

Webisode 57DHYAFH December 18 2025 This Is What Presidential Panic Looks Like

In Webisode 57DHYAFH 1 This Is What Presidential Panic Looks Like 2 What Trump said in his prime time speech 3 Trump announces Federal Pardon of Tina Peters but that Pardon does not apply to her State of Colorado Conviction 4 Fact Checking The Trump Prime Time Address on the Economy The president cited misleading statistics to insist wrongly that prices were coming down 5 What is going on with the health of Donald Trump? 6 Trump Social and Fusion Energy Business Partnership 7 Arizona Phoenix He Tried to Protect His Son From Bullies He Did not Know How Far They Would Go 8 Canada Population Shrinks Amid Tightened Immigration 9 China Flying Taxis? China Has Them And Drone Lunch Deliveries Too China experiments in clean energy can feel like living in the future Even when things do not quite work 10 Taiwan Birthrates Are Falling but Do not Blame Dogs in Strollers 11 12 and 13 Headlines Main Content

1 Washington DC This Is What Presidential Panic Looks Like Donald Trump delivered a fear drenched rant live from the White House Donald Trump delivers a live address from the White House **RAWSEP Top Excerpt** He hurled one lie after another into the camera We could take apart The Trump fake facts as checkers and pundits will do in the next few days **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization** The Atlantic December 17 2025 The president of the United States just barged into American living rooms like an angry confused grandfather to tell us all that we are ungrateful whelps When a president asks for network time it is usually to announce something important But tonight Donald Trump did not give anything like a normal speech or address He was clearly working from a prepared text but it sounded like one he had written or dictated angrily himself because it was full of bizarre howlers that even The Trump second rate speech writing shop would probably have avoided such as his assertion that inflation when he took office was the worst it had been in 48 years Why did he pick 1977 as a benchmark? Who knows But he has wrong He read the speech quickly his voice rising in frustration as he hurled one lie after another into the camera We could take apart The Trump fake facts as checkers and pundits will do in the next few days But perhaps more important than false statements which for Trump are par for the course was his demeanor Americans saw a president drenched in panic as he tried to bully an entire nation into admitting he has doing a great job For 20 minutes he vented his hurt feelings without a molecule of empathy or awareness Economic concerns? Shut up you fools the economy is doing fine And if it is not it is not his fault it is Biden Foreign policy jitters? Zip it you wimps America is strong and respected

2 Washington DC What Trump said in his prime time speech **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization** PBS News December 17 2025 President Donald The Trump address to the nation was a prime time attempt to seize control of the narratives that suggest he has lost the trust of voters on the economy Addressing this anxiety and more Trump was blunt from the start of his speech about who to blame for the woes of America Eleven months ago I inherited a mess and I am fixing it he said placing the blame squarely on his predecessor President Biden and Democratic policies on border security inflation and health care that he claimed his administration has been working to correct this year But the American fortunes will change Trump said He touted a number of data points and metrics on falling prices and improved job numbers among other topics though it is not clear what sources he and the

White House were referencing Trump also previewed some policy items on his to do list in 2026 such as bonus checks for US troops and a way to drive down drug prices As 2025 draws to a close Trump is underwater While he gave himself an A with five plusses on handling the economy Americans graded him with new record low marks in the latest PBS News NPR Marist poll Affordability is top of the minds of voters as more signs emerge of a cooling labor market and tariffs raise prices Trump gets worst economic ratings ever in new poll as Americans worry about affordability

3 Washington DC Trump announces Federal Pardon of Tina Peters but that Pardon does not apply to her State of Colorado Conviction **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization** Heather Cox Richardson December 18 2025 Trump has repeatedly attacked Colorado Governor Polis a Democrat since his refusal to pardon former Colorado election official Tina Peters convicted by a jury for state crimes in facilitating a data breach in her quest to overturn the 2020 presidential election Peters is serving a nine year prison sentence On December 11 Trump granted Peters a full pardon but since presidents cannot issue pardons for state crimes that means little unless Polis also pardons her Democracy Docket reported on escalating calls for violence to free Peters coming from prominent right wing figures Talking Points Memo posted after the threat to close NCAR that he was hearing this is payback for Colorado not honoring Trump Peters pardon Former special counsel Jack Smith testified today behind closed doors before the House Judiciary Committee about his investigation into The Trump attempt to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election Chair Jim Jordan R OH subpoenaed Smith earlier this month rejecting the Smith offer to testify in public Jordan was among those claiming to be outraged at the news that Smith had obtained the call records of nine congressional Republicans related to the Trump attempt to overturn the results of the election After Smith testified ranking member of the Judiciary Committee Jamie Raskin Democrat of Maryland said Jordan made an excellent Decision in not allowing Jack Smith to testify publicly because had he done so it would have been absolutely devastating to the president and all the Trump men involved in the insurrectionary activities of January 6

4 Fact Checking The Trump Prime Time Address on the Economy The president cited misleading statistics to insist wrongly that prices were coming down **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization** The New York Times December 17 2025 Trump praised what he portrayed as the economic gains under his administration in an address from the White House on Wednesday even as consumers express concerns about affordability and voice discontent over how he has handled the economy I am bringing those high prices down and bringing them down very fast Let us look at the facts Trump said before ticking off a litany of misleading claims Here is a look at those facts What Was Said When I took office inflation was the worst in 48 years and some would say in the history of our country False Inflation had already fallen to 3 percent in January when Trump took office Inflation did reach a four decade high in the summer of 2022 at about 9 point 1 percent that June but had Declined since then That number was also not a record inflation reached higher points in the 1910s 1970s and 1980s What Was Said The price of a Thanksgiving turkey was down 33 percent compared to the Biden last year The price of eggs is down 82 percent since March and everything else is falling rapidly and it is not done yet This is exaggerated Trump may have been referring to and overstating a report from the

American Farm Bureau which estimated that the cost of a turkey at the grocery store before Thanksgiving had Declined by 16 percent this year from last year But wholesale turkey prices had actually risen this year according to data from the Agriculture Department and a Purdue University report This is likely because turkeys are known as loss leaders or items that retailers may sell at a loss to entice consumers to the store On eggs Trump is correct that the wholesale price of eggs had fallen from more than 8 dollars a dozen in late February to 1 point 45 dollars last week a Decline of more than 80 percent The retail price of eggs Declined less sharply about 44 percent from March to September the month with the most recent data available Trump was also wrong that everything else is falling rapidly In fact the Consumer Price Index rose by 3 percent in September What Was Said Gasoline is now under 2 point 50 dollars a gallon into much of the country In some states it by the way just hit 1 point 99 dollars a gallon This is exaggerated Nationally gas prices averaged 2 point 90 dollars per gallon in the week ending December 15 according to the Energy Information Administration a government statistical agency Estimates from nongovernment trackers like GasBuddy and AAA were similar It is possible that specific gas stations have prices as low as Trump heralded But according to AAA just four states had average gas prices below 2 point 50 dollars Wednesday with Oklahoma reporting the lowest average price at 2 point 34 dollars a gallon There were no states with average gas prices below 2 dollars What Was Said Already I have secured a record breaking 18 trillion dollars of investment into the United States False The Trump 18 trillion dollars is almost double what his own White House press office has tallied 9 point 6 trillion dollars It also includes broad pledges and previously announced projects And more than half of that amount comes from informal pledges from foreign countries to invest in the United States that experts warn may be unrealistic For example Qatar and the United Arab Emirates each pledged more than 1 trillion dollars in investments which is more than their gross domestic products Previous pledges in The Trump first term may also show the amorphous nature of such promises A 2017 pledge from Saudi Arabia to buy 450 billion dollars of American products did not fully materialize What Was Said We wrapped 12 different bills up into one beautiful bill that includes no tax on tips no tax on overtime and no tax on Social Security for our great seniors This is exaggerated The Trump signature domestic policy law which he signed over the summer creates deductions for tips and overtime but those breaks are temporary And its tax reductions for Social Security benefits are even more limited The law allows workers to deduct tips and overtime pay from the 2025 to 2028 tax years The deductions are capped at 25 thousand dollars and 12 thousand 500 dollars and Decrease for individuals making more than 150 thousand dollars a year It also creates a deduction of 6 thousand dollars or seniors phasing out for higher incomes and expiring in 2028 That is not quite eliminating all taxation on benefits An analysis from the Council of Economic Advisers an executive branch agency estimated that under the 6 thousand dollar deduction 88 percent of Social Security beneficiaries over 65 would pay no taxes on their benefits That is an increase from the 64 percent who previously paid no taxes according to the same report but still omits 12 percent or more than seven million seniors over 65 Additionally Social Security beneficiaries under 65 millions of disabled people young survivors and early retirees do not qualify for the deduction

5 Washington DC Trump Health What is going on with the health of Donald Trump? The Trump appearance and schedule have sparked speculation perhaps fueled in part by his political fortunes Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization The Guardian December 18 2025 Is

Trump OK? Recently he has looked tired. His famous fake tan is a bit more sallow than usual and seems painted on more thickly and clumsily than it was before. He appears to nod off in front of cameras more and more often including in cabinet meetings and press events in the Oval Office. His public schedule is light; he is often at his golf clubs, has traveled around the country less frequently than at this point in his first term, and now only rarely holds the stadium rallies that once defined his preferred style of politics. He tends to sit even when others are standing and has shortened his daily schedule, often not conducting official duties before noon. His public appearances have declined by nearly 40 percent compared to his first year in office. He sometimes disappears from public view for days. His right hand seems to be experiencing frequent injury or discoloration; it will often be covered with a band aid or smeared with makeup. The White House has claimed implausibly that he is bruised from shaking too many hands. His ankles are visibly swollen. Trump at 79 is the oldest man to ever be elected to the presidency. And he ascended to the office after making his own harsh criticisms of Joe Biden, whose age became the subject of scandal after stiff stumbling and incoherent public appearances provoked speculation that his staff were concealing the extent of his decline. In 2024 Trump made the Biden age and infirmity into a symbol of the inadequacy of the Democratic party and the unwillingness of Washington elites to combat the American backward slide. When he took office early in 2025 he placed a picture of an autopen in the place where the Biden official portrait would have been on the presidential walk of fame that Trump installed. The notion was that Biden, too old to hold the office, was out to lunch, running the administration on autopilot. It would be irresponsible to attempt to diagnose him here. But Trump is mortal and he is old. His reign is going to end. If Trump seems weak physically, then it might in part be because he is at his weakest politically. The changing winds of public opinion have now seemed to quiet Trump's ambitions to seek an unconstitutional third term. Republicans are less willing to stick their necks out to help Trump attempt something so obviously illegal when his own ability to pull it off seems so slim. Trump is a lame duck. US democracy is not safe. The Trump increasingly obvious mortality is beginning to change the calculations of everyone. Even it seems his own. Trump seems increasingly ponderous and reflective in his old age, and lately he has been talking about death more often. I think I am not maybe heaven bound, he said in October. I am not sure if I am going to be able to make heaven.

6 Washington DC. Trump Social and Fusion Energy Business Partnership. Truth Social Parent to Merge With Nuclear Fusion Firm in 6 Billion Dollar Deal. Trump Media & Technology Group, the social media and crypto company part owned by President Trump, said it would help develop a utility scale fusion power plant. Trump Media & Technology Group is the parent company of Truth Social, a social media platform that has struggled to gain widespread traction. Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates, a 501C3 nonprofit organization.

The New York Times, December 18, 2025. The Trump social media company, which recently expanded into streaming and cryptocurrency, is now looking to become a fusion power company. Trump Media & Technology Group and TAE Technologies, a fusion power company, said Thursday they had agreed to an all-stock merger valued at more than 6 billion dollars. The deal would be a total transformation for Trump Media, the parent company of Truth Social, a social media platform that has struggled to gain market share beyond serving as the main online megaphone for President Trump. The loss-making company generated about 2.7 million dollars in revenue in the first nine months of the year, mostly via advertising. Its once high-flying stock has been flagging, falling about 69 percent this year before the merger announcement. The announcement provided a jolt to Trump Media shares, which opened more than 20

percent higher on Thursday. President Trump is the largest shareholder in the company, owning a large stake worth more than 1 billion dollars, though it was once worth more than 4 billion dollars. His shares are held in a trust managed by his eldest son, Donald Trump Jr., who is a Trump Media board member. Donald Trump did not immediately comment on the deal on Truth Social. **The merger would create one of the first publicly traded nuclear fusion companies in the world, according to a news release.** **Some tech companies are looking at fusion, a still experimental technology, as a clean energy source that could help feed the electricity thirst of AI data centers.** The deal is likely to draw scrutiny as it would indirectly put Donald Trump in competition with other companies looking to fuel and profit from the AI revolution. Companies tied to AI have fueled a surge in the stock market this year but also have raised concern about the **technology eliminating jobs** in scores of industries. The merged companies **plan to create the first utility scale fusion power plant in 2026** and aim to build additional plants in the future, according to a news release. **Fusion power will be the most dramatic energy breakthrough since the onset of commercial nuclear energy in the 1950s.** Devin Nunes, the chief executive of Trump Media, said in the announcement. It is unclear if the merger would need any additional regulatory approval beyond basic clearance by the Securities and Exchange Commission. Producing energy through nuclear fusion, the process that powers stars, is a long elusive dream among scientists. Fusion uses fuels that are abundant **eliminates the risk of meltdowns and produces no long term radioactive waste.** It could produce power that is free of carbon emissions and available around the clock. Government laboratories have achieved several tantalizing demonstrations of fusion in recent years. But the process is enormously complicated to initiate and control, and developing machines that can do it consistently and affordably enough to power a grid could require technological advancements that have yet to be made and perhaps even materials that have yet to be invented. > Even so, several fusion startups now say they are close to building commercial plants. Commonwealth Fusion Systems, a spinoff from research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is aiming to build and generate power from a plant in Chesterfield County, Virginia, in the early 2030s. Helion Energy, a startup backed by the OpenAI chief Sam Altman, has started building a fusion plant in Washington State that is expected to supply power to Microsoft data centers by 2028. The chief executive of TAE said that advancements at the company had reached the point where **We are ready to move to utility scale fusion power,** he said, adding that the plan was to have first power in 2031. China is investing heavily in fusion research as part of its efforts to power more of its economy with clean sources. Government and private investors poured 2.1 billion dollars this year into a new state-owned fusion company in Shanghai, and government labs are building cutting edge facilities for fusion experiments. The United States, by contrast, has focused its fusion efforts on supporting the growth of the private fusion industry rather than expanding federally funded research initiatives. TAE, originally called Tri Alpha Energy, was founded in 1998. TAE has built five fusion reactors to date and had raised more than 1.3 billion dollars over the years, mostly recently in a June funding round backed by Chevron and Google among others. The British government recently announced a joint venture with TAE on fusion technology. Trump Media came into existence in early 2021. Later that year, it announced a merger with a cash-rich public shell company known as a special purpose acquisition company. It then rolled out Truth Social, which has emerged as the Donald Trump main online platform for communicating with the world. But Truth Social has struggled to gain market share or advertising dollars. The company has recently diversified into cryptocurrency, raising 2.5 billion dollars to invest in Bitcoin, and it is also working to bring crypto-related exchange traded funds or ETFs to market. If

the merger is completed Trump Media plans to provide up to 300 million dollars to TAE Technologies and shareholders of both companies would each own approximately 50 percent of the combined company the announcement said Devin Nunes and Donald Trump Junior would remain on the combined nine member board of both companies

7 Arizona Phoenix He Tried to Protect His Son From Bullies He Did not Know How Far They Would Go R moved his family to Gilbert in part because of the low crime rate of the area After his son was repeatedly attacked R reached out to his suburban school to the police and to other parents The violence only got worse Photo of T with his father R in Gilbert Arizona **RAWSEP View** The word bully should be the word of the year of 2025 as those who retired it on adulthood had to revamp it to fit Trump 2 point 0 **Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents**

**Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization** The New York Times December 16 2025 Nearly five years ago in November 2020 R Kuehner opened the door of his Arizona apartment to find a uniformed cop standing outside Next to him was his son T aged 14 T was arrested for trying to break into a parked car The other boy was a high school student already well known to the police The schools were good the median income was high and crime rates were low all reasons he had chosen to move to Gilbert in the first place In addition to the pressures of class work and competitive swimming R knew that his son was still processing his divorce from the mother of T and the Decision of his mother to move to the west side of Phoenix So instead of issuing punishment as his own parents might have done he secured a promise from Tristan that he would stay away from his friend Tr was never charged with a crime and R resolved to put the incident behind them This turned out to be easier said than done In the coming days T and his friend became embroiled in a heated exchange T the friend believed had snitched on him to the police In fact it had been R who pointed a finger at the other boy I gave them a statement saying basically that T had been pressured into it R said I thought the cops should know that I was being a good dad you know? I was trying to protect my son R believes that trusting that at school T would be kept safe was probably a mistake The Former Friend challenged Tristan to a 60 second fistfight at a bus stop T made a counterproposal of 15 seconds they settled on 25 Tristan took several punches before being shoved into a bush Bruised and bleeding from scratches on his arms he managed to reach his phone and call his father I got there and Tristan is splayed out on his back R recalled He could not move his body I had to carry him to the passenger seat of my car It was clear that this was escalating in a frightening way He drove T back to their apartment where the boy was interviewed by the Gilbert police In a report an officer wrote that he asked T why he did not just walk or run away rather than agree to fight He replied that his friend was faster than him and he would have chased after him and assaulted him anyways In a separate conversation the officer interviewed the mother of the friend the friend had been recently detained at a juvenile detention center in Phoenix for a different infraction She was not sure when he would be out but she was planning to enroll him in a military academy Years later there was another assault on T Another lawsuits by parents of a boy named L who was killed which has since been settled named four other participants in the assault on T including F who was arrested for his role in the later attack on Tristan and two of the teenagers awaiting trial in the murder of Lord I still talk to the dad of L R told the reporter in August 2025 I try to support him he said but it is hard because it is like Man your son is gone Mine is not I cannot imagine that feeling Of course in a different way a very different way my son is gone too here I am missing the crucial years of his life when a kid needs his father I feel like I have let him down The sentencing of the

participants in the In and Out assault have helped he allowed Still I will be honest It does not feel like enough R told me He and his attorneys filed a lawsuit against 17 former East Valley students and 26 of their parents or guardians who are described in the suit as liable for the campaign of their children of willful or malicious conduct The filing is purposefully broad It names the perpetrators in the attack on T but also teenagers who have not been accused by law enforcement of directly attacking T They are part of what the suit calls a conspiracy to commit assault and battery on innocent and unsuspecting teenagers Separately R has sued local school leadership and the Gilbert Police Department for 6 million dollars for engaging in a pattern of gross negligence and for failing to protect T and others But the lawsuits have not provided R the closure he hoped for while some of the defendants have chosen to settle several of the claims including the one against the L family have been dismissed I truly believe that if parents had gotten a grip on what was going on through 2022 and 2023 if the schools had if the police had L would still be alive R told the reporter If you had had arrests that would have been a deterrent It would have sent a message Instead he continued sort of the opposite thing happened A kid died and then everyone woke up To R the underlying issue was one of reactivity versus proactivity a phrase I heard him use often You had the city and the schools essentially sweeping this stuff under the rug he said Hoping it would go away Hoping it was just kids being kids It was understandable that R would want to frame it that way a neat clear cut interpretation of a series of events that were anything but The story was considerably more tangled and convoluted in a manner that could be repeated in other jurisdictions with other kids The circumstances that led to the brief epidemic of teen violence that ensnared T are not unique police with limited knowledge of how teens interact parents unsure of what is going on overworked school administrators struggling to get a grip on harassment that seeps between digital platforms and the schoolyard The attacks on T were linked to a larger epidemic of bullying in the East Valley area of Phoenix

8 Canada Population Shrinks Amid Tightened Immigration The government has greatly restricted the number of work and study permits issued to foreigners following an unpopular immigration boom during the pandemic Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization The New York Times December 17 2025 The population of Canada has Declined driven by a drop in immigration new census data shows as the federal government tries to limit the number of international students allowed into the country The population of Canada now stands at just under 41 point 6 million people Decreasing by about 76 thousand people or 0 point 18 percent over the last quarter according to demographic estimates published Wednesday by Statistics Canada the census agency That follows nearly a year of virtually zero population growth agency data shows The last time the Canada population Decreased on a quarterly basis was at the end of 2020 when border restrictions in response to the Covid 19 pandemic were in place The agency attributed the population Decrease to a reduced number of arrivals of nonpermanent residents While the dip was small it was the largest Decline since 1946 as Canada like much of Europe and Asia struggles with falling birthrates and has become dependent on immigration for growth The population dip is a stark reversal from immigration milestones hit in the later stages of the pandemic after border restrictions eased again especially in 2023 when Canada grew by over one million people in a single year for the first time in its history because of newcomers The caps on foreigners have started to strain colleges and universities which rely on the higher tuition fees paid by international students and some business owners who count on temporary worker programs for cheaper

labor The new data show that foreign student permits issued by the government Decreased by almost 74 thousand between July and September primarily in Ontario and British Columbia the two most populous English speaking provinces

9 China Flying Taxis? China Has Them And Drone Lunch Deliveries Too China experiments in clean energy can feel like living in the future Even when things do not quite work Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization The New York Times December 17 2025 As an American reporter living in Beijing I have watched both China and the rest of the world flirt with cutting edge technologies involving robots drones and vehicles that drive themselves But China has now raced far beyond the flirtation stage It is rolling out fleets of autonomous delivery trucks experimenting with flying cars and installing parking lot robots that can swap out your EV dying battery in just minutes There are drones that deliver lunch by lowering it from the sky on a cable If all that sounds futuristic and perhaps bizarre it also shows the China ambition to dominate clean energy technologies of all kinds not just solar panels or battery powered cars then sell them to the rest of the world China has incurred huge debts to put trillions of dollars into efforts like these along with the full force of its state planned economy These ideas while ambitious do not always work smoothly as I learned after taking a bullet train to Hefei a city the size of Chicago to see what it is like to live in this vision of tomorrow Hefei is one of many cities where technologies like these are getting prototyped in real time I checked them all out The battery swapping robots the delivery trucks that drive themselves the lunches from the sky Starting with flying taxis no pilot on board Hefei is one of the first Chinese cities to issue permits for what are basically flying cars So I booked a ride Many Chinese cities have not only replaced diesel buses with electric ones but are also experimenting with hydrogen powered buses And driverless buses And driverless garbage trucks And driverless vending machines One such vending machine was operating in the Hefei park where we ordered our drone lunches According to a nearby hot dog vendor the brightly lit four wheeler drove into the park every morning though always accompanied by a person on a bike who made sure nothing went wrong A robotic snack machine that needs a chaperone how practical is that? But the fact that they are rolling around the streets of Hefei at all says something about the China willingness to test the boundaries of transportation technologies Some ideas may not work out and others might suit China but not travel well For example Beijing can essentially order arrow straight rail lines to be built almost to the heart of urban areas with little concern for what is in the way Other countries cannot replicate that Chinese built bullet trains in Nigeria and Indonesia which travel from the suburbs of one city to the next have not proven nearly as popular Still China shows a willingness to take risks that other countries may not In San Francisco the death of a bodega cat killed by a taxi that drove itself has hurt the industry image But in China fleets of similar cars are operating widely and censors delete reports of accidents The cars are improving their software and gaining experience As for me after several days putting the Hefei idea of the future to the test it was time to head for my next reporting assignment in Nanjing By bullet train of course Other related headlines about China driverless vehicles Inside the China drive to dominate clean energy There is a Race to Power the Future China Is Pulling Away Beijing is selling clean energy to the world Washington is pushing oil and gas Both are driven by national security June 30 2025 Chinese Car Giants Rush Into Brazil With Dreams of Dominating a Continent As the likes of Ford and Mercedes retreat Great Wall Motor and BYD are building factories and bringing affordable EVs and hybrids to one of the biggest markets in the world July 21 2025 In the Quest for Clean Energy China Went

From Copycat to Creator A surge in high quality research and patent applications has cemented the China dominance in the industry August 14 2025 Why China Built 162 Square Miles of Solar Panels on the Highest Plateau in the world China is using the high altitude expanse for immense solar panel farms and wind turbines and has begun work on the largest hydroelectric dams in the world October 10 2025 How China Powers Its Electric Cars and High Speed Trains China is building a network of ultrahigh voltage power lines to carry solar and wind energy hundreds and even thousands of miles as few citizens dare to protest October 11 2025 China is Outpacing the US on Nuclear Power an American Invention The United States was once the undisputed leader in atomic energy Now it is trying to catch up October 22 2025 The Ford Car of the Future Hatched in a Skunk Works Near Los Angeles Desperate to catch up with Chinese automakers Ford is redesigning its fleet with a Silicon Valley style team Is it too late? December 11 2025

10 Taiwan Birthrates Are Falling but Do not Blame Dogs in Strollers New research suggests that having a pet can actually make people more likely to become parents A South Korean official said young couples were choosing pets over children but it might not be that simple Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates a 501C3 nonprofit organization The New York Times December 18 2025 Are pets crowding out babies? As concern grows over the global fertility crisis people who chose to have dogs or cats but not children have become a popular scapegoat In many cities it is not uncommon to see pets dressed in fancy outfits pushed around in strollers These pampered animals the theory goes have become replacements for human children contributing to plummeting birthrates In 2022 Pope Francis called people who choose pets over children selfish and warned that childlessness would contribute to a demographic winter It is not hard to find evidence of the cultural shift A festival in Japan that honors birthdays of children has undergone a pet friendly revamp allowing dogs to receive blessings as well At a celebration in Tokyo this year a shrine honored 350 dogs many of whom were dressed in elaborate kimonos and just 50 children But a new working paper suggests that the conventional wisdom is wrong at least in Taiwan where the birthrate is one of the lowest in the world Researchers found that rather than replacing children pets are actually more likely to be a steppingstone to having them To figure out if people in Taiwan were actually replacing babies with stroller puppies the researchers drew on government data on pet and birth registrations tracking the timing and correlation of those life events for millions of households The data showed that people with pets particularly dogs were actually more likely than those who were not pet owners to go on to have children To the researchers this strongly suggested that people who were considering having children wanted to try pet ownership first perhaps as a lower risk way of figuring out if they were suited to parenthood The takeaway here is not that we should be handing out puppies to boost the birthrate Nor is one working paper on one country evidence that the same pattern would play out elsewhere But the study should give pause to those who are quick to blame falling birthrates on individual Decisions In reality falling birthrates have multiple causes many of them economic The effective cost of having children has risen steeply as standards of living have increased At the same time intensive parenting norms mean that parents in most developed countries now spend roughly twice as much time on child care as they did in the 1960s And as the economic opportunities of women have improved making it easier for them to support themselves that has lessened the pressure to marry and have children

December 18 2025

Arizona Phoenix

11 Headlines The New York Times He Tried to Protect His Son From Bullies He Did

not Know How Far They Would Go The New York Times California Housing Affordability  
Palo Alto Confronts Billionaires Over Their Housing Compounds The New York Times  
Canada Population Shrinks Amid Tightened Immigration The New York Times China  
Clean Energy Push is Powering Flying Taxis Food Delivery Drones and Bullet Trains The New York  
Times China Opinion Trump Is Helping China Realize Its Dream of AI Dominance The  
New York Times Consumers Spelling Bees The Hardest and Easiest Spelling  
Bee Words of 2025 The New York Times Democrats The DNC Is Killing Its Autopsy of  
What Went Wrong in 2024 The New York Times Democrats and Republicans Nearly 900 Million  
Dollars Flowed in Secret to Help Harris and Trump in 2024 The New York Times Film New  
York City Premier Timothée Chalamet Gwyneth Paltrow and Zohran Mamdani Toast Marty Supreme  
The New York Times Georgia Fani Willis Calls Trump and Allies Criminals in Hearing Before Georgia  
Senate Committee The New York Times Georgia Trump Pressed Georgia Speaker to Overturn the  
State Election Vote in 2020 Call The New York Times Ghana Opinion What Happens  
When You Send a Girl to School The New York Times **Healthcare Congress House passes  
healthcare bill without subsidy extension** Italy Prehistory Nature More Than 2  
thousand Dinosaur Footprints Are Found in the Italian Alps The New York Times Louisiana  
Travel Exploring Bayous and Beaches on Amtrak New Gulf Coast Train Line The New York  
Times New York City NYC City Council Introduces Bill to Create the Mamdani Community Safety  
Agency The New York Times New York City Mayor in 2026 Mamdani Names Budget  
Director as He Prepares to Enact Costly Agenda The New York Times New York City Set to Raise  
the Cap on Permits for Street Vendors The New York Times Politicians How Affordability Became a  
New Magic Word for Politicians The New York Times RFK Junior Lack of Knowledge of Science and  
Medicine Opinion GLP 1s 14 Users Discuss The New York Times Science Trump Budget  
Cuts to fund tax breaks for the rich She Tracked Fish That Coastal Communities Depend On Then  
She Was Fired From NOAA The New York Times Sweden Lovable a Start Up That Makes  
Anyone a Coder Raises 330 Million Dollars The New York Times **Taiwan Birthrates Are Falling  
but Do not Blame Dogs in Strollers The New York Times** Texas Sleep Cots and Graham  
Crackers at the Elon Musk Child Care Program The New York Times Trump Affordability  
Opinion David Brooks E J Dionne and Robert Siegel Take Stock of 2025 The New York Times  
Trump Epstein Fallout The Best Friend of Don How Epstein and Trump Bonded Over the  
Pursuit of Women The New York Times Trump FBI Dan Bongino to Step Down as FBI Deputy  
Director The New York Times Trump Hegseth Fallout Venezuela For Hegseth There Is  
One Boat Strike He Does not Want the Public to See The New York Times **Trump Idea 6 Takeaways  
From The Trump Address to the Nation The New York Times Trump Idea Fact Checking The  
Trump Prime Time Address on the Economy The New York Times Trump Idea Full  
Transcript of President The Trump Speech on the Economy The New York Times Trump Idea  
Trump Boasts About Economy in Prime Time Speech The New York Times Trump Idea  
Trump Delivers Attacks and Deflects Blame for American Economic Worries The New York Times**  
Trump Idea Trump Finds That Retribution Is not Always So Easy The New York Times Trump  
Idea Trump Unveils Presidential Walk of Fame With Plaques That Make Jabs at Biden and Obama The  
New York Times Trump Judiciary Opinion Threats to Judges Could Lead to a Judicial  
System Crisis The New York Times Trump Lack of affordability CPI Report Live

Updates Inflation Unexpectedly Slowed to 2 point 7 percent in November The New York Times  
Trump Military Idea Trump Announces 1 thousand 776 dollars Warrior Dividend for  
Military The New York Times **Trump Nuclear Fusion Partnership** Truth Social Parent  
**to Merge With Nuclear Fusion Firm in 6 Billion dollar Deal** The New York Times Trump Resistance  
Opinion What Courage Does for Us The New York Times **TV** **Late Night Shades The**  
**Trump Impromptu Liar Side Chat** The New York Times **Ukraine** **EU Leaders Debate Plan**  
**for Ukraine Financed by Frozen Russian Assets** The New York Times **Ukraine**  
**European Leaders Face Off Over Whether to Tap Russian Frozen Assets for Ukraine** The New  
**York Times** Ukraine Russia The Putin Confidant Who Pushed Back Against the Russia War  
in Ukraine The New York Times United Kingdom Affordability Interest Rate Cut and  
Slower Inflation Offer Britons a Reprieve The New York Times Universities Is Applying to  
College Via Early Decision a Good Idea? Here is What Your Income Has to Do With It The New York  
Times Venezuela The Trump Claim That Venezuela Stole US Oil Fields Sets Off a Nationalist  
Reaction The New York Times **12 Headlines The Guardian December 18 2025** Brazil  
Brazilian president vows to veto bill cutting the Jair Bolsonaro prison term Jair Bolsonaro The  
Guardian Crops Climate Change How climate breakdown is putting the food of the world  
in peril in maps and charts Climate crisis The Guardian Gift Exchanges This  
Christmas let us ban the most miserable gift giving game in the world Forced Secret Santas Dave  
Schilling The Guardian Michigan Uniquely evil Michigan residents fight against huge data center  
backed by top tycoons Michigan The Guardian RFK Junior Lack of knowledge of Medicine and  
Science CDC officials urge US flu vaccination after record child deaths last year US news The  
Guardian Trump Ally Interview Susie Wiles interview might be a useful distraction from how  
poorly things are going for Americans Trump administration The Guardian Trump Epstein Fallout  
Deadline nears for release of Epstein files – what we know so far Jeffrey Epstein The Guardian  
**Trump Fusion Business Partnership** **Media announces 6 billion dollar merger plan with**  
**fusion power company** Media The Guardian **Trump Health** **What is going on with the health of**  
**Donald Trump?** Moira Donegan The Guardian **Trump Idea** **Bah! Humbug! address suggests he is**  
**feeling the chill of opinion polls** Donald Trump The Guardian Trump Idea Trump attacks Democratic  
foes in White House presidential portraits Donald Trump The Guardian Ukraine Europe EU  
leaders urged to use frozen Russian assets to fund the Ukraine defense European Union The Guardian  
Trump Lack of Affordability US lost 105 thousand jobs in October and added 64 thousand  
in November according to delayed data US economy The Guardian Trump Lack of Affordability  
US prices continued to rise despite Trump claims they are rapidly falling US economy The  
Guardian Trump Tariffs We wanted to take action US toy company fights back over Trump  
tariffs Trump tariffs The Guardian **Ukraine** **Filmmaker Mstyslav Chernov I kept seeing Ukraine**  
**as a victim of this invasion – I wanted to tell another story** Movies The Guardian Universities  
This student group agrees US universities are too elitist – but aims to transform not destroy them  
US universities The Guardian Venezuela US strike on alleged drug boat in Pacific kills four as  
Trump accuses Venezuela of taking our oil US news The Guardian **13 Headlines Other Media**  
**December 18 2025** Ambulances for Ukraine Finishing the Job December 18 2025 Deliver  
automobiles with drone jamming equipment to the second corps of the Ukrainian National Guard known  
as Khartiia These drone jamming vehicles refitted trucks and vans are necessary for safe transport