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CHINA INSIDER

A pro-democracy protester is arrested by police during a clash at a demonstration in Hong Kong on Oct. 6, 2019.

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ANTHONY KWAN/GETTY IMAGES

HONG KONG PROTESTS

Chinese Regime's Encroachment on Hong Kong Is Warning to Free Nations, Civic Party Leader Says

IRENE LUO & JAN JEKIELEK

Liberal democracies that stand up to China's communist regime aren't merely helping Hong Kong, they are actually defending themselves against a growing encroachment by that regime, says Alan Leong, chairman of Hong Kong's pro-democracy Civic Party.

"You have to watch Hong Kong, and by looking at what is happening in Hong Kong on the ground during, in particular, the last six months, you will actually be seeing your future, if you do not act now," Leong said, in an interview with The Epoch Times for the "Voices from Hong Kong" special series of the "American Thought Leaders" program.

For years, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has been engaging in "unrestricted warfare" on the United States and other Western democracies, infiltrating and subverting key institutions, according to China expert Robert Spalding, a retired U.S. Air Force brigadier general. Through its "One Belt, One Road" initiative—a broad plan to develop infrastructure and economic ties across more than 100 countries—the Chinese regime is exporting its surveillance systems abroad and expanding its geopolitical influence globally.

What Hong Kong experienced and went through in the freedom movement during the last six months could easily be your fate in the future.

Alan Leong,
chairman, Civic Party

What Chinese leader Xi Jinping has been "preaching to the world" is like a "spell of inevitability," Leong said.

"The rhetoric is simple—that the China model is superior and one day, it is inevitable that it will prevail over liberal democracies." But, in reality, the China model is a "dictatorial regime delivering only on the economy," Leong said. It deprives people of freedom, liberties, and basic human rights, and with the help of high-tech surveillance technologies, "it is very, very effective."

"I have been telling our friends of the free



TAL ATZMON/NTD TELEVISION

1. Pro-democracy protesters are arrested by police during a clash at a demonstration in the Wan Chai district of Hong Kong on Oct. 6, 2019.
2. A protester is detained by police as violent demonstrations take place in the streets of Hong Kong on Oct. 1, 2019.
3. The extension of the Southern Expressway from Matara to Hambantota, one of the major infrastructure projects under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative near Hambantota, Sri Lanka, on Nov. 16, 2018.
4. Alan Leong, chairman of Hong Kong's pro-democracy Civic Party, in Hong Kong on Nov. 28, 2019.

world about how the CCP has been infiltrating into our different institutions, and how the CCP has been using our rules of the game to actually work against us: how they buy up the media organizations, how they try to change the syllabuses of our schools in order to brainwash our next generations, how they are replacing the top management of many of our corporations, financial institutions with mainlanders," Leong said.

"But 10 years ago, what I said seemed to have fallen on deaf ears," Leong said. He says Western leaders failed to conceive of the Chinese communist regime using the same strategies to subvert and weaken Western democracies.

"It may be a bit unkind for me to tell this to our friends in liberal democracies, but what I actually told them to their face was, 'You are finding yourselves in today's dire situation, not because of anybody else,'" Leong said.

"You have only yourselves to blame." The West allowed China to join the World Trade Organization, erroneously thinking this "would lure it into adopting the rules-based order of the game."

But the CCP never held up its side of the bargain to open its markets and dismantle its mercantilist policies, and the international community failed to police compliance, Leong said.

"This giant had been actually fed by you, nurtured by you, by your not insisting on

doing business with the CCP on your terms." "I'm not saying that you should not be doing business with the CCP at all. Well, after all, the China market consists of 1.4 billion people. But there is nothing wrong with you insisting on the CCP's compliance with all the rules and promises.

"It may be a bit late, but it's better late than never. If you leave it even later, then you may have gone past a point of no return," Leong said.

"What Hong Kong experienced and went through in the freedom movement during the last six months could easily be your fate in the future."

Police 'Acted Like Terrorists'
Since the handover of Hong Kong in 1997, "the CCP has been treacherously breaching its promises contained in the Sino-British Joint Declaration and the Basic Law," Leong said.

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The now-withdrawn extradition bill—which would have allowed Hong Kong citizens to be extradited to mainland China for trial—was just the last straw in a long string of abuses, and prompted large swaths of Hong Kong society to take to the street in protests.

In July, police brutality against protesters became a central focus of the protests. On at least a few occasions, Leong said the Hong Kong police "acted like terrorists."

"Riot police stormed into Prince Edward mass transit railway station [on Aug. 31] and hit at people indiscriminately," Leong said. "By definition, if you hit people indiscriminately, that is really a terrorist act."

"And it has been rumored that people were killed on that occasion. But, of course, the police denied it."

He pointed to an incident in Yuen Long MTR station in July, when a mob of masked men in white T-shirts attacked commut-



ANTHONY WALLACE/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

ers with metal bars and rods after an anti-government march.

"The police were conspicuously absent," Leong said.

Videos of the scene show two police officers walking away from the gathering mob in the station, where at least 45 people were injured. In response to public criticism, the police said the two officers had left to call for backup.

"The world has seen images of police using their batons, beating very hard on people who had been subdued, with nothing in hand to hit the police or to bring danger to the police," Leong said. "And we saw images of young ladies being dragged along on the street, down staircases by their hair."

"Such images ought never to have happened in a place as civilized as Hong Kong," Leong said, about a city that once boasted a highly respected police force.

"How can you, on the one hand, not do anything to curb police brutality, while on the other hand, you prosecuted people for riots, when we were just out there to defend our human rights, freedom, and the rule of law?"

A police officer who pointed a shotgun at Hong Kong protesters at close range was invited to Beijing to participate in the Oct. 1 parade celebrating the 70th anniversary of communist rule, Leong noted.

He says the disparity of treatment toward protesters and police will seriously harm the rule of law in Hong Kong, the most important legacy of the British colonial period.

De Facto Referendum

While district councilors in Hong Kong have limited formal power, the district council elections on Nov. 24 were treated by many Hongkongers as a de facto referendum on the city government and Chief Executive Carrie Lam, since, for the first time, all 452 district council seats were contested, Leong said.

Because postal voting isn't allowed, many people "flew long haul from Toronto, New York, London, and from Paris, I think one told me. And what is even more impressive is that they had to go back to where they came from to work on Monday morning. So they just flew in after work on Friday, cast a vote on Sunday, and then rushed to the airport," Leong said.

"In Hong Kong, we had not had smiling faces for the past six months. But on that day, when I went inside teahouses to canvas votes for my party's candidates, I actually saw a lot of smiling faces."

"They told me, 'Mr. Leong, I already cast my vote. And I feel so good that I actually, by voting, manifested my opposition to the Carrie Lam regime, to the CCP, and to the police brutality that we have been suffering for the past six months.'"

Leong recounted how one woman told him, "Mr. Leong, I actually stared at the polling paper for as long as I would like to. And you know why? The police had their batons. I have this vote, this paper on which I can

indicate how I dislike, how I am opposed to police brutality."

The pro-democracy camp won a landslide victory, taking 388 of the 452 district seats.

"So the referendum effect was felt loudly and clearly that people actually wanted one country, two systems. We want Carrie Lam to go, we want the police force to be reformed. We want an independent inquiry into police brutality," Leong said.

While Beijing has called the protesters "rioters" and claimed that a "silent majority" supports the Hong Kong government, "we sent a clear message to Beijing that you are wrong," Leong said. "We want to redefine this as a movement in defense of our way of life, freedom, liberties, human rights, and

We want to redefine this as a movement in defense of our way of life, freedom, liberties, human rights, and rule of law.

Alan Leong,
chairman, Civic Party

rule of law."

US Legislation 'Hits the Nail on Its Head'

The Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act, which was signed by President Donald Trump on Nov. 27, "really hits the nail on its head," Leong said, by applying direct pressure on the regime in Beijing and the Hong Kong government to end abuses in the city.

Under the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act, the U.S. secretary of state is required to certify annually whether Hong Kong is "sufficiently autonomous" to justify its special economic status granted under the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992.

Hong Kong "is still indispensable for the CCP," Leong said. "Two-thirds of direct foreign investment into the country [China] goes through Hong Kong annually, and we are the single largest forex market in which renminbi can be converted into other world currencies," Leong said.

Leong hopes the threat of losing Hong Kong as a major financial center will restrain the Chinese regime.

And he hopes that Western democracies will be moved by Hong Kong's "young men and women, who lost their careers and even their lives during the past six months" and work together to devise a coordinated strategy to resist Beijing.

In doing so, the West would be helping Hong Kong in its fight against authoritarianism, and "at the same time, you are also helping yourselves," Leong said.

"American Thought Leaders" is an Epoch Times show available on Facebook, YouTube, and the Epoch Times website.

PAULA BRONSTEIN/GETTY IMAGES



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HONG KONG PROTESTS

Hong Kong 'Parents' Lend Support Behind Scenes in Protests

VIVEK PRAKASH/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES



"Grandpa Wong" (C), 85, shields protesters from the police by holding his walking stick up, alongside with other "silver hair" volunteers, in the Tung Chung district of Hong Kong on Sept. 7, 2019.

ANNIE WU

HONG KONG—In Hong Kong's ongoing protest movement, there is an oft-repeated idiom that translates to "We all have a part to play in this fight."

While protesters who are frequently at the frontlines facing off with police are mostly teens and young adults, there is a broad contingent of middle-aged and older Hongkongers who support the youngsters on and off the streets.

"Parents," as they are referred to, drive to the sites of protests to pick up those who are being chased by police, pay for meals for protesters who lack the financial means, donate clothing and other supplies, and have organized an upcoming Christmas party to lift their spirits. Others find business owners who are sympathetic to the movement and are willing to provide jobs or skills training to young protesters in need of employment.

They contribute however they can, as if watching over their own children.

Telegram, an encrypted messaging app that has become a popular platform for Hongkongers to plan and discuss future demonstrations, is also where "parents" spread information about efforts to assist young protesters—some of whom have been kicked out of home because of divergent views from their biological parents regarding the political movement.

One Telegram channel administrator recently shared about "parents" who threw a birthday party for two youngsters who were estranged from their family.

The administrator recounted that the young protesters cried. "Thank you for celebrating my birthday with me, to let me know I'm not alone," the youngster had said.

One Telegram group recently decided to team up with a local shop in the Kwai Fong neighborhood to sell a special tea, made of osmanthus and pear, "to help soothe during this bout of dry weather, or for those who have breathed in gas they weren't supposed to breathe in, or as an alternative to soda when you eat fried foods."

Protesters can pay whatever they want; any profits are donated to a fund that provides meals to protesters in need.

Mr. Ma, 60, has bought meal vouchers for a few. He says the movement has "always been an all-of-society movement," with the young protesters on the front lines playing a special role, sacrificing themselves by

risking arrest and being beaten by police.

Hongkongers are like "frogs boiling in the water," he said, referring to how some may not immediately perceive the threat of Beijing's encroachment on daily life in the city. The youth have sustained a monthslong demonstration.

"The role they play is to awaken the others," he said.

Ma had attended a rally in late November that was themed around the "silver-haired" showing solidarity with the youngsters.

I help them so they don't waste their energy walking around. They need to run to escape [from police].

Ms. Tam, 63

In recent days, a growing number of restaurants have allied with "parents" to offer meals to youngsters. The "parents" are welcome to pay whatever they want; the restaurants will then donate the revenue to organizations that assist protesters.

Ms. Tam, 63, often goes to protest events and passes out a brand of Japanese cough drops that she says is known to relieve the effects of tear gas on the throat. She started buying them when she noticed that protesters who shout slogans during demonstrations would get hoarse from the constant yelling.

She also carries face masks for those who need them and is known to buy bread or water for protesters who are caught in long standoffs with police.

"I help them so they don't waste their energy walking around. They need to run to escape [from police]," she said.

Mr. Chan, 64, admits that many in his generation are against the protest movement. Some of his oldest friends hold the view that social stability is more important. With Hong Kong undergoing the largest unrest in its history, they fear that their investments will suffer as a result.

"I personally would support [the protests] because it concerns the future of Hong Kong," said Chan, who is retired. He believes that it's necessary to stand up against the Chinese regime's tightening grip on Hong Kong.

That's gotten him into many heated arguments with those friends.

"It's a matter of difference in one's moral values."

HUAWEI

Former Employee Discloses

OLIVIA LI

Chinese telecom giant Huawei got a bad rep around the world after information from a former Huawei employee was published online. Another former employee shared his experiences with The Epoch Times on Dec. 5.

Jin Chun obtained a master's degree in computer science in Ireland and worked for Huawei on big data research for three years before leaving the company in April of this year. He says that Huawei is actually an agent of the Chinese communist regime, a military unit that combines commercial activities, espionage, intelligence, and technology theft in its daily operations.

Whistleblowers Sent to Prison, Tortured
Li Hongyuan, who worked for Huawei for 13 years, was terminated and wrongfully imprisoned for eight months after attempting to expose corruption within the company. His story went viral on China's social media.

According to Jin, there are many victims similarly wronged by Huawei. Most of them choose to keep silent because if they speak out, nothing changes and they pay the price.

"In China, even the Supreme Court will not punish Huawei by following the law," Jin said.

Former Huawei colleagues told him that some Huawei employees have knowledge of Huawei's top secrets that they are absolutely forbidden to divulge.

According to Jin, several employees have attempted to reveal that they were selling Huawei equipment in Iran. Their evidence includes entry visas granted by Iran and payment records of a \$100 per day subsidy they received while working there. But Chinese police and the judicial system won't deal with these cases openly as they are secrets.

"Those employees were sent to prison on charges of extortion and tortured until they promised to never reveal any secrets after they are released. This explains why none of those Huawei victims ever file complaints against the police, but continue to express their anger at Huawei," he added.

National Security Connection

Jin said the biggest issue with Huawei is its connection with China's National Security Department. On the surface, Huawei is a business entity, but it is not that simple.

"Some say Huawei is controlled by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). I would say it is [part of] the CCP itself. That is plainly obvious," he said.

I feel that if Huawei could be defeated, the CCP would be very close to complete collapse because Huawei is its last and strongest fortress.

Jin Chun, former Huawei employee

"Therefore, it is impossible for Huawei to have a conflict of interest with the CCP. Several top leaders in the company are from CCP government agencies—either the Chinese army's General Staff Department, or the National Security Department. That is precisely Huawei's background. The company definitely represents the will of the CCP."

On Nov. 22, Huawei's Beijing Research Center, the key subsidiary that controls core technologies, announced a big changeover in its top management team. Former deputy chairman Ren Zhengfei, former chairman and legal representative Sun Yafang, former directors Xu Wenwei, Xu Zhijun, and Guo Pingping all stepped down. Tian Xingpu, originally the head of the Center, became the new legal counsel and director.

Jin explained that Ren and other former executives are obviously from the CCP's intelligence system, and their identities have been exposed. The CCP thus had to replace them with people who are unknowns.

According to Jin, there are three reasons why Huawei has been hugely profitable. First is support from the Chinese communist regime; second is various monopolies; and third is adoption of management systems used by American companies.

"It has therefore become one of the most successful among all of the CCP's enterprises," he said.

In terms of technology and intelligence, Huawei is "competent and very powerful," Jin said, pointing out that the company has contributed to China's "One Belt, One Road" (OBOR, also known as Belt and Road) initiative, and helped the Chinese regime develop high-tech products such as facial recognition, involving various aspects of cryptography.

Moreover, Huawei adopted certain aspects of western style management, such as, those of IBM and the former Soviet Union's KGB. The company's buildings are divided into color coded zones: blue, green, yellow, and red, with red being the top classified grade. Employees are forbidden to communicate or share data with people in other zones. To access data from another zone, an employee needs to first get permission.

Personal Data Collection

Jin revealed that Huawei not only monitors Chinese citizens living in China, but also collects information from overseas Chinese nationals.

For instance, IMEI (International Mobile Equipment Identity) is a 15- or 17-digit code that uniquely identifies each mobile phone set. Huawei keeps track of overseas Chinese people's IMEI codes to collect the owner's personal information, such as, address, profession, and social connections.

Jin said in some Western countries, such as the United States, Japan, and many European countries, it is forbidden by law to

IMEI (International Mobile Equipment Identity) is a 15- or 17-digit code that uniquely identifies each mobile phone set. Huawei keeps track of overseas Chinese people's IMEI codes to collect the owner's personal information, such as, address, profession, and social connections.

collect IMEI information, but Huawei still tries in these countries.

Moreover, Huawei has helped some African and Eastern European countries, including Romania, with various surveillance projects and also allegedly cooperated with Germany's Deutsche Telekom AG in a data acquisition project.

"The company's executives told us the surveillance projects are all legally allowed surveillance. It must be sheer lies," Jin said.

Jin's specialty is big data analysis, so the department he worked in focused on analyzing people's likes, preferences and personalities, and their anticipated future spending patterns.

In other words, Huawei does not only use its surveillance and data analysis technologies to help China's National Security Department monitor the Chinese people, it also makes a profit by studying consumer habits.

"It's not easy to achieve all this," Jin explained. "First of all, data analysis needs to dig out a lot of private information and know the person's spending habits. The system is able to make certain predictions. When the person suddenly does something outside of what's predictable, the system will try to analyze: has this person learned to break through the Internet firewall? Has he or she become a foreign spy? It is very difficult, yet my department was able to do precise analyses," he said.

Not Much Innovation, Mostly Plagiarism

Shortly after Jin joined Huawei, he discovered that it was very different from his notion of a decent high-tech company.

Huawei's True Power

"Many so-called innovations were actually plagiarized. As a matter of fact, Huawei does not have much innovation. More often than not, the company simply takes over the paths others are walking on, and forces competitors into a dead-end. Huawei is able to do that because it is backed by the iron-handed state apparatus—the entire judicial system always sides with Huawei. In the end, all patents belong to Huawei, even inventions by other companies eventually become Huawei's intellectual property. This is how Huawei rose to become the number one IT company in China."

According to Jin, last year, an employee at Huawei's Nanjing Research Center reported to the branch's top managers that a project team claimed to have developed a new tool that was actually plagiarized from China's Open Source Software Community. The managers who received his letter took revenge on him, and almost kicked him out the company. The entire company then launched intensive propaganda, using pretexes to defend the new development as original.

Grueling Schedule and Hostile Work Environment

Huawei unashamedly proclaims that the company worships and adopts an aggressive and ruthless work environment known as "wolf culture."

Jin said he prefers to call it "wolfdog culture" because employees work like a dog every day, and the company encourages them to report on and bully each other.

Forcing Employees to Quit Using Crazy Work Schedules

According to Jin, most employees only have 4 days off each month. Usual working hours are 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. When a project is at a crucial stage, the engineers have one day off a month. Those who work to 3 a.m. may take a half day off the following morning.

Worst of all, when the company needs to reduce the workforce, instead of laying off employees with a severance package, management makes employees work overtime on a crazy schedule, so they will quit on their own.

In January of this year, Huawei CEO Ren Zhengfei announced a layoff plan to "remove mediocre employees." After U.S. President Trump blacklisted Huawei in May, the company felt an urgent need to cut its workforce.

"The 'layoff' I know of was achieved like this: in a project team of about 40 people, the manager forced the engineers to work until midnight every day. Eventually, 90 percent of the engineers quit leaving only four in the team," Jin said.

As a matter of fact, the project they worked on was never delivered, but the project manager was given a raise because he helped get rid of the dozens of employees who were no longer needed.

"Huawei just likes to bully employees like this—force them to quit voluntarily. Thus, those who quit are not counted as layoffs."

This incident helped him realize that Huawei is a meat grinding machine serving a totalitarian authority, using a cloak of high-tech and western style management.

"The company is built and developed on

a blood-sucking mechanism," Jin said. "All your contributions are attributed to the management, and you are left with nothing. If the managers like your obedience, they may give you some petty rewards; if they think you are not obedient, they will give you nothing and even exact revenge."

Reporting on Each Other

Jin explained why he decided to quit Huawei. In recent years, the company openly encouraged employees to report on each other. At a staff meeting earlier this year, a manager read the company's official statement to let everyone know that a designated email account had been set up for people to report on others.

"Isn't that the same as another Cultural Revolution? I don't like this kind of work environment at all," Jin said. "I learned from one of Huawei's inside forums that several times, the person who was reported was then sent to prison. More often than not, the person going to prison was a division manager, charged with embezzlement, and the prison terms were usually 10 to 11 years. We all wondered what the actual situation was in these cases. I guess only Huawei's top executives know."

Using software to circumvent China's firewall, Jin said he once browsed an overseas website. As he was reading news reports on Voice of America, a manager came over and saw what he was doing. Jin was afraid that he would be reported and punished, so he decided to immediately submit a resignation letter.

Huawei Is the CCP's Last Fortress

According to Jin, Huawei is not just an individual enterprise, it is a huge industrial chain. In addition to its subsidiary research centers in Beijing, Nanjing, Shanghai, Xi'an, and India, there are also many outsourcing and subcontracting companies downstream that are either directly controlled by Huawei or whose intellectual property rights are controlled by Huawei.

Huawei has approximately 200,000 employees and its Beijing and Nanjing Research Centers each have over 10,000. Altogether, there are several million employees in the Huawei family, Jin revealed.

Jin specifically mentioned that Huawei's Beijing Research Center is engaged in the technology development of Core Network, and their data and technology are the most sensitive. For example, a country in Europe purchased Huawei's equipment and Huawei could, through this country's network interactions with other countries, steal technologies from all of Europe.

Both Huawei and its Beijing Research Center have a particularly good relationship with Deutsche Telekom and Belgian Telecom, and they have a lot of business cooperation.

"Huawei is indeed the most powerful enterprise under the CCP. As it has learned to make use of western style philosophy and technology to serve a totalitarian regime. It is therefore, the most dangerous component of the CCP and brings the greatest harm to the world," Jin said.

"My conscience forces me to speak out," he continued, "I feel that if Huawei could be defeated, the CCP would be very close to complete collapse because Huawei is its last and strongest fortress. However, if Huawei can't be defeated, it is literally a nightmare for the entire mankind."

PATRICIA DE MELO MOREIRA/AFP/JAPP VIA GETTY IMAGES



Chinese telecom giant Huawei's stand at the Web Summit in Lisbon, Portugal on Nov. 6, 2019.

OPINION

China's One-Child Policy Is Stark Reminder That Collectivism Is Evil

CHRIS TALGO

This year marks the 40th anniversary of one of the most dreadful public policies in recent memory: communist China's one-child policy. Fortunately, a new documentary, "One Child Nation," is shining a much-needed light on the darkness that has shrouded this horrific program since its inception four decades ago.

The one-child policy should forever be remembered for the sheer brutality and horror it inflicted for more than 30 years.

In summary, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) launched the one-child policy in 1979 in an attempt to boost the standard of living by artificially restricting the country's rapidly rising population.

For decades, this policy was strictly enforced, especially in urban areas. Those who resisted were dealt with in excruciatingly brutal ways. In the first few years, families caught with more than one child paid extremely high fines, had property confiscated, or their homes literally demolished by the CCP's village and provincial officials. The party also dispersed an army of "family planners" to ensure the policy was properly enforced.

Women who longed for more than one child were routinely implanted with contraceptive intrauterine devices after they bore their first child. If these women had the audacity to remove these devices and bear a second child, forced sterilizations were regularly performed.

To put this in perspective, 324 million Chinese women had intrauterine devices surgically implanted, and 108 million were forced to undergo sterilization procedures from 1980 to 2014. During this period, untold numbers of abortions, including post-birth, were also instituted. Sadly, infanticide was routinely committed, too.

According to estimates, 500 million births were "prevented" during the one-

child policy era, which was officially ended in 2014.

The story of this appalling program took another sinister turn in 1992, when the CCP allowed international adoptions to take place. What followed was rampant corruption and a thriving black market for Chinese babies. In short, at least 130,000 Chinese children (perhaps millions, according to some experts) were taken from their birth parents and sold to state-run orphanages.

The orphanages then "sold" these children to American families (the average cost of a Chinese adoption ranged from at least \$10,000 to upwards of \$20,000), filling the pockets of CCP officials and their cronies who aided the process. Even more reprehensible, state-owned orphanages often lied to the adoptive parents, telling them the child they were adopting was "abandoned." In reality, the CCP was shamefully running an international baby-selling scheme.

As "One Child Nation" shows, thousands of Chinese families to this day have no idea where their children (taken from them against their will) ended up. An international database has been created to attempt to reconnect some of these children with their birth parents. This process, however, has successfully reconnected only a handful of these children with their families in China.

At this point, you may be wondering, although this tragic tale is very sad, what is the relevance today? After all, the CCP abandoned the one-child policy five years ago.

Well, here is the rub: The one-child policy and the horrors it perpetuated on countless Chinese families are a symptom of communist and socialist government. The one-child policy was a massive central planning scheme run amok. As the documentary shows in vivid and excruciating detail, the mass majority of Chinese citizens (including women who underwent sterilizations or had their children aborted) actually believe the policy was beneficial and necessary.

How is this possible? Because the government indoctrinated the people with endless propaganda promoting its one-

child program. Whether through veiled or outright threats, or all other sorts of brainwashing techniques, the CCP actually convinced hundreds of millions of people they were doing this for the "good of the nation."

In other words, in China, individual freedom bows to the will of the CCP and its collectivist ideology.

And, coming full circle, here's the crux

of it all: The one-child policy and the horrors it inflicted upon a billion people were only possible because individual freedom, private property rights, and rule of law are antithetical to socialist, collectivist ideology.

With any luck, millions of Americans will watch "One Child Nation" and realize that socialism, communism, and collectivism are deranged ideas that always



A scene from "One Child Nation," which shows propaganda for the Chinese Communist Party's one-child policy.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Chinese Lawyer Event Silent on Missing Human Rights Lawyer

NATHAN SU

China's Global Lawyers Forum (GLF) officially opened in Guangzhou on Dec. 9, one day ahead of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The wife of a renowned Chinese human rights lawyer sent an open letter to the forum, asking the attending lawyers to help look for her missing husband.

"I am the wife of China's human rights lawyer Gao Zhisheng, who has been missing for 844 days," Geng He stated at the beginning of her open letter, which was written in Chinese.

She told the lawyers attending the forum that she and her entire family have not been able to reach her husband since he went missing.

She also stated in her letter that she and her family have been constantly asking and checking with all levels of Chinese authorities but have received no response.

Before Gao went missing, he had been repeatedly arrested and jailed for defending members of persecuted minority groups such as Falun Gong practitioners and Christian family churches. Gao also defended some outspoken

political dissidents in China. He was last seen on Aug. 12, 2017.

Geng, who escaped China with her two children in January 2009, has been living in the United States since March 2009.

In her letter, Geng commented that for China to host a global lawyers forum is just as absurd as the regime hosting the World Internet Conference, which has been an annual event in China since 2014. She stated that even the lawyers' basic rights are not protected in China, let alone the rights of other Chinese people.

China has built the world's largest internet censorship program. Geng used the regime's tight control on information through internet censorship to depict the situation of lawyers who are denied the right to defend themselves in China.

"How come a country that can easily and conveniently make lawyers disappear is able to shamelessly host a Global Lawyers Forum?" Geng asked in her letter.

The main subject of the two-day GLF was the international legal services for China's "One Belt, One Road" (OBOR, also known as Belt and Road) initiative. The OBOR is a global development strategy

adopted by the Chinese regime in 2013 for infrastructure development in 137 countries in Asia, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and the Americas.

According to a report from Business Insider, China's total investment in the OBOR is estimated to be between \$1 trillion and \$8 trillion.

How come a country that can easily and conveniently make lawyers disappear is able to shamelessly host a Global Lawyers Forum?

Geng He, wife of disappeared Chinese human rights lawyer Gao Zhisheng

Before the GLF opening ceremony, China's Minister of Justice Fu Guohua greeted a group of foreign justice department officials from Cuba, Iran, Russia, Cambodia, Laos, Morocco, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Thailand, and Singapore, according to reports from

the GLF's official website.

More than 800 lawyers from 57 countries attended the forum, according to reports from China's Justice Department's official website.

Gao's battle to improve China's human rights situation has been widely recognized by international society. He has been nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 2018, Gao was awarded the Shahbaz Bhatti Freedom Award by the First Step Forum, a Finland-based international NGO that monitors religious and human rights abuse worldwide.

"Gao is China's Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela," said David Kilgour, a board member of the First Step Forum, who presented the award to Geng in 2018.

Geng is not the only one who criticized China's human rights abuse during the GLF. During the forum, the German media Deutsche Welle (DW) interviewed Xu Yan, who is also the wife of a renowned human rights lawyer in China.

Xu's husband, Yu Wensheng, was arrested in January 2018 for defending practitioners of the spiritual discipline Falun Gong, which is persecuted by the Chi-

Gao Zhisheng has been nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize.

nese regime. Xu told DW that in the almost two years since the arrest, her husband has not yet been allowed to meet a lawyer.

According to DW, Xu said that she was not allowed to leave home while the GLF was in session. She provided DW with a video showing that more than 10 plainclothes police officers tried to prevent her from leaving her home.

Xinhua News, an official mouthpiece of the Chinese regime, reported on an interview with Zhou Yuansheng, one of the officials from China's Ministry of Justice. Zhou said that the reason China held the GLF was to support and encourage China's lawyers to become more confident and mature.

Zhou also said that China wanted to advance the professional skills of the Chinese lawyers, increase the quality of their legal service, and advance them to the center of the international legal service stage.

Geng told The Epoch Times that she and her two children are very concerned about Gao's safety and health. She urged Western governments and human rights organizations to step forward and pressure the Chinese regime to release the location where Gao is detained.

morph into mass murder and madness.

On a personal note, I am proud that my parents adopted a little girl from China more than a decade ago, during the height of the one-child policy. Today, she's thriving and very glad to have the opportunity to live in the United States. I am now curious if she was a victim of the rampant human trafficking scheme perpetuated by the CCP—something we may never know.

The one-child policy was a massive central planning scheme run amok.

One thing is certain. The one-child policy should forever be remembered for the sheer brutality and horror it inflicted for more than 30 years.

The one-child policy, of course, has completely backfired. China's population is now under immense pressure because the one-child policy caused two catastrophic problems.

First, China has too few women compared with men, because male children were preferred to carry on the family lineage. Second, China has far too few young people to support its huge elderly population. To "solve" this new problem, the CCP launched a new national birth planning policy in 2016: the two-child policy.

As they say, central planners just never learn, do they?

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Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.

FORK FILMS

CHINESE INTERFERENCE

Danish Theater Cancels Shen Yun Show, Drawing Claims of Beijing Pressure



The Odeon Music and Theatre Center in Odense, Denmark, in this file photo.

NICOLE HAO

A Danish theater's inconsistent explanation regarding its abrupt decision to walk away from a nearly signed contract with Shen Yun Performing Arts, as well as previous setbacks for the New York-based Chinese classical dance company in Denmark, have fueled public debate about the influence of communist China in the Nordic country.

Shen Yun was set to perform next April at the Odeon Music and Theatre Hall in Odense, Denmark's third-largest city. But the theater canceled the contract on Oct. 15.

"We have contacted with Odeon Music and Theatre center to perform Shen Yun since two years ago," Benny Brix, spokesman for Shen Yun's in-country presenter, the Danish Falun Dafa Association, told the Chinese-language Epoch Times on Nov. 26. "We finally reached an agreement to invite Shen Yun to perform three shows in the theater on April 2 and 3, 2020."

According to Brix, the association received a draft contract from Odeon on Oct. 9; after that, they had a meeting on Oct. 14 in Odense in which both parties confirmed all items in the contract, including arrangements for Shen Yun's performers to be accommodated in the Radisson Blu HC Andersen Hotel, which has a partnership with Odeon.

Though the contract was to be signed the next day, Brix said the association received an email from Odeon saying that the theater had already booked a business conference for the two days that Shen Yun was set to perform.

Communist Meddling

Founded in 2006, Shen Yun tours every year, consistently performing in sold-out venues worldwide. Its mission, according to the Shen Yun official website, is to showcase the splendor of China's thousands of years of civilization through classical dance.

However, Shen Yun's performances also depict the persecution of Falun Gong, earning it the enmity of Beijing. Falun Gong, also known as Falun Dafa, is a Chinese spiritual practice that has been banned and violently suppressed by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) since 1999. Shen Yun's commercial success and critical acclaim have made it a target for the CCP's overseas interference

operations.

Reports since October suggest that Odeon may have lied to the Danish Falun Dafa Association about the reason for not signing the contract.

On Dec. 5, Denmark's TV 2 received an Oct. 22 email sent by an Odeon employee to a local cultural organization, confirming that the theater was not booked on April 3, one of the days on which Shen Yun would have performed.

Shen Yun is a fantastic company [and] performs fantastic shows ... [interference against Shen Yun in Denmark has] happened all the time. I see this as a harassment and pressure from the Communist Chinese embassy in Denmark.

Soren Espersen, member of Danish Parliament

The email, which invited the cultural organization to schedule its activity for that day, came seven days after Odeon canceled its contract for the Shen Yun performances.

According to Brix, one possibility is that Odeon canceled its contract as a result of self-censorship. Another possibility is direct interference by the Chinese embassy in Denmark.

Danish lawmakers, Odense city council members, and local media have questioned Odeon's motives.

"Shen Yun is a fantastic company [and] performs fantastic shows ... [interference against Shen Yun in Denmark has] happened all the time. I see this as harassment and pressure from the communist Chinese embassy in Denmark," Danish Parliament member Soren Espersen told The Epoch Times on Dec. 10.

On Dec. 4, Danish congresswoman Pernille Bendixen urged Danish Minister for Social Affairs and the Interior Astrid Krag to explain why Odeon canceled the Shen Yun contract.

Following Bendixen's inquiry, Jens Belling, chairman of Odeon's managing company Belling Holding APS, published a statement that contradicted the theater's earlier reasoning. He said that from the company's point of view, it was more urgent to hold the business conference.

COURTESY OF GENG HE

Geng He (2nd L), the wife of missing lawyer Gao Zhisheng, protests in front of the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in San Francisco in this file photo





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