

When Jane Fonda said Covid was "God's gift to the Left," she gave everything away.

In case you doubted it before, doubt no longer. There are people who will exploit, or indeed in some cases even create, crises they can take advantage of to bring about the kind of radical social changes they favor.

If you read, for instance, what so many left-wing intellectuals in the United States were saying about the urgency of entering World War I, much of it had to do with the opportunity it would provide to create precedents involving the *domestic* use of political power, so as to acclimate Americans to a more vigorous and interventionist government at home.

It's all right there in the *New Republic* magazine from those years. "Why should not the war serve as a pretext to be used to foist innovations upon the country?" the magazine demanded to know.

Then, too, there are people who *want* artificially high gas prices, because they think those high prices can pave the way for their so-called green future.

It is time to consider the possibility that the people in charge aren't fools who don't know what they're doing, and are causing suffering by accident. They know very well what they are doing.

Woods, you say, that's too cynical.

But if it were just stupidity, wouldn't they occasionally, if even just by accident, do something sensible that doesn't hurt the average person?

Mere stupidity isn't this consistent.