The Four & Disarming Mind-Viruses

**How to understand /r/TheRedPill without being infected by it**

Course document for September 2, 2015—Deicidus, Internet School of Magic

*As always, please leave questions and comments in the document if you do not mind sharing them with other students (Ctrl-Alt-M). This makes it much faster and easier for me to answer the questions, in-context. This document will be publically viewable.*

I have already looked fairly closely at the Four in the classes relating to 5::4. However, this week I would like to further zoom in on this energy, highlighting why it is powerful and dangerous. In particular, I will be using the “red pill” community as an example of a toxic mind-virus which, nevertheless, is also a perfect example of fully-actualized 4 energy.

I encourage you to read or review the classes [5::4](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1M18C0B9c2HuWnmZDxBg9rgUPOeIKr2IqdiK6frwgT9k/edit?usp=sharing), [Binary Micro-Erotics](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1E01DZkZpZ01YQ5atZTH-mHpdn18YFulwouRpDTdtWfU/edit?usp=sharing) (which covers 5::4 and their link to 1), and [Archetype/Angel, Complex/Dæmon](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1K-qc8NkWQJKsoAaM-VDwpGD8xcrt5HS-RxsiVoRP0dw/edit?usp=sharing) (which covers the difference between healthy and virulent forms of an energy) before continuing with this one, since this one goes into more detail on the 4 and its toxic form.

# Disclaimer

I want to make it clear that I think the /r/TheRedPill community and world outlook is, basically, despicable. I certainly don’t agree with their beliefs, methods, or ideals, and I think the worldview is a toxic result of allowing oneself to become possessed by resentment and 4-energy, combined with sexual frustration. I think adding to their conversation in any other way than deconstruction is a waste of breath that adds fuel to their fire. We would be better off if /r/TheRedPill didn’t exist at all; but since it does, we can look at it as an example of failure in the handling of virulent dialectics and as an interesting demonstration of extremist gender politics. We can also understand how and why their worldview works without agreeing with it and without taking it on as our own worldview. This allows us to cherry-pick ideas and tools from the /r/TheRedPill community without allowing those tools to own us or infect our thinking.

I hope that anyone reading this course will take the time to understand why the extreme misogyny in /r/TheRedPill is a wrong view to hold: It’s not right or wrong because it is factually true or factually false, it’s wrong because it is uncompassionate, rigid, and simplistically dogmatic. It also presents only a single energy, whereas a fuller worldview allows multiple energies/stances/perspectives to be held and understood.

# What is /r/TheRedPill?

[/r/TheRedPill](https://www.reddit.com/r/TheRedPill/) is a forum on [reddit](http://reddit.com/) that espouses a worldview of extreme misogyny as well as techniques for sexual manipulation and domination. The worldview is backed up by scientific claims which are valid but which are cherry-picked to construct a vicious case against women. The community worships the alpha male ideal and participates in a [fascist aesthetic](http://www.overthinkingit.com/2011/06/30/game-of-thrones-fascism/). The community is closely tied with “pick-up artistry (PUA)” and more loosely tied with “men’s rights activism” (most men’s rights activism is not so nasty, even if it is somewhat misguided). The redpill worldview (as I will refer to it for convenience) is based in a social Darwinism and an evolutionary biopsychology which—while descriptive and in many cases factually true—is taken prescriptively to validate the oppression of the weak and the strategic enslavement of women. The tagline of the subreddit is “The Red Pill: Discussion of sexual strategy in a culture increasingly lacking a positive identity for men”, but the identity that the community offers is basically the most extreme and simplistic, stereotyped woman-hating alpha male chauvinism. (This makes it a textbook example of 4 energy.)

Notice already the extremity of the energy in the foregoing paragraph. In expressing my disagreement with extremity, I am myself forced to use extreme language in order to communicate my point clearly—thus expressing a 4 energy even as I disagree with a 4 energy. This is part of the invasive dialectic of 5::4. You will also notice a feeling that could be labeled “resentment”—I am fine with this, but in the context of this class we can also label this as part of the feeling of 4 energy (resentment = unexpressed anger, anger held-in-check).

This quote from an article linked in the subreddit sidebar is representative of the types of arguments which are made in the redpill community:

The reason why females mature faster than men is not some particular triumph for them, despite how women seem to enjoy throwing this little tidbit of information around. As I described in my piece "You're Such a Tool", what it really has to do with is women being the biological bearers and caretakers of children. They mature faster than males because once they become fertile after puberty, they must also have the mental capacity to care for the children they might bear. Nowhere in nature is there a female organism that is capable of giving birth to offspring which is not also developed enough yet to care for the offspring. This not only manifests itself in hips capable of giving birth and breasts able to produce milk, but also in a mental maturation that enables them to provide basic childcare. You will notice as well, even in our present society, it is when girls reach around the age of twelve that they begin taking up babysitting and it is around puberty when adults begin entrusting young girls to care for infants alone. This merely coincides with female biology, as it is also at that age when girls become physically capable of bearing children, and their mental maturity matches their biological maturity.

The difference between men and women in maturity, however, is that while females mature earlier in life, they also stop maturing at around the age of eighteen, as Schopenhauer aptly observes. And while men don’t catch up to women’s maturity until they reach around age twenty-eight, after that [the men keep maturing](http://no-maam.blogspot.ca/2005/01/eotm-sexual-psychology-part-3-40-to.html) - often throughout their entire lives. William James describes the same process of maturation inPrinciples of Psychology, where he states:

…

When a woman tells you she will love you forever, insert the phrase (Right now I feel like) before it, so you get the proper translation into [Womanese](http://no-maam.blogspot.ca/2004/08/pook-58-womanese.html): “(Right now I feel like) I will love you forever. All evidence shows that this should include vows made at the altar as well, since the vast majority of divorces are initiated by women rather than men.

—From [Woman: The Most Responsible Teenager in the House](http://no-maam.blogspot.fr/2012/06/woman-most-responsible-teenager-in.html)

The article goes on to build the argument that “Men Love Women, Women Love Children, and Children Love Puppies” producing a ‘hierarchy of love’ that means that men can never be loved by women the way they really want to be loved by them. The solution? Admit the hopelessness of receiving love from a woman in a way that is fulfilling, and instead become an alpha male (because men need sex, not love) to get the best woman or women to supply you with high-quality sex.

Notice the rhetoric in the above quote: the article uses rational argumentation, scientific-academic phrasing, and evolutionary-psychological reasoning in order to build a case that women are mentally immature and incapable of “preappointed trains of thought” and thus a stable self or commitments. In other words, the article (and much of redpill discourse) uses pseudoscientific posturing in order to call women stupid (and worse).

You can see that just in reading and writing about these things, an enormous amount of 4-energy is felt: these redpill texts express a deeply-felt hate, rage, anger, and raw fury towards life and its bounty (and interestingly, my critiques contain a sort of mirror image of this energy as well). The pain and suffering of these men is so deep that they are more willing to deaden themselves to the possibility of receiving love than they are willing to extend hope and compassion to themselves and others.

As sorcerers, we must not simply hate on this energy (which is resentment—4—the very energy we are confronting) or turn away from it (denial—8 or 2). Instead, we must *harness* it, utilize it without letting it possess us; and understand it.

# The Four—Context & Attributions

Since I have already described 4 quite a bit in two previous classes, I will keep my comments here brief. On the numogram, 4 is paired with 5 because 4 + 5 = 9. 4 has a gate to 1 because 4 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 10 and 1 + 0 = 1. 4 “closes the circuit” of the Time Circuit by linking back to 1 through Gt-10, emphasizing how 5::4 closes the circuit with the Sink current.

4 is Mars, and the ‘quasiphonic particle’ assigned to 4 is “skr”, a growl of aggression, threat, or anger. I have assigned 4 the color red (and 5 the color orange), symbolizing its association with blood, masculinity, and anger.

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4 also has a high affinity with the “Death” card of the tarot, and this helps to explain an important aspect of four. Four is “the fully extended”—it is the complete taking-up of all space, the fullest victory and fullest extension of a territory into all possible spaces, so much so that any remaining non-territory, if it even still exists, is invisible to the victor (i.e., it becomes subaltern). This is very similar to the way the Death card is customarily interpreted in tarot, as a change or rebirth. Death is both the fullest extension of the person/life—the life lived to its very end—and the end and completion of that cycle. Similarly, 4 is the apex of the Time Circuit, and it also collapses and links back into the 1, restarting the cycle.

Carl Jung was enchanted by the number 4 and its meaning in psychological development, particularly as it manifested in mandalas that were found in dreams and art. He described 4 as representing wholeness and completion, balance and an integration of the psyche. We can see his comments match my characterization of 4 here, and we can also see why Jung would choose 4 as the highest symbol of wholeness: because Jung took a humanist approach, he supported ego in its struggle and growth—egoic life occurs within the Time Circuit. Arguably every number can be a symbol of wholeness, but whereas 6 might symbolize a wholeness between God and the individual, and 3 might symbolize a high or impersonal/abstract unity, and 2 might represent an archetypally feminine unity, 4 represents the fullness and completion of the process of chronic time—the fullest point in development, when the ego is complete and extended, contained and defined.

We can see in this description the stereotypical ideal of the masculine psyche: egocentric, fully extended (confident), with firm boundaries; strong and impregnable, integrated and whole, balanced and inclusive of the unconscious. This patriarchal perspective on masculinity likewise is unable to discuss the subaltern, that is, whatever is excluded or outside this idea of the male psyche—because it already includes everything, by definition! In any case, I hope it is clear that, via Mars and via the idea of completion/extension or even death/orgasm and relapse, there is a close connection between 4 and ideas often associated with masculinity.

The 4 also has a strong affinity with the compass points, a cross being a further example of a symbol of full extension and possession of a space.

# Positive Attributes of the 4

No zone on the numogram is positive or negative—an archetype always contains a mix of complex attributes, from which we can extract images or qualities which are positive or negative. The 4 is no exception.

The basic energy of 4, the energy of anger, the energy which defends or aggresses across the boundaries defined by expansive 5-energy, is not a bad energy. This energy of anger/threat/aggression is a pure and perfectly healthy energy of virile expression, expression of force-to-protect. This pure force of desiring something and moving to take or protect what one desires is not bad, but merely the natural process of wanting something and reaching for it, of striving.

4 energy is what allows us to defend ourselves, whether physically or interpersonally/emotionally. 4 energy is that part of us that retaliates when someone is rude to us, stands up and does something to protect others from cruelty, or which decides to act to attack and end an injustice. It is a deeply responsible energy of putting our money where our mouth is, of acting, of risking ourselves to achieve something.

4 is simply an energy of vital force and expression of strength—what in the redpill community would be recognized as healthy “alpha male” traits.

# Nietzsche’s Dialectic of Good & Evil

In *The Genealogy of Morality,* Nietzsche articulated the basic dialectic of Good/Bad versus Good/Evil. First, he said, there were strong and healthy organisms—these were the winners in society who won because they were naturally fit. They had a concept of Good which meant healthy, vibrant, vital—and their concept of Bad was only an afterthought, merely defined as “that which is not Good—that which is not healthy, strong, fit”. This idea of Bad contained no judgment, only perhaps a mild distaste or disgust at that which was unhealthy.

Next came the priest-class, and they preached an inverted morality to those who were the less-fit in society: the weak were labeled as Good and the strong were labeled as Evil. Traits of strength (taking what you want, enjoying things, being wealthy, etc.) were rebranded as Evil (greed, gluttony, aristocratic selfishness), and traits of weakness (sucking up to stronger authorities, obedience, propping up the weak) were rebranded as Good (docility, humility, compassion). This reversal was preached by the priest class in order to give them power: those who were formerly only losers by default could be manipulated as a group in order to give the priest-class power, wealth, and the ability to “fight back” against the “winners”.

Thus we have two perfectly-inverted moralities: Good/Bad which is an “aristocratic morality” and Good/Evil which is a “slave morality” based on “resentiment” (resentment), a reactionary stance taken against the healthy/winning aristocracy.

Simply put, the resentment-free, Good/Bad morality is a healthier way to live. Resentment is a reaction against oppression—resentment is what we feel when we are hurt by those stronger than us, and we are too weak to fight back.

This is something the redpill worldview gets right, in its aggrandizement of the alpha male image: Those in the redpill community are very careful to clearly point out that a healthy man focuses on his own strength, does not harbor resentment, and has a “plenty mindset” which focuses on the ease and availability of resources. However, this perspective is taken way too far—the inverse image of the “beta male” is demonized and attacked (showing resentment…), and the alpha-male image is taken to a weird extreme that includes a worldview devoid of compassion and with an obsessive focus on the supposed deficiencies of women and the game of “sexual strategy”. In other words, a basically healthy drive (to be strong, to be healthy, to be attractive) **is perverted in precisely the way it attempts to prevent its own perversion, that is, the redpillers spend most of their time justifying a paranoid philosophy and extremely-well-thought-out and “scientifically” justified worldview of resentment against women.**

This dialectic which precisely inverts things **is precisely the characteristic of mind-viruses and of the dialectic of 5::4.** The harder we try not to be seduced by our Shadow, the more thoroughly it infiltrates our entire being and expresses itself through our every thought and action. **The more we resist corruption, the more blatantly corrupt and hypocritical we become.**

# The Face of Hypocrisy

It is easy to see how the redpill community grew from and is ultimately powered by **the resentment of men who can’t get any**—there’s nothing wrong with this as a source of energy, frustration, or talking about strategies to get laid, but it’s **extremely ironic** that the community most obsessed with being an “alpha” is the community most prone to producing fakely-alpha, clearly woman-hating examples of men.

For example, see this comment by a user on redpill, bambooooooodmad (account since deleted):

Dude, I have the same struggle. I'm not close with anyone. At 41, the loneliness and social isolation I've experienced throughout my entire life would have crushed the average man a long time ago.

I've been battling depression for over 10 years now and the last 5 have been fucking brutal. Like you I got in awesome shape. Became addicted to crossfit. I compete with guys 20 years younger... but it didn't fix the fundamental problem, which was my loneliness.

**What I've found that extinguishes it completely is the realization that no one will ever love me, understand me or accept me the way I want them to.** Looking for this is akin to unicorn hunting. It's a fools errand. **A heavy dose of DGAF [Don’t Give A Fuck] and pure selfishness was in order.**

I've transformed my isolation into blessed solitude. It sounds easy, but it's not. I'm proud of myself for doing this all on my own and glad there wasn't anyone there to help me through the tough spots.

The reasons for my social ostracization became evident **when I began studying evolutionary psychology: I am exceptionally good looking (been told I could be a model more times than I can count. People mention my looks ALL the time.), I'm tall (6'1') and white. I am also well above average with intelligence.** I am a HSP (highly sensitive person) with a strong inclination towards honesty, integrity, justice, kindness, compassion, empathy, generosity, etc. I'm also very artistically gifted and have been a musician, luthier, inventor, performer, entertainer for most of my life. I'm outspoken, **naturally confident and alpha**. I think you get the idea.

**Men are usually jealous of me, women I won't fuck hate me and the women I do fuck hate me because they can't control me.** People back stab and try to take me down a notch or two all the time. Everyone makes assumptions about me that are incorrect. So I find myself utterly and painfully alone in this world.

We must give up on searching for love and validation and learn to give those things to ourselves. **Fuck other people. They're selfish, manipulative, petty and stupid. I would rather spend my time alone anyways. Ahhh, the peace and quiet…** [Bold emphases mine]

Wow. Look at the clusterfuck of this poor guy’s psyche. The mind-virus that is redpill took this guy who was depressed, and “fixed” his depression by making him hate people! Now he is STRONG and INDEPENDENT *because*  “the realization that no one will ever love me”. You can see in the way that he uses shibboleth words of the redpill community that his mind has been partially colonized by the language of the community: “I’m…naturally confident and alpha”—really, are you? It sounds more like he has tried very hard to make himself “naturally alpha”, constructing an image of “alpha” and trying to push this image onto himself, to make himself fit the image so he can identify with it. (Real/healthy alpha behavior is not bound to images; it sees and accepts the Self, i.e., would not have to spend words defining itself as “alpha”.)

# The Poison of Dialectics

The reason that this hypocrisy we see happens so frequently in extremists is that mind-viruses often work by drawing us into this 5::4 dialectic: the harder we fight against the dialectic, the more intense the dialectic becomes. In this case, the two sides of the dialectic are (quite clearly and firmly) “men” and “women” and the “alpha male” (masculine) versus the “beta male” (effeminate) man. In other words, a simple battle of the sexes.

What is unique in the redpill community is the extent to which this dialectic has been publically chased and lauded as the answer to—the dialectic. **Problems with women? Well, you just need to intensify your gender politics!** This is exactly the wrong tack to take if you want to prevent your mind from becoming overrun with some limited worldview. **However, it’s not a bad strategy to take if all you want is to get laid.**

# What Redpill Has to Offer

The point of this class is to offer alternatives to either credulous, uncritical acceptance of a toxic mind-virus; ineffective fighting against a mind-virus that digs us in deeper; and simple denial of the mind-virus. These three strategies all limit our thinking, and either open us to memetic colonization (acceptance), dig us deeper into infection (fighting back), or put up arbitrary repression-filters (denial). Therefore, we must take a look at the positive attributes of redpill and its worldview.

One already mentioned is the explicit focus on positive attributes of the self, and the explicit dismissal of resentment or other-focusing as a way of becoming strong and healthy. Although the conversations in the redpill community frequently betray this ideal (by expressing resentment), the ideal itself is a solid one, in my opinion. Bringing awareness to resentment and its unhealth is a positive community action and positive aspect of the redpill worldview.

Another thing which is not a problem at all is the allowing for a positive male identity. It’s true that “feminazis” and “the Cathedral” have made having a healthy/positive male identity problematic: fear of being called a pedophile or a rapist, and extremely mixed messages about strength versus cruelty and attraction versus creepiness are given to children (of all sexes). The idea in “men’s rights” movements that men should have a way to have a positive identity without being reviled for their masculinity is basically healthy.

Also, something very notable about the redpill worldview and its claims is that they often ring true. Many of the claims in redpill are presentations of valid scientific data, and although we can criticize scientist for wasting their time doing such sexist studies, we cannot easily dispute the facts they found in their data. But more than factual claims, the redpill worldview is notable because it “rings true”—it speaks to our actual experience of gender politics.

For example, a popular post entitled “[Woman makes guy wait 3 months for sex, while fucking Chad on the side](https://www.reddit.com/r/TheRedPill/comments/3j96kq/woman_makes_guy_wait_3_months_for_sex_while/)” describes how a woman who wanted to wait for sex with someone she cared about still had sex with ‘Chad’ (a dismissive name used to describe an alpha male) sums up the story sarcastically as “Why couldn't she tell him that she had fucked Chad before she met her boyfriend. Couldn't be because she was going out to dinner with Beta while fucking Chad could it?” and, *from our ordinary mode of egoic, gender-political reasoning,* it is hard to dismiss the truth of this story: The woman was playing sex-dating games with her boyfriend (the “beta”—who for his part was engaging in his side of these games), and meanwhile she was having fun “on the side” with a man who “only pushed physical buttons”. It’s hard to deny the reality of sex politics or gender politics—the fact that the battle of the sexes actually takes place in the way the redpillers describe. **But what they ignore is that these dynamics only occur insofar as people are infected by a gendering mind-virus dialectic.**

**So, in dismissing a worldview, we cannot simply ignore or deny its truth or its factual claims.** What I’d like to do now is look at a few specific ways to dismiss mind-viruses without simply denying, fighting, or accepting them.

# Disarming Tool—Contextualization (Application of 3)

However, what we can do is contextualize the truth claims of a worldview in order to reduce their hold on our mind from total to relative and contained.

By looking at the claims/worldview of redpill as “merely an expression of extreme 4-energy”, we delimit and contextualize its energy: we draw a line around the worldview and then send it back into just one territory or region of our thinking. **This is a form of binding or banishment.**

When we make this contextualizing move, the worldview goes from “unpacked” (fully taking up our view of the world—we are looking through its lens) to packed or partially-packed (we take the glasses off and can see that they are an object, a lens). It doesn’t matter which zone of the numogram we assign redpill to, or whether we are using the numogram or some other system—**what matters is the mental move of saying “this isn’t everything, this is just one way of looking at things” and *naming* that way so that we can put it in a little box and set it aside.**

I have linked this method with 3 because 3 is an energy of grounded wisdom, nuanced complexities, and sitting with these uncertainties and the complexity of direct, unreduced experience. However, the assignment of redpill to 4 and its banishment to that sector is a reductive move—the 3 move is the stepping-out to see the broader and more complex field of thought and possible worldviews, worldviews which have nothing to do with gender or extreme gender politics.

Using the numogram (or a similar system or diagram such as the zodiac or the tree of life) to contextualize and sort energies is a very useful tool, because assigning an energy to a single zone on the numogram immediately gets us thinking about what the other zones might be in relation to it—if redpill is 4, then what is 5? What is 7::2—perhaps feminism? It immediately gets us brainstorming alternative perspectives that we can take to escape the mind-virus that is taking over our entire worldview.

# Disarming Tool—Critique (Application of 5)

What I’ve been doing in this entire essay is a *critique* of the redpill worldview. Critique is the delimitation of an idea that has overstepped its bounds. Note the similarity in sound between “critique” and “katak”, the demon 5::4.

Critique is not a mere attack, but rather an approach toward something from a richly complex, outside perspective, with the intent of opening-up the limited perspective into the more rich and complex one. This is 5’s territory through and through—high intellectualism in the best (and also the worst) sense.

The way I have been writing this essay is simply to sit back and contemplate redpill, to stew in its complexities, and to look for “points of weakness” (5’s affinity with war strategy). Seeing a point of weakness in the worldview—a place where it is surging out of rational borders, distended—a small cut or gentle point suffices to help loosen the hold the virulent territory has upon the mind. The point is to reveal a richer, non-polarized territory outside of the highly-polarized territory.

This is a tricky skill because it is grounded in holding a pose of generative uncertainty (similar to how I described 3, above)—holding a 5 stance—which is difficult if we are already caught in a highly polarized worldview. But, if you develop your relationship with 5 (intellectualism, strategic thinking, high art such as poetry and composed music), you will be able to take this stance even amidst strong polarities or other energies. Holding the 5 stance, characteristics of the object of contemplation then begin to become clear, like seeing angles on a form emerging from fog.

# Disarming Tool—Deconstruction (Application of 2)

The power of the redpill worldview comes already from its intense 5::4 dialectic—and dialectic more generally speaking is best attributed to 2. Deconstruction of this dialectic allows us to rise above to (once again) a more complex and grounded perspective (Gt-3 going from 2 to 3).

Deconstruction is a process of identifying the polarities in a system and crossing those polarities to annihilate the opposites. You can see how I have used deconstruction in this class, as I have articulated the extremes of the redpill community, and then showed how those extremes are sabotaged by themselves. For example, pointing out how redpillers are against resentment to the point of demonizing beta males (thus expressing resentment) is a move of deconstruction.

This method turns an argument against itself, producing a paradox that implodes in a little poof. However, this little implosion leaves some fallout—it may remove the immediate polarity-claim, but it leaves behind the emotional residue and ideological space. Endless deconstruction creates a positive emptiness which (paradoxically) begins to resemble that which was deconstructed.

Similarly, the critiques 5 provides us with may help delimit a virulent idea or worldview, but they fail to strike at the core of what makes the worldview wrong or wrong to hold.

# Reframing and “Something Extra”—The 3

All three of these techniques have made mention of the 3 as a grounded and direct experience of reality and its complexities—a meditative experience of reality. 3 is the “hidden third option” as well as that which is in-between worldviews—that “something extra” that allows us to step between worldviews and pivot our orientation to reality. **Moving from a perspective of extreme polarity (4 or 2, characteristic of mind-viruses) to a perspective which is balanced, equanimitous, nuanced, and depolarized is the method of disarming mind-viruses.** This points to 3 itself as the ideal tool of disarming mind-viruses: develop your relationship with complex, direct experience and unmediated presence in reality, and this will become a touchstone that allows you to stand outside of polarized thinking and observe how it functions.

# Conclusion—Go Out and Get Laid

The point of this class is not to demonize the redpill community or its worldview—although I do find it ridiculous and toxic. The point is to show how an extreme worldview can be handled with latex gloves—safely and delicately—and without extreme reactions. This allows us to use the worldview and its energy as a tool: to adopt it as a stance without becoming possessed, or to cherry-pick from its ideology in order to find useful tools or interesting materials out of which to construct our personal myth.

The redpill community gives us a wonderful resource in understanding the 4 and its dynamics and uses. In such an extreme form, it also shows us how energies can become unbalanced and septic. In particular, 4 energy seems to be closely linked with mind-viruses, namely extremely polarized ideologies. But of course, 4 energy is much more neutral than this in general: it is merely the energy of complete extension, the taboo which establishes and defends boundaries, and the expression of strength.

So, since we live in a world saturated with gender politics and sexual economy, redpill can be an interesting and useful resource, one that gives us a leg up in understanding why sex, dating, and gender politics are all so weird and crazy. **But it can only do this if we keep it strictly contained within a broader context**—if we lose context as we handle extremist materials, they take over our mind and we lose access to sapience, becoming polarized, programmed hosts for a reproducing ideological mind-virus.

So, rather than being angry or afraid or offended by redpill, we can see it as an expression of frustrated men who are trying to dig themselves out of gender-politics-related unhappiness by (tragically) digging themselves deeper into dialectic. We can see it as *data* that we can use to understand basic energies and psychology. And, if we want to go pick up girls at a bar—we can see that it’s not really that bad to use such aggressive or manipulative techniques on women because *they go to bars to get picked up with these techniques*—this type of life-affirming insight helps to dissolve the toxicity surrounding gender politics. As long as, of course, we don’t believe a word of it.

# Further Reading

* [The Ignorant Schoolmaster](http://gen.lib.rus.ec/search.php?req=ignorant+schoolmaster&lg_topic=libgen&open=0&view=simple&phrase=1&column=def) by Jacques Rancière, the most elegant disarming of virulent mentation I’ve ever read.
* Works by Michel Foucault, a critical theorist whose elegant critiques elevate the mind into rich complexities, and demonstrate how complexly-wrong systems can be picked apart skillfully.
* [Listen, Little Man!](http://gen.lib.rus.ec/search.php?req=listen%2C+little+man&lg_topic=libgen&open=0&view=simple&phrase=1&column=def) by Wilhelm Reich, an angry, spirited articulation of the ego as a mind-virus.
* [/r/TheRedPill](http://reddit.com/r/TheRedPill), the source of the infection
* [/r/sorceryofthespectacle](http://sorceryofthespectacle), my subreddit which takes a critical perspective on media culture.