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Politics in the Age of Advanced Technology

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Abstract

The Revolutions of 1989 caused the demise of communism leaving only a handful of countries calling themselves communist. But communism is just a name given to a centralized controlled system albeit with an inclusion of repulsion for religions. Post 1989, many countries carried on as totalitarian regimes together with controlled acceptance of religion. Thereby the scene in 2018 is China who still calls herself a communist country, becoming the world's second largest economy and European countries increasingly being centrally controlled from Brussels. This has caused a tremendous resurgence in the acceptance of centrally controlled systems worldwide. This paper also looks at politics within the framework of currently accepted derivations from high technology and the similarities of these to the ideas of the Founding Fathers of USA, who understood that the successful economy of their newly formed British colony was clearly due to the citizens being allowed to bloom their innate talents.

Keywords: Communism; Democracy; High-technology; Freedom; Totalitarianism

Introduction

This paper is timely because there is a growing resurgence in the thought process of humanity that totalitarianism is the optimum method to rule a country. This is happening while development in high technology has come to a critical crossroads because small codes in software must be prodded by developments in sociological and political thinking throughout the history of mankind to move in the direction that ensures a world away from the away from the "Big-Brother scenario" [1,2] and towards a world of justice and freedom for people all over the world. To understand this, the development of electric cars can be looked at. Electric cars are currently mostly run by software and if rogue elements take control of it, assignations can occur, not with knives or guns but with a few key strokes on a computer or even a voice instruction to a computer. The time has come for sociological and political thoughts to intercede in technological progress. A good place to start is the thought process of the people who struggled for USA's independence and liberty from tyrannical rule. During the Cold War era, there was propaganda on both sides to prop up democracy or communism. But today, most people around the world take the narrative of the cold war era as just weapons of war and only a few dwells at the real value of either systems and just let leaders make decisions. Even in the USA, there are many who are against the idea of liberty probably because they have not lived in totalitarian countries.

The world of technology is favoring localized control over a centralized one. Sensors are given increasing intelligence and more actuating ability. The reason is simple, local sensors do not have to wait for a signal to reach the center and come back. Even if the communication is at the speed of light, as in fiber optics, there are circumstances as in an electric power grid where such a communication delay could be sufficient to cause a blackout of a whole grid. The delay includes communication time over the fiber optics and processing time of the central computer, which do not know the latest data of the region where the fault occurred. The central computer may have to call back the local sensor to find out local conditions and trends before making the final decision. If the central computer is artificially intelligent, it may even try to simulate the scenario of the problematic region before coming up with a decision. All these delays may be too long to isolate the local fault therefore letting it spread over the whole grid. Comparatively a local intelligent sensor will have the latest local data and can make faster and therefore more accurate decisions. This scenario shows that in machines, the advantages of providing as much distributed control as possible is well known, but in governance of a country there are large swathes of humanity who still believe central control is the better route to take. This is despite, The Revolutions of 1989 [3]. It is possible, humanity do not have a collective memory of events that occurred even as recently as 1989. Another reason could be that for most of human history, kings or totalitarianism had been the only system. A third reason could be the success of China in becoming the second biggest economic power in the world in such a short time. A fourth reason is that European Union is being increasingly run by the unelected civil service in Brussels [4].

Many neglect the fact that in China of today, control has been widely dispersed even though she still calls herself a Communist country. And the civil-service controlled European Union is facing increasing revolt like Brexit, the Hungarian right-wing victory, the advances of Marie Le Pen and the Italian resistance to EU.

The Revolutions of 1989 did not happen because the democratic countries' cloak and dagger operations won over the ones from the communist countries. The people of communist countries were simply deprived economically to live as decent humans, causing them to revolt against their governments [5]. It is also an undeniable fact that empirically, while communist ideology was put into practice in the Soviet Union, China and Cambodia, millions of citizens were killed; actually, multiple times more than the infamous number of people killed by Hitler. But both Hitler's regime and communism are just totalitarianism. Both systems do not try to find out the will of the citizens, the leaders believed the select few are the smarter ones who can decide for the whole country. Many try to categorize these regimes as right wing, left wing or fascist but the bottom line is that all these

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murders were caused by totalitarian leadership who will not listen to the will of the people.

The Ancient Greek and Roman Empires eventually evolved to realize that a wider pool of decision makers can come up with better ideas; basically, deep expertise of a few people on certain topics should be consulted to make an overall better decision. On the other hand, the Asian rulers tended to consult highly evolved sages before making decisions. The problem with this route, is that at times, highly evolved people were not available or not properly recognized by the ruling class. So tyrannical systems tended to be more prevalent in Asia [6].

The best system is to have as many as possible decision makers. Thereby cultural or geographic variations will be considered, resulting in a more favorable decision for the whole country.

There is a need for a permanent civil service whose job is to ensure the system of governance is implemented to provide stability for the citizen. This way, when a new ruler takes over, he or she need not create entire algorithms each time for the various systems. The new ruler can make simple statements and these can be implemented by the civil service. The main job of the ruler is to provide oversight over the civil service and to make sure elements within them do not go rogue over the citizens. The ruler must always listen to as many of the citizens as possible; current day technology can be developed to aid this. The unelected civil service can be very powerful because they are entrenched for long periods and include heavily armed military and police and the various departments like the agricultural, medical and the development (or construction) departments. The basic idea of communism is that the civil service should rule the country without an oversight from a citizen chosen and listening leader [5].

An example of the civil service going rogue is a medical department making a decision to recommend a medicine or even forcing it onto people in the form of giving injections to school children. Or the medical department instituting fluorine in drinking water. Fluorides supposedly improves health of teeth but is also known to damage the brain of young children. The leader of this department may make such a decision because they were enriched by the supplier of the fluorides [7]. As for the military going rogue, there has been numerous cases of this happening in the 20 and 21st century; often to remove other tyrants and becoming tyrants themselves.

Methods

For this study, the historical crucible of empirical political systems humans has lived under is observed over the history of human civilization. Throughout human history most of the data are cases of totalitarian kings or emperors ruling over people. There are only a few cases of benevolent kings who actually listened to the common people which eventually evolved into democracy. An example of these in-between case is Akbar, who would send out spies to get the pulse of his people so he can make better decisions [6]. Individuals having a say in the running of a country is a new concept which started around the time of the independence of USA [8]. So, basically the data set on totalitarianism throughout human history is large while that of individual citizens having a say in the running of the government is rather small.

Results and Discussion

Empirically observing democratically run countries of the world today, many of their elected leaders are totalitarian, though they are supposedly voted by the people. Vote rigging is rampant in many democratic countries, even in the USA [9]. So, the number of countries that have actually moved away from totalitarianism is quite small. Therefore, it is imperative that there is a mass understanding of the deep thoughts of the Founding Fathers of the USA in formulating a system where the citizens of the country have distributed control of the government. As this knowledge is propagated to a large percentage of citizens, the chances of vote rigging could be curtailed because even in committing vote rigging crimes, criminals must have justification to carry it out.

With a little common sense, people should be able to deduce that the only reason electronic voting machines are used today is to aid in vote rigging [10]. It is obvious that a paper ballots are far harder to rig than an electronic voting machine. Machines can be hacked by a particular person or organization. Comparatively rigging paper ballot entails multiple criminals at many polling booths. This is often an insurmountable task to carry out because it is not easy to pay-off that many criminals. The main criminals may have the money because some old-wealth criminals are worth trillions of dollars. But all that money may not be enough to sufficiently entice people to commit crimes because they have a natural tendency to look after their families which entails patriotism to their country. In many cases, criminals need to be enticed by more than money; drugs, lust, blackmail or terror to themselves or their families often accompany the money. Among the vote rigging this author have come across are policemen on helicopters kicking out ballot boxes into jungles, blackout happening exactly during the time of vote counting, when such blackouts normally occur only about three times that year.

The USA history is one of resistance to totalitarianism [11] because the new immigrants to these newly colonized lands wanted a world away from the totalitarianism of Europe where serfdom and even White slavery was common. There is no place in their religious texts which extols totalitarianism so these people hoped to create an environment free from it.

Most humans tend to generalize countries as a particular race or culture. Actually, both countries and races are dynamic sigmoid curve of thought process depending of activities of the influential people of the society. The USA has for the most part had her sigmoid curve's peak favoring distributed control of government. This idea has moved to many fields in the USA, like the ranking of music and television programs. But at one low slope of the sigmoid curve of the USA, there are many who are stoic believers that centrally planned system is the best [12].

After the American Revolution the British left in 1776 and the USA was formed. The British did not want to fight a two-prong war; the new USA soldiers on one side and the French army in Europe. So, after defeating the French, the British decided to take back USA in 1812. They fought many battles throughout the USA with losses and victories but the Battle of Baltimore was a climactic one which led them to stop all further military aggression against the USA. But they did continue business and political attacks till today [13]. An American lawyer who was negotiating the release of an American doctor, on a British naval ship observed the battle and got so emotional at the apparent victory of the Americans that he wrote a poem which eventually became the national anthem of the USA, "The Star-Spangled Banner" [14]. So, the Star-spangled Banner song can be considered the poem/song to mark the triumph of freedom (common citizens having a say in the progress of a country) over totalitarianism. Some who argue against the song [15] must try to research under what systems their ancestors were living under in 1814; it was the best idea for a slowly progressing

human race at that moment of time. King George III of Britain said of George Washington, "If he does that, he will be the greatest man in the world" [16]. This is because, despite the fact that the people of the new USA wanted George Washington to be their new king, he refused and wanted the USA to be governed somehow by the people themselves. But the only system humans knew of, till that time was totalitarianism of kings or emperors. So, the Founding Fathers had to formulate a system to keep things the way it was, with inputs to preventing the sprouting of totalitarianism. One of these inputs was the Second Amendment which is the right to bear arms; many misunderstand that it was for hunting, it was not, it was to prevent the consolidation of power by a few rogue rulers. People who work for the government are called public servants; who should listen and take actions for citizens' concerns. The function of the civil service was to enforce a publicly accepted system of laws and provide protection from foreign or domestic attacks [17].

Countries should be ruled such that citizens can choose and achieve their spiritual goals. But today, almost all country leaders' focus on materialistic goals. There is no doubt hunger of the population is a sure way to breed discontent and eventually revolution against the government, but they are neglecting the idea that if the citizens are enabled to be highly spiritual, material wealth will come as a consequence. It could be via the richer citizens being more charitable to the poorer around them or just luck which comes as a consequence of the citizens being more spiritual. It should be noted that for some, even in old Europe, dedication to a job like making the finest violin possible is taken as a religious ritual; this provides excellence which is very much needed for a country as a whole. A further research can be done to measure the correlation of all the good things like respect for religions, respect for the poorest in the country, respect for children and respect for women to the material wealth of a country. The farming success of the pious Amish is a noteworthy example [18].

When communism was rampant, an acceptable slogan was that the end determines the means. And the end was always a perceived material improvement. This is wrong because the means takes the most time and therefore should be the most important for humanity. Usain Bolt is currently worth $34.2 million after winning eight Olympic gold medals within a total time of less than two minutes. But he put his heart and soul in training which formed his eventual character and the final races are just a display of the fruits of his hard training [19]. If material wealth is the aim of life, why are so many billionaires miserable? The role of government is to facilitate each citizen to achieve what they perceive to be their duty towards their "builder".

Technology is progressing extremely fast today and many are even quoting religious texts to say that technology will enable absolute totalitarianism. So, they are pointing out that technology itself is the evil against humanity. A simple answer to this is that a knife is a human innovation which helps a human to cut vegetables to have a healthy meal. But it can also be used to kill other humans. The same can be said of the latest technological devices. The only difference is that the damage done by knife wielding human previously was within the physical space his body can reach but for a person wielding a highly technological devices the space around him where damage can occur has increased tremendously. From the historical times of knife weapons to guns the space increased previously but now with the internet, a few key strokes in one country can cause damage to people right across the whole earth. There are large debates about gun control in the USA, then some terrorist started using trucks and cars to kill people. Are we to do truck control and car control too? What about the knife control because of the very high number of cases of knife murders committed in U.K. where gun ownership is severely curtailed [20,21]? Actually, many are perceiving the evilness of technology because it is easy to project that the current and coming technology in the next few years absolutely require guidance of the good people of the world. So, it is absolutely imperative that humans be taught to be good if technology is allowed to progress. Sociology, politics and even religion must intercede to enable the further progress of technology.

Previously there was the development of cars but they have become so advanced that with the wrong group of people in control of their protocols, cars can be used to surgically remove or kill people according to leaders' flawed ideas of sociology or politics. Just a few codes on a computer by a person on a laptop can cause a car driven by a person shooting to 200 mph and crashing into something. The Mafia who previously needed knives and later guns of increasingly better quality, added to lots of training and certain drugs to get them ready to make a killing, can now sit in front of a computer and become a "Hitman". But technology can also be used to achieve what George Washington envisioned, 100% participative democracy. This requires voting machines, but only after firewalls are high enough to prevent any hacking of them. There is no doubt that the firewalls are getting higher; there was a time when even teenagers could hack government computers, today hackers tend to be large countries hacking another country [22].

To provide a view of how technology can improve human lives, the following are a few examples. Cars that will soon be driverless and thereby move at speeds equal to or higher than the fastest race cars of today and be able to do this, like the latest jet fighters in air shows, moving inches from each other. Thereby the current two-lane road can be turned into six lanes. A country like India, which is lacking in infrastructure can solve its problems immediately without building too many more highways [23]. Humans will order rides with their phones; say they want to go to a supermarket from their home, an autonomous car will pick up three other people who ordered travel in the same direction. This way, cars are utilized, unlike today where a single person can be driving a huge car. Such a system will free up huge tracks of prime land surface, which are currently being used as car parks in major cities. All cars will be electric vehicles (EVs) because electric motors which drive them are far more efficient in converting energy stored in batteries into rotational energy of the wheels [23]. A typical Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) car converts about 25-30 percent of the petroleum energy to wheel turning energy, while an electric car can convert 60-96% of battery energy to wheel turning energy [23]. ICE do not have a circular motion; their motion is linear and this movement have to be converted into circular energy. To do this, flywheels and counter weights on the crankshaft are needed. Induction motors of Evs already turn in a circular motion so they can naturally turn wheels of cars. The only portion of the induction motor that can fail are the copper coils and the bearings [24]. Bearings can be replaced by Active Magnetic Bearing (AMB) where the motor shaft floats in a magnetic field, providing zero friction. The currently available highest end coil varnish can be utilized which can even enable a large motor (1800A) to run continuously for more than 20 years as is the case in the Western Digital factory in Sarawak, Malaysia [23]. Huge savings can come about in the electric power industry also. In the grid of Sarawak, Malaysia up to 30 percent of the generated energy from the power stations is used as spinning reserve. Spinning reserve is basically running generators more than the demand of electricity to cater to an unplanned trip of one, or a few big generators within the grid [23]. If everyone utilizes self-driving Evs, most of them will self-drive to a charging point and be plugged in for much of the day; just as most cars are waiting for humans

during office hours. Of course, while waiting for self-driving cars to be a standard, humans can drive their cars to work and park it near the office and each car-parking-space will have a plug to plug-in their cars for the eight or nine hours they work. Plug points at car-parking-spaces are not a new invention. In fact, this author studied at South Dakota, USA where snow falls for six months a year, observed that there are plugs in each car-parking-spaces even in the 1980s because if the cars are not plugged in during the deep winter they will not start as the liquids within the car freezes. With all cars plugged in for most of the day, if a big generator in the grid trips, energy from all the plugged-in Evs can immediately cover this energy loss [23]. Batteries are the fastest source of energy to start up which is why they are the main back up for financial institutions' computer systems. So, plugged in self-driving Evs will make it unnecessary for electric power companies to run 30% extra power which is a huge reduction in pollution and resource [24]. Added to this, Evs themselves emits zero pollution. Some have claimed that power stations must produce extra power and thereby pollution to energize the Evs, but huge power stations have economies of scale and all the latest technology in combustion efficiency can be utilized in such a power station. If these same advanced technologies are utilized in every ICE car, they cannot be sold at the going prices today. Also, carbon sequestration is being developed where the exhaust from the chimneys of coal power plants are sent to deep underground where rocks tend to have a property of absorbing the pollutants [25].

Slowing down of the EV just requires using software to fatten the wave going into the motor (increasing the wavelength) and vice versa. Braking the car requires the rotating magnetic field (RMF) of the stator going slower than the rotor speed, thereby also generating energy in the stator coils; only the final stop requires a friction brake shoe. This is called regenerative braking. To understand this; if an electromagnet is swiped over a wire or a coil of wire, current is generated in the wire below. Basically, the stationary wire below sees a change from low magnetic field density to high and then low as the top coil moves away from the bottom coil. But as the top coil is moving and the below coil is also moved; assume at one stage, the speed of the below coil is faster than the top coil, this is when current is generated in the top coil, despite the fact that it is already pumped with current from the battery. This extra current will be stored in the battery and regenerative braking has occurred [23].

Overall the advantages to Evs over their ICE counterparts are so easy to understand that politicians who are about 99% non-technical in all countries [26] in India, China, Indonesia, U.K and France have already set target dates for all cars to be electric.

All trains will be Maglev and actually float in air with zero friction. Even the braking will be without friction because this is done by changing the polarity of the magnetic field. Without friction, parts will last much longer thereby there will be much less drain on the world's resources [25].

There will be an IP address for everything, so waste in time searching for personal belongings (keys, tools books etc.) will be a thing of the past. For example, in mechanic shops, there is a board to store all their tools and mechanics walk to this board each time they want to use a tool. Some mechanic shops are run by just one person so they do not walk to the board to take tools each time; in most cases they can find their tools but once in a while they will lose a critical tool which can cause even a half hour delay. When each tool has an IP address and an environment energy harvesting RFID (Radio-frequency Identification), a cell phone or a Google Glass type computer can help them locate tools [22].

When a bearing fail in a big machine, problems will occur. So, today maintenance managers just change bearings at a scheduled time. Some of these expensive bearing can last up to 10 years of continuous operation but are changed every year because there are no sensors to detect their deterioration. If there are a large number of sensors in these machines as is being implemented by GE (General Electric), the bearings need to be changed only if they are really failing. GE is putting sensors in all their GT (gas turbines), jet plane engines and other machines they are selling [23]. The vibrations of the shaft can be measured by sensors and bearings are changed only if the vibration is out of specifications. GE developed a software called Predix to handle the data analysis to achieve this. The data analysis of this IoT/I4.0 (Industrial Internet of Things/Industry 4.0) is much bigger than what social media is currently handling; GE stated that the data collected by IoT in 2019 is larger than all collected since the start of human civilization [23]. Predix will pull a large number of data management human resource toward GE. Factory managers can henceforth make better decisions because they will have data on parameters (like flowrate of every pipe) in their system. A faulty or leaking pipe will be immediately detected to reduce waste [22]. In summary, technology can be a great boon in enabling humanity to live much more efficiently and minimize usage of resource.

One reason mentioned above as a reason why central control system seems to be gaining ground is that the China model have produced the second largest economy in a short time. An obvious counter to this generalization is the very high standard of living achieved by the same Chinese people living in Taiwan and Hong Kong through years of laissez faire system. So, it is not the system but the Chinese people who enabled this success. The China model has huge problems. The leadership in China decides on a factor that will make the country great and the whole organization focusses on it and achieve the target quite efficiently in a short time. But is the target correct? Are bullet trains all over, the optimum solution? Are huge cities recently constructed which turn out to be "ghost cities" real progress? The population vigorously changed from bicycles to cars with a fervor to the extent that bicycles have become rare and China is manufacturing more cars than USA and Japan combined. But is this really progress in the right direction? The consequence of that focus is rising pollution and decreasing exercise of the population [27]. The problem with big organizations is that they can focus on a problem with a massive effort but few in that organization will dare to question the target. Singapore in the 1980's had a focus to ensure that every Singaporean home has a VCR (videocassette recorder). In today's world, it can easily be seen that it was a wrong target, with the advent of compact disks (CD) and later online download of movies. If the government did not have such a target, Singaporeans could have saved money by not having a VCR, skipping even the CD and DCD revolution to eventually purchase a laptop to download movies they need. These are the kinds of mistakes made by communist countries [28-32].

Conclusion

This paper's aim is to put forward an argument against the current growing appeal and acceptance of totalitarian leadership. USA did not become the world biggest economy for the 20th century till today because of its natural resources. Russia and Canada have larger land surface area and China have just 0.63 Mkm^2 less land surface area. The key to the success of the USA is her political system which promotes liberty and a constitution written to defend the priority of common citizens rather than leaders. The people thereby were enabled to bloom whatever they are naturally gifted with [33-36].

The cultural difference between a USA citizen and one where liberty of not favored is that the citizens of USA tries to find their innate advantages and are encouraged to develop these. While this author was in USA, a common phrase among USA citizens was to, "find their calling". This phrase is never heard of in more totalitarian countries where citizens are just told what to do, according to the master plan organized by central authorities. The problem with the totalitarian systems is that, just as surely and some citizens within a country will be born blind or without a limb or two, each person is born with certain advantages and disadvantages for a particular job. A totalitarian government may force citizens to study and get a job in a field which he or she is disadvantaged to do and someone who was born advantaged to perform a certain job may be instructed to so some other work. So, there is less chance in procuring the "super hero" (a person like Michael Jordan) in a totalitarian country.

Totalitarian countries can take on huge projects and achieve it is a short time because the whole population of the country are focused to achieve the centrally set target. But this paper prods people to question, is this massive attention focused on the right targets? Can central authorities make better decisions, compared to each citizen giving feedback considering various cultural and geographic sensitivities, to eventually shoot for a more accurate target for the future?

This paper also aims to deter many who consider the latest scientific developments as tools to enable full totalitarianism; and even quote religious books to justify this. This paper shows that the same technology can also be utilized to better human civilization and to achieve full participatory democracy as envisioned by the founding fathers of USA.

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