PUTIN’S RUSSIA:
THE WEALTHY, THE IGNORED, & THE PERSECUTED
Your Presentor

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1. THE WEALTHY
The Oligarchy and the Siloviki
2. The Ignored

Rural Russians, Millennials, Westernizers, New Industry
3. The Persecuted

Women, Dissidents, LGBT, Ethnic and Religious Minorities
Necessary Context

The Economy
Wealth Controlled By the Top 10%

(Source: Credit Suisse)

Russia  Turkey  Hong Kong  Indonesia  Philippines  Thailand  U.S  India  Egypt  Brazil
How Wealth Is Spread: The U.S. vs. Russia
(Source: Credit Suisse)

- Russia
- U.S.

- Less than $10,000
- $10,000 - $100,000
- $100,000 - $1 million
- More than $1 million
1. THE WEALTHY
The Oligarchy and the Siloviki
The Alliance of Russian Elites

Oligarchs
- Industry Moguls
- Capitalized on Privitization
- Agreed to profit sharing w/ Putin and Soloviki

Siloviki
- Military
- Political Power Centers
- The Church
- Ex KGB
НАРУЧНЫЕ ЧАСЫ
ПРЕСС-СЕКРЕТАРЯ ПРЕЗИДЕНТА
ДМИТРИЯ ПЕСКОВА
RICHARD MILLE
37 000 000 РУБ
($670 000)
2. The Ignored

Rural Russians, Millennials, Westernizers, New Industry
The Russia Left Behind
A journey through a heartland on the slow road to ruin.

By ELLIN BARRY

Photographs by QUENTIN KEOCHAVAN for The New York Times. Video by BEN C. SOLOMON

Produced by NIKI BIDSTOCK, SHAN CARTER and LILYVE DAVIS.
Russia's Richest and Poorest Regions

By average monthly income, Rubles

(Source: Rosstat)
"Хочу дом как уточки
(I want a house like the ducks)"

- Sign from Moscow’s 2017 protests
Конкуренция — это прогресс.
Свободна Россия.
Свободна Алексей Навальный.
Выборы — это выбор.
Мы не верим в вашим уткам!
Russian science is amazing. So why hasn’t it taken over the world?

We should all worry about a great power’s failure to convert on its knowledge, says MIT’s Loren Graham

By Leon Neyfakh | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT | JANUARY 04, 2015
New Russian Data Laws Worry Rights Activists, Telecom Companies

Critics say laws designed to cow Kremlin opponents

By Laura Mills
July 7, 2016 11:30 a.m. ET

MOSCOW—Russian President Vladimir Putin signed bills into law Thursday that would help the government crack down on dissent online and demand unprecedented data-storage efforts from the country’s telecom companies.

The government said the laws, which were pushed through parliament last week, were necessary to combat terrorism in Russia. But critics say they are designed to cow Kremlin opponents into silence ahead of parliamentary elections this fall. Russia’s largest mobile phone operators and internet providers have also...
3. The Persecuted

Women, Dissidents, LGBT, Ethnic and Religious Minorities
I am not a woman, so I don’t have bad days. I am not trying to insult anyone. That’s just the nature of things.

- Vladimir Putin
"A man beating his wife is less offensive than when a woman humiliates a man."

- Russian Duma Member, Yelena Mizulina
Russia’s Parliament gave overwhelming support to a draft law that would ease some penalties for domestic violence, alarming women’s rights campaigners who fear it will encourage abuse. By REUTERS. Photo by Alexander Zhmulin/Reuters/Associated Press.

Watch in Times Video »

MOSCOW — Russian lawmakers on Wednesday moved to decriminalize some forms of domestic battery for first-time offenders who do not do serious physical harm to their victims.
‘It’s not love’ 40 percent of Russia’s women have faced domestic violence. A photo series
Time to Get Woke on Russia

• 456 Russian Jobs Women are Banned from Holding (Plumbers, Tractor Drivers, Etc.)

• Upwards of 80% of crimes against women are committed by a spouse or family member

• Most women in authority positions are hand picked for counterfactual arguments, or as placeholders

• When Soviet Russia had a strong record (in time adjusted terms) on women’s rights

There are places where women are already shriveled at age 27, and by our standards they look like they're 50. And, in general, the [Russian] Constitution forbids interference in citizens' personal lives.

- Children's Rights Ombudsman
We don’t have those kinds of people here. We don’t have any gays. [if we did] Take them far from us so we don’t have them at home. To purify our blood, if there are any here, take them.”

- Ramzan Kadyrov – President of Chechnya
Human Rights Watch Confirms Torture, Abuse Of Gay Men By Chechen Authorities

Activists display placards in front of the Chancellery in Berlin in April during a demonstration calling on Russian President Vladimir Putin to put an end to the persecution of gay men in Chechnya. The protesters called on German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who met with Putin in Sochi on May 2, to raise the issue. She said afterward that she had urged Putin to "use his influence" to end the abuse.
Russian Neo-Nazis Bait gay Teens Into Beatdowns

Jul 29, 2013 at 5:59 AM ET

Everyone knows Vladimir Putin’s government hates gay people. But an increasing number of Russian neo-Nazis think Putin’s gay propaganda ban is not nearly hateful enough.

The most high-profile example is Okkupay Pedofilyay, a group that has almost 75,000 likes on Russian social-networking site VK and is committed to publicly shaming pedophiles in Russia. There’s a rub, of course: These husky fellows consider all gay people pedophiles.

Led, ideologically at least, by skinhead-in-chief Maxim Martsinkevich, the group members post ads for men seeking men, wait for interested guys to show up, then videotape as they humiliate them. They force teens to admit they're gay on camera. They beat them and pour urine on them. They are Russia’s version of America’s To Catch a Predator, but with serotonin deficiencies and baseball bats. They completely suck as humans.
Russia's Vladimir Putin links gays to pedophiles

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian President Vladimir Putin has offered new assurances to gay athletes and fans attending the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics next month. Yet he defended Russia's anti-gay law by equating gays with pedophiles and said Russia needs to "cleanse" itself of homosexuality if it wants to increase its birth rate.

Putin's comments in an interview broadcast Sunday with Russian and foreign television stations showed the wide gulf between the perception of homosexuality in Russia versus the West.

MORE: Putin to gay visitors: 'Leave the children in peace'
What The F*ck Are You Doing?
A**hole Gays
Three Conclusions
Conclusion 1

Russian Civil Rights are at least one generation away, likely 30-50 years.

- Migrant Labor
- Ethnic, Sexual, and Religious Minorities
- Women
Conclusion 2

Russian Civil Liberties
Will get worse before they get better

- No Privacy
- No Political Agency
- No Free Choice
Conclusion 3

Post-Putin Russia concerns me more than Putin’s Russia. (Especially for the persecuted)

- There are more radical alternatives to him
- People who condone genocide and imperialism
- *nuclear armed