

Harold

“It helps to keep me sane in an insane world”

18 February 2013

I would like to thank everyone at WSWs for the existence of this invaluable web resource. I am able to find more truth in each daily post than I can find in years of mainstream press. It has been a source of real information and analysis, and I recommend it to anyone who is interested in what is really happening in the world.

I discovered the WSWs shortly after it began. I was searching a political topic and got a link to the WSWs. It was one of the luckiest finds of my life. I read it everyday and I feel that it helps to keep me sane in an insane world. Your optimism in the possible future of humanity contrasts with the conventional beliefs, held by both the right and left in this country, that we are all capable of evil and that our society will fall into ruin soon.

I read many other “liberal” and “progressive” publications and foreign newspapers and listen to newscasts from other countries over the Internet. I have always been disappointed by these outlets, chiefly because they all seem to be either trying to save capitalism or have just given in to it. I used to read *The Nation*, but gave it up decades ago. They seemed too dedicated to theory with no praxis. The writers were, in the main, no different from other American “intellectuals.” I was glad I wasn’t reading *The Nation* when it started to make excuses for the Iraq/Afghanistan wars and became an apologist for the Democratic Party. I may not agree with everything WSWs publishes (just 99.9 percent of it), but I feel that the articles are always carefully thought out and researched.

To contrast WSWs with the “progressive” press, in the latest issue of *In These Times* (March 2013) there are 1) an editorial praising the French government for their interference in Mali, ending with a hope that the French would recognize that the Tuaregs had legitimate

grievances, but no mention of French imperialism; 2) “Ode on a Grecian Radical,” praising Alexis Tsipras and Syriza; 3) a typically obfuscating article by buffoon/intellectual Slavoj Žižek (he appears in ITT often); and, 4) a “feminist” take on Kathryn Bigelow, that she has broken into the “boys club,” including the opinion that she is being criticized for being a strong woman, and praising the CIA agent, Maya, in *Zero Dark Thirty* for being a strong woman! There is no mention of the real controversies around this terrible film or Bigelow’s collaboration with the CIA. There are also articles on the latest middle class concerns. It’s not that there aren’t some well thought out articles and some useful information; it’s that they do not seem to have enough belief in their own philosophy to stand up for it. They seem afraid that they will offend the middle class, that they are too grounded in identity politics, especially a kind of faux-feminism and “green” (whatever that means) and are very willing to compromise (i.e. give up). Broadcast progressive programs on TV are no better. I am constantly seeing fake progressives like Juan Cole, Dana Milbank, Jonathan Alter, and any number of Democratic Party operatives.

Please keep up the good work. You are keeping the flames of independence, equality, and rational thought alive in this dying society.

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