



# REALity

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## TRUDEAU’S CREEPING TOTALITARIANISM

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Trudeau further centralizes power to his advantage.
- Left-of-centre Senators conform rather than provide independent, sober second-thought.
- Threats to freedom of expression; legislating politically unpopular views as hate speech.
- Trudeau punishes Canadians defending the unborn.

Trudeau’s authoritarian tendencies which led to the invoking of the dangerous Emergencies Act should not have been a surprise. There were a number of red flags waving since Trudeau became Prime Minister in 2015.

Some of these alarming red flags are as follows:

### • Destruction of Parliament

Parliament is being destroyed by the increasing centralization of power in the Prime Minister’s Office (PMO) and Privy Council Office (PCO). The latter advises the PMO, and carries out its policies. The move away from Parliament to the PMO is similar to the system started many years ago under long time Prime Minister Mackenzie King who resigned in 1949. It greatly increased under Trudeau Senior, whose disdain for Parliament’s traditions, duties and privileges, and for individual MPs themselves, was legendary. Justin Trudeau is no different.

Since Pierre Trudeau’s day, BOTH parties, Conservative and Liberal, have done much damage to Parliament by consolidating power in the hands of the Prime Minister, PMO and the PCO (bureaucracy). In doing so, they have stripped Parliament of the many checks and balances which have protected citizens from arbitrary and unaccountable abuse of power by the government.

Justin Trudeau has accelerated this dangerous process. He resents any obstruction to his agenda and therefore looks for any means to prevent mean-

ingful Parliamentary oversight and control. The following points are examples of Trudeau’s continuing the centralization of power in his hands and that of his unelected paid advisors and unaccountable bureaucrats:

### • Changes in the Role of the Cabinet

Under the parliamentary system, the cabinet has evolved, over the centuries, as the decision-making body of the government. Under this system, a minister is held responsible for a particular department, implementing the policies for which the government party was given a mandate through elections. Trudeau, however, has continued the practice of diminishing cabinet’s importance. He has removed any individual responsibility from cabinet members, and, instead, issued “mandate letters”, which are, effectively, marching orders for the ministers. Practically speaking, these mandate letters turn cabinet ministers into functionaries carrying out orders from Trudeau and his advisors. Cabinet ministers may no longer even choose their own staff, who are chosen by the PMO and PCO. As a result, the ministers’ staff are accountable directly to Trudeau and his advisors, not to the minister. This system also serves as an effective way to monitor the ministers’ activities to ensure that they conform to Trudeau’s wishes. In 2021, the Prime Minister spent \$10.5 million for personnel and \$9.4 million on staffing ministerial offices. The cost of this staffing was a 6.9% increase over the previous year.

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Typically, individuals appointed to Trudeau's cabinet have been inexperienced and unqualified for their role. They, however, share one singular characteristic, namely, that of unquestioning obedience to Trudeau. There are no grownups in Trudeau's cabinets.

- **Diminishing Presence of Parliament in the Political Process**

COVID-19 has served as an opportunity for Trudeau to curtail the presence of Parliament in Canada. Parliament has sat for an unprecedented short period of time over the past two years, supposedly because of the pandemic. Even when Parliament is in session, it has been a hybrid Parliament, whereby only a handful of MPs actually sit in person in the House of Commons. Others are required to participate remotely from their homes. This has provided Trudeau with an efficient way to reduce interactions from MPs over his policies and the government's performance.

- **Parliamentary Committees**

Trudeau has diminished the importance of parliamentary committees by allowing only a few witnesses to appear in person. Others wishing to provide information to the committees do so by a written brief. Those briefs are dutifully translated into both official languages, but are seldom, if ever, read by committee members in either language. Also, of the few witnesses permitted to appear in person, most support the bill. Few who object to the bill are requested to appear in person. Committee reviews of bills are fundamentally a farce, as the vote by MP committee members is no longer an independent one, but is dictated by the party. That is, MPs are obliged to vote at committee as instructed by the party leaders, and the MPs' conscience and perspective are irrelevant. Attending committee hearings is now similar to attending a play where you have previously read the script and already know the ending.

- **Diminishing the Senate**

In 2016, Trudeau announced that Liberal senators would, henceforth, no longer be members of his Liberal caucus, but would be "independent" senators. This was a ridiculous proposition since the Liberal Senators were still members of the Liberal Party and supported the party's policies. Trudeau has now appointed many more senators, who, without exception, are left-of-centre in perspective. Although not called "Liberal" senators, they clearly are just that, and in no way

independent of the party. The only time these recently appointed senators have raised objections to Liberal legislation and returned it to the House of Commons for further review occurred when they regarded a bill as not sufficiently "progressive". For example, when the bill amending the euthanasia bill, Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID), was before the Senate, the senators insisted that it be further widened to provide euthanasia for the mentally ill, even if such patients are not competent to provide a valid consent. Trudeau was happy to oblige the Senate.

Under Canada's founding Constitution, the *British North America Act (1867)*, the Senate was modeled after the British parliament with an upper house to govern, and provided a check and balance on the House of Commons. Providing regional representation across Canada, the Senate has often been described as "a chamber of sober second thought". Under Trudeau, the Senate has become a sea of Liberal lackeys, or "yes" men and women.

With Parliament diminished, is it any wonder that Trudeau's authoritarian and woke policies are receiving virtually no scrutiny or push back? The following are some of Trudeau's woke and dangerous policies:

- **Control of the Press**

Trudeau has given hundreds of millions of dollars to select media outlets across the country, as outlined in the December 2021 REALity article, "Trudeau's Manipulation of the Media". As a result, media outlets in Canada are moderating content and refusing to criticize the Liberal government and its policies. Such media are, instead, providing Trudeau with deference, refraining from reminding the public of his many gaffes, lack of judgement, and ethical violations. Why would they, with Trudeau's generous handouts?

- **Control of Free Speech**

Trudeau's agenda includes significant new restrictions on the ability of Canadians to exercise their constitutionally guaranteed right to free speech by controlling broadcasting communications and commercial internet. This will include oversight and specific sanctions on what Canadians can say, do or view online.

Streaming services and web-sharing platforms such as YouTube, Netflix, Spotify and Crave will become licensed, monitored and regulated by the Trudeau-appointed Canadian Radio Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC). In effect,

this bill gives sweeping jurisdiction over all audio-visual services to control and restrict their content. Freedom of thought and creativity are at stake.

In July 2021, the Trudeau government announced its plans to create a “Digital Safety Commissioner”, which will have the power to shut down any website deemed hateful or a threat to democracy. Legislation will apply to “online communication service providers” which the government defines as major social media platforms, such as Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok. The legislation will also provide a definition of the word “hate”, which is subjective and depends largely on the viewpoint of the beholder.

### • **Control of Public Demonstrations**

Under the guise of protecting health care workers in the performance of their duties, the Liberal government passed Bill C-3, *An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Canada Labour Code*, in December 2021. The bill is broadly written so that it will enable police to halt almost any demonstration on the basis that they are protecting lawful access to a place where “health services” are provided by health professionals. The bill specifically prohibits any conduct that intends to provoke a “state of fear” in a health care worker or prevent anyone from obtaining health care services. It is apparent that this bill can and will be used across the country to make pro-life demonstrations outside abortion clinics a criminal offence. The penalty for doing so is ten years in jail.

Trudeau believes he has the authority to determine “Canadian values”, even though with his wealthy, elite background, he has minimal experience associating with the lives of ordinary Canadians.

### • **Re-interpreting Canadian “values”**

In September 2021, the Trudeau government instructed the Minister of Finance to apply the *Income Tax Act* to remove the charitable tax status of any pro-life group or pregnancy counselling centre that pro-

vides “dishonest counselling” or misinformation. It does not take much imagination to know what constitutes Trudeau’s (and, therefore, the Minister of Finance’s) interpretation of “dishonest counselling” or misinformation. Any pro-life information will, henceforth, be regarded as “dishonest”. Trudeau has a limited understanding of the abortion issue, which he wrongly regards as a “right”. He has no understanding of its wider implications to humanity and to society. He has weaponized the *Income Tax Act* to, in effect, eliminate or at least curtail opposition to abortion in Canada.


This is not the first time that Trudeau has imposed his personal progressive ideas on Canadians. The government’s summer jobs program is another example. In 2017, in order to receive a grant under this program, the applicant was required to attest to his support for abortion. This caused a backlash (even the pro-abortion media thought the ideological test was offensive) so, Trudeau attempted to “modify” this summer jobs policy in 2018, but these amendments were meaningless since applicants were still required to support progressive social policies before being eligible for a grant.

Finally, Trudeau has provided Canada with euthanasia on request, eliminating safeguards to protect the vulnerable. The safeguard removed was the provision that euthanasia would only be permitted if the patient was terminally ill. Trudeau claimed he was required to remove this provision because of a provincial decision in Quebec which he was required to follow. This excuse was utter rubbish. Trudeau removed the provision because he wanted to, not because of any legal or constitutional considerations. Now, Canada has the widest access to euthanasia in the world.

### **CANADA IS NOT A DEMOCRACY**

Is Canada recognizable as a functioning Parliamentary democracy anymore? Canada looks more and more like a totalitarian state, ruled by one man and by one party. It is time to restore Parliament’s rights and privileges and bring back democracy. †

## **Save the date • Annual General Meeting • JUNE 18, 2022**

 REAL Women of Canada’s Annual General Meeting will take place on Saturday, June 18, 2022, 1:00pm – 4:30pm at Liberty Suites Hotel: 7191 Yonge Street, Suite 1201, Thornhill, ON L3T 0C4 (North of Steeles Ave—East Side of Yonge Street)

At last we can enjoy a “regular” in-person meeting. We are in the process of confirming our speaker.

Please keep the date open. We look forward to a good turnout of our members so that we will have an opportunity to meet many of you in person and chat informally.

Details to follow in the April issue of REALity. †

# TRUDEAU'S INEPT DECLARATION OF THE EMERGENCIES ACT

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau loathes anything or anyone who impedes his agenda. Consequently, Trudeau was in a fury when the Freedom Convoy travelled across Canada to protest his policies.

His reaction to this perceived insult to his authority was to declare a “public order emergency”, under the *Emergencies Act*, on February 14, 2022, which provided him with the power to, among other things: shut down public assemblies, conscript services (tow trucks to remove the vehicles stationed on Ottawa’s streets), and to freeze the bank accounts of those who contributed to the convoy. To impose the *Emergencies Act*, however, Trudeau had to first provide a reason for this monumental action.

Trudeau began with describing the protesters as a “fringe group” of “racist”, “hatemongers”, “misogynists”, “white supremacists”, who held “unacceptable views”. Trudeau clearly was attempting to vilify and marginalize the protesters to create public resentment and disgust. He was so angry at the protesters that he reacted like a playground bully, hurling mean-spirited insults at them on Twitter until he ran out of names. He accused them of anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, anti-black racism, homophobia and transphobia.

Trudeau refused to meet with the protesters because he claimed that they were supported by extremists and foreign funding. The Deputy Director of Intelligence, at the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC), refuted this. In February, Barry MacKillop told a meeting of the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security that there were no signs that what was happening in Ottawa was a form of ideologically motivated, violent extremism. Moreover, he further indicated that FINTRAC had not seen a “spike” in suspicious transactions associated with the convoy.

The mainstream, government-funded media in Canada jumped in to support Trudeau. They had nothing good or objective to say about the protesters and provided a distorted description of the situation.

Trudeau’s lies were supported by further lies from Public Safety Minister Marco Mendicino, who stated that the protesters are “a very small, organized group, driven by an ideology to overthrow the government through whatever means they may wish to use”. Former Governor of the Bank of Canada and the Bank of England, Mark Carney,

supported Trudeau by calling the protest “sedition” and “insurrection”. Carney claimed that the convoy’s goal was “undermining our democracy and the rule of law”. One thing you can always count on from Mark Carney is his extremist, left-wing positions, such as his strident objection to Brexit and his foolish and unsuccessful attempt to use the Bank of England to promote his own green, ecological views—which were no business of the bank at all.

The objective of imposing the *Emergencies Act* was to suppress opposition to Trudeau’s authoritarian policies surrounding COVID mandates and mandatory vaccinations and the denial of civil rights. The fact is that the *Emergencies Act* is intended to be used only in extreme cases, such as war or circumstances that “seriously endanger the lives, health or safety of Canadians”. In no way did the protest reach this level of danger to society.

Nonetheless, on February 14, 2022, Trudeau made a declaration of a “public order emergency” under the *Emergencies Act*, which was subsequently confirmed a short week later, on February 21<sup>st</sup>, by the House of Commons in a 185-151 vote. The Bloc Quebecois and the Conservatives voted against the motion, but the NDP, led by Jagmeet Singh, voted for it, not on the basis of any principle, but because the motion would be a no-confidence vote for Trudeau and could lead to a new election. Thus, Singh’s support was based solely on what was best for Singh, not the country. The NDP has no money to engage in an election, and Singh is also aware that NDP voter support is declining so that an election would result in a loss of seats for his party. This would mean that Singh would lose the power and influence he is currently exercising by propping up Trudeau’s minority government.

## THE EFFECT OF THE EMERGENCIES ACT

The declaration made under the *Emergencies Act* resulted in the arrests of the protest leaders and other peaceful protesters, the dispersal of the convoy, the seizure and the freezing of bank accounts, without court order, for those who have contributed to the protest (even those making small donations of \$20).

The declaration did not go well for Trudeau and the Liberal Party.

1. The biggest problem for Trudeau, was the provision which provided that bank accounts of those who



donated to the convoy could be frozen. This occurred in 210 bank accounts. The Canadian Banker's Association was alarmed with this provision as it undermined faith and trust in the security of the banking system.

This provision revealed how easy it was for the government to seize and control financial information. This could easily be extended to include credit cards, retirement accounts, insurance, loan access accounts, etc., all without due process. In short, this provision provided a digital identity and social tracking system for the government that has the potential to control citizens and businesses to conform to government policies. Digital identity is exactly what the Davos World Economic Forum (WEF) wants, and Justin Trudeau inadvertently broke the code of silence about their "Build Back Better" society, which is to create an efficient registration and compliance system to control the public.

2. Seven of the Canadian provinces objected to the declaration being made on the basis that it was not justified, and they requested that it not be applied to their provinces. The seven objecting provinces were Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, PEI, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec.

3. Alberta brought a legal challenge against the imposition of the Act, as did the Canadian Civil Liberties Association (CCLA), the Canadian Constitution Foundation (CCF), and the Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms (JCCF), before the federal court that the protests did not meet the threshold to invoke the Act. These groups are continuing with their court actions because they want the word "emergency" properly defined, as they do not want a future government to invoke it, as Trudeau has done to stop a protest.

4. Trudeau was unable to provide any intelligence or facts to the House of Commons to support his position that the government/state of Canada had been endangered by the protests. The Senate, although consisting of a large number of Trudeau-appointed, left-of-centre individuals, was also troubled by the lack of intelligence and facts to support the imposition of the Act. When the debate began in the Senate, on Tuesday February 22<sup>nd</sup>, to confirm the declaration, a number of senators from all parties started asking hard questions and demanded to see the information that the government relied upon in making the declaration. When it became clear that the Senate was not going to rubber stamp the declaration, Trudeau revoked the declaration on Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> rather than face defeat in the Senate.

5. Conservative Interim Leader Candice Bergen

signed a motion to revoke the government's declaration, under s. 59 of the *Emergencies Act*, that provides at least ten Senators or at least twenty MPs may make a motion to revoke a declaration made under the Act. This motion would have ensured another debate on the imposition of the Act, which Trudeau was reluctant to face since it would require him to explain why he was continuing to enforce a national state of emergency when it appeared that there were no longer any protests in Ottawa and all the borders had been cleared.

6. A poll by Mainstreet Research showed a growing backlash against Justin Trudeau and the Liberals in regard to the invocation of the *Emergencies Act*. According to the poll, the Liberals were at 31%, but the Conservatives, who supported the protest, were up 10 data points at 39%. The NDP appeared to be paying a price for backing Trudeau on the *Emergencies Act* as its support fell from 17% to 15%.

The polls showed that, despite the Trudeau government and the media's attempts to paint the protest as an extremist movement, they had failed.

7. Not only was Trudeau's popularity crashing domestically but also internationally. Trudeau, who imagines himself to be the world's leader in progressive policies was mocked and ridiculed around the world for his pretentious and failed attempt to assert control over Canadians. The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, UK Economist and Financial Times, respected influential publications with global audiences, criticized Trudeau for imposing the *Emergencies Act*. For a narcissist like Trudeau, this was a serious blow. He wanted to put the episode of the *Emergencies Act* behind him.

On February 23, 2022, Trudeau revoked the *Emergencies Act*, less than 48 hours after it was passed in Parliament.

## CONCLUSIONS

While debate over this sad chapter of Canadian history has only just begun, it is not too early to draw some preliminary conclusions. First and foremost, is that this was never a "public order emergency" but rather a "Trudeau/Liberal political emergency", entirely of Trudeau's making. As Candice Bergen noted in her statement, respecting the revocation of the declaration, "Trudeau introduced it in the first place for his personal, political gain. He revoked it now for the very same reason."

Second, the underlying causes of the Freedom Convoy's protest were unreasonable COVID

mandates and restrictions, and the denial of civil rights for Canadians. The convoy consisted of ordinary Canadians who, after two years of government and media lies, are fed up with the disconnect between themselves and the government.

The last two years' incompetence leading up to this point is a clear indication of not only the need for greater transparency and accountability, but also the need for real change in our politicians and government/media institutions. †

## POLLING BEFORE AND AFTER THE FREEDOM CONVOY & THE INVOCATION OF THE EMERGENCIES ACT

Polling Before and After the Freedom Convoy and the Invocation of the Emergencies Act

In January 2022, Nanos Research found that the Conservative and Liberal parties had ballot support of 28.5% and 28.2% respectively. Mainstreet Research also found almost identical results in their poll.

After the encampment of truckers in the Freedom Convoy on Wellington Street in front of Parliament Hill, and the invocation of the Emergencies Act on February 14, another poll, by Mainstreet Research, was taken. With data from February 16-17, researchers found that when asked for whom they would vote if an election was held that day, 39% chose the Conservatives and 31% chose the Liberals.

On the day that Prime Minister Trudeau invoked the Emergencies Act, February 14, Maru Public Opinion Polls released a study based on data collected between February 9-10. Their findings are extremely troubling for Prime Minister Trudeau.

Close to half, 48%, of Canadians think the Prime

Minister "has demonstrated that he is not up to the job of being prime minister", according to data.

63% of Canadians did not think "the Prime Minister has made them want to vote for him because of how he has dealt with the situation."

65% of Canadians did not think Trudeau "looked strong in acting to stop the protests."

Only 29% of respondents thought he acted like a prime minister should in face of the Freedom Convoy trucker's protest.

Nationally, 31% "blame Trudeau the most for the incitement and escalation of the protests", with a high of 44% in Alberta. Only 7% blamed the leaders of the Conservative Party the most.

Later, Maru polled Canadians in an online survey on February 16-17, and found that 54% of Canadians said they were "ashamed" of how politicians allowed the protests to "get out of hand." According to 71% of respondents, the events were an "international embarrassment" for Canada. †



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