



Date aired: ____ 1/10 ____ Time Aired:

Weekly Public Affairs Program

Show # 2021-02

Total running time: 29:30 (with optional exit at 24:00)

1. **Peter Vincent Pry, PhD**, Executive Director of the Task Force on National and Homeland Security, Director of the United States Nuclear Strategy Forum, both of which are Congressional Advisory Boards, former chief of staff of the Congressional EMP Commission, author of "*EMP Manhattan Project: Organizing for Survival Against an Electromagnetic Pulse Catastrophe*"

Dr. Pry explained the serious threat posed by an electromagnetic pulse (EMP), either naturally-occurring or from a manmade source. He discussed the potential sources of an attack. He said up to 90% of the US population would be dead within a year after such an event. He also outlined the basic steps that could protect the national electrical grid and explained why the US government has failed to act.

Issues covered:

Length: 10:07

**Electromagnetic Pulse
Disaster Preparedness
Government**

2. **Heather Schwartz**, Director of the Pre-K to 12 Educational Systems Program at RAND, a nonprofit research organization

About two in 10 U.S. school districts have already adopted or are considering adopting virtual schools after the end of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a new RAND Corporation study. Ms. Schwartz explained the reasons behind this, particularly as parents question the effectiveness of online learning.

Issues covered:

Length: 7:11

**Education
Government
Technology**

3. **Tyler Oesterle, MD, MPH**, Psychiatrist, expert in chemical dependency treatment at Mayo Clinic

While COVID-19 has been the focus of so much attention this year, the opioid crisis has continued unabated and has even worsened, as more than 40 states have reported increases in opioid-related deaths. Dr. Osterle discussed the factors driving the increasing rates of substance abuse, and how to recognize when a loved one is struggling with addiction.

Issues covered:

Length: 5:06

Substance Abuse

