

## PERSPECTIVE PROGRAMS 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER 2013

- 4-7 **CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF POVERTY** – Few Americans realize that the United States doesn't do very well when ranked against other developed countries around the world for its standard of living. In fact, the U.S. ranks 17th out of 22 countries in what is called the Human Poverty Index. Sweden tops the list, while the U.S. follows such countries as Finland, Canada, France, Spain, and the United Kingdom. **Guest:** Dr. Hilary Hoynes, a professor of Economics at the University of California-Davis and co-editor of the *American Economic Review*.
- 4-14 **THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE** - Every four years, the United States chooses a President and Vice President. But what many tend to forget is that when we go to the polls to cast our ballot we are not actually electing the President and Vice President. The popular vote simply picks electors for the Electoral College. Critics of the College say it is simply undemocratic and using it gives swing states, the smaller states, unequal influence in the election process. The flip side is that the winner-take-all process favors the larger states. **Guest:** Dr. Joseph Eunekus, professor emeritus at Kansas State University and an expert on the Electoral College
- 4-21 **THE ADVANTAGE OF BEING WHITE** - In 1920, W.E.B. DuBois wrote an essay called *The Souls of White Folks*. Within that early exploration of race, DuBois said: *My poor, un-white thing! Weep not nor rage. I know, too well, that the curse of God lies heavy on you. Why? That is not for me to say, but be brave! Do your work in your lowly sphere, praying the good Lord that into heaven above, where all is love, you may, one day, be born—white!* On today's Perspective program a look at just what it means to be white today. **Guest:** Dr. Jean Holley, one of the authors of *Seen White: An Introduction to White Race*.
- 4-28 **THE POLITICS AND DANGERS OF TOXIC EXPOSURES** – The toxic effects of lead have been known for some time. Despite that knowledge we still have some half a million children in this country affected by lead. Out of this emerge two questions...why has this been allowed to happen and what other toxic substances are doing the very same thing? **Guests:** David Rosner, Lauterstein Professor of Public Health and Professor of History at Columbia University and co-director for the Center for the History and Ethics of Public Health at Columbia's Mailman School of Public Health. And, Gerald Markowitz, Distinguished Professor of History at John Jay College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. They are co-authors of "*Lead Wars: The Politics of Science and the Fate of America's Children.*"
- 5-5 **POVERTY IN AMERICA** – Almost a quarter of the jobs in the United States pay only \$22,000, which is below the poverty line for a family of four. At the same time, the income of the top one percent went up 275 percent between 1979 and 2007, and the income of the top one-tenth of one percent increased 390 percent. What that means is that in 2010, the average salary for CEOs on the S&P 500 was over \$1 million – and it was over \$11 million when all forms of compensation are examined. The question that poses is how can some be so rich, while others are so poor? **Guest:** Peter Edelman is a professor at Georgetown University Law Center and author of *So Rich, So Poor*. He was a top adviser to Senator Robert Kennedy from 1964 to 1968, and went on to fill various roles in President Bill Clinton's administration.
- 5-12 **CAPITALISM, LIBERTY, DEMOCRACY** – In a 2009 Rasmussen poll, Americans under the age of 30 were almost evenly divided as to whether they preferred capitalism or socialism. What that survey may point to is an America that is not dominated by giant corporations, but at the same time is not dominated by socialist bureaucrats. One political economist and historian feels we can deal with the problems we face as a society. We just have to think out of the proverbial box and go beyond traditional capitalism and traditional socialism. **Guest:** Gar Alperovitz is the Lionel R. Bauman Professor of Political Economy at the University of Maryland. He is the co-founder of the Democracy Collaborative and is a political economist and historian. Alperovitz is the author of *America Beyond Capitalism: Reclaiming Our Wealth, Our Liberty, and Our Democracy*.
- 5-19 **SOCIAL MEDIA AND TRAGEDY** – In times of tragedy, what role can social media play? That's an especially pertinent question for those doing social media marketing. For advertisers, what should be done after a tragedy like the deadly blasts at the Boston Marathon...or the October storm that took lives and devastated communities across the Northeast? According to one media expert, "Sometimes, saying nothing at all speaks volumes." **Guest:** Alex Hinojosa, vice president of media operations at EMSI Public Relations.
- 5-26 **BLUE EYES-BROWN EYES** – In 1968, a controversial exercise was undertaken by a group of grade school kids in Riceville, Iowa. It was the "blue eyes-brown eyes" exercise – an effort to provide some understanding of racism to a class of third graders...an effort that still has an impact today. **Guest:** Jane Elliott, internationally known teacher, lecturer, diversity trainer, and recipient of the National Mental Health Association Award for Excellence in Education.
- 6-2 **THE NEXT AMERICAN REVOLUTION** – Many Americans are very frustrated with the current state of the economy, and are fearful that it might ultimately fail. In that frustration and fear, one historian and political economist sees a revolutionary new economic movement. **Guest:** Gar Alperovitz, historian, political economist, activist, and writer. Author of *What Then Must We Do? Straight Talk About the Next American Revolution*. Alperovitz is currently the Lionel R. Bauman Professor of Political Economy at the University of Maryland and is a former fellow of Kings College, Cambridge University; Harvard's Institute of Politics; the Institute for Policy Studies; and a guest scholar at the Brookings Institute.
- 6-9 **AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS REPAIR** – The last part of May a bridge collapse sent cars and drivers plunging into a river in the state of Washington. No one was killed, although three people had to be rescued. The collapse of the bridge, which was built back in 1955, caused legislators in Washington, D.C. and elsewhere across the country to renew their calls for more investment in the nation's aging infrastructure. **Guests:** National president of the American Society of Civil