



## Childhood (Childish) Games 12/16/23

As a child, we played a game called Telephone. I hope some of you remember it. The first person whispers a short story to the person next to him. The second person does the same with the third person and so on. The last person then openly announces what he or she heard. Typically, it has no relation to what was first whispered.

This game bears a strong resemblance to our foreign policy, at least as to how it impacts relations with China and Russia. **What they say to us bears no relation to what they say to their countrymen. We need to pay more attention to what they say internally.**

For example, China speaks to us in moderate tones, extending a hand of cooperation. Yet internally, Xi speaks of the fact that **“all mankind needs a new order that surpasses and supplants the balance of power...”**\*

That’s the least hostile statement addressed to the West. He goes on to say: **“to use war as a means to protect our core national interests is not in contradiction with the path of peaceful development; moreover, it is a manifestation of the Marxist view of warfare.”**\*

We have misheard them. It is time that Yellen, the Administration, and even the President all wake up and start to get tough with China. **It will only get harder as time passes**

\*From Strategic Support for Achieving the Great Chinese Rejuvenation, one in a series of official texts on “Xi Jinping Thought” (2018)