

# Ted Kaczynski on Individualists Tending to the Wild (ITS)

September 2, 2012

Regarding Individualists Tending Toward Savagery (ITS), you say that they do not believe that a movement should be created dedicated to the elimination of the techno-industrial system and that their intention is to stop technological progress, but without the intention to or any hope of eliminating the system.

From this, and also from the parts of the communiques that UR has sent to me, it is clear that ITS is ignorant when it comes to politics. It is absolutely impossible to stop technological progress, or even to slow it down, without eliminating the entire technological system. In addition, the parts of the communiques that I have mentioned show that ITS' understanding of revolution is at a kindergarten level. They believe that a revolution consists of a popular uprising ("popular uprising," "a sea of people ... [acting] in a violent way"). Revolutions sometimes happen this way, but, in most cases, they are political processes directed from above by a handful of leaders. Habitually, the popular uprisings are mere incidents or episodes in the political process, and in them only a small percentage of the population is involved. For example, the February "Revolution" in Russia (which in reality was not a revolution but only an insurrection) was carried out only by the industrial workers of St. Petersburg, which constituted only a small percentage of the Russian population. Their action served only to offer the Bolsheviks a point of departure that they took advantage of to take control of the whole country months later — mainly through political prowess.

Revolutions can occur without any popular uprising. For example, the Nazis seized power in Germany using only political means. Except for the coup d'état of the Munich Brewery a decade earlier (which was an ignominious failure and led Hitler to afterward only pursue power legally), the Nazis never attempted an uprising. Before taking power, the Nazis were involved in certain violent acts — for example, in street fights with the communists — and, after they took power, there was the "night of the long knives," during which Hitler physically eliminated his rivals within the Nazi party itself. However, after the aforementioned failure of the coup by the Nazis, they never again used violence against the established authorities.

It should be noted that the Nazi revolution was partly a revolution against civilization. However, he achieved nothing against civilization because Hitler was only interested in personal power and self-glorification. He and his henchmen appropriated the potentially revolutionary forces that existed in German society (which included the anti-civilization current, among others) and exploited them to gain power for themselves.

In addition to displaying a naive concept of revolution, ITS also shows its political ignorance in other ways. If these people have ever read anything about history, they have not understood it. As a result, it is likely that any action they take, whether legal or illegal, will be counterproductive. Revolutionary actions, legal or not, should be drawn intelligently to serve political objectives, and any communiques that accompany them should be written in a politically intelligent way. This requires the leadership of people who have taken the trouble to acquire as much knowledge as possible about the ways in which societies develop and change.

The most important error that ITS commits is that they express, and therefore promote, an attitude of hopelessness about the possibility of eliminating the technological system. I do not have time to comment on historical examples in which tiny and seemingly insignificant groups, considered by most people as crazies, fools, or "romantics," finally managed, despite everything, to carry out successful revolutions. However, an indispensable ingredient for the triumph of such a company is the confidence in the possibility of success. Since ITS tries to undermine confidence in the possibility of success when it comes to fighting the technological system, we must reject these people and include them in the list of our political adversaries.

I will only add that, in parts of the communiques that UR has sent me, some of the data on which ITS are based are erroneous and that ITS attributes to me affirmations that I have never made and opinions that I have never defended.

Regarding Individuos Tendiendo a lo Salvaje (ITS), you say that they do not believe that we should create a movement directed toward the elimination of the technoindustrial system, and that their idea is to do anything to st technological progress, but without hope or intention to eliminate the system.

From this, and also from some parts of their comunicados that U-R. has sent me, it is clear that ITS are politically ignorant. It is absolutely impossible to stop technological progress, or even to slow it to any great extent, without eliminating the whole technological system. Moreover, ~~parts~~ the parts of their comunicados ~~of~~ that I've mentioned show that ITS's concept of revolution is at the kindergarten level. They think a revolution consists of a popular uprising ("levantamiento popular", "un mar de personas... [que actúan] de forma violenta"). Revolutions sometimes happen that way, but in most cases they are political processes managed by a handful of top leaders. Usually, any popular uprisings are mere incidents or episodes in the political process and involve no more than a small percentage of the population. For example, the February "Revolution" in Russia (actually not a revolution but only an insurrection) was carried out solely by the industrial workers of St. Petersburg, who comprised just a minute percentage of the Russian population. Their action served only to provide the Bolsheviks with an opening that the latter exploited to take control of the entire country several months later -- mainly through political skill.

Revolutions can even occur without any popular uprising at all. For example, the Nazis assumed power in Germany through political means alone. Except for the Munich beer-hall putsch a decade earlier (which was an ignominious failure and led Hitler to commit himself thereafter to a legal quest for power), the Nazis never



attempted an uprising. Prior to their assumption of power the Nazis did engage in some violence-- for example, street fights against the Communists -- and after they had taken power there was the "night of the long knives" during which Hitler physically eliminated his rivals within the Nazi Party itself, but after the failed putsch the Nazis never again used violence against the established authorities.

It is worth noting that the Nazi revolution was in part a revolution against civilization. But it accomplished nothing against civilization because Hitler was interested only in personal power and self-glorification. He and his henchmen hijacked potentially revolutionary forces within German society (including the <sup>anti-</sup>anti-civilizational current, among others) and exploited them to get power for themselves.

In addition to exhibiting a naive concept of revolution, ITS show their political ignorance in other ways as well. If these people have ever read much history, they haven't understood it. Consequently any actions they may take, whether legal or illegal, are likely to be counter-productive. Revolutionary actions, legal or not, should be intelligently designed to serve political objectives, and any comunicados that accompany them must be written in politically intelligent terms. This requires the guidance of people who have taken the trouble to acquire as much knowledge as possible about the ways in which societies develop and change.

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that they express, and therefore encourage, an attitude of hopelessness about the possibility of eliminating the technological system. I have no time now to discuss the historical examples of tiny, seemingly insignificant groups, regarded by most people as crackpots, fools, or "romantics", that nevertheless have succeeded eventually in carrying out revolutions.

But an indispensable ingredient for success in such an enterprise is confidence in the possibility of success. Because ITS try to undermine confidence in the possibility of success against the technological system, these people must be rejected and listed among our political adversaries.

I'll only add that, in the parts of their comunicados that U-R. has sent me, ITS have some of their facts wrong and they attribute to me statements that I've never made and opinions that I've never held.

The Ted K Archive

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Ultimo Reducto's blog.  
An excerpt from Ted K's letter to 'Anonymous with Caution'.

**[www.thetedkarchive.com](http://www.thetedkarchive.com)**