

Sensible answers for a complex world

In the late 1960s, the bipartisan Eisenhower Violence Commission, formed by President Johnson and extended by President Nixon, warned that most civilizations have fallen less from external assault than from internal decay.

Over recent years, the internal decay prophesied by the Violence Commission, but also by President Eisenhower in his military-industrial complex farewell speech, has been reflected in American public policies.

The fault lies on both sides of the political aisle.

After Pearl Harbor, "Mr. Republican," Senator Robert A. Taft, said criticism is patriotic. The Eisenhower Foundation's Patriotism, Democracy, and Common Sense, to be published in September, assembles more than three dozen patriots. They range from Kevin Phillips, chief political strategist for Richard Nixon's victory in 1968, and former Ambassador Joseph Wilson IV, called a "true American hero" by President George H. W. Bush in 1991, to Jessica Tuchman Mathews, President of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and former Oklahoma Senator Fred R. Harris, who advocated grassroots, populist policies when he ran for president in the 1970s.

Why have American policies failed? What alternative policies can return America to its promise, internally and in the eyes of a global community shaken by, among other things, American torture and sexual humiliation of prisoners in Iraq?

Patriotism, Democracy and Common Sense answers asks citizens and policy makers to actually connect the dots-to move America forward by developing mutually supportive and complementary foreign, national security, Middle East, economic, domestic, inner city, media, campaign finance, and voting reform policies.

Too much to expect of our civilization?

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Patriotism, Democracy and Common Sense

Restoring America's Promise at Home and Abroad

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