

Huge numbers of people have stepped forward in the crucial fight against Trump/MAGA fascism. There is an urgent need to make this fight even more powerful—in numbers and in political impact and effect—and that requires clearly and actively opposing the *enemy within* this fight.

This is Bob Avakian—**REVOLUTION**—number 120.

What is this enemy? It is the putrid culture that still prevails way too much and too often—including among people who claim to care about and to be working for a better world.

What do I mean by this “putrid culture”?

An eager indulgence in snark, gossip, slander, accusation and cancellation (whether the accusation is fabricated or true—something that is effectively irrelevant to those caught up in this).

A culture that is defined by a preference for the subjective and superficial, as opposed to substance and a serious, scientifically-grounded engagement with important objective reality in order to come to a reasoned evidence-based understanding of what is actually true and what must be done to bring about positive change.

Based on considerable experience in encountering this culture, one of the revcoms (revolutionary communists) characterized it this way:

Believe the “lived-experience” gossip vs. going by evidence. Not only do so many people not have principled standards—and don’t even know what those are—they have an actual preference for gutter-level gossip. There is a pervasive anti-intellectual distaste for being asked to do any substantive compare and contrast of different ideas and programs. For example, people will take the time to type into twitter or reddit or whatever, “what’s the deal with Bob Avakian?” but NOT expend one iota of intellectual energy to read BA’s actual work to find out. A generation raised on Real Housewives and cancel culture. There is this terrible morality, politics and ideology, but also a corrupted mode of thinking.

This is characterized by widespread *schadenfreude* (delight in inflicting pain on others, or witnessing the pain of others) a kind of cruelty that has too much in common with the fascists.

A big part of this is an *epistemology* (an approach to what is true and how to judge the truth) that also has too much in common with the fascists: the insistence that truth is subjective, or “personal,” not objective; the notion that what is true is what conforms to “what I want to believe” (including what is contained in the latest rumor—or what somebody said on the internet—so long as that is in line with “what I want to believe”). People caught up in this don’t even know what truth actually is—and, far too much, don’t even care—don’t bother to look seriously into whether something is really true or not, so long as it is, in some way, satisfying to them.

This involves an aversion (an actual resistance) to critical thinking—which is also widespread among more formally educated people, in particular among the youth.

In opposition to all this, a struggle for a scientific—as opposed to a subjective—approach to knowing the truth, is of decisive importance. An important point that I have repeatedly emphasized, including in my article *Philosophy and Revolution, Part 1* (available at revcom.us), is the fact that the test of truth is not personal feelings or other subjective notions about reality—it is not what anyone wants to be true (or not true): the test of truth is *reality itself*.

Arriving at the truth requires an *evidence-based* approach: seriously engaging something and determining what the evidence shows about that something (the *objective evidence*, not just an opinion, or a claim—or an accusation). Unfortunately for people who prefer to indulge in lazy speculation (and gossip) about things, getting at the truth of anything, beyond the most simple and obvious phenomena, requires some work. But, especially with anything of real importance, this work is crucially necessary—because whether or not you have arrived at the actual truth of things, especially really important things, will have major consequences, one way or the other.

TRUMP/MAGA FASCISM

What We're *Really* Facing, Why, and
What Must Be Done to
Defeat It Before It's Too Late.



A series of important social media messages from Bob Avakian. Plus his New Year's message—2025: A New Year—Profound New Challenges—And a Profoundly Positive Way Forward in the Face of Very Real Horror.

Also available as a pamphlet at
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