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Wie demokratisch ist die kommende Präsidentschaftswahl in Iran?

Iran's Presidential Election: Fact and Fiction



Qual der Wahl: Gleich acht Kandidaten gibt es bei der Wahl für das Amt des Regierungschefs zur Auswahl.
<http://irananders.de/analysen/news-analysen/article/wie-demokratisch-ist-die-praesidentschaftswahl-in-iran.html>

Translated and edited for brevity by J M Damon

The ancient Chinese philosopher and military strategist Sun Tzu said that one must know one's opponent. When we consider the analyses and commentaries of Western media and experts concerning the presidential elections in Iran, we get the impression that they are not in the least familiar with their opponent the Islamic Republic, even though it has existed for 34 years. In the following we consider the criticisms of those who accuse Iran of conducting presidential elections that are neither fair nor free.

CRITICISM: Only eight of the 686 candidates for the Iranian Presidency are allowed to

campaign, which is neither free nor fair.

RESPONSE: If the political systems in the West are the measure for free and fair elections, then the Iranian election with eight candidates (any one of which can be directly elected President) is not unfree and unfair. The Iranian system, with eight candidates, offers many more choices than the systems in the West. For example, voters in the Federal Republic of Germany can usually choose between only two candidates for Chancellor. In most other national systems as well, the political landscape is dominated by two or three parties. In Iran there is a much larger selection of candidates for the office of head of

government: In 2009 there were four approved candidates; in 2005 there were 8; and in 2001 there were 10. Only twice in the 34 year history of the Islamic Republic have there been fewer than four candidates (1985 and 1989.) In the present election the political system of Iran allows that the most important political currents are represented since four conservative, a centrist, a reformer and two independent candidates have been approved.

CRITICISM: IN Iran, one has the choice only between a left Islamist, a moderate Islamist or a liberal Islamist.

RESPONSE: This is true. In most Western countries as well, the voter

is limited to the choice between a left democrat, bourgeois democrat or liberal democrat. Just as in the Islamic Republic no secular democrat can be elected president, in the Federal Republic of Germany no Islamic party can participate politically - that is, no party that would be a threat to the fundamental order. In both systems of government the candidates are required to act in compliance with the prevailing constitution or "Basic Law." Just as political parties that stand outside the constitution are forbidden in Iran, parties that stand outside the basic law in Germany are also proscribed..This has happened more than once in the history of the Federal Republic.

In short: Both systems resort to circular argument; and if the defining characteristic of a democratic system is that the basic principles of its constitution can be subject to disposition, then no country in the world is democratic.

To be sure, there is a difference in the two systems. The constitution of the Islamic Republic was approved, accepted and verified three times by the Iranian people. In March 1979 the monarchy was rejected in a national referendum. For the first time in history, an undemocratic and unelected governing system was formally voted out by democratic means as the people voted in referendum for an Islamic republican state.

In December of that same year the people again voted in referendum and chose the completed Constitution of the Islamic Republic, which had been written by a specially created constitutional convention whose members were directly elected by the people of Iran. Years later, in July 1989, the people again approved by referendum a constitutional reform. The basic law of Germany, by contrast, was created under the directives of an occupation government that was imposed by its victorious enemies.

It has never been submitted to the German people for approval even though Article 146 provides that after reunification the entire nation should be allowed to adopt and approve an authentic constitution by referendum.

CRITICISM: *In no democratic state does an organ such as the Guardian Council have the power of approval over candidates; furthermore, the Guardian Council is an extra-parliamentary, unelected body.*

RESPONSE: This is incorrect. In the Western Democracies, political parties perform the sorting and selection of candidates. They decide who will be the two or three candidates for President, Chancellor, Prime Minister or Minister-President. The decisions are not made directly by the people. In Iran, however, there is no such indirect "democracy of the parties." In every electoral race, the candidate is elected directly. This is the reason why the so-called Guardian Council takes over the vetting of candidates. As in all constitutional states, the Constitutional Court is extra-parliamentary. Its members are not directly elected by the people, but rather through direct and indirectly elected institutions. In Iran this court is chosen by parliament, the head of the department of justice and the religious-political head of state. The president and government have no influence on the election of its members, thus they cannot determine the elections in caucuses or primaries.

CRITICISM: *Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the religious-political head of state, has the greatest influence on the Iranian Constitutional Court.*

RESPONSE: That is correct. The religious and political head of state is chosen and approved by by a convocation of experts that is directly elected by the people, and this head of state functions in reciprocal action with the religious

establishment. The Islamic state model is thus a symbiosis of democracy and the native Shiite religion, to which in Iran around 90% of citizens belong. This model does not envisage a secular and liberal constitution, but rather an Islamic Republic that provides for its citizens a social and political framework for approaching God. In the Western democracies the "Establishment" selects candidates for key state offices.

This Establishment consists of actors and interest groups that possess no more and no less democratic legitimacy than does the President of Iran. Both Establishments are the results of the culture, *Weltanschauung* and history of their respective countries and societies; and the installing of a Western Establishment in Iran would be as undemocratic as the installing of the Iranian Establishment / in a Western country.

Television Debates are Decisive for Elections in Iran and the West, so All Approved Candidates Should Have Equal Access to the National Network

CRITICISM: *Only one reformist candidate was admitted to the debate.*

This suggests an unfair advantage for the conservatives, who were allowed to participate with four candidates..

RESPONSE: The fact that the constitutional court allows only one reformer increases the reformers' chances of winning. This is because in Iran the presidential candidate must win at least 50% of votes in order to win, otherwise there is a runoff election between the two candidates with the most votes. Since only one reform candidate was approved, the votes of the core reform voters are concentrated in him, which increases the chances of the reformers for an electoral victory or at least a runoff. Meanwhile the votes of conservative

voters are split between four candidates, which decreases chances of a conservative victory. Actually the conservatives should complain to the electoral commission that, because of its vetting, the reform vote is strengthened and the conservative vote is weakened!

It is misleading to call the reform candidate unknown and insignificant in order to suggest that the reformers have no chance. In the last two elections in which the presiding president was not eligible for re-election, the candidate with the lowest ranking won. In 1997 the winner was Mohammad Khatami, the director of the national library, and in 2005 it was Mahmoud Ahmadinejad who was merely the mayor of Teheran. Both were initially considered outsiders because they were barely known throughout Iran. The reason why an unknown candidate in Iran can make the leap directly into the office of the presidency is that, with the blessings of the electoral commission, the candidate immediately becomes familiar throughout the country. Thanks to the election laws, all candidates scrupulously receive equal access to national television. According to a study by the Gallup opinion research institute, 86% of Iranians get their news from the national broadcasters. There are no commercial broadcasters, there is no counterpart to our German mass circulation Bild magazine or giant media corporations, all of which have vested interests and support a certain political conceptions and therefore effectively support particular candidates or parties. Most Iranian voters are "floaters" who pay no attention to party affiliations or biographies of the candidates and therefore have no prejudices against unfamiliar candidates. Consequently in Iranian elections, in contrast to elections in the West, there is a strong element of chance.

To be sure, Mohammad Reza Aref [winner of the 2013 election: ed.] is unfamiliar to Western journalists, but how many Germans know who their vice Chancellor is? The Iranians know who their second highest executive is. Mohammad Reza Aref was Mohammad Khatami's vice president during his second administration from 2001 to 2005 and is thus not a political unknown, as Western journalists depict him. Last but not least, we have to consider that far more conservative than reform candidates are disqualified. The conservatives in the "Coalition of Five" were completely excluded. These were Inspector General Mostafa Pour-Mohammed (named by Khamenei), former Foreign Minister Manoucher Mottaki, (head of the Secret Service) and Ali Fallahian (wanted by Interpol).

CRITICISM: *The Electoral Commission disallowed the candidacy of the best known aspirant, Ayatollah Hashemi Rafsanjani, who is an opponent of Khamenei. Furthermore the Editorial Committee's criteria for approving candidates are not transparent.*

RESPONSE: On the contrary, the eligibility requirements for all candidates are clearly defined in the Constitution. Article 115 of the Iranian Constitution states that the president must be a native of Iran and must belong to an established religious and political group. He must also possess Iranian citizenship and truthfulness and be a capable leader, intelligent and of good repute. He must fear God and believe in the basic principles of the Islamic Republic of Iran as well as the official religion of the land. According to Article 110, Paragraph 1, Point 9, judgment of these qualifications falls to the Constitutional Court.

Several months before announcing his candidacy, 79-year-old Ayatollah Rafsanjani stated, "My

age is such that I no longer possess competency to assume the great responsibility of the presidency and rule over the affairs of the country; and I also believe that my presidency would be incompatible with religious law and would work to the disadvantage of good national order." It was not Rafsanjani's disqualification that was surprising, but rather his sudden candidacy just two minutes before the registration deadline. Furthermore, the comparison of Rafsanjani's age with the ages of other top members of state leadership such as Ayatollah Khamenei, who is seven years younger, is misleading, since the office of religious and political head of state requires significantly less strength than does that of the head of government. These duties can for all practical purposes be carried out from home, as was done at the time of Ayatollah Khomeini. Furthermore, according to article 111 of the Constitution, the religious and political head of state can be relieved of the responsibilities of office at any time he is not in a position to carry out his official duties. In addition we must point out that Rafsanjani did not win the last two elections in which he ran, in which he was still younger. He lost the presidential elections of 2005. Before that, in the parliamentary elections of 2000, he came in last. That was in Teheran the oppositional stronghold of the country. In view of this, it seems very suspicious that he is now touted as "hope bearer." The depiction of enmity between Khamenei and Rafsanjani is likewise incorrect.

Just last year, Khamenei again named Rafsanjani to chairman of the Arbitration Council. We should also point out that Hassan Rouhani's mentor was Ayatollah Rafsanjani, which suggests that his brand of politics is present in these elections. Both are centrists.



Supporters of Presidential Candidate Hassan Rouhani at a huge rally in Teheran. The Western media portrayed the election as dull and uninteresting to voters.

CRITICISM: The Guardian Council disallowed the candidacy of Ahmadinejad's follower Rahim Mashaei, a political opponent of Khamenei.

RESPONSE: The Rahim Mashaeis was not disqualified because of any alleged opposition to Khamenei. Khamenei never criticized Mashaei but frequently defened him. The reason for his disqualification is most probably the simple fact that Mashaei never filled the post of mayor, governor, minister or any other public office and thus did not have the necessary administrative experience required by the constitution.

CRITICISM: Candidates who are disqualified cannot appeal the decisions of the Guardian Council.

RESPONSE: This is incorrect. It is possible that the religious and political head of state can order a re-examination of a rejected candidate. This occurred in 2005, when reformist candidates Mohsen Mehralizadeh and Mostafa Moein were rejected in the first round but then approved in the second. It is significant that Mostafa Moein had announced his intention to reduce the powers of the religious-political head of state, yet Aytollah Khamenei intervened on his behalf. It should be pointed out that in Western systems, candidates who are rejected by their parties have no opportunity to appeal the decision.

CRITICISM: Women are summarily excluded from elections.

RESPONSE: This is incorrect, otherwise women would not be permitted to participate as candidates. Their acceptance depends on the Guardian Council. The term "rajoul" which is enumerated as a necessary qualification in Article 115 of the Constitution, can be construed as "man" but is understood in this context as "person." The speaker of the Guardian Council has often stated that no female aspirant has been disqualified because of her gender. It is obvious that the majority of members treat the term "rajoul" as "person" and not "man," thus women are not rejected *per se*. It is true that society needs to change so as to make it possible for women to assume more executive positions, which would allow them to acquire the necessary qualification for the office of president. However, it is possible for Iran to elect a woman president, as far as the constitution is concerned.

CRITICISM: Presidential elections in Iran are obviously manipulated as the election of 2009 shows.

RESPONSE: In the presidential elections of 2005, for the first time, there was a charge of voter fraud from several defeated reform candidates and their supporters. Most Iranians smiled at these charges since the ministry responsible for conducting elections was under the control of the reformers at the time! A year ago, during the parliamentary elections, there were no charges of voting manipulation from any side. In the presidential elections of 2009 the constitutional court extended the deadline for electoral challenges and performed recounts in those races in which it was alleged that votes were not properly counted. Still, the so-called "Green Movement" could not point to a single ballot box that had been miscounted. Furthermore there have been a number of well-funded studies and analyses that verify the

authenticity of election returns. The vague charges of electoral fraud, which are based on hypotheses and speculation, have all been proven false. The following are the most important instances, linked to <http://irananders.de/analysen/new-s-analysen/article/wie-demokratisch-ist-die-praesidentschaftswahl-in-iran.html>

- [Did Mahmoud Ahmadinejad Steal the 2009 Iran Election?](#)
- [A Rejoinder to the Chatham House report on Iran's 2009 presidential election offering a new analysis on the results](#)
- [Iran-Wahlen: Die Inkohärenz der Fälschungsvorwürfe](#)
- [IPI Iran – National Survey](#)
- [Post-Election Poll in Iran Shows Little Change in Anti-Regime Minority](#)
- [Analysis of Multiple Polls Finds Little Evidence Iranian Public Sees Government as Illegitimate](#)
- [Is Iran pre-revolutionary?](#)
- [Iranian Public Is Not Monolithic: Iranians Divide Over Their Government But Unite on Forgoing Nuclear Weapons](#)
- [Neues Dokument soll angeblich Wahlfälschung beweisen](#)
- [WikiLeaks and the 2009 Iranian presidential election](#)
- [Listening post on Iran produce same sort of bad intel as Iraqi defectors](#)
- [Why the myth of Iran's "stolen" Election still matters](#)

CRITICISM: Iran detains political prisoners and opposition leaders Mir Hossein Mousavi and Mehdi Karroube are still being held under house arrest. This proves that democratic elections are not possible in Iran.

RESPONSE: The first part of this criticism is correct, and we hope that Iran will become more open and continue finding its way to become a a more perfect state of laws. However, it must be pointed out that President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has never exerted influence on the department of justice and does not play the decisive role in the security forces. To a much greater extent the situation of human rights and

freedom of the press have deteriorated from the Western point of view because, for one thing, the confrontational policies of the West have intensified; and for another thing the state leadership perceived the electoral unrest in 2009 as an attempted coup. The Iranian leaders were reminded of Operation Ajax in 1953, in which Minister President Mohammad Mossadege was overthrown by the CIA. The electoral unrest four years ago was more an expression of domestic crisis than a revolt directed from outside Iran. The "Green Movement" was a setback for democracy in Iran since it disputed a valid referendum without evidence, in the name of democracy.

It led to an extensive mobilization of the security apparatus as well as a partial shutdown of political culture. The intervention of the West at that time as well as the subsequent economic war did the rest, strengthening the security forces while adding to the anxiety in Iran.

Ultimately, the house arrest of Mousavi and Karroubis should be seen as an act of defense of democracy. What is more, Mousavi and Karroube had lost their roles as leaders of the opposition long before. Today most reformers,

including the approved reformer Mohammad Reza Aref, will have nothing to do with Mousavi's and Karroubis' charges of falsification. Except for a few political or putschist prisoners, all the reform parties and reform-oriented clerical organizations in Qum are calling for participation in the forthcoming elections. Even the excluded Ayatollah Rafsanjani is calling for participation.

SUMMARIZATION

In conclusion: Voters boycott elections when they are peevish and dissatisfied with the political system and when they believe that no officially approved candidates can solve their problems. It is clear that voter participation in the coming election will depend on the extent to which the people see a possibility for the basic institutions of the Islamic Republic to realize their political, scientific, cultural and religious goals..At 72% the average voter participation rate of the Islamic Republic in the last three presidential elections is higher than that of most Western countries, including the USA, Great Britain, Switzerland, Austria, Portugal, Canada and Greece. It is also higher than that of Japan and Israel. (We compared the Iranian presidential elections with

presidential and parliamentary elections of the above named countries using data supplied by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in Stockholm.)

In comparison with voter participation rates in the last three parliamentary elections of the Federal Republic of Germany, voter participation in the Islamic Republic was around 3% smaller. However only 41% of initial votes and 42% of runoff votes were in favor of the German "Black & Yellow" (Christian Democratic & Federal) Coalition, which means that the majority of German voters are not represented in the Federal Republic. In the Islamic republic, by contrast, a candidate can become head of government only if he wins at least 50% of votes cast. If no candidate wins at least 50% a runoff election is held between the two leading candidates. This was designed so that the head of government can be inaugurated only by an absolute majority of voters.

The original is posted at:

<http://irananders.de/analysen/newsanalysen/article/wiedemo-kratischistdiepraesidentschaftswahliniran.html>

Jewish ex-Argentina gov't official to be probed in AMIA bombing

June 30, 2013 4:58pm

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (JTA) — The Jewish ex-interior minister of Argentina will be investigated for his ties to the AMIA Jewish center bombing.

The Buenos Aires Federal Appeals Court last week ordered the probe of Carlos Vladimir Corach in connection with an illegal payment of \$400,000 to Carlos Telleldin, an auto mechanic who was among those charged in the 1994 attack that left 85 dead and hundreds wounded.

Telleldin, who allegedly provided the car bomb that blew up the Jewish center, has not been indicted.

The three Appeals Court justices called on Federal Judge Ariel Lijo to investigate "the existence of

concrete allegations involving Carlos Vladimir Corach, which have not been investigated until now" regarding the illegal payment to Telleldin.

Corach was interior minister during the Carlos Menem government in the 1990s. He was responsible for obtaining the building for the Holocaust Museum of Buenos Aires and was the main speaker at its inauguration.

<http://www.jta.org/2013/06/30/newsopinion/world/jewish-ex-argentina-govt-official-to-be-probed-in-amia-bombing#ixzz2Y2hHgnHP>

UNESCO adds Yad Vashem testimonies to world register

Since 1954 the project has identified 4.2 million of the 6 million Jewish

Shoah victims

June 21, 2013, 3:34 pm

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Yad Vashem Pages of Testimony memorial repository was included in the UNESCO Memory of the World Register.



Visitors walk around the Yad Vashem holocaust memorial museum in Jerusalem, April 16, 2012 - photo credit: Miriam Alster/Flash90

Yad Vashem has collected the Pages of Testimony — forms that were filled out in memory of Jewish Holocaust victims — since 1954.

Some 2.6 million names have been documented.

It is the first time that an Israeli collection has been included in the registry, which was founded in 1995 and includes 299 items endorsed by the director-general of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Along with other documentation, Yad Vashem has been able to identify by name 4.2 million of the 6 million Jewish Shoah victims.

The repository is housed in the Hall of Names at the Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem. The collection was uploaded to the Yad Vashem website as part of the Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names and is available in English, Hebrew, Russian, German and Spanish.

"For many Holocaust survivors and their families, Pages of Testimony are the only tangible evidence that their murdered loved ones once lived," Yad Vashem Chairman Avner Shalev said. "The Nazis and their collaborators strove to murder each and every Jewish man, woman and child, and to erase any vestige of their existence. These pages, together with information gathered from around the world as part of our names recovery efforts, restore to them their names, their identities."

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/unesco-includes-yad-vashem-testimonies-inworldregister/>

Russia:

"Syria Will Be Armed With Weapons That Have Never Been Seen Before In the Middle East"

Mac Slavo, June 21st, 2013, <http://www.shtfplan.com/>

Last week, Noble Peace Prize winner President Barrack Obama advised that his administration would be arming the Free Syrian Army with weapons to resist the armies of Syria's President Bashar Assad. Furthermore, they would look to implement a Libya-style no-fly zone over the country, which like Libya, would likely involve widespread carpet bombing of suspected military strongholds and control centers.

With [boots on the ground around Syria's borders](#), the United States is without a doubt preparing for widespread engagement across the region yet again, with the aim of the new U.S. supplied weapons being more killing and destruction in a civil war that has left tens of thousands dead in the last year.

It is the assumption of the Obama administration that these weapons will tip the scales of power in favor of the rebels, many of whom have

been [identified as members of America's arch enemy](#), Al Qaeda.

But Russia's KGB-hardened President Vladimir Putin has other ideas.

This week, according to a British intelligence report, Putin reportedly passed on a diplomatic communique to the United States and France using British Prime Minister David Cameron as the intermediary.

According to the report from Syrian-based [Dam Press](#) and the [Dyar Newspaper](#), the Russians aren't backing off their Syria policy and they are getting ready to double down by supplying Assad's military with weapons they have never before seen in the middle east.

If and when Western forces engage the Syrian army you can be assured that it will be nothing like the 1991 conflict in Iraq when a hundred thousand of Saddam Hussein's

soldiers surrendered without firing a shot. Nor will it be a no-fly zone free-for-all where air forces will be able to target military assets as they did in Libya without being challenged.

No, this time will be different.

This time, Russia and America may well be playing with fire. The kind that leads the people of this planet head first into World War III.

[Global Research reports](#):

The Patriot Missiles will be hit and repealed with **S 300 SAM** [already installed in Syria]. Putin also threatened to deliver the more advanced **S400 anti-aircraft missiles** far superior to the Patriot missiles and ranked as the **World's most advanced air defense system**.

He added that Russia will also supply Syria with state-of-the-art **24-Barrell rocket launchers** which have a range of 60 km ranked as the most developed

artillery weapon of its kind.(see video below)



He added that Russia will supply 400 of these launchers which will be able to destroy all targets around Syria's borders.

...

The British intelligence site stated that Putin threatened to send other secret Russian made weapons to Syria which would tip the balance of power even further in favour of Syria and re-iterated that these weapons will not be used against Israel on condition that Israel will not participate in the war within Syria and neighbouring countries. {Lebanon, Jordan}

...

Putin's response came just over 24 hours after Obama's statement on Saturday that he was going to arm the Syrian resistance.

Putin clearly stated that the Middle East is going to witness a significant change. Syria will be armed with weapons that have never been seen before [in the Middle East] including computer guided smart missiles that never miss their target.

He also added that Russia will supply Syria with **Skean 5 ground-to-sea missiles that are capable of hitting and sinking any target up to 250 km off the Syrian coast.**

Full report: [Global Research](#)

In his documentary [Strategic Relocation](#) Joel Skousen suggested that one of the most critical threats facing the world right now is the real possibility that Russia and America will engage in a future nuclear exchange.

While the weapons being supplied to Syria by both sides are a far cry from nuclear meltdown, the current policies of both nations can very quickly metastasize into a much more direct confrontation.

Vladimir Putin comes from the old world of Soviet leadership; one that believes in Russian military superiority and rules with an iron fist. He has no qualms about going to war if he finds it necessary to the long-term interests of Russia.

In the United States, President Barrack Obama is embroiled in numerous scandals and is presiding over an economy on the brink of collapse, giving him ample motivation to divert the attention of the public.

Neither of these leaders, given their past, would give pause to the thought of killing millions of people if they believe it was in their interest, or in the [interest of their globalist handlers.](#)

Wars in the 20th century, most [democidal in origin](#), claimed

the lives of hundreds of millions of people.

Just statistics in the history books to leadership circles in the upper echelons of our governing apparatus.

The lives of innocents have been sacrificed on the altars of power, greed and corruption since the dawn of man.



The 21st century is no different. What IS different is that we have never before had weapons capable of killing every single person on this planet with the press of a button. War is coming in this century – just as it came to the good people of earth in every century before.

Watch – "The Last Day" - What the first few minutes of World War III will look like:

http://www.shtfplan.com/headline-news/russiasyria-will-be-armed-with-weapons-that-have-never-been-seen-before-in-the-middle-east_06212013

Chaos and Middle East Wars!

By: [Brigadier Nadir Mir](#) from Pakistan, EU Times correspondent, 21 Jun 2013 01:49 AM PDT



The Middle East is ablaze even without a declared war! The cradle of historical civilizations and major religions are embroiled in small conflicts, spiralling chaos but with the potential to explode into a Greater War! Mini Armageddon has not been announced even though all indicators point towards it. The horoscope of the times portrays numerous small wars in the Middle East. Even one like Syria can

mushroom into a greater war of major powers.

The Middle East is interconnected geopolitically. The reasons are its geographic unity, Islamic identity (except Israel), shared historical legacy, local turf wars, animosity for Israel and borders dating back to Lawrence of Arabia's handiwork. Not to mention, its oil wealth and America's insatiable love for it. More so, the Middle East is linking to North Africa and by geographic

extension the rest of Africa. The extended or Greater Middle East includes Turkey on one flank and Pakistan on the other. In the centre is the region which is boiling today. Geopolitically the entire Greater Middle East is dynamic, at places explosive. Local conflicts both historical plus recent and besides Shia – Sunni divide (exploited by hostile powers), Arab – Israel – Iran triangular contest have merged. On top of that great power geopolitics has seeped in and now threatens to become a global contest!

It would be pertinent to examine the local conflicts, before factoring in the 'Great Powers Play'.

Syria

Syria is at present the epicentre of the conflict region. The Syrian uprising or Spring failed to dislodge the Damascus Regime. Neither the Egyptian (Tahrir Square) nor Libya (NATO Supported) model, worked so far.

Basher Al Asad proved a harder nut to crack than was expected by his foes both at home and abroad. An impasse of sorts or strategic stalemate exists till date. Regime change in Syria albeit by local resistance, supported externally was considered a prelude to attack on Iran by Israel – USA. Now the battle lines are drawn sharply. Damascus or the Syrian Regime is overtly supported by Iran, Russia, Hezbollah fighters and Shias in the region. It is opposed by Syrian Rebels, Turkey, Sunni Arab States, NATO, US and Israel. US has decided to arm the Syrian Rebels overtly (some of whom are termed as Al Qaeda supporters).

The war in Syria could spread, while American intervention will worsen it and thousands of new fighters being trained in the crucible of Syria will destabilize the entire Middle East for decades.

The improbable question is being asked – 'Could Syria ignite World War III?'

Turkey

Turkey is clearly a rising power, with its \$1 trillion economy and powerful military. The Gazi Park controversy now over, Turkey's internal dynamics will settle down. A mature democracy is emerging. Efforts to create turmoil by foreign elements in Turkey will fail. Will Turkey temper its Syrian Policy? The brave Turks seek a powerful

and prosperous Turkey and peaceful neighbourhood.

Egypt

Revolutionary Egypt will need time to settle down. Still conflict in Syria or with Israel will embroil it sooner than later. This will complicate the already complex environment. It could also convert the Syrian Civil War into an Arab – Israel context.

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia and Gulf States even while supportive of Sunni Rebels need stability themselves. Instability or civil wars, revolutions are unaffordable commodities for oil rich Sheikhs (who can afford everything else). A protracted asymmetrical war in Syria churning out radical fighters will spread chaos in the Arabian Peninsula. If the Syria conflict was to spill over to Jordan, Iraq and Arabian Peninsula, a new consternation would be created. The wise Saudis are cognizant of the pitfalls and seek an early end to the Syrian turmoil.

Iran

The new regime in Iran is considered 'Moderate'. This is good for Iran and the world. Yet Iran is not likely to compromise on its nuclear plans, the real reason for its conflict with Israel and USA. While USA – Iran talks may be more likely, Israel will try to devise new means to hamper them. Israel is determined to stop Nuclear Iran even as the Iranians are equally determined to defend themselves.

Pakistan

Pakistan is linked to multi regions. Its Baluchistan province is the gate way to West Asia or Greater Middle East. The province is being targeted by foreign powers. Baluchistan's internal dynamics apart, it is being destabilized by foreign forces. China joining Pakistan's Gwadar Port has been opposed by India. The recent terrorist attacks in Quetta and burning of Quaid –e- Azam residence at Ziarat, were foreign sponsored. The new democratically elected Pakistani regime may be surprised and shocked to find how hostile forces are trying to destabilize it. However the Pakistani Nation and its Armed Forces are united to defend Pakistan against a handful of foreign aided militants in Baluchistan.

Great Power Conflict

Behind the Middle East are opposing alliances, US – NATO on one side

and Russia – China on the other. US – NATO is the dominant alliance, proactive and ready to fight offensive or humanitarian wars. Russia – China is the challenging or emerging alliance. The struggle or competition is actually global, but focused for now on the Middle East. US – NATO seek longevity for their dominance, while blocking China's economic rise and Russia's strategic return.

China

China's economy is rising fast and will rival USA within the decade. USA shifts to Asia Pacific and China's Neo containment. China, while planning its defence in Pacific and supportive of North Korea looks west. China seeks Middle East oil, maintains influence and ingress in Africa. Even South America and EU are within reach of Chinese economic ventures. The Chinese are winning the geo-economic war! Yet it needs oil from Middle East and minerals from Africa, shipped and piped through the Pakistani Port of Gwadar to Xinjiang.

Disrupting the China, Middle East / Africa energy – market sources is for US Neo Con lobbies a priority. Gwadar has become a phobia for India due to presence of China on Indian Ocean, even if it be for geo-economics reasons.

Russia

Russia under Putin's leadership is balancing world affairs. It allies with Iran, supports Syria, and has strategic consensus with China. Moscow considers US – NATO intrusions in other nations not merely disdainful but is ready to support its allies. Russia, Iran, China are linked in Syria and blocking US – NATO from launching the next war. The Israeli – US war against Iran was expected to enlarge onto a greater war. Yet the war against Iran seems relegated for the present. War against Syria or rather the battle for Syria, is the first step or prelude to this greater war! The reason is not that the feeble regime in Damascus can have a great war fighting strategy against US – NATO invasion, or even limited (Libya Style) intrusions. The Syrian Regime can strike Israel with missiles, prompting Israeli retribution on Damascus. A US – NATO no fly zone demands destroying Syrian Air Defence / Air Force while Syria may be supported

by Iran – Russia. In case, Russia gifts S300 Air Defence missiles, the Syrian defence will become robust. This can prolong the struggle. US – NATO forces invading Syria will certainly be fighting with Syria, Hezbollah, Iran and Arab fighters, all opposed to 'The New Crusaders'. The entire region will be militarized, borders will be violated, economic trouble abounds and war prolongs. Regardless of the outcome, USA will be blamed!

Alliances may shift as the war progresses and spill over into Israel. Conversely, with Syria neutralized with American – NATO power, Israel may strike Iran. Neo Con – Globalists supporting or sponsoring war against Syria, also want Iran denuclearized, Baluchistan separated from Pakistan, still others want Kurdistan established and Saudi Arabia inflamed. Hezbollah and Iran will fight for their survival in and around Syria. The war zone will transgress many borders. Russian weapons and Chinese money may support the anti hegemony forces. War in Syria is taking shape of an asymmetrical World War III. The Syrian Army's victory at Al – Qusayr is being termed as a turning point. Of course this is no climactic like Stalingrad. Still Damascus buoyed by Hezbollah – Iranian support is far from falling. Franklin Lamb in his article, 'Why Obama is declaring war on Syria' aptly and succinctly presented the larger picture. The Iranian strategic endeavours in Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon have unnerved Americans, more so, anti Iranian Neo Cons. Still the Pentagon with a wise General Dempsey is sceptic about the Syrian Campaign.

Smart Americans are already terming the Syrian War tomorrow, as worse than Iraq's war yesterday. With diplomacy not leading the charge and even John Kerry is worried about statecraft being too little, too late. The Pentagon seeks a quick end to the Syrian Affair. The disaster of Iraq – Afghanistan protracted wars, Al Qaeda linked Syrian Rebels, armed with new missiles, appears dangerous. US – NATO armoured forces supported by special operations and air naval power may seek fast tempo demise to the Damascus Regime. In the event of American invasion or NATO supported rebel victory, the Damascus Regime will change. A lot else will also change in the Middle East. Multiple wars will erupt. Firstly after US – NATO victory or occupation of Syria, an anti American resistance will commence not limited to Syria. This may be greatly supported by Iran – Russia and China.

Secondly, another war may erupt in Lebanon attacked by Israel or Iran attacked by Israel. In essence, a war involving Israel. Egypt may be lured in while Turkey may re-examine its options in the conflict.

Thirdly, the borders of Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon may become fluid. Saudi Arabia and Gulf States could face a new wave of an Arab Spring or Sunni – Shia conflict promoted by foreign forces. Even if open wars are not fought, asymmetrical conflicts may overlap borders. Noam Chomsky may prove right that 'Sykes – Picot is failing'. The post World War I or post Ottoman Empire borders may be affected.

Is it Ralph Peter's new map of

Middle East or 'Controlled Chaos' which is being worked on? Uncontrolled chaos will not leave anyone unscathed. Middle East on fire will devour local powers and foreign intruders. It was here that Saladin beat the Knight's Templers and Crusaders at battle of Hatin, and later Sultan Baibours defeated the Mongol Hordes.

US – NATO invasion in Syria is already being termed as Armageddon of biblical prophecies and the coming of Dajjal. A war of the worlds may begin. Redrawing of maps, multiple wars in Middle East and humanitarian crisis will exhaust America, weaken EU, and embroil Russia – China. A new form of cold – hot war will commence. Kurdistan will lead to endless strife in numerous states. Israel will be endangered in a burning Middle East, whose flames it would not escape. If the war spread further, involving Pakistan – India, nuclear war destroying large parts of humanity and the world may occur. President Putin boldly voiced the defence of Syria in G8 Summit, leaving no doubts. American geo-strategy has already over reached; Syria can only make it worse! There is still time to relent from apocalypse in the Middle East, which can be controlled or contained. 'Geopolitics of Peace' is the solution and not chaos or a great war in the Middle East. The regime in Damascus is not the ultimate question?

Peace and prosperity in the Middle East and the world is at stake!

<http://www.TheEuropeanUnionTimes/>

NATIONAL AFFAIRS:

Last-minute law change a threat to religious freedom

By: Terri M. Kelleher, *News Weekly*, July 6, 2013

Australians once used to enjoy freedom of religion. Later, under anti-discrimination laws, they were still permitted special exemptions and exceptions. But last week, these exemptions were eroded when the Labor-Greens government passed changes to the Commonwealth's *Sex Discrimination Act 1984*.

The act, which was originally designed to protect women from workplace discrimination, has now been expanded to make it illegal to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status.

What is of concern is that, despite government promises that the *Sex Discrimination Act's* exceptions and exemptions for faith-based

organisations would be maintained, these have in fact been wound back in the final days of parliament.

Federally-funded, church-based aged-care facilities will no longer be exempted from the act's provisions and so will no longer be able to maintain their ethos.

There is no evidence that church-based aged-care facilities discriminate on the basis of sexual

orientation or gender identity because applicants are never required to disclose such personal details in the first place. In fact, many or most people entering aged care do so on the death of a spouse or partner or when they can no longer be cared for at home. It is very seldom that a couple seek aged care.

The minority report by Coalition senators to the Senate committee inquiry into the bill drew attention to the anomaly of the removal of religious exemption in relation to aged care, while such exemptions continue in relation to the operation of educational or health facilities. How long would those remaining exemptions be allowed to apply?

The significance of the new law is that it establishes a precedent that points the way to further assaults on religious freedom.

Last year, politicians who were pushing for same-sex "marriage" assured those opposing changes to the Marriage Act that if same-sex marriage was legalised, special exemption clauses would protect churches and church-based organisations.

At the same time as this debate was taking place, the then Attorney-General, Nicola Roxon, was holding an inquiry into a government proposal to consolidate all federal anti-discrimination laws. Many legal, human rights and same-sex lobby groups told the inquiry that there should be no exemptions for churches and faith-based institutions, or that exemptions should be few and temporary.

There was a clear political strategy behind both the same-sex marriage bill and the proposed consolidation of anti-discrimination laws.

The same-sex marriage legislation, in order to appear less contentious, would allow exemptions for ministers of religion from performing same-sex marriages and allow church premises not to be

used for such ceremonies. Meanwhile, the juxtaposed consolidated anti-discrimination law would allow no exemptions for ministers of religion or faith-based institutions, if the same-sex lobby and militant secularists had their way.

The two laws would then be in conflict. Either the courts would have to resolve the deadlock or one law would have to be amended to be made consistent with the other.

As it turned out, the same-sex marriage bill was decisively defeated in both the House of Representatives and the Senate.



Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus QC.

When Nicola Roxon resigned as Attorney-General in February this year, her successor, Mark Dreyfus QC, shelved further consideration of the consolidation of anti-discrimination laws until after the September elections because of widespread public resistance to it. However, he thereupon almost immediately announced amendments to enlarge the scope of the *Sex Discrimination Act* to make it illegal to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

The bill was referred to a Senate committee of inquiry on March 21. Submissions were called for and the committee was to report by June 17. The bill was also referred to a House of Representatives committee for inquiry, but the only details available were its statement: "The Committee has yet to meet to determine the format of the inquiry." In the event, no submissions were called for. The

committee handed down its report on May 27, recommending the bill be passed, and it was duly passed by the House of Representatives on May 30.

No sooner had the bill been passed in the House of Representatives than Mark Dreyfus announced that he wanted the Senate to make a further amendment to remove any religious exemptions for federally-funded church-based aged-care institutions. On June 5, this bill was introduced in the Senate before the Senate committee report had even been handed down.

The Senate inquiry recommended passing the bill, but the minority report by Coalition senators warned that the removal of exemptions "could compromise the capacity of some religious organisations to operate aged care facilities in accordance with the principles which underpin and define their existence".

On June 25, Labor, with the support of the Greens and Independents, voted through Mark Dreyfus's changes to the *Sex Discrimination Act*, including the removal of exemptions for church-based aged-care facilities.

The whole history of the progress of the bill has been one of lack of any real consultation, lack of publicity, lack of transparency and unseemly haste by a government in its death throes determined to push through legislation that will have serious and far-reaching consequences for religious freedom in Australia.

Terri M. Kelleher is Victorian president of the Australian Family Association.

<http://newsweekly.com.au/article.php?id=5628>

The 2013 Autism One Conference - Latest Science

By Mary W Maxwell, PhD, LLB, 30 June 2013

After a nine-hour flight from Paris, preceded by a seven-hour flight from Bahrain, I arrived in Chicago for the 2013 Autism One conference. An eleven-dollar cab fare was all it took to get me to O'Hare's Intercontinental hotel, where the meeting has been held for the last 10 years; this was my first. I was warmly welcomed by Julie, the mother of a 20-year-old autistic man. I am not a mom but a concerned citizen.

The first lecture I attended was by William Walsh, PhD, author of *Nutrient Power*, on the subject of oxidative stress. It was so good that I thought "I won't need to go to any more. I've done it all!" Wrong! There were further spectacular lectures. Judy van de Water, PhD, spoke on immune dysfunction, and Richard E Frye, MD, a neurologist, on mitochondrial dysfunction. James Bradstreet, MD, on stem cells, went so far as to advise a patient to go to Kiev in the Ukraine, to get stem-cell treatment for her son's autism.

The pièce de résistance, on the last day, was Juan Rodriguez's talk on the cause of autism. He blames activation of the microglia. Let's not write him off for being a layperson. He has cured his son of autism and has arranged for 50 doctors around the world to introduce a new protocol. (Surprisingly it involves Ibuprofen and probiotics.) You can check his website by googling "Stop Calling It Autism." Rodriguez's mentor is Mario Capecchi, a Nobel laureate who is not "married to the system," shall we say. (Capecchi was actually a street child in Italy. Yes.)

At one of the free-gift desks I got a 2012 issue of *Autism Science Digest*, which truly lives up to its name. Therein was an article by Dr Harry Schneider, on "Music: Nature's Gift of Speech." He points out why music therapy helps autistic children to achieve speech. The parts of the brain that control movement provoke spontaneous language. He says:

'The treatment process is greatly enhanced if movement skills (dancing, swinging, walking, and playing with a ball) are incorporated into the treatment protocol... Science is now confirming that

music finds its way to dysfunctional areas of the brain and revives them.'" See:

www.harrydschneidermd.com.

This reminded me of the work on language by Jaak Panksepp, animal scientist and author of *Affective Neuroscience* (2004). And there's a stunning new book, *Song without Words*, written by lawyer Gerald Shea, with many insights about hearing, rather than speaking. (He is partially deaf.)

The first night in Chicago, being too jet-lagged to eat dinner, I decided to refrigerate a room-service meal in my mini-bar. A few minutes later, I kid you not, a little piece of paper came under my door charging me with \$66.00 for the eight packs of candy and nuts that I had removed. Apparently there is a tiny Big Brother in the min-bar.

I went to the front desk to complain, thinking the manager would tell me to read the fine print. Instead, he removed the charge from my bill and gave me a voucher to play computer games. Hospitality is not yet dead!

There were many exhibits, some for books and several for vendors of devices, nutritional supplements, and even a clever "room architecture" model by Cathy Cherry. I made a beeline for the table of the Thinking Moms, to buy their new book, *The Thinking Moms' Revolution*. It was that group that had enticed me to go to Chicago. How could I resist a threatened revolution by moms who declare themselves thinkers? You go, Moms!

Their book, with 12 chapters by Moms and one by a Dad, gives additional clues about language improvement. One mother said her kid talked better after taking Essential Fatty Acid supplements and also after taking Vitamin E. Another Mom credited chocolate for her son's improvement, but then found an even better treatment: hydrogen. She says:

"Not only was he talking more; he was talking in complete sentences and making conversation. He would now finally ask 'Mom, what are you doing?' Be still, my heart! There was a time when Pooka didn't seem to realize that I existed. He would stare right past me. He used to

throw tantrums all the time and beat me up. It devastated me year after year. I held hope that one day... one day... he would look me right in the eye and say 'I love you, Mom.' After we switched from chocolate to hydrogen I noticed that Pooka wanted to spend more time with me. One time I was sitting on the couch when Pooka walked over, lifted my afghan, and snuggled against me. Pooka stayed with me for at least ten minutes. Ten minutes may not seem like much, but after waiting seven years it seemed like ten hours. [Shortly after that episode] when I was tucking the boys in for the night and told them I loved them, Pooka said 'I love you too, Mom.' I gave him a firm kiss on the forehead and scooted out the door before I lost it."

The Conference had a panel composed of three Congressmen. I stayed well away so I wouldn't get arrested for what I might feel like doing. (I am on record hypothesizing that autism and other diseases are maliciously caused...)

On the final day there was to be a music-stomping, Bible shouting wrap-up by our hostess Teri Arranga but I couldn't locate the room, so instead I wandered into a lecture by Neil Margolis, OD, on "visual processing." Boy, does he understand how autistic children see the world. It was also heartwarming to hear him use the word 'duty' as in the following sentence: "I consider it my duty to figure out why a child is squinting, tilting his head, etc." Duty! Yay, duty.

Margolis' talk led me to read another article on vision by Melvin Kaplan, OD, in the 2012 *Autism Science Digest* (which is a thrice-yearly mag that you can subscribe to for 25 bucks). Kaplan's article, entitled "Autism: A Peripheral Nervous System Disorder" solved, for me, the mystery of toe-walking. He says:

"The peripheral aspect of vision tells us where we are in relation to objects. Our clinic uses yoked prisms as a primary diagnostic tool. Timothy, a 10-year-old boy with autism, entered the office toe-walking. He had been seen by an orthopedic surgeon who had given

him braces to wear. I asked Timothy's mother to remove the braces and direct him to walk across the room. His toe-walking became more acute. I placed a pair of high-magnitude ambient prism glasses on him and asked him to walk across the room again. This time Timothy's heels went to the floor, and he wore a big smile."

Just imagine, this is all new knowledge. Loads of kids are toe-walking everyday, simply as a motor adaptation that "gives you a heightened sense of where you are in your space."

All in all it was a fabulous conference and one plainly filled with emotional warmth and optimism. (The admission fee was almost nothing, thanks to sponsorship by KirkmanLabs.com)

Did I tell you that on the flight from Bahrain to Paris there was a fifteen-month-old girl who was ill (not autistic) who screamed more or less continually? One man, a few rows back, remonstrated frequently with the Dad, and at one point he even shouted "Shush!" As if the baby could follow that command! Nevertheless, an elderly German passenger, who had the bad luck of sitting next to the offending family, never showed the slightest annoyance or grievance, even when the child threw up.

Later, in the transit lounge, I told him he deserved the Gentleman of the Year award. (Remember, it was a 7-hour flight!) He said I made his day, but really he made mine. Some people just make you feel proud to be human.

Mary W Maxwell, PhD, LLB, is the author of *Consider the Lilies: A Review of 18 Cures for Cancer and Their Legal Status* - TrineDay, 2013.

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Postscript: I just Googled for "Autism One, 2013" to see if anyone else reported the conference, and the first item to pop up was from scienceblogs.com, entitled "More Quackery at the Quackfest." Wait a minute, wait a minute. Who wrote that? Were they paid to describe the meeting as quackery when it so obviously isn't? Has someone got an incentive to prevent people from finding out that there is useful medical treatment for autism? Verry interesting....

FREE EXPRESSION – insulting and offensive!

...just a brief coverage of what transpired before Australia's first female PM was ousted from her post...

Radio host Howard Sattler suspended after asking Julia Gillard if partner Tim Mathieson is gay



Photo: [Prime Minister Julia Gillard with radio host Howard Sattler. \(www.6pr.com.au\)](http://www.6pr.com.au)

[YouTube: Watch the exchange between Julia Gillard and Howard Sattler](#)

A commercial radio presenter in Perth has been suspended after asking the Prime Minister whether her partner Tim Mathieson is gay.

Fairfax Radio host Howard Sattler asked the question during an interview with Julia Gillard on Thursday, in which he challenged her to answer a -series of myths, rumours, and innuendos.

During the exchange Ms Gillard said the questioning was absurd and "bordering" a line.

She accused Mr Sattler of making generalisations about male hairdressers.

"You know, to all the hairdressers out there, including the men who are listening, I don't think in life one can actually look at a whole profession full of different human beings and say 'Gee we know something about every one of those human beings', I mean, it's absurd isn't it?" she said.

Sattler then continued to ask: "You can confirm that he's not?".

The Prime Minister replied: "Oh, Howard don't be ridiculous."

Fairfax Radio management has issued a statement saying it has reviewed the interview and considers the questions were disrespectful and irrelevant to the political debate.

The statement points out that Mr Sattler apologised later in the program for his line of questioning.

Management also extended sincere apologies to Ms Gillard and Mr Mathieson.

The statement says Mr Sattler has been suspended from broadcasting pending an internal inquiry.

Here is how the interview played out:

Howard Sattler: Myths, rumours, snide jokes and innuendos, you've been the butt of them many times.

Julia Gillard: Well I think that's probably right. We've certainly seen that this week.

Howard Sattler: Can I test a few out?

Julia Gillard: In what way?

Howard Sattler: Tim's gay.

Julia Gillard: Well...

Howard Sattler: ...No, that's not me saying it. It's a myth.

Julia Gillard: Well that's absurd.

Howard Sattler: But you hear it. He must be gay, he's a hairdresser.

Julia Gillard: Oh, isn't that...

Howard Sattler: But you've heard it? It's not me saying it. It's what people...

Julia Gillard: Well, I mean Howard, I don't know whether every silly thing that gets said is going to be repeated to me now.

Howard Sattler: No, no, no...

Julia Gillard: But, you know, to all the hairdressers out there, including the men who are listening, I don't think in life one can actually look at a whole profession full of different human beings and say 'Gee we know something about every one of those human beings', I mean, it's absurd isn't it?

Howard Sattler: You can confirm that he's not?

Julia Gillard: Howard don't be ridiculous. Of course not.

Howard Sattler: No, but in a heterosexual relationship. That's all I'm asking.

Julia Gillard: Howard, you and I have just talked about that. So now that is bordering...

Howard Sattler: No, I wanted to get rid of it.

Julia Gillard: Howard, let me just bring you back to Earth.

Howard Sattler: I'm not saying it.

Julia Gillard: Right, well, let me just bring you back to Earth. You and I have just talked about me and Tim living at the Lodge. We live there together as a couple. You know that. Yes, on the internet there are lots of what I've referred to in the past as nutjobs and I'm happy to use the expression again...

Howard Sattler: Good.

Julia Gillard: ...People who peddle and circulate vile and offensive things.

Howard Sattler: Awful things.

Julia Gillard: Yeah absolutely.

The interview comes in a week in which the Prime Minister has faced personal attacks.

A [restaurant menu surfaced](#) on Wednesday which made crude references to Ms Gillard's body.

The menu was believed to have been used at a fundraiser for LNP candidate Mal Brough, leading to Labor's calls for his disendorsement.

[The owner of the Brisbane venue, Joe Richards, took responsibility](#) for it on Wednesday afternoon, saying he wrote the "mock" menu as a light-hearted joke and it was not given out to LNP members on the night.

The menu has been condemned by all sides of politics, but the Government has continued to question Mr Brough's version of events.

Sex Discrimination Commissioner Elizabeth Broderick says there have been a number of incidents where women office-holders have been asked inappropriate questions.

"The fact is this level of invasive questions - often sex-based vilification - seems to be more and more common," she told Channel 10.

"A society where issues like that, or where women are demeaned and have invasive questions like that asked, [is] a society which diminishes all of us."

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013/0613/primeministerquestionedwhetherpartnerisgay/4752998>



[Video: PM asked if partner is gay as politicians condemn offensive menu \(Lateline\)](#)

Shock jock suspended for 'gay' question

[James Robertson](#), June 14, 2013 - 6:58AM

'You can confirm that Tim's not gay?': Sattler

Shock jock Howard Sattler asks the Prime Minister to confirm that boyfriend Tim Mathieson is not gay during a candid radio interview on Perth radio station 6PR.

A Perth talkback radio host has been suspended pending an internal inquiry after provoking outrage and bemusement by questioning the sexuality of Prime Minister Julia Gillard's partner.

Howard Sattler offered the Prime Minister a chance to dispel "myths, rumours, snide jokes and innuendo" at the tail-end of a digressive interview on Fairfax-owned station 6PR Thursday afternoon Perth time. "Tim's gay," was the first rumour Mr Sattler raised.

"Well, that's absurd," the Prime Minister replied flatly.

"But you hear it - he must be gay, he's a hairdresser," Mr Sattler said. "It's not me saying it."

The Prime Minister dismissed the suggestion. But Mr Sattler pressed the point.

"You can confirm that he's not?" he asked.

"Oh Howard don't be ridiculous, of course not," the Prime Minister said, while remaining cool and composed. "On the internet there are lots of [...] nutjobs, people who peddle and circulate vile things.

"Howard let me just bring you back to earth, you and I have just talked about me and Tim living at the

lodge, we live there together as a couple, you know that."

The interview comes towards the end of a week in which the Prime Minister has been subject to personal attacks, and gone on the offensive about sexism in politics.

Mr Sattler had previously asked the Prime Minister why she was not married.

She replied: "I think that you can have a relationship that is committed and full of love and full of significance in your life without being married."

"Howard Sattler, Drive presenter on Perth radio station 6PR, put a

number of questions to Prime Minister Julia Gillard regarding the sexuality of her partner, Tim Mathieson," 6PR said in a statement released on Thursday night. "Mr Sattler has been suspended from broadcasting on 6PR pending an internal inquiry."

Reaction to the interview online was a mixture of confusion and anger: "Baffling interview," said Twitter user Andrew Heslop.

"Howard Sattler should be sacked," wrote Patrick Avenell, "no one would ever ask a male PM the inverse."

Other users questioned why Mr Sattler was given a weekly platform on the Channel 7 morning show, *Sunrise*.

Mr Sattler is a 25-year broadcast veteran known for his polarising style.

He recently disclosed that he had been battling Parkinson's disease since being diagnosed in June last year.

<http://www.theage.com.au/opinion/political-news/shock-iock-suspended-for-gay-question-201306132o71q.html#ixzz2W8XjLqwd>



6PR host Howard Sattler interviewing Julia Gillard in the studio. Photo: Courtesy Channel Ten



Prime Minister Julia Gillard with her partner, Tim Mathieson. Photo: Getty Image.

Dumbing Us Down: The Hidden Curriculum Of Compulsory Schooling

By John Taylor Gatto

According to Gatto's observations, the seven lessons taught in public schools from Harlem to Hollywood Hills, are these:

1. Confusion - The natural order of real life is violated by heaping disconnected facts on students.)

2. Class Position - Children are locked together into categories where the lesson is that "everyone has a proper place in the pyramid."

3. Indifference - Inflexible school regimens deprive children of complete experiences.

4. Emotional dependency - Kids are taught to surrender their individuality to a "predestined chain of command."

5. Intellectual dependency - One of the biggest lessons schools teach is conformity rather than curiosity.

6. Provisional self-esteem - "The lesson of report cards, grades, and tests, is that children should not trust themselves or their parents, but should instead rely on the evaluation of certified officials."

7. One can't hide - Schooling and homework assignments deny children privacy and free time in which to learn from parents, from exploration, or from community.

<http://www.iohntaylorgatto.com/bookstore/dumbdnlapp.htm>

New No Speed Cameras Party plans to run at South Australian state election

By: STATE POLITICAL EDITOR DANIEL WILLS, *The Advertiser*, July 03, 2013 11:49AM

A FORMER police officer is forming a new No Speed Cameras Party and planning to run for the Upper House at the March state election to end their use as "revenue raisers".

Party leader Owen Godfrey as a police officer for 15 years and left the force 23 years ago.

He said he was an Acting Sergeant when he left the police force.

Mr Godfrey yesterday told ABC Radio the party currently had about 60 of the 250 members who needed to be formally registered. It has also [launched a website](#) asking for \$10 donations.

"I want the speed camera regime to be there for the purpose that it was meant for and that is for road safety ... in the black spots," Mr Godfrey told ABC Radio.

"I think everybody out there in the public realises that this is just a revenue-raising scam.

"People have lost their licences, businesses or their jobs, their homes, their families and their mental health all because of the fact that we've got politicians that are basically coming up

with policies ... (to) collect money for this financially inept and quite frankly morally corrupt government."

Mr Godfrey said SA Police was "easily the best in Australia".

"Everybody and anybody can accidentally go over the speed limit by a few kilometres but the outrageous fines and the number of points that they lose is just way beyond the pale," he said.

Meanwhile, more than 3000 people have taken advantage of a new [SA Police website](#), that lets drivers view photos from speed or red light camera fines, since the site went live last week.

<http://www.adelaidenow.com.au/news/south-australia/new-no-speed-cameras-party-plans-to-runatsouthaustralianstateelection/storyfni6uo1m1226673644481>

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1933



A Daily Express

To-day's Weather: Fair; Mild.

NO. 10,258.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1933.



ONE PENNY.



JUDEA DECLARES WAR ON GERMANY

Jews Of All The World Unite In Action

BOYCOTT OF GERMAN GOODS

MASS DEMONSTRATIONS IN MANY DISTRICTS

DRAMATIC ACTION

"Daily Express" Special Political Correspondent.
ALL Israel is uniting in wrath against the Nazi onslaught on the Jews in Germany.

Adolf Hitler, swept into power by an appeal to elemental patriotism, is making history of a kind he least expected. Thinking to unite only the German nation to race consciousness he has roused the whole Jewish people to a national renaissance.

The appearance of the swastika symbol of a new Germany has called forth the Lion of Judah, the old battle symbol of Jewish defiance.

Fourteen million Jews dispersed throughout the world have banded together as one man to declare war on the German persecutors of their co-religionists. Sectional differences and antagonisms have been submerged in one common aim—to stand by the 600,000 Jews of Germany who are terrorised by Hitlerist anti-Semitism, and to compel Fascist Germany to end its campaign of violence and suppression directed against its Jewish minority.

World Jewry has made up its mind not to rest quiescent in face of this revival of medieval Jew-hatred.

£33,333 a minute to £4,000,000 a minute.
This is the record of the public's share for second investments with a quarter minute.

When the West Riding County Council issued £1,000,000 of 3½ per cent. stock at 150 per cent. last week they obtained £14,000,000 in fifteen minutes.

Yesterday Middlesbrough asked the public to subscribe to £2,000,000 of its 3½ per cent. stock, and raised the price to 105 10s. per cent.

The lists were closed in five minutes, during which time applications had been received for £20,000,000.

THE BIRTH OF AN IDEA



DENNIS GLENN, the young British dress designer, finds inspiration for his fashions by draping living models. Every man to his own trade!

OFFICER'S DAYS OF LOVE

HIGHER WAGES FOR STEEL WORKERS

AN INCREASE OF THREE SHILLINGS A WEEK

BRIGHT SPOT IN A BLACK TOWN

The "Daily Express" has sent a special representative on an unusual mission. He is touring the north in search of high wages. In his tour he is going to tell the facts about all classes of wages, high and low. He is going to show how low wages reduce the morale of the community. He is going to show how courageous spending reacts favourably throughout the community.

In his first dispatch it is revealed that the steel masters of Middlesbrough have been able to make a gesture in the cause of high wages.

Fitters in steel works have recently received an increase of 3s. a week. Their wages are not high, but this is a step in the right direction. It is a bright spot in an otherwise black town—brought low by wage cuts and false economy.

CUTS THAT KILL

The Powell Duffryn Steam Coal Company of South Wales increased its profits by £100,000 last year.

Mr. E. L. Hunt, the chairman and managing director, told shareholders at yesterday's annual meeting that this had not been achieved by a policy of wage reductions.

In fact he revealed that the savings of their employees were higher than the average of the coal field.

New "Sweep" Bill In The Dail

MR. DE VALERA AND STATE CONTROL

SECRET MEASURE

"Daily Express" Special Correspondent.
DUBLIN, Thursday.

WHILE Mr. Jack O'Seehan, the official announcer of the Irish sweepstake draw, was dividing the remnants of the latest Irish lottery prize fund between lucky ticket-holders in the Plaza Ballroom to-day I was listening to an Under-Secretary of the Free State Government introducing a Bill which may change the whole future, scope, and purpose of these Irish hospitals lotteries.

NO CLUE

A mysterious measure entitled "The Public Hospitals Bill, 1933," appeared on the agenda for this afternoon's meeting of the Dail.

The Bill was set down for formal introduction, and a motion in this effect was moved in a six or seven weeks speech by Mr. Sean O'Kelly, the Minister of Local Government.

MR. MacDONALD EXPLAINS HIS TOUR

"PEACE CAN BE KEPT IN EUROPE"

MR. RAMSAY MACDONALD faced a crowded House of Commons yesterday afternoon when he spoke about his visits to Paris, Geneva, and Rome, and his talks with Signor Mussolini.

The German, French, Italian, Polish, and Belgian Ambassadors were among a crowd of diplomatic representatives in their special gallery, and Mr. Bruce, of Australia, and other representatives of the Dominions also listened.

Mr. MacDonald, who was greeted with cheers, said:—

"I take the earliest available opportunity to inform the House regarding what happened when the Foreign Secretary and myself were at Geneva and Rome."

"We were asked by our colleagues here to go to Geneva. First because every report showed that there was a grave danger of immediate collapse of the Disarmament Conference, and we felt strongly that it might be possible to avert such a collapse, because we were not at all convinced that it was necessary that it should take place."

"Therefore, the Foreign Secretary and I went to Geneva. Our first business was to discover how matters exactly stood, and for that purpose we interviewed for some two or three days the leading delegates from various nations."

"It is perfectly plain that the conference was held, essentially for the purpose of investigating the possibility of a settlement of the conflict of interests there."



Mr. MacDonald.

LATE NEWS

LABOUR LEADER BEREAVED

Mr. Lansbury, wife of Mr. Walter Lansbury, M.P., leader of the Labour Party, died last night.

Broadcasting Programmes on Page Fifteen.

Geneva and discussed steadily and particularly in investigation of the conflict of interests there.

Frederick Toben Persecuted in Australia for Thought Crimes

Posted by admin on: 2007-12-07 06:04:24

Thought criminal Fredrick Toben, who appears in the DVD *Judea Declares War on Germany*, has apologized to a judge for publishing banned material, while fiercely defending his beliefs outside the court.

Backing down from plans to contest allegations that his Adelaide Institute website had published offensive material, Dr Toben apologised to the Federal Court for breaching a previous court order.

In 2002, judge Catherine Branson ruled Dr Toben had breached the Racial Discrimination Act, and banned him from publishing material implying the Holocaust did not happen and doubting the existence of gas chambers at Auschwitz.

She also restrained him from publishing articles implying Jews who were offended or challenged by Holocaust denial were of limited intelligence, and that some Jewish people had - for financial gain - exaggerated the number of Jews killed in World War II and the circumstances.

Jeremy Jones, former president of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, had asked the Federal Court to jail Dr Toben for breaching Justice Branson's orders after the material reappeared on the website.

The case was due to be heard in Adelaide yesterday, but lawyers for each side told judge Michael Moore they had agreed to end the matter, with Dr Toben apologising and undertaking to remove the offensive material and not republish it.

Paul Charman, appearing for Dr Toben pro bono, said his client "did not want to cause any undue distress" and accepted there was material that "clearly breached" the court order. Dr Toben told the court he apologised "unreservedly" and would remove all the material by the end of next week.

Outside the court, Dr Toben denied the apology was a backdown and said he would continue to run his controversial website. "I have a very firm belief on Holocaust matters and I should be able to express it," he said.

"Anyone who disagrees should then, in fact, engage me in a debate ... the other side who holds on to the Holocaust does not debate. There are so many contentious issues on this so-called Holocaust that it still needs to be looked at and investigated."

Dr Toben said it was a "very sad" day for Germans who found it "extremely hurtful when an allegation is made against them - that they did all these things called the Holocaust to the Jews - without having the freedom to research the topic."

Mr Jones said he hoped Dr Toben would comply and that no more legal proceedings would be necessary. "All we sought was for a person who was causing upset and offence to other people within the Australian community in principle to stop doing it," he said. - <http://www.natallnews.com/story.php?id=6519>

Factual update from Adelaide

Institute: Töben started the deletion process, then noted he had been asked to delete a link to another website, something that was not part of the apology. This was the trigger he needed unilaterally to revoke his apology – thereon followed his imprisonment in 2009, and bankruptcy followed in 2012 when 'the Jews' Jones, Lewis, et al, wanted their pound of flesh.

Toben had always maintained that he had given a Bishop Williamson apology - he apologized to the Pope for upsetting his administration after questioning and doubting the official version of events at Auschwitz about the existence of homicidal gas chambers, which was not a re-canting of his beliefs. So, too, it was the case with the Töben apology.



Judea Declares War On Germany
www.youtube.com/watch?v=4X1owF0vqnw

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

According to Professor Alan Dershowitz there is freedom of expression but this divides into two: free speech and hate speech.

What is hate speech in our politically correct world of today? Freedom of speech never existed in Australia – David Brockschmidt.

Telling the truth is a revolutionary act – George Orwell.

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free – John 8:23.

I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth – Galatians 4:16

Wherever some evil thou findest, thou shouldest say evil it is and thou should give the enemy no rest – The Golden Book.

Political correctness is intellectual terrorism – Dame leoni Kramer.

Jesus saves – Moses invests! – Wall Street.

The truth can only be one – Leopold von Ranke.