

## **“Disappointment” Flu Destroys the Middle Class – But There’s Hope.**

Experts say apathetic teachers, overworked administrators, out of date facilities and equipment cause the students to disrespect an education and ultimately score low on tests, damage facilities and equipment and drop out of school in large numbers.

I add “loss of hope” as a significant factor.

**“Disappointment” Flu** describes how lower-income workers feel as the middle class jobs shrink and there are fewer opportunities to live the great American dream for themselves or their children. A lack of opportunity leads to hopelessness and disappointment. The only remedies may be welfare or relocation.



The hope is generated, or not, in children by parents before Kindergarten. It is further enhanced or damaged by advertisers, entertainers, friends, neighbors, schoolmates, and teachers.

Constant bombardment by such germs causes children to question the value of career aspiration and the accompanying hard work.

Currently this Disappointment Flu is career-fatal for up to 50 percent of the student population (dropouts). It is also responsible for fatality of freedom (incarceration) or even failure of life. It is not necessary to let evolution destroy the weakest.

Those infected are contagious.

Without some kind of inoculation, we must rely on children’s immune system, which is highly vulnerable.

We can intervene and reinforce those with hope issues to assure them that the cure will be middle class jobs available when they graduate.

Again, these jobs are the foundation of the great American dream. Do not fake it. The jobs must exist when they are needed or the students will lose faith.

### **Victims**

1. The shrinking middle class makes the great American dream even harder to realize. Orange County is 92<sup>nd</sup> of the top 100 metropolitan areas in its ability to maintain a strong middle class.
2. 100,000 California college graduates must move out of state each year due to lack of jobs or unaffordable housing. Probably 10,000 are from Orange Count.
3. Up to fifty percent of children drop out of school. They may have to migrate to find minimum wage jobs. They certainly have to move to find upward mobility.
4. The taxpayers lose \$15 billion each year as college graduates move out of state.
5. Retirees weary of the congestion, move elsewhere. They take with them cash from the sale of their home and their retirement nest egg to be spent elsewhere.
6. Friends and relatives, parents, and children migrate in different directions. This damages family unity and worse as the elderly become disabled.

With no intervention, the current situation is worsening as construction shrinks and the unemployment rate begins to rise.

## **Inoculations and Cures – The Disappointment Flu Shot**



The ingredients:

1. A skill booster so workers in the export business can compete globally.
2. A technology booster to improve product offerings to justify higher prices and a higher cost of living.
3. A politician booster to get them to shepherd the economy or renounce ownership rather than only appearing to be responsible.
4. A parent booster to cause them to avoid showing their Disappointment Flu symptoms and thus not pass it on to their children.
5. A promotional booster to encourage the world to “Buy Orange County Products and Services.”
6. An attractant to cause regional leaders to gather and steward the regional economy.
7. A lollypop reward for all businesses that bring new cash into the region.

### **Who should be vaccinated?**

Everyone. We are all in this economy together.

### **How should it be administered?**

We could try shots, nasal spray, or a skin patch, but I suspect the best delivery system is audiovisual.

### **Action Items**

Middle class job creation can be brought back to health with closer cooperation between, government business, education and the workforce. It begins with organization of leaders. If they do not come forward, the public should put pressure on them.

An Alliance for Regional Stewardship as I propose should be able to shepherd the process of hope for the children and increase middle-class jobs.

Ask your politicians what they think about the stability of our economy in the future. If they are not concerned, ask them who is responsible for it if not them. If they claim responsibility and you believe it, I have a bridge I want you to buy.

The government has no responsibility to maintain a growing economy. It is up to you. It is also up to you to decide if your house is an investment or a family home.

Parents must strive to make sure their children have a better future. This has always been the great American prerequisite.

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(Disappointment Flu2.)