

DOMINION STRATEGIES

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Are you opposed to home schooling?

No; I'm opposed to State schooling. I am in favor of any private, voluntary institution that sets up an alternative to the tax-financed public school system. I would be happy to see General Motors start franchising schools.

Which alternative is best? Ideally, the profit-seeking school. This institution is less likely to ask anyone to subsidize anyone else's children (though some of this does go on: kindergarten tuitions partially finance seniors). It does not call for State aid. It meets market demand at prices that parents are willing to pay. It offers the greatest authority to parents: economic authority. The school loses when a parent pulls a child out of the school, since each child produces profit for the school.

The home school cannot take full advantages of specialized instruction by skilled professionals. It cannot take full advantage of the division of labor. The higher the grade, the more it costs to obtain the skilled personnel necessary to impart the specialized knowledge, which is why most Christian day schools chicken out financially after the eighth grade. It starts getting too expensive. "Our children are now ready for public high school" is a polite way of saying "our children's parents aren't willing to sacrifice financially in order to keep their children out of tax-financed moral and philosophical cesspools."

But a child taught at home by an inexperienced mother is always better than a child in public school, despite the division of labor.

Are you saying that home school mothers can't teach as well as school teachers?

On the whole, the average mother is not equipped to compete against conventional Christian day school programs. The higher the grade, the truer this is.

But what if a home school mother really is a terrific teacher? Then she isn't an average mother. The free market starts going to work. Friends say: "We see how well your Johnny is reading, and we were wondering if you would be willing to let our Suzie sit in on your classes? We'll be happy to pay you." Money talks. Compared to the time it takes to make lesson plans, the extra student can't hurt, and besides, there's money involved.

Bit by bit, friend by friend, family by family, the really successful home school mother drifts into the position of skilled classroom teacher. The one-family tutor becomes a professional teacher. Presto: the ranks of the home school movement have been thinned. The best teachers are offered income from other Christians to stop being home school mothers. We see the "miracle" of the free market in action.

The home school movement is the greatest invention in

the last hundred years for parents to locate new, innovative Christian schools. Parents can test the skill of the teacher through the performance of her children. The more **successful** she is with her children, the less likely she will be able to resist the financial opportunities placed in front of her to leave home schooling **and** become a professional.

Home schooling is a highly successful screening device. Mothers who can't handle the responsibilities have a tremendous new incentive to seek out mothers who can. They can at least become assistant teachers and learn from a superior teacher. The successful home school can become an apprentice training program.

There is a lot of turnover in home schools. Like every entrepreneurial project, a home school is a high risk proposition: a lot of them fail. Parents figure out that it's easier to seek outside employment to pay for tuitions, and let full-time professionals do the teaching, if they are available locally. Home schools tend to become regular day schools, or else they create incentives for worn-out mothers to find former home schools that have become day schools.

Home schooling is essentially transitional. It will lead to a revolution in private schooling, and will help conventional day schools to grow. It should at last create enough high **schoolers** to make profitable Christian high schools. And it will create a **far wider diversity of curriculum materials**, which may turn out to be the most important single contribution to education that home schools make.

In one of your newsletters, you recommended having health insurance, life insurance, etc. I agree in principle that these are good to have. But what about the man who works hard for a living but does not receive such benefits from his employer, or the person who is self-employed but does not make enough money to pay insurance premiums? Is welfare (for health care) justified for such individuals or families?

Any man who is self-employed, but who really cannot afford insurance, is incapable before God of being **self-employed** one day longer. He is not yet sufficiently independent financially or sufficiently competent in his calling. The ability of a self-employed person to afford insurance is a good test of his calling before God. If he can't afford the insurance, God probably did not call him into this form of service.

The zero-insurance worker is placing high risks on his family, and also on fellow church members. He is in principle demanding that other hard-working people (taxpayers) subsidize him in his calling. He expects them to pay for welfare for him if he gets hurt. He wants them to bear his statistical risk.

Would a self-employed worker beg on the street an hour a day to get insurance premium money? Not likely. It would be too humiliating. **Well**, what if he instead puts a gun in **peo-**

pie's backs and steals the money for insurance premiums? Illegal? Immoral? The Bible says so. But what if he votes for politicians who put that gun in people's backs? Honorable? God-fearing? Not in my Bible.

There is no known excuse for an employed person not having insurance. Even if he is not insurable as an individual, he can seek employment in a company that covers its employees, or join a trade association that offers coverage.

You commented on the millennium and that Jesus will come after this 1000-year period. Can you please explain where you see the reign of the antichrist being established, and the period of the Great Tribulation happening?

The word "antichrist" is the New Testament's word for widespread apostasy in the church during the interim period called "the last days," meaning from the death and resurrection of Christ to the fall of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. it does not refer to an actual person, pastor present. The numbers "666" refer specifically to Nero. They are a Hebrew numerical code for him which could escape Greek-reading government snoopers.

The "great tribulation" took place in 70 A. D., when the Romans surrounded Jerusalem and crucified all those who escaped the city. Since Jesus had warned His people of this coming event (Luke 21), the Jerusalem church escaped before the Roman army came.

This was the view of the "great tribulation" taught by most Christian commentators until about a hundred years ago, and the case is proven — "argued" is too soft a word — in David Chilton's forthcoming commentary on the Book of Revelation, *The Days of Vengeance*. He merely argues this position in *Paradise Restored*.

I was interested to hear Pat Robertson give this same explanation of the 'great tribulation' to his co-host, Danuta, in one of her famous "put Pat on the hot seat" question and answer sessions.

It will save "prophecy questioners" a lot of time (and a lot of needless manufactured grief or fear about the immediate "prophetic future") if they buy and read Chilton's books on prophecy. ICE sells *Paradise Restored* for \$16.50, postage-paid. Get your questions answered in clear, Bible-quoting detail.

The only future questions on Bible prophecy that I will consider in Dominion **Strategies** must be based on the questioner's familiarity with *Paradise Restored*. Read it, and then send in your questions.

John Naisbitt, in his recent book *Re-inventing the Corporation* (as well as in *Megatrends*) discusses several changes taking place in economics, the workplace, etc., that seem to be of value to us as Reconstructionists. However, Naisbitt seems not to take into consideration the possibility of some sort of economic crisis, and he also exhibits some "New Age humanist" tendencies. In view of these facts, of how much value do you think his analyses and recommendations are in preparing for the future? What effect could an economic crisis have on the "emerging information society"?

I have in my possession a limited-circulation document compiled by a New Age group, and hand-delivered to me (by mistake, I assure you) by one of the big-money financiers of the New Age movement. It recommended *Megatrends* even before the book was published. Mr. Naisbitt is one of the fair-haired boys in the New Age social science roster. It is my belief that they deliberately invented him. He came very fast from near-bankruptcy to become a media-spotlighted economic guru.

His views, and the far-better-researched views of Alvin Toffler, are basic to the New Age perspective. The New Agers **officially** are promoters of a decentralized economic order. They are no longer willing to be saddled with the visible bureaucratic failure of the centralized welfare State. Instead, they talk as though they were born-again followers of Mises and Hayek.

They also talk about an economic crisis. The ones I have spoken of believe that a collapse of the "old order" is imminent, including the Federal bureaucracies. They say that they are preparing people for a new world that is about to arrive. Men will evolve a new social and economic system — a New Age dawn.

The questions are: 1) What if the **collapse** reduces the division of labor (more picks and shovels, fewer computers)? 2) How long will this period of transition last? 3) Will it be deflationary or inflationary? 4) Will it be price controls (shortages, irreplaceable parts, grinding down capital)? 5) Will a nuclear war trigger it? 6) Will we quietly surrender to the Soviets, officially or unofficially? 7) Will they strip us of our wealth (food, equipment)?

I see the crisis not lasting over a decade, if the Soviets lose their nerve, and God brings them down. If He doesn't, it will be either defeat or destruction, and our computer technology will not save our hides. We will suffer a massive reduction in per capita wealth.

I wrote my special report, *Twelve Deadly Negatrends*, to deal with these questions for my *Remnant Review* subscribers. It's a large paperback book, typed (not typeset), horrifying for those who watch TV a lot and don't read much, and expensive: \$25. ICE sells it.

More questions on Social Security, which appears to be the overriding concern of a large segment of my readers. They boil down to this: "What is the biblical view of complying with the State?"

I edited two fat volumes on the topic, *The Theology of Christian Resistance* and *Tactics of Christian Resistance*. These appeared as issues 2 and 3 of *Christianity and Civilization*, published by Geneva Ministries. The first is out of print. A few hundred copies of the second are in print. The second is for sale from ICE for \$15.00. If you want the first issue, ICE will loan you a copy for a rental fee of \$50, with a refund of \$45 when it is returned unmarked, and I suggest that you return it with a "return receipt requested" form. I no longer wish to answer these questions on taxes. You can read the detailed case for Christian resistance in these two volumes. No shortcuts, please. Don't put your neck or your congregation on the line based on a few sentences in a newsletter. Don't act in haste. Act from knowledge. Do **your homework**.

I will take questions based on these two volumes.