I. Sorrows of Empire

A. Perpetual war and the normalization of war

1. Wars and interventions since 1945

2. Blowback and creation of more "enemies'"

a. Iraq: ISIS, Al Qaeda in Iraq

b. Libya: Al Qaeda, ISIS, Open-air slave market, drug trafficking to Europe

c. JSOC, Drones, kill lists and more terrorists

d. failed states and failed regime change

3. Weaponization of planet earth and space

4. Normalization

a. getting used to others dying

b. fly the Ukrainian flag, but not the Iraqi, Afghan, Somali, Syrian

c. “thank you for your service”

B. Ideological Power and the "Lying World"

1. Empire needs to continuously create enemies to justify itself: propaganda and the social construction of the “evil other”

2. Myth of American Exceptionalism

a. benevolent empire

b. glorification of war: a creative act to shape the world

c. glorification of warriors: good, noble and carrier of universal values

3. Corporate Media, news, entertainment and the “Lying World”

4. Education

a. Lies My Teacher Told Me

b. Teacher didn't bother to tell me

c. teacher doesn’t dare tell me

C. Loss of democracy and constitutional rights

1. imperial presidency

a. Commander in Chief

b. National Defense Authorization Act 2012 Sec 1021(b)(2)

The law is an historic threat because it codifies indefinite military detention without charge or trial into law for the first time in American history. It could permit the president – and all future presidents – to order the military to imprison indefinitely civilians.

The law does not require even an allegation that a detained person caused any harm or threat of harm to the United States or to any U.S. interest. Mere allegation of membership in, or support of, an alleged terrorist group could be the basis for indefinite detention.

c. "kill list"

2. Congress as rubber stamp for executive branch

a. Article I Sec 8 declaring war

b. AUMF Oct 3-10 2002

i. open ended power to wage war

ii. “appropriate” use nuclear weapons

3. Constitutional Rights

a. Great Writ

b. FISA Court

c. Patriot Act

i. sneak and peek searches

ii. magic lantern

iii. FISA court/National Security Letters

iv. personal information

v. sec 215

d. NSA

i. broke law and/or exceeded authority thousand x a year (according to federal judge phone records collection violates fourth amendment and is “truly Orwellian”)

ii. collecting and storing data on millions of Americans., including medical and financial records

iii. lied to or mislead FISA Court (Chief Judge “violated the Constitution”)

e. Homeland Security

i. 1200 gov org/2000 private companies

ii. operating in 10,000 locations

iii. generate 50,000 intelligence reports a day

iv. millions of cameras/billions of footage “gazillion” bytes of info

v. $57 billion

vi. universities

D. financial ruin

1. Debt $31 Trillion

E. “Nemesis, the goddess of retribution and vengeance, the punisher of pride and hubris, waits impatiently for her meeting with us.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K4NRJoCNHIs>

<http://www.truthdig.com/eartotheground/item/senate_cedes_more_power_to_the_nsa_by_passing_cisa_20151028>

<http://www.globalfirepower.com/country-military-strength-detail.asp?country_id=united-states-of-america>

Legal Definition of Terrorism, Domestic Terrorism and Act of war

<https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/2331>

<http://www.propublica.org/article/nsa-data-collection-faq>

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/the-switch/wp/2013/12/31/heres-what-we-learned-about-the-nsas-spying-programs-in-2013/>

<http://www.tomdispatch.com/blog/176137/>