

Is Secession in the Cards? The Unfolding of an Historical Irony

by [David Solway](#) (March 2021)



Secession 1 (detail), Gustav Klimt, 1898

It has been said many times by many writers and commentators: America is broken. We see a country riven by innumerable social factions, political conflicts, partisan animosities and incompatible red and blue states that make a mockery of the call for unity. Unity no longer exists and is now little more than a figment of unsustainable hope. Mutual antagonisms seem to have gone too deep for healing.

The election of Joe Biden whom perhaps a majority of Americans regard as an anti-president, riding an electoral travesty and weaponizing what we may term a *panicdemic* to suppress individual freedoms, has only exacerbated the issue.

Even [Time](#) admits that “There was a conspiracy unfolding behind the scenes...that curtailed the protests and coordinated the resistance from CEOs...the result of an informal alliance between left-wing activists and business titans [whose] work touched every aspect of the election. They got states to change voting systems and laws...recruited armies of poll workers...successfully pressured social media companies,” and so on to ensure that Trump was not re-elected. The kicker is that *Time* considers this a good thing. “They were not rigging the election; they were fortifying it.” In effect, they were fortifying the election by rigging it.

What we are witnessing is a disinformation technique perfected in the Soviet Union—*dezinformatsiya*—setting up a straw man called “enemies of the state” and using every vice, trick and deception to discredit, demonize and purge those who believe in freedom, probity and truth. In his [book](#) of that title, former chief of Romanian Intelligence and defector to the U.S. Ion Mihai Pacepa describes “disinformation” as “smoke and mirrors,” a “black art,” and “a permanent national policy” beloved of dictators. In this particular case, the “enemies of the state,” according to *Time*, would be Donald Trump and his supporters, including by implication half or more than half of the electorate, whereas those who worked to forge the results of the election confessedly via disinformation, censorship, collusion and glaring illegalities congratulate themselves as “democracy campaigners” and “pro-democracy supporters,” as per the article in *Time*. The irony is delectable. They are protecting a “vulnerable” democracy by employing anti-democratic tactics, cloned from the playbook of the Soviets and the Maoists. This is precisely what *Time* is floridly praising and the techno-oligarchic class in America is assiduously practicing.

Following an unprecedented blitz of Executive Orders reversing the legislative accomplishments of the previous administration—cancelling the Keystone XL pipeline, ending construction of the U.S./Mexico border wall, embracing Marxist-inspired critical race theory, favoring transgender activism, [firing](#) Trump-appointed, Senate-approved attorneys, initiating a purge of conservative voices and Republican voters, etc.—opposition among patriotic groups, targeted sectors of the population and state legislators has begun to form. It is as if they recognize that marginalizing a majority of the people is one definition of tyranny, and that this is the trend under the new political authority.

Texas GOP chairman [Allen West](#) suggested that law-abiding states should “bond together and form a union of states that will abide by the constitution.” I suspect this option would not be very effective. Something more than “bonding” is needed. Texas state representative [Kyle Biedermann](#) had suggested a process similar to Brexit, pointing out as well that other states, under [Article V](#) of the Constitution regarding the Convention of States, have shown themselves interested in joining the process.

The problem here is that Article V requires the ratification of a plurality of states, which concurring Republican jurisdictions do not command. The [10th Amendment](#), which states, “*The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people,*” would serve the purpose far better. As president of the New York Young Republican Club and associate fellow at the London Center for Policy Research Gavin Wax [writes](#), “Don’t expect Congress, the president, or even the Supreme Court to undo more than a century of federal overreach. It’s going to take serious disruption to return to the spirit and letter of the 10th Amendment, which rounds out the Bill of Rights.”

Pressure is beginning to mount by the day. [The Epoch](#)

[Times](#) reports that a coalition of state attorneys general from West Virginia, Arkansas, Indiana, Mississippi, Montana, and Texas have informed Joe Biden that “any potentially unconstitutional executive actions or federal overreach will not go unchallenged.” [Nullification](#) measures are currently [under consideration](#) in Missouri, Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Montana, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas and Wyoming. South Dakota ([Bill HB 1194](#)) and North Dakota ([Bill 1282](#)) have introduced [nullification legislation](#) to combat Biden’s “executive overreach.” And Texas is now [suing](#) the Biden Administration “for climate actions that ‘kill jobs’.” The Permian basin is beginning to dry up.

These are important initial gestures but can scarcely be expected to redress the larger situation, which would explain the fact that Biedermann has now introduced [House Bill 1359](#) –also known as the Texas Independence Referendum Act (TIRA)–to give Texans the opportunity to secede from the United States. Some Texans are thinking of [taking the cause](#) to other states by exerting a physical presence. Like it or not, the upshot is that the spirit of resistance and the idea of divorce are plainly catching on.

For as America continues to unravel, as the Washington cabal propels the nation ever further to the Left, and its allies in the media and Big Tech progressively cancel and deplatform all who dissent from the prevailing socialist/globalist orthodoxy, many have come to believe the only serious challenge to the status quo would appear to be the secession option—a last resort preferably to be averted but which may become unavoidable.

Secession would involve thorny issues such as border control, trade and treaty arrangements, military adjustments, debt sharing and currency provisions, as well as a “[cascade](#)” of individual counties within blue states choosing to amalgamate with adjacent red states (rarely the other way round). The [Equal Protection Clause](#) of the Fourteenth

Amendment is also an issue should rural counties feel their votes carry less weight in the apportionment of legislative districts than those of urban centers. The Move Oregon's Border movement, now known as [Greater Idaho](#), is gaining ground. [Vexit2020](#) leader Rick Boyer in Virginia argues that the question of red areas dominated by a blue metropolis can be solved only by county realignment with an adjacent state, in this case West Virginia. Such transactions at every level, whether county or state, are formidably complex, but the alternative is grimly foreboding.

Texas political commentator and talk show host Dennis Miller is of the same persuasion. "I see something just shy of cataclysmic coming," [he says](#), "but I don't see it [the U.S.] coming back around. I see it getting very tribal. And I can only hope, at some point, we divvy up the albums like in a relationship that's gone. It's like Woody Allen in *Annie Hall*