

# **Celebrating 75 Years of Listening to “One Fool at a Time”**



## **College of Complexes**

**January 6<sup>th</sup> 1951 to 2026**

# By Charles Paidock Program Coordinator



Logo  
over  
the  
years



# COLLEGE OF COMPLEXES



WEEKLY FREE SPEECH FORUM





**Next open dates at the College of Complexes  
weekly free speech forum  
January 15, 29, on Zoom**



# Soap Box Tradition

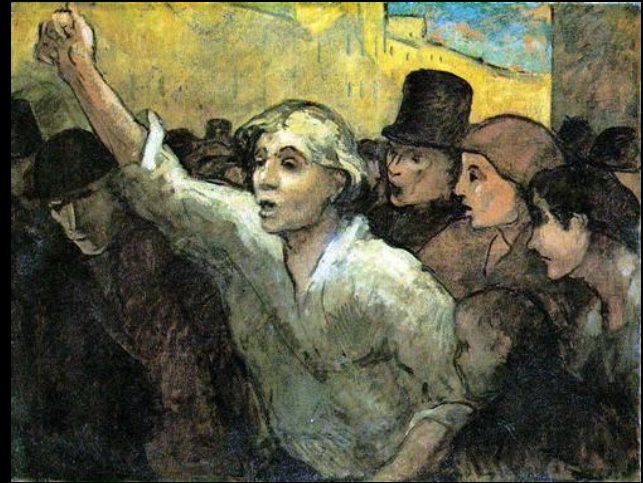


Format:  
Presentation



Questions and Answer Period  
Rebuttals / Remarks by those in  
attendance  
Speaker's Final Comments

## College of Complexes - Statement on Free Speech



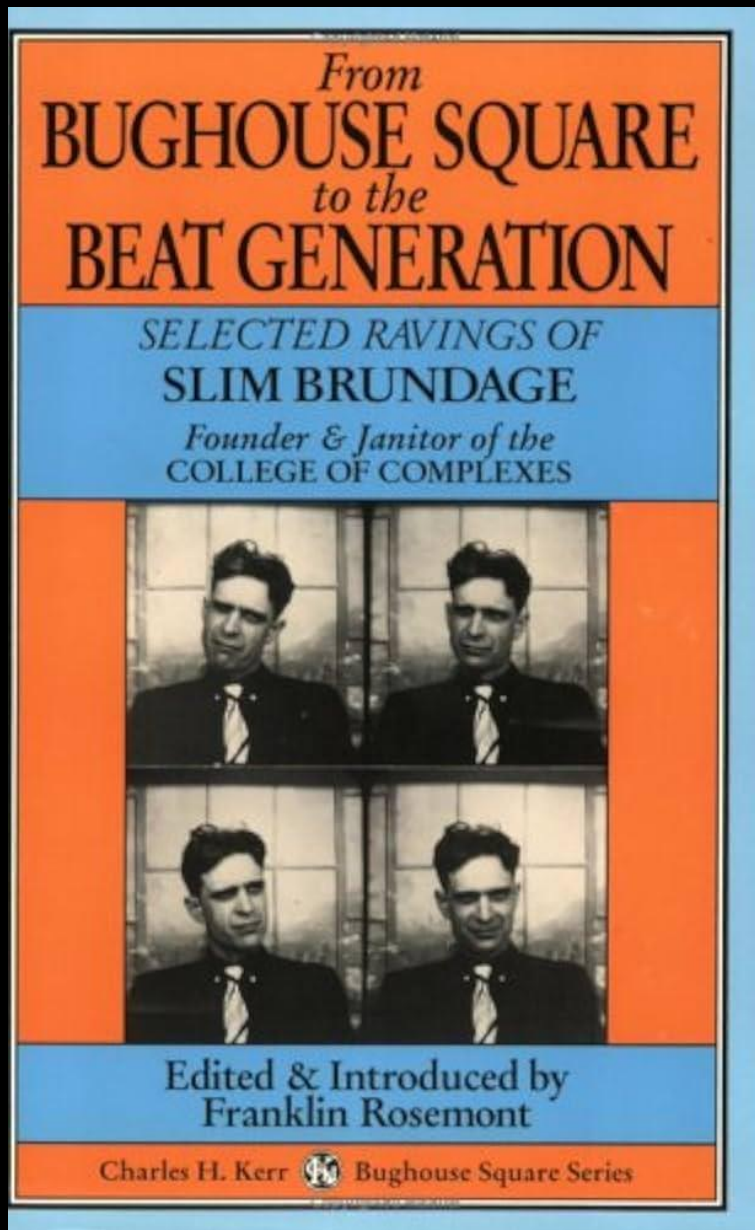
Our constitution and laws encourage the freest possible exchange of opinions, ideas, and information. In part, that recognizes our worth and dignity as human beings. To forbid us to speak our minds demeans us and makes us more like slaves or robots than citizens of a free country. But as important as freedom of expression is for us as individuals, it is perhaps more important to society at large.



# History



From Bughouse Square  
to the Beat  
Generation:  
Selected Ravings of  
Slim Brundage  
Charles H. Kerr  
Publishing Company







# Media



"The legendary forum for free-thinkers and iconoclasts"

**Chicago Tribune**

"the entire spectrum of ideas. .to the very far out"

**Lerner Newspapers**

"always ahead of its time, or completely out of step with it"

**Chicago Reader**

"People who have strong opinion on every topic under the sun,  
or beyond it"

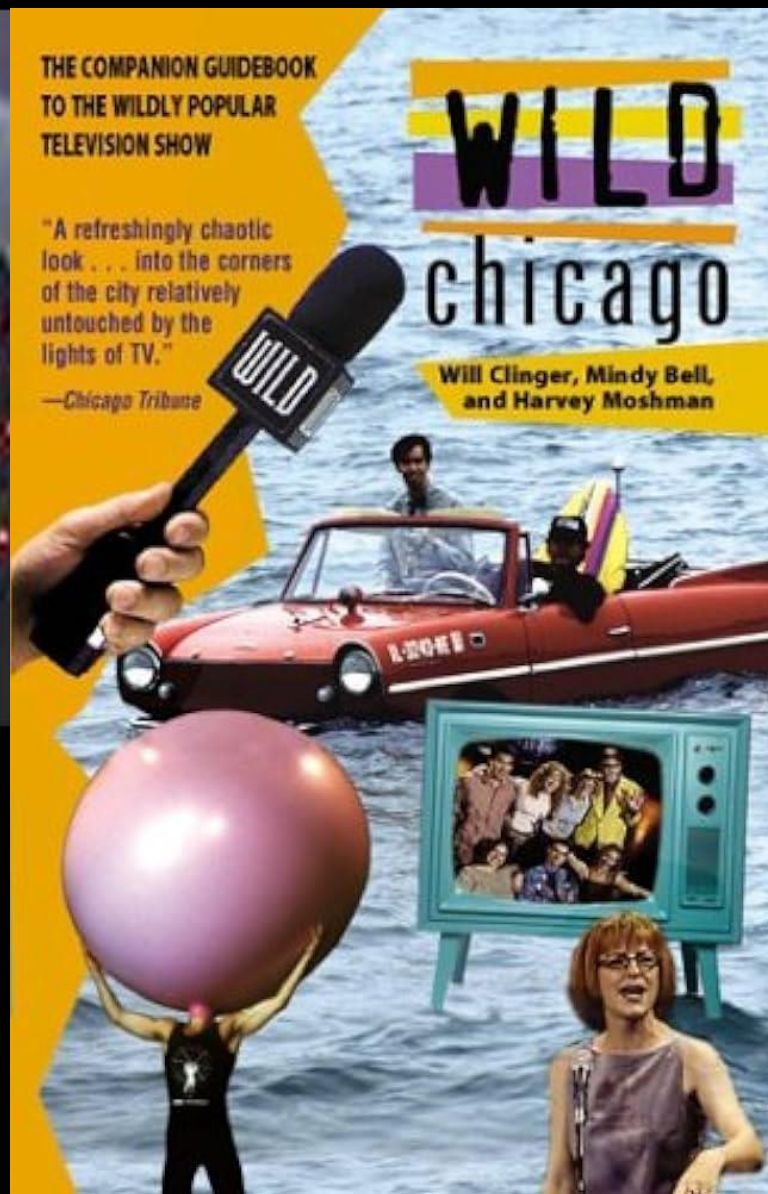
**Chicago Sun-Times**

"the topics are guaranteed to encourage spirited discussion"

**Hyde Park Herald**



# Wild Chicago Show WTTW PBS



One could learn the speaker and topic  
by telephone  
via an answering machine with a  
weekly updated announcement





# Printer's Row Book Fair





**College regular  
arrested by  
police in 2005**



The underground in Chicago knew him as J.J. Jameson; the Massachusetts penal system knew him as Norman A. Porter Jr., a murderer who escaped in 1985.

In 2005, Porter/Jameson was arrested in Chicago. “It’s been a good 20-year run,” he told the police at the time. Now in his mid-70s, Porter is up for parole in Boston.



# College regular Gene Horcher evades police around corner at protest by Jane Addams Senior Caucus





# Cell 29

Written by Burr McCloskey

A historical play (edited and abridged by Charles Paidock) incorporating the actual writings and speeches of the principal characters – performed annually at the May 1st meeting of the College of Complexes

**Reading of Play on the occasion of the Millennium**

**The Golden Musician  
at the  
Temple of Humanity**





# College of Complexes

"The Playground for People Who Think"

## Free Speech Forum

on social issues and current events



Special Guest Speaker



Every Saturday

6:00 PM

[www.collegeofcomplexes.org](http://www.collegeofcomplexes.org)

Hilltop Restaurant 2800 W. Foster

\$3 Tuition Free Parking dinner optional



# Lecture Library

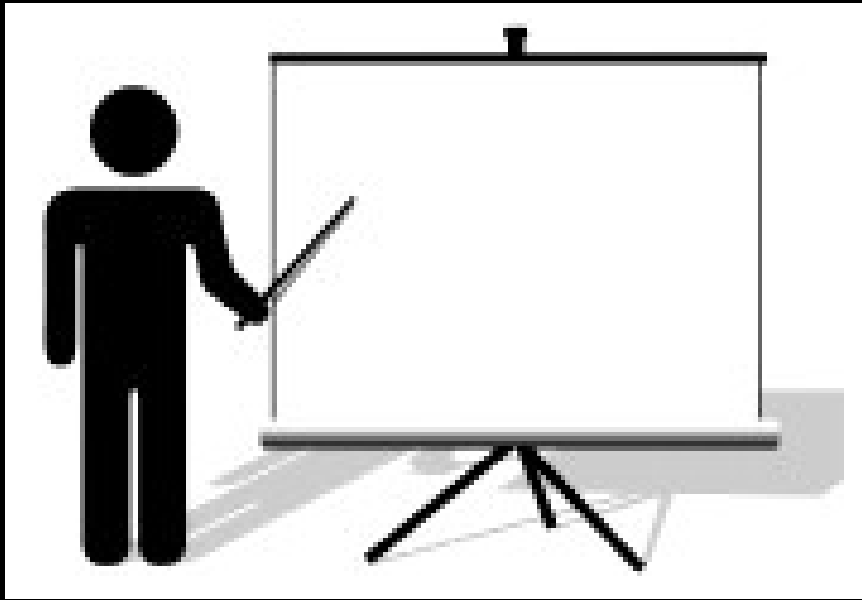


**extensive  
collection  
of video  
recordings**



**extensive  
collection  
of video  
recordings**





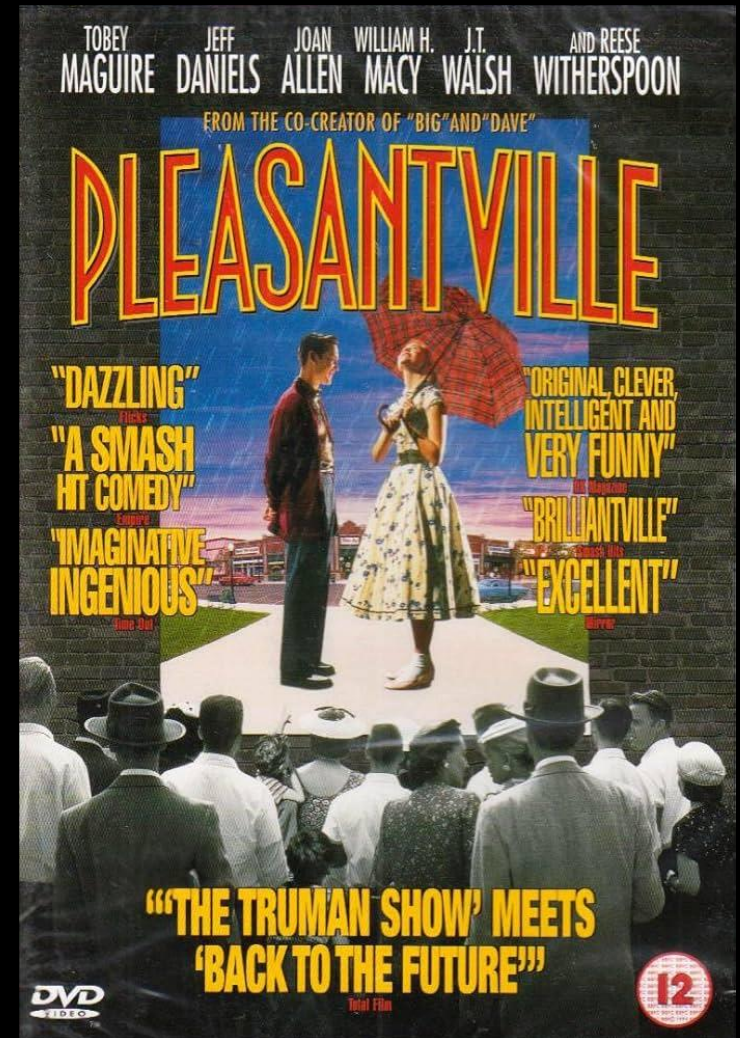
**Collection of  
powerpoint slides  
from presentations  
- Including this one**

**and  
documentaries  
or free films  
on-line**





The only movie ever shown  
“Pleasantville”  
two teenagers are  
transported into a 1950s  
family TV show





**Presentation and discussion of the movie  
"Salt of the Earth"**

**Please watch in advance / free, on-line  
Saturday March 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PMCT  
College of Complexes**



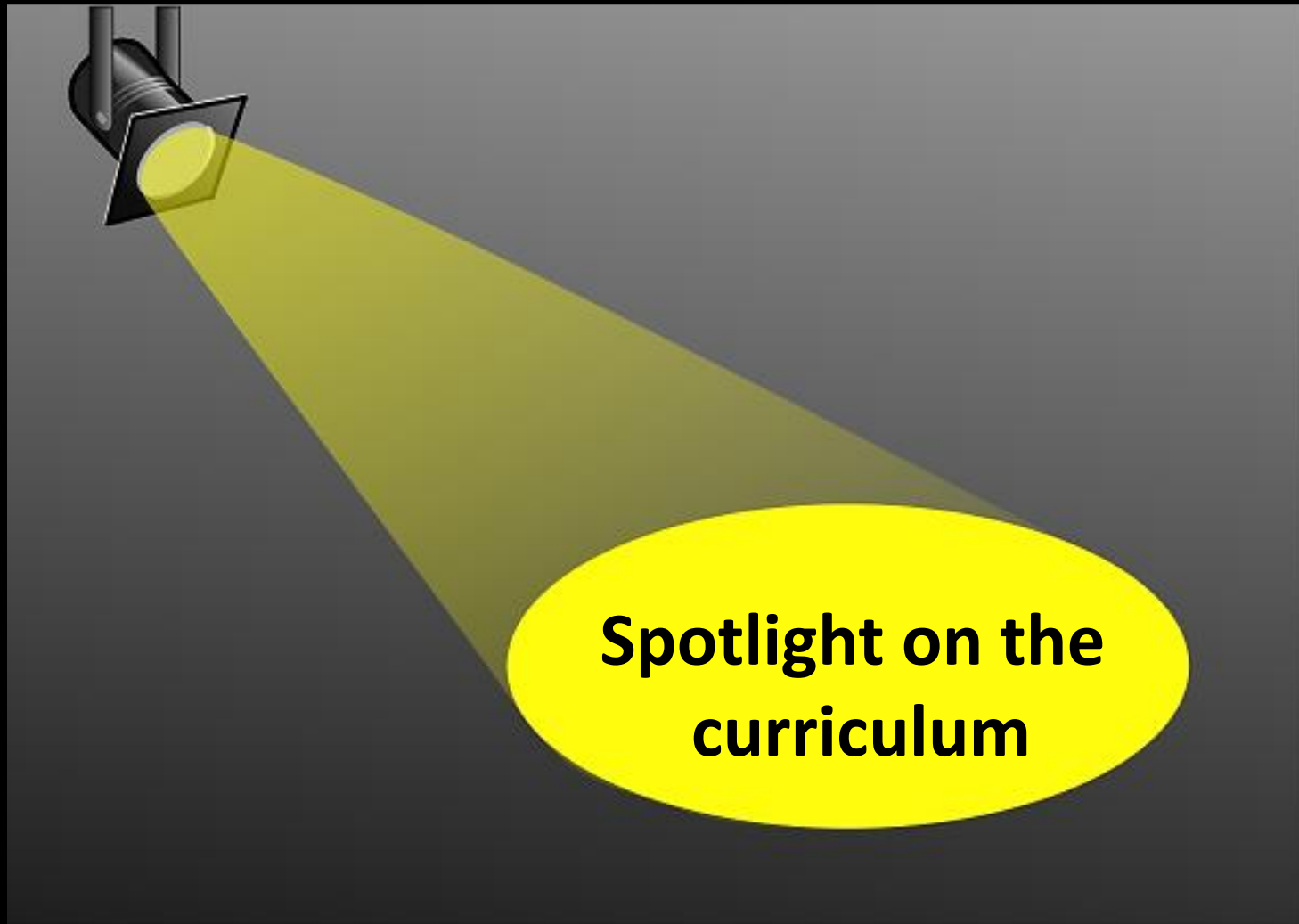
# Meeting at Lincoln Restaurant











# Conspiracies



**The  
Deep State /  
New World  
Order**







Program on Saturday Sept 11th  
at 6:00 PM CT, Zoom  
College of Complexes  
weekly free speech forum

Nov 22 to date:  
82 shooters have  
been identified,  
belonging to 28  
groups, from 2  
dozen firing sites



**"I'm just a patsy"**



# **WAR RESISTERS LEAGUE**

**Upcoming Peace Programs at College of  
Complexes on Saturday at 5:00 PM CT  
Sept 9<sup>th</sup> The Oracle Institute for a Culture of  
Peace**

**Sept 16<sup>th</sup> Re-Directing Military Spending  
towards Programs that will Help Americans  
in America**

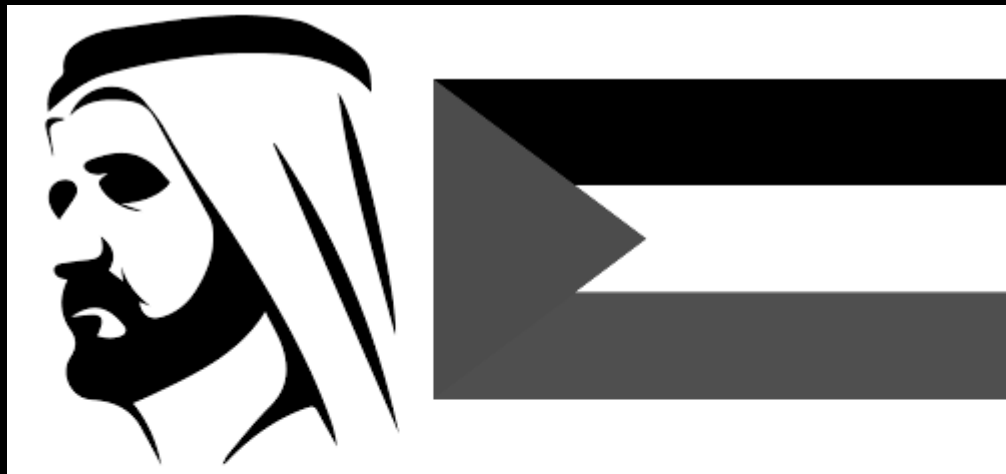


**Presentation on Saturday Feb 8<sup>th</sup> at  
5:00 PM CT: “Waging Peace in an  
Era of Perpetual War”**



**Presentation on  
American Aggression in  
Yemen  
by Chicago Area Peace  
Action  
Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup> at  
6:00 PM CT, Zoom**





**Open Microphone on Marc  
Seeking 3 or 4 keynote speakers  
20 minutes each, for upcoming  
on the Israel-Palestine con  
College of Complexes**



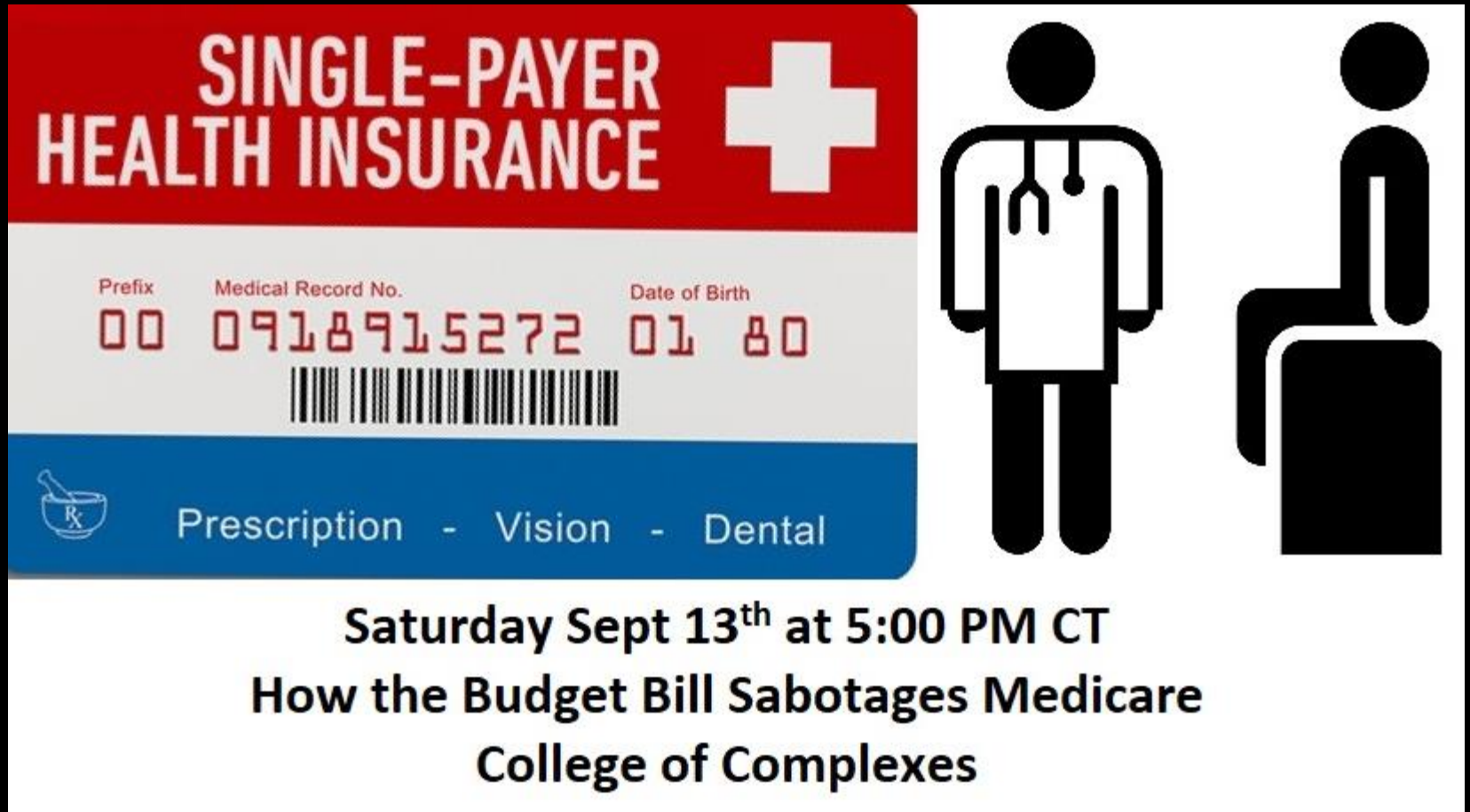
**Saturday Nov 30th at 5:00 PM  
College of Complexes  
Israel and Gaza - When is "Over the Top"  
Over the Top?**





**The US, Nato and War in the Ukraine**  
**Saturday, March 12th 6:00 PM CT, Zoom**  
**College of Complexes**

# nonprofit organizations, ngos



**SINGLE-PAYER  
HEALTH INSURANCE**

Prefix: 00 Medical Record No.: 0918915272 Date of Birth: 01 80

Prescription - Vision - Dental

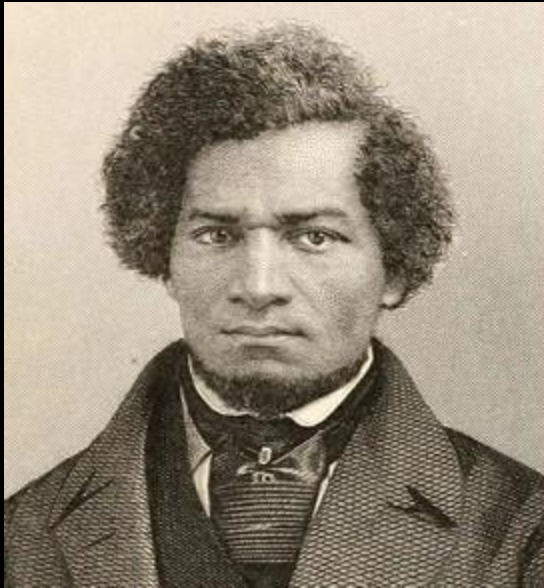
**Saturday Sept 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM CT**  
**How the Budget Bill Sabotages Medicare**  
**College of Complexes**



**Young  
World  
Federalists  
Saturday  
Aug 7<sup>th</sup>**

**College of Complexes**





**Recording of / Open  
Microphone discussion of  
Frederick Douglass' Letter  
to his Former Slave Master  
Thomas Auld  
Saturday July 15<sup>th</sup>  
at 5:00 PM CT  
College of Complexes**

*Making Meaning:  
Seeking the Most  
Meaningful Life*



BOB LICHTENBERT

**Author speaks on  
suggestions or "tips" for  
a person to make the most  
meaning in her or his life**

**Saturday, June 4th  
at 6:00 PM CT, Zoom  
College of Complexes**



**Presentation on Saturday July 12th at 5:00 PM CT  
in-person and on zoom  
American Indian Association of Illinois**

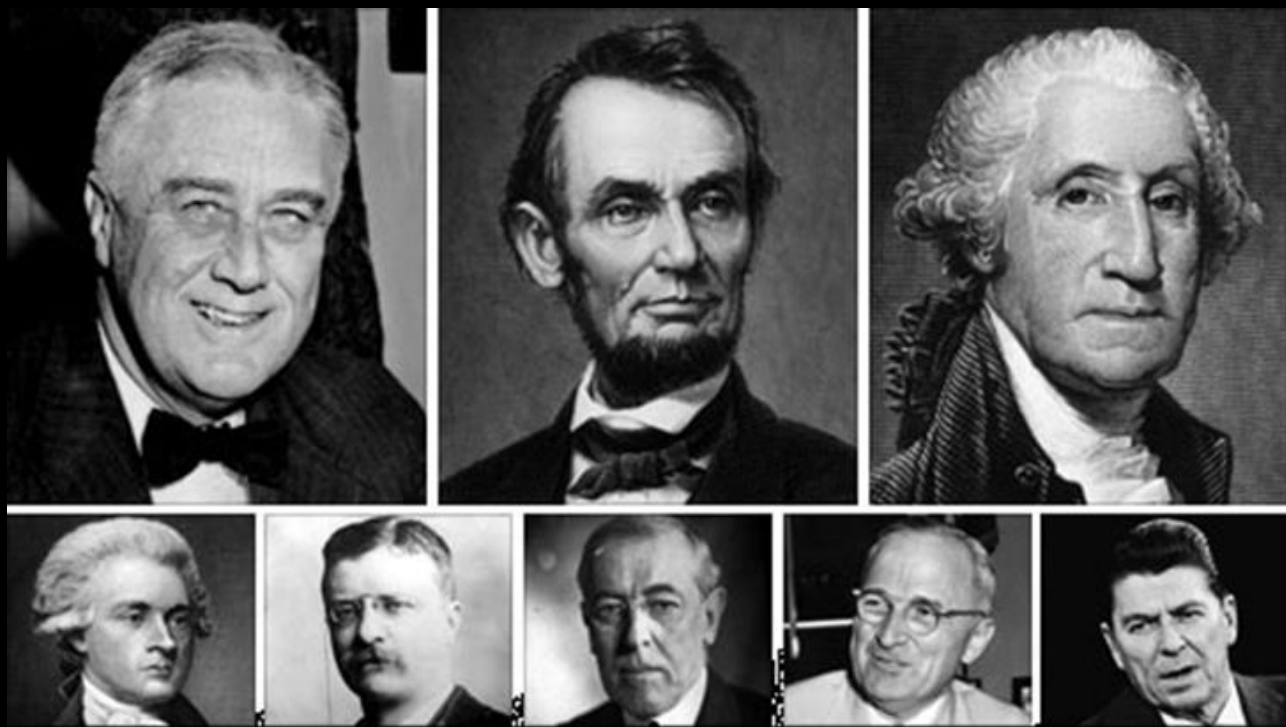


**College of Complexes**



# National College of Complexes Day for discussing the direction of social progress





**Presentation on  
Saturday Feb 22nd at 5:00 PM CT  
Special Presidents' Day Speaker  
What is the National Character of the  
U.S.? If Character is Destiny - what is  
America's Destiny?**





**Presentation on Saturday, March 6th  
at 6:00 PM**

**Celebrate Women  
International Women's Day is  
Celebrated the World Over in Style:  
Why Not Here?**

**College of Complexes**



**Seeking Spea  
Int'l Women'  
Program on  
March 6th, Z  
College of Co  
weekly free  
forum**



**Special May Day Sp  
Saturday May 4th at 5:**





# **Annual Earth Day Programs Chicago Greens**

**Special Earth Day Speakers**  
Saturday, April 23 + 30 at 6:00 PM

Contrasting Ecological Worldviews of the Neo-Malthusians vs the  
Cornucopians

**Are the Earth's Resources Finite,  
or Are There No Limits to Growth?**

Meeting # 3,371

**Climate Change: How Much Time is Left Before It Takes Effect,  
and Some Things We Must Do**

Meeting # 3,372

at the

**College of Complexes**

**[www.collegeofcomplexes.org](http://www.collegeofcomplexes.org)**

weekly free speech forum





**A Big Think from the  
College of Complexes**



It is  
predicted  
that:



**due to climate change, all  
of the snow that falls in a  
season will come down in  
one storm**



**A Big Think from the  
College of Complexes**



**If there is  
excessive sunlight  
on the earth, the  
color of all leaves  
on plants will turn  
to dark green, and  
perhaps shades of  
black**



**Proof there is a Primitive Species Living in the Forests of  
the US - and The Need to Preserve / Restore Their Habitat  
Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM CT, Zoom**





**Trump orders logging forest habitat of  
relic hominoid species**



# **Special May Day Speakers**

**Saturday**

**April 27th**

**6:00 PM**

## **IWW, Industrial Workers of the World**



**Meetings # 3,526**

**The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of the working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.**

**Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the means of production, abolish the wage system, and live in harmony with the Earth.**



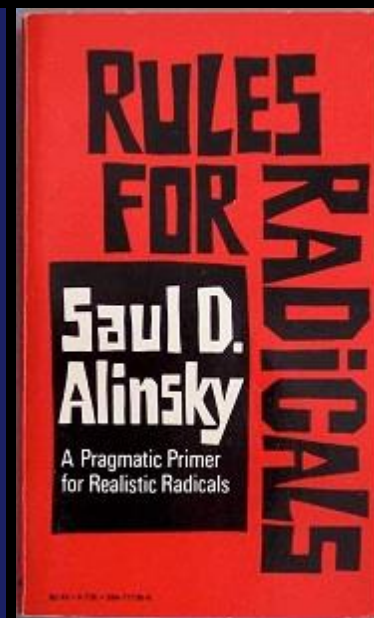
**Saturday May 6th at 5:00 PM CT**  
**Special May Day Speaker**  
**"A Communist Celebration of May Day"**  
**College of Complexes**



**Three Questions for the Nation**  
**Program at the College of Complexes**  
**Saturday, July 3rd at 6:00 PM CT, Zoom**



**Special Independence Day**  
**Speaker**  
**Saturday July 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00**  
**PM CT**  
**George Washington Visits**  
**the College of Complexes**  
**– on Zoom**



**Special May**  
**Speaker**  
**May 3rd**  
**What Can Li**  
**Learn from**  
**Alinsky's "R**  
**Radicals?"**  
**College of C**



Program Open to All  
Who Wish to Speak on  
their Choice for President



**Special Presidential Election Program**  
**With Voter's Guide**  
**Saturday March 5<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM**





**Saturday July 29th  
at 5:00 PM CT on Zoom  
College of Complexes  
The Joy of Poetry about  
System Change  
Meeting # 3,727 - college  
regular Johnathan Barton**



**Special Election Series of Speakers**  
**Every Saturday at 5:00 PM CT**  
**Sept 21st thru Nov 2nd**

★ **College of Complexes** ★  
**weekly free speech forum on**  
**social issues and current**  
**events**



★ ★ ★ ★



**Vote  
Green**

**Illinois Green  
Party  
Candidate  
and Issues  
Forum**

**Vote  
Green**

**Vote  
Green**

**Vote  
Green**

**Saturday Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 PM  
Special Election Series of Presentations  
College of Complexes**



**Illinois Green Party Candidate for  
Congress  
Brad Ahrens for CD-17  
Says "Can poverty be solved?  
Easier than you think, and I have a  
solution no one has ever implemented  
before."**

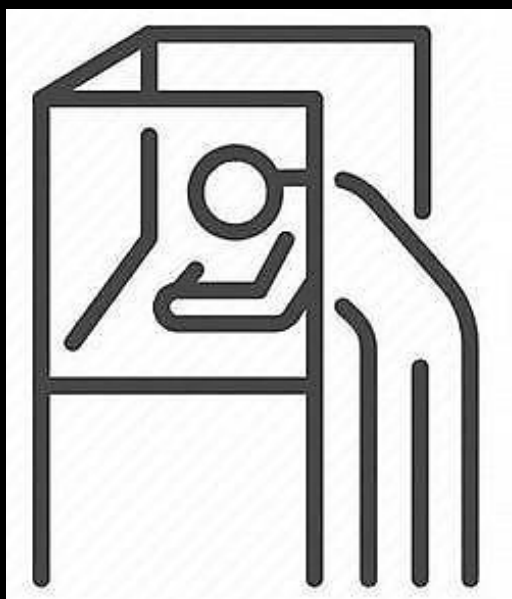
**College of Complexes**

**Saturday, Oct 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM, Zoom**



**American  
Electoral Reform,  
Open Primaries,  
Independent  
Voter's Rights**

**Saturday, June 25th at 6:00 PM CT, Zoom  
College of Complexes**



**How to Be an Informed Voter  
presentation by the  
Independent Voters of Illinois,  
IVI**

**Saturday Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 PM  
On Zoom  
College of Complexes**



**Program on Saturday July 5th at 5:00 PM  
The Feasibility of Invasion and Annexation  
of Canada as a US Territory**





**Saturday Jan 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM CT**  
**Disability Accessibility in the City,**  
**with a focus on public transit**  
**College of Complexes**



**Saturday April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 PM CT**  
**An Eco-Plan to Re-configure the Use of a Car**  
**in Chicago, and the Country, and**  
**Achieve Equity among Travel Modes**  
**College of Complexes**



**Saturday April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 PM CT**  
**An Eco-Plan to Re-configure the Use of a Car**  
**in Chicago, and the Country**  
**College of Complexes**



**Special Labor Day  
Speaker 2021  
Our  
Accomplishments  
and Challenges –  
Past to Present  
Saturday Sept 4th  
College of  
Complexes  
at 6:00 PM CT  
Zoom**



**The youngest U.S. workers have injected organized labor with renewed energy: more than 75% of the net new union members added to the ranks were under the age of 35**



**Special Labor Day Speaker 2021**

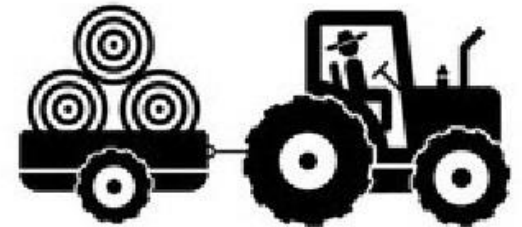
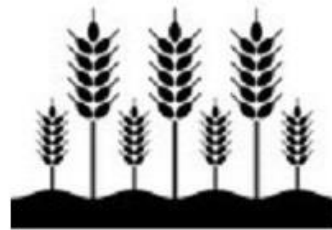
**Our Accomplishments and Challenges – Past to Present**

**Saturday Sept 4th College of Complexes at 6:00 PM CT, Zoom**





**Discussion and Debate on  
Why We Need to Nationalize All US  
Food Production and Distribution in order  
to Provide a Thanksgiving Dinner for  
Everyone**



**Saturday April 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM CT  
"Soil is a natural resource that might disappear  
if practices stay the same"  
College of Complexes**

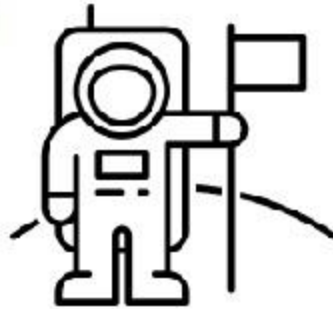


**Don't Toy with  
Santa  
Saturday Dec 17<sup>th</sup>  
at 5:00 PM CT  
College of  
Complexes**



**A Big Think from the  
College of Complexes**

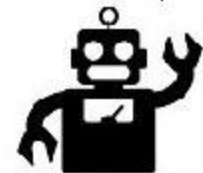
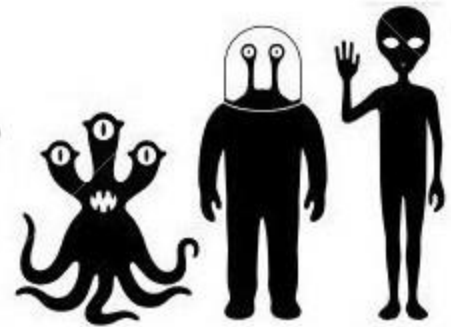
The US military is  
considering building a  
base on the moon to  
house up to 20 astronaut  
soldiers



**A Big Think from the  
College of Complexes**



If a signal is  
detected from  
outer space, we should not respond and  
maintain radio silence





**A Big Think from the  
College of Complexes**

**You have more than  
5,000 thoughts  
each day,  
with a median rate  
of about 6.5  
thought transitions  
per minute, when  
one thought ends  
and the next begins**



**A Big Think from the  
College of Complexes**



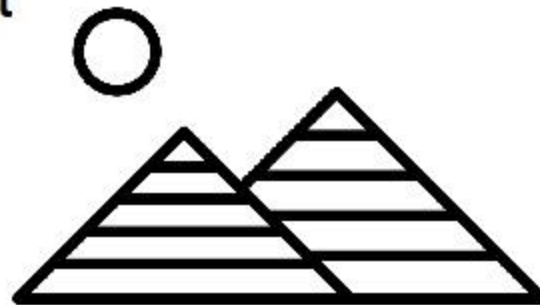
**Over the next 1,000 years  
human brains will get smaller as  
computers take over more of the  
computational, factual, and social  
dimensions of living**



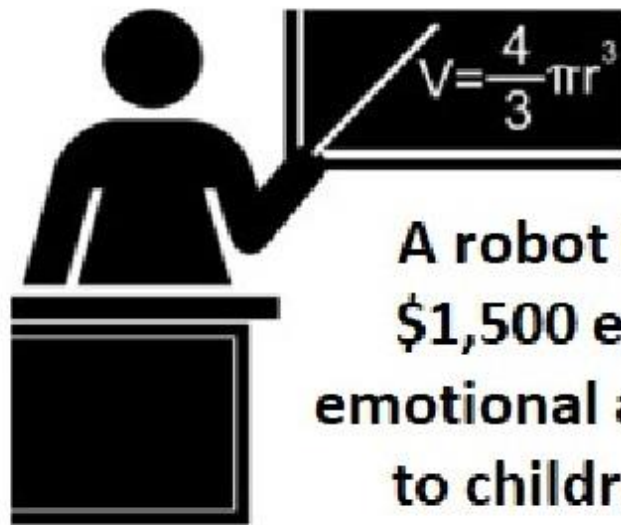


**A Big Think from the  
College of Complexes**

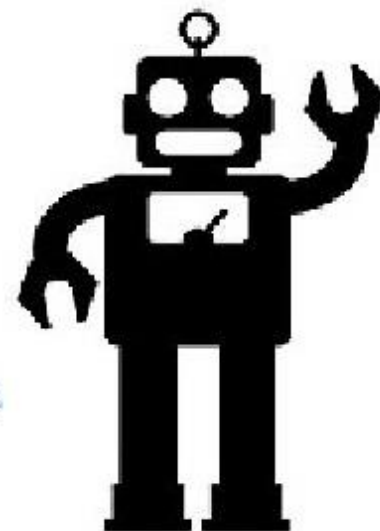
**More stone was quarried for  
the cathedrals of France than  
the pyramids and temples of  
Egypt**



**A Big Think from the  
College of Complexes**



**A robot is for sale at  
\$1,500 each to teach  
emotional and social skills  
to children ages 5-10**





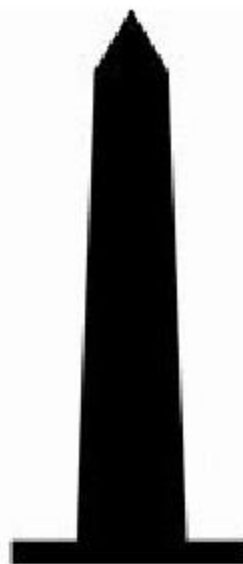
**A Big Think from the  
College of Complexes**



**Prehistoric  
dragons  
produced  
hydrogen gas  
in their  
stomachs,  
which enabled  
them to fly and  
breathe fire**



**A Big Think from the  
College of Complexes**



**The Washington  
Monument,  
an obelisk, is  
designed to get  
you to look up,  
and points to  
the planet of  
our origin**

**Wicca, Witcraft, and Goddess-Worship**  
**Universal Law and the Code of Humanity**  
**Why I Refuse to Confirm or Deny Anything**  
**Welfare Truth Squad**  
**50 Years Is Enough! Campaign**  
**Revolutionary Party for a Reactionary Period**  
**Dracula and the Persistence of Nationalism**  
**My Synopsis of Society**  
**Crypto-Zoology**  
**Africans in American Court System**  
**Coalition for New Priorities**  
**Senior Citizens Bill of Rights**  
**The Selfishness System**  
**Evolving Concept of Wilderness**  
**Facts for Democracy with Perspectives International**  
**The Manifesto of Resistance**  
**Global Governance in the 21st Century**  
**How to Become a Millionaire in a Few Days**  
**Bill Clinton's Most Censored Scandal**  
**The 3rd Millennium: Road to Revolution 4.5**





**Why the Radical Right is Wrong  
If No God, Then What?**

**Immigration: Open the Doors!**

**Transylvanian Travelog**

**Legal Game and Lawyer Bullshit**

**How to Photograph a Spirit**

**A New History of the World**

**Time - Defining the Nonspacial Continuum**

**Archology and Life in an Eco-Village**

**Fraudulent and Deceitful Federal Reserve Act**

**Is the Democratic Party Over?**

**Failure of the Progressive Agenda**

**Institutionalized Salvation Belief Systems**

**Chicago's Recycling Sucks - Here's Why**

**Astrology / Horoscope of the United States**

**Discovery of 45 Prehistoric Structures in Chicago**

**Reactive vs. Proactive Social Programs**

**Why We Need an International Criminal Court**

**Libertarianism - The Road to A Civil Society**

**Radical Philosophy Association**



**Lessons of the Russian Revolution**

**Why Peace is Neither Necessary Nor Desirable**

**Hidden Themes of the Bible**

**Living in Marijuana Consciousness**

**Fundamentalist Christianity: The Mind of the Believer**

**The Conspiracy Against Reality and Warfare Against Humanity**

**How Belief Systems Work**

**US Fake News Since 1776**

**Chemtrails: The Final Impetus to Revolution?**

**Intellectual Sovereignty vs The Thought Police**

**Global Capitalism and the Crisis of Democracy**

**The Hiroshima Bombing Was Right and Necessary**

**Issues the Candidates Don't Discuss or Debate**

**The Actual Nature of Human Nature**

**America's Toughest Questions on Race, Inequality & More**

**Why Political Campaign Financing Should Be Unrestricted and Anonymous**

**Who Makes Our Christmas Gifts, and Who Sells Them to Us**

**9/11 and Revolution: The Political Implications**

**Cyber Privacy Project (CPP)**

**South Korea: Cutting - Edge Competitor or Cold War Captive?**

**Mayor 1%: Rahm Emanuel and the Rise of Chicago's 99%**

**Cult-Like Mythology in America**

**Are Can Drugs help? Does Big Pharma Tell the Truth?**



**Debate: Are All Religions the Same?**

**The Truth Commission on Segregation and It's Effects**

**Fraudulent “Cold War” - Prelude to Bogus “War on Terror”**

**The Homeless Encampments of Chicago**

**President Trump's Report Card: 1st 100 of 2,923 days**

**How False Perceptions Harm Us**

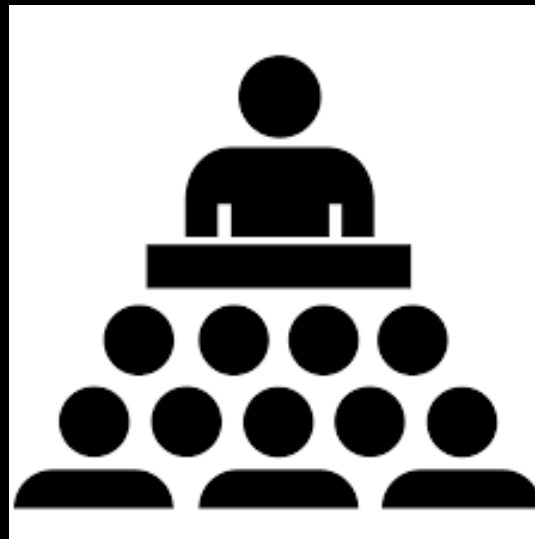
**Was the 2016 Election Stolen?**

**Centrist Project: America's First Unparty, 2 Parties, Zero Results**

**200th Birthday of Our Special Guest Henry David Thoreau**

**What is Happening in America?**

**Solutions for Economic Security and Social Stability**





# Thank You for Coming!

