



SCRIPTURE READING:

Philippians 3:10 – 21

An illustration of a man's head and shoulders in profile, facing right. He has a mustache and is wearing an orange shirt. His head is surrounded by various blue and white icons representing technology: a smartphone, a tablet, a laptop, a computer monitor, a keyboard, a mouse, a USB drive, a heart icon, a plus icon, and a document with a graph. Blue lines representing wires or data connections crisscross the background. The overall style is a flat, modern illustration with a limited color palette of orange, blue, and white.

TECH- NOP- OLY

**AND THE WAY
OF JESUS**

BELIEVE/THINK

FREEDOM

**See and
flee the
technopoly**

**Jesus is
a master
with a way**

FORMATION

**Digital
intentionalism**

**Walk in
the way
of Jesus**

DO



CREATURE



DIVINE IMAGE BEARER



THE FLESH



KINGDOM BUILDER



FAITH



TIME



FORMATION



LOVE

P O I N T 1:

Godliness is
a gift, accessed by faith,
that is also a
developmental triumph

Romans 1:17

For in the gospel **a righteousness** from God is revealed, **a righteousness** that is **by faith** from first to last, just as it is written:
"The righteous will live by faith."

Romans 1:17

"...a righteousness that is revealed from **faith into faith**, just as it is written, "The righteous, **from faith they live.**"

Philippians 3:12 – 16

"Not that I have already **obtained** all this, or have already **been made perfect**, but **I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.**

Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have **taken hold of it**. But one thing **I do: Forgetting** what is behind and **straining** towards what is ahead, **I press on** towards the goal **to win** the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus...

Philippians 3:12 – 16

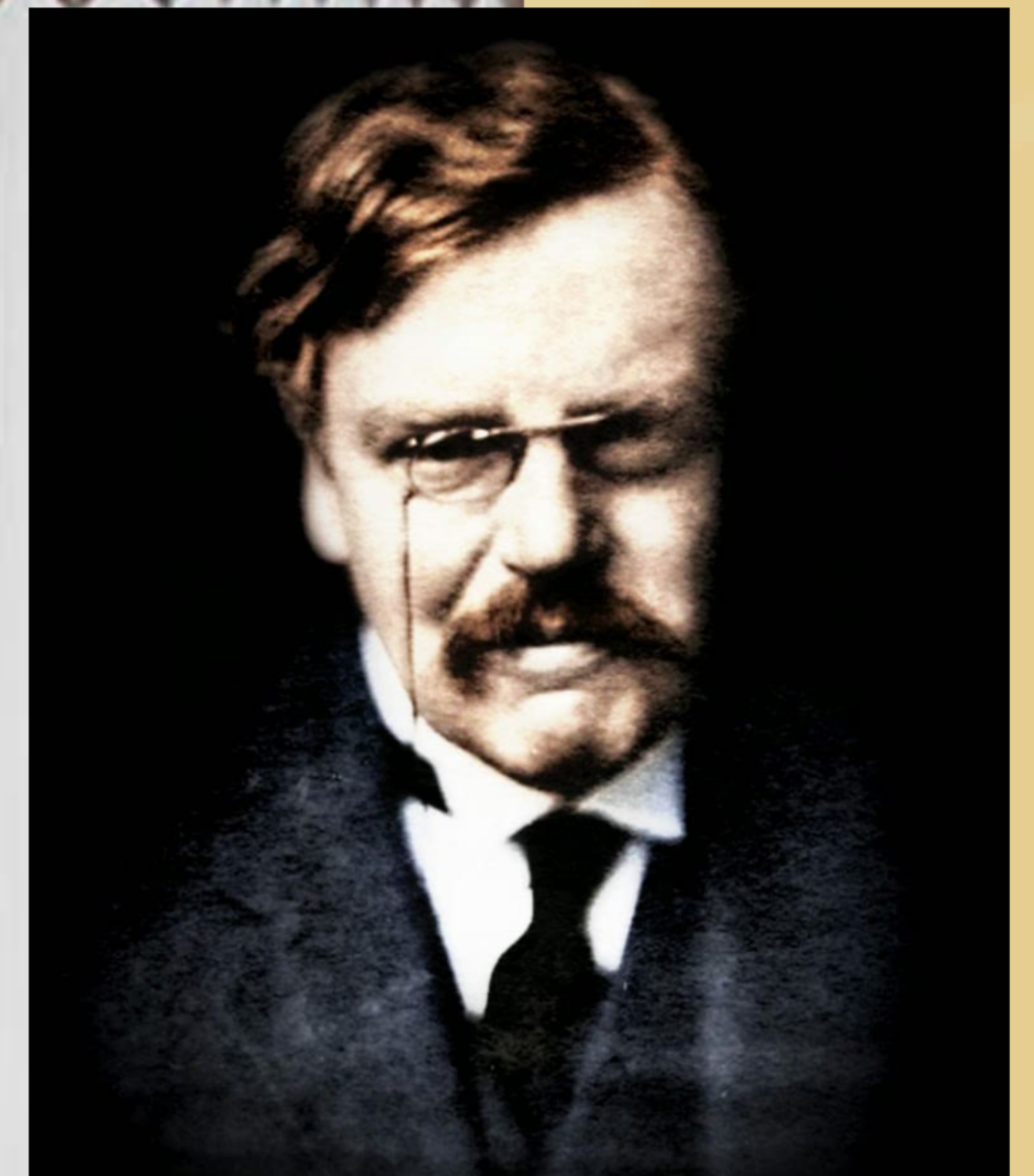
...**All of us who are mature** should take such a view of things. And if **on some point you think differently**, that too God will make clear to you. Only **let us live up to what we have already attained.**"

Conservative Fallacy

"If you want something to stay the same, it needs to be left alone."



"You will have to keep on painting it forever"





POINT 2:

Worldliness is
a state, accessed by
faith, that is also
a developmental tragedy

Philippians 3:18 – 4:1

For, as I have often **told you before and now say again even with tears**, many **live as enemies of the cross** of Christ. Their **destiny is destruction**, their **god is their stomach**, and their **glory is in their shame**.

Their **mind is on earthly things**. But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Worldliness is a depravation and degredation

(not just an evil, it's a reversal)

Criminal – "Enemies of the cross"

Negligent – "Destiny is destruction"

Mockers – "Their glory is in their shame"

Sensualists – "Their god is their stomach"

This is a *pitabile* condition we must *remember*.



P O I N T 3 :

The Technopoly is
uniquely inhibiting of
godliness and facilitating
of worldliness

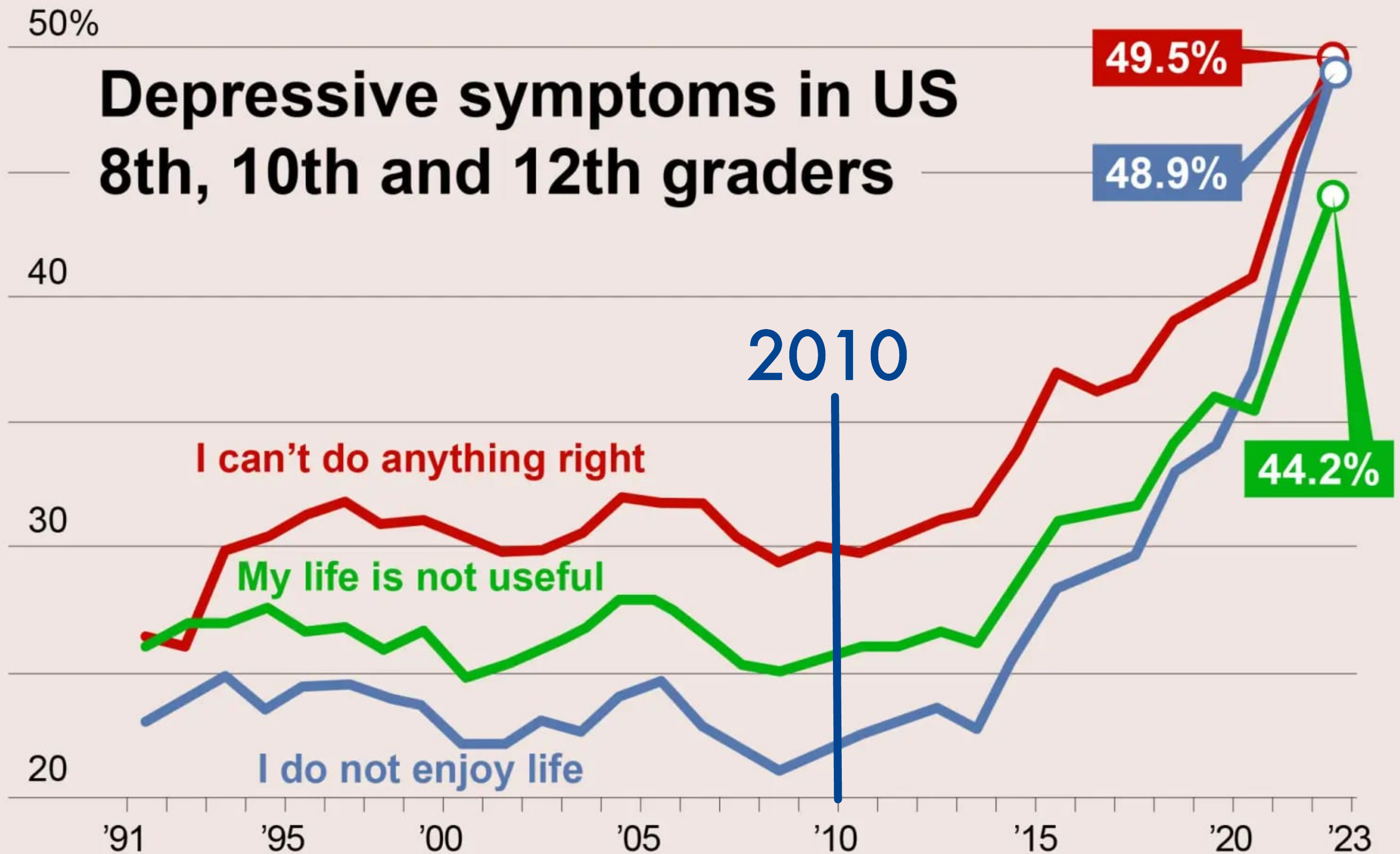
NYC first to designate social media as environmental toxin



Mayor Eric Adams on Nov. 21, 2023. Photo: Luiz C. Ribeiro for NY Daily News via Getty Images

Social media is "destructive to mental hygiene"

Depressive symptoms in US 8th, 10th and 12th graders

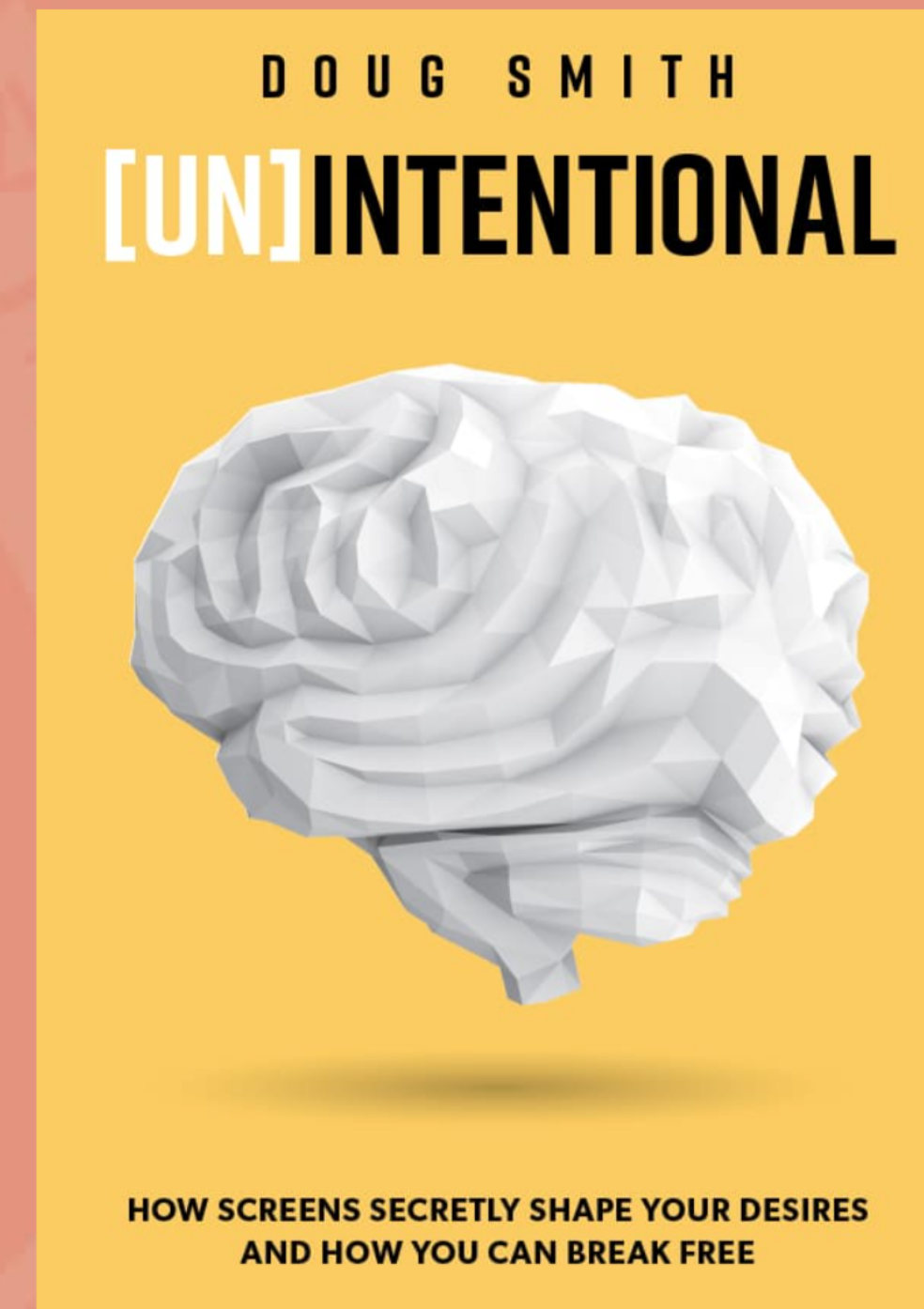


Source: Monitoring the Future,
analyzed by Jean Twenge

Note: 2020 data was collected in February and early March,
before schools shut down during the COVID-19 pandemic.

DEGRADATION COSTS

- Distraction
- Uncivil Discourse
- Mocking
- Sexualization
- Deep thought impossible



Doug Smith
Android Engineer
Covenant Eyes



NEGATIVE EXTERNALITIES:

- Developmental opportunity costs (49hrs+ wk)
- Loss and less sleep (Netflix Quote)
- Diminished exercise, outside, play
- **Developmental losses:** reading, rough play, emotional negotiation, individual and social imagination, etc.

NEGATIVE EXTERNALITIES:

- Unprecedented goal fixation/addiction
- Social Comparison and objectified self-image, self-image distortion
- Addiction – irresistible gaming, social media, shopping, gambling, porn, texting, news, etc
- Tipping point for mental illness – anxiety, depression and "fallouts" – gender confusion, suicidality, "medicating", cutting, etc.

NEGATIVE EXTERNALITIES:

- Weaker social attachments
- Acceleration, intrusiveness and monopolizing of materialism
- Tribalism and division
- Amplified anti-social behavior: cyber bullying, meanness, mockery, incivility

NEGATIVE EXTERNALITIES:

- Scattered concentration
- Diminished attention span
- Diminished cognitive ability
- Diminished memory and learning
- Diminished processing and linear capacity
- Diminished reflection, reverie, meditation, etc
- Diminished creativity and imagination

NEGATIVE EXTERNALITIES:

(results of previous slides)

- Diminished emotional depth
- Diminished emotional stability
- Diminished emotional sensitivity (enjoy normal)
- Diminished emotional enjoyment
- Decreased social interest and capacity
- Diminished emotional adaptability and resilience

Result: Social breakdown and ineptitude

NEGATIVE EXTERNALITIES:

(Results of previous slides)

- Moral and character depravation
- Strongly reactive and sensually motivated
- Easily "nudged" and controlled by convenience, safety, comfort, and danger
- Irritation and impatience with morality, meaning, spirituality, and abstraction/conceptualization



"It is ordained in the eternal constitution of things
that men of intemperate minds cannot be free.
Their **passions form their fetters.**"



- Edmund Burke,
Reflections

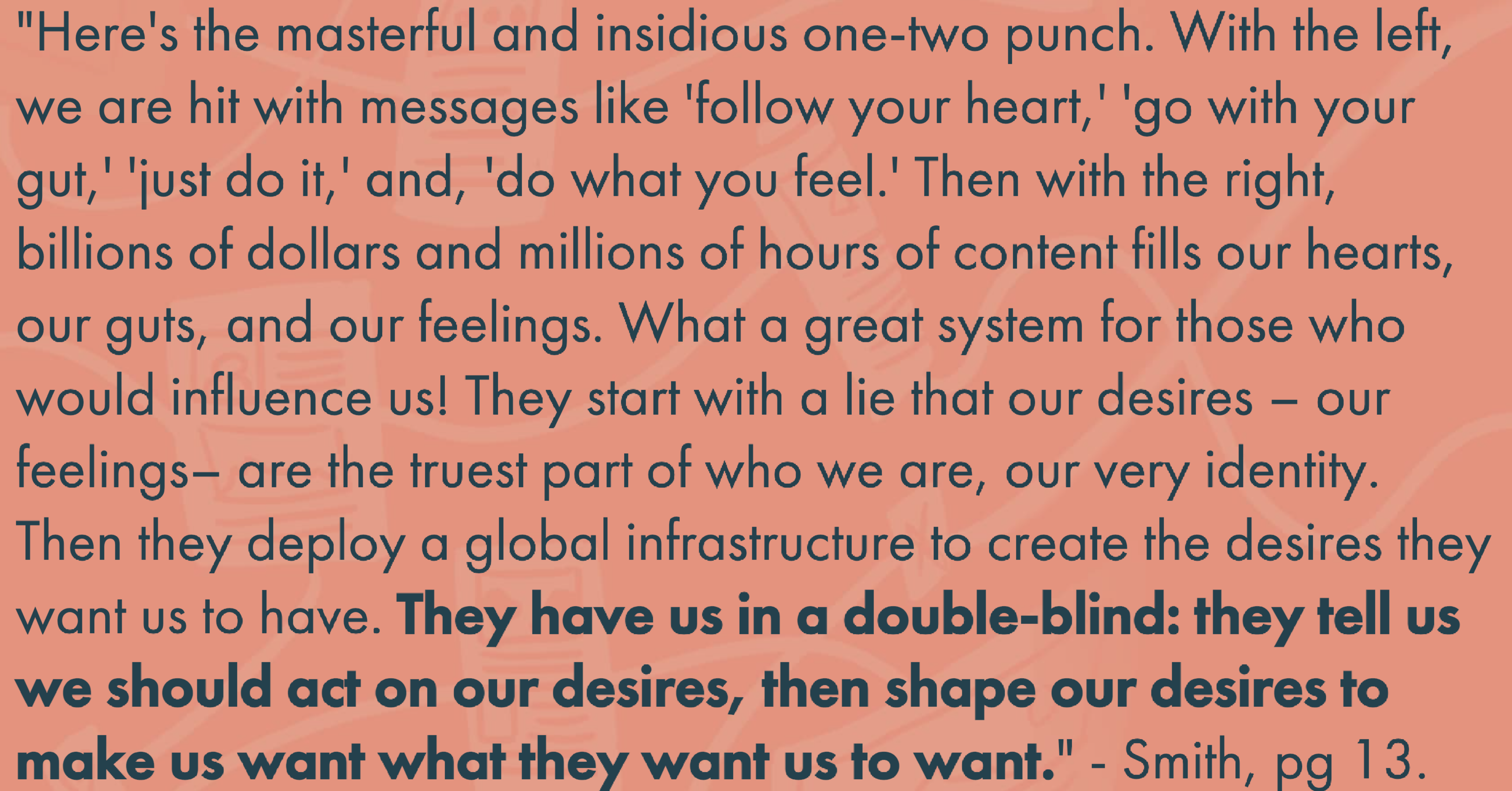
DEGRADATION SLAVERY

"Since desire preceedes a free choice, manipulating desires is a powerful way to control people's choices."

–**Unintentional**, pg 13



Doug Smith
Android Engineer
Covenant Eyes



"Here's the masterful and insidious one-two punch. With the left, we are hit with messages like 'follow your heart,' 'go with your gut,' 'just do it,' and, 'do what you feel.' Then with the right, billions of dollars and millions of hours of content fills our hearts, our guts, and our feelings. What a great system for those who would influence us! They start with a lie that our desires – our feelings– are the truest part of who we are, our very identity. Then they deploy a global infrastructure to create the desires they want us to have. **They have us in a double-blind: they tell us we should act on our desires, then shape our desires to make us want what they want us to want.**" - Smith, pg 13.

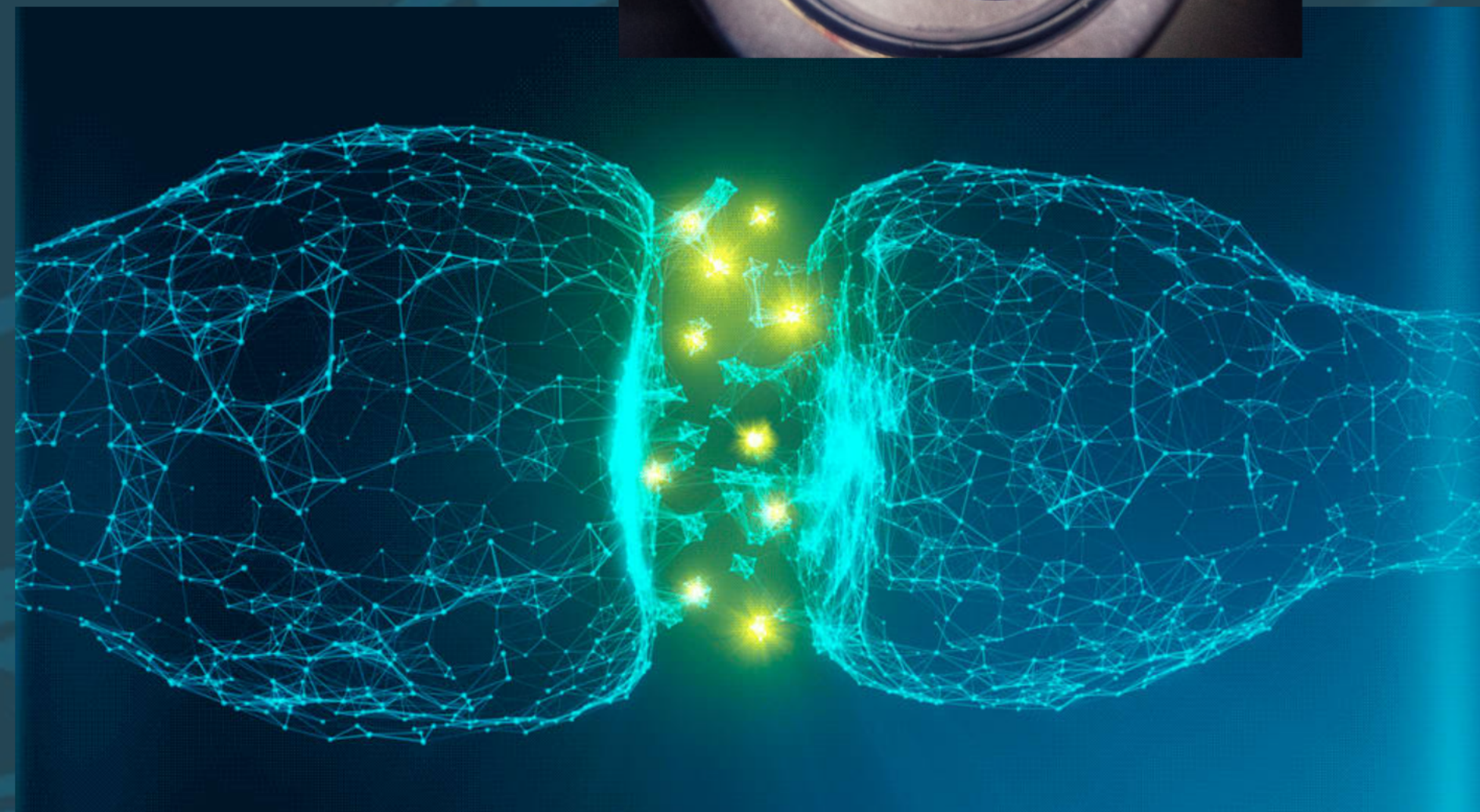
THE PUSH: THE HIDDEN WHIP

- Incept desire and encourage "expressivism"
- Nudge, don't push: convenience
- Tools: safety, anxiety, and implicit threat
- Make the programmed path comfortable and gradual
- Control truth with manufactured consensus, mythology of inevitability, information overload...

SPIRITUAL RESULT:

- Unwillingness to consider belief
- Unwillingness to believe
- Unwillingness to apply faith
- Inability to execute faithfulness
- Inability to persevere in hardship
- Rejection of development, maintenance or vigilance.

Mesolimbic Dopamine System



Attraction

Dopamine
Norepinephrine
Serotonin

Your brain's "dumb discipler" needs
to be disciplined.

P O I N T 4:

The way of Jesus is
uniquely inhibiting to
worldliness and
facilitating of godliness

THE ROMANCE OF JESUS

What do you really want?

Philippians 3:1 – 6 Moralism (self-righteousness)

Philippians 3:7 – 17 Romance (taking hold of Christ)

Philippians 3:18 – 19 Worldliness (self-indulgence)

THE PURPOSE OF JESUS

"I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me."

What is that?

"The righteousness that is from faith"

THE WAY OF JESUS

"learning to obey everything he has commanded."

Discipleship includes both transmission and imitation.

Worship, practice, and fellowship are integral.

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s c r e e n
STRONG

[RESOURCES ▾](#)[COURSES](#)[BLOG](#)[LOGIN](#)

The *Fastest* way to resolve **SCREEN** conflicts and build **STRONG** families

To be ScreenStrong is to make a
countercultural choice to move your child's
entertainment and social life from the online world
back to *the real in-person world.*



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