

# **The Second American Revolution**

# The Year 2020

It is important to take into context the events of the year 2020, as they have led to a perfect storm of weariness that helped spark the Second American Revolution.

- **Iranian Tension** - A US drone strike near Baghdad International Airport kills Iranian Major General Qasem Soleimani, inciting fear in America of a third world war.
- **Beginning of novel Coronavirus outbreak** - The COVID-19 outbreak in Wuhan, China, hits news worldwide. Most ignore it. First recorded case in the US occurs on January 20.
- **Federal Downplaying of novel Coronavirus** - Throughout February and March, the federal government downplays the threat of the novel virus, despite the number of cases continuously rising. The federal stockpile is barely at 10% of what could be required for a full pandemic response. President Trump especially downplayed the threat, holding rallies throughout February, claiming the virus was “the Democrats’ new hoax”, and that “it’ll disappear in no time”.
- **Pandemic** - On March 11, the WHO declares COVID-19 a global pandemic. On March 17, President Trump tells reporters, “This is a pandemic ... I felt it was a pandemic long before it was called a pandemic.” Around April 11, global COVID deaths hit 100,000, with the US claiming roughly 20% of those deaths. Places of public gathering worldwide are quickly closing their doors. Daily global CO2 emissions drop by roughly 17%. As millions of manual laborers lose their jobs across the country, the US Senate eventually agrees on a stimulus bill to give \$1,200 to every adult independent in the country as the unemployment rate approaches 15%. The US soon leads the world in cases and deaths, and provided one of, if not the most, uncoordinated and ineffective pandemic responses in the world.
- **Haircuts** - Protests arise as predominantly white, right-leaning citizens grow angry at their states remaining closed due to the pandemic. Many claim the virus was engineered to subdue the American people. Some of the most famous protests occurred at the Michigan State Capitol, where protestors brandished automatic weapons and screamed at police, while threatening the life of the governor. Glaring images and videos of middle-aged white men pushing, spitting on, and yelling at police circulate through social media and cable news.
- **Video of the Lynching of Ahmaud Arbery released** - On May 5, a Brunswick, Georgia attorney releases a video of Black man Ahmaud Arbery being trapped and shot in a street multiple times by Travis and Greg McMichael. This killing occurred on Feb. 23. The McMichaels were arrested on May 7, leading to outrage over the fact that justice was not served for more than a month after the documented killing of Arbery.

## 25 May 2020

On the 25th of May, 2020, George Perry Floyd, a Black man, was murdered by Derek Chauvin, a White officer of the Minneapolis Police Department. Floyd had been accused of using a counterfeit \$20 bill, resulting in the arrival of the police. Officers Tou Thao, J. Alexander Kueng, and Thomas Lane either watched or helped Chauvin restrain Floyd, despite the fact that he was handcuffed and laying on the ground. For 6 minutes, Chauvin placed his knee on the back of Floyd's neck, cutting off his airflow and putting Floyd in pain. After these 6 minutes, Floyd had stopped breathing, yet Chauvin and the other officers did not move for another 3 minutes. There were no attempts at resuscitation. Passerby begged the police to get off of Floyd, as he repeatedly stated that he could not breathe. They did not. Floyd later died in custody due to asphyxiation.

## 26-27 May 2020

Protests erupt in Minneapolis. The sight of a black man murdered by white police was not much less than commonplace in America by this time. Riots and looting erupt throughout Minneapolis as the rage of centuries of white-on-black oppression are unleashed. Police in riot gear are seen tear gassing, beating, and spitting on protestors. A notable scene shows a local Target supermarket looted and burned to the ground. The store had been refusing to sell milk to protestors to treat tear-gas-related injuries and supporting the police department. Videos of the police begin to circulate. A gap in the reporting of mainstream media and social media grows wider as the MSM primarily circulates videos of rioting and arson, while social media circulates videos of unlawful police brutality.

## 28 May 2020

Governor Tim Walz signs an executive order dispatching the Minnesota National Guard to subdue protestors in Minneapolis and St. Paul. As protestors gather outside of MPD's 3rd precinct, officers fire tear gas, rubber bullets, and bean bags into the crowd. That night, the protestors climbed to the roof of the building and burned it to the ground.

## 29 May 2020

State police begin to mace peaceful protestors. At this point, protests have erupted around the country. President Trump grows frustrated with the movement and begins to tweet about maintaining law and order, and calling the protestors thugs. One of his tweets ends with, "... when the looting starts, the shooting starts." This statement is reminiscent of Walter Headley, the Miami police chief during the 1960s, who was publicly racist and opposed the civil rights movement.

## Brutal response of the Police

As protests all over the country gain popularity throughout the week, police forces are seen beating, gassing, shooting, groping, and killing protestors who were peaceful. In almost every instance of violent protesting, the police can be seen instigating the violence. Here I will recount some of the most horrific injustices against peaceful protestors and reporters I've seen since the protests started.

- Multiple protestors with eyes exploded due to direct or point-blank rubber bullet contact.
- As kneeling black men speak to a line of police, they are arrested without explanation. Anyone trying to stop the arrests is gassed.
- Police spitting on handcuffed protestors while onlookers shout "we see you"
- Police kneeling, seemingly in solidarity with protestors, as they put on gas masks to fire teargas into peaceful crowds.
- Police pepper spray a sitting peaceful protestor, then kick her over for fun.
- When a protestor asked "what's going to happen at 8?", a policeman responds, "we're going to beat the fuck out of you"
- Police damaging property including small businesses and their own patrol cars to place blame on protestors.
- Police planting caches of bricks along city streets to promote violence.
- Police pulling down protestors' face masks and macing them.
- Police destroying a medical tent authorized by the city
- Police destroying caches of water that protestors are handing out
- Police shooting a teen in the head with rubber bullets, asking the protestors to bring him to them for medical assistance, then firing on the protestors who bring him to them.
- Police enforcing curfews, yet blocking off entrances to subway stations and barricading entire streets so that protestors cannot return home.
- Police macing a peaceful 8-year-old girl
- Police tasing a man who was handcuffed in front of his small son
- Police shooting at medics who are clearly marked with a red cross as they are attempting to provide aid to hurt protestors.
- Police moving barricades towards protestors and harming them in the process
- Policeman gropes a woman in custody. As she hits him 6 other police officers pull out batons and beat her into the ground.
- Police aiming assault rifles at children recording them from roofs.
- NYPD running over groups of citizens without warning.
- Police arresting man with his hands up while he's being interviewed by the media.
- Police forcing a paraplegic man out of his car as he repeatedly tells them "I'm paralyzed" in response to them ordering him to get out of his car.
- Protestors standing in the road, typically 40-60 ft. from a police line, shot at with rubber bullets.
- Police barricading a group of protestors on a sidewalk as they order them to leave, then throw teargas into the crowd, leaving protestors with nowhere to run or hide.
- As people are walking home at night, a policeman walks by them and pepper sprays them in the face. The man recording the video (from a second-story balcony) shouts at the police to stop, and they pepper spray him as well.
- Policeman pulling a handgun on a peaceful group of unarmed people
- Police destroying signs made by protestors, then beating and arresting them when the protestors become angry.
- Police running up to cars in traffic, breaking the windows, and pulling a black couple out of the car to arrest them for no reason.
- Reporters are fired at, gassed, arrested, and beat while continuously identifying themselves as press.