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WIKILEAKS

and the consequences of chaos
It has been my long term belief that what advances us as a civilization is the entirety of our intellectual record, and the entirety of our understanding about what we are going through. What human institutions are like, and how they actually behave. And if we are to make rational decisions, in so far as any decisions can be rational, then we have to have information drawn from the real world (From a debate held at the Frontline Club in London, July 2 2011).

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_VdFtb4zNXE
Elite control and dominance of media and other cultural institutions produce ‘consensus’ and support for status quo.

Predictable outcomes (social stability) based on vertically hierarchical control of information.
THE AGE OF DISSOLUTIONS

- ideological dissolution
- technological dissolution
- professional/cultural dissolution
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- ideological dissolution
- technological dissolution
- professional/cultural dissolution
Elites compete with non-elites for access to and impact on the globalised public sphere, which constantly evolves, changing with each iteration of the cycle. The evolution of the system cannot be forecast with certainty.
the 3 Ds

- democratisation
- decline of deference
- digitalisation
Freedom House 2011 report

- Free
- partly free
- not free

Series 1
Series 2
comes to power in an era when, for the first time, the premise that a politician's private life has no relevance to his performance in office is being seriously debated. (Daily Mail, UK, 2007)
Bill Clinton & Monicagate
Abu Ghraib
Collateral Murder

Overview

Update: On July 6, 2010, Private Bradley Manning, a 22 year old intelligence analyst with the United States Army in Baghdad, was charged with disclosing this video (after allegedly speaking to an unfaithful journalist). The whistleblower behind the Pentagon Papers, Daniel Ellsberg, has called Mr. Manning a 'hero'. He is currently imprisoned in Kuwait. The Apache crew and those behind the cover up depicted in the video have yet to be charged. To assist Private Manning, please see bradleymanning.org.

5th April 2010 10:44 EST WikiLeaks has released a classified US military video depicting the indiscriminate slaying of over a dozen people in the Iraqi suburb of New Baghdad -- including two Reuters news staff.

Reuters has been trying to obtain the video through the Freedom of Information Act, without success since the time of the attack. The video, shot from an Apache helicopter gun-sight, clearly shows the unprovoked slaying of a wounded Reuters employee and his rescuers. Two young children involved in the rescue were also seriously wounded.
Over the last two decades, the ideological differences between the Left and Right have blurred, largely due to the collapse of Communism, and a recognition by the Left that a market economy, with appropriate safeguards, is the best way to raise living standards. For decades, foreign policy, particularly the American Alliance, was a key point of difference between the factions, but today key figures in the Left like Gillard are as supportive of the Alliance as the Right. According to ALP Senator Dave Feeney, a central figure in the Victorian factional dispute, there is no longer any intellectual integrity in the factions and he describes the current system as unpredictable and "byzantine." Feeney points out, for example, that there is no major policy issue on which he, a Right factional leader, differs from Gillard.
OSAMA BIN LADEN DEAD

U.S. special forces kill bin Laden, Obama tells nation

The mastermind of the worst terrorist attack on American soil is dead; U.S. President Barack Obama has announced, almost 10 years after the attacks that killed more than 3,000 people. FULL STORY

• LIVE BLOG: Latest developments
• LIVE: Crowds cheer at White House
• Death affects the world
• D.C. crowds celebrate