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 THE PAINFUL TRUTH ABOUT STUDENT PROTESTS

It is not necessarily my intention to completely dismiss the student protests.

But for well-meaning and good faith activists, it is time for a reality check.

These protests will amount to NOTHING... Nothing at all, for as long as they confine themselves to college campuses.

They have done a great job exposing the willingness of the state to suspend civil liberties for the sake of the imperialist and Zionist agenda.

But the notion that students, faculty or colleges can somehow exert pressure upon the government to ditch the Zionist entity is a silly folly.

Academic institutions are part of the ruling hegemony. They do not control it, monopoly capital does.

If but only a single part of the hegemony rises in rebellion against the interests of monopoly capitalists, it can be easily replaced.

The truth is, students and their views represent a small minority in this country. Already the media is exploiting this fact.

They are highlighting the contradiction between out-of-touch, sheltered and infantile college students, and ordinary Americans who live in the real world.

"Pan-leftist" freaks are contributing greatly to that media strategy, with their ridiculous and infantile behavior.

It is not my intention to scold students for being privileged.

But they objectively are. Most Americans have to work with their hands for a living.

The feelings of students does not matter as much as the working masses, because the feeling of working people is based on the real world, not isolated and sheltered safe spaces.

Students have a responsibility to be ruthlessly self-critical, reject their echo-chambers, reject their self-congratulatory way of romanticizing their actions, and always be mindful of the great gulf between their 'safe space' and society.

For those who truly care about fighting the imperial agenda, you should utilize your privilege - your accumulated knowledge - to go down to the small towns, the working neighborhoods, the forgotten but immensely potent America - and talk to the people.

They must leave their comfort zone and initiate a dialogue between their own perspective and that of working masses. And they must be patient with opposing views and learn how to find common ground with normal people.

If you cannot persuade the silent majority - you will never be able to challenge the government. Learn the lesson of the 60s - all that noise, and Nixon still wins by a landslide!

First as tragedy!

Strife on college campuses is one thing. But imagine an uprising in every town hall and city council in America- imagine masses of ordinary people being given a voice, to air their grievances with the government, with where their

taxes are going, with their declining quality of life and indebtedness.

Most students are not "the people." They are not "the masses." They are a small, privileged minority that learns and thinks for a living- rather than works.

And even where they do work, they only do so for the prospect of securing a future career based on their accumulated knowledge-capital.

Most Americans work with their hands, the ones who feed and build the country. Their consciousness, feeling and attitudes matter more than students.

Genuinely principled and honorable students must embrace the Platonic gesture of enacting a ruthless and impersonal critique of their own perceptions, consciousness, feelings and intuitions.

These students will be a small minority of the general student population. They will commit class betrayal - and sacrifice their own comfort for the sake not only of the people of Gaza but the working masses of America.

The primordial debt of the thinking consciousness - is its alienation from the work that makes it possible, real labor.

But there is no obstacle the unity of consciousness with the working masses cannot surmount.

These protests will die out. Let us hope a few new serious partisans will come out of this experience.

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