

The “Media” System and the Hidden Truth: Journalism Betrayed

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Abstract

*Those wishing to re-read some of the editorials epitomising the cultural and social line of some major American and Italian newspapers would see how far from the truth the mechanically repeated news were, seemingly forgetting the facts, without the least self-criticism and with hypocritical malice because the events did not go as they had wanted. In this way we are discovering the “fake. News”. The official and servile story seemed more geared to interests other than that which independent information should have. Honoré de Balzac rightly reminded us “History is of two kinds—there is the official history taught in schools, a lying compilation *ad usum delphini*; and there is the secret history which deals with the real causes of events—a scandalous chronicle”, but it is in this that we must seek the facts and events we are witnessing. Thus, in some sort of video game and incapable of criticism, we end up hypnotized and subdued by the “big brother” Orwell described, by now unacceptable.*

Keywords

fake-news, informations manipulated, false truths, monopolistic information, illusion orwellian

1. What Is the Truth?

We ought to start asking ourselves questions about the meaning of life again, who we are, where we are going, what the future holds for us and what we expect. The most be the starting point. Being aware of this will be an important step to see, through wisdom the meaning of history and, for believers, also a reminding vision of life. A life that goes ahead according to the degree that one faces suffering that leads to knowledge, to attempt an answer to the eternal problem that is, as Pilate asked Jesus: “What is truth” 8 New Testament (John 18, pp. 28-40). Today the predominance of personal interest justifies the fact that each one considers as truth whatever pleases us. In a world that changes incessantly aspirations and desires change all the time, as do the criteria that define truth, with the result that we are unable to understand what is true and what is false” (“Society, the Foundation of Economy”, p. 81, Fabrizio Pezzani, Scholar Press, January 2017).

Those wishing to re-read some of the editorials epitomising the cultural and social line of some major American and Italian newspapers or review the inexhaustible and repetitive talk shows, would see how far from the truth the mechanically repeated news were, seemingly forgetting the facts, without the least self-criticism and with hypocritical malice because the events did not go as they had wanted. The official and servile story seemed more geared to interests other than that which independent information should have. Only a few challenged the cultural monoblock that increasingly appeared as a shabby re-edition of the despotic period. Honoré de Balzac rightly reminded us “History is of two kinds—there is the official history taught in schools, a lying compilation *ad usum delphini*; and there is the secret history which deals with the real causes of events—a scandalous chronicle”, but it is in this that we must seek the facts and events we are witnessing. Thus, in some sort of video game and incapable of

criticism, we end up hypnotized and subdued by the “big brother” Orwell described, by now unacceptable.

The year 2016 was a textbook example of this distorted and manipulated information driven by the media financiers who suggested what and how to say it. The financial and neoliberal attack on society has made it more attackable, separating political power and becoming superordinate, using the communication channels for the realization of interests that are distant from the common good, too often trumpeted as a fig leaf to mask a lobbying command action. Globalization ensuing from unbridled liberalism imposed finance as a hegemonic tool to influence political decisions and an oligarchy passed off as democracy in the attempt to undermine it. Negative globalization, as defined by Bauman, has favoured the formation of over determined powers with respect to individual states, rendering these hostage to meta-global problems, but today the balance of power is being redefined for a different global equilibrium.

We have reached a historic turning point, yet the media have systematically and deliberately ignored the evident truth of the facts that we now confront with alarming questions and continuing on an unequivocal path supporting the interested positions but overtly denied by the facts. Perhaps they should take a year off and go out in the streets to understand the level of social tension that seems to be heading towards chaos. As Freud said, long-dormant emotions are buried alive but then explode with unprecedented violence.

The last year imposed profound political and social changes, which have not been understood or even wanted to be understood, but always presented and predicted in the opposite way to how they manifest. We can see at a glance the dissonance with reality concerning events that have characterized the global change in process. It started by targeting the alarming reduction in oil prices, Goldman Sachs had ventured to predict a possible decrease to 20\$ per barrel and all the financial newspapers instrumentally tagged along, without understanding or wanting to understand that the price of oil is the dependent variable and the dollar is the independent variable. When the price of oil went up to 120\$ a barrel (2008/2009), the dollar went to 1.5€ but in 2016, oil prices fell and the dollar strengthened—almost on par with the euro. It is therefore quite clear that the price of oil can only remain low if the dollar remains strong but this cannot occur today because of the deep crisis in the US, and as expected, the price went up to 54.5\$ per barrel. As the following graphs show, a high oil price corresponds to a devaluation of the dollar and a depreciation of oil corresponds to an appreciation of the dollar, but how fortunate that markets are rational and that unicorns exist:

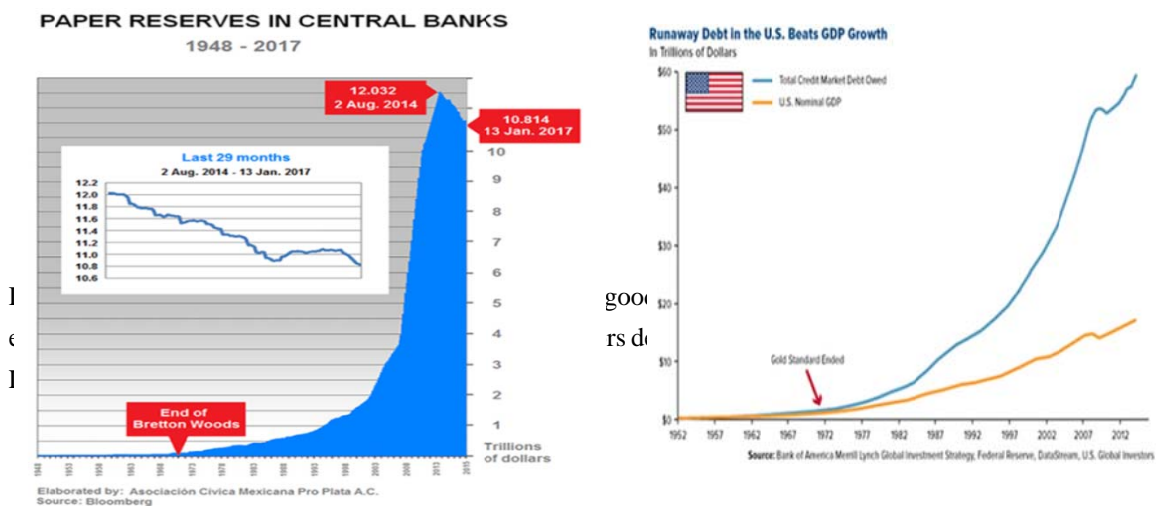


Figure 1. Euro (EUR) to U.S. Dollar (USD) Annual Average Exchanger Rate from 1999 to 2015

The financial manoeuvre with an endless amount of derivatives was the last push to weaken Russia, Iran and Venezuela and prepare the favourable conditions for the Clinton presidency, highly supported by finance. In opposition, the media campaign against the current President Trump began, now elected by the United States of America as a kind of circus clowns. His interventions were certainly punches to the stomach but were necessary to awaken a slumbering society and prone to elites. It was necessary to get to deep America that is not NY, but that of the mid-east, the farmers, the agriculturalists, the communities that sent their young to slaughter for wars not for the good of the country but for the interests of the few who had very precise hegemonic designs that were obstructed. It was necessary to awaken the memory, the anger of so many young and forgotten veterans suffering from traumatic problems resulting from wars that are not understood. Consider Clint Eastwood's movie "American Sniper" showing the tragedies of mentally unstable youths that were a potential fire beneath the ashes.

Everything was forgotten in the obsessive presentation of Clinton as the saviour of a world of a few but not of the many who in the United States are close to mass rebellion highlighted by the continuing acts of violence. Not only the American but also the Italian media have overridden the team orders, without in the least considering the problem of the dramatic US social situation, systematically manipulated with inaccurate and often false information. In short, Trump was not to be given space. The media all slavishly aligned themselves, but then again, those who crawl do not stumble.

Finance became dominant when Nixon in 1971 detached paper money, which has no value in itself, from a real equivalent. Between 1971 and 1975, the world changed illogically, monetary-finance totally separated from gold became a sacred truth and two opposite and irreconcilable systems ensued; a fictitious false mythological system but useful to establishing a hegemonic government of the countries that by borrowing put a rope around their necks to be constantly held to ransom by hegemonic finance that dictates the rules of the game in politics. The phrase "give me the countries' debts, and I will make all the laws that serve" seemed an exaggeration but has become a reality and since then, infinite money became a vast stock of paper money, as these graphs show:



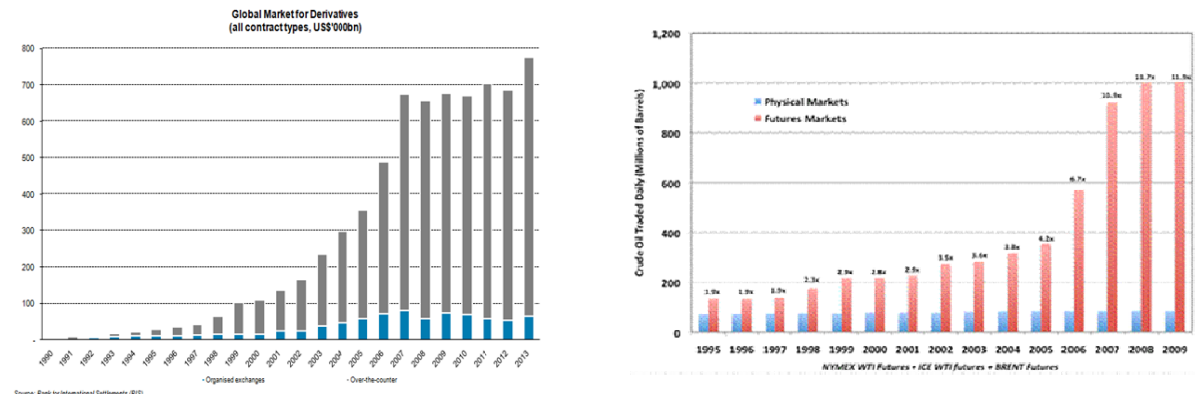


Figure 2. Global Market for Derivatives

The Obama administration's war strategy towards Putin's Russia was pursued and supported by the media that defined Russia and Putin as a mortal threat to democracy and the freedom of Europe and our media uncritically joined them. Yet the real problem of the United States is China and the alliance with Russia would be to establish a more useful balance of global power for everyone. The war in Syria has always been portrayed as a religious war but is instead a war of territorial occupation and power to govern oil against Russia. Now that the Obama-Clinton government has ended, the war in the Middle East would seem to have reached a turning point, and where are the media? A protest against the risk of the obscurity of democracy, the darkness of the light they have extinguished.

Brexit in April was another textbook case of the short-sightedness of journalism under dictation, it seemed a possible financial catastrophe but then turned out to be, as expected, a soap bubble. Great Britain was the first global government in the world but today is only left with memories and resembles an old noble woman who does not want to give up the memory of her ancient and now faded splendours. The 33.3% of British citizens below the poverty line were those who voted for Brexit against Cameron's speculation without realizing that the poor people cannot be seen from the palace who daily struggle to live on bread and not paper money that is infinitely printed and without real value.

The American elections marked another peak of servile journalism and some editorials should be framed for the future memory of those who wrote them elevating Clinton as godmother of non-existent freedom. The media have been unable to analyse the sense of a historic vote that veterans contributed to, soldiers who fought wars in the interest of a few while the country was stripped by the hegemonic finance of Wall Street. The media showed their antagonism because the facts had not gone as they wanted, expressing deep anger rather than undertaking an analysis and objective self-criticism.

Trump's subsequent actions demonstrate that his ideas are very clear and aimed at dismantling a system of power that is increasingly weakening and of course meets the resistance of an oligarchy that does not want to accept a nation made of the people, for the people and with the people, as Lincoln said.

Then we had the referendum farce in Italy and here too the media condemned the possible vote against as a return to the past and a disgrace to be avoided, joined by the Financial Times that changed its mind three times in two months, the Confederation of Italian Industry and Goldman Sachs fearing terrible financial woes. Nothing happened, because the increase in the spread would have been the manifest action of falsifying data. However, 15 days later, the rating agencies downgraded the country to be able to go back to playing with the spread.

Finally, Trump's oath and speech on January 20 was of course criticized by the media declaring him a danger to the country when their own financiers had already done the work of demolishing US

companies. On the same day, the drug trafficker El Chapo Guzman was extradited to the US, the only drug lord in history to be extradited alive. No comment, but perhaps it was simply a fortuitous case. The role of the media, even if some but few have taken an opposing stance, attempting to restore the balance of information that is closer to reality, has always been unequivocal under a dictatorship of thought that does not admit exceptions. They thus tried to influence public opinion in directions not shared by the majority but functional to their lenders, yet shocked when President Trump keeps them at a distance. Should uncritical acceptance of opinion journalism be questionable and as such assume the consequent responsibility? Probably yes, but it is time to rediscover the meaning of the common good and begin to truly understand that the crisis is the end of a history and a sociocultural model that has failed in the same way as the ruling class, but not only the political, which for too long has lived off the poor, unloading on them the weight of a debt in order to ensure consensus and the system of toxic relationships that is likely to kill human society. The United States must find the sense of democracy they and the whole world has lost and remember what Lincoln said:

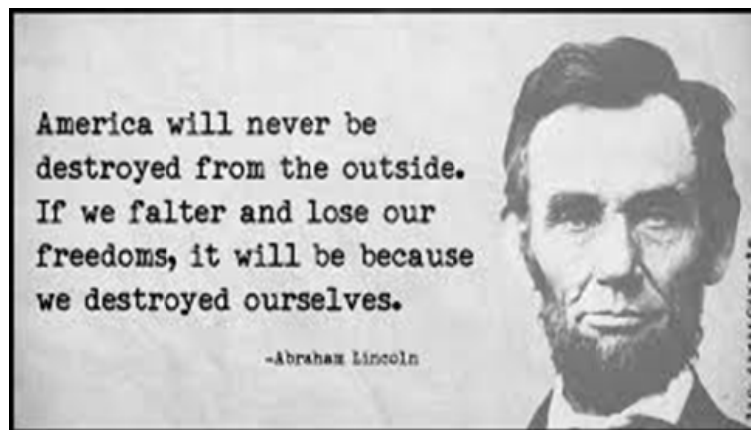


Figure 2. The Lincoln Words

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