

LaRouche Mobilizes Youth To Save a Morally Bankrupt Nation

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Lyndon LaRouche simultaneously addressed East and West Coast gatherings of his rapidly expanding youth movement on Feb. 1. Nearly 200 men and women between the ages of 18 and 25 engaged in a four-hour dialogue with the Democratic Party 2004 Presidential pre-candidate.

The rapidly swelling ranks of the LaRouche Youth Movement—the only such movement to emerge in recent American history based on the Platonic founding principles of the American Republic—are engaged in a round-the-clock intervention, to change the direction of American policy: away from the war party drive for a “Clash of Civilizations” engulfing the entire Eurasian region in endless bloodshed and chaos, and toward LaRouche’s agenda of national and global economic reconstruction, based on the successful model of Franklin D. Roosevelt’s pre-war and wartime government-directed mobilization.

The impact of the LaRouche Youth Movement has been felt in a number of state capitals, as well as in the nation’s capital, for months. Shortly after the Feb. 1-2 weekend gatherings, 65 LaRouche youth activists conducted a day-long lobbying intervention on Capitol Hill, distributing thousands of copies of a LaRouche in 2004 campaign pamphlet that contains the text of LaRouche’s historic Jan. 28, 2003 State of the Union address.

As LaRouche promised the youth, he is committed to providing meaning and direction to a young generation abandoned by their Baby-Boomer parents, a “no-future” generation that, without his leadership, faces a world defined by economic collapse, cultural decay, and historical ignorance and/or amnesia.

LaRouche’s Call to Action

LaRouche began his Feb. 1 opening remarks: “Now, we’re in a crisis, in a tragedy—you might call it the global

tragedy. The popular opinion which has dominated the United States, in particular, increasingly over the period since about 1964, has been tragic, in the Classical sense of tragedy. What has emerged as popular opinion, resulted in a collapse of civilization, which has reached the end-phase of its existence, such that, if popular opinion is the standard of behavior of government, and of the population, this nation will soon cease to exist. All tragedy is based on that principle, true tragedy. Tragedy is not caused by mis-leadership. Tragedy may be contributed to by a lack of adequate leadership; but the root of tragedy is always popular opinion, established conventions, generally assumed beliefs. And that’s why civilizations collapse.”

Addressing the kind of intervention required to alter the course of history and avert a new dark age, LaRouche told the audience: “Now, that means that two things have to happen, two related things. First of all, somebody on the scene has to understand that public opinion must be changed radically. That is, at least *some* of the definitions, postulates, axioms, which control the system, which control popular opinion, must be destroyed. Otherwise, the society, civilization, will crash.

“Once the idea exists, in the minds of some, the question is, how are we going to implement that idea, to cause society, at the brink of doom, to save itself, by, first of all, changing the generally accepted truisms of prevailing popular opinion, in government, in legislatures, in political parties, among the people in general.”

LaRouche spoke with brutal frankness about the kind of social hell the young generation has been faced with: “Your generation, [those] who are still alive and viable, are confronted by the fact that your parents’ generation gave you a *no-future* world. There’s no way you can make a deal with this culture, which prevails today. No way. Because you can’t



Lyndon LaRouche addresses a cadre school of the LaRouche Youth Movement on Feb. 1 in Pennsylvania. More than 200 young organizers and potential supporters, most from the United States but joined by some Europeans and Australians, attended the East and West Coast schools which were both opened by his presentation.

survive! This culture can not deliver you the means to survive. And you know from the broken home-background that your parents' generation created, in large degree, what kind of a psychological hell it makes for your generation.

"How many mothers and fathers do you have, officially on the record, known and unknown? I mean, that's the condition of this generation, your generation!"

LaRouche got to the heart of the matter: "So, you know that. What are you going to do about it? You know that you don't have a future unless you can change society. But you're a generation which is in a controlling position in policymaking of society. So what you do, is you go out like missionaries, and begin to organize the dead generation, your parents' generation, in society. And you see the impact you have when you go into these various places, like the campuses—go into places such as the state legislatures, or the Congress—you see the effect you have. The presence of four, five, or six of you, walking in, *knowing* what you're talking about, which is more than most of these legislators can do, and others: You have an effect on them. . . .

"Now, my job is to ensure that the youth movement has the right leadership. Because, without a youth movement, even though I may be the smartest man in America, particularly on these kinds of issues, I can do nothing by myself. It's a youth movement which can strike the preceding generation, and revive them, and touch their conscience, which will enable this revival of the United States to occur. And of civilization generally. Because we are a world power. We are the world empire—don't kid yourself! The United States is a world empire—don't kid yourself!

"Don't say, the Chinese are going to do this, the Koreans

are going to do this, the Japanese are going to do this, the Africans are going to do this, the South Americans—no, they're not! Because I know these countries. In none of them do they have the guts, to challenge the United States. They will all crawl, and whine, and whimper, and complain, and make insults, and curses, but they will submit from inside the pig-sty, where they're waiting to be slaughtered.

"We in the United States, and the youth movement in the United States, have the special responsibility, since this *is* the world power, in terms of political-military control of the world as a whole, *we* have to change it from the inside, in order to save the world as a whole. And the world will look to us for this. If we don't succeed—if I were to fail, if you were to fail—write the United States off, and be prepared to accept several generations of a dark age for humanity as a whole.

"If I continue to do my job, and you do yours, and develop this youth movement as it must be developed, we can change world history for the better right now. Because there is no other thing that's going to work, except this kind of change."

LaRouche concluded: "That's the principle of tragedy. That's also the principle of the sublime. And that's what you guys are about. You have to have a clear self-conception of who you are."

Following LaRouche's keynote and dialogue, both the East Coast and West Coast gatherings conducted a day and a half of intensive classes and discussions, demonstrating that, even in the present collapsing culture, a Classical educational curriculum can be revived—as a "university on wheels" of political organizers.