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Swimming
pools dot
Kreupelbosch,
an upscale Cape
Town suburb,
amid a worsening
water crisis
Photograph by
Mikhael Subotzky
and Johnny Miller
for TIME

ON THE COVER: Photograph by Williams + Hirakawa for TIME

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Conversation

THE TALK OF DAVOS

AFTER READING "UNDOING the World America Made" by Karl Vick and "What the Global Elite Can Learn From the Donald" by Richard Haass [Feb. 5], I was struck by how otherworldly your authors are. Horribly depressing and all untrue. President Donald Trump's visit to Davos, Switzerland, was an enormous success! It's America first, not America alone. Your other article "States of Vulnerability" is why Trump was elected as a beacon of hope. They are the hollowed-out flyover states that the Clinton and Obama Administrations ignored for years.

Sidney Crain, SACRAMENTO

capitalism is a very sad game, as is depicted in "States of Vulnerability." It is ironic that the same issue reported on the World Economic Forum in Davos, where Trump's appearance drew meaningless attention among the elite. If poor people's only asset is their resilience, I wonder who in Davos heard their cry and argued anything about fairer distribution among people.

Antonio H. Terada, OSAKA, JAPAN

SOUR NOTE

RE "HOW RAP ASCENDED (Again) to Become the Sound of the Mainstream" [Feb. 5]: Many thanks to Raisa Bruner for setting me straight on the remarkable rise of rap music. Now I understand perfectly well that rapping about parties, sports cars and diamond rings is what it takes to make it big these days. If rap music is, in fact, "running the culture right now," then please inform me as to what it would take to get it to run away.

Donald F. Smith, EGAA, DENMARK

GUNS UNCHALLENGED

IN THE "TICKER" [FEB. 5] you report that the U.S. has seen 11 school shootings in the first 23 days of the year. In most places, such statistics would be cause to demand action. So once again one wonders, Will Donald duck the issue? Will someone whose actions often have all the subtlety of a cartoon character see the wisdom of doing anything that might antagonize the gun worshippers? One has to doubt there ever being enough slaughter for that.

> Michael Huber, LINDFORD, ENGLAND

THE INTOLERANT IMMIGRANTS

RE "WHEN THE ONLY HOME You Know Becomes a Place You May Never See Again" [Feb. 5]: I live in a part of Berlin with a predominantly Muslim immigrant population. I realize that the reasons for their diaspora are very real and that it is our duty to provide a safe haven for the





oppressed. But I have become somewhat immune to the feelings of solidarity expressed in your article. Even here, far from the conflicts in their homeland, I am confronted with a hate of other religions, a readiness to condone human-rights abuses, and a steady, easily discernible radicalization. The resulting problems are hardly experienced in the more affluent districts of the city. But here, as in so many other European cities, those who can move out do so, leaving an ever more violent ghetto.

Patrick E.F. Villiers, BERLIN

ADDRESSING ISOLATION

I WAS SURPRISED TO SEE the appointment of a U.K. Minister of Loneliness as a "Leave It" item on your Pop Chart [Feb. 5]. As people live longer, many more will be lonely. In some cultures it may not be an issue, as Grandma and Grandpa will continue to live with their family for their lifetime. But in most Western families, the youngsters move out, and the parents are left on their own. This is fine until the parents become elderly or lose a partner and find themselves rarely being visited. If by appointing a politician actions can be taken to alleviate the living death of loneliness, that can only be a good thing.

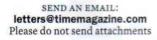
Terry McGeary,

EAST KILBRIDE, SCOTLAND

SETTING THE RECORD

STRAIGHT ▶ In Time Off (Feb. 5), the rapper Lil Uzi Vert was misidentified in a photo. The image was of Lil Yachty. In the Jan. 22 issue, "How to Tell a President 'You're Fired'" incorrectly characterized Section 4 of the 25th Amendment. Once the Vice President becomes acting President in an invocation of Section 4, he, not the incumbent President, remains in power if sustained by a majority of the Cabinet (or the designated "other such body") as the matter moves to its congressional phase.

TALK TO US



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Please recycle this magazine and remove inserts and samples before recycling NEW GENDER-NEUTRAL ENGLISH LYRICS to the Canadian national anthem, which lawmakers approved ahead of the 2018 Winter Olympics; the line previously referred to the patriotism of "all thy sons"

'All these lambs walked into slaughter because they were convinced nobody rises to such a position who would do something illegal to you, but they do.'

uma thurman, actor, becoming the latest Hollywood star to accuse producer Harvey Weinstein of forcing himself on her in a hotel room NorCal California's Redwood Coast tops list of best places to visit in the U.S.



SoCal L.A. tops worldwide list of cities with the worst traffic congestion



\$1.50

Increase in the weekly take-home salary of a secretary in Lancaster, Pa., which was hailed in a tweet by House Speaker Paul Ryan as proof the recent tax overhaul is helping Americans; Ryan deleted the tweet after he was accused of being out of touch

'Can we call that treason? Why not?'

DONALD TRUMP, U.S. President, on Democrats' not clapping during his State of the Union address; the White House clarified that Trump was being "tongue in cheek," but the comment still sparked criticism

'Treason is not a punch line.'

JEFF FLAKE, Republican Senator from Arizona, responding to the President's comment in a speech on the Senate floor

'This is a logistical nightmare.'

CAROLYN WARD, FEMA officer, emailing an Atlanta wedding caterer who was awarded a \$156 million contract to deliver emergency meals to Puerto Ricans affected by Hurricane Maria; 18.5 million meals were ordered, but only 50,000 were delivered—and without pouches to heat them up

4,400

Approximate age, in years, of a tomb that archaeologists recently discovered near Cairo; it is believed to have belonged to a prominent priestess named Hetpet, according to Egyptian government officials





4,000

Approximate number of costumes put up for sale by the Dutch National Opera in Amsterdam, owing to lack of storage space

'She got in the water somehow, and I don't think she got in the water by herself.'

JOHN CORINA, lieutenant in the Los Angeles County sheriff's department, in a televised interview about the mysterious 1981 drowning of actor Natalie Wood; in light of new witness statements, the death was recently declared "suspicious"