Soc 412: Quiz Hedges and Fraser

1.(t/f) Hedges argues that the function of the liberal class and liberal institutions in the U.S. has historically been to limit the worst impacts of capitalism, not overthrow it.

2.(m/c) According to Hedges, all of the following are pillars of the liberal establishment that have collapsed EXCEPT:

a. organized labor, powerless b. education, corporatized c. culture, commodified

d. democracy, bought and sold to the rich e. none are exceptions

3.(t/f) Historically the beginning of the destruction of the liberal class, Hedges argues was WWI and the Committee on Public Information, aka the Creel Commission.

4.(m/c)) According to Hedges, which of the following have been the functions of the liberal class?

a. a safety valve to channel dissent b. discredit those who criticize capitalism

c. offer reforms as solutions, New Deal d. a and b e. all of above

7.(t/f) According to Hedges, university faculty are a serious part of the problem as they strive for professional success in a very narrow academic speciality irrelevant to what is going on in the worl.

8.(t/f) Hedges argues that it is a moral obligation and an existential necessity to engage in non-violent direct action.

5.(m/c)) In “Death of the Liberal Class” Hedges argues that the success of corporations in transforming culture has been a significant factor in undermining American institutions. Which of the following are examples?

a. corporate culture or what he calls an empire of consumption

b. creating a cult of the self

c. undermining social solidarity, including loss of empathy for others.

d. a and c e. all above

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5.(t/f) According to Dower, there were real wars during the cold war. One of the many examples that he gives is the Korean War, where the commander of strategic bombing said that we killed one million Koreans, burned down every city in North and South Korea, and forced several million from their homes.

5.(m/c) Which of the following are true about the Democratic Party, according to Hedges?

a. they are the political voice of the liberal class.

b. in reality they serve the system of power as a safety valve

c. Bill Clinton transformed the Democratic Party into another faction of the business party. d. a and b e. all of above

6.(t/f) Years before Trump, Fraser asks the question in the chapter you were assigned to read, how we got to the situation where billionaires can be populist heroes.

7.(t/f) According to Fraser, the broad based social acceptance of the myth of businessmen as freedom fighters against the system and for the people has been a significant factor in creating the mood of acquiescence in contemporary society.

8.(m/c) According to Fraser, what are the social forces that have created the conditions where so many Americans embrace the "new plutocrats" as their saviors?

a. success in eliminating class consciousness in the workers.

b. success in redefining political discourse around cultural values, such as, nuclear family, heterosexual marriage, work ethic.

c. the universalization of consumer culture and the cult of the self d. a and b

e. all of above

9.(t/f) According to Fraser, the billionaire populist heroes have been successful in convincing Americans that freedom is free enterprise and government regulation undermines the peoples' free, entrepreneurial spirit.

10.(m/c) Which segments of society have contributed to the myth of the billionaire entrepreneur as democratic hero?

a. religious groups that found capitalism in the Bible

b. toy and video game manufacturers, Greed, The Bottom Line, Arbitrage

c. multi-national corporate owned media, CNBC, Bloomberg

d. schools with investment clubs for kids e. none are exceptions