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social constructions – the core of our biased and inequitable reality

Part Two: Rape, Patriarchy, and Genocide

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Length of *Part Two* of this article – 12,232 words

For *Part One*, [please click on this text](#).

Significance / In a nutshell – 41 words

Social constructions are a constellation of social and cultural ideologies and convictions that have created a subjective reality. These include gender, male supremacy, race, religion, disability, competition, beauty, and ethnic identity. Without social constructions there would be no marginalization nor othering.

Article abstract – Part Two – 635 words

Social constructions are the framework of the established order and its myriad traditions. They are the basis of the subjective reality within which we live, and include gender, male supremacy, race, religion, disability, competition, beauty, and ethnic identity. Social constructions and traditions enable othering and oppression without even having to think. Never questioning anything ensures that the sorry current state of affairs remains unchallenged.

Humans as a species have a fear of everything, are supremely insecure, and indiscriminately destructive. The first *social constructions* were fabricated in order to allay fears, to feel better about themselves, and to justify any wrongs committed against humans, non-human animals, and nature in general. In order to “justify” pretty much anything, they appointed themselves “masters of everything,” through the social construction of *anthropocentrism*, as expounded upon in [Part One](#).

Even so, to relieve their ever-present fears, at least momentarily, men/males needed to relentlessly instill fear in others. Through the killing of non-human animals (and human animals,) men/males get to feel “real macho,” but non-human animals can not cry out with human-like howling, they can not shed tears, and they can not beg, no matter how sadistically they are tortured and killed. Men/males needed utter human agony and unmitigated human fear. Nothing short of sheer terror! This, combined with the fear and hate that most men/males had (and still have) of women/females, led to the most horrendous discovery in human evolution: *rape*.

¹ lorero@gmail.com. Similarly to Valerie Jean Solanas, performing “*independent research into men, married women and other degenerates*.” (Solanas, 1968:i).

Each *rape* builds on every rape ever committed, starting with the first rape. Through *rape*, other forms of sexual violence, and brutality, men/males maintain an intimidation-based control and oppression of women/females. This control and oppression results in male dominance/female subjugation. Male dominance/female subjugation leads to male supremacy/female subordination. Male supremacy/female subordination results in male privilege/female disempowerment. Each of these fosters the others, and vice versa, with each element feeding on the next in an endless loop, whose outcome is a *patriarchal society*, one in which *patriarchy* reigns supreme.

Patriarchy is the social construction fabricated to ensure that males have the power. In a patriarchy, females are subjugated from the liberty, moral, cultural, social, educational, sexual, reproductive, legal, religious, leisure, labor, political, economic, ownership, psychological, and linguistic perspectives. It is no easy task to be a female in a patriarchal society. The absolutely unfair established order of males over females is maintained in these ways, and there never has been, there is no, and there never will be any justification for the existence this disgusting inequity. Every last aspect of patriarchy is based on social constructions, brutality, and above all, abject cowardice.

Nevertheless, the established order still requires ever more power, in the fewest possible hands, so that ideally anybody that is not a part of the *ingroup* lives miserably or is killed off. The most ruthless and effective way to concentrate power is to obliterate *Others* en masse, by committing *genocide*.

Genocide is the ultimate manifestation of othering, oppression, brutality, plundering, rape, murder, cultural erasure, and theft of land. Perpetrators of genocide “justify” their raping, enslaving, pillaging, and murder on account of their god, religion, and “empire building,” along with the dehumanization and demonization of their victims, whom they designate as “animals,” “savages.” or the like.

Genocide is committed with brazen impunity, as Israel is currently proving, yet again, with the “international rules-based order” making certain that genocide, capitalism, neocolonialism, and globalization charge forward, with the concomitant destruction of anything and everything in their path.

In genocide, the ultimate objective of social constructions is to deny *Others* peace, health, happiness, wellbeing, safety, food and water security, good medical care, quality education, a safe and healthy environment, infrastructure, comfort, living without constant fear, freedom of movement, freedom from arbitrary detention and imprisonment, freedom of expression, agency in their own lives, a secure and salubrious place to live, and so on.

Keywords for all three parts of this article – 108 concepts

anthropocentrism	feminism	objectification
beauty	gender	othering
belief	gender binary	outgroup
bigotry	gender roles	patriarchal society
brutality	gender stereotypes	patriarchy
bullying	genocide	phallocentrism
chauvinism	hate	policing
competition	hate crime	policing of masculinity
cowardice	human decency	power
critical discourse analysis	human rights	preconceived notions
critical reality awareness	identity	propaganda
cultural ideology	ideology	race
cultural norms	ignorance	racism
culture	inclusion	rape
dehumanization	inclusiveness	religion
demonization	Indigenous Peoples	religious intolerance
disability	indoctrination	sexism
discrimination	ingroup	sexual violence
dominant group	intersectionality	social
domination	justice	social constructions
egalitarianism	language	social constructs
equality	machismo	social equality
equity	male	social justice
essentialization	male cowardice	society
established order	male dominance	sociocultural
establishment	male fear	sociolinguistics
ethics	male privilege	subordinate group
ethnic identity	male supremacy	superstition
fear	man	traditions
female	man/male	trivialization
female disempowerment	marginalization	Valerie Solanas
female oppression	microaggressions	violence
female subjugation	misogyny	white supremacy
female subordination	monotheism	winning
	national identity	woman
	nationalism	woman/female
	nature	xenophobia

Unbiased definition of the main concept of this paper – 201 words

social constructions² *n-pl*

Meaning:

A constellation of social and cultural ideologies and convictions that have created a subjective reality. These include gender, male supremacy, race, religion, disability, competition, beauty, and ethnic identity.

Insight into fighting bias and exclusion:

No one is born a patriarch, sexist, racist, xenophobe, or otherwise intolerant and othering person. Fearing, hating, demonizing, oppressing, exploiting, and brutalizing *Others* is learned through society, culture, and language. The main culprits are social and cultural constructions, along with the policing of others to make sure that they adhere to whatever is uncritically believed to be “normal.”

Towards a heightened inclusive awareness:

Social constructions do not occur naturally. They exist only because enough people believe them to be an irrefutable reality that can not be questioned. The more people that uncritically believe in them, the more they become entrenched. This process further protects and promotes the established order, since social constructions are its framework. Without social constructions, the established order would crumble, there would be no marginalization nor othering, and an egalitarian society could be attained.

Also called: ***social constructs***.

Body of the article (Part Two) – 10,402 words

Rape: Fear, fear, fear, and more fear! What to do with all that fear of everything?

*“All humans are filled with fear, but not all of them are cowards.”*³

“Only cowards strive to instill fear in others.”

The human brain has evolved over billions of years through countless species...to wind up being inside an organism that so violent, so selfish, so greedy, so petty, so exploitative, so dishonest, so unfair, so unethical, so thoughtless, so evil, and above all else so fearful and destructive? The fear of everything, and the violence and destructiveness have applied especially to *men/males*, all along, so the first *social constructions* were fabricated in order to allay fears, feel better about themselves, and to justify their reprehensible actions. To be certain to get off to a mighty start, it was extremely helpful to their self-image to appoint themselves “masters of everything,” so the social construction of *anthropocentrism* came into existence, as expounded upon in [Part One](#).

Even so, as spineless cowards⁴, in order to relieve their ever-present fears, at least momentarily, men/males needed to relentlessly instill fear in others. Through the killing of non-human

² Unless otherwise noted, all the provided definitions are mine, based my PhD (Kaplan, 2020) and decades of egalitarian research and lexicographical work.

³ When a quotation is not attributed to anyone else, it has been confectioned by me.

⁴ Of course, there are some exceptions.

animals (and human animals,) men/males get to feel “real macho,” but non-human animals can not cry out with human-like howling, they can not shed tears, and they can not beg, no matter how sadistically they are tortured and killed.

There was still something missing. Men/males needed utter human agony and unmitigated human fear. Nothing short of sheer terror! This, combined with the fear and hate that most men/males had (and still have) of women/females, led to the most horrendous discovery in human evolution: *rape*.

Rape of women/females – the socially-constructed end of the egalitarian paradise all humans had enjoyed until the first rape:

“Man’s discovery that his genitalia could serve as a weapon to generate fear must rank as one of the most important discoveries of prehistoric times, along with the use of fire and the first crude stone axe.” (Brownmiller, 1993:14-15.)

“From prehistoric times to the present, I believe, rape has played a critical function. It is nothing more or less than a conscious process of intimidation by which all men keep all women in a state of fear.” (Brownmiller, 1993:15.) (Italics in original.)

“The original “rape” was political, the robbing of one half- of Mankind of its humanity.” (Atkinson, T.G., 2000:87) (The quotation marks around the word *rape* appear in the original.)

“We live in a culture that condones and celebrates rape. Within a phallogentric patriarchal state, the rape of women by men is a ritual that daily perpetuates and maintains sexist oppression and exploitation.” (hooks, 1994:128)

“Marriage as an institution developed from rape as a practice. Rape, originally defined as abduction, became marriage by capture.” (Dworkin, A., 1989:19)

Brownmiller (1993) describes how the “discovery of *rape*” led to the *subjugation and ownership of women*. This, in turn, led to their treatment as *chattel*, in an arrangement that what would later be called *marriage*:

- As soon as prehistoric men realized that they could rape women, they raped them.
- The first rape may have resulted in an unexpected defense of victim’s bodily integrity, but the second rape was planned.
- Early male bonding might have been through gang raping.
- Man’s forcible entry into the body of an unwilling woman proved to him his superiority, so rape became his fundamental weapon over women.
- The rapists fed on the fear of their victims, so rape became the mechanism through which men succeeded in having all women live perpetually in fear.
- Since women could not defend themselves from rape, they preferred to be dependent on and subjugated by a single man, allowing themselves to be domesticated based on “protective mating.”

- This domestic relationship was one based on *ownership* (by man) of his *property* (woman.)
- Women were thus reduced to *chattel*, and they became the first property owned by man.
- As property, any harm to a woman was treated as one against her owner's (the man's) estate.
- Males then subsequently solidified their power, and *patriarchy* came into existence.
- “*Man's forcible extension of his boundaries to his mate and later to their offspring was the beginning of his concept of ownership. Concepts of hierarchy, slavery, and private property flowed from and could only be predicated upon the initial subjugation of woman.*” (Brownmiller, 1993:17-18)

Brownmiller (1993:17) also declared:

“It seems eminently sensible to hypothesize that man's violent capture and rape of the female led first to the establishment of a rudimentary mate-protectorate and then sometime later to the full-blown male solidification of power, the patriarchy.”

Each *rape* builds on every rape ever committed, starting with the first rape. Through *rape*, other forms of sexual violence, and brutality, men/males maintain an intimidation-based control and oppression of women/females.

This control and oppression results in ***male dominance/female subjugation***.

Male dominance/female subjugation leads to ***male supremacy/female subordination***.

Male supremacy/female subordination results in ***male privilege/female disempowerment***.

Each of these fosters the others, and vice versa, with each element feeding on the next in an endless loop; a vicious circle that is as brutal as as can be. The outcome of all of this is a ***patriarchal society***, one in which ***patriarchy*** reigns supreme.

Patriarchy, the social construction fabricated to ensure that males have the power:

“The male has a negative Midas Touch -- everything he touches turns to shit.” Solanas (1968:4)

An unbiased definition of ***patriarchy***:

patriarchy *n*

Meaning:

An ideology and societal structure in which males have most or all of the power, at the expense of women/females and nature. Patriarchy is a social construction.

Insight into fighting bias and exclusion:

Females are subjugated from the liberty, moral, cultural, social, educational, sexual, reproductive, legal, religious, leisure, labor, political, economic, ownership, psychological,

and linguistic perspectives. In a patriarchal society females and nature are objectified and commodified, with the concomitant lack of regard for their needs and well-being. The institutionalized system of male dominance over females is embodied in *patriarchy*.

Towards a heightened inclusive awareness:

Most social constructions, conventions, and institutions continue to promote and protect patriarchy, including capitalism, gender roles, gender stereotypes, heteronormativity, marriage, and the countless ways in which females continue to be unfairly vilified, dehumanized, objectified, commodified, essentialized, trivialized, subordinated, and abused.

Patriarchy, and the subjugation of females⁵ from the liberty, moral, cultural, social, educational, sexual, reproductive, legal, religious, leisure, labor, political, economic, ownership, psychological, and linguistic perspectives:

Here are just a few manifestations of this oppression, not necessarily in any order, as they all are interrelated with, and build upon each other. This constellation forms the basis of the established order that keeps females pinned under the jackboot of patriarchy.

There is not much freedom, or even peace of mind, for those subjugated in so many regards. By and large, people who are born as females remain the “property” of their father until the latter “gives her away” in marriage. There is the expectation, and therefore the *requirement*, for “all girls” to look forward to marriage, in what might be called the “*marriage ideal*”⁶. A majority is anyway forced to live a marriage-centered life, irrespective of their marital status, or their own lifestyle choices.

The behavior of most females is rigidly regulated throughout their lives (contrast this with the anything goes *boys will be boys*⁷ mindset), their bodies may be exploited and commodified for countless uses, including publicity, sales, womb renting, prostitution, pornography, and/or sexual slavery, among countless others. Without the demand created by males, there would be no female prostitution nor sexual trafficking⁸. Besides this, many, if not most, men consider their wives or any woman they are having sex with to be their property, to do with as they wish. Within a patriarchal culture, “it is the *man*’s prerogative to enjoy sex.” “Getting his way” is all that matters to most males; women’s *consent*, sexual desires, and their needs in general, are typically held to be inconsequential, if at all considered.

In addition to the psychological anxiety, where is the bodily integrity and safety of females, when sexual harassment, abuse, violence, and rape are always in the air? Idiotic and unwanted lewd comments, obscene jokes, unwelcome contact, and the like can and do make each day an ordeal for countless females. How many *catcalls*⁹ carry an implied threat that at any time such a

⁵ The social construction of *gender* will be described in Part Three of this paper.

⁶ “*Marriage fairy tale*” might be a more accurate term.

⁷ Kaplan (2020:93-104)

⁸ New World Encyclopedia - *Prostitution*. Permalink taken on 3 June 2024: <https://archive.vn/wip/APSZZ>. It is also worth noting that although there are also women who pay for sex, and men who pay for male prostitutes, most prostitution consists of males exploiting females, and most pornography is directed towards the fantasies and viewing preferences of males. (Dworkin, 1997)

⁹ A *catcall* is already a manifestation of sexual violence, even if no physical contact is made.

male (or group of men) can “prove” to their targets what a *real* man is (or men, depending on the scenario), *against* her will? In their “defense,” *catcalls* help such males prove to themselves and others that they are “real men.”¹⁰ Quite regrettably, any female who believes otherwise can be forcibly made to understand this by one or more “real men,” who will do so with sadistic and craven pleasure. Pathetically, despite all this, there is no shortage of females that may feebly rationalize, telling themselves and others: “who doesn’t like a compliment?”

To most men (and many women), a woman is moral only if she has her external genitalia intact, in addition to doing precisely what her “owner” (husband, father, boyfriend, etc.) demands. In a patriarchal society it is mostly only males that make noteworthy cultural contributions; well, at least the *patriarchs* make it seem so. Statues and other monuments in big cities, the portraits hanging on “the walls of power” (courthouses, government offices, large corporations, military headquarters, etc.), and the like, are practically all of “great” men.

Women are often disparagingly referred to as “*the weaker sex*,” and not just physical, but also mental feebleness is connoted by this pitiful epithet. Another linguistic example is to refer to women as “*lovely ladies*,” which shifts the focus from the intellectual to the superficial, complete with a dose of belittlement. This latter expression is heard too often¹¹ in social events, such as galas. Many insecure and hollow older men consider it necessary to secure a *trophy wife*, which is as belittling to the “trophy” as it is pathetic for the “winner” who gets (*gets* as in *purchases*) said “trophy.”

Many females have reduced opportunities to study, for any number of reasons, including rearing of children (whether married at the time or not), tending to another family member (such as a terminally-ill relative), or because they have been beaten down intellectually so much that they “already know” that they will fail. And, the women who do decide to pursue an education are customarily faced with countless needless obstacles, big and small. For instance:

chilly climate *n*

Meaning:

[within the academic world in general, and within specific academic settings in particular] Unfair and/or intimidatory treatment of females that leads them to be less likely to excel at their studies, to pursue their long-term academic aspirations, to secure promotions and grants, and in general to feel welcome in such surroundings.

Insight into the bias:

A *chilly climate* may entail any number of discriminatory and/or hostile actions, resulting, for instance, in females obtaining lower grades for work of equivalent or better quality than that of males, receiving less encouragement and recognition, getting less favorable peer reviews, feeling inhibited towards making the positive contributions they are capable of, or being sexually harassed or assaulted.

Towards a heightened inclusive awareness:

The analytical framework that intersectionality provides helps to better understand the aggravated toxic effects a *chilly climate* may have on females that belong to “minority”

¹⁰ As an integral part in the *policing of masculinity*. (Kaplan, 2020:152-167)

¹¹ Even once is too often, but many “*masters*” of ceremonies get to feel a bit more “manly” when trivialising women so. And, they get a cheap laugh at the expense of all females.

groups, who are economically poor, not heteronormative, have physical specific needs, and so on, since multiple mechanisms of oppression intersect.

How often do people mindlessly say “*he gave her a child?*,” as if men did all the work involved in gestation, childbirth, and rearing¹²? As if males were the only ones that matter when it comes to reproduction? And implying that that is what all women live for, for a man to *give* her a child, to fulfil her as a wife and female? In most cultures male children are preferred, to the extent that female feticide is often committed. Shah, Gyawali, and Aro (2018) point out that this problem has become even worse. Females are not only being killed at birth, but also even before then on account of screening for the sex of the fetus, and preferentially “keeping males.” They go on to state that this fosters the continuing oppression of women through gender discrimination, exacerbates female health problems in general, perturb specific families, and harm social networks as a whole. Heise (2018) mentions that in cases where the parents allow the “less worthy” baby girl to live, she will likely get lesser quality health care.

A woman who has someone else’s embryo implanted in her uterus, with the intention to be carried to term, is often called a *gestational carrier*. Note how that does not even sound like a human being is involved. More like a vessel. As commodifying, dehumanizing, and unflattering as “*womb renting*” sounds, being a “*gestational carrier*” is even worse. Dehumanization and commodification are integral parts of patriarchy, and this is a fitting example.

There are still many countries where it is legal for men to force their wives to have sex with them. (Venkatesh and Randall, 2018) Even when rape is considered as illegal, when a woman is raped, be it by her husband, a family member, a known person, or a complete stranger, it is extremely hard to prosecute the perpetrator, with many *rape myths*¹³ that “justify” the forced sexual contact or intercourse, such as “all women secretly want to get raped” (so the rapist is actually fulfilling his victim’s “fantasy”), “we were drunk” (so it’s the *alcohol’s* fault), “the filthy *bitch* is lying” (dehumanizing and vilifying), and so on, for every rape occasion. Not to mention a legal system in place to protect the rapist. (Venkatesh and Randall, 2018)

The menstrual cycle is one of many natural human processes. Only females can undergo these complex physiological changes, which occur on a more or less monthly basis, between menarche and menopause. Menstruation is an indispensable part of keeping the endometrium¹⁴ prepared for the implantation of a fertilized egg. During pregnancy (and usually also during lactation) menstrual flow is absent, but in the meantime a nonpregnant uterus is kept healthy and ready for the carrying of a fetus (or fetuses) through the discharge of blood and tissues through the vagina.

Escaja (2018) has a lot to say about the relationship between menstruation and the oppression, subjugation, and disparagement of women. This is facilitated mainly through language and religion, both of which are social and cultural constructions. On account of menstruation, women are unfairly regarded by most cultures as inferior and impure. This then leads to females incorporating within themselves feelings of subordination, filth, fear, shame, and a lack of sexual agency.

¹² Pretty ironic, considering reality, but fully aligned with a male-centred culture.

¹³ *Rape lies* is a more accurate term. (Kaplan, 2020: 127-141)

¹⁴ The *endometrium* is the mucous membrane lining the uterus.

The frequent references in the Old Testament¹⁵ to the impurity of women on account of their menstruation meant that they were excluded from officiating religious rituals (where power resides), along with having to atone for their impurity to “Yahweh.” Escaja (2018) goes on to highlight that the Vedas (Hindu sacred texts), Torah (Hebrew scriptures), and Koran (sacred text of Islam) all have similar “women are impure on account of menstruation” ideologies, which results in barring them from participation in religious rituals during their periodic discharge. This spilled over to females being kept from occupying positions of authority, which therefore belonged to the men. These men also determined that the supreme ruler would be a “masculine/male god.” This is quite a contrast with the ancient polytheistic rituals, where women were allowed to be clerics and “otherwise officiate,” and where menarche was celebrated.

Nowadays, in our “religiously *and* scientifically *and* socially *enlightened* times,” women are still forced to hide their menstruation. They have to hide the blood, they have to hide the “menstrual supplies,¹⁶” and they must, above all, remain silent about the whole thing, where men and “open society” are concerned¹⁷. All this repression leads to feelings of guilt, “sin,” and shame, and to the hindering of their sexual agency.

How can a female have leisure time if she has to do most or all the work around the dwelling? “*A woman’s place is the home.*”¹⁸ In many homes females are always under the threat of violence, be it physical (including rape), and/or psychological. (Heise (2018) In such a scenario, how could there be even a single calm moment for females? Sandfield and Percy (2003) describe the “gendered division of emotional labor in marriage,” which includes females being held accountable for a failed or a successful marriage, and their responsibility for the nurturing of all family relationships: with the husband, children, and extended family. Such work is not only unpaid, but *expected*¹⁹, and goes mostly unappreciated. To this we add working wives and mothers, of course. This all takes a whole lot of time and energy. *Leisure?* Never mind that!

The work done at home is generally not paid, and its crucial role in continuing society (and quite ironically patriarchy, for that matter) is constantly downplayed. Women often get less remuneration for the same or better “regular” labor as males, and are still excluded from many fields of work. And even if they “break in,” the disdain and othering is still there, and many males make sure the females “pay” for their “intrusion.”

There are also countless women who work under extremely harsh conditions in large factories, such as *maquiladoras*²⁰. At a typical maquiladora women can work ten to twelve hour shifts, getting paid around 39 cents (0.39 US dollars²¹) an hour. (Lozano-Reich, 2018) Lozano-Reich (2018) includes a quote from an anonymous former worker at a maquiladora, where even femicide is apparently part of the life (and death) of an unbearable job:

¹⁵ A part of the Christian Bible, and Hebrew scriptures.

¹⁶ Such as sanitary napkins/towels.

¹⁷ Except where commercials and other forms of advertising are concerned, that is.

¹⁸ Such an old, tired, hackneyed, pathetic, subjugating, and stereotyping cliché. Is mindlessly repeating and believing this really the best that countless people can do?

¹⁹ For that matter, *indispensable* for the continuation of the species.

²⁰ According to the online Merriam-Webster Dictionary, a *maquiladora* is: “a foreign-owned factory in Mexico at which imported parts are assembled by lower-paid workers into products for export” Permalink taken on 12 May 2024: <https://archive.fo/zEIQE>

²¹ This is a 2016 estimate (Lozano-Reich, 2018).

“The maquiladoras view women as expendable and will fire women at any time. Many women are told that they are fired and must leave on the spot. This leaves the woman with no choice but to walk home alone before the buses come. For example, one woman, for no reason, was given a shift change so that she had to leave work without the protection of her family. She disappeared that same afternoon, and her body was discovered twenty-four hours later. Another woman showed up four minutes late to work and she was locked out. She never made it home.”

Commodification, including that of humans, is an indispensable part of capitalism, and capitalism is an integral component of patriarchy.

It is mostly men in power, and the few women with political clout usually anyway say and do what a man would in her position. If a female political leader is just as obsessed with power, conquering, killing, exploiting, and perpetrating and supporting genocide, what difference is she making in relation to her male counterparts? None whatsoever!

In many marriages, it is the man’s money that dictates things, with the rest being decided unilaterally (by the husband.)

Countless wives continue to be victims of gendered violence and marital rape, still legal in many countries, so husbands literally *own* their wives, period, since even their own bodies don’t belong to them. The historical subordination of women in the social, economic, and political domains is intimately tied to this sexual violence. (Venkatesh and Randall, 2018)

Meyer (2015) points out that during the Neolithic Period, through the observation of breeding animals, humans first became aware of males being needed to produce offspring. She also highlights the following:

- The recognition of paternity lead to *patrilineal succession* replacing *matrilineal succession*.
- Later it became imperative for men to pass on their property exclusively to their own children, reducing women to being merely *objects* of marriage, instead of reciprocating participants.
- As the “husbandry” of land and animals grew, so did the desire for land ownership, which then led ultimately to “homelands” and sovereignty.
- This new order was based on, and enforced through *violence*, which was absent from our hunter-and-gathering days.
- Violent subjugation became a way of life, as would be manifested by those who have power over others:
 - *violence the patriarch wields over his family*
 - *violence that men wield over women*
 - *adults over children*
 - *slaveowners over slaves*
 - *the rancher over animals*
 - *the ruler over his subjects*

Females are often regarded as little more than vessels for men's offspring (successors.) Patriarchs make sure that there are no "bastards," since they want to ensure that *their* heirs are legitimate.

Language, culture, and society are inextricably intertwined, so if a language is not inclusive, then the society that uses it has a built-in mechanism for othering and oppressing. Language is the primary mechanism for humans to convey meaning, and words and phrases can instantly reduce *others* to essentialized and vilified "subhumans." There are many examples where females are concerned, including, *bitch*, *cunt*, and *squaw*.

The othering of females starts "at the top," with a "male omnipotent god." The language is gendered, consequently society is too²². Children are indoctrinated from infancy, and this **BS**²³ is constantly reinforced. Even by the oppressed themselves, unconsciously and automatically, establishing identity, and removing agency.

A sad state of affairs

Oppression from the liberty, moral, cultural, social, educational, sexual, reproductive, legal, religious, leisure, labor, political, economic, ownership, psychological, and linguistic perspectives. That is quite a list! It is no easy task to be a female in a patriarchal society. The absolutely unfair established order of males over females is maintained in these ways, and there never has been, there is no, and there never will be any justification for the existence this disgusting inequity. Every last aspect of *patriarchy* is based on social constructions, brutality, BS, and above all, abject cowardice.

The path that led to patriarchy started with a single rape. The path to end patriarchy can only begin by ending *all* raping.

Through *anthropocentrism* humans fabricated their supremacy over everything on the planet, and even the entire universe, and, through *patriarchy/male supremacy*, men/males invented authority over women/females and nature. Nevertheless, the established order still requires ever more power, in the fewest possible hands, so that ideally everybody outside of the *ingroup* lives miserably or is killed off. The most ruthless and effective way to concentrate power is to obliterate *Others* en masse, by committing *genocide*.

Genocide, the ultimate manifestation of othering, oppression, brutality, plundering, rape, murder, cultural erasure, and theft of land:

Although as of his late twenties Bartolomé de Las Casas (1484-1566) became the most tireless and eloquent advocate for *Indigenous Americans* ever known, before this he had been a slaveholder and possessor of land brutally stolen from the inhabitants who had lived there for thousands of years. Before moving on to some key events in his life, here is an essential clarification:

²² There will be more on *gender* and *gendering* in Part Three of this paper.

²³ **Bad Sociology**, or just plain *bullshit*.

A sociolinguistic observation:

Indigenous Americans – not Indians, and not Indigenous-Americans:

In this article, any Peoples who for millennia had lived in and/or whose descendants live in what is now known as North, Central, and/or South America, are referred to as ***Indigenous Americans***²⁴. Please note that it is **not** *Indigenous-American*, and most certainly not “*Indian-American*.” Any hyphenation restates the usual, trite, othering, trivializing, demeaning, and essentializing [*less-than*]-*American*. Examples include *African-American*, *Black-American*, *Hispanic-American*, and *Mexican-American*. There will be more on this ***inferior-American*** bullshit in Part Three of this article, which will also include coverage of the outrageously othering “*America is superior*” social construct.

Returning to de Las Casas

Zuluaga Hoyos (2011) chronicled numerous essential biographical events in the life of de Las Casas. Here are some highlights within the highlights:

- In 1484, de Las Casas is born in Sevilla, Spain.
- In 1493, at the age of nine, de Las Casas sees *Indigenous Americans* for the first time. These were brought back by Colón (Columbus) in his first voyage, as slaves.
- In 1499, at the age of 15, de Las Casas receives from his father his first Indigenous American slave, who had arrived in Colón’s third voyage.
- In 1502, at the age of 18, he travels to the “New World²⁵” for the first time, along with his father.
- Between 1503 and 1505 he participates in several expeditions of conquest, and he received slaves as remuneration for his services.
- In 1507 he is ordained a priest in Rome.
- In 1508 he is appointed chaplain of Cuba, and receives more slaves.
- In 1510 he first meets Dominican friars, who urge him to defend the Indigenous Americans.
- In 1514 he publicly renounced the land and the Indigenous Americans he “owned.” He starts his struggle on behalf of the Indigenous Americans.
- In 1517, in Hispaniola, on behalf of the Indigenous Americans, he confronted the Hieronymite monks.
- In 1523, in Hispaniola, he enters the Dominican order, and initiates his studies in philosophy and theology.
- In 1536, he colonizes Tezulutlán, Guatemala, using persuasion.

²⁴ A single such person is an *Indigenous American*, **not** an “*Indian*,” or “*Indian-American*.”

²⁵ If you do not understand why there are quotes here, please stop reading!

- In 1542, he presents the first draft of his *Brevísima relación de la destrucción de las Indias* (*The very brief account of the destruction of the Indies*.)
- In 1544 he is named Bishop of Chiapas, Mexico, but forbids his priests from absolving any members of their dioceses who had Indigenous Americans as slaves.
- In 1547 he renounces his episcopate, and returns to Spain.
- In 1552, he publishes the finalized version of his *Brevísima relación de la destrucción de las Indias*, among other treatises.
- In 1566, he dies in Madrid, Spain.

Brevísima relación de la destrucción de las Indias (*The very brief account of the destruction of the Indies*), by Bartolomé de Las Casas, 1552:

Zuluaga Hoyos (2011) encapsulates de Las Casas's magnum opus so:

“El libro es una minuciosa descripción de los episodios de crueldad protagonizados por los conquistadores y da cuenta, en forma tan cruda y realista que recuerda el tono de la moderna crónica de sucesos, de los secuestros, mutilaciones, torturas, intimidaciones y violaciones perpetradas contra los nativos de todos los rincones de América. De igual modo, la obra describe las prácticas sistemáticas de exterminio llevadas a cabo por los peninsulares —masacres, quemas públicas, empalamientos, cacerías con perros, asesinatos selectivos, etc.—, que fueron causa del mayor genocidio de la historia humana.”

The book is a painstaking description of the episodes of cruelty inflicted by the conquerors and provides an account, in such a stark and realistic manner that it recalls the tone of a contemporary chronicle of events, the kidnappings, mutilations, torture, intimidations, and rapes perpetrated against the Indigenous Peoples from all corners of America. Likewise, the work describes the systematic extermination practices carried out by the Spanish and Portuguese conquistadors —the massacres, public burnings, impalements, hunts with dogs, selective murders, etc. —which resulted in the greatest genocide in human history²⁶.

Hundreds of millions of lives were lost in this genocide, with each person suffering horrifying torture and an unspeakable death:

Here are a few specific instances, cited by Todorov (1999:141-142), which help illustrate the cravenness, sadism, vileness, and above all the cowardice, fear, hate, and violence:

“Here is an account by the bishop of Yucatan, Diego de Landa, who does not particularly favor the Indians:”

“And this Diego de Landa says that he saw a tree near the town from whose branches a captain hanged many Indian women, and from their feet he also hanged the infant children. . . . There the Spaniards committed the most unheardof cruelties; they cut off hands, arms, and legs, and women's breasts; and they threw the Indians into deep lakes,

²⁶ Translation mine.

and stabbed the children because they could not walk as fast as their mothers. If those whom they had chained together by the neck fell ill or did not walk as fast as the others, they cut off their heads so as not to have to stop to release them.”

“Here now is an account concerning the expedition of Vasco Nunez de Balboa, transcribed by someone who has heard many conquistadors telling their own adventures:” “The Spaniards cut off the arm of one, the leg or hip of another, and from some their heads at one stroke, like butchers cutting up beef and mutton for market. Six hundred, including the cacique, were thus slain like brute beasts. . . . Vasco ordered forty of them to be torn to pieces by dogs. (Peter Martyr, III, 1)”

“Time passes but habits remain: as we observe from the letter which the monk Jeronimo de San Miguel sends to his king on August 20, 1550: “Some Indians they burned alive; they cut off the hands, noses, tongues, and other members of some; they threw others to the dogs; they cut off the breasts of women.” Todorov (1999:141-142)

The brutal rape of females, land, society, and culture are a genocide mainstay:

In genocide, the freedom, will, dignity, health, self-respect, self-esteem, self-image, sense of family, security, home, language, community, beliefs, and history of the “Others,” person by person, are obliterated. This is accomplished by quashing all hope, happiness, comfort, well-being, contentment, and body integrity, and life itself, through dehumanization and unmitigated sadism.

Bodies, minds, and spirits are tortured and murdered from society and culture as a whole all the way through to the last terrified person.

Cowards take advantage of power imbalances to ruthlessly exploit vulnerabilities and fears. The greater the cowardice the greater the oppression and violence, with no shortage of torture, rape, and murder. All perpetrated with impunity.

Returning to Todorov’s “The conquest of America: *The question of the other*,” (1999): He quotes “from a 1519 Dominican order report on Spaniard settler/Indian relations:”

“Spanish foremen routinely used Indian women, married or single, as sexual slaves, adding, While the foreman remained in the hut or the cabin of the Indian woman, he sent the husband to dig gold out of the mines and in the evening, when the wretch returned, not only was he beaten or whipped because he had not brought up enough gold, but, further, most often, he was bound hand and foot and flung under the bed like a dog, before the foreman lay down, directly over him, with his wife.” (Todorov (1999:139)

Thanks to social constructions, the perpetrators of genocide are “never guilty:”

As a nation, group, and individually, the perpetrators of genocide are “never guilty,” since they always have “justifications” for their ideologies and especially their deeds. They take full advantage of existing social constructions, especially religion, and if these do not suffice, they embellish them, or make up some new ones. In this case, a pope came up with some “bull.”

Sanders (2017:19) summarizes several of the key rationalizations, (*with my additional notes and analysis between parentheses and in italics.*)

- In 1493, “Pope Alexander VI issued a bull, *Inter Caetera*, that gave Spanish and Portuguese kings “full and free power, authority, and jurisdiction of every kind” over all lands “discovered” by their envoys, as long as no Christian king had claimed them before Christmas of 1492.” (*As is usually the case, perpetrators are “never guilty,” since they always have “justifications” for their ideologies and especially their deeds. They take full advantage of existing social constructions, and if these do not suffice, they make up some new ones. On this occasion, a Pope came up with some “bull” in the form of a bull. In this manner, “good Christian Kings” were “authorized” to do as they wished.*)
- “The pope’s 1493 edict declared that God’s greatest pleasure was for Catholicism to be “increased and spread, that the health of souls be cared for and that barbarous nations be overthrown.” (*So, “good Christians” were being “good Christians,” and making sure that “those barbarians” were converted “for their own good.”*)
- “Recognizing that in the “countries already discovered are found gold, spices, and very many other precious things,” the pope gave the “kings of Castile and Leon,” and their “heirs and successors, ... forever ... all rights” to “all islands and mainlands ... discovered and to be discovered.” “ (*No use restraining avarice in any manner.*)
- “After 1513, when Spanish conquistadores “discovered” Indigenous people, they were legally bound to read out an official proclamation, in Spanish, called “*El Requerimiento*.” Sanders (2017:19) (*This document proclaimed “god” as the creator of humans and everything, and his popes to lead all peoples, and that the “new” land was hereby “donated” to the Spanish crown, and that the Church was the lord and master of the world, along with generous helpings of additional pure and unadulterated bullshit.*)

This *requerimiento* (requirement) was read in Spanish, which guaranteed that the Indigenous Peoples could not understand what was being brutally forced upon them. And brutal it was, as any Indigenous Peoples who did not immediately submit, had these consequences read to them, among others:

“But if you do not do this, ... we shall powerfully enter into your country, and shall make war against you ..., and shall subject you to the yoke and obedience of the Church and of their Highnesses; we shall take you, and your wives, and children, and shall make slaves of them, ... and we shall take away your goods, ... and ... the deaths and losses which shall accrue from this are your fault” (Sanders (2017:19)

So, what was the truth?

Sanders summed up the religious “justifications” in this manner:

“With its self-righteous bulls, the Catholic Church gave European kings the religious cover stories needed to consecrate their holy wars against the so-called “enemies of Christ.” In so doing, Christianity sanctified a brutal renaissance in the spread of

imperial culture. Long euphemized as the “Age of Discovery,” this glorification of invasion, mass captivity and armed robbery marked the beginning of our modern era.” (Sanders, 2017:19)

When seen with the enlightenment that an Indigenous American viewpoint provides:

“The history of the United States is a history of settler colonialism -the founding of a state based on the ideology of white supremacy, the widespread practice of African slavery, and a policy of genocide and land theft.” (Dunbar-Ortiz, 2023:2)

What was the magnitude of this genocide, in human deaths?

As per to Denevan (1992), estimates of the populations of the Americas before the arrival of Columbus in 1492 range up to over 100 million. Barely more than a century and half later, by 1650, less than 6 million native inhabitants remained. According to Todorov (1999), Mexico had about 25 million people before the conquest, and by 1600 it was reduced to about 1 million. That represents a 95% reduction during a little over a century. The actual loss of lives was much greater, since populations tend to grow, and the Indigenous People were clearly thriving.

“God’s” will can justify *anything*, no matter how barbarous:

It is hard to argue with a “god.” If “god” “orders” something, or anything is “god’s word” or “god’s will,” etc., then the craven perpetrators using such “justifications” know that they have nothing to lose. Why? Since that “almighty god” does not exist, then anything can be said in “its name,” right? Will any such “god” confirm or refute anything? Not a chance! Are most people afraid of “god?” Sure thing! A conveniently non-existent (in the absolute best case, an absentee and truant) yet “almighty god,” has handlers who put “it” to nefarious use. The social constructions of “god/god’s word/god’s will” and religion will be covered further in Part Three of this paper.

These barbaric European invaders and conquerors “justified” their raping, enslaving, pillaging, and murder on account of their god, religion, and “empire building.” To the Spaniards, Portuguese, British, French, Dutch, Italians, and the other imperial European powers, the Indigenous Peoples were “animals” and “savages.” Or, better stated, they vilified, demonized, trivialized, and dehumanized them, in order to “prove” that they were “animals” and “savages.”

A reasonable and egalitarian conclusion would be that rape, murder, torture, exploitation, cruelty, despoilment, and the seizure of lands and property must be an integral part of the fabricated Catholic religion. So, who are the real barbarians?

The Gaza genocide; the most recent escalation (underway as of October 2023) of the ongoing extermination being perpetrated by Israel against the Palestinians:

“Erase them, their families, mothers and children. These animals can no longer live.”

Al Jazeera, 16 October 2023, quoting “an Israeli war criminal, who was involved in the 1948 Deir Yassin massacre, to raise the morale among soldiers,” in an article titled: *Israel’s evacuation order is nothing but cover for ethnic cleansing*²⁷.

²⁷ Permalink taken on: 22 May 2024: <https://archive.fo/wip/SJ5qB>

“We have to defeat this barbarism. This is a battle between the forces of civilization and really, monstrous barbarians who murdered, mutilated, raped, beheaded, burned innocent people, babies, grandmothers.”

Officially posted on *Twitter/X* on 21 October, 2023, by the Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu²⁸.

“We are in a religious war here. I’m with Israel. Do whatever the hell you have to do to defend yourself. Level the place”

USA Senator Lindsay Graham, while on Fox news²⁹.

Robinson (2024) documents several of the fundamental aspects, past, present, and future of the genocide being perpetrated in Gaza, from the sociocultural, globalization, capitalism, and imperialism perspectives. Here are several of the vital points he makes:

- The ongoing annihilation of Palestinians had its origins late in the nineteenth century, when the Zionist project was conceived. This called for the establishment of a state in Palestine composed of 100% Jews, meaning that 100% of the Muslims had to be removed.
- To “legitimize” the settler colonialism and ethnic cleansing, the Zionist project fabricated a “Jewish people” who purportedly are heirs to a so-called “ancient Jewish homeland,” to which the “racially pure” Jews had to return. For this stratagem to work, though, the rightful inhabitants, the Palestinians, and their culture had to be erased.
- In 1948, the Jewish state was formed, with the ferocious expulsion of the Palestinians, along with the forcible expropriation of their land. This led to the super exploitation of the captive Palestinian laborers, which would toil on Israel’s farms and in other labor-intensive work, including caregiving, and construction and factory work. The remaining bits of land that were not immediately occupied would be a captive market for Israeli capitalists to prey on.
- With these new super-exploited and marginalized workers, in 1993 Israel implemented a “closure” policy, effectively imprisoning the Palestinians in their own severely reduced territories, and harshly escalated their settler colonialism and ethnic cleansing. The concentration camp conditions the Palestinians had been living in were somehow made even worse.
- Until the 1990s, Palestinians were barbarously exploited for cheap labor, but then Israel swapped the abuse to other groups. As of then, they concentrated the victimization on migrant laborers from Africa, Asia, and other areas devastated by neo-liberalism.
- By the 2000s, Israel had an influx of hundreds of thousands of migrant workers from Asia and Africa.

²⁸ Permalink taken on: 17 May 2024: <https://archive.fo/wETv2>

²⁹ Permalink taken on 4 June 2024: <https://archive.vn/wip/8KLHX>

- Robinson quotes Benny Morris, at the time prominent a Israeli historian and University Professor, who in 2004 uttered:

“even the great American democracy could not have been created without the annihilation of the Indians. There are cases in which the overall, final good justifies harsh and cruel acts that are committed in the course of history.” And: “[S]omething like a cage has to be built for them. I know it sounds terrible. It is really cruel. But there is no choice. There is a wild animal there that has to be locked up in one way or another.” Robinson (2024:490)
- Robinson also quotes Ayelet Shaked, at the time an Israeli lawmaker. who during the previous major onslaught in 2014, posted the following on Facebook:

“the entire Palestinian people is the enemy, including its elderly and its women, its cities and its villages, its property and its infrastructure.” Robinson (2024:486)
- Robinson notes that between 2014 and 2023 the political discourse in Israel became even more fascist, with calls for new rounds of ethnic cleansing of the Palestinians, in order to further expand Jewish settlements.
- Gaza became, like the post-slavery USA, an area where masses of people were no longer needed. Like the Native Americans in the USA, they were super exploited, confined to comparatively minuscule zones, and finally marked for extermination.
- Global capitalism easily controls the disenfranchised people who are super exploited, and in the case of Israel, it made the Palestinian proletariat expendable.
- By 2023 there were around 700,000 Israeli settlers in the occupied territories, and the remaining Palestinians were forced to live in ever-worsening conditions, including over half of Palestinians being forced to eat one meal a day.
- By 2023, the Jewish state sought the remaining bits of concentration camps that the Muslims had been “living” in. Israel wants the land and resources that the Palestinians have been imprisoned in, so the final step is for Israel to implement the genocide full-on until the Palestinians are eradicated. Only complete extermination would satisfy the settlers, the would-be settlers, and the Middle Eastern and global capitalist order.
- Business as usual: in October 2023, alongside the intensified bombing of Gaza, Israel started to grant licenses to global energy concerns for gas and oil exploration, as a part of Israeli wishes to become a regional energy hub. By December 2023, advertisements for luxury homes to be built in bombed-out areas of Gaza were appearing. In addition, clearing out the Palestinians also helps clear the way for a new canal in the middle east, to compete with the Suez canal.
- Israel has also redirected its economy towards military and other killing and violence-enforced technologies, feeds off global armed conflicts and inequalities, and uses the captive Palestinians to test their killing hardware. This dovetails with their ongoing genocide.

- Zionism and Nazism have plenty in common, especially in regard to a surge in racial nationalism, where “racially pure” people of mythical origin are deemed superior, while the others needed to be eradicated through genocide.
- Jewish/Israel propaganda spares no effort or oppression to make any mention of the Gaza genocide taboo, yet they continue to milk to Jewish holocaust to maximize sympathy, and in a perverted genocide-denying way to “legitimize” the ethnic cleansing they themselves are perpetrating. They are weaponizing any sympathy for the Jewish holocaust, promote genocide of the Palestinians, and the criminalization of any critics of this ongoing ethnic cleansing.
- Without the full backing of the USA, the leading global imperialist/military ruling power, the ongoing genocide would not be possible. The same goes for the obsequious, sycophant, and above all impuissant United Nations (UN), and the rest of the “global powers.”
- The UN and several other nations, however, have been terribly busy with hand-wringing, hollow denunciations, and the like, but no entity nor nation has done anything at all to stop the torture, rape, murder, plundering, and expropriation being perpetrated by Israel with impunity.
- Global capitalism requires ever more repressive social measures, including authoritarianism and the crushing of any opposition to these measures.

For further information on what ultimately led to this most recent escalation in the Gaza genocide, the ongoing murders, displacements, expulsions, expropriations, indignities, imprisonments, and more, please see an Al Jazeera feature article dated 23 May 2017, titled: “*The Nakba*³⁰ did not start or end in 1948 – Key facts and figures on the ethnic cleansing of Palestine.³¹”

A reasonable and egalitarian conclusion would be that rape, murder, torture, exploitation, cruelty, despoilment, and the seizure of lands and property must be an integral part of the fabricated Jewish religion. So, who are the real barbarians?

Another sociolinguistic observation:

In an article titled “‘*Ethnic cleansing*’ bleaches the atrocities of genocide,” Blum, Stanton, Sagi, and Richter (2008) point out that using the expression *ethnic cleansing* dehumanizes the victims of *genocide*, by making it sound like they are filthy and diseased, and must therefore be “cleansed.” This usage also serves to help “justify” the massacres committed by the perpetrators, who are “only” doing what is right, by eradicating filth. Consequently, the use of *ethnic cleansing* as a euphemism for *genocide* is deprecated³².

Along similar lines, another sociolinguistic and lexicographical example of the vilification and dehumanization of the victims of warfare and genocide:

³⁰ In Arabic: *catastrophe* or *disaster*.

³¹ Permalinked on 15 May 2024: <https://archive.fo/wip/5PvX3>

³² Please note that if a referenced author uses *ethnic cleansing*, the term also appears so in this paper.

bug splat *n* – *drone strike victims, drone attack victims, victims of drone strikes, victims of drone attacks, victims of drone warfare.* A psychological ploy of a highly manipulative nature including, but not limited to, these three primary goals: 1) make killing from afar sound like a video or child’s game where winning means getting rid of unwanted pests, 2) dehumanize the victims, thus making it even easier to press the “kill button,” as only vermin are being eradicated, and 3) maintain an indifferent general population, as it’s merely insects involved (and to date mostly only in foreign “insignificant” lands, at that)³³.

Genocide is perpetrated with brazen impunity, as Israel is currently proving, yet again.

A little over five centuries ago, “god,” through a papal bull, authorized “good” Christians to conquer the “new” world, and to rape people and nature as they wished, as per “his” wishes. This “justified” the largest genocide in history. More recently, the ongoing annihilation of Palestinians had its origins late in the nineteenth century, when the Zionist project was conceived. But, the seed dates back even further. According to the *Book of Genesis* (a part of the Jewish and Christian scriptures), “god himself” made a territorial bequest to Abraham and his descendants (Kaiser, 1981.)

This supposed deal was made between a non-existent “god” (therefore there is no way to refute this “arrangement”), as a part of a socially-constructed religion (and “documented” as a sacred text,) with a man (patriarch,) his descendants (patriarchal succession,) and all males (patriarchy.)

As insecure-macho-infantile-male as it may sound, among phallogentric people, the deal would be best rounded out by getting penises involved...but, penises *are* the crux of this fabrication. “God” purportedly said this to Abraham: “*You must circumcise the flesh of your foreskins, and it will be a symbol of the covenant between us.*³⁴” Along with: “*This is my covenant that you and your descendants must keep: Circumcise every male.*³⁵” That is quite the patriarchal phallogentric puerile perspective. Pathetic!

Dunsmuir and Gordon (1999) furnish a more plausible origin for the circumcision ritual so essential to Jews:

- In ancient Egypt, before being reduced to the life of a mere slave, captured combatants (many of them Jews) would be physically mutilated.
- This mutilation was meant to be as humiliating as possible, yet not diminish their exploitability as slaves.

Since the penis was (and continues to be) the center of the male existence, what better than to circumcise these slaves? This served to further humiliate these prisoners, while not mutilating any part of the body that was useful.

- In order to make the best of this abasement, Jews internalized their ignominy, and made circumcision a venerated religious ritual. They went on to take it to the limit, by making it the embodiment of their covenant with “god.” Dunsmuir and Gordon (1999)

³³ Definition mine.

³⁴ <https://www.biblegateway.com, Genesis 17, God's covenant with Abraham.> Permalink taken on 31 May 2024:
<https://archive.vn/wip/Zc5BU>

³⁵ Ibid.

If the social constructions of religion, ethnic identity, nations and states, capitalism, and the acceptability of the exploitation, subjugation, and murder of those deemed to be *Others* had not been fabricated, the Gaza genocide would be a non-thing. The same goes for every ethnic conflict, war, and genocide, past, present, and future.

Genocide also incorporates a colossal amount of *victim blaming*: (Gaza is no exception, of course.)

victim blaming *n* – A phenomenon which typifies the bias held against victims. It is the attempt to attribute partial or complete blame to everyone from rape victims through the countless people slaughtered by invading armies. Utilized especially against females, “minorities,” occupied countries, and other oppressed people, such as those of limited financial means. *Victim blaming* is enforced mainly through three mechanisms: 1) To make it appear as if whatever happened was partially or fully the victim’s fault, 2) to make it seem that any perpetrators are not guilty, or in the worst case only partly so, and 3) victims are repeatedly victimized.

A “rules-based” international “order.”

Lamentably, the hapless and ineffective United Nations (UN), International Court of Justice (ICJ), International Criminal Court (ICC), and other marionets of purported justice and equity around the world, once again show that in the best of cases they are mere spectators in the global theater of genocide, neocolonialism, and globalization.

They can clap, they can cheer, they can boo, they can jeer, they can scream and shout, they can express concern, play at reprimanding and warning, they can be horrified and dismayed, they can grovel, adulate, they can appear to be shocked, offended, enraged, they can make grandiose pronouncements, condemn, send open letters, and issue orders for arrest, but, what they will not be is effective.

They do put on an elaborate performance, though, and some people actually care. Nonetheless, they prove again and again that they are not only powerless, but in their caricaturesque ineffectiveness they ultimately are accomplices, legitimizing and supporting genocide and neocolonialism, just like the USA and its capitalist cronies, the World Trade Organization, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and its globalization goons do. Heads of state, politicians, famous people in show business, sports stars, and players in other spectacles can make it about themselves and send solemn messages on social media, and get millions of followers and likes, but any amount of hand-wringing, posturing, and so on do diddly-squat. At least their fans can feel good about their idols, and themselves.

Even if all of the above-mentioned, the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs,) the protesters and “everyone” were to get the ceasefire³⁶ they “demand,” it would not matter anymore. By now, the massacre is almost over, with close to 90% of Gazans already internally displaced³⁷. Plus, the tens of thousands of people who have already been murdered. And, what about the killing rage,

³⁶ Calling for a *ceasefire*, *peace treaty*, or *truce*, makes it sound like equal adversaries need to be reasonable, and therefore deescalate. In Gaza it is a unilateral massacre that has been ongoing since way before October 2023.

³⁷ As of 29 May 2024, the United Nations states that nearly two million (of the 2.3 or so total Gaza population) had been displaced, many of these several times over. Permalink taken on 1 June 2024: <https://archive.vn/wip/fzunB>

the blockades, the hunger, exhaustion, desperation, constant fear, lack of electricity, lack of clean water, bombarded hospitals and health-care facilities, the dismemberments, the rapes, the state of siege, and everything that has made Gaza “the world’s largest open-air prison?” This prison is now reduced even further, and soon the Palestinians will be eliminated from what little remains.

A “rules-based international order?”

Sounds nice, but on a planet where cowards, bullies, imperialists, capitalists, warmongers, and perpetrators of geocide rule, not a chance! “Democratic” states will continue to use the “we are fighting evil,” “we are combating terrorism,” and “we are trying to prevent genocide” “justifications,” among others, as they commit genocide and plunder resources.

Murderous “bravery” will be explored in Part Three of this paper, but in the meantime, why not take a careful look at how the perpetrators and supporters of genocide talk, how they act, and above all, their fear-filled eyes? From the “top,” Presidents and Prime Ministers, all the way down to the cannon-fodder perpetrating the murders and what not “up close.”

Violence is the first recourse of cowards. If these “heroic and fearless” leaders were themselves in harms way, they would immediately lay down on their backs, legs spread wide, similarly to how a dog does, with its genitals exposed to signal their fear, submission, and vulnerability, while begging for mercy.

No matter what the circumstances may be, anyone who takes advantage of, or harms a vulnerable person, is shit. Diarrhea when violence is incorporated. That is what soldiers do.

No soldiers, no wars!

Not even meaningless dissent it permitted:

The perpetrators of genocide have always gotten their way, with impunity, and now even harmless and ineffective protests are criminalized. A lot of good they did, for instance, before, during, and after the genocide and destruction in Iraq. On 15 February 2003, over 1.5 million people demonstrated in London against the Iraq “war,” among maybe 30 million or so around the world³⁸. That was just a single day out of many, of “anti-war” protests.

Although they seek to quash any dissent, it would actually be in the best interest of the imperialist and capitalist nations to not only let the marchers, shouters, sitters, or those who prefer to lay down, express themselves, but to even encourage “free speech” in so-called “democratic” countries. Once the protesters, chastisers, and remonstrators are finished “changing the world,” they could follow-up with meals and refreshments at McDonalds, Starbucks, or wherever, while they fancy themselves as “having changed history,” “faced down the presidents and prime ministers,” “effectively fought for world peace,” blah, blah, blah.

So, what about the UN, ICJ, ICC, NGOs, protesters, pundits, stars, idols, and on and on who are calling for that famous “cease fire?” How will that put the millions back home (what home, and

³⁸ The Guardian, 15 Feb 2003: “*Millions of us marched over Iraq – and were ignored. Now we have broken politics and endless war.*” Permalink taken on 25 May 2024: <https://archive.fo/mvhTK>

only if Israel allows it, which they will not) alive, safe, healthy, and happy? Israel will cease firing as soon as the last Palestinians in Gaza (and the West Bank) have been murdered or forced to leave. Will the heads of state then say “mission accomplished?” “Democracy has prevailed?” “A historic peace has been attained?” Barf, vomit, and puke.

“An international rules-based order,” seriously?

“mounting Israeli atrocities propelled Karim Khan, chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC), to seek arrest warrants on May 20 [2024] against top Israeli officials³⁹.”

Netanyahu promptly described Khan’s request for arrest warrants including him as:

“a moral outrage of historic proportions” and a “travesty of justice” that sets “a dangerous precedent” and flies in the face of Israel’s right to self-defense⁴⁰.”

The more cowardly a “top” government official is, the more they adore being a “wartime” one:

“So, far from being “damaged” or “weakened”, Netanyahu has been emboldened as a “wartime” prime minister and by an “international community” that has encouraged him to do what he has done in Gaza and the occupied West Bank without remorse or restraint.⁴¹”

As far as the “general population of Israel” is concerned, since perpetrators are “never guilty” nor ever “in the wrong,” (at least as far as they are concerned), the Jewish invaders in Palestine fancy themselves as “returnees” who are back to claim their rightful patrimony (at the expense of the “non-Jews,” of course.) This fits together nicely with a suitably devised Jewish history, complete with the absolute rights that “God himself” conferred upon his chosen ones, who are returning to the home that he himself chose for them. (Elmessiri, 2007)

Rules-based order, Liberal international order, and other such drivel serve to maintain the established order at the brutal expense of *Others*. Without social constructions, there would be no *Others*, so we would all be equally sharing a planet that could have remained a paradise.

Using the current genocide in Gaza as an example, it could be reasonably concluded that harming *Others* is the “fun” part. The torture, degradation, helplessness, desperation, hopelessness, year after disgraceful year, and the carte blanche the imperialist powers granted Israel to imprison Palestinians, torture Palestinians, invade Palestinian homes, steal Palestinian land, destroy Palestinian crops, and, of course, shoot, maim, rape, and kill Palestinians at will. The soldiers and other “defense forces” evidently took pleasure in denying them care and comfort by storming and obliterating hospitals, denying them education by obliterating their schools and universities, denying them places of worship by obliterating their churches and mosques, and denying them their roots and past by obliterating their libraries, museums and historical sites. Genocide.

³⁹ *Truthout*, 1 June 2024. Permalink taken on 1 June 2024: <https://archive.vn/wip/1nHmB>

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

⁴¹ Al Jazeera: “*In Gaza, hope is a fantasy*,” by Andrew Mitrovica, 12 Feb 2024. Permalink taken on 2 June 2024: <https://archive.vn/wip/LptPv>

Israel, through the Gaza genocide, is showing the world that yet again ruling capitalists and imperialists can exterminate super-exploited *Others* with absolute impunity. Each genocide serves as yet another warning to any other super-exploited groups of what will happen to them if they try to assert their human dignity. Even if they do obsequiously comply with everything, they will anyway be exterminated when expedient. Each genocide emboldens the perpetrators of the next ones.

Thanksgiving Day 2.0, beta version:

Apropos rape, murder, plundering, torture, violent stealing of lands, and all the trimmings of genocide, will Israel celebrate an “American” style *Thanksgiving Day* after its completion of the genocide of Palestinians and the stealing of their land, the same as the USA does after its genocide and the land forcibly and murderously taken from its legitimate inhabitants?

Deep, solemn prayer, first-kiss proximity, military themes everywhere, and tearful appreciation. With Jewish children gleefully running from Jewish adult to Jewish adult, from goodie to goodie, and cute and cuddly dogs running from Jewish child to Jewish child. The parents proudly knowing that each Thanksgiving will be cherished together in the “god-promised and god-fulfilled” Jewish state. Animal-based foods, alcohol (etc.), blessings, such festivities!

The elders will sagely tell tall tales of how the commemoration came to be, with any number of hokey storylines available, such as: “They (no use of the words *Palestinian* nor *Palestine*) were bored living in the same land for thousands of years until we came along. They were happy to leave. A few folks may have died as they joyfully ventured towards their own promised land, etc.” Or, “the land the Jewish state was created upon was barren and unpopulated, and we made it lush and prosperous.”

Trite sentiments would abound, such as “let us not forget that today is truly about tolerance, and appreciation for all people.” “To be gratefully together in a “peace-loving” and “democratic” Jewish nation, and living in harmony in the land that God himself promised the Jews.” “God made a covenant with Abraham, and God kept his word.” “Let us thank God, for fulfilling his promise to Abraham and to all Jews.” To feel even better about themselves, they also get to other anyone who does not also celebrate and pray, even if they are Jews.

If the social constructions of religion, ethnic identity, nations and states, capitalism, and the acceptability of the exploitation, subjugation, and murder of those deemed to be *Others* had not been fabricated, the Gaza genocide would be a non-thing. The same goes for every ethnic conflict, war, and genocide, past, present, and future.

Final thoughts for Part Two:

Every social construction feeds every other social construction, serving to aggrandize ingroups at the expense of those they deem as *Others*. *Others* are marginalized, vilified, essentialized, exploited, abused, and otherwise harmed.

The social construction of *rape* ended the egalitarian paradise all humans had enjoyed until the first rape.

Patriarchy is the social construction fabricated to ensure that males have the power.

In *genocide*, the ultimate objective of social constructions is to deny *Others* peace, health, happiness, wellbeing, safety, food and water security, good medical care, quality education, a safe and healthy environment, infrastructure, comfort, living without constant fear, freedom of movement, freedom from arbitrary detention and imprisonment, freedom of expression, agency in their own lives, a secure and salubrious place to live, and so on.

Without social constructions, the established order would crumble. This would represent a violence-free destruction of everything that benefits the *ingroups* at the expense of the *Others*. All egalitarians, whether oppressed or not, are in favor of eradicating social constructions. The task at hand is to get more people on board.

de Las Casas serves as a reminder that all people should be treated with respect, consideration, and dignity at all times. If he, as a high ecclesiastical official, a wealthy slaveholder, and a conqueror and empire builder, was capable of redeeming himself, pretty much anyone can. All they need is to have courage and a conscience. de Las Casas could perhaps serve them as inspiration.

In Part Three of this paper, a number of social constructions will be covered, including religion, race, ethnic identity, capitalism, accumulation of wealth, nations and states, the acceptability of the exploitation and subjugation of those deemed to be *Others*, and additional such ideologies that lead to endless marginalization, violence, oppression, abuse, murder, rape, war, and genocide.

Without *social constructions* there would be no *othering*. Without *othering*, there would be *inclusiveness*. The realization of *inclusiveness* is what will ultimately lead to *egalitarianism*.

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