

country. And, second, we must return to the commitment of Franklin Roosevelt during the Second World War to end all forms of colonialism throughout the world.

This is the program now on the table, said Zepp-LaRouche; then she detailed the horrific economic and social conditions prevailing throughout the Balkans and the nations of the former Soviet Union. She also presented a dramatic review, using maps and other images, of the history of the Balkan region, where wars, partitions, and the re-drawing of borders have been used by the British to prevent the unification of continental Europe around a program of mutually beneficial economic development. Today, as a result of all this, *the Balkans are completely destroyed*, she said.

Thus, the question is posed: How can peaceful relations ever be reestablished in this region? To answer this, Zepp-LaRouche employed the model of the Peace of Westphalia.

Using principles later adopted by American President John Quincy Adams, wherein Adams asserted that U.S. foreign affairs must be based on the policy of a “community of principle” among sovereign nation-states, the 1644-48 Westphalia conference succeeded, after 30 years of savage bloodletting, in bringing peace to a Europe divided among Protestant and Catholic, prince and emperor, nations and peoples. How? By assigning *equal status* to all warring parties; and, above all, by *forgetting the past, for the sake of peace*.

What we must do today, Zepp-LaRouche implored, is to view each nation as we would our own family, because, as

the Renaissance’s Cardinal Nicolaus of Cusa said, peace in the macrocosm, can only be based on peace and development of the microcosm. If Clinton, harkening back to the best traditions of America, could but seize this historical moment, if he were to develop a *passion* for the idea of an international community of peoples, and find the kind of passion for mankind that a parent feels for a child, then we would have a just peace.

### Animated dialogue among participants

The scheduled remarks were followed by an animated question and answer period; and then a brief, but very moving presentation by Kosovar Albanian Feride Istogu Gillesberg, a member of the Schiller Institute in Copenhagen, who has been on tour in the United States. A leader of Kosovar Albanians, she represented Kosova at the Helsinki Commission. Her statement graphically described how, back in 1990-91, it was *only* the Schiller Institute and the LaRouche movement which had organized against the Milosevic genocide.

One American suggested to Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche to call the reconstruction plan for the Balkans, the “Ron Brown Plan,” to acknowledge the efforts of the late U.S. Secretary of Commerce, at the time his plane crashed en route from Bosnia to Croatia in April 1996. Such a name, the questioner suggested, would also force President Clinton to look at what he must do. Zepp-LaRouche said she would give this idea more thought.

# Unnatural born killers: video brainwashing and Littleton

by Anton Chaitkin and Jeffrey Steinberg

On Aug. 10, 1998, less than a year before the Columbine High School massacre in Littleton, Colorado, Army psychologist Lt. Col. David Grossman (ret.) penned an article in the magazine *Christianity Today*, titled “Why Are Kids Shooting Their Classmates?” Grossman is from Jonesboro, Arkansas, the scene of an earlier teen murder spree. Grossman, according to the introduction to his *Christianity Today* piece, coined the term “killology,” to describe a new interdisciplinary field of study: the methods employed by military trainers to help soldiers overcome their inhibitions to killing fellow human beings.

As Grossman detailed, first, in his *Christianity Today* piece, and, again, last week, in an interview with *EIR*’s Anton Chaitkin (see below), the very same behavior modification

techniques employed so effectively within U.S. Special Forces, U.S. Marines, and other front-line combat units, are being used on a massive, and indiscriminate scale today, on our nation’s youth. Desensitization, operant conditioning, role modeling: The techniques developed by military psychologists to produce trained killers in uniform, are being used on a growing majority of pre-schoolers, pre-teens, and teens.

Quite literally, some of the very video game companies that have driven the NASDAQ “internet stocks” up through the stratosphere, contributing to the biggest asset bubble in modern history, have made their money by exposing our nation’s youth to “self-brainwashing” as “Manchurian Candidate” killers.

Colorado teen killers Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris were clinically addicted to the video game “Doom,” produced by ID software, of Mesquite, Texas. GT Interactive, the distributor of “Doom,” boasted of \$531 million in revenue for 1997 (the last year that statistics were available), and a growth rate of 50% per year during 1995-97.

### The culture of Gore

Lyndon LaRouche, Democratic Party pre-candidate for the 2000 Presidential nomination, observed recently that those people raising Cain against lax gun laws, following the Littleton tragedy, have got it all wrong. Back in the 1950s, far more Americans per capita owned firearms, and there was no wave of juvenile mass murders. What created the conditions for the Jonesboros and the Littletons is the “New Age” internet culture, lionized by Vice President Albert Gore. It is the culture of Gore, spread through Hollywood, through the interactive computer video game industry, through an ever-more violent and pornographic rock music industry, and given license by school systems adopting “outcome-based education” and other forms of social engineering, that has turned millions of youth into “unnatural born killers.”

Colonel Grossman underscored the same point in his article in *Christianity Today*. “The virus of violence is occurring worldwide,” he lamented. “The explanation for it has to be some new factor that is occurring in all of these countries. . . . There is only one new variable present in each of these countries, bearing the exact same fruit: media violence presented as entertainment for children.”

Grossman reported on his own experience, over a 25-year period as a military psychologist, studying techniques to allow soldiers to overcome their aversion to killing. U.S. Army Brig. Gen. S.L.A. Marshall conducted a study during World War II, in which he discovered that only 15-20% of riflemen could bring themselves to open fire on an exposed enemy. By the time of the Vietnam War, the rate had risen to over 90%. What had occurred? The military had perfected techniques for behavior modification of the soldiers, to overcome their natural human aversion to killing.

Grossman then dropped a bombshell: “Something very similar to this desensitization toward violence is happening to our children through violence in the media—but instead of 18-year-olds, it begins at the age of 18 months when a child is first able to discern what is happening on television. . . . When a young child sees somebody shot, stabbed, raped, brutalized, degraded, or murdered on TV, to them it is as though it were actually happening. To have a child of three, four, or five watch a ‘splatter’ movie, learning to relate to a character for the first 90 minutes and then in the last 30 minutes watch helplessly as that new friend is hunted and brutally murdered, is the moral and psychological equivalent of introducing your child to a friend, letting her play with that friend, and then butchering that friend in front of your child’s eyes. And this happens to our children hundreds upon hundreds of times. . . .

Our children watch vivid pictures of human suffering and death, and they learn to associate it with their favorite soft drink and candy bar, or their girlfriend’s perfume.”

Grossman reported that, in every region of the country, with the arrival of television, there was an immediate jump in playground violence; and within 15 years, the murder rate had doubled. “Why 15 years? That is how long it takes for the brutalization of a three- to five-year-old to reach the ‘prime crime age.’ That is how long it takes for you to reap what you have sown when you brutalize and desensitize a three-year-old.”

Grossman ended with this dire warning: “We have raised a generation of barbarians who have learned to associate violence with pleasure, like the Romans cheering and snacking as the Christians were slaughtered in the Colosseum.” Grossman labeled this virulent disease “Acquired Violence Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AVIDS).”

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### Interview: David Grossman

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## Video games teach children to kill

*Lt. Col. David Grossman was interviewed on May 6 by Anton Chaitkin.*

**EIR:** I read your excellent article from last year’s *Christianity Today*.

**Grossman:** Interesting background to that article: It has sold an all-time record of reprints, twice or three times as much as they’ve ever run. And it has been picked up for reprinting now in seven different languages, including Japanese and Chinese, and periodicals in those nations, including secular periodicals. And it has been picked up for reprinting in six different periodicals in the U.S., including *U.S. Catholic* and *Hinduism Today*. So, it struck a chord.

**EIR:** And that’s before the latest shooting, in Colorado.

**Grossman:** That’s right.

**EIR:** Could you say how you see the Colorado events, the Littleton massacre, relating to your warnings?

**Grossman:** What we actually have is a national game, in which ever more children are invested in scoring the new high score in the national video game. Now, when you score a high score in the video game in the local arcade, you get your little three-letter initials in there. That reward, along with the pure joy of the game, is sufficient.