

# **Cultural War**

**by Phillip W. Weiss**

**The United States is the midst of a cultural war. What is at stake is the survival of middle-class values. Many forms of behavior that not too long ago were considered taboo and even criminal, are now tolerated, accepted, and even embraced as being good. These conducts include but are not limited to non-traditional relationships, sports gambling, use of illicit drugs, public intoxication, vagrancy, the reckless operation of bicycles, and the demonization of the police and law and order in general. Anyone who opposes this cultural shift risks incurring the wrath from those for whom the principle of free speech means nothing. The erosion of middle-class values has produced a climate of lawlessness which to a large degree is responsible for the sharp increase in violent street crime, including gun violence, which is getting WORSE. If you agree with CUSNY on this issue, please let us know. We greatly value your input on this important issue which directly affects EVERY person in the United States.**

**Now, every person has a right to make their own personal lifestyle choices based upon their own personal set of values, but when personal lifestyle choices based on whatever set of values places in any way and to any degree the safety of the public at risk, then those personal lifestyle choices become a legitimate subject for public debate. For instance, if someone CHOOSES to live on the street or CHOOSES to inject dangerous drugs or CHOOSES to operate a bicycle in a reckless manner or**

**CHOOSES to perform a bodily function in public or CHOOSES to smoke a tobacco or other product in a crowded subway car, those personal choices become a legitimate subject for public scrutiny and concern.**

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