



Written by [Alex Newman](#) on June 3, 2026

Extreme Division Leading US to “Civil Unrest” & “Financial Collapse,” Warns Ex-WH Economist

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The increasing polarization and radicalization in American politics is leading the nation to civil unrest, financial collapse, and war, warned former White House economist and lawman Mike ter Maat in an explosive interview on Conversations That Matter with The New American magazine Senior Editor Alex Newman.



Ter Maat, who served in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and edited a book about the danger he sees coming, said the incentive structure for American politicians is leading America to the brink. Part of the problem is the social media ecosystem that isolates people in an echo chamber. Part of it is the party system, said the former VP candidate for the Libertarian Party.

But it's not too late to pull back from the brink and restore unity in America. The dehumanization of others must end. Americans must realize that politicians “work for us.” And they must impose common sense, pro-liberty values on the political class, warned ter Maat.

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