

Graffiti for intellectuals



SIMON SAYS



SEPTEMBER
17
2007



By Si Frumkin

PROPHETIC PYRAMIDS

My columns on the "Continent of Losers" have resulted in an unexpectedly voluminous (and very gratifying) reaction from readers and others.

There were requests for copies, for permissions to reprint and distribute, intelligent comments and hardly any disagreement with the "Youth Bulge" hypothesis of Professor Gunnar Heinsohn that I described.

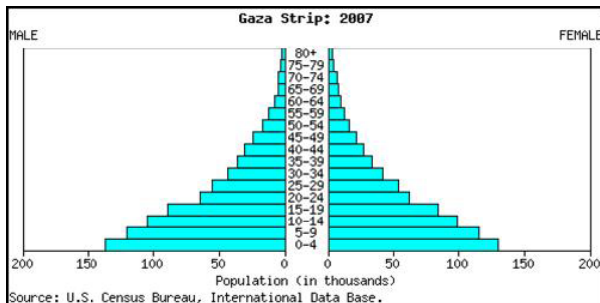
For those who may have missed it, here is the gist of that theory: professor Heinsohn argues that wars, insurrections, contemporary and historical terrorism, and internal violent insurrections are the result of a surplus of 15- to 29-year old men in the total

more readable – just 180 pages in the German version I got on Amazon.

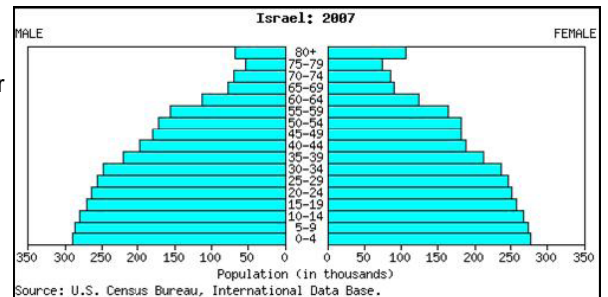
Also, if you have missed it, you can contact me for a copy of the articles via email or snail mail as listed in my "Graffiti for Intellectuals" or by going to my website at "sifrumkin.com".

50:100!

There is a wonderful tool that is available to all who use a computer. It shows the absence or presence of the "Youth Bulge" in every country on earth. Simply Google the **U.S. Census Bureau International Data**



If the "Youth Bulge" theory is correct, it can be used as an indicator of possibly unavoidable future threats by looking at a list of countries where the younger population is already exceeding the 30% benchmark, or those where the birth



population; a malignant "Youth Bulge" that is created when that surplus is more than 30%. Heinsohn is a historian and economist at the University of Bremen in Germany, specializing in the rise and fall of cultures, genocide and the Holocaust. His book, "Söhne und Weltmacht" (*Sons and World Power*), has been a bestseller in Europe for several years and was translated into many languages – *but not English!* I came across it in an interview for a Danish magazine that was translated into English and, frankly, it blew my mind. I fully agree with one of the reviewers who felt that this was a book that was potentially as important as Marx's "Das Kapital". I should add that it is also much

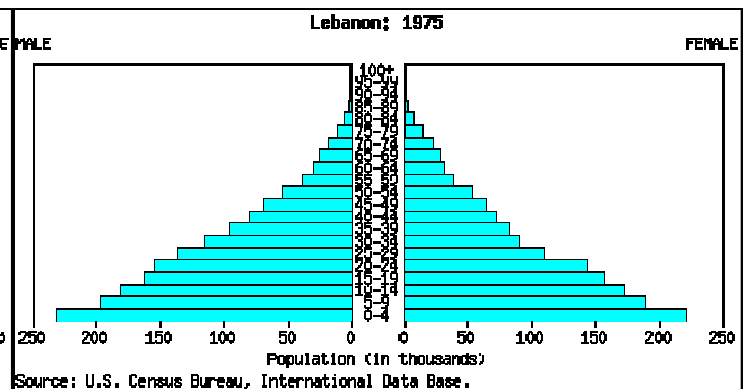
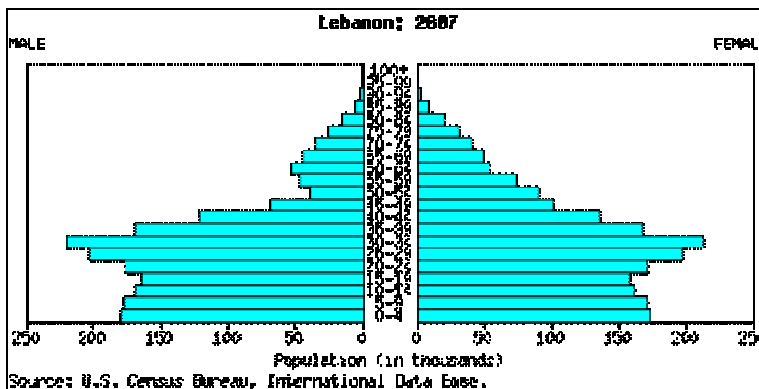
rate guarantees that there will be a "Youth Bulge" 10-20 years from now. It can also show what countries will be powerless to resist the inflow of outsiders because their own shrinking young population will be unable to resist the inflow of strangers.

Heinsohn cites the enormous increase in the young populations of some of the Moslem states, especially among the Palestinians, where enormous international financial support assures that children are not a burden but rather a source of income – the more children, the greater is the subsidy. As a result, the Gaza Strip has 464 boys aged 0-4 for every 100 men in the 40-44 age bracket, about ten times that of Germany's

Base and click on the "population pyramids" option. You can choose any country and any year you want to see and, I am sure, the results will impress you as they did me.

Here is an example: In 1975, Lebanon had an enormous Youth Bulge and in the fifteen years to follow there were bloody civil wars, internal strife, the Israeli invasion, and hundreds of thousands of victims. Now compare it to the 2007 pyramid and see that the bulge had shrunk. There are mass demonstrations and political disagreements but there is very little bloodshed.

On the other hand, Iraq, in spite of Saddam's murderous policies, the war with Iran, (SEE "PYRAMIDS" p. 4)



THE PEACE RACKET

By Bruce Bawer, L. A. Times, 9/2/07

'If you want peace, prepare for war,' counseled the Roman general Flavius Vegetius Renatus more than 1,600 years ago, echoing the sage advice given nine centuries earlier by the Chinese military strategist Sun Tzu. But in a film I saw recently at Oslo's Nobel Peace Center, this ancient wisdom was turned on its head: "If you want peace," it said, "prepare for peace."

This purports to be wise counsel, a motto for the millennium. In reality, it's wishful thinking that doesn't follow logically from the history of war, the real lesson of which is the one that Sun Tzu and Vegetius taught: Conflict happens, power matters, and it's better to be strong than to be weak. Human history has demonstrated repeatedly that you're safer if your enemies know you'll stand up for yourself than if you're proudly outspoken about your defenselessness or your unwillingness to fight. Yet this truth is denied not only by the Nobel Peace Center film but by the fast-growing, troubling movement that the center symbolizes and promotes.

I'm not talking here about a bunch of naive Quakers or idealistic high school students, but about a movement of savvy, ambitious professionals that is already comfortably ensconced at the United Nations, in the European Union and in many non-governmental organizations.

The peace racket, as I've come to think of it, embraces scores of "peace institutes" and "peace centers" in the U.S. and Europe, plus several hundred peace studies programs at universities such as UC Berkeley and Cornell.

What's more, this movement is also waging an aggressive, under-the-media-radar campaign for a Cabinet-level "Peace Department" in the United States. Sponsored by Ohio Democratic Rep. Dennis J. Kucinich (along with more than 60 co-sponsors), HR 808 would authorize a secretary of Peace to "establish a Peace Academy," to "develop a peace education curriculum" for elementary and secondary schools, and to provide "grants for peace studies departments" at campuses around the country. If passed, the measure would catapult the peace studies movement into a position of extraordinary national, even international, influence.

All this sounds lovely, of course. Decent people prefer peace to war, life to death, non-violence to violence. But they also prefer freedom to tyranny -- and the peace studies movement, all too often, promotes a mentality that plays directly into the hands of despots.

The founding father of the global peace movement is a 77-year-old Norwegian professor, Johan Galtung, who established the International Peace Research Institute in 1959. Invariably portrayed in the media as a charismatic and (these days) grandfatherly champion of decency, Galtung is in fact nothing of the sort. He's called the U.S. a "killer country," accused it of "neo-fascist state terrorism," and gleefully prophesied that it will soon follow Britain "into the graveyard of empires." In the

1970s, he wrote admiringly of Mao Tse-tung's China, and his consistently leftist, anti-Western tune has not changed. Recently he called for the creation of a Truth and Reconciliation Committee in Iraq -- to address not the crimes or atrocities perpetrated by Saddam Hussein and his murderous Baathists, but those he attributes to the United States!

The people running today's peace studies programs at American universities give a good sense of the movement's illiberal inclinations. Brandeis University's peace studies chairman has justified suicide bombings as "ways of inflicting revenge on an enemy that seems unable or unwilling to respond to rational pleas for discussion and justice." The director of Purdue University's program is the author of the book "International Relations in a World of Imperialism and Class Struggle." And the University of Maine's program director believes that "humans have been out of balance for centuries" and that "a unique opportunity of this new century is to engage in the creation of balance and harmony between yin and yang, masculine and feminine energies."

America's leading peace racket institution is probably the University of Notre Dame's Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies -- endowed by and named for the widow of Ray Kroc, founder of McDonald's, the ultimate symbol of evil corporate America. (It was the Kroc Institute, by the way, that in 2004 invited Islamist scholar Tariq Ramadan to join its faculty, only to see him denied a U.S. visa on grounds that he had defended terrorism.)

What's taught in peace studies departments around the country generally remains faithful to Galtung's inspiration. Many professors emphasize that the world's great evil is capitalism -- because it leads to imperialism, which in turn leads to war. And many students acquire a zero-sum picture of the world economy: If some countries and people are poor, it's because others are rich. They're taught that American wealth derives from exploitation and that Americans, accordingly, are responsible for world poverty.

As for America's response to terrorism, David Barash and Charles Webel tidily sum up the view of many peace studies professors in "Peace and Conflict Studies," their widely used 2002 textbook: "A peace-oriented perspective condemns not only terrorist attacks but also any violent response to them." How, then, are democracies supposed to respond to aggression? Should we open an instant dialogue? Should we make endless concessions? Should we apologize? Neville Chamberlain's 1938

capitulation to Hitler at Munich taught -- or should have taught -- that appeasement just puts off a final reckoning, giving an enemy time to gain strength. But the foundation of the peace racket's success lies in forgetting this lesson. What its adherents learn is the opposite: If you want to ensure peace, appease tyranny -- and there will be no more war.

That's the message in a nutshell -- and students find themselves graded largely on their willingness to echo it. Take the case of Brett Mock, who wrote in *Front Page* magazine about a peace studies class he took in 2004 at Ball State University, which he called "indoctrination rather than education" and which he said was "designed entirely to delegitimize the use of the military in the defense of our country." To get full credit, Mock reported, students had to "meditate at the Peace Studies center," "attend Interfaith Fellowship meetings" or join PeaceWorkers -- a group for which the teacher, George Wolfe, served as faculty advisor.

Mock is the exception -- a student who raises questions. More typical are the students whose glowing testimonials many programs have posted online. In them, one encounters essentially the same story over and over: the privileged upbringing; the curiosity about other cultures; the visit to the Third World, where the poverty shocks, even transforms, the student; and, finally, the readiness to swallow the professors' explanation for it all -- namely, that it's America's fault.



George Orwell would have understood the attraction of well-off young people to the peace racket. "Turn-the-other-cheek pacifism," he observed in 1941, "only flourishes among the more prosperous classes, or among workers who have in some way escaped from their own class. . . . To abjure violence it is necessary to have no experience of it."

If so many young Americans have grown up insulated from the realities that Vegetius and Sun Tzu elucidated centuries ago, and are therefore easy marks for the peace racket, it's thanks to the success of the very things the peace racket despises -- American capitalism and American military preparedness.

As for the peace racket's recommendations, if democracies consistently followed them, they'd eventually reap the kind of peace found today in Havana or Pyongyang. *Bruce Bawer is author of "When Europe Slept." A longer version of this article appears in the summer issue of City Journal.*

PARTICIPATE

IN THE IMPORTANT MITZVAH OF PIDYON SHVUYIM!



CALL PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH!
Call today and each and every day through the day of Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

Call the White House
between 10 am & 4 pm EST at

202-456-1414

& request the release of **Jonathan Pollard!**
22 YEARS IN PRISON IS MORE THAN ENOUGH!

שיר למעלות אשא
עיני אל ההרים . . .
Please say Tehillim,
Chapter 121,
in the merit of
YEHOSON BEN MALKA



We appeal to you as President of the greatest power on earth . . . to grant clemency to Jonathan Pollard who has been incarcerated for more than twenty years.

—RAV YOSEF SHALOM ELYASHIV, SHLITA
—RAV ARON LEIB SCHEINMAN, SHLITA

The mitzvah of Pidyon Shvuyim devolves upon Jonathan Pollard and it is a compulsory Torah command for all of the nation of Israel . . .

—RAV MORDECHAI ELIAHU, SHLITA,
FORMER CHIEF RABBI OF ISRAEL

This is a mitzvah of Pidyon Shvuyim for all of Klal Yisroel.

—BOSTONER REBBE, SHLITA

We call upon all caring Jews who understand the importance of being nosei b'ol im chaveiro and the imperative of Pidyon Shvuyim to convey the message to President Bush that Mr. Pollard has served long enough, and that the time has come to free him.

—MOETZES GEDOLEI HATORAH OF AMERICA

My view is that 20 years is enough . . . and at this point I think he's served long enough.

—JAMES WOOLSEY, FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE CIA

I support clemency only if three conditions are met: no danger is posed to society, real contrition is shown and the sentence is disproportionate to others who have committed similar crimes. Pollard fits that bill.

—CHARLES SCHUMER, NY SENATOR

He has suffered enough . . . Now is the time for human compassion.

—ELIE WIESEL, NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER

We are writing to express support for Jonathan Pollard . . . We urge your support on humanitarian grounds for this matter.

—CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF
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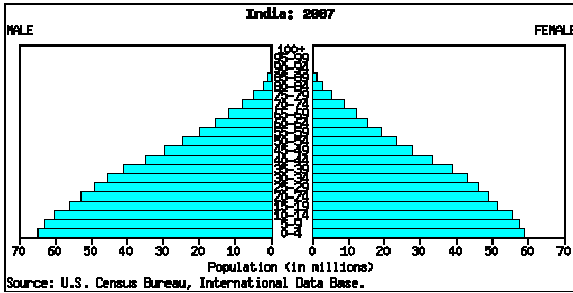
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PROPHETIC PYRAMIDS Continued from page 1

the two Gulf Wars and the current troubles, has experienced a net gain of population. Its 2007 pyramid shows a Youth Bulge that rivals that of the West Bank and the 1975 Lebanon.

It is more than interesting that while Iran's 15-29 population is marginally high and may be somewhat volatile, the country's fertility rate has been dropping dramatically and within a few years the Iranian bulge will have passed.

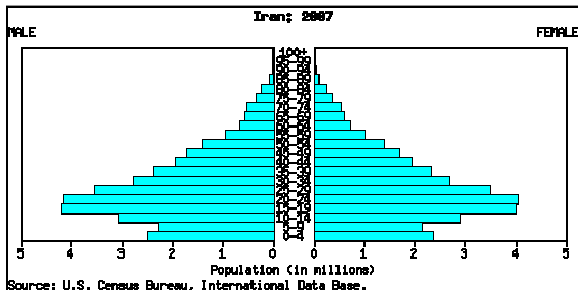


North Korea also has a diminished birth rate, possibly because of its genocidal internal policies. It only has a disproportionate surplus in the 35-49 category – an age that is historically not conducive to dysfunctional violent behavior.

The population pyramids also suggest that neither Venezuela and Mexico, nor post-Castro Cuba will turn to violence in the foreseeable future.

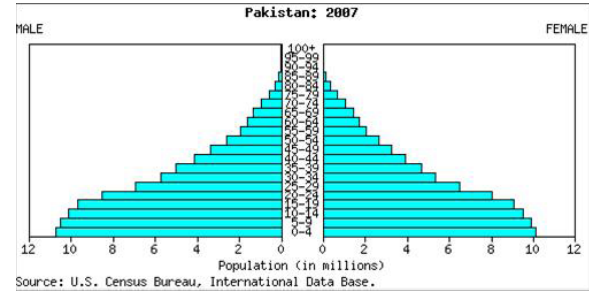
So what should we fear? The pyramids for India and Pakistan are quite similar; both show troublesome Youth Bulges. Furthermore, both are nuclear powers capable of tragic missteps that could have unpredictably tragic consequences and both exhibit almost constant internal unrest that could unpredictably turn into something much more serious.

In his book, Heinsohn creates a table of 124 countries with populations of over 650,000 children. Forty nine countries are not endangered by Youth Bulges while seventy five have already exceeded the critical proportion of children and young men. The table also lists



the number of wars and armed conflicts in all countries since 1945 – and the correlation of Youth Bulge and deadly violence is unmistakable. It is a frightening picture.

I can only hope that someone in Washington – and our main information media - is aware of Heinsohn's theory and will be moved to explore and evaluate it in order to apply its



conclusions to our foreign policy decisions.

The hordes of angry, irrational and violent young men are growing. They are eagerly drifting to ideologies that justify irrational behavior. We may already be too late to stop the Youth Bulge tsunami.

