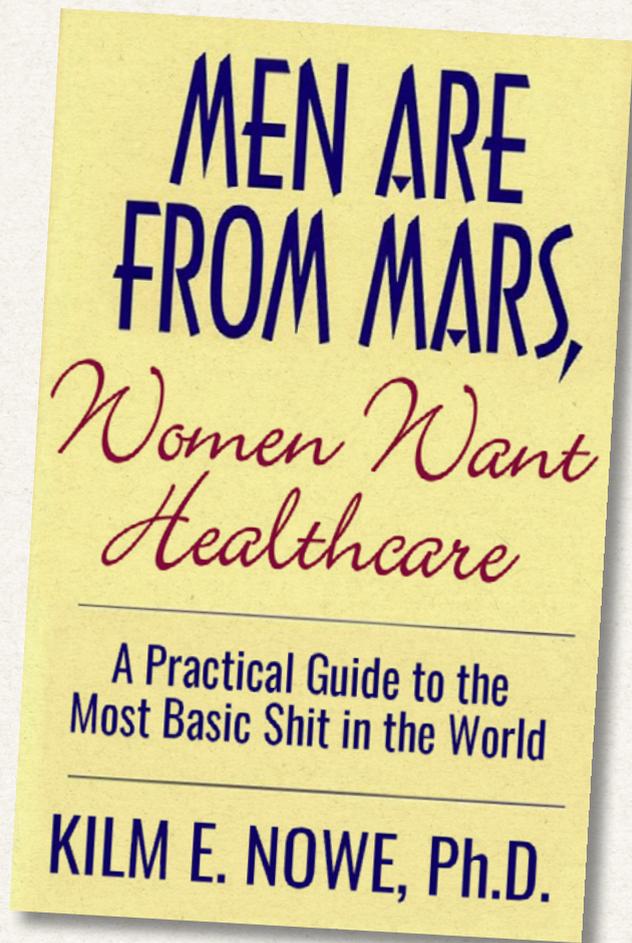
“I don’t expect Greta to respond to any of us. She’s sailing around on her luxury yacht drinking non-ocean beverages, but me and my buddies are too busy making serious changes in this world to go on a boat trip,” says Ricky.

Ricky Troffman stated on his public Facebook profile that as of June 26th, 2021, he has consumed three cups of ocean water

so far, isn’t getting as sick from each one the more he tries, and won’t stop until he sees a significant change. Godspeed, Ricky. ♡

---

*M. Rene Boyts is a freelance writer from Springfield, Missouri with a passion for humor and social justice. They live in St. Joseph, Missouri with their partner and two orange cats, Dr. and Jellybean.*



# *FD Presents* **A Tribute to the Quarantine Pieces We Didn't Write**

WITH THE PANDEMIC EXCLUSIVELY NEARING its end in the world's wealthiest and whitest countries comes the return to an uneasy sense of normalcy and the realization here at *Functionally Dead* that we must kill our darlings: the quarantine-themed articles we didn't get to write because the lockdown ended sooner than anticipated. Join us in pouring one out for these epic pieces that will never come to be (until the Avian Anthrax pandemic of 2023):

- Forget Baking Artisanal Bread, I've Been Making Artisanal Med(icine) During Lockdown
- True Life: I Named My Dog Corona and She Died (Because I Put Her to Sleep)
- How to Make Face Masks for Essential Heroes Out of Last Season's Denim
- Are Stairs Racist? Now Is NOT the Time to Attack Biden!
- FREE BRITNEY and Maybe DAVID BERKOWITZ (I Kind of Want to Die!)
- Anti-Waxx: How I Snowboarded Myself to Wellness
- Against the Paw: Kamala's Dog Arrests Joe's Dog (RIP)
- Ben Shapiro Feeds Regeneron to His Wife's Cooter: Be Gone, Satan!
- Scarf Across America: Hopeless Knitting for Sad Puds
- *New York Times* Style Profile: How Ghislaine Maxwell Brought Little St. James to New Hampshire
- Uh Oh! Scalpers Have Bought All the Vaccine
- It Happened to Me: I Joined a Houseparty While Shitting
- "I Had To Get My Assistant To Drive Me To South Central": How These Essential Hollywood Producers Finally Got The Vaccine
- 35 Year Old Brooklyn Man Excited To Blame Being Single on COVID-19 for the Next 10 Years
- Why I, the J&J Vaccine, am Just as Hot as the Other Two for Being 74% Effective and From the Cancerous Baby Powder Company
- I'm Going to Pretend I Never Got a Vaccination to Get Out of Going to Weddings
- My Bad! Turns Out You Can't Piss on Someone Like They Got a Jellyfish Sting to Cure COVID
- As America Demands COVID Abolition, Biden Calls for More COVID

# I READ THIS ZINE, AND PEOPLE ARE FREAKING OUT ABOUT A DECADES-OLD ACADEMIC SUBFIELD

## What Do I Do Now?

// DAN LOPRETO

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS of Staff gave an official statement on Critical Race Theory today, which is another piece of solid evidence that our universe is a simulation and we are being purposefully fucked with. Absurdity aside, the Right is gearing up for another red scare, and laws claiming to ban critical race theory from public schools have been passed in seven states. Here are a few educational resources about CRT and some essays putting the current moral panic into historical context.

### CRT INTRODUCTION // PURDUE ONLINE WRITING LAB

“CRT is a theoretical and interpretive mode that examines the appearance of race and racism across dominant cultural modes of expression. In adopting this approach, CRT scholars attempt to understand how victims of systemic racism are affected by cultural perceptions of race and how they are able to represent themselves to counter prejudice.”

### THE WAR ON CRITICAL RACE THEORY // BOSTON REVIEW

“Turning a blind eye to the realities of racial injustice, the highly orchestrated right-wing attacks cast a body of scholarship about race in the law as a great threat to American society.”

### THIS CRITICAL RACE THEORY PANIC IS A CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK // SLATE

“This summer’s spate of state-level bills aimed at censoring the content of history teaching in public school classrooms...might seem somewhat random. But in fact, conservative attacks like these on humanities curricula that discuss race and racism in the United States follow a long-established pattern.”

### CRT RESEARCH GUIDE // KATHRINE R. EVERETT LAW LIBRARY

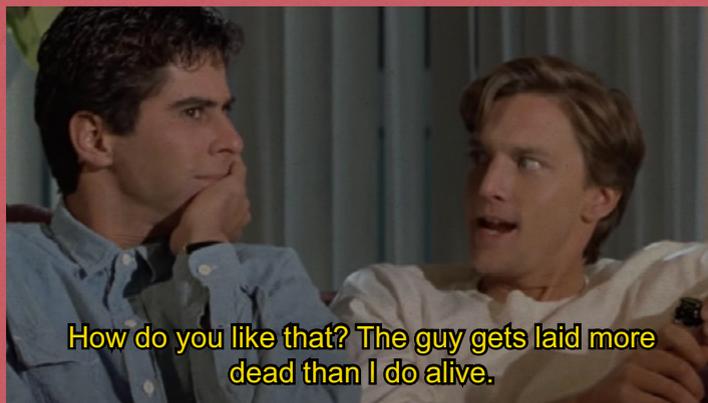
“This guide provides an overview of the major texts, scholars, and related subjects that comprise Critical Race Theory.”

### CRT SYLLABUS // WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

“[A]n assemblage of the articles that influenced me when I was beginning my academic career, which coincided with the rise of Critical Race Theory; articles that are considered ‘canonical.’”

Peruse more issues of Functionally Dead [here](#) and if you're interested in contributing, [check this out](#).

IN THE NEXT ISSUE - I SAID GET THE FUCK BACK TO WORK: A POST-PANDEMIC GUIDE  
TO HELP YOUR EMPLOYEES NAVIGATE FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING



How do you like that? The guy gets laid more  
dead than I do alive.

FOLKS TO BLOCK:

//ANDY BUSTILLOS//MATTHEW BRIAN COHEN//JAMES DWYER//PATRICK KEENE//MAX KNOBLAUCH//DIANA KOLSKY//DAN LOPRETO//  
//TIM MAHONEY//CATHRYN MUDON//BRADY O'CALLAHAN//SEAN O'REILLY//PRIYA PATEL//ROSIE WHALEN//LIZ WIEST//