

**RECLAIMING  
OUR LEADERSHIP...  
OUR STOLEN GIFTS...  
TO ESTABLISH  
A FUTURE BASED ON  
DISTRIBUTED  
GENERATION:**

**THE WAKING UP RADIO  
CONVERSATIONS**

**(Volume 2: September 1 – November 3, 2013)**

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HUMMING WORDS



P R E S S



A HUMMING WORDS • NEW (NASCENCE TO END WORK) PRESS BOOK  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA • 2013

Untold Accolades, Thanks and Praises To:  
The Ancestors, the Earth, and Each  
Other... who with one voice say...  
“truth is truth until the end of  
reckoning...” and beyond...



This book is to support the establishment  
of a new world based on reverence for  
life... a world necessarily therefore without  
hierarchy and rank.... To achieve this  
world requires a mass movement to end  
the coerced work of humans... and this  
means ‘coercion’ of any kind... whether of  
constructed scarcity... or of constructed lies.



THIS IS A HUMMING WORDS • NEW  
(NASCENCE TO END WORK) PRESS  
BOOK

“My soul is like a singing bowl – it *hums*.”

RECLAIMING OUR LEADERSHIP... OUR STOLEN GIFTS... TO  
ESTABLISH A FUTURE BASED ON  
DISTRIBUTED GENERATION (VOL. 2)

(Transcripts of the *Waking Up: Freeing Ourselves From Work*  
Sunday morning radio program. Visit [www.nas2endwork.org](http://www.nas2endwork.org) to hear the  
corresponding audio excerpts.)

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WUR, Sunday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013: “Staying Focused On Designing A Future... On Not Getting Divided... (Pt. 2): “the hidden tribalism of ‘power’ (Pt. 1)”

P.S.: My son and I are recording children’s songs designed to confirm and encourage children’s love for themselves... if anyone among those listening in would like to help us get them out into the world... your help would be most welcome.

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What the prison authorities of California are engaged in is flat-out murder... to define ‘protest of the torture of the SHU – for a population under their complete control – such that to engage in it is to risk their very lives... to not allow them nutritious fluids at the risk of being excluded from the number of courageous folk putting their lives on the line... is murder. The courage of these men elevates them so far above the brutes who claim to rule them is as sun to deepest pit of soullessness.

...

And Egypt: ‘power’ has used... continues to use... disagreement over the motives of a former president as the wedge to divide... this tactic is not just as old as ‘power’... but defines it. ‘Power’s existence is premised on finding levers to control us... and wedges to thwart our resistance... *our raison d’etre*, therefore, must be... in a word... unity... unity... unity....

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We are living in times in which we-the-people are challenging... globally... ‘the *fait accompli* of the state’... asking... must ‘the human’ mean ‘the state’?... should it not be *all of us* that determine it?... determine what ‘the human’ is?... and not the narrow ‘few’... forcing us to be conditioned... by its mechanisms of ‘state’... to fit *its* slender contours... our soul *its* image make?

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We've said that a world market is fundamentally... as we are everything... a market in *us*... and that we are the fuel on which the system runs... and that 'power' likes to think of itself as pursuing 'Knowledge-Infinite'... by throwing our lives in the trash-bin... and picking and choosing through the mess... and out of this craft of chaos... they tell themselves rise 'the best'... (but this is not pursuing 'knowledge'... this is the few pursuing an aerated image of themselves... and always at our expense...)

But what is evident is that the academics and the self-averred intellectuals join *with* 'power' in that self-delusion...

...and have conned us for centuries into thinking that it might be so... "maybe what they do does matter more than I do," we are encouraged to think... particularly if you occupy despised or discount boxes... or languish in categories that are never seen.

And so we kiss-off our true gifts... especially as survival is kept dubious... and we can't therefore even begin to imagine being the ones who make the decisions for the world...

...which must be... for us to achieve... a future in which we can grow as a species.

Because – as we've been discussing ["On the practice of 'democracy'"...] – in the presence of scarcity we can't engage in 'decision-making for our global society'... and in the absence of *our* making the decisions... the world we are given to live in... is necessarily the realization of a totalitarian... and oligarchic... vision.

[The punditry has yet to face reality (and of course some consciously practice deceit...) and so we-the-people never get to hear authentic speech... or even basic logic, at the least... so that we could more quickly develop our thinking.

But it's not, I don't think, controversial, so say that '*power*' practices deceit... hides behind a bland face... has deep plans to entrench 'class'... in innumerable places and ways... globally; such that... as it works on multiple hidden fronts and layers... it's impossible

to stop their vision... via the incremental means that the official Left punditry is 'comfortable' using (and by 'comfortable' I mean 'earns a nice living doing'... nestled in the Duke of Gloucester's purse.]

A local free weekly paper provides some evidence for us – one example is local, the other local and global – of how decision-making, on every level, becomes oligarchic under conditions of manufactured scarcity...

Last week we talked about 'vision creep'... the straight-ahead... never-stopping-for-an-instant... determined efforts to realize a vision... (along with their conjoined efforts to keep them hidden.) So 'power' will never tell you up front the deep motives in its seemingly innocent... seemingly small policy steps. When the Library Commission wanted to level our branch libraries... (I suspect to make them more 'surveillance-friendly'... 'power's very concerned about what books we read...) they didn't say this... they asked for (and received) permission to make 'improvements' (part of a plan to 'tidy up' cities... 'transform' them into places of privilege... and then bus us in from the fringes... to do the 'dirty work'...) and when the 'powers-that-be' behind Oakland, California's makers of policy wanted to swing wide city doors to surveillance hard-core... they didn't say this... they asked for (and received) permission to choose a surveillance contractor with / for the Port of Oakland... and before you know it... the entire City's in bed with SAID [Science Applications International Corporation] ("Oakland's Surveillance Contractor Has a History of Fraud," *East Bay Express*, August 28 – September 3, 2013)... and when 'power' decides it's time to nullify... the wild card of radical youth at a favored alma mater (and rid themselves of the sole progressive City Council member in one fell swoop...) they didn't say this... they asked for (and received) permission to give students their own city council district ("Berkeley Moves Forward With UC Student District," *East Bay Express*, August 21 – August 27, 2013).

And come on, Kris Worthington (the City Councilmember mentioned above...) you're not going to let yourself get duped by these guys... you're not going to pull an 'Al Gore' on us are you? You're gonna fight tooth and nail, right?... to keep your seat? Because it's not about you... but rather keeping some little bit of progressivism alive in Berkeley....

(There is a plan... well in motion... to make the Bay Area, what once was a bastion of 'progressivism', much more 'conservative'... much more quiescent... much more subdued... and definitely more heartless... no more home to resistance, but, rather, home to 'small-self' self-interest, privilege-seeking, and 'power'-worship. [They like to be high above us... looking down...])

And Machiavelli schooled them long ago... "it's critical that your motives seem pure... your face benignant... seeming trustworthy" and... we could add... to never neglect to ensure... that 'the people's noses are kept close to 'their work'... by keeping their future unsure.

---

Because the solution to ending 'power's reign is so obvious... and would be so easy if we got the necessary conversations going... in order to achieve the necessary solidarity... it's worth while taking some time to think through why 'the obvious' 'power' is ever able to make certain will elude us...

Today's show considers the hidden tribalism of 'power'... and its connection to oligarchic decision-making posing as 'democracy' – elites are primed for 'rule of the people'... and 'the people' are primed for *work*.

And today's show will ask "what is a human being?" "Who gets to decide?" "Is the 'human being' 'the state'?" "Is the 'human being' 'the tribe'?"

...or is 'the human being' 'the ocean'... the pulsing earth... the sky? Are we all that ever lived and died?... that loved and laughed and cried? What is a human being? And who gets to decide?

---

We are at that juncture where answers to big questions are being asked of us... of all of us globally:

Who gets to decide what is a 'human being'?  
Who gets to decide in what direction goes... and grows... the species?

The pattern set by 'power' makes clear *its* answer to these questions.

They choose themselves... dressed up as 'philosopher-statesmen...' that shadowy specter that Plato gave them... that hovers over us... watches what we do... monitors our moves.

They have spoken loud and clear in centuries drenched in blood... but *we* have yet to speak... we, who harbor in our lives the 'heart' that sees and sets a different future... a new unfolding of centuries that sparkle in a sun-drenched beauty... in which we are simply allowed to be... just be... and live our days in that harmony made of rich diversity... harmony is not made of single notes... many-to-the-infinite voices sing... to make our future fit for human beings.

Just now (08.26.13) I heard a man say that the preponderance of archaeological evidence shows that prior to 'class' there was no tribal fighting... that 'war' was an invention... like 'art'... and therefore that the terms our lives achieve can be our conscious choice... as, he says, Margaret Mead once noted before him.

And I thought... "the archaeological evidence proves"?... what about our hearts?... was there ever stronger evidence that 'war' is not our nature...? they tell with strongest



voice ... once the pressure of performance and the lie that 'scarcity exists' is removed... and each new child... before pounded by the instruments of 'class' and manufactured scarcity... tells us too.

The academic-pundits always say... referring to those times when humans didn't 'war' with each other... they say: "before 'civilization'" ... they never say the truth... that 'without war' means: "before 'class'" ... before the worm coercion entered hearts... and turned them to betrayal... of their fellow beings.

What is a 'human being'?... will we really continue to allow those damaged souls who sit atop us to be the ones who tell us what a human being is?... the limits of what's allowed for our common humanity? Surely not... surely all our ancestors of heart did not labor so for us that now... when Tesla's dream's upon us... and we could awake and make it real... surely not... brothers and sisters... in these times to serve but self-betrayal to ourselves?... when we could retake our world?....

We've done it 'power's way for many millennia... we've walked that road... know every nook and cranny of that road... and... if we're honest with ourselves... we know its destination....

"Seldom comes the better..."  
...they said in Shakespeare's day...  
...but our remade world is waiting...  
...so our remade phrase must say...  
"Seldom comes the better...  
...except we make it so..."  
...that needed 'we' we have now...  
...that before we didn't know...  
...and all of the religions...  
...are premised on that 'then'...  
...a 'then', that's true...

...millennia long...  
...ten thousand years and more...  
...but 'then' is done...  
...and 'now' is come...  
...when humanity as a global 'one'...  
...together will *make* 'the better'...  
...and leave the 'then' to be...  
...a dimming thought...  
...a shudder-sense...  
...from a fearsome-felt...  
...and daily-fading...  
...dream.

Their way is to care about naught but 'self' and one's own tribe... and they've ensured *their* tribe has in its hands the globe-entire... its resources, and especially our lives... they've set the terms... they've placed the weight that makes them always win... and we've lived by their rules... their given limits to us... despite our knowing... that they test false... over and over again...

...and still we live by them....

It's cowardice alone... or rather fear... that keeps us silent... fear, and separation from each other... which it's time now... for us to end.

The faux-maxim they put on bumpers...  
...to keep us lulled to sleep...  
...has it exactly backwards...  
...as its *very locally* we must *think*...  
...with these local minds and bodies...  
...our hands... our eyes... our speech...  
...and the trees that bloom just for us...  
...through the earth beneath our feet...  
...answer "here" to "what will we covet?"...  
...in this inter-linked-vision we see...

...and will... very soon...  
...with our sisters and brothers...  
...*act globally*...  
...to make it be.

“That global ‘we’ we have now” – so we can act globally to be *free* locally.

And on this matter of being a *global* actor...  
‘power’s example is telling. It means set-backs are absorbed philosophically... as it’s the ‘overall’... the tend... toward which we continuously bend... that matters. It’s the realization... and the acting-on that realization... that we are a global humanity that allows us to get beyond particular grievances (and to use the word ‘grievance’ is not to diminish or to be dismissive of the significance of them.)

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WUR, Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013: “Staying Focused On Designing A Future... On Not Getting Divided... (Pt. 3): “the hidden tribalisms of ‘power’ (Pt. 2)”

Today we’re going to continue thinking about what it means to: “stay focused on designing a future... and argue that “staying focused” also means “clearing away the diversions...” and that “the hidden tribalisms of ‘power’ and ‘punditry’” – and “the machinations of states” that unite them – are the major ones.

So what is this ‘prize’ that is our future?... we’ll be asking. And on this question I hope you’ll read the text of an interview... that I just put up... that British writer on rock music, Joel McIver, recently did with me as part of his research for the biography he’s writing of the band Rage Against The Machine (working title: *Know-Your-Enemy*). I hope you’ll read it because I think it’s a pretty good short explanation of how it is that ‘power’... over the generations... has been successful in keeping us from achieving our well-deserved prize of generalized human leisure.

---

I hear... the mayor shed big crocodile tears... about the imminent loss of our main Berkeley post office... the man who wrote the book on disingenuousness pretends to care... that’s priceless... or perhaps... purse-full... and of course purpose-full.

But from this poverty of ‘heart’ let’s waste no time in turning... to ‘heart’ in abundance... hearts beating strong with backs unbent... and courage long for days... of our brothers who were on hunger strike...at Pelican Bay... protesting legalized torture... particularly the normalized SHU-horror... your model of heart places you with the incomparable Victor Jara. Thank you. Words don’t exist to express our debt to you. And thank you most of all for preserving your lives, so that you may continue to model ‘heart’ for your brothers and sisters. We need you.

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09.04.13: Brothers and sisters... 80,000 South African miners... 10,000 Mexican teachers... thousands more on their feet in the U.S.... serving food made fast and cheap... or being picked at in Wal-Mart's teeth... as it fattens on your shrinking standard of living... on your low wage subsidies...

...it's time to think and plan more strategically...

...and combine our strikes globally...

...and ask all folks of heart to show solidarity...

---

'Power'... by means of global geo-political planning bodies... acknowledged and covert... is determined to 'organize' the world *for us*... impose a structure on the world that realizes a vision over two thousand years old... the very age itself of it they believe makes it legitimate... and no sacrifice... of the earth or our bodies... is to great for us to make... if it will allow Papa-Plato to rest at last...

So the Tribe of Plato presides over greater and greater...

(...seemingly impartial as the rules themselves empty our shrinking stores into their coffers...)

...consolidation of the resources (wealth) of the planet... even as we are pushed into smaller and smaller units to prevent our coming together... and are prodded, as we squirm in our small buckets... to lash out at each other.

So this is 'the state' our pundits are wedded to... and desperately trying to convince us... as their 'worth' (to 'power') depends on it... to be wedded to as well (...but there were in the not-too-distant past significant exceptions... significantly all dead... or mostly... but one thing is for sure... they are no longer speaking.)

“The sky is being poisoned with nuclear fallout. The world’s ozone layer is diminishing, and the seas are polluted. No economic model provides the means for understanding how both economic growth and ecological sustainability might be possible.” (Marilyn Waring, writing in 1986)

...this is the state of affairs the punditry seems set on preserving... and now we’re facing imminent ocean death (see “You Know How I Know ‘Democratic Economics’ Is A Con?).

When will we accept that the global inter-state system... and the world market...are actually *not* set up to improve our conditions of life... but actually to worsen them? That this worsening is what is happening is indisputable... the only question is intent. And I put to you... that question is irrelevant...

...whether with intent or no... it’s time for both of these structures to go... and for we-the-people to assume our much deserved... and much too-long delayed place... as stewards of our own lives... and the earth.

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I’ve been trying to find the words to describe the lunacy of... the sense of unreality with which I hear... the complete illogic of... the discourse from Left pundits on the issue of U.S. intervention in the proprietary gassing of a head-of-state of ‘his’ ‘citizens’. Here we have a U.S. state that closely monitors ‘its’ ‘citizens’ for signs of independent thinking... China likewise... Russia ditto... on down the line (maybe you know one that doesn’t... if so, fine... but the trend is clear, I think we can agree on that...) The weight is all on the side of global ‘power’ to ultimately decide the fate of the planet’s inhabitants... given time and our quiescence they will do it... those trillions make it so... those trillions buy a lot of ‘political-and-pundit-class’ quiescence. But it can’t buy us... ‘the people’... especially if those privileged-intermediaries decide to stand with us... across the false divisions.

So the question of whether and what and why and can we find the blood-stained hand that did the deed... as it was paid to... is avidly discussed... the finger wags to say that there must not be interference in the sovereignty of 'states'... oh really?... so we are but possessions in pundit-speech... and they hope we rate ourselves as low as this as well (a bonus awaits, perhaps.)

The reasoning is all quite convoluted... here we have a U.S. state so determined to thwart the efforts of 'its' people to stretch their gifts even just a little bit... so determined to keep us small that it monitors us all... and a Syrian state so afraid of 'its' people that it gasses them to send a message – no one disputes the man is a tyrant – yet the official Left cares so much about preserving the sanctity of sovereignty... the right of this tyrant to slaughter and terrorize 'his' people... that hundreds are moved to take to the streets to protest the effort of this U.S. state to not be accused later of doing nothing in the face of genocide.

So in this situation some quotient of the Left is roused... but the obvious conclusion that “‘states’ don't care about us...” and that we must look beyond them and link hands to grow the future we deserve... they... the punditry... flee from as from the breath of death upon them.

On the machinations of 'states'... including Syria and the U.S.:

It's quite surreal to me –  
...as someone hoping to see...  
...the emergence of 'we' as a global humanity...  
(...to replace that statist 'we') –  
...to hear the professional Left...  
...going along with 'power's agenda so unquestioningly...  
...debating the 'yes's and 'no's...  
...the 'to's and 'fro's...  
...of opaque state machinations.

When will we reclaim...  
...and focus...  
...all of that furious thinking...  
...we lay at 'power's feet...  
...like an obeisance...  
...and devote it rather...  
...to making *ourselves* global actors...  
...*ourselves* the check...  
...the sun rising at last...  
...dissolving global vampires.

It's as if the U.S. state is a daddy left pundits castigate...  
...but they're living in his home...  
...and so... ambivalent...  
...and rationalize that they're trying...  
...to minimize the effects that...  
...daddy's misanthropic mischief has on strangers...  
...and they either don't see...  
...or else don't take seriously...  
...that they've come to *be* he...  
...in not disassociating...  
...and are themselves participating...  
...in perpetuating...  
...the insanity.

---

States lie to 'their' people... parents lie to 'their' children... it's all quite incestuous. The Bedouins have lived *their* good life... and it was... their *self*-created good life – not Denmark's (there must be no coercion in our future – each one of us must be free to choose...) – for generations. But the state of Israel tells 'its' people that the Bedouins are invaders... and then, or so the media says, Israelis then believe it... and repeat it... then teach their children to believe it... and in this way 'the state' bloats gaseous and 'the people' – bones-jut-shrunk – become shadows... of 'philosopher-statesmen.'



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“What is the goal?” repeatedly we’ve asked... “will what you’re doing ‘end ‘power’... and in a single generation? Or will it ameliorate harsh conditions?” Because it is only the former that is good enough in the face of the massive privatization of the planet’s resources... ever-expanding ‘power’s purse... a big ‘nada’ weighting ours... with ocean death looming upon us... and the total suppression of our humanness.

So what should we be doing?

Here’s a letter from someone who, like me, wants... or says he does... to get to the heart of the problem:

The strategies to “end corporate rule” presented in the Spring [2012] issue of *YES!* [Magazine] can, like welfare programs, ameliorate some of the unjust systemic consequences of capitalism, but they cannot possibly produce an economy of equal liberty and justice for everyone.

We will not end corporate rule until the power to expand the money supply...

[...now let’s pause here for a moment... because I believe he’s already veered off-course.... In my recent conversation with Joel McIver, he asked, “are corporations the root of the problem?”... and today we’ll also be asking, “does this word ‘economy’ have any meaning for a future premised on generalized human leisure?”...]

...of the society is taken away from private banks and given, instead, to a collectively controlled capital access process – one that, by law, expands the money supply to ensure every person access to the capital necessary to develop a successful share of the economy.

We cannot attain a truly free society by patching a system that is designed not to attain the free society.

(J.D. Prudhomme, Lake Charles, La., letter in the Summer, 2012, *YES!*)

So the confusion here is truly dismaying... and speaks again to the importance of creating, using and disseminating a “people’s lexicon.” Look at the terms he’s using without defining... leaving them dangling, or rather free-floating for ‘power’ to snap up at its leisure: ‘economy’... ‘liberty’... ‘justice’... ‘free’... all of which he then associates in our minds with this phrase he spouts uncritically... whether intentionally or no, nonetheless planting ‘power’s key ideology... that “capital is necessary to develop... the economy...”

But we don’t have ‘the people’s lexicon’... in play over the airwaves anywhere... such that it’s currency could be exchanged among us... and we could watch true power... true wealth... sprout in its tracks.

Today we’re asking again, “what is ‘wealth’ and where does it come from?” Because only when we’re unclear on where ‘wealth’ comes from can we imagine that beginning to tax financial transactions... or attempting to limit ‘profits’ –

...even if it could be accomplished on a large enough scale to register as a blip (globally)... and slightly improve the conditions under which we-the-people live (all of which is doubtful... given ‘power’s hold on the levers of ‘state’)

– could mean that ‘wealth’ is returned to us.

Wall St. is a big casino... and the bets are against the earth... all run for the destruction of the planet... and it’s time to ask, “who do you serve?”

(...yes, even the ones who claim ‘socially-responsiveness’... reinforce the key myths... and retard true ‘progress’....)

John, in Lake County, who is running for a City Council seat, is struggling with the question of how to appropriately allocate energy to electoral politics... my question to him: "What is your long-term goal, and how does everything you do tie into it?"

And this question applies overall to our participation in the wage work system... of which electoral politics is a subset.

It seems to me our picture of what 'the economy' is and what 'the state' is (recurring themes of this show...) is still fuzzy... and will have to become much sharper before... or as... a sufficient number of 'we-the-people' become that critical mass... get clear on what 'the wage work system' is.

When I wrote *Waking Up*, I tended to stress more the ethical and spiritual question of what it means to sell our human energy... arguing that if we reconnected with our sources of power (true power) we would begin to see ourselves in a true light...

(...because we *are* here to grow our gifts (the ability to do which defines true 'happiness'... and for some that's a way in to this issue (ending coerced work) – but many believe that they are claiming them... by working through the conventional, the rewarded, means... 'the state'... 'the market'... and the university ('power's three horns... on which they hope to impale us...)) – and they are too busy using the ideologies of 'class' – the 'mental-manual divide,' 'progress,' 'the economy,' and 'merit-rises' being the chiefest – as the means to achieve a sense of purpose... to begin to see their earth-given gifts as the priority.... And I'm not sure on this... can you *intellectually* decide that a wage-work system is wrong?)

So in *Waking Up* I argued that we must reunite with our sources of power in order to see our true value... and not look at ourselves as 'power' does... as 'resources'... as 'capital'... as energy to fuel a 'system'... as instruments for serving 'the market' and 'the state'...

...and while I think this is so... we are effectively thwarted at the first step of developing the motivation to *want* to grow our gifts *independent* of the hoops 'power' tells us to jump through... independent of the so-called 'legitimate' means for 'proving' – 'achieving' confirmation of – our 'worth'... independent of the given means of recognition-seeking...

(...because we all need reassurance of 'worth'... as this is denied us from birth... due to the 'wage-work system'...)

...and we turn to the 'official sources' for confirmation of our power because no others are presented... the issue as a whole is never discussed in the media... i.e. those perspectives premised on the need to end 'power' are never discussed... as, until now, the *fait accompli* of 'the state' was never questioned...

(... 'power' shuts out other options... by controlling the discourse... the thoughts we hear... and because we are structurally made needy... denied access to love and security as children, due to the wage work system....)

'Power's influence over our minds holds sway... until we are able... to the satisfaction of our powers of analysis... expose 'power's fundamental aims....

Only then it seems are we open to alternative ways of seeing... as opposed to seeking strokes of appreciation.

So let's approach again this question of 'the economy'... and ask whether it's a word that has meaning in any future premised on freedom from necessity... generalized human leisure... and as we do try to establish... by taking a step back to this question of generalized human leisure... whether it can exist or no... and what... in any objective sense (as opposed to our deep conditioning...) could possibly prevent it – i.e. by *seeing* 'power' we see that it is only 'power' that prevents it...

...and asking also – what would ‘careful stewardship of the earth’s resources’ – something we’re told is what ‘economy’ means – require?

---

It is only by trashing the earth that ‘the economy’ generates ‘worth’...

...it is only by sitting on ‘its’ people’s gifts that ‘the state’ accrues ‘power’ to itself.

Take this passage for instance: “...a local biotech firm that manufactures flow cytometers – machines that test blood and sundry other fluids. Menlo is developing the software that organizes and analyzes data collected by the device.” (Matthew Shaer, “The Boss Stops Here,” *New York*, June 24 – July 1, 2013, p. 34) Let’s assume for the purposes of our example that these programmers ‘make’ ten times what the people who feed them ‘earn’... take home twice the ‘pay’ of the folks who dig the coal out of the mine that lights their warm, sun-washed, pleasant abodes... and the machines the software will be running... these are the physical manifestations of numerous materials ripped out of the earth and converted into objects that will linger above-ground for some time before they are returned... (and though far better... for the sake of her health... for them to remain in those factories for all the good they do buried in our grandmother (earth).

Now we will be told that these ‘jobs’ are ‘growing the economy’... that ‘wealth’ is being created. But clearly this is not the case. Our brothers and sisters who pick the food... and work the mines... their lives are being wasted... and of course the earth proper is being exhausted and trashed at the same time. So what is really happening behind the nice screen of the word-cover is expropriation, privatization and destruction. Because clearly there is food in abundance... enough to feed us all... every day... the chains could be thrown away. It is only to preserve the privatizing means (‘the market’)... (to keep us from knowing that ‘power’ is not needed...)

(...and this is what's key to 'power's psychology... this insistence of the philosopher-statesmen that they not just be needed... but worshipped...)

...that we accept the degradation of human beings.

So the terms we are given... to try to make sense of the world we live in... are not just false... but flipped... completely upside-down.

And the propagandistic nature of the phrase 'economic growth' (a point made by Marilyn Waring two decades ago... in *If Women Counted*...) the fact that the measures we are told to use... of 'growth'... of 'progress'... measure in truth but progress towards death for the planet... is seeping into our general consciousness.

She concluded her book by putting forward an alternative model for measuring 'the wealth of nations' developed around 1980 by Hilikka Pietila, a 'Finnish feminist activist'. It's represented by three concentric circles: A. is the inmost circle, and moving outwards, we find B. and C.: "A. the free economy; B. the protected sector; and C. the fettered economy."

Pietila's diagram describes the non-monetary part of the economy as the *free economy*, since it consists of the work and production that people do voluntarily for the well-being of their families and for pleasure without requesting or receiving pay. The *protected sector* consists of production and work for the home market as well as public services (such as food production, construction of houses and infrastructure, administration, schools, health, transport, and communication). This sector is, in most countries, protected and guided by legislation and official means, and thus the prices and other terms can be determined independently without

too much pressure from the world economy. Large scale production for export is usually called the open economy. Pietila calls it the fettered economy, since this is fettered to the world market. The terms of this sector, the prices, competitiveness, demand, and so on are determined by the international market . Pietila writes that, in terms of the UNSNA [United Nations System of National Accounts], the whole life of a society is geared to support this sector, while it accounts for a quite modest proportion of the total production in any one nation and in the world....

Political and economic policies flow from the narrow agendas of political elites, and their decisions on the data they choose to collect are utterly inadequate. And while we can collect more data, goals and priorities should flow, not from assemblages of statistics, but from values....

We will still need data for guidance... [but]what matters in terms of measurement are the qualitative indicators and our interaction with them.... [For example] diet, as opposed to household income, may well be a far better indicator of the “well-being” of the community. (Marilyn Waring, *If Women Counted: A New Feminist Economics*, 1988, p. 300, 302, 54)

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WUR, Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013: “Staying Focused On Designing A Future... On Not Getting Divided... (Pt. 4): “the hidden tribalisms of ‘power’ (Pt. 3)”

Recently, my son and I were talking about ‘money.’ He’s been hearing the argument a lot lately that it’s the root of all of our problems of injustice in our human relations, and therefore that the abolition of the monetary system would be a big step forward... towards our future freedom. I heard this argument in Lakeport when I was there as well. But I believe that the focus on money is a diversion... that money is but a stand-in... a symbol... a nexus... for something else... and that it’s this ‘something else’ – the earth – that requires our notice and our repossession.

Money is but tool...

...a means to measure...

...a ruler...

...to show how much of earth into your coffers goes...

– in ‘power’s way...

...unnoticed and unthanked.

And though converted into death...

...to silence...

...into inert objects...

...minus eyes or tongue...

...it still...

...as air that seeps up from the pit of hell...

...will mutely speak...

...the loss of all soul’s guidance.

So now that all the earth is eaten, nicely packaged, poisoned, pocked, and made damaged...

(...and when I say that “all the earth is eaten” you know that I mean that the control of it is secured. And how is it secured? It’s secured by states – that’s key...)



...now... when the lion's share of means to feed ourselves is put in private hands... and we-the-people also packaged in our narrow box called 'worker'... now... with manufactured scarcity in hand... 'power' is ready... to dispense our dangling signs that read: "will work for food."

So... "who needs money?" 'power' says... "the work of setting place and privatizing means is done... money's but an inconvenience to us now... it screens transactions of 'the people'... and we insist on seeing them... all..."

I said in the "Conversation with Joel McIver" that if our efforts to end 'power' coalesced behind the banner "a mass movement to end wage work" that it would be very difficult for 'power' to undermine it. But it strikes me that – unless we talk about it and so are not caught unaware – that this diversionary tactic... this red herring... 'money'... could be a way for 'power' to do precisely that... for the 'power'-guys (and their emissaries) to say they too are all about ending 'the wage'... and that this movement therefore must instead be framed as "a movement to end *coerced* work... to end the sway of 'necessity' in our lives... and to usher in... a world of generalized human leisure.

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Also in the "Conversation with Joel McIver" he asked, "major change is at hand, then?"... and I replied that it feels like 'end-game-time'... and I mentioned the necessary convergence of environmental and economic crises, and the fact that the Internet has changed the game in our favor (despite our political strategizing not having caught up with these changed conditions.) But there's another key dynamic – implied in the Immanuel Wallerstein quote I cited in *Waking Up*, as well as in the interview... that "'capitalism' is doomed" because the 'accumulation process' inevitably grinds to a halt with the exhaustion of the resources of the planet – and this other key dynamic... that's leading to a terminal confrontation with 'power'... is *our* exhaustion... our refusal... our resistance.

I realized after re-reading this ‘end-game’ bit of the interview that it would have strengthened the argument if we had taken time to unpack these words of Wallerstein: “If thirty percent of Indians or the Chinese are middle class...a lot more money has to go into their hands. So the world level of profits declines with the growth of the middle class globally. And they consume an enormous amount of goods – food and energy – so you see prices go way up because there are more people who can afford to buy those products.” The reason more of the earth has to go into Indian and Chinese hands is because we-the-people ever fight our down-pushed state... ever want more for our children than we accepted for our lives as ‘fate’...

...and under ‘class’ this is an on-going process...

...as is ‘accumulation’ itself...

...which intermingling reinforce and multiply each other...

...and accelerate the coming of their common ‘end’...

...the scraping dry the plate of planetary resources...

...and as that ‘end’ has come...

...‘power’ sees no other course...

...but to at once condition us to accept...

...both less and less of less...

...and less and less of us...

...i.e. to reduce our numbers...

...particularly those of us who insist on being ‘troublesome’...

– i.e. that from the view of ‘statesmen’ we are not needed...

...particularly as they can no longer feed us...

(...read: “they cannot ‘give us’ ‘jobs’”...)

...and especially cannot feed the need we have to improve our children’s lives and lots....

So when we hear that the Syrian state cannot feed ‘its’ people...

...and Egypt likewise... and China... on down the line...

...and hear of numbers dying in the tens and hundreds of thousands...

...erased from 'power's 'debit-side'...  
...and hear of high-tech toys of death that 'weaponize the energy of the planet...'  
...and know how dearly that the 'big boys' love their high-tech toys...  
...wielding them as Thor might fling his hammer...

– we've seen Assad's answer to the pressure of 'his' people for whom 'he' cannot provide 'jobs'...  
...we've seen the heavy hand of obvious tyrants...  
...but global 'power' moves more slick than this...  
...and ever strokes its fetish of the 'technological fix'...  
...ever plucks its HAARP to wreak havoc...  
...then has its pundits – open and covert...  
– plant the seeds that say once again it's *we* who are the problem...  
... 'we-the-people' nibble away like gross rabbits at the earth's resources...  
...and having over-stayed our welcome...  
...are 'over-populating the planet'....

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And what stands in stark contrast to 'power's ever-forward-thrustingness toward *its* vision... is our recycling of the same sad thoughts that pretend to counter it... this vision... generation after generation... while always stopping short of the only thing that can... the dissolution of 'power' itself: the end of its exclusive hold on the planet... the end of its hold on us... and the end of its hold on governance.

So we see that the pundits of today stop short exactly where twenty years ago Marilyn Waring also checked the horse of her analysis (while congratulating themselves on their 'hard work for the people'...) when it faced the unslacking utter-fierce formation of concentrated and organized 'power' – and by their own words we know they weren't altogether stopped by their confusion.

The truth of our lives under ‘class’ is straightforward and simple: we are dependent and our bodies don’t like it.

So the only question – that one that ‘power’ so constructs the built-up world around us to discourage, if not stop altogether, from arising – is whether our dependence is derived from a necessary sequence of conditions... or whether it’s contrived.

Virginia Woolf aptly – if ‘class’ is a given – aptly said that we are “creatures of illusion”. But it’s more true to say that we are “creatures of ‘power’s creation”... as *they* have created the illusions: the illusions of ‘power’... the illusions of ‘wealth’... the illusions of ‘value’... the illusions of ‘market’....

Marilyn Waring said, quoting Joan Robinson: that “value is... most certainly in the eye of the beholder...” – but what she neglected to add... or didn’t fully see... is that we’ve allowed ‘power’ to substitute its eye (its definitions that construct an illusory ‘reality’) for our own “healthy eye of the soul,” as George Eliot put it. And in the illusion ‘the market’ (read: ‘the slave market’... because what is subject to aught but earth is slave...) we find the chief illusion... and when once the master’s eye is gone we’ll see... it is a construction of the sheerest lunacy.

Bad is the world; and all will come to naught,  
When such ill dealing must be *seen in thought*  
[‘observed but not referred to’].  
(William Shakespeare, *Richard the Third*, III, vi)

I am but voicing what we all know...  
...so the illusion has been seen through...  
When the magician’s trick has dissolved to truth...  
...we will not long continue in our fetters...  
...as the key to the mystery of our bound hands –  
– commodification of our common treasure...  
...taking from us... and earth... and listing it for ‘the

market' –  
– removed the bindings...  
...first from our minds...  
...after which the rest–  
– our wholeness...  
...will follow.

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So by the simple device of a ladder... some above us... some below...

...and by the simple device of ranking 'mind-work' highest...  
...to solemnify our doubt of our born-gifts...  
...and by the simple device of fencing off our suppers...  
...and by the simple device of ensuring we have leaders...  
...and are looking to our 'betters' to provide...  
...our minds' garnish...  
...and so by the simple device of keeping us dependent...  
...on pundits for our thoughts...  
...on 'power' for our food...  
...we are made...  
...creatures of 'power's illusions...  
...and believe we sacrifice our gifts...  
...in the service of 'the good'.

By all of these devices 'power' leads us...  
...into its own state of ever-seekingness...  
...and never-soul-seeingness...  
...caught soul-stuck in its own mindset...  
...from which no exits are on offer...  
...sealed up in 'power's tomb.

So we look to the pundits... and credit their guidance... and let their voices stand for the silence... the loss of our bodies true voice. And to serve as illustration let's examine... the layers of misdirection... in the words of Robert Reich.

We turn now to "Unpacking Robert Reich's Baggage" – Part 2 of today's show.

Discussed on WUR of September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013: “Unpacking Robert Reich’s Baggage”

This past Friday (September 13, 2013) the radio program *Democracy Now!* devoted the entire show to interviewing Robert Reich, providing us with a good opportunity to unpack and examine some key economic and political ‘propaganda for the class system’. And Reich has given us a fresh illustration of an old tactic that maybe we should call “mulberry bush” because... for an economist, there to talk about ‘the economy’... and promote a film about ‘the economy’... he said remarkably little about ‘the economy’.

But before beginning, I have to say, that I find Amy Goodman a mystery. I can’t decide whether she’s made her limited pact with the devil... or with us... either way, her program often provides both good information and lots of propaganda. And as we’ll see, she may have also invented a version of this “mulberry bush” propaganda tactic... that we could call “coitus flirtatious”... i.e. pretending to dance with truth while in fact undermining it.

Could it be that others write the words she speaks and she lacks a moral compass? For instance just now I heard a left pundit use the phrase “inter-communal violence”... now that’s such blatant propaganda it was startling to hear her say it, but she gave no sign that she recognized its significance.

I remember when I was hawking books a woman who I realized, by the end of our encounter, had presented many ‘tells’ of being an intelligencer... asked me if I would consider being interviewed in a video she was calling “Extinction”... and my reaction was almost visceral: “I’d never be part of something with that name,” I told her. “I believe we’re being prepared to accept a very dark future (for instance I was very disappointed in Denzel Washington for participating in that apocalyptic film) – and I

believe the opposite is true... that our future will be bright... because rooted in the soil of the free gifts expressed... by every single one of us.”

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In “You Know How I Know ‘Democratic Economics’ Is A Con?” we said that there were some key things to look for in the words of pundits in order to see the propaganda – whether intentional or not is another issue – in defense of the class system:

- The statist ‘we’: the corporate ‘we’... talking about ‘the state’ but using the word ‘we’;
- Magical thinking: ‘power’ as an organized actor is never seriously credited... or sometimes even admitted into the calculation of the so-called ‘solution’ being proposed;
- Coerced work, of course, is never questioned;
- ‘Class’ is assumed as inevitable;
- ‘The economy’ must be protected at all costs.

Robert Reich displayed all of these. But one of the most important of these key ‘tells’ of pundit-speech is that the frame – economic and political – for action and analysis... is kept narrow... with a focus on the nation-state.

Reich’s speech is riddled with this one... and not he alone... it seems to be a job requirement in order to *be* a left pundit.

This tactic became evident almost at once with his reference (a standard among U.S. left ‘economists’) to an alleged Economic Golden Era of the post-World War II U.S.... “when corporations supposedly shared the wealth, and the people had money to spend... and the U.S. economic engine pulled everyone along behind it.”

Now, Reich has provided better illustrations of this misdirection elsewhere... and it's not stated as clearly here as in the film *Heist*, or the standard talk we hear from Richard Wolff... but it's implied... and it's been on my mind to unpack the implications of this con. He said:

My students, who are very idealistic... and they do want to change the world... they don't have very much of a memory of government or even of a society that we are a part of expanding equal opportunity, changing the structure of power. They don't remember as I do the 1960s...

Because when so much of the income and wealth go to the top, the rest simply don't have the purchasing power to keep the economy going at full employment.

... if you put more money people's pockets, they can turn around and buy stuff, which means more jobs, not fewer jobs. (Robert Reich)

This is misdirection on multiple levels. To say that in the post-WWII period, the U.S. was an economic engine that generated prosperity in which all of 'its' people shared is... as per usual in economic theory... upside-down. The global industrial machine ripped bloody the resources of many lands... and paid many U.S. citizens... for their unconscious complicity... with the entrails. And to suggest this should be what we want for our future... even if you could force it on the world again... is obscene.

And we must always acknowledge that the hierarchical arrangement of the world by which some in the so-called 'knowledge-sectors' seem to 'benefit'... is also replicated *within* states. If you're crafting – using control of the flow of money as your chisel – a hierarchical world order... 'hierarchy' is a principle that must be reinforced within states as between them...



...if only by trucking in immigrant labor... or ranking children in the schools.... If all are winners, dangerous thoughts might start to brew.

And when ‘economists’ say that it’s people ‘buying stuff’ that “keeps ‘the economy’ running...” what they’re really saying is that it’s ‘money’ that “keeps ‘the economy’ running...” and since it is ‘power’ with its stashed trillions that controls where the money goes... and uses its muscle to price ‘hand-work’ low... they’re obviously saying that it’s ‘power’ that “keeps ‘the economy’ running...”

...but ‘money’ is a stand-in for the earth – either the earth called our brothers and sisters or the earth beneath our feet – and its consumption... so when Reich tells us to lust for more products... more stuff... to keep ‘power’s teeth gnashing at our Grandmother’s flesh... don’t listen...

...listen rather to what your body says.

So this is a constructed mythology that only stands up if we pretend to believe that this thing called the ‘U.S. economy’ sets the terms in which ‘power’ thinks... and operates according to... as opposed to thinking in terms of ‘the global market’... and being a global operator...

...it only stands up if we pretend not to see that the ‘U.S. economy’ is in fact the compact manifestation... of a substantial portion of the resources of the globe.

The so-called ‘U.S. economy’ is a ladder-location in a world hierarchical order... in which your place is determined by how much of the earth you can claim.

The so-called ‘economic golden era of the 1960s’ simply means a feeding frenzy... a gluttonous eating of our sisters and brothers shoved onto the global plate by their dictators...

...it's a subtle promotion of the 'nation-state' as the only important frame....

The 'eye of 'power' shifted to choice pickings and some in the U.S. were briefly feasted on less. This is not my definition of 'success' for we-the-people.

And as to putting money in our hands so we can buy things... and using this as our standard for whether we have been provided with the requisite 'happiness'... I don't think so....

And while I suppose it's true that if 'power' were struck dumb and insensate... if it fell asleep for a hundred years or so... and all the money that goes to surveillance and so-called 'security'... and to subsidizing all the 'industry' that destroys the planet fastest... were instead given to those needing food and shelter... 'in exchange,' let's say... for building their own Earthships and gardens... and you called this process 'creating short-term employment'...

...I suppose if you did this... 'happiness' would indeed be served... and earth would be preserved... returned to 'careful stewardship'...

...but... what if 'power' then sits up... gives itself a shake... and revisits all of its banks... retrieving its (now grown) trillions... and looks about for what it must eat... first... to restore the rule of 'statesmen'...

—

Now why does this matter? Why is this significant misdirection? Because it propagates the con that the problem is that corporations are taking more than their 'fair share' of the 'basically good economic system' that used to crank out 'jobs'... and so 'the good life'... could happen 'once again'... if 'the rules' could somehow be 're-set'... and the 'Right-wing' effort' to sow the seeds of 'cynicism' were defeated.

So what Reich is calling for here is a 're-set' of the 'economic order' – by 'reining in 'corporate greed' – and a 're-set' of the 'political order' – by prodding young people to believe in it again... an attempt to re-fix their eyes on 'fixing the state'...

...in a sense 're-setting' the next generation on the fruitless path of ceding to 'power' the design of the world.

He says:

Well, like many people who are my age, the 1960s were the formative era.

We were involved in the Civil Rights Movement, even peripherally, the anti-Vietnam War movement. I spent a lot of time organizing young people for Eugene McCarthy; went clean for Gene in 1968. But, out of all of that came a sense of efficacy, a sense that we really could change the world. There had been a civil rights act, a voting rights act, we ended the Vietnam War and there was also an assumption that I shared with many people that, of course, you would spend much of your life working to improve society. Even if that was not going to be your official vocation or your job. Still, that was part of your work, part of your life's work. It wasn't just me. There were really millions of us. I think that assumption may be different now. One of the great victories of the right, particularly the radical right, has been to spread such cynicism about the capacity of the country to change and generate social justice that many people just have given up. They basically I don't want anything to do with politics, it is all corrupt, I don't want anything to do with that kind of focus on social movements at that scale. They will go nowhere. But that, you see, that kind of cynicism about our politics and our government cedes everything, cedes control to the money interests. And that is exactly what they want. (Robert Reich)

So ‘the problem’ is ‘money’ again... not the class system he’s so deeply embedded in.

And the problem is... supposedly... ‘*cynicism*’?

Reich calls it ‘cynicism’ to conclude that when millions ‘working’ for half a century... dedicating themselves to incrementally improving our lives... produce an outcome in which “people who are in the top 1 percent... are doing even better than... they have done since 1928...” in which “the top 10% of earners take more than half the country’s total income, the highest level recorded since the government began collecting relevant data a century ago...” to conclude, then, that these millions were misled... he calls ‘cynicism’... instead of ‘stating the obvious.’

To conclude that the strategy of ‘incremental change’... in the face of organized, ruthless ‘power’... is fruitless... far from being ‘cynical’... is quite sane.

Particularly as... if Reich is successful in wooing youth back into the game of ‘power’... and they throw away this chance presented by our Global Awakening... to link hands with their brothers and sisters globally... then... when they stagger out of their stupor to find the oceans are indeed dying... and they’ve... once again... been lied to... and the prison walls between us are even higher this time... and the ‘history’ books all say that we were gifted this marvelously efficient system... of inter-linking global ‘obligations’... in which everyone knows their place... and that their lives have meaning thanks... to the wisdom and intelligence... of the ‘philosopher-statesmen’... and ‘the people’ have retreated into the solace of spiritual beliefs (with occasional out-breaks of unaccountable hates...) back to Buddhism or ‘meditation’... back to huddling in prison cells or units... dreaming of a far-away day when we take from our wings the clips... and we finally use our gifts... and we link hands across the planet...

As if seeing through the cons of this system means we're 'giving up'... far from it. Either the compelling global quality of our building resistance is invisible to Robert Reich or he's trying to subvert it.

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Now to the 'coitus flirtatious'...

Toward the end of the interview Amy Goodman brings Chilean economist Manfred Max-Neef to the table, introducing him with these words:

I want to turn to another economist, Chilean economist Manfred Max-Neef, who has advocated for the idea of an economics crimes tribunal. I interviewed him over Independence Day weekend when he was attending a meeting of Right Livelihood Award Laureates in Bogotá, Colombia. He won their Right Livelihood Award after his publication of his book, *Outside Looking In: Experiences in Barefoot Economics*. I asked him what he was talking about with this economic crimes tribunal, why he felt one was needed. (Amy Goodman)

And the excerpt Amy Goodman played was this:

Well, we know that everything that has happened now in these last years, and we know that many, or practically all, of the big problems: environment, assassinations of leaders, in the Amazon and other places, and unemployment, and desperation, and all of the suicides that are increasing dramatically in Spain and other places of the world—we know all these, in the end, until now, are the origin of what I call an evil—an absolutely evil—economic model that is dominating the world.

This economy cannot go on any longer because it has become absolutely criminal. I was last year in the Zermatt meeting in Switzerland, with about 400 people participating, all high-level people from different countries of the world, and I gave the opening speech. In the speech I said, well, I'm going to start with a very brutal statement. The statement is that this economic model is killing more people in the world than all the armies put together. And this is people who die of hunger or of other diseases that would not be happening now if there was a more just, and I would even say decent, economic model.

What we are working on now is really a humane process. I am now one of the members appointed by the King of Bhutan, the General Assembly, one of the 60 national experts, who are designing a new economic paradigm and developing a paradigm for the world, which is based on well-being and happiness and ecological sustainability and adequate distribution of wealth and intelligent use of natural resources. But the main component is well-being and human happiness.

Along the lines of what was said by your wonderful, magnificent, and forgotten father of your country, Thomas Jefferson, the only one who wrote a political document in which happiness, the pursuit of happiness, is an inalienable right. (Manfred Max-Neef)

I find this excerpt interesting because he's calling for... not 'global society re-design' – planning for which, on the part of 'we-the-people' I believe is urgently needed – but at least potentially a step toward it: "...a new economic paradigm and developing a paradigm for the world, which is based on well-being and happiness..."

And here was a chance for Robert Reich to say something substantive at last about ‘the economy’ – but, no... instead they talk about Chile.

Now all this strikes me as significant. Why did she re-frame it as some ‘hunting-down-and-punishing’ of ‘economic criminals’?

And why did Robert Reich gratefully drop the focus on the *global economic order* (let alone “a new paradigm for the world”!) like a hot potato?

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WUR, Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013: “Staying Focused On Designing A Future... On Not Getting Divided... (Pt. 5): the hidden tribalisms of ‘power’ (Pt. 4)”... and “The ‘Global Awakening’?... or ‘The Great ‘Re-Set’”?

The one who first brings it on the stage of American politics is a classical scholar, George Mason. Ten years before he did this, he had written describing himself as a man who spent most of his time in retirement and seldom meddled in public affairs; content with the blessings of a private station, he enjoyed a modest but independent income and disregarded the smiles and favors of the great. The Virginia Declaration of Rights is substantially the work of this man. In it the natural rights of men include the enjoyment of life and liberty, as in the Declaration of Independence, and also “the means of acquiring, and preserving, property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety.” This clause passed unchanged over to the Virginia constitution of 1776. Mason had prepared the statement for the Constitution of the United States too; it was left out through a complex series of circumstances. In one form or another, the clause has been incorporated by two thirds of the state constitutions framed up until this century. Some of them actually go so far as to say in the language of the Declaration of Independence that it is the people’s right to “alter or abolish” a government that fails to secure happiness for the people. (Sebastian de Grazia, *Of Time, Work, and Leisure*, p. 263, quoted in *Unpacking ‘Democracy’*, p. 8 – 9)

Please listen to the following audio-files from the Archives... the January 6, 2013 WUR Show: “The pursuit of happiness” (parts 1 and 2):

“How does turning the world into a heartless jungle promote ‘happiness’” : January 6, 2013 WUR show excerpt:



*“How does turning the world into a heartless jungle promote happiness”... (“The pursuit of happiness” [parts 1 and 2]):*

If ‘economy’ is the ‘global lexicon’... holding all nations... all peoples... to a point... a goal... a purpose... ‘power’ creates a ‘universal jungle’....

But this destroys society, as Karl Polanyi (in *The Great Transformation*) says... and with it... ‘happiness’... while creating a global ‘consciousness’.

Market ethics are only ‘utilitarian’ (in Bentham’s sense... i.e. that which creates ‘happiness to work’ in ‘the people’...) up to a point. It manufactures scarcity, and so keeps the cattle herded... but it exposes the fundamental violence (coercion) of the system... while creating a global audience of that violence.

How does turning the world into a heartless jungle promote ‘happiness’?... This trick can only be accomplished if our thoughts are made and given us....

Bentham defines ‘happiness’ as ‘happiness to work’... to instill ‘industriousness’ in ‘the people’. This is seen clearly when you put together these two statements of his about the role of government: “to increase ‘want’ in order to make the physical sanction of hunger effective...” and “the greatest happiness of the greatest number is the only proper end of government...”

“A mill to grind rogues honest, and idle men industrious...” Bentham said of his Panopticon... because it destroys our connections with each other and allows the master to keep our attention....

So... how do we turn our heads? How do we break that hold, and see each other again?

The ‘Panopticon’ means total control... total hold... of our thoughts... ensuring that the majority tend to obedience... which requires that ‘the people’ attend to ‘power’s message... we have to be a captive audience... but the new terms require that our subjection be ‘freely’ given...

...it is the tendency... the constant pressure toward ‘obedience’... yet with the least expenditure of energy, Bentham said... that can hold a majority...

“...constant pressure toward obedience...”

...meanwhile... we renounce having any ‘say’ at all about the world we live in... and, as a result... look around... it’s not a pretty sight.

So it’s totally ‘logical’ that ‘power’ wants us to keep our focus narrow... that it trots out people like Richard Wolff to encourage us to keep our frame right on the community we live in... to not care about our brothers and sisters who create the cheap stuff to keep the rest of us in harness...

...and not just in a ‘material’ sense... equally in a ‘heart’ sense... a spiritual sense...

When we don’t care about our brothers and sisters in China, it also means that we don’t care about our brothers and sisters stuck in meaningless tasks right next to us... right in the same communities we live in.

It’s the ‘Panopticon’... keep your eyes focused on ‘economic growth’... ignore what your body says... which is: “I don’t want to do this anymore.”

(January 6, 2013, *WUR* show excerpt)

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“But this destroys society, as Karl Polanyi (in *The Great Transformation*) says...

And this is the place in our human story where we stand now.

“How does turning the world into a heartless jungle promote ‘happiness’?... This trick can only be accomplished if our thoughts are made and given us....”

Bentham defines ‘happiness’ as ‘happiness to work’...

...and so Sir Richard Branson latches upon Bhutan and thrusts it before our eyes and says, “See!... here we have a people who work happily... and look at me! I work happily! We are the same! Why? Because of happy thinking! That’s the key...” says he... Sir Richard... Duke of Cons...)

“...to instill ‘industriousness’ in ‘the people’...”

...and by the way, Branson latching upon ‘happiness’ is quite bizarre.... It’s as if someone finally told him about Bentham, and he realized that Bentham really had something there... about the role of government....

“A mill to grind rogues honest, and idle men industrious...”

“...constant pressure toward obedience...”

“...we renounce having any ‘say’ at all about the world we live in... “

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The way they conned us was... the particular form the Panopticon took... was by means of the global market and our joining with our masters in their global ‘competition’...

...so by the simple means of a ladder... and by making resources scarce... 'power' kept our eyes narrowly focused... on the con 'economic growth'... our personal stats and 'the nation's'... both....

But 'the economy' cannot provide it any longer... this 'economic' defining of 'the good life'... and in particular cannot fulfill our expectation that we will set up for our children better times... than we accepted for ourselves.

"So 'the good life' must be re-visited," says 'power', "revisited and revised... such that 'the people' can be reminded... that 'the good life' is all in their minds... 'money can't buy happiness' we will tell them... after which we can advise: 'set aside all fruitless complaining... and make... out of thin thought... something 'happy'... and construct... for yourselves... your individual selves... better lives...."

The discussion that's being discreetly ignored in the spate of articles about this supposed 're-invention' of 'business' is 'economics' itself – 'economics' being, at base (under 'class'), "the defining and assigning of 'value'..." – and what's particularly being ignored is the concept at its core: 'value'... or rather the mechanisms at work behind its assignment – i.e. who gets to assign it – and most particularly, the 'value' of commodification itself... of marketing our gifts... as the source of our unhappiness.

'The economy' (under 'class') is essentially a 'value'-assigning set of practices... conventions... made concrete by embedding them in our social relations... out of which grow the structures of state that 'ensure' (until we stop believing in them... i.e. stop thinking the thoughts we are given...) their continuance.

Marilyn Waring and Joan Robinson put their fingers on the key issue... “what has value? And who defines it?”

If the whole edifice ‘economy’ is erected on this base... is a rationalization for the assignment of a ‘power’-determined need for particular ‘value’ assignments... a need to determine who gets paid what. And if that determination is not arbitrary... but is also not based on anything intrinsic to what is being priced... but is rather determined by ‘political’ factors (ultimately)... then ‘the economy’ is a fiction that we treat as real. So, for example, when a letter-writer in a local paper says that the government should “put people to work” because it would “stimulate the economy...” he lends credence to the notion that there actually is some rational mechanism called ‘the market’ that operates according to certain objective ‘laws’... takes necessary, provided – provided by who?... and under what conditions of coercion? – inputs... and grinds them into products the value of which is intrinsically-related to the ‘rationally-determined value’ of the inputs...

...i.e. plug in resource materials... ...add human energy... ...out come products sold at the value determined by the... blah... blah... blah...

When I hear folks talk about ‘the economy’ like this, the unfortunate image that comes to my mind is that rape trial in which the defense attorney argued there was consent because the victim didn’t keep her legs shut... and illustrates with a dummy... after which the prosecutor picks up a bat... and pounds the doll to dust and asks... “where flies ‘agreement’ now?”

And we have to recognize the role of the pundits in this. When Popper wrote:

For a full justification of the demand that the philosophers should rule, we must therefore proceed to analyse the tasks connected with the city’s preservation.

We know from Plato's sociological theories that the state, once established, will continue to be stable as long as there is no split in the unity of the master class. The bringing up of that class is, therefore, the great preserving function of the sovereign, and a function which must continue as long as the state exists. How far does it justify the demand that a philosopher must rule?... The great importance which Plato attaches to a philosophical education of the rulers must be explained by... reasons...purely political.

The main reason I can see is the need for increasing to the utmost the authority of the rulers....

Thus Plato's philosophical education has a definite political function. It puts a mark on the rulers, and it establishes a barrier between the rulers and the ruled.

[So there's no mystery that almost all of us under 'class' feel that we're 'not smart enough'... that's by design... that's intended.]

It puts a mark on the rulers, and it establishes a barrier between the rulers and the ruled. (This has remained a major function of 'higher' education down to our own time.) Platonic wisdom is acquired largely for the sake of establishing a permanent class rule. It can be described as political 'medicine', giving mystic powers to its possessors, the medicine-men. (Karl Popper, *The Open Society and Its Enemies: The Spell of Plato*, p. 147 – 8, quoted in *Revealing Division*, p. 10)

...it is the pundit class that is the physical manifestation of that barrier. The pundit class creates the 'complexity'... the endless (linear) iterations of 'rational' or 'philosophic' 'logic'.

And this seemingly ‘complex’ work of ‘power’s hired guns, the pundits, serves as shield – or ‘thought-cover’ – for the ruling elite. It is their ‘work’ that holds our eyes... our attention (for ‘power’, though perhaps without intent...) keeps us closely following the twisted dealings... of ‘the monied interests... and ‘the state’... and leaves us ever with confusion... doubting our gifts... and ever convinced... that our powers of analysis... are inadequate.

This of course has a very salutary effect on pundit-egos (which explains why “they aren’t bothered”... by the squashed state of ours.) The pundits *feel* very powerful because they’re using... not their full gifts but what they’re *told* are their full gifts... because linear thought, memorization and regurgitation of provided facts, and devotion to thinking the thoughts we are fed *from birth* – is ‘valued’ by ‘power’ above all else. So... ‘the economy’, in being a ‘value’-assigning mechanism... is simultaneously a *ranking* mechanism... a mechanism for erecting that necessary barrier called ‘the pundit class’ –

...add to this almost total control of the airwaves – the thoughts we get... literally... in our ears – and you have we-the-people pretty much herded.

Another device... tangled weave... spun from the Panopticon... via the pundits... to keep our focus narrow and forestall the development of our thought process... keep from our minds those authentic thoughts from ‘earth’ (our bodies... what we see and feel...) that reveal the truth of our lives... is ‘measurement’... or ‘data-collection’... The focus on minute details is a way to claim our eyes... our attention... because it requires a lot of focus to untangle a web of lies... or a web of financial transactions...or to grasp the (infinitely-expandable complexity... because it’s spun out linearly...) invented factors of, therefore, phony formulae.

It's an entirely false exercise that 'power' ensures will deliver a big load of false reward to its practitioners. And like a carrot before a horse we chase it... chase false 'value'... because we lost our hold on true value long ago... back at age two... to please our mothers.

We said last week that what's called 'the U.S. economy' is in actuality the compact manifestation of a substantial portion of the resources of the globe... wealth stolen from the earth-entire... and if that's so... it escaped even the sham process of 'accounting'... was never 'valued' at the point of theft...

...and the 'extra-market'... or 'extra-economic' factor called 'the state' that pounds 'hand-work' low... ensured that that was so...

...which means that what's presented to us as 'accurate accounting' is a fiction... a way for bullies to say... "here's a rationale you can give them... if they insist on having one."

In all of the propagandistic articles about some alleged "business re-set", 'class' is assumed... and our 'agreement' with it... our 'consent'... we're told... exists simply because we're born into it... into 'class'...

...and the pundits never give us hope that it can be questioned...

...the 'value' of being free is never admitted into the discussion.

'The economy' is how they held our eyes... pointed us toward realizing 'power's goal... serving *its* vision.... But this vision cannot be openly stated... and they substitute in the thoughts they give us 'the good life'... but our bodies know better... we know the lives we live are not *self*-determined... the only *true* definition of 'happiness'... but we endure it and



hope for the best... or 'the better'... for our children... we endure for our children... and to ensure that their lives can be... determined by them exclusively (or so we innocently dream...) by being free from necessity...

...but with 'the economy' no longer able to deliver this hope... the 'powers-that-be' are now trying to 're-set' 'economy'.

What they're not acknowledging is that it is *commodification* itself that has destroyed 'society' – that 'good life' we once created *for ourselves* – as Polanyi warned would happen... and 'society' cannot be reconstituted by 'power's fiat.

The 'market mechanism' (thoughts) assign values *to us*... this can never produce 'happiness'... the 'great re-set' simply means... "how do we re-claim their attention?"

Bentham too wanted to analyze and even quantify 'well-being'... break it down to its so-called component parts and remake it into a thing that does 'work'... for 'power'... and so rendering us... 'predictable'....

*We* are the 'factor' 'accumulation'... on multiple levels...

...we do the work of appropriation (read: 'rape'...) of the earth... the results of which 'power' stuffs in its pockets...  
...we do the work of invention... that speeds this process...  
...and we demand ever more for our children... which speeds it still further....

The idea of possessing the earth-entire is arguably totalitarian.... Polanyi argued that until the driven attempt to establish a so-called 'self-regulating' global market, markets were never more than "accessories to economic life..." (p. 68) (obviously defining what is 'economic' as the art of feeding, clothing, and sheltering ourselves...)

(And by the way... ‘division of labor’... it is not the issue... the issue is force... coercion in our lives... the orchestrated imposition of conditions of scarcity (‘manufactured scarcity’), in order to compel us to work... so that an infinitesimal few can realize their fantasies... at the cost of everyone else never seeing their full gifts... and at the overall cost of a fully-realized humanity.)

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Our journey to a discussion of Marilyn Waring and, with her help, to a deeper understanding of what is meant by ‘the economy’... was interrupted... and in that interruption came a prime example... of precisely what Marilyn Waring is saying in *If Women Counted* – that ‘value’ is a manipulated notion.

Marilyn Waring concluded her book, *If Women Counted: A New Feminist Economics*, by putting forward an alternative model for measuring ‘the wealth of nations’ developed around 1980 by Hilikka Pietila, a ‘Finnish feminist activist’. It’s represented by three concentric circles: A. is the inmost circle, and moving outwards, we find B. and C.: “A. the free economy; B. the protected sector; and C. the fettered economy...”

...arguing... essentially... and in these new-old modern terms that Branson is promoting... that is it the ‘free economy’ that generates ‘happiness’... and the ‘fettered economy’ that makes us unhappy (and Branson, thereby, unintentionally reveals that... illustrates that... by choosing Bhutan...)

Pietila’s diagram describes the non-monetary part of the economy as the *free economy*, since it consists of the work and production that people do voluntarily for the well-being of their families and for pleasure without requesting or receiving pay. The *protected sector* consists of production and work for the home market as well as public services (such as food production, construction of houses and infrastructure, administration, schools, health, transport, and

communication). This sector is, in most countries, protected and guided by legislation and official means, and thus the prices and other terms can be determined independently without too much pressure from the world economy.

Large scale production for export is usually called the open economy. Pietila calls it the fettered economy, since this is fettered to the world market. The terms of this sector, the prices, competitiveness, demand, and so on are determined by the international market. Pietila writes that, in terms of the UNSNA [United Nations System of National Accounts], the whole life of a society is geared to support this sector, while it accounts for a quite modest proportion of the total production in any one nation and in the world....

Political and economic policies flow from the narrow agendas of political elites, and their decisions on the data they choose to collect are utterly inadequate. And while we can collect more data, goals and priorities should flow, not from assemblages of statistics, but from values....

We will still need data for guidance... [but] what matters in terms of measurement are the qualitative indicators and our interaction with them.... [For example] diet, as opposed to household income, may well be a far better indicator of the "well-being" of the community. (Marilyn Waring, *If Women Counted: A New Feminist Economics*, 1988, p. 300, 302, 54)

...and then she argues... using the language of 'class'... that 'data' – the quantification and measurement of the earth's stores – will still be needed to guide us... but 'guide us' toward... what? That is the question that must be thought through... that we must stop at once to consider...

...because...

...if the earth is not our candy store... but our grandmother to whom we return even more than she rewards... if the point of our society is leisure and rest... and not exhaustion... and waiting for death (of the earth... of ourselves...)

...if every human is self-sufficient... has learned what Hesiod also did... the ways of Demeter... such that the labor of a single day provides sufficiency for a year...  
...add to this the boon of creative communal energy...  
...add to this the boon of instantaneous communication with out brothers and sisters globally...  
...add to this the boon of all our energies reclaimed for our own use...  
...which means for the earth a return to health and wholeness...  
...as we-all-of-us are free to contribute to planning in advance for crises...  
...and our energies are devoted to life...  
...instead of the narrow aggrandizement of the few...  
...then...  
...why on earth do we need 'measurement' of her goods?...  
...which she willingly shares...  
...and we willingly return?

...measurement of her health, perhaps... but of her goods?... when 'measurement' itself we've seen brings the opposite of 'good' upon us... brings acquisitiveness and greed... at least this is what we've seen under conditions of manufactured scarcity... it's difficult to imagine a need for quantifying earth-riches when abundance is our daily inheritance.

If living well is the point of life... and coercion is no more... then certainly we will not entertain... not even for a moment... that which eats our harmony... our ability to live well.

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If 'economy' is 'free' is it still 'economy'? – and recall that 'economy' (according to the ideology...) *means* the quantification and measurement of planetary resources

in order to 'rationally' manage them... which in practice means their transfer into private hands... and away from 'the people'... which means that implied is the notion – reinforced in the propaganda – that private ownership equals 'careful stewardship'....

But their conversion into quantities erodes and erases all interest in them as qualities... as we see with the privatization of post office properties... because of the race to accumulate.

So we see that 'economy' is ideology designed to conceal the true objective: the competitive game of 'global supremacy'...

So... as... in a future premised on generalized human leisure there is no competitive rush to convert the earth into quantities so that it can be accumulated in one's 'plus' column... in a future premised on generalized human leisure... there is no 'economy.'

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What she's essentially describing is what today is called the 'local movement'... and 'power' has embraced it because it has no choice... and 'power's embrace is the vampire's kiss... so we must do (way) better than this... for freedom to be our future.

Waring was one of many progressive economists of that time who saw that a tiny few had set the weight... (moved by their values, by the way...) that skewed the world toward ever-increasing dependency for everyone but them... and who, not just sounded the alarm but devoted much sweat and love to try to influence policy decisions in a progressive direction... to interrupt the pattern clearly in place. But they didn't credit the weight... they didn't acknowledge that there were, in fact, 'values' driving the privatization process... that there were 'values'

being expressed in the pattern that was set... or that the game 'economics' has been rigged for millennia... and that the only way out... is for us to stop playing. As this was 'unthinkable'... as 'the *fait accompli* of the state' was deeply embedded in their thinking... assumptions... analysis and conclusions... they could do nothing to help us unseat... the weight. The proof of this is in the constant repetition... the continuous recycling... of the so-called 'solutions'...

...and the proof is in the incontestable worsening of our lives... our health... and the health of the planet.

The discipline of 'economics' churns the available 'solutions'...

...which are limited... because they can never release us from captivity, that would end 'power'... so, since that's off the table... the 'solutions' available that maintain class in place are limited (and in essence haven't changed since Plato's day...

And they churn out these limited, available 'solutions'... crank them out as 'fresh' for each new generation to hopefully (from 'power's perspective) be conned by – none of which challenge the game itself (it goes without saying) – while simultaneously inventing ever-more-convoluting financial instruments and dealings... adding layers and layers of 'con'... while we-the-people are told all we can do is to try to 'hold on' because we're not smart enough to do anything else.

It's a con that has worked up to now because we could not develop our thought... I say this a lot, but I see it before my eyes, I see that this is happening... I know I'm not the only one who has figured this scam out over the centuries... or right now... and it is because in this 'right now' our thoughts are flying across the globe instantaneously... we're sharing them with each other... there is no way they can keep these thoughts suppressed anymore... despite their paid hired guns, the pundits...

...this is a unique moment... so we have to trust... trust what we're seeing before our eyes...  
...because we're not going to hear it over the airwaves...  
...trust what we see in our own hearts...  
...that we *don't* need to be forced to share our gifts...  
...we *know* this....

So the force... the coercion... is for what? It's for a tiny few to be on top. It's for the most ignoble reason possible.

So... let's consult a bit more... with Marilyn Waring...

Xenophon [a 'Greek' historian, 435 – 354 B.C.] coined the word *oikonomikos* to describe the management or rule of a house or household. In general usage, the word economy still retains some links with the Greek origins. *Roget's Thesaurus* lists as synonyms management, order, careful administration, frugality, austerity, prudence, thrift, providence, care, and retrenchment. These synonyms are unlikely candidates for what is called the “science” of economics. The meanings of words, our words, change inside a “discipline”.

When I look at the index of any major journal of economics, it is difficult to think of subjects that have remained unscathed in terms of invasion by this discipline. Nobel Prize winner Paul Samuelson, Professor of Economics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, writes:

In recent years, economists have begun to infiltrate the field of demography. This is part of the imperialist movement in which we economists try to apply our methodologies to everything – to the law, to the sociology of the family, courtship, marriage, divorce, and co-habitation.

As I write, NASA has announced a “successful” Star Wars experiment. Two missiles were launched and chased each other about the sky before one deliberately blew up the other and then self-destructed. This success follows a failed Challenger shuttle mission, failed Titan and Cruise missile tests, and failed satellite launches. But for the purpose of recording production, both the success and the failures contributed billions of dollars in growth to the U.S. economy.

This is not a sane state of affairs. What is the origin of such madness?... (p. 18 – 20)

Value is the most important word to understand in it economic and non-economic contexts. The word is derived from the Latin *valere*, meaning “to be strong or worthy.” The Oxford English Dictionary now lists its principle meaning in purely economic terms... (p. 21)

Language is power, but literary concepts of ‘value’ find few friends in economics. Like much of our language, this strong, worthy word has been taken from us and led along a very narrow path.... (p. 22)

A much more accurate view of the concept of value in economics comes from a woman, the economist Joan Robinson. Economics textbooks are generally alienating, turgid, bludgeoning. But the works of Joan Robinson did not affect me in that way. A pupil of Alfred Marshall, and a colleague of John Maynard Keynes, Robinson was, until her death, a professor of economics at Cambridge University. On the question of value she wrote:

One of the great metaphysical ideas in economics is expressed by the word ‘value.’... It does not mean market prices... Indeed, it is not simply a price; it is something which will explain how prices come to be what they are.



What is it? Where shall we find it? Like all metaphysical concepts, when you try to pin it down it turns out to be just a word....

And a metaphysical belief, as in the law of value, cannot be wrong, and this is the sign that there is nothing to be learned from it....

The awkwardness of reckoning in terms of *value*... accounts for much of the obscurity in Marx's expression, and none of the important ideas which he expresses in terms of the concept of value cannot be better expressed without it.

Robinson was wary of importing a specious scientific quality into her discussions. She recognized that *value* should be examined in terms of the motives of the writer and *evaluation* in terms of the ultimate ends that it was designed to serve. If value is "a quality of an object or experience which arouses and / or satisfies our interest, appreciation, or desire," then it is most certainly in the eye of the beholder....

Many of the environmental resources we value are excluded from measure in the economy. They cannot be sold in private markets, so it is said to be difficult to determine what they are worth. Yet their destruction, and the costs of cleaning up after the destruction, are labeled 'growth' and production.'

Lester Thurow, professor of economics and management at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a highly-regarded writer on economics, sees cause for four major concerns: the pollution of air, land, and water; the exhaustion of nonrenewable natural resources; wilderness and species preservation; and the health and safety factors in industrial production.

He sums up the problem nicely:

Pollution controls are often opposed on the grounds that they will lower economic growth and will reduce our real standard of living. This simply isn't true. Using our present measures of economic output, while costs of cleaning it up do appear, the benefit of a clean environment do not appear. This is a problem produced by inadequate statistics and not a basic characteristic of pollution control.

...As I write in 1986, more than twenty-five wars are in progress, and the global expenditure on armaments is at record levels. The number of illiterate people is still growing. The U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) estimates that from 1974 to 1976, 436 million people were undernourished in ninety developing countries, as measured by calorie intake levels below which an individual's ability to carry out minimum necessary activity is seriously impaired. If present trends continue, the number of seriously undernourished people will reach 590 million by the year 2000. Lack of safe drinking water and adequate sanitation are major causes of the death of millions of children every year in the developing countries. Nearly three-fifths of the population of developing countries (excluding China) still did not have access to safe drinking water in 1986, and only about one-quarter had any sort of sanitary facility....

The sky is being poisoned with nuclear fallout. The world's ozone layer is diminishing, and the seas are polluted. No economic model provides the means for understanding how both economic growth and ecological sustainability might be possible.

Joan Robinson has written:

To learn from the economists regarded as scientists, it is necessary to separate what is valid in their description of the system from the propaganda that they make, overtly or unconsciously, each for his own ideology. The best way to separate out scientific ideas from ideology is to stand the ideology on its head and see how the ideas look the other way up. If they disintegrate with the ideology, they have no validity of their own. If they still make sense as a description of reality, then there is something to be learned from them, whether we like the ideology or not.

[So 'power' tells us that the measurement and privatization of all economic activity allows for the most efficient stewardship of these resources... which would mean therefore that it minimizes waste... but this is hardly the case... as 'the economy' is premised on and creates waste... so if a system creates waste, it cannot be 'efficient'... and if we are the key resource on which the system runs... which clearly we are... and our health, each generation, worsens... clearly there is no 'careful stewardship'.

So there is 'value' that is excluded from the measurement... which... as Marilyn Waring points out (below)... if it were included in the calculation, the ideology could not hold.

Our bodies know what has value... clean lungs have value... joyful children have value... moving freely on the earth unwatched and unencumbered by those who mean you ill has value... – include these key resources in our calculation and the theory of careful stewardship... which in any case never stood up for a second... collapses. – P.S.]

The UNSNA [United Nations System of National Accounts] and its rules and regulations govern the measurement of

national income in all countries. It is my confirmed belief that this system acts to sustain, in the ideology of patriarchy, the universal enslavement of women and Mother Earth in their productive and reproductive activities.

If I am wrong, then the system, when turned on its head to include recognition of all economic activity, will be operative. If it is not possible for the UNSNA to function by way of such inclusion, then the role of propaganda in the system will be clear. For example, if women's work cannot be successfully incorporated in a system which purports to measure all economic activity, if the system at that point disintegrates, then it is invalid. The sole function of the system is to legitimize the propaganda.

Whose propaganda would we be examining?

Harvard biology professor Ruth Hubbard, in commenting on the medical profession, said, "The system... by which I mean both the structure and content of the scientific and technical professions, has been constructed by one particular, limited social group, composed of the economically privileged, university-educated, white men, and it serves their need more than ours." The economic system has been constructed in exactly the same way. The profession of economics is that of a limited social group – economically privileged, university-educated, white men. It serves neither the majority of humankind nor our fragile planet. Its structure and content have a design and a beguiling propaganda. (Marilyn Waring, *If Women Counted: A New Feminist Economics*, 1988, p. 18 – 24, 31 – 32, 43 – 45)

"Who *are* these guys?" It's as if we-the-people... chased and beleaguered by unseen but concentrated and organized 'power'... we who simply want to live and love and honor the ancestors well... must continuously stop and turn and stare

behind us... century after century... stuck in one long *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* chase scene... and ask ourselves... “what *kind* of people are these?... so longing for what they have not... that they would destroy all joy... all health... all hope... all life... and the earth itself... to get it.”

And it seems the pundits of good heart who point to them... the ‘power’-guys... and for the record note that this state of things they make is wrong... believe that their responsibility ends... like De.Niro making *The.Good.Shepherd*... or the Wachowski brothers *The.Matrix*... but is that true?

If this system is premised on waste... what keeps us from our leisure is not insufficiency...

...‘plenty’ of ‘plenty’ is not just made by this system...  
...but even more ‘plenty’ of ‘plenty’ is simply thrown away...  
...and *that* ‘plenty’ of ‘plenty’ could nurture us all... and the earth as a whole... if we were set free...  
...to make ‘plenty’ of ‘plenty’ of joy... and peace... and ease...  
...because ‘plenty’ of ‘plenty’ is what we *are* inherently...  
...it is our nature... which...  
...once we’re free we’ll see...  
...*very* concretely.

—

Plato argued that for ‘rule’ to exist there had to be an ‘intermediary class’...

(...and as regards the function of that critical intermediary class that Plato told ‘power’ it needed to have to keep the cattle herded... we can now see clearly that this includes: “to keep the cattle divided... and confused...”)

... an ‘intermediary class’ that functions as a tribe every bit as much as Plato’s Tribe itself... which very much wants us all to think tribally as... that way... their ‘top-dog’ status is simply a matter of those ‘legacy trillions’... and millennia-long habits.

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Why won’t they say it?” I’ve thought a lot about this question... “Why won’t they say it?” as they have time to ponder while the slavery of the rest of us is such we barely have time to briefly rest before we rise and back to work again... is that the answer?... everyone *else* must slave away... yet *they* have time to think.... “They’re not bothered. Ah yes. That’s it.” (“Oh be disturbed, madam, be disturbed to the extent of a tut and I’ll thank God for civilization.”)

...quite a perk... as Platonov showed us... quite a perk... it must be quite a perk to reap such a harvest... command such a price...

...but that hardly seems sufficient reason for the burying of heart... when it seems so blazonly and blazingly clear that it’s wrong to make a market in our humanity... wrong to make a market in our lives... why won’t they say it?... when it’s worse than wrong, it’s refuse from a steaming pit of hell... leave aside the marketing of life overall... we’ll make that moot as we flood the walls... once those potent words are spoke... we’ll flood the walls and re-fertilize the world with basic common sense... i.e. the truth.

*This* tribe – this pundit tribe – seems to unify across false divisions... (something I generally advocate for...) and maybe even real ones... despite their bombast and their nationalist rhetoric... acting as a form of nationalist-orates... that congregate at conferences and commiserate together... on

the dullness of 'the masses' they've committed themselves to 'protecting'...

...a tribe with the function of furthering 'exclusivity' as a key political principle for divvying us up into small little mini-states for 'power'... all for the 'greater-good' of keeping us herded... neatly packaged and powdered fresh for the eating... and definitely well-conned and kept perennially perplexed...

...I digress...

...why do they hoard their manufactured certainty? Their unity in either contempt or paternalistic concern for us surpasses any differences in the specificities of their exclusivities... what they claim as their exclusive advocacies...

...why?... if not because those eyes upon them are so intoxicating?

'Power' knows how strong the pull of our full gifts... how piercingly they scream to be reclaimed... that which is inherent in us... but structurally disclaimed...

So we stand in line to join the tribe of 'Mind'... the tribe of 'smart ones'... the tribe of those who 'manage' the 'child-like proles'... the Tribe of Plato... because the human ability to see from high above the low-ground-level of things...

...is so intoxicating.

(So... it's likely not... on the Left... conscious betrayal... but, as George Eliot pointed out... there is an inventiveness of 'mind' that takes 'what is'... as *fait accompli*... and 'adjusts' to it... tells itself it has no choice... invents reasons why it's 'legitimate'... to not demand for others... the perks it has claimed for itself.)

A few weeks back, a progressive radio host, Davey D., played a speech by a former political prisoner who spoke as a black nationalist, and he used the phrase ‘the punditry class’... saying that, “the problem is ‘the rise of a punditry class’ that is not pushing forward the conversations that we need to have...” (07.30.13).

Now that is very like something I would say... if not my exact words... and to hear these words... used for such a purpose... what I would consider furthering division...

(...putting forward, I suspect, the notion of the self-privileging of ‘white-folks’ as the problem... instead of full-fledged, straight-on ‘power’... in maximum-wing-extension... a focus on which would ask: “has not the worm of ‘power’... the worm of ‘contempt’... the worm of ‘management’... found its way into my heart, too?... which unchecked rots it out?” I think we have to ask ourselves... is our goal to ‘manage’ others?... to get them to do our bidding? – that’s the worm of ‘power’ in us... for instance. I’ve made up these little children’s songs because I think they’re needed [...these are very rough... but I’d like to share them... and hope you’ll factor in the slapdash terms of their emergence.... I look at them as gifts from Nanji.]:

(Nanji:

At two he was his mother’s...

...at three he came to me...

...at five there were no others...

...to ‘govern’ him but he...

...and Oh that ‘he’ it held the earth...

...and all the ancestors of steady berth...

...fast-held docked in lovingness...

...for all the world...

...for all the world...

...is he.)



“Listen to the MUSTN’TS, child,  
Listen to the DON’TS,  
Listen to the SHOULDN’TS,  
The IMPOSSIBLES, the WON’TS,  
Listen to the NEVER HAVES,  
Then listen close to me –  
Anything can happen, child,  
If you want it to be.”  
(Shel Silverstein, *Where the Sidewalk Ends*, 1974)

[“Nashville is hard on the living... but it sure does well  
by the dead.”]

“If you need help... take this feather from my body...  
...shake it three times...  
...shake it three times...  
...shake it three times...  
...and I will come and help you...”  
(Mei Ying, *Kindhearted Xiawudong*, 1984)

[“A carp, a mother vulture, and a mother fox and her  
cubs, help a Uygur boy outwit a wicked princess who  
has a magic mirror and likes killing young men.”]

“When I put on my Superman-cape...  
...and I go and look and see... I know...  
...if I take a good look... and get up close...  
...ain’t nothin’ botherin’ me... Oh no...  
...ain’t nothin’ botherin’ me.”

...and I asked my son to help me... too many times...  
hoping to harness *his* energies... now that’s the worm  
of ‘power’... an insidious thing... this ‘asking’... under  
conditions of manufactured scarcity.

(I've argued that we should substitute 'coercion' for 'violence' in our thinking... in our defining of the problem... if our goal is to end 'power' and to avoid shifting the onus to ourselves... quite unjustly. Because 'coercion' points squarely at 'power'... while 'violence' ('power' has ensured) points to us....

But I've also put forward that the basic operating premises of those of us who want to establish a very different world... a future that's free... must be: "no division... no violence... no leaders..." – but our ultimate goal for the species to grow... is for that "no violence" to be "no coercion.")

...and in such a venue... designed to reach a progressive audience... is quite disheartening... and could provoke our curiosity... as it seems to be the same tactic (discussed here) used by David Brooks... but we won't indulge it... (130428brooks\_3) ...beyond restating the conclusion of that audio-blog: he who controls the lexicon (and in this case 'confuses it'...) i.e. our thoughts... rules the world.

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It is apparently a very dangerous thing to read the words of ancestors who long for our freedom... a very dangerous thing to love the earth... a very dangerous thing to love your brothers and sisters – for these offenses against 'the state'... against 'power'... you will be watched... and attempts will be made to unsettle you....

But a cursory look behind the screen of 'power's official screed and we see in their determination to keep college beyond the means of everyone but those who boast a long family history of folks who take readily to the leash (or to the crown, that goes without saying...) and to the carrot of recognition... and who eagerly seize the challenge of leaping blithely through whatever hoops are given to achieve it...

...a fear...

...because those still-earth-connected... and so not-easily-led to lose their souls for poisoned carrots...

(...when healthy ones the earth will give if you but sit with her and learn her lessons – what a no-brainer that is... if your connection to her still exists...)

...pose 'problems'....

There is a plain... straight-up power that comes from earth... that comes from being earth-taught... that comes to bloom completely unconnected to any conscious certainty.... Yet certainty is its effect.

—

Does getting to that discussion of the world... the future... we want... presume a power we don't yet have?

That tripartite disconnection we've discussed bears repetition here... in losing earth we've lost our power and our voice... in losing the ancestors, we've lost the means to develop our thought, and so our certainty... in losing access to each other, our communal form, we've lost empathy, heart and spirit...

...so... looked at this way might lead us to say... the way to regain our lost wholeness is to reunite heart, voice, and root... we must sink our roots in healthy thoughts... and healthy earth... in communion with each other.

So the goal seems to be to drop particularity... drop particular allegiances... and embrace a global humanity... not as a thought but as a *practical* reality... i.e. as a process of consciously constructing our world.

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We said if we could see the pattern... then we could intervene... but intervene how? where? and with what tools and tactics and strategies?... and we've been considering the effect of 'the Greek Chorus'...

(...and by the way... meetings can be a form of 'Greek Chorus'... if we don't provide ourselves with quiet time to reflect apart from the thoughts made conventional by their preponderance in our lives – a quiet space to reflect – so we can listen to our bodies... and grow our gifts.... This is a key piece... both ends and means in one... of our future freedom...)

... how the 'Greek Chorus' called the 'pundit tribe' is both cause and effect of our continued disempowerment... and, that 'disempowerment' means 'lack of certainty'... the absence of belief that we deserve to be free... and lack of clarity about what it *means* to be free...

...and the critical need... therefore... to break free... of those voices... and to develop our own.

(And we'll return to this point in a future show... particularly as we're constantly told that some hang back... and some are bold... i.e. that there is 'natural leadership'... a notion supportable only if you freeze in time a moment... and trot it out later as truth... when our truth as life is motion... our gifts must be constantly and consciously grown...

...which is why I say that 'happiness' is self-creation... because if you continuously thwart the efforts of a living thing to live its biological inheritance... it will be unhappy...

...that's simply the way of it... of life.)

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So what could 'economics' possibly mean if it is to be the basis of our securing "well-being and happiness and ecological sustainability and adequate distribution of wealth and intelligent use of natural resources...?"

A close reading of this quote by Manfred Max-Neef is suggests some possible concerns.

First... he gave this speech – which indicted the 'global world order' – in Switzerland, before an audience of 400 "high-level people from different countries"... now if this is the case, i.e. if this was indeed a "high-level convening"... then one thing this episode suggests... is a large quantity of disingenuousness...

...and a reasonable question we must ask is: is Max-Neef being played?... for the sake of his imprimatur... placed... on yet another tactic designed to delay... *the people's* reclaiming of our lives....

Discussed on the WUR, Sunday, September 29<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 radio show: “Staying Focused On Designing A Future... On Not Getting Divided... (Pt. 6): “the hidden tribalisms of ‘power’ (Pt. 5)” ... and “The ‘Global Awakening’?... or “The Great ‘Re-Set’”?”

The theme of today’s show is: “getting our leisure back... because we can’t have ‘happiness’... without it.

Yesterday, I listened to the head of Greenpeace International (being interviewed by Bill Moyers) say that when people ask him “Is it too late to stop climate change?” he replies, “Yes and no. ‘No’ for most of the world, but ‘yes’ for Africa, particularly the poor...” and then he said he knows that even that top CEO of some big oil company cares about their grandchild... and then he and Bill Moyers commiserate on the plight of ‘the poor’. There’s much confusion here... and as he and Bill Moyers were in fundamental agreement... these two pundits can never help us uncover it. We are never... if ‘power’s sway holds... supposed to discuss it.

First of all... if we let our mother-tongue speak... if we can see that the wealth of a human being is a matter of self-possession and the degree of integrity of soul... then ‘the poor’ is “‘power’ and the ‘punditry’” and not folks struggling... with heart and love intact... to bring two ends artificially kept wide meeting eye-to-eye. The way that ‘power’ and the pundits talk about ‘the poor’ hasn’t changed since ‘class’ first created ‘them’.

Secondly... whether or not ‘power’ cares about their grandchildren or not... they believe that their grandchildren are served by ruthlessly disposing of so-called ‘imperfection’ – meaning... us. I’ve put up a page in which we can collectively explore Karl Popper’s *The Open Society and Its Enemies*, which should be required reading for all who say they believe in ‘democracy.’ I believe he can help us see ‘power’s motives, and where they plan to take us.

Moreover... I think these motives can be seen in us – and all around us.

For instance, yesterday I heard someone say, in opposition to the Affordable Care Act, that he didn't want to be forced to pay for someone else's slovenly habits. There is a *deep* belief in class which we must *tout de suite*... start discussing... this notion that 'some are worth more than others.'

Thirdly... I think that the pundit shares in 'power's pursuit of 'perfection'... unconsciously... else he could not calmly say that "it's too late for Africa..." – that is an outrage.

We in the so-called 'knowledge-sectors' of the 'world economy' have a responsibility... and we in the U.S. especially... to unseat 'power' from its throne... so that true power... true wealth... and 'heart' for days – the 'heart' of people in Bangladesh and South African and Congo and China... can finally have *its* say... and stand unfettered in the world.

One of the 'New Development Paradigm' articles that I've posted on the page "The Global Awakening or the Great 'Re-Set'" – "For Richer, For Poorer" – states that of the world's billionaires, 421 are U.S. citizens, followed by Russia (96), China (95), and India (48)... now that is overwhelming dominance... a dominance that cannot be overcome by the conventions of class that pundits adhere to... it can't...

[...and every day... everything we do adds to it... adds to their 'plus' column... that's how 'compound interest' works... that's how 'over-balancing' works... it draws everything into it... it's the vortex... the maelstrom... Charybdis (a dangerous whirlpool in a narrow channel of the sea, opposite the cave of the sea monster Scylla...)]

...now that's just seeing reality. And those are just the *numbers* of billionaires... if we put those numbers in terms of dollars... perhaps then it would register... Because those trillions just accumulate... *interest*... our blood, sweat and tears... continuously get sucked into that, just as John Trudell said... this is a system that consumes energy... we are the source of all wealth... we and the earth... it requires our hands to dig it out of the earth... to poison it... to extract from it...

...it's going to require our hands... to release that stranglehold that 'power' has on it...

And the U.S... us... it's up to us – I mean, just look at those numbers... sheer dollars and cents shows us... that it has to be us. Egypt can't do this for us. Heart for days they may have... Bangladeshis... they have heart for days too... our brothers and sisters stuck in that noose called “power's stranglehold on the world” cannot do this....

It's up to us... because we can....  
Simple as that... because we can.

The U.S. has fattened off the world. It's time for it to give back.

It's time for us... we in the U.S.... to 'pursue happiness'.

It is our codified right.

Think about that. That's a serious advantage. It is our codified right to pursue happiness.

And once we talk about that, we'll see... as Sebastian de Grazia told us a half century or more ago... that it is *only* possible... if we possess leisure.



So 'leisure for all' is either materially possible... or it isn't. So why are we not allowed to discuss it?

Ask yourself that question and the answer will come to you.

No one disputes that 'work' as we know it now cannot be sustained... even if you want it to be.

Why aren't we even talking about that? Everybody dances around it... these pundits on the airwaves: "well, you got automation... well, there's resource-scarcity... and there's not enough water... there's not enough fossil fuels because there was such profligacy on the part of these 'power'-guys... so we're going to have to just adjust ourselves as always..."

No. No. No. No. No.

Wrong. Wrong. Wrong. Wrong. Wrong.

We don't have to. We have the numbers. We have the means... the technology. We know what their game is now... global supremacy. We can talk to our brothers and sisters globally... they will have our backs because we have theirs... That's what it takes. That's the whole thing... that's the whole point....

So we *know*... that 'work' as we know it cannot be sustained.

So either we decide to be free... or we accept an even deeper imposition of slavery on the world.

And as 'sufficiency' *does* exist for all of us to have leisure... the only thing that prevents our accomplishing it... is our thoughts....

If you care about the earth... and your brothers and sisters – and these are chains that weigh upon us all... regardless of so-called 'station' – it's time to crack that nut (this question)... and explore its substance...

...and see that what has been our longing since class began... is now a real possibility...  
...we live in a time of alchemy...  
...we are *made* of thoughts...  
...and authentic thought has been suppressed...  
...yet water it but a little...  
...and it springs back.

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In the September 15<sup>th</sup> show we noted that Manfred Max-Neef is one of a group of 60 or so folks planning... what he says is... “a new economic paradigm and... a paradigm for the world.”

The next day I did a little Internet-digging and unearthed a little background:

In April 2012, Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations, urged the Royal Government of Bhutan to take GNH to a new level. He gave the government the task of creating a New Development Paradigm (NDP) that, whether adopted into policy or not, will mark for future generations a point in history when populations across the globe started rethinking the role of government.

Secretary Ban Ki-moon, said there is an urgent need for “a revolution in our thinking” to address the multiple economic, ecological and social crises facing our world. “The old model is broken. We need to create a new one.... In this time of global challenge, even crisis, business as usual will not do.... Clearly we must unite around a shared vision for the future – a vision for equitable human development, a healthy planet, and enduring economic dynamism.”

To that end, prime minister Lyonchhen and the Kingdom of Bhutan hosted this landmark IEWG gathering in the capital Thimphu from January 28 to February 2, 2013.

The prime minister's steering committee assembled an impressive list of participants including scientists, economists, environmentalists, psychologists and other great minds from all continents to collaborate with a select group of their Bhutanese counterparts. Their job was to "articulate the principles, goals, structures and responsibilities of the new paradigm, so that this alternative perspective on development can contribute to the United Nations' post-2015 development agenda." The Secretariat stated that "The new development paradigm will focus on balancing thriving natural, human, social, cultural and built assets, and recognising ecological sustainability, fair distribution and the efficient use of resources as key conditions." The draft report will be presented to the UN in June, 2013, and a final document given by September 2014. (Written by noajones on February 14, 2013. Published in *Relationship trouble on Asia, Bhutan*, ><http://futurechallenges.org/local/a-new-development-paradigm-takes-shape-in-bhutan/><)

Now it seems to me this whole effort rests... on controlling the definitions...

...on re-defining ... not just 'economics' (which Ban Ki-moon et al. suggest we start calling 'development'...) but... even more importantly... all the terms that we would want to use... to free ourselves... from 'power' – e.g. 'leisure'... 'freedom'... 'progress'... 'democracy' – and it's becoming glaringly clear, that if we-the-people do not interfere... in this plan of 'power'... to seize the hour... away from our Global Awakening... we will be turned from the future we deserve... and handed with new collars our 'new'... 're-designed'... and re-defined... 'work'....

For instance... what should we make of this puffy-propaganda-piece on Sir Richard... or should we say 'the Duke'?... an appropriate name, I think, unlike 'the Virgin'... for someone so dedicated to trying to dupe:

I like Richard Branson. The billionaire Virgin Airlines guy just looks like he has fun, well just being alive. You just have to admire that. On LinkedIn today, Richard... asked a question that really is more insightful than it seems on the surface: “How happy are you?” ...

Richard highlights an example of a people who really understand happiness: the Bhutanese... Bhutan is hemmed in by China, India and the Himalayas; so fear and trepidation could understandably be their major export (or import). But, Richard says this about the tiny kingdom of Bhutan and the Bhutanese:

[...one wonders what words were excised here... what they revealed that had to be concealed... but the overall thrust is telling enough... “‘money’ means nothing... you’re responsible for your own ‘happiness’...”]

With this in mind, I was delighted to hear the Bhutanese have introduced a Minister for Happiness.

This Himalayan kingdom has a new measurement of national prosperity too – “gross national happiness”. By focussing on people’s well-being rather than economic productivity, there is likely to be a knock-on effect for business too. After all, a happy workforce makes for a more successful and productive team.

The Bhutanese and Richard are absolutely correct, of course. If we can all try to focus less on defining success by how much money you earn or how big your bank account is, we would all have more time to focus on the happier things in our lives. In fact, Richard says that is the key to success: focus on being happy and happiness will simply surround you. Now maybe that happiness won’t be on a private jet flying over the Himalayas, but it doesn’t really have to be, now does it? (November 15, 2012, *hrrumph*, “Richard Branson... Bhutanese...and Happiness” – ><http://www.hrrumph.com/tag/richard-branson/><)

Now every aspect of ‘propaganda for the class system’ is packed in that.... Even ‘the economy must be protected at all costs...’ is allowed in clandestinely... as the ultimate legitimization for the ‘necessity’ that states’ show some minimum degree of concern about ‘its’ people... “happy slaves are more productive slaves” no doubt will be one bit of ‘wisdom’ to come out of Bhutan (but without including the coda that if states don’t, we might start *thinking*... as Platonov pointed out.)

They chose Bhutan, in which the great majority of native Bhutanese have kept their connection to the earth. Wikipedia describes this connection as “subsistence farming and animal husbandry...” describing Bhutan’s ‘economy’ this way:

Rugged mountains dominate the terrain and make the building of roads and other infrastructure difficult and expensive. The economy is closely aligned with India’s through strong trade and monetary links and dependence on India’s financial assistance. Most production in the industrial sector is of the cottage industry type. Most development projects, such as road construction, rely on Indian migrant labor. Model education, social, and environment programs are underway with support from multilateral development organizations. Each economic program takes into account the government’s desire to protect the country’s environment and cultural traditions. For example, the government, in its cautious expansion of the tourist sector, encourages visits by upscale, environmentally conscientious tourists. (*Wikipedia*, 09.16.13 search, on ‘Bhutan’)

Of course Sir Richard et al. decline to mention this earth-connection (and presumably a relative absence of coercion) as a possible reason (if it’s true...) that the Bhutanese are “a people who really understand happiness...”

...a mere oversight... no doubt... of the arm-numbing work (all that heavy silver to hoist... and vino to carry about) of Branson's pack of experts... a mere slip of the morals in their conscientious search for the source... of this elusive quality 'happiness' (under 'class')... as they forage among the smashed remains of us and our 'class'-bludgeoned souls.

So... Bhutan... it seems... has seized its fortunate fate of being less penetrable to 'power'... and is turning it to account (most likely in order to help it remain so... remain a little oasis in which 'market-ethics' has yet to batter it completely senseless.)

And Sir Richard too sees a golden opportunity in Bhutan's happy accident of geography... and seizes on its earth-connected cultural inheritance... a legacy that elsewhere 'power' either devastated or wiped out completely... and tells us that it's their 'happy thoughts' alone that keeps the Bhutanese 'happy'... and uses his clout no doubt to help make of Bhutan a little oasis for the "upscale, environmentally-conscious..."

And then Team B pretends that a physical... a daily lived and developing... connection with the earth can be destroyed... and replaced with... them!... or rather with the thoughts they produce so 'scientifically'....

'Power' has a 'scientific' fix... for even the soul's theft... we simply have to be taught to train our minds to admit naught... but happy thoughts... and of course to ignore our bodies (which amounts to ignoring truth... which is the point.)

And the more subtle message is (an Internet-era version of the 'rags-to-riches' myth...) that it's all in our heads!... that 'wealth' has come to them... the 'power'-guys... not just because they're 'smarter'... but even more because they're more psychically healthy than we party-pooper-dispossessed. So in this quite bizarre twist... we have the folks responsible for trashing

the planet... and devastating our lives... hoping to pose as the spiritually-uplifted... claiming moral superiority... saying that they intend to save us all... of course never bothering to add... from them.

Sir Richard Branson... led a discussion with his Twitter followers. The subject under discussion was: “How can business change the world for the better?”

This... topic has become increasingly central to Brand Branson in the past few years... On October 3<sup>rd</sup> [and I’m quoting from an *Economist* column of 2012...] Sir Richard began to roll out a third initiative, which he has christened the B Team... the B... refers both to business and to the need for a “Plan B” for capitalism. The idea is to form a small group of business leaders who will campaign for reforms to make capitalism more oriented to the long term and socially more responsible. Needless to say, they will bear no resemblance to the A-Team, whom fans of 1980s television will recall a bunch of mercenaries who everyone assumed were in it for themselves but in fact wanted to save the world....

[And of course this is precisely how ‘power’ sees itself... misunderstood... beleaguered.... Here they are installing the Republic... (and please visit “Karl Popper on Authentic Education for Youth” where we’ll be exploring ‘power’s motives... their endurance to the present... and how we move beyond them... in the present...) the dream that has tormented big brains like themselves for millennia... “we’re almost there!...” they’re doing it for *us*... all of it...]

...Other members [besides “Sir Richard and Jochen Zeitz, boss of Puma, a German sporting-goods firm”] are being recruited... before a formal launch early next year. The idea is that each member will champion a particular reform and work with the others to get all the reforms adopted.

A consultation exercise is already under way to find which reforms are ripe to be pushed through. Proper accounting for environmental impact, and end to quarterly reporting of results and the phasing-out of fossil-fuel subsidies are likely to be near the top of the list....

[No doubt they plan a long 'phase'... to allow for full extraction... no matter it be "barbarous and wantonly wasteful"... and work against "the interest of coming generations...":

"We have at our disposal three main sources of life-sustaining energy – [fossil] fuel, water-power and the heat of the sun's rays.... The force of wind offers much better chances and is valuable in special instances, but is by far inadequate. Moreover, the tides, waves and winds furnish only periodic and often uncertain power and necessitate the employment of large and expensive storage plants. Of course there are other possibilities, but they are remote, and we must depend on the first of these resources. If we use [fossil] fuel to get our power, we are living on our capital and exhausting it rapidly. This method is barbarous and wantonly wasteful, and will have to be stopped in the interest of coming generations. (Nikola Tesla, "The Power Of The Future," published in 1915, *Collected Writings*, Volume 2, p. A-183)

Now... that is for all the folks who say that "it could not have been foreseen... the results of all our profligacy..." Pawn your cons some other place. Nikola Tesla pulled your coats a hundred years ago. ]

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WUR, Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013 radio show: “Staying Focused On Designing A Future... (Pt. 7): “the hidden tribalisms of ‘power’ (Pt. 6)”... and continuing: “The ‘Global Awakening’?... or “The Great ‘Re-Set’”?

Today we’re going to continue examining the Sir Richard-and-Ban-and-World-Bank-head-led initiative to sooth our concerns about global ‘inequality’... (which no doubt they will frame as “inequality in education”...)

...in an attempt to re-direct our eyes from our good, rich earth – and the fact that we’ve been... and are being...

(...and a big ‘shout-out and thank you’ to our brothers and sisters globally – from South African to Chile to Bahrain, Greece and China – who are fighting this dispossession... including the dispossession of our bodies...)

– removed from this seat of our health and well-being and happiness... the earth...

...and so we will be asking, with Karl Popper’s help... “leadership to what?” And I’ve posted a short piece on this page called “On Leadership and Self-Organization... On ‘Poor’ and ‘Rich’” which I hope you’ll read. I’m intending it to be a sort of ‘preface’ to our conversation with Karl Popper.

And as I commented in his chapter on ‘The Principle of Leadership’ on the page “Karl Popper on Authentic Education for Youth”:

...we will be discussing not just Popper’s insights on ‘authentic education’... and the fostering of ‘leadership’... but also whether, or to what degree, these insights bear on the possibilities for ‘authentic governance’... i.e. we will be challenging this seeming sacrosanct notion of ‘rule’....

Now this ties in to ‘Socrates’ Dilemma’:

*“Socrates’ Dilemma... points to the illegitimacy of ‘rule’”:*

But this moral intellectualism of Socrates is a two-edged sword. It has its equalitarian and democratic aspect, which was later developed by Antithenes. But it has also an aspect which may give rise to strongly anti-democratic tendencies. Its stress upon the need for enlightenment, for education, might easily be misinterpreted as a demand for authoritarianism. This is connected with a question which seems to have puzzled Socrates a great deal: that those who are not sufficiently educated, and thus not wise enough to know their deficiencies, are just those who are in the greatest need of education. Readiness to learn in itself proves the possession of wisdom, in fact all the wisdom claimed by Socrates for himself; for he who is ready to learn knows how little he knows. The uneducated seems thus to be in need of any authority to wake him up, since he cannot be expected to be self-critical.... (from chapter 7, “The Principle of Leadership” of Karl Popper’s *The Open Society and Its Enemies: The Spell of Plato*)

[I think the way out of this seeming dilemma of the ‘need – or not – for authority’... is to recognize, and to trust, the authority of the earth... its power to recapture mis-taught souls. The ‘force’ upon our minds of that which feeds us is profound... and authentic judgment rests... on being *self-sufficient*. – PS.]

Plato, I believe, knew the answer to this dilemma – that the earth itself is always trying to re-align us with her – else he could not have, with such certainty, stressed the importance of holding our eyes... controlling our minds... our thoughts....

So... as we read on about this latest con... let’s keep in mind... that it is an effort to claim our eyes:

There were too few candidates from the business world of sufficiently unimpeachable character, it seems, and, more positively, some members of the B Team are likely to be relatively young. Instead, the plan is for the B Team to consist of people who have done business in a way that fits the guiding principles, such as Mr. Zeitz, perhaps Ben Cohen (of Ben & Jerry's ice cream) or Paul Polman, who is trying to double Unilever's revenues while halving its environmental footprint....

One reason to be optimistic is that many of these reforms have strong support from the generation of leaders now rising to the top of the corporate world, who are often deeply unhappy with the practices and norms bequeathed by their elders – other than Sir Richard, of course. (Schumpeter, "Call in the B Team," *The Economist*, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012)

With leadership from progressive business, we should be able to satisfy the material and non-material well-being-needs (though not the created 'wants')... of nine billion people....

[...presumably his 'need' equals what 'science' tells us we need ('science' being a chief means of keeping us asleep... as it implies that 'others' must do the thinking... while we must be weak adjuncts of those 'minds'...) and his 'want' equals what our bodies – 'merely', i.e. 'trivially'... as 'trivial' as the people who harvest the food we need to exist – tell us we need... 'Bodies', we are led to think, 'perform' for 'the system... they don't speak the earth's truth. – PS.]

But to do so will require business to think very differently about its role and how it operates. That's why at The B-Team, we understand that the sustainable business of the future, the future bottom line, the future of leadership and future incentives will all need to be defined by their ability to ecologically-efficiently satisfy our well-being-needs. (Jules

Peck, Founding Partner, Jericho Chambers; Trustee, New Economics Foundation, “Good Business = Well-Being of People and Planet?”: “The B Team,” *Huffington Post*, September 17, 2013, Posted: 09.16.13, >[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jules-peck/good-business-wellbeing-o\\_b\\_3936924.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jules-peck/good-business-wellbeing-o_b_3936924.html)<

And while it’s primarily PR (public relations) I think it has a simultaneous (intended) side effect of putting ‘businessmen’ and ‘statesmen’ who profess ‘independence’ on notice: “expect that things will be different. We big boys will amass massive dollars... you little ones ‘get used to disappointment...’ because the cattle are restless... so nothing else now takes precedence... over getting past this global threat – and we intend to lead us all out of it...”

And although the U.N. initiative presents itself as a separate effort... these ‘guys’ (and women too... a few) are a very small tribe... so there’s a lot of cross-over in their planning bodies (‘power’ is ‘power’ is ‘power’... whatever mask it wears...) in efforts of global paradigm redesign... and there’s only one planet to rule (so far... which is but one more reason... to move beyond these small people...)

...but recalling that our focus (no less than ‘power’s on *its* vision) must be on bringing into being a future based on free human beings (if we want to get it...) I’d advise... to recognize the obvious when we see it... and not waste too much time ‘investigating’ in order to ‘prove’... that they collude... and it beggars belief to pretend to think... that Sir Richard’s and Ban’s and the World Bank chief’s efforts are completely distinct. But here’s a tip of that iceberg for any that need it:

You know well the challenges facing us. From reversing ecological and economic collapses to meeting the development needs of seven billion (and growing) residents of

our planet, we've got our work cut out for us.

[You see? 'Power' thinks 'big'... which is why the problems we face are 'big'... which is why we can only meet the challenge of them by being big ourselves.]

But what can one person-or one organization-do?

A lot. It's why I keep climbing on airplanes, and meeting with CEOs, students, government officials.

And I need your help.

Join me on an adventure to transform the global economic paradigm. I'm part of an International Expert Working Group, convened by the King of Bhutan to set forth the intellectual architecture for this new paradigm, and we created the Alliance for Sustainability and Prosperity, or ASAP for short, to convene the expertise needed to bring genuine prosperity and well-being to everyone on the planet. Check us out at [www.asap4all.org](http://www.asap4all.org).

ASAP seeks your ideas. The world needs help and its leaders are asking for your answers.

Twitter Accolades: Natural Capitalism Solutions (@natcapsolutions) was named one of the top 20 NGO's to follow on twitter by Triple Pundit (@triplepundit), while Hunter (@hlovins) was named by The Guardian (@guardian) as one of the top sustainability women to follow on twitter. If you are on twitter be sure to follow us to see what all the buzz is about, if you aren't already following us.

Corporate Social Responsibility Leader: Hunter Lovins; A number of past and current NCS clients, as well as Hunter, were named as 35 Female CSR leaders you should know of in Triple Pundit.

Wonder Woman: Hunter Lovins; New Hope Media Named Hunter one of 9 Wonder Women of the Natural Industry.

Thought Leader: Hunter Lovins; Trust Across America named Hunter one of the Top 100 thought leaders in trustworthy

business behavior for 2013, along with an extraordinary group of leaders.

Advisory Roles: As we go to press, Hunter was asked to become an advisor to Unilever North America, and to Richard Branson's B-Team effort to make business work better. How? By shifting the focus from just financial gains, towards environmental and social gains as well.

Bhutan Working Group Meeting; Birmingham, UK (16-18 August 2013)

As you read above, I'm part of an International Expert Working Group, convened by the King to set forth the intellectual architecture for this new paradigm.

In a sense, this is what we do at Natural Capitalism: create new paradigms, and help companies, communities and countries implement them. It's why I keep climbing on airplanes, and meeting with CEOs, students, government officials. This spring I've been going down the road at an even more manic pace than usual - from setting sail with Unreasonable at Sea (read my last blog, [click here](#)) to flying to Bhutan, then down to Costa Rica for the UN's consultation on creating the ext global development goals, to criss-crossing the US and Canada, teaching and keynoting conferences, I've been on the road all but 20 days this year.

Coming home to Colorado is always nourishing, but never more so than in early summer, with horses knee-deep in verdant pastures and nighthawks swooping insects from the warm evening skies. With a few exceptions, I'll be home now until fall. Which is a good thing as the report to the King is due by September, and I'll need time to focus on it.

Warmest regards, Hunter. Natural Capitalism Solutions is a 501(c)3 non-profit. (Natural Capitalist Solutions; <http://natcapsolutions.org/ealert/June2013/Ealert-June2013.txt> "Transforming the Global Economic Paradigm: An article by Hunter Lovins")

And reading her post brought up an at first unaccountable sadness... her need to trumpet her achievements is so like what I see in those abandoned children of two or three... or thirteen... or thirty-three... whose eyes seek yours and say "Look at me! Look at me!" We are all abandoned children under class' regime.

(And forgive the seeming excess... but this talk of being abandoned here pitches me into a needed 'digress'... and this is particularly up for me because my grandchild is being subjected to... what I consider to be a soul-crushing pre-school. When I described its rigidity to another member of the Berkeley Liberation Radio Collective at our last meeting (October 3, 2013), he said: "It sounds like Montessori..." and he got it in 'one'... it was... or, rather (unfortunately)... is... and he said: "that's what they're known for..." He thinks of them as "Keep It In Its Container." His three-year-old goes to a pre-school that uses the method "Learn-By-Play"... to which I would add that we adults need to learn this... from the toddlers.)

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The discussion that's being discreetly ignored in the spate of articles about this supposed 're-invention' of 'business' is 'economics' itself – and the concept, therefore, at its core: 'value' – 'economics' being, at base, a 'value'-assigning mechanism.

But to say this is also to say that 'economics' is a '*rank*'-assigning mechanism... and though the main one, not the only one. 'Education' is a big one... and will, I believe... should 'power's will prevail... swell in importance as it steps up to preserve, if it can, 'class'... and, then, they hope, supplant it... i.e. that 'education' could serve as exclusive means to determine 'rank' when 'wage' is 'passé'... and keep us divided... and prevented from uniting.

And no doubt we'll have to discuss the plans of 'power' to (supposedly) rule by 'merit'... as it may be (for some) counter-intuitive... to challenge it.

We learned from Marilyn Waring that 'value' is in the eye of the beholder... and from Bentham that 'power' plans to be the single 'eye' we see through (by means of his Panopticon....)

'Power's dream to keep us asleep...  
...to keep us hypnotized...  
...is to be...  
...for every human being...  
...the single dazzling eye...  
...that awes us by being...  
...or seeming...  
... 'all-seeing' ...  
...the sun to which we rise...  
...that calls us to our labors...  
...gives us light and the food that feeds us...  
...gives us our every thought to think...  
...becoming, in short...  
...our everything.

Now until very recently this is a description that fit 'the economy'. But in this 'wake-up' moment for 'the people'... globally... 'power' has decided (too late we hope...) in all humility... to toss off that robe... and reveal itself in all its golden wisdom... and 'all-seeingness'... and benevolence...

(...I mean... they are 'the A Team'... as *The Economist* told us... the misunderstood ones... and despite our obliviousness... they must save us... they must step up. There's a crisis!

And though their motives may be misjudged... and they may be abused by some (the ungrateful ones...)



...as the rest hang back and are helpless...  
...only they can do what needs to be done....

There remains, merely... the anointment.

So... purse-bulging...  
...he convenes groups of 'experts'...  
...all eager to please that bag...  
...and to get written up in the papers...  
...as the ones who are saving the planet.

So... as ranking can never produce 'happiness' (and why are we not talking about that?... we here in the Land of the Codified Right to Pursue Happiness?... ) the challenge for 'power' is how to seem to retire 'rank' while maintaining (or rather even deepening) 'class'... i.e. their exclusive hold on 'decision-making'... their ownership and defining of 'the state'.

It seems to me they will have to fall back on some alleged 'natural' distinction between those who are 'gifted'... and those who are (sadly) 'not'...

...falling back on some alleged 'natural' hierarchical barriers / divisions between us...

...that they must 'prove' by means of the 'education' system... 'show' (because everyone, they will argue, is given the same 'chance' (back to that hideous Gates Foundation crap...)

So there are multiple cons (illusions) 'power' is floating right now... several ropes it's playing out with which it hopes to hang us (or just tie us up... depending... on whether and what use it has for us...) in order to achieve certain outcomes.

## Cons:

- ... Refreshing the definitions;
- ... The 'natural' hierarchy... which implies:
- ... 'Natural' leadership;
- ... 'Re-set' 'progress'... with the confluence of environmental and economic crises it's a hard illusion to prop up...;
- ... Paternalistic guidance and management;
- ... Waiting for 'the smart ones' to 'find the answers';
- ... 'Education' 'proving' the above;
- ... 'Power' and 'the people' are one... (they have to get our necks back in those collars....)

## Outcomes:

- ... 'Power' disappears into 'the people' (we see this in all their propaganda... it's not them – oh no – trashing the planet... it's those pesky pre-historic brains betraying us... or 'human nature'... or some damn thing...);
- ... 'Finance' disappears into states; (now that they're positioned with a seemingly unassailable advantage);
- ... Abolition of 'private property'... (by which they mean *our* attachment to our common earth... all may be folded into the ready arms of oligarchic governance... perhaps they'll take a leaf here from the tale of the Chinese elites...);
- ... Repossession of human energy globally;
- ... Oligarchic stewardship of the resources of the planet.

Now perhaps your response is similar to that of a young woman I spoke with in my book-hawking days. When I said, "these ten thousand guys or so could be called the Tribe of Plato, because they believe in the rule of the 'philosopher-king'..." she replied: "well, what's wrong with that? What should we have? Rule of the stupid?"

(We'll discuss this question of 'rule' shortly... but I encourage folks to check out how Popper frames the question... and how he debunked this notion of hers... exposed the fallacy of 'wise, oligarchic rule'... of 'authority' enshrined by 'the state'... in his chapter, "The Principle of Leadership.")

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Last week, we said that the structures of state that grow out of the imperatives of 'power' (as reflected in 'the economy'...) reflect a set of 'value'-assigning practices and conventions. But I think it's more accurate to say that 'the economy' is a set of 'value'-assigning devices *backed up* by the arm of the state... and that it is our energy that moves that arm. And although the frame called 'class' provides the overall shape... it's *we* that create the seeming complexity... perhaps most particularly the 'middle ranks'. So there seems to be infinite complexity as the state invents means to keep us within bounds... and as it tinkers with all the devices that arise in response to the multitudinous interests to which we provide lift... in our struggle for resources artificially limited (by the state.)

But if that boulder 'scarcity' is never dropped in our calm waters... then the waves of distress dissolve into gentle, overlapping circles of assistance. Just as distress feeds distress... assistance and peace seeds peace.

So the seeming complexity of 'the economy' is but the mirror of us... skewed by the limits the state imposes on us.... It mirrors us... but it mirrors us in a box with walls that stop us every time we try to grow bigger. So... rather than study our stuntedness... why not let our eyes scale the walls... and pursue happiness? We simply have to begin discussing, "What does 'pursue happiness' mean?"

And while these articles claim that this campaign is to promote “a new set of progressive business values that ‘prioritize people and planet alongside profit’...” (“Plan B for Business”, *Eco-Business: Asia Pacific’s Sustainable Business Community*, ><http://www.eco-business.com/news/branson-and-zeitze-launch-plan-b-business/><)...

...until we-the-people have our own agreed-upon definitions – which we religiously re-assert every time we get bombarded by contrary ones – until that day... every media message they promulgate, rest assured, is calculated to re-enslave.

So it’s a fair assumption... in de-coding the above... that when they say they are ‘prioritizing people’... they mean that for them nothing else takes precedence... over re-capturing our wandering attention.

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The battle for our future...  
...‘power’ wages behind scenes...  
...behind a screen of lies...  
...and the class-old-cons that it revises...  
...and the lexicon it’s hurriedly re-writing...  
...a gift of its pundits’ naiveté gratis ...

The signs are everywhere (in the media that it uses to keep us – particularly those among us who might claim the name ‘progressive’ – conditioned...) that ‘power’ has mounted its fleetest steed to overtake ‘we-the-people’... in this race – on the part of ‘we’ – to get free...globally... and – on the part of the ‘philosopher-statesmen’ – to ‘re-set’ the class system.

The rapid-fire bombardment of late:

...Jaron Lanier does his small part to try to drive a stake in our building unity across false divisions... with a book the title of which gives the false impression that ‘the future’ might be... to his mind... up to us. But... no... the more he describes it, the more we realize that it does not diverge in the slightest from the standard “reverence for ‘mind’ over ‘hand’”... required in mainstream-published prognostications about ‘the future’...

...Robert Reich and others... (I’m hearing the same message severally...) reminding youth of how much can be done... if you work within ‘the system’... and even by just “calling your Congressmen and women...

...Robert Reich and Amy Goodman and Manfred Max-Nee

f (naively or no, who knows?... but certainly in concert...) plant the seed that ‘the smart ones’ are planning a new ‘global paradigm’... one “based on well-being and happiness and ecological sustainability and adequate distribution of wealth and intelligent use of natural resources...” (...should we call this the ‘gaudy lipstick con’? as if with a wave of their magic-wand... all the beating-down and pounding-senseless of ‘hand’ labor will [poof!] be gone... or that they will free us with flowery words... or over-awe us with the sheer grand sum of the collective-pundit-years of higher education that ‘power’ has dedicated to this con-job.)

...and then this Friday salvo... is immediately followed... by the *Huffington Post* bespattering the online world with some mind-numbing pap... from someone named ‘Peck’... whose take on this “new global paradigm” sounds very much like the “old global paradigm”:

At Jericho Chambers, we’ve developed a process called [blah... blah...blah...] which is based on insights from user-centered-design, positive psychology, well-being and welfare economics, theories of human needs, hedonomics

and neuroscience. This strategic innovation process helps companies map, measure, manage and maximize the well-being-satisfaction their brands, products and services can provide to customers and society. It's based on unpacking and understanding the real well-being-needs of customers and either mapping current products and services against that landscape of needs, or innovating with new products or services which can satisfy those needs in an ecologically optimal manner.

...and just today (September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013) excerpts are being played from a documentary ("Surviving Progress" by Ronald Wright) that pretends to expose "the notion of 'civilization'" as covert propaganda... which, in a typically (for 'power') Machiavellian fashion, is precisely what it purports to expose.

The film is classic 'bait-and-switch'. It begins with a decent analysis of the inherent deceptions in 'economic' notions... explaining why 'economy' is a fiction... and then they hurriedly turn our eyes from the obvious... that there are people who stand behind the deceptions... and rather try to make a case for 'our' alleged 'pre-historic', and therefore 'primitive,' 'brains.' This is not just classic 'bait-and-switch'... this is classic propaganda in defense of the class system.

The excerpts I've heard manifest most of the key bits (see: "Unpacking Robert Reich's Baggage") that we expect of "propaganda in support of the 'class'-system."

- The statist 'we' – and this notion of 'the state' is inclusive of 'power' (in all its guises...) – the corporate 'we'... talking about 'the state' but using the word 'we'. This was the film's dominant con, although, given the subject matter, expressing it was also necessarily a legitimization of 'class'.

Here are some of the ways the cons were expressed:

– “...one challenge we face... we are more and more in a position of behaving like gods... manipulating other species and even ourselves...”;

(...in saying this the con is conveyed that both the authority, and the interests, of we-the-people and of ‘power’ are one...)

– “...it’s imperative that we get more and more people to realize the humanity of other people...”

(...as if ‘we’ [we-the-people] don’t! As if we-the-people are not uniting across false divisions as never before seen under the regime of class... Narrow particularities are falling before this threat [‘power’s global supremacy project’] despite the appearance of the opposite – magnified as always by the pundits...)

– “...the greater the top – bottom differential, the blinder the elite is. The rich countries have a tremendous amount of wealth compared to the poor countries...”

(...! So we-the-people in the U.S. are made ‘the elite’! while ‘power’ discreetly withdraws from view...)

...several cons essential for ‘power’ are thereby reinforced:

...it ‘invisibles’ the indigenous and other earth-connected folks like Nikola – as we saw from our earlier quote;

...it deflects focus from the ‘elite’...

...it merges our interest with that of the ‘philosopher-kings’...

...it would have us believe that it is our so-called ‘primitive brains’ that are the problem... not concentrated and organized ‘power’.

So as class is a given... all the cons that legitimate it are necessarily present.

- Magical thinking: concentrated ‘power’ as an organized actor is never seriously credited... or sometimes even admitted into the calculation of the so-called ‘solution’ being proposed;
- Coerced work, of course, is never questioned;
- ‘Class’ is assumed as inevitable:  
 “Ordinary folks losing faith in the social contract is a pattern we see a lot in modern times...”

(Of course ‘the contract’ is accepted as a *fait accompli* and a given, i.e. “we let you give us our work (subsistence... minimum existence in which we relinquish our gifts...) and we give you our obedience...” (what a deal for ‘power’...) and no pundit ever questions the so-called ‘contract’.)

“Brains have begun to get together around the planet.”  
 (Relax... the ‘brains’ are on it. But... what about the ‘hearts’? Isn’t it our *hearts* that have gone missing? What did Emily say? “To fill a Gap... Insert the Thing that caused it... Block it up With Other – and ’twill yawn the more – You cannot solder an Abyss With Air.”)

- And that “statist ‘we’” leaves much confusion in its wake just because of its lack of clarity: the film presents itself as a critique of ‘civilization’ (undefined)... says that “it’s been around for 5,000 years... that *it’s* the problem...” but then tells us that the real problem is that “our hunter-and-gatherer hardware... our ‘Paleolithic’-hunter brain... hasn’t caught up with its software [modern technology...];

(...No, we have a ‘communally-developed-and-egalitarian-species-creativity’ stuffed in an ancient, millennia-long class / rank-based ‘elevation-of-the-few’ form of social arrangement... and we chafe at the artificial restraints... and we are bursting out of them...)



...that “our nature is to make snap-judgments and not to think about the future ...”(!?) “...we have these animal minds and the enlightened part may not come naturally to us...” someone says (!?) “Can we transcend that inner animal nature... that Ice Age hunter?” asks another (!?)... “There are five billion people waiting to tap into this bonanza of cars and...” “We have to think about the finite nature of the planet so we can keep it alive. The Ice-Age hunter is still us... those folks who always thought there’d be another herd of woolly mammoths over the next hill.”

(The following is from the dictionary in this computer:  
Woolly mammoth: a mammoth that was adapted to the cold periods of the Pleistocene, with a long shaggy coat, small ears, and a thick layer of fat. Individuals are sometimes found frozen in the permafrost of Siberia.

The Pleistocene epoch lasted from 1,640,000 to about 10,000 years ago. It was marked by great fluctuations in temperature that caused the ice ages, with glacial periods followed by warmer interglacial periods. Several extinct forms of human, forerunners of modern humans, appeared during this epoch.

Paleolithic: of, relating to, or denoting the early phase of the Stone Age, lasting about 2.5 million years, when primitive stone implements were used. Also called Old Stone Age.  
Origin: mid-19<sup>th</sup> century: from paleo- [of prehistoric times] + Greek *lithos* ‘stone’ + -ic.

Further:

The Paleolithic period extends from the first appearance of artifacts to the end of the last ice age (about 8,500 years ago). The period has been divided into the Lower Paleolithic, with the earliest forms of humankind and the emergence of hand-

ax industries (ending about 120,000 years ago), the Middle Paleolithic, the era of Neanderthal humans (ending about 35,000 years ago), and the Upper Paleolithic, during which only modern *Homo sapiens* is known to have existed.)

So he is identifying so-called ‘pre-civilization-brains’ as the problem, not really ‘civilization’ itself... which is the opposite message to what he purports it to be.

This seems very much like an orchestrated campaign... presenting the problem as ‘Paleolithic’-brains feeds nicely into Sir Richard’s agenda... a very neat pass of the ball along to his pack of ‘experts’... “the ‘best brains out there’ will fix it all – inequality... oceans dying... all the poisoning and the global warming – all for us...” he assures us... All we need do is give *them* our trust... this is called ‘re-setting’ our allegiance... just when we were starting to hear... the earth.

And this orchestration speaks to our need to convene our own discussions... apace... apace... apace... so we can have *our* ‘say’... and decide what’s best... “The ‘Global Awakening’?... or “The Great ‘Re-Set’?”” When Susuki says (essentially), “we thought we were well on track... on this train called ‘progress’... but we were presumptuous...” his destination... and ours... are not the same.

The ‘re-set’ is about finding a new lens (or prism) for the Panopticon. The point of the Panopticon – though it literally means “all-seeing” – is to hold our eyes...

...so that all are seeing *it* – this is the ‘energy-efficiency’ bit in ‘power’s design... this is why contrary – to ‘power’s – thoughts are so abhorrent to it... control (patrolling both the cons and us... to assure their fit and our compliance...) becomes expensive when authentic thought proliferates... the costs run high in time and treasure... for realizing Plato’s vision depends

on constant forward pressure – momentum... because our (we-the-people's) thought *wants* to develop.

And it's important that we begin to see that this tactic – constant forward pressure – is necessary for we-the-people as well... that it's the only means of getting free – having a vision of mutual assistance to establish leisure globally... and ensuring that we move towards it... daily. There's a word for this in martial arts... for meeting and mirroring an opposing force... in order to bring it down... bring down the level of energy... which happens as we help each other... and dispel the illusion of 'scarcity.'

The Panopticon was Jeremy Bentham's answer to the question: "how can the few control the many?" Of course there really was no mystery. Plato told 'power' long ago that the way to control the herd (us)... was to control what we could think. Until very recently it was 'jobs' ('the economy' was the lens) that accomplished this... and control of where the money goes ('credit') determined what thoughts we could think during the day – both at work and what we were given over the airwaves – i.e. 'credit' selected the thoughts for which we could receive pay. And the hidden hammer behind this process is the manufactured-scarcity-squeeze... as we must eat... and land to grow food has been seized by the state or in other ways made private. We are kept working because there is no where else to go (in the 'class' system...) and there are no other thoughts to think that would allow us to question this way of things.

But with "time captured by 'jobs'" shrinking... many more of us devote our time to re-thinking – with our bodies... believing them... believing what our bodies say 'works' for us as living things... and this is a vastly different practice than was our former (conditioned) simple regurgitation habit... this is thinking authentically –

...while all around us the signs can be seen... that the ship called ‘the global economy’ is sinking... hence... not just ‘Occupy’... but the excitement at the prospect... of being ‘self-sufficient.’ So ‘power’ began madly pondering... how to reclaim all this energy that’s up-springing... from the global system’s foundering.

It sees our longing to be ‘big’... to continuously grow our gifts... and reckons it must corral it (a tried-and-true tactic ‘power’ has ever successfully used...) but ‘corral’ in such a way... that it reinforces ‘hierarchy’ (‘class’ by another name.)

So as ‘the economy’ can no longer do the trick... ‘education’ or ‘finding the creatives’ will be the ‘new’ (or more grossly inflated...) ‘re-set’....

A report that *The Economist* did a year ago concluded by saying that ‘power’ must “invest in the young”... which doesn’t sound ominous... until you consider who’s saying it...

...and it – significantly – redefined the problem of ‘inequality’ as ‘inequality in education.’ Now, ‘power’ has always used this tactic... but, in this moment, to fall back on ‘merit rises’... is telling.

This special report will explore how 21st-century capitalism should respond to the present challenge; it will examine the recent history of both inequality and social mobility; and it will offer four contemporary case studies: the United States, emerging Asia, Latin America and Sweden. Based on this evidence it will make three arguments. First, although the modern global economy is leading to wider gaps between the more and the less educated, a big driver of today’s income distributions is government policy. Second, a lot of today’s

inequality is inefficient, particularly in the most unequal countries. It reflects market and government failures that also reduce growth.

[Back to Bentham's admonition that 'controlling the people' by 'instilling discipline' is 'energy efficient.' – P.S.]

And where this is happening, bigger income gaps themselves are likely to reduce both social mobility and future prosperity. Third, there is a reform agenda to reduce income disparities that makes sense whatever your attitude towards fairness. It is not about higher taxes and more handouts. Both in rich and emerging economies, it is about attacking cronyism...

[...i.e. the *appearance* of unfairness... – P.S.]

...and investing in the young. You could call it a "True Progressivism". (Zanny Minton Beddoes, "For Richer, For Poorer", *The Economist*, October 13, 2012), <http://www.economist.com/node/21564414>)

In a sense, 'social mobility' is modern-statistician-talk for 'keep-the-cattle-herded'... for it's key to the legitimization of the ideology of 'hierarchy'...

'Class' requires 'insiders' and 'outsiders'... those who have 'gifts' and those 'ungifted' ... those who are 'smart' and the 'dull-witted'...

...and if 'money' cannot 'prove' the legitimacy of your 'rank'... then it must be your 'level of service'... to the planet. (And the edge in 'education'... in this unacknowledged competition... is as assuredly given to the sons and daughters of the 'philosopher-statesmen' as the edge that their legacy trillions give.)

It's the youth who are the focus of all these concerted efforts... it is the youth that this massive propaganda campaign is primarily for. Youth will be asked to 'help the state' 're-set' 'progress' – and... if Sir Richard can ignite his plans more broadly – in all states not laggards to the plate... as they all have an 'interest' ('power' will remind them...) in controlling their captive populace. And it will be a propaganda most beguiling... and hard to challenge on its face... because it all sounds urgently needed... with the planet in such dire straits.

And this is why we must see clearly... and not allow 're-corralling' to take place – which is possible even as we see... more and more... each other's humanity. Because if we have no other thought to think but of the alleged “‘necessity’ of bowing to ‘political realities’”... the resulting cognitive dissonance – as our bodies long for authentic definitions in a social arrangement that's been re-invented – will be rationalized away.

The problem for the earth... and we who are made of it... has been our conditioned habit of turning our backs on each other... this is a millennia-long wound to be healed... for us to grow our gifts individually... and as a global humanity.

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So let's look at our current terms of containment... the plans our 'rulers' have to constrain us... the gap between this burdened existence... and what our lives could be as free humans.

Is this 'growing our gifts'? If you think so, please tell me, how?

This [the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership between Europe and the United States, “creating an economic power with nearly half of the world’s gross domestic product”] is not a declaration of economic war against the East. Rather, it reflects an awareness that China and others need to be brought into the West, bringing two halves of the world together. A greater American and European combination would amass \$32 trillion today and much more tomorrow. A balance of power leads to conflict. But an overbalance attracts others to its economic core.

[It would be hard to find a clearer admission... of a totalitarian ambition on the part of ‘power’ – and by the way... Terry Hopkins, I think this answers your question about ‘power’s “theory of the formation of states...” (see the table of contents of *Palmers’ Chat* for the full Terence Hopkins quote... – P.S.)

There are] two important [contradictions... in the creation of the ‘modern world system’]... : (1) the growing competition among states (owing to their increasing number and their increasingly competitive policies) to house centers of the production-accumulation network [i.e. to draw ‘capital’ to themselves] versus the strengthening tendency of that network toward centralization of the accumulation process (fewer centers) [the concentration of ‘power’ symbolized by those hidden trillions squirreled away... that we’ve been hearing about from James S. Henry in that 2008 *Nation* article]; (2) the increasing influence of class-organized politics (resulting from capitalist development) on state-policies versus the increasingly competitive search by larger and larger units of capital for larger and larger pools of low-cost labor.... [i.e. the ‘class struggle’... but conceived more dynamically as a layered and multi-dimensional thing...]

[The elites of 'states' try to enlarge their 'stake' by playing the card of 'sovereignty'... and use 'the people' to improve their position... in playing the game of the global competition... and we-the-people are yo-yoed about... jerked by 'state' actors absorbed in the Big Game... and pulled by 'power' via its hold on the states... caught in the grip 'power' has on the purse-strings... the terms 'power' sets with its credit... so 'power' places the weight... and with sangfroid (...more or less...) waits... for the physics at work to resolve... tightening its squeeze... making more 'scarcity'... broadening our debt... lengthening its column of 'credit' ... "an inevitability," it thinks... that... calumny-heaped... buried-deep... debt-stripped... bill-whipped... sucked dry... 'the people' must... one day... be resigned... but 'the people' just want to be free... 'over-seen'... scorn-scathed... privacy-stripped... seared with contempt... universally... we-the-people just want... to be free. Both of these 'contradictions'... pull on 'power's purposes... and its purse... as we still (unaccountably)... want to be free. – P.S.]

We turn now to conceptions of the formation and transformation of states, viewed from the outset as the sovereignties of the interstate system. There is wide agreement among comparative historians and scholars of civilizations on the historical originality of the European state-system. For example, Walter Dorn (1963) begins a study by noting that the "competitive character of the state system of modern Europe... distinguishes it from the political life of all previous and non-European civilizations of the world." It is thus especially disconcerting that none of the explicit theories of state-formation (nation-building and the like) takes this apparently unique setting as its



point of departure.

[I think he knew... but for some reason wanted others to prove it. If he'd lived longer, perhaps... he would have stopped hanging back. 'Power' constructs states with the purpose to corral us... state structures grow out of the imperatives of 'power' (as *reflected* in 'the economy'... i.e. it's the mirror to 'power's moves...') i.e. there is a missionary 'mind'... a proselytizing 'mind'... behind the pundit 'thought-cover'. – P.S.]

And China is dependent on that core. Unlike Russia, China must import the majority of its oil, and its use is currently at 9.7 million barrels a day. The money to buy this petroleum and natural gas must come from exports, mainly exports to the West. Here the West maintains a continuous advantage, because China receives only about 50 percent of the “value added” of its exports. The rest is garnered by European and American companies, which provide the research and development, design, marketing and financing for most products exported from China.

[So you see pricing 'hand' low... and 'mind' high... and then privatizing our Great Communal Mind... over-tips the 'balance' to your side.]

For decades to come, China will have to sell in the West to gain money and access to technologies that it doesn't yet possess. The consolidation of a Euro-American economic unit will require [“...you will be compelled to come in...”] China to join, too, as it becomes a more open, liberal and rule-governed polity....

[...as it accepts the new terms of totalitarian (global) 'governance'...]

In the end, trade – not war – will attract others to the West’s economic core. (Richard Rosecrance, “Want World Domination? Size Matters,” *The New York Times*, July 28, 2013)

If you take a moment to let your heart absorb this instead of your head... you might feel the endless hell to which it consigns factory ‘hands’ in China... you might feel the screams of the earth as we rape it... you might feel our lives tossed about on the global game board like poker chips... and most of all you might feel the loss of your own rich gifts... after which... you might cry a little in outrage... and then... begin to insist that we here in the U.S.... demand our right to pursue happiness... which... means growing our gifts as we see fit... and sharing our means – those of us who want to – to do it.

At some point ‘we-the-people’ have to begin seeing... and talking about... the fact that our interests and the interests of those who speak for us... both ‘power’ (the ‘philosopher-statesmen’...) and its pundits are not only not convergent... but opposed. *We* are the energy on which ‘the system’ runs... and yet we are treated like disposables... like trash... our gifts... ‘the system’ so arranges things to ensure... are never seen. So we paint our graffiti on concrete... or in bits and bytes on the computer screen... we make our marks on our prison walls... we forego our gifts’ full expression for but mean existence... so the Sir Richards and the Kissingers can pretend that they save us... from the destruction they wantonly cause.

It’s not ‘the smart ones’ that we need... it’s the global releasing of the people’s energies... by freeing ourselves of guilt and shame because at last we are all interlinked by this amazing thing... which a hundred years ago Nikola could foresee... called simultaneous... global... thinking.

WUR, Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013 radio show: “Staying Focused On Designing A Future... (Pt. 8): “the hidden tribalisms of ‘power’ (Pt. 7)”... and continuing: The ‘Global Awakening’?... or The Great ‘Re-Set’?

In upcoming shows we will be drawing a lot on Karl Popper’s *The Open Society and Its Enemies*, both volumes one and two, because I believe he can help us think through the juncture in the human story where we now stand... and develop greater clarity for how to proceed. And although my bringing Popper to the table reflects what I believe to be a need to come to consensus of humankind generally... I also bring him selfishly... as a way to ‘think-through’ certain areas of disagreement. But I’m beginning to suspect that my ‘disagreement’... where it exists... is partly ‘style’... partly ‘focus’... but now in retrospect I think the two are perfectly consonant.

As to ‘style’, at first, I must admit... I thought I gravitated more to Tolstoi... whose need to speak for a living expression... a living existence... of the notion ‘global humanity’... deeply resonates with me. But now in retrospect I think the two are perfectly consonant, though Popper seems slightly more resigned to the state’s existence... saying that we must concentrate on improving the conditions we find in the particular state we were born in... despite his critique of ‘sovereignty’. Although with complete assurance we can attest... both are supreme humanists.

Though Tolstoi may have been so in a broader sense:

Whoever you may be – Frenchman, Russian, Pole, Englishman, Irishman, or bohemian – understand that all your real human interests, whatever they may be – agricultural, industrial, commercial, artistic, or scientific – as well as your pleasures and joys, in no way run counter to the interests of other peoples or States; and that you are united,

by mutual co-operation, by interchange of services, by the joy of wide brotherly intercourse, and by the interchange not merely of goods but also of thoughts and feelings, with the folk of other lands.

Understand that the question as to who manages to seize Wei-hai-wei, Port Arthur, or Cuba – your Government or another – does not affect you, or, rather, that every seizure made by your Government injures you, by inevitably bringing in its train all sorts of pressure on you by your government to force you to take part in the robbery and violence by which alone such seizures are made, or can be retained when made. Understand that your life can in no way be bettered by Alsace becoming German or French, and Ireland or Poland being free or enslaved – whoever holds them. You are free to live where you will, if even you be an Alsatian, an Irishman, or a Pole. Understand, too, that by stirring up patriotism you will only make the case worse, for the subjection in which your people are kept has resulted simply from the struggle between patriotisms, and every manifestation of patriotism in one nation provokes a corresponding reaction in another. Understand that salvation from your woes is only possible when you free yourself from the obsolete idea of patriotism and from the obedience to Governments that is based upon it, and when you boldly enter into the region of that higher idea, the brotherly union of the peoples, which has long since come to life, and from all sides is calling you to itself. If people would but understand that they are not the sons of some fatherland or other, nor of Governments, but are sons of God, and can therefore neither be slaves nor enemies one to another – those insane, unnecessary, worn-out, pernicious organizations called Governments, and all the sufferings, violations, humiliations, and crimes which they occasion, would cease. (Leo Tolstoi, ‘Patriotism and Government,’ May 10, 1910)

Now that's authentic-talk. I would but add that 'God' goes by many names and, to my mind, they all mean: 'the earth.'

Tolstoi shows us why 'art', in potential, is such a threat... how... in reaching out to all humanity... it leads us to see that state claims of ownership (of us) are patently illegitimate.

So... I don't think that we disagree spiritually, Popper and me, it's rather that we have our eyes on different prizes... he's looking at the nation-state narrowly... as a *fait accompli*... and as a tool (in theory) against 'tyranny'...

(...Tolstoi, to my mind, sees 'the human' more clearly, and in some ways more optimistically... perhaps because he kept better company – seemed to see that 'the ways of earth' broadly are still in us inherently...)

...and I've got my mind stayed... with Tolstoi... on freedom... the accomplishment of which requires... *all of us* rolling along on this earth figuring out how to get there... so my eyes are stayed on the world.

This... 'mind's-eye-on-different-prizes'... is the source of much disagreement... this 'looking at different things'... when we're nominally 'discussing'.

For example yesterday (10.10.13) I listened to a debate of sorts about 'parental disciplining of children' generally (including the use of 'time-out'...) but particularly on whether parents should hit 'their' children...

...and I thought...

"...we're looking at different things, them and me – different ideas... models... 'concepts'... of the 'human being'.... These folks seem to want a child that will 'fit in'... a child that has learnt 'obedience'... and I want to see every child get 'big'... to use their full human gifts – we have different 'objects'."

So... as always in matters of movement... in the matter of getting from 'here' to 'there'... the question arises... that can't be denied... which is: "what is the objective?"... "what is the *goal* of our activism?" And for most of those voices to which the airwaves give 'lift', the answer is generally... unconsciously... simply: "we must preserve the system..."

...which is getting on the 'Plato-Train'... heading for the destination, "No Change."

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Last week – last many weeks... years... – we've been saying that the governance structure we're given to manipulate is pretense... that the little toy car is being directed by unseen actors... and that those 'representatives' turning the wheel don't alter its movement not one little bit... and even less the determination of 'power' to achieve *its* object... (and let's not forget that this is an object set by amassed and concentrated 'power'... so it will not... can never... reflect we-the-peoples' interests.)

And it's not a matter of competing interests duking it out in the polity. It's lunacy to think that we can compete with that ever-increasing mountain of money sitting on top of us... (of course the physics changes when we interlink our energies.)

Now Bernie Sanders may rail all he likes about not letting an oligarchy rule the U.S. – but what about *the world*, Bernie? Who should we leave that to? Tolstoi? What about this mass of dollars that compounds itself daily... this exponential increase that confounds all containment... as it was designed to... meant to – *that's what it's for* – to defeat us... and fix in place... 'philosopher-king-global-statesmen'...

...by the grace given by a *world* economic system *set up* by them to *keep* amassing it.

UBS opened its first American branch in 1939, and for all we know, has likely been facilitating tax fraud ever since, but the Senate investigation focused only on 2000 to 2007. During this period, even as UBS was sharply expanding its onshore US operations by acquiring Paine Webber, expanding in investment and retail banking, it also mounted a top-secret effort to recruit wealthy Americans, spirit their money to Switzerland and other havens and conceal their assets from the IRS.

This program, aimed at people with a net worth of \$40 million to \$50 million each, was staffed by fifty to eighty senior calling officers and 1,000 client advisors. Based in Zurich, Geneva, and Lugano, each officer made two to ten surreptitious trips per year to the United States, calling on thirty to forty existing clients per visit and trying to recruit new ones by attending HNW (high net worth) watering holes like Miami's Art Basel and the UBS Regatta in Newport. By 2007, this program had garnered 20,000 American clients, with offshore assets at UBS alone worth \$20 billion.

To achieve these results, UBS established an elaborate formal training program, which coached bankers on how to avoid surveillance by US customs and law enforcement, falsify visas, encrypt communications, secretly move money in and out of the country and market security products even without broker/dealer licenses....

The most important point is that this entire program would clearly have been impossible without the knowledge and approval of the bank's most senior officials in Switzerland, and probably some senior US executives as well -- although the committee did not press this point....

Third, blacklisting havens focused on the wrong dimension. As Senator Levin's hearing has underscored, the real problem

is a global pirate banking industry that cuts across individual havens, and includes many of our largest, most influential commercial and investment banks, hedge funds, law firms and accounting firms. From their standpoint, it doesn't much matter whether a particular haven survives, so long as others turn up to take their place in providing anonymity, security and low-tax returns. Up to now, despite blacklisting, the supply of new tax-haven vehicles has been very elastic.

On the other hand, as the UBS and LGT cases show, the dominant players in global private banking are relatively stable institutions--which makes sense, given their clients' need for stable sanctuaries. This suggests that it makes more sense to focus on regulating institutions than regulating or blacklisting physical places.

Until the UBS case, this seemed to be much more difficult than, say, beating up on some tiny and distant sultry island for shady people. Even now, after the Birkenfeld case supplied the first private banker prosecution, we have yet to see the first criminal prosecution of a top-tier private bank--apart from BCCI in the early 1990s, which had already failed and was hardly top-tier.

This is not because of a shortage of despicable behavior. For example, UBS, like most of its competitors in global private banking, has a long history of engaging in perfidious behavior, apologizing for it and then turning back to the future. This includes UBS's involvement in South Africa's apartheid debt and the accounts scandals of the 1980 involving the Marcos family; Benazir Bhutto, Mobutu Sese Seko, Holocaust victims and Nigerian dictator Sani Abacha of the 1990s; the 2001 Enron bankruptcy and the Menem scandal; the 2003 Parmalat scandal; the 2004-2006 Iran/Cuba/Saddam funds transfers scandal, for which it was fined \$100 million by the Federal Reserve; the 2008 Massachusetts securities fraud



case; and now the Birkenfeld matter. Furthermore, as the committee report noted, UBS has a history of violating even its own policies. From this angle, unapologetic LGT is at least not hypocritical.

It is also well to remember that UBS and LGT are hardly the only global private banks involved in recruiting wealthy clients to move money offshore. The committee report indicates a long list of other banks that also provided offshore services to American clients involved in the UBS and LGT cases--including Citibank (Swiss), HSBC, Barclays (Birkenfeld's original employer), Credit Suisse, Lloyds TSB, Standard Chartered, Banque du Gotthard, Centrum, Bank Jacob Safra and Bank of Montreal. In addition, there are dozens of other non-US and US banks that are also active in the offshore US private banking market.... (James S. Henry, "Attack of the Global Pirate Bankers", August 4, 2008 edition of *The Nation*)

Henry shows us the amorphousness of 'power'... the slipperiness it achieves in being global... and therefore state-less.

This 'system' wasn't 'governed' into being and it won't be 'governed' away. That's the hard truth artists... or I should say 'whole beings'... keep telling us... which it *seems* (until we have our own means for building the necessary conversations...) only they have the courage to face.

Now some may say that concentrated money means 'greed' only... not organized, concerted action – which the above quote refutes by the way.) But fostering greed – and clearly the global banking industry was prodding on a literal feeding frenzy – destroys our ability to be self-sufficient... by privatizing the commons... by stripping bare the resources of the planet and placing them in private hands... by forcing we-the-people to accept the barest minimum... reducing us to literal beggars

– and this carnage being the result... choose to believe ‘market forces’ is but blind, full-out marching of mind-less machinery if you want to... but the inter-linkages between their financial and policy planning bodies speaks otherwise.

The critical point here to note... is that our lives are not our own. Our lives are directed by shadowy global players... who are beyond the reach of state agencies – and by this I don’t mean the inter-dependence of national currencies and economies – that declining health, however defined, in one region necessarily affects another. I don’t even mean, in a simple sense, that regional or global financial agencies like the IMP or the World Bank dictate terms to dependent states. I mean that there are global statesmen with a totalitarian ambition... who move policy coherently because they have a destination... these are folks who sit ob global planning bodies for sure... but are distinct from them... folks like Branson and Kissinger who share the goal of creating a global ‘order’ in which ‘the people’ are ‘permanently’ under control.

And they have the freedom of movement of gods... the moment an attempt at regulation extends... they slither away and are gone again. Even in instances where it seems they’re penned... and fines are levied... just as Henry says... the game goes on. And for ‘power’... that’s all that matters... because they’re in it for the long haul – and their policy-voices when candid are clear... they have a goal. [Let’s never forget the tale Mao told... that reflects the mindset of ‘power’ across (class) time.]

Now what does Henry propose we-the-people do?

The second challenge is to organize a global alliance around this issue. This is more difficult, although steps are already being taken. Global organizations like Tax Justice International, Oxfam GB, Friends of the Earth, Global

Witness and Christian Aid are converging on a new global campaign around the issue of havens and offshore tax evasion. They've been enlisting support for this effort from countries like Norway, Chile, Brazil, Spain and France, organizations like the UNDP, the World Bank and even the International Monetary Fund.

This is very exciting...

[Perhaps he should temper his excitement a bit... because... as we've been discussing with issues of re-defining 'work' and defining 'happiness'... when 'power' is afraid of something... they 'leap-frog' jump to the front of it... and try to direct it... – P.S.]

This is very exciting, but the organizers face one critical problem--the fact there are serious conflicts of interest among developed and developing countries. The fact is that the United States, the UK and other developed countries not only lose tax revenue to haven banking; they also profit from it, because their own banks are so deeply engaged in it, especially when it involves developing countries.

Back in April 1986, this author broke the story that Citibank was actually taking far more capital out of Latin America and other developing countries than it was lending to them, despite its reputation as the largest Third World lender. Indeed, the business of helping Third World elites decapitalize their own countries had become so large and lucrative that Citi's private banking group was the bank's single most profitable division.

To achieve that feat, Citigroup resorted to skullduggery and the flouting of local laws all over the planet. This included repeatedly sending teams of private bankers undercover to countries like Brazil, Argentina, and Venezuela; helping to

set up thousands of shell companies and bank accounts in offshore havens and secretly transferring funds to them; teaching its clients money-laundering tricks like mis-invoicing and back-to-back loans; designing ways to communicate with clients that kept their financial secrets safe; and overall, concealing vast sums of flight capital from Third World tax authorities (and their competitors), while lobbying Congress to insure that any foreign capital that arrived in the United States enjoyed near-zero taxes and near-Swiss secrecy. For a time the resulting tax breaks and lax banking rules that applied to “nonresident aliens” from other countries made the United States, in effect, one of the world’s largest tax havens.

In short, from the 1970s to the 1990s, banks like Citigroup, BankAmerica and JP Morgan Chase (and UBS, Credit Suisse, RBS, Paribas and Barclays etc.) were behaving throughout the Third World just as badly as UBS has recently been behaving here. And their very success laid the foundations for the global private-haven banking industry with which the IRS is now struggling.

At the time, it seemed that their behavior was hurtful mainly to the developing world, which wasn’t strong enough to hold Senate hearings and put Citibankers in jail. But lately it has become clear that the system has grown large enough to consume its creators.

In the last thirty years, fueled by the globalization of financial services, lousy lending, capital flight and mind-boggling corruption, a relatively small number of major banks, law firms, accounting firms, asset managers, insurance companies and hedge funds have come to launder and conceal at least \$10 trillion to \$15 trillion of private untaxed anonymous cross-border wealth.

Rich people the world over, including tens of thousands

of wealthy Americans, are now free to opt in to this sophisticated, secretive, utterly unprincipled global private banking industry. They can become, in effect, residents of nowhere for tax purposes, citizens of a brave new virtual country, which offers its inhabitants unprecedented freedom from the taxes, regulations and moral restraints that the rest of us take for granted. They wield enormous political influence even without paying taxes, merely by making contributions, threatening to withhold them--or better yet, threatening to abscond with their capital unless certain conditions are met. In a sense, this is the ultimate libertarian pipe dream: representation without taxation. But it is a nightmare for the rest of us, and we must design and organize our way around it. (James S. Henry, "Attack of the Global Pirate Bankers", August 4, 2008 edition of *The Nation*)

In "Unpacking Robert Reich's Baggage" we said that "it's 'power' that keeps 'the economy' running by determining where money (which represents stolen earth) goes..." and from whom it's disproportionately stolen... as Henry points out.

Now this is not how we *experience* the notion of... or the functioning of... 'the economy' because our frame... our vision... is artificially foreshortened... by the pundits... who ever keep us looking at – and thinking in terms of – the minutiae of national 'governance' structures... the U.S.'s and the others.

(And I'm thinking it so I'll say it: I'm not suggesting that these pundits can do otherwise. It's been pointed out before that they wouldn't be there long if they started saying these things. That's the clamp... the hold... 'power' has on the media... via the wage... the coerced-work system... it determines what even a good-hearted person can say over the airwaves.)

Because if we were discussing the reality of this hidden, amorphous, state-less, global governance [perhaps we need to discuss what ‘governance’ consists of... what determines the parameters in which it’s set? ...] – we would begin discussing the need for we-the-people creating and claiming an *open* global self-governance... i.e. that rather than being *led* to a destination [and here the unfortunate image of cattle being led to slaughter comes to mind...] unchosen by us... we must begin discussing *how to lead ourselves*... reclaiming our own bodies – which is why we’ll be devoting some time on this question of leadership – and the need for us... all of us... to step up... with a *global* consciousness.

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So what does it mean for us?... this shadow global governance structure that is effectuated by means of the utilization... the application in the delicate or gross... the surgical or blunt use... of dollars – of amassed means for controlling the ‘political’ scene? And if we recall our definition of ‘politics’ in *Waking Up* – that it means the art of coercing human energy – we can see that ‘power’s actions-all resolve to this ultimately... to ‘politics’.

And as this informal, clandestine global governance structure exists... what do we propose to do about it? Do we... each one of us... want to develop our own capacities for leadership?... become ‘big’? – which is what brings true happiness.

Global governance implies a ‘clutching at’ leadership... an unwillingness to share it... and as this is a quality inherent in all of us... but the development of which (as a ‘right’ inherent in life itself) ‘rule’ forbids... ‘rule’ artificially and unnaturally limits our growth... it legislates away our happiness.

Because the 'polity' *they* want they are *systematically* sculpting... using 'nation-states' as levers to move 'the people'... to force us to build the traps that they hang us with... as the builders of Auschwitz were consumed by their work.

There are layers and layers of intervening 'structures'... and 'agencies'... and 'decision-making bodies'... between the effect (look around you for evidence of its hideousness...) and the cause ... so it's understandable that we don't see it.

What makes the facade particularly difficult to distinguish is that most of its nominal actors of state (the 'political class')... the agents... believe the illusion... do their work all unconscious... play their roles without knowing them.

Virginia Woolf's point that we are 'creatures of illusion' cannot be over-stated. We believe what we're told when we're young because – like all living things – we are built for honesty.

We are built for honesty, yet we have a system that depends on – is based on – duplicity... dishonesty... lies... depends on forcing us to be what we are not (machine-like...) and on forcing us to accept a system's pretense of being what *it* is not – which can never allow us to pursue a path of true happiness... which is living our gifts... self-creation.

Imagine how much more efficient an open governance structure for the world will be! We won't have to get on planes and have all those face-to-faces...so as to leave no traces... All this hiding / clandestine stuff destroys our humanness.

We have to recognize – start discussing – that global governance *exists*... we're not talking about something phenomenal... or something that has to be created... it's already in place, but it's clandestine... and kept private... is tightly held in the hands of the few... and therefore monopolized... and we

have to ask, “Is that right?” ... right for the health and wholeness of all of us... and all life? And once we begin considering the question from all sides... we have to say, “No...” not if health and wholeness and happiness is our goal.

So where is this pack in Bhutan et al. attempting to take us?

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We took time with Galbraith because he was studying ‘power’s track... the slime they drag behind them... showing its global nature... and how ‘governance’ is done clandestine... by applying and withdrawing ‘credit’... we see this whenever large sums are exchanged between large banks and states... or large states to smaller...

...or on Galbraith’s and Henry’s scale... by the big global banks setting interest rates... and imposing ‘austerity’ globally...

...and we know that ‘austerity’ means ‘disciplining the people to accept less and less...’

...less and less control over our own lives...

...less and less earth for our personal use...

...the absence of leisure for ourselves and our children...

...the absence of health... less and less safety net...

...and of course less and less food... especially untainted and fresh....

And this is a *global* imposition of ‘less’... accomplished ‘simply’ by siphoning ‘money’ (a representation of earth...) out of our communities... by ‘power’s henchmen in government... quite nonchalantly... who sadly or blithely (it little matters...) cite their ‘budget authority’... raise it up high and pound it hard on our heads.



The wage work system destroys our empathy...  
...the surveillance state destroys our trust...  
...each one of us is meant to grow our full gifts...  
...division... coercion... and necessity forestalls their  
development...  
...the hiding and pretense warps our humanness...  
...and absolutely none of it (not remotely...) brings us  
happiness.

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Machiavelli said... and 'power' obviously knows well... that "all the people ask for is to not be oppressed..." so even in this moment of dire threat (for 'power'... and long-awaited opportunity for us...) it never occurs to them that they cannot successfully con us again. But for this they have no convincing actors among their own ranks (they don't have anyone even remotely believable in the role of "advocate of 'the people'"...) they've lost the ability to convincingly speak... even an approximate... "language of 'the people'" ... i.e. the language of 'heart'... and this is why they need pundits who seem to know... who mouth the approximate phrases... that seem to say, "I care about the people."

It is the pundit class... in service to its masters... that is making this happen... this propaganda attempt to 're-set' our heads. There's simply no other way to look at it.

And the thoughts *I* want to hear... are from the ones who declined to appear... who declined the status-perk of being numbered within such an exclusive group... providing its 'expert-service'... and in return being treated like emperor-statesmen...

...I want to hear the thoughts of those who refused to be used in Bhutan... and who rather try to *be*... the 'heart' 'we-the-people' need to see.

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The evolution of business leadership away from a focus on short-term profits [as there are no ‘short-term’ profits to be had...] is essential for the future generation of leaders,” said Arianna Huffington. [...i.e. to con young people...]

“We need a ‘Plan B’ for the way business is managed, starting with leadership more committed to well-being, wisdom and sustainable business success.”...

“The private sector can and must redefine both its responsibilities and its own terms of success; a Plan B for concerted, positive action that will ensure business becomes a driving force for social, environmental and economic benefit,” the group stated, adding that global society now faces severe challenges in terms of resource scarcity and continuing inequality. “While there are myriad reasons we’ve arrived at this juncture, much of the blame rests with the principles and practices of ‘business as usual’....

The declaration added that there was now no alternative but for business leaders to develop a new approach, which in many ways would constitute a new form of capitalism. (“Plan B for Business”, *Eco-Business: Asia Pacific’s Sustainable Business Community*, ><http://www.eco-business.com/news/branson-and-zeitz-launch-plan-b-business/><)

[First we’re told “there is no alternative” to raping us and the planet... now we’re told “there is no alternative... but to appear that... present the image that... we care... that we are trying to staunch the gaping wound we opened... else ‘the people’ will be roused to examine more closely the cost of their lost lives and think... that perhaps *they* are the true ‘custodians’ of the earth...and our ‘work’ that’s been centuries in the making to install ‘the perfect state’ will dissolve to dust... so it’s imperative that the people not awake....” They want us to continue to believe in ‘the

system’... or to at least not actively turn away... and begin discussing an authentic alternative... an alternative that would dissolve their sway over decision-making.]

When the ‘B-for-business pack’ say that what they want out of this process is for ‘capitalism’ to emerge intact... they mean they want to keep ‘the assignment of value by the miniscule few’ – their control over us – intact...

...and they’re saying that, “we wise men finally see that there is ‘value’ (as our privileged status hangs in the balance...) in “the people’s believing that we care about their ‘well-being’” and...

“...we can pretend to identify the ‘fundamental elements’ of this quality ‘happiness’... say we will integrate them into ‘business’... and then make you pay extra for it!”

“...that’s what ‘capitalism’ means.... It means socialized costs... our hands in your pockets... transferring wealth up... and privatizing the planet!”

It was a truly new millennial meeting of minds with all the expected agreements and disagreements. How does one structure such a new paradigm? Based on the 9 domains of GNH? Or the UN’s Millennium Development Goals? Discussions were carried out under cloudless skies and in hallowed halls with hand-painted walls. Stories of success and collapse were articulated by this most articulate of groups. Hopes ran high and visionary statements flowed. “We need to remove the idea of private wealth from public decision-making,” said one delegate.

[...now that’s cutting edge...]

“The inseparability of all that space contains is the key to

bringing about fundamental change,” said geneticist David Suzuki.

[...in his best con-artist jargon...]

“Don’t get too romantic or ideological about nature,” countered Mark Mancall, “We are the custodians.” Suzuki warned that progress doesn’t always stick. “What we thought were great victories were just skirmishes,” he said. “We didn’t get to the root. We were too concerned with the symptoms and not with the underlying root causes.

[...one shudders to imagine what he considers “the root”...]

The Secretariat group hopes to identify these root causes and provide the best solutions known to mankind today. One root cause or symptom repeatedly discussed was income distribution. It was agreed that equality was more important for happiness than a country’s GDP and relative wealth on the world platform. Studies have shown that inequality is divisive and socially corrosive, and ends up hurting the have’s as well as the have-nots. Francis Moore-Lappe suggested that people either “reclaim or come up with another word for ‘democracy’, another way to come together.” (Written by noajones on February 14, 2013. Published in *Relationship trouble on Asia, Bhutan*, ><http://futurechallenges.org/local/a-new-development-paradigm-takes-shape-in-bhutan/><)

The arrogance of these guys is truly breathtaking. Here we have Francis Moore-Lappe saying to this gathering that they should “reclaim or come up with another word for ‘democracy’, another way to come together...” and this with the example of the Occupy Movement still fresh in our minds.

The tone of this would have us believe that ‘inequality’ is a continued mystery... as if Bentham hasn’t been pulling their coat for centuries... and others (like Sir Thomas More, for

example) before him... and that we're all collectively stuck in an early 18<sup>th</sup> century (or Medieval...) boggle... all asking, "where on earth did all these po' folks come from?"

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Figuring out what we need to be 'happy' is not difficult... You don't need to drop your millions... fly in your experts... host them royally...

...fold your bills back in your pocket... here it is: we don't want to be forced to work anymore... we want to fully develop our gifts as we see fit... in common with our sisters and brothers... We don't want to be divided from each other... we want to fully explore our earth again... with love in hand... and get to know our plant and animal friends... we want to repossess our time... a.k.a. our lives...

There you have your answer. Take it back to your masters... we want our lives back... and you and your masters both... off our backs.

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There are several points to keep in mind in our analysis of this promulgation...

...that in it we are seeing both a sense of urgency on the part of 'power' to recapture the eyes of youth... and defeat the 'Global Awakening' ("...the great 're-set'...")

...and I think we can see in it Bentham's 'energy-efficiency' sanction... the underlying imperative driving his injunction to 'power' to always... always... control the definitions.

Which is why they're trying...  
...to seize our language of hope...  
...use it to 're-set' youth...  
...to accept status-quo....  
...to steal the language of love...  
...lull us back into somnolence...  
...accepting their prod into re-formed cages.

But they have no ones who still own their mother-tongue...

...can even attempt to speak it...  
...with any degree of fluency... or credibility.

Their 'new development paradigm' probably will look like this:

One... their 'benevolent' guidance (this goes without saying...);

Two... 'money' is a hindrance to clandestine reign...

Three... youth get to 'choose' the 'service' by which they 'prove' their dedication to the 'planet' (their 'worth'....)

'Power' will no doubt attempt to use our 'mother' (i.e. 'earth') tongue... but in their mouths the words will be as dust... for when they say 'the earth' what they mean is but themselves... the 'wise' and 'just' 'philosopher-statesmen'...

The language of 'hierarchy' of course must be massaged... as the youth all want to move beyond it... so they'll try to develop softer tones... like 'qualities of service'... or perhaps... more gentle... 'roles'...

After all, we must move beyond all 'division' between us... we all must play our parts to heal the planet... 'the wise and the just' will be the mask they choose to con us... to keep us in our boxes... and train us to call them "our gardens..."

WUR, Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013 radio show: “Staying Focused On Designing A Future... (Pt. 9): “the hidden tribalisms of ‘power’ (Pt. 8)”... and continuing: “The ‘Global Awakening’?... or The Great ‘Re-Set’?”

Thank-yous are due... a few... a mere drop in our sea of resistance to earth-eating and trashing all over the globe... thanks are due to you in Buharest, Romania who sent Big Oil packing... and in New Brunswick ‘Idle No More’ is occupying.... Stay strong. And to all our brothers and sisters resisting beat-down status in the fast food industry... and in transportation... folks at Bay Area Rapid Transit... resisting management efforts to force you to be mere automatons: stay strong.

And to our brothers and sisters in Egypt... I can’t help but feel that we in the U.S. have abdicated the responsibility that comes from having more room to maneuver in resistance. There has to be a way for us to go around the weight of the machines of states – shadow and otherwise – and start building means for mutual aid – as human beings to other human beings – we are the same... and we have the same interests... which are not those of states.

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Before we begin I’d like to urge all who can... to urge KPFZ – Lakeport’s GM, Allen Markowski, to get up off those files! – audio and video – as the Nascence website needs some fresh tools! He filmed an hour and a half long conversation I had with their local Timebanks coordinator (Terry, I believe)... as well as the radio conversation itself. So... Allen... if you could at least send me the mp3 of the radio show I can share it on the website... and those two videos... when you can get to it... would be a real gift for the Nascence.

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And... my clumsy mistake in misreading the announcement of Frank Moore's, the shaman performance artist, latest dance jam celebration... may have unintentionally tapped into the truth... I didn't understand when I read the announcement that he recently passed and the party is a tribute to his life. Frank invited D-Way and me to his internet TV-show on July 29<sup>th</sup> of last year when our radio program was only two months old... and his graciousness in helping us forward these 'time to end coerced work' conversations... was a singular one for quite some time. This man full of fun... for whom the word 'undaunted' was written... will... trust... undoubtedly be in attendance... so those who can... get your groove on... "bring your passions'... and come. November 2, 2013... 8 PM... Temescal Art Center... 511 – 48<sup>th</sup> St. (at Telegraph) in Oakland. For more information, call: 510. 526.7858 or email: fmoore@croplay.com

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\**"The most important Manhattan Projects of the future..."*

The most important Manhattan Projects of the future will be vast government-sponsored enquiries into what the politicians and the participating scientists will call 'the problem of happiness' – in other words, the problem of making people love their servitude. Without economic security, the love of servitude cannot possibly come into existence.... The love of servitude cannot be established except as the result of a deep, personal revolution in human minds and bodies.... Today, it seems quite possible that the horror may be upon us within a single century.... [We] have only two alternatives to choose from: either a number of national, militarized totalitarianisms... or else one supra-national totalitarianism... (Aldous Huxley writing in 1952, quoted by Erich Fromm, *The Sane Society*)

(from Blog 52: "Becoming the Function")



[“...The love of servitude cannot be established except as the result of a deep, personal revolution in human minds and bodies...” and clearly this has happened... as we’re made for honesty... and the requirement to perform in order to eat... is a crime against authenticity... forcing us to make our peace with duplicity.... But I would argue that this shift... or mutilation... or ‘soul-distortion’... occurred millennia earlier... with the ‘invention’ of slavery... and that “work for ‘subsistence’”... though a hard-fought-for advantage... is functionally but a *re*-invention.]

When I typed up that blog... watching the malevolent schemes of ‘power’ unfold... to manufacture ever more ‘crises’... and then hearing about the HAARP machine... [see: Leuren Moret article, “The Historical Roots of the New World Order and Its Permanent War Economy”: <http://exopolitics.blogs.com/peaceinspace/2009/12/haarp-the-space-preservation-treaty-planet-earth-as-weapon-target-by-leuren-moret.html> ] the designing of ultra-low-frequency and radio-signal weaponry... it seemed ‘power’ was focusing more on the techno-military than on the psycho-martial fix... and I wrote this:

But... I think they’ve decided that...

...the “happiness project” may be dispensed with,  
...and that they can manage manufactured unhappiness,  
...if ‘chaos’ and ‘crises’ pummel our consciousness...  
...such that survivors are pounded into ‘passive  
obedience’...  
...with the rest of us deleted from “what exists.”

– So how can we begin to make ourselves rather than cooperating with the plans of others to make us?  
(from Blog 52: “Becoming the Function”)

Now it seems... four years since...

...that although ‘power’ in this emergency... for it...  
...and this “come on let’s roll!” opportunity for us...  
...‘power’ likely deploys *all* its weaponry...  
...is throwing everything in its arsenal and playbook at us...  
...still...  
...clearly...  
...Aldous has a perspicacity extreme...  
...the likes of which today...  
...is seldom seen...  
...thank you Aldous for your heads-up!...  
...though to do with it we knew not what...  
...’til Nikola’s endowment fully devolved...  
...and all of us around the globe...  
...are now taking it on.

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\*\*“*Dr. Mengele was...*

Dr. Mengele was indefatigable in the exercise of his functions. He spent long hours in his laboratories, then hurried to the unloading platform, where the daily arrival of four or five trainloads of Hungarian deportees kept him busy half the day. (Miklos Nyiszli, *Auschwitz: A Doctor’s Eyewitness Account*, p. 33)

And are we not all “indefatigable in the exercise of [our] functions”?... ‘functions’ given us by a system that is illegitimate... as it gets in the way of our ‘pursuit of happiness’...

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We have been discussing the fact that we are being led... without our consent or consultation... and that to refuse the destination we must develop... each one of us... our leadership capacity.

Last week we noted the profound media silence about the reality of a very shadowy, informal, global governance structure... arguing that were we to begin discussing it, our thought process would, in all likelihood, have been carried into dangerous waters for ‘power’...

...though essential waters for us...

...we would have been carried to see the pressing need for we-the-people to begin creating and claiming not just an *open* global self-governance... but our own intelligence... our own capacities for leadership (we can't have one without the other...)

...we would have seen that rather than being *led* to a destination [and here the unfortunate image of cattle being led to slaughter comes to mind...] unchosen by us... that we must begin discussing *how to lead ourselves*... how to reclaim our own bodies... which include hearts and minds... undivided.

But in thinking about this further it occurs that perhaps we need to discuss what ‘governance’ consists of... what determines the parameters in which it's set? So today we'll talk more about it...

(...we'll be considering whether it's helpful to think of ‘governance’ as a game in which we play both ‘defense’ and ‘nascence’... – i.e. that it's about noticing what's around us that we want to keep... *and* simultaneously seeing what needs to be... in order to restore... and secure further... health, wholeness and happiness... – i.e. fully-developing individualities – I think that if we know this as... hold clearly before our eyes as... the goal (fully-developing individualities...) it will guide ‘governance.’ This will come up later as well... when we discuss the point Popper made in chapter 6 (in volume one) called “Totalitarian Justice”...

his point that the system of class – though he didn't put it like that – rests on, and fosters, a 'collectivist' rather than an individualistic definition (and existence) of 'altruism'.... This is a particularly needed discussion for us... not just because this is a key piece for us to see in order to understand how the stripping of we-the-people of the power we were born with was accomplished (the 'mental control' or 'internalized discipline' Bentham wrote of...) and that to 'begin again' to form our 'more perfect union' requires fully-functioning humans...

...but also because facing an entrenched 'power'-system arguably requires 'altruism' of the 'individual' sort (which 'power' suppresses precisely to forestall such challenges to its rule.

And as 'a future that's free' – i.e. one based in whole human beings – requires not just different... but *opposite*... operating premises... 'a future that's free' must advance an individualistic definition of 'altruism' (i.e. we don't subserve individualities to tribes... whether that tribe is 'environmentalist'... or 'anarchist'... as John Trudell pointed out a few weeks back (and... an aside: whoever deleted that John Trudell audio file... please add it back to the mix... we need it.)

And last week we asked... what does it mean for us?... this shadow global governance... and...

...as this informal, clandestine global governance structure exists... what do we propose to do about it?... how do we build mutual aid habits *around* it?

And we asked... do we... each one of us... want to develop our own capacities for leadership?... become 'big'? – which (the use and development of our gifts...) in furthering good fellowship... is what brings true happiness.

Global governance by the few, we argued, displays a sad – if unsurprising – unwillingness to share... as leadership is a gift we all wear quite handsomely... when allowed to strut our stuff we joyfully find... our strong wings weren't left behind... in that dank prison called the forced-work system... but were carefully folded... and tightly kept... for those first few drops of encouragement... so that spirit... refreshed and re-set... may once again pursue happiness.

And we said that as 'leadership' is a quality inherent in all of us... a 'right', in fact, inherent in life itself... but the development of which 'rule' forbids... and is therefore illegitimate... 'rule' artificially and unnaturally limits our growth – it legislates away... gets in the way of... our happiness...

And we said that as we are built for honesty, yet forced to accept a system that depends on – is based on – duplicity... dishonesty... lies... a system that depends on forcing us to be what we are not (machine-like...) and on forcing us to accept the pretense of a system as real... it's claim of being what it patently is not – we are prevented 'by statute' from pursuing true happiness... which is living authentically... self-creation.

We said that as we are being mis-led... away from authenticity (truth)... and away from developing our leadership and our gifts... that we have to begin discussing how to lead ourselves... as becoming 'big' is what brings true happiness....

And this is the juncture where we now stand.

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Karl Popper has rightly pointed out that 'the future'... the form of self-organization we agree to... is up to us... and even with totalitarianism's ugly head rearing itself around him as he wrote... he still believed in the capacity of the existing institutions to rise to the occasion and wrestle with it.... He wrote (in his chapter, "The Principle of Leadership" in *The Open Society and Its Enemies: The Spell of Plato*):

Even the most powerful tyrant depends upon his secret police, his henchmen and his hangmen. This dependence means that his power, great as it may be is not unchecked, and that he has to make concessions, playing one group off against another. It means that there are other political forces, other powers besides his own, and that he can exert his rule only by utilizing and pacifying them. This shows that even the extreme cases of sovereignty are never cases of pure sovereignty. (p. 122)

And while I commented on the page, “Karl Popper on Authentic Education for Youth,” that it’s only from the perspective of ‘the whole’ that the truth can be known... a point Popper has made himself in another context... ‘the whole’ being a global system that cannot be reined in by individual nation-state actors... this doesn’t on it’s face negate what Popper is saying... it merely broadens its applicability... its effects... to the world scene... recalling Terence Hopkins’ point that ‘sovereignties’ compete on the global stage.

But it does pose, I think, a challenge to Popper’s broad sense of cautious optimism... if not flat-out contradicting it... that is, if we admit the *determination* implied in ‘power’ becoming global into the conversation – i.e. ‘power’ becoming functionally totalitarian *because* it is global... because its *aim* (no matter its impossibility...) the *effect* of its ‘unfelt imaginations’ to use Shakespeare’s language... of its steady forward thrust... is that it *does* (at least in tendency... until we mount a challenge...) eliminate all opposition, options or challenges to its rule... i.e. setting the *tendency* made by its global ambition to wipe out even the *thought* of any challenge to it has been entirely successful.

And let’s never forget Aldous’ point that between ‘national’ or ‘supra-national’ tyrannies there’s little to choose....

Our only course is to end ‘rule’ ...

(...and the quotes around ‘rule’ are to indicate... the degree to which it has been insinuated... incorporated... in *us*... we class-bound humans...)

And although our global resistance is building... (all over the world Grandmother is shaking us awake from our long slumber... because the threat is so great...)

(...because ‘power’ has set a weight – and here perhaps we should consider simply how the ‘central bank’ functions to draw all our energy to one hub and... using its discretion... funnels it out again... in such a way that the world is turned constantly to ‘power’s advantage: the banks via ‘credit’ suck money out of us – we who are the hands that literally rape the planet – and use it to feed the nation-states... who keep us in chains... and then banks also use it to refuel the raping... again and again...)

...so it is a weight that increases the advantage of ‘power’ with each turn it makes... with each turn adds to its mass... which then keeps increasing its advantage all over again... continuously... it fattens its finances... *according to* the terms it established – so we have to see the obvious... that the terms themselves are rigged... and the only way out is ‘distributed generation’...)

...we haven’t yet developed the *mechanisms* – both ‘defensive’ and ‘nascent’ (and it could be that the mechanisms we develop to resist... are also the mechanisms that we use for self-governance...) – that would allow us to grapple with the global threat... partly because ‘power’ acts in secret... and largely because we are denied the means to talk about it (globally.)

(And ‘defensive’ is that window through which we see the need to hold on to what we’ve created – while inter-linking

our efforts with our brothers and sisters globally... i.e. with our eyes on a vision... which we use as our guideposts... for structuring discussions and building a plan...

...and 'nascent' is that window through which the future beckons... through which we see the need to build... and feel the urge to 'found' – while inter-linking our efforts with our brothers and sisters globally... i.e. with our eyes on a vision... which we use as our guideposts... for structuring discussions and building a plan...

...and both views call up the quality of leadership in every one of us...)

And it seems to me Popper was not being as ruthlessly consistent in his thinking as we need him to be... and if this is so, I think the reason may be laid at the feet of the 'progress' mythology. Although his critique of 'historicism' discredits the notion of progressively unfolding 'stages'...

(In *Beginning Again* I argue that a good short-hand for the 'historicist myth' might be 'story-leading-reality' – the notion that 'history' is unfolding in some predetermined manner... according to some story or other... whether the story is Hegel's (and 'power's) 'Idea' [of 'Perfection'] 'realizing itself'... or Marx's and Engel's 'development of the productive forces'...)

(...and as an aside... I believe Popper's concerns about the 'class' uses of 'tribe' – the base mindset of 'class' of the 'citizen – barbarian' divide... [I like Virginia Woolf's language, 'the two worlds'... described in this 03.24.13 audio-blog called "The Mindset of 'In' and 'Out'"... about her book *Three Guineas*] set him up I suspect to make some unwarranted assumptions about 'tribe' in a non-class context... i.e. to harbor erroneous notions about earth-connected peoples.)



So while his ‘historicism’ critique includes a debunking of the ‘stages of history’ bunk, Popper’s humanism (‘humanism’ in the sense of ‘believing in human goodness’ and our capacity to ‘figure things out’ and to solve the problems that confront us...) seems to have led him into an uncritical acceptance of ‘civilization’-mythology... an acceptance that I would consider ‘historicist’... by which I mean that the notion that ‘humans continuously strive to improve their conditions’... or, as I would put it, ‘grow their gifts’... is often used to ‘disappear’ non-class peoples and to uncritically imagine the invention of ‘class’ to be a result of efforts to ‘grow *our* gifts’ continuously –

(...as opposed to being the result of an elite’s efforts to own, marshal and exploit all the gifts of a global humanity...)

– while I see ‘class’ as an energy-sink and a blockage.

But whether Popper believed that ‘class’ was an ‘advance’ or not... many of us *do*... so let’s take a moment to talk about it. It may be that at base this issue is a version of “Socrates’ Dilemma” that Popper pointed us to... and which we mentioned during this show a couple weeks ago...

(This is the key dilemma of ‘class’... for getting out of it.... We-the-people are land-bound birds... with heavy wings never stretched for flight... trying to overcome... the weight of millennia upon us – but it lifts with but our testing of it... if we but trust it will.)

And Hegel’s notion is also a version of this seeming dilemma... the notion that ruthless ‘Reason’ must shake... out of our alleged lethargy... we earth-connected peoples... shake us awake from our dreary (or child-like – these guys put it variously...) state of “identity with ‘mere’ mature”...

...as is Marx's and Engel's notion – which they used Hegel to validate – that the 'forces of Greed' played a positive part in history because it shook we sleepy (read: happy) people awake (i.e. 'helped' us 'see' our worth lay only in our 'utility' to 'power') –

(...and how dare we, really... how dare we be happy when 'power' was mired in its 'life-and-death-struggle' to conquer the forces of 'UnReason' and realize its dreams of 'Perfection' – while we lazy dullards want only to live well and love – how dare we be happy when 'power' was "mired in the muck" (read: us)...

[...and here I must interrupt the interruption to encourage all who can to request and read Miklos Nyiszli's *Auschwitz: A Doctor's Eyewitness Account* from your library... the existence of which is a gift nonpareil... and which gives us – among much much more than just this – a good example of this psychological dynamic:

Dr. Mengele was indefatigable in the exercise of his functions. He spent long hours in his laboratories, then hurried to the unloading platform, where the daily arrival of four or five trainloads of Hungarian deportees kept him busy half the day.

Unceasingly the new convoys marched off in columns of five, flanked by SS guards. I watched one come in and line up. Although my vantage point was at some distance from the tracks and my view obstructed by the maze of barbed wire fences, I could still see that this convoy had been expelled from some fair-sized city: the prisoners' clothes were smartly tailored, many were wearing new poplin raincoats, and the suitcases they carried were of expensive leather. In that city, wherever it was, they had managed to create for themselves a pleasant, cultured way of life. And that was the cardinal sin for which they were now paying so dearly. (p. 33)]

...so was 'power' mired in the muck of our 'imperfection'?...  
...or mired in reality in the muck of their belief ...  
...in their own insufficiency...  
...betrayed... unconsciously... they must surely have  
thought...  
...by Grandmother... the dark... the unseen... forces of  
Chaos...  
...surely it was she who left them hanging in that tree...

And now we are left...  
...with all these descendants...  
...of the bitter children of Abandonment...  
...determined to 'prove'...  
...so all will see...  
...their 'incontestable'  
...'sufficiency'...

Why does this matter?

It matters because we humans are living in "an age on the verge of change..." and we have some decisions to make about a direction-flip... we are asking ourselves how do we create a future based on different premises... as we're coming to see that the premises themselves must change if we are to successfully negotiate that turn to authenticity... and we're faced with a very entrenched interest called 'power' that is erecting apace... the facade of 'change'... with the goal but to con us with more of the same...

...and we-the-people must decide...  
...if we're tired of just being along for the ride...  
...if we're willing to put false division aside...  
...and get on the same page...  
...which means the same side...

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WUR, Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013 radio show: “Reclaiming Our Stolen Gifts... Our Leadership... To Establish A Future Based On Distributed Generation” (Pt. 1)

Today we’re going to argue that we can’t grow up as a global humanity while letting the few lead... and those few also are stuck in immaturity... putting on their little performances for us... living in inauthenticity... and... by the way... we were given two really good examples this week of how the official governance structure is theater.

I caught part of an interview with the man who wrote *Fast Food Nation* about his new book in which he tells one of the back stories to the Cuban Missile Crisis... that Khrushchev and Kennedy had a secret missile-removal deal – “I’ll take mine out of Turkey if you take yours out of Cuba... – which allowed Kennedy to pretend to the U.S. captive audience that he’d just slapped Khrushchev around a bit....

And we have a really good current illustration – although with even more sinister undertones – in this pretense of outrage from European heads of state that their communications were swept up by the N.S.A. This is exactly the performance-tactic Shakespeare describes in *Richard III* (the hidden machinations for the throne...) which fooled no one in Richard’s day either.

But the even more sinister aspect comes in when you consider that the Republicans are trying to make hay over the Snowden revelations about N.S.A. spying. I learned this... this past Thursday waiting in a check-out line... from the most recent issue of *Mother Jones* (while one of my tires was being slashed – the fourth such incident, by the way.)

You know Wallerstein... at that same Left Forum conference earlier this year when he made the remark about

Denmark... said that all systems have a life... and that 'capitalism's is at an end... and I replied in my head, "No... it's the class system for whom the shears of Atropos have come... she's that one of the Fates who cannot be turned... the time of 'rule' has full-run... and the time of 'individualities'... is now begun.

10.24.13... Brothers and sisters: With Karl Popper's help we've been attempting to come to grips with the implications (for our 'selves'... our souls... and necessarily then... for our common humanity...) of giving our allegiance to the state... arguing that doing so has meant (and can only mean) betraying our common humanity and the earth...

...as allegiance to the 'common wealth'...

(...and by the way I recently learned that the ancient word for 'wealth' and 'death' is the same... so... brothers and sisters resisting austerity in Portugal... thank you and hang in there... all of us globally must get on the same page... must start helping each other... our hearts must heal collectively... the on-going pain called 'rank'...)

...(the group project of raping the earth so that it may be converted from common treasure to private ownership...) has meant – and will continue to mean while it exists – giving our allegiance to 'princes'... to 'statesmen'... to puffs-up-in-love-with-an-illusion...

...and that to establish our world based on (the opposite operating premise inherent in) distributed generation... we have to develop – each one of us... our leadership.

Today, October 27, 2013, we begin that conversation.

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At this moment we are globally pondering... *globally* trying to see... what the qualities of a new world – beyond commodification and rank – would have to be... for us to constitute the opposite of class authentically.

It's time for us to embark on our common road together... toward "Reclaiming Our Stolen Gifts... Our Leadership... To Establish A Future Based On Distributed Generation."

We begin by looking at the question of 'leadership.'

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"On 'Leadership' and 'Self-Organization'... on 'Poor' and 'Rich'"

[From... "Karl Popper on Authentic Education for Youth": In upcoming WUR shows we will be discussing not just Popper's insights on 'authentic education'... and the fostering of 'leadership'... but also whether, or to what degree, these insights bear on the possibilities for 'authentic governance'... i.e. we will be challenging this seeming sacrosanct notion of 'rule'. We have to challenge the notion of 'rule' because that's the only way out... as our global 'intercourse' must be effectuated somehow... We either leave it to those who see us and the earth as means for them to achieve their illusion of supremacy... or we grow up as a global humanity. – PS]

Labor unions are anathema to 'power' because in them they see the capacity for 'self-organization'... or another way of saying (seeing) this... they see in them a capacity for 'leadership' – they see a capacity that could potentially step into an assumed 'vacuum'... a gap in service provision, say... or food distribution....

So let's talk about this question of 'self-organization' in

a transitional period.

On a previous show we talked about Petr Kropotkin's broken heart [watching totalitarianism wither the hopes of those who had welcomed the Russian Revolution...] because he felt that maybe he hadn't thought through well enough this question of the transitional period and the need for food.... So let's do that work now. Let's think that through now.

We-the-people have been conditioned to see ourselves (or others among us) as 'poor' (whether in 'thought' or in 'possessions'...) and 'power' as 'rich' (whether in 'thought' or in 'possessions'...)

(...and Bill McKibben's speech provides a good illustration of this... when he says, "...the reason corporations should not have the right of free speech is because they're simple. If you want to build a car efficiently a corporation is a great tool. They are far more capable of executing a plan... it has a single-minded focus on creating wealth... like the Koch Brothers." (...I heard this excerpt on 10.08.13 on KPFA.) Such language contributes to the mythology of dispassionate 'machine-like market forces'... as well as the mythology of the 'innovativeness'... the 'productive genius'... of concentrated 'power' – "it may have no conscience but it sure gets things done." But 'it' is not doing anything... we-the-people are the ones who are getting *everything* done... and we can either stay in harness and be directed by actual, real, literal sociopaths-in-love-with-an-imagined-paterfamilias (and *not* metaphors for sociopathy...) or we can begin directing our own energies...)

...and to the degree we feel (fear) this... to that degree we fear opening our hearts to the possibility of freedom... i.e. true freedom... from 'necessity'... from coercion... and from the fear of necessity and coercion.

But before we begin this discussion I think we should

ground ourselves in this: the whole wage-work / coerced work system promotes a callousness towards our brothers and sisters. The grief beneath these words have never been probed: “if you can get the many chasing money...” – we don’t trust ‘power’ but we don’t yet trust each other.

What we don’t see... because ‘power’ has blindered our side-wise glances successfully... is that what we see in ‘power’s ‘wealth’... or ‘capacity’... is but our reflected selves... the extraction of *our* wealth... *our* wealth appropriated... our renounced gifts... our earth’s boundless riches... seized... using us as means... to cast our self-knowledge of abundance into shadow (“Keep It In Its Container.” It begins that early.)

But with ‘distributed generation’ we create ‘a new abundance’... in aligning our lives with truth.

(‘Power’ knows this... that we are the source of all abundance... sees that the only way to restore the earth is to feed our energy back into it... just as they finessed the guileless in Detroit to attempt to cleanse vacant lots of contamination. But for ‘power’ the risk of our reconnection to earth is immense... and it knows this too... so it’s determined to get in front – and stay in front – of this (reconnection.)

“What we want” is what we’ve always wanted: to explore our earth without fear... to walk its roads and know that anywhere we stop we’ll find a welcome... because we are... each one... as stars to the other... and with a ready pace we embrace our sisters and brothers. (And in future shows we’ll be talking about the connection between leadership and cross-fertilization... how the confluence of diverse perspectives helps to stimulate leadership....)

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There is an existing governance structure for the world... it is a ‘shadow structure’... i.e. it is ‘informal’ and depends on (embeds itself in) secrecy... but it is this shadowy



web... that we must consciously 'exit'... as we begin weaving an alternative... even as we reclaim its stolen capacity as our own.

We have to devise fluid structures that survive attempts to re-establish 'rank'... hierarchy.

Until now... we've mouthed the thoughts of 'power' pretty exclusively... turned our backs pretty sharply on those who dared to let reality creep into their speech...

(...and I have to share this quote from a man who spoke these words two thousand four hundred and sixty years ago... more or less:

The commands of law are artificial, those of nature necessary. The commands of law are the result of agreement, not of growth; the commands of nature are the result of growth, not of agreement. Therefore the transgressor of the law, if he escapes the notice of those who made the agreement, is free of dishonor or punishment, but not if he is seen. But suppose a man goes against possibility and does violence to something that has grown up in nature, if he escapes the notice of all men, the harm is no less; if all see him, the harm is no greater. For the damage is not a matter of opinion but of reality. The point of this inquiry is that the majority of the rights laid down by law are at enmity with nature. (Antiphon writing about 450 B.C.)

This is what I hoped to show in *The Talking Tree*... that we're stuck in the same story.)

Until now... we've mouthed the thoughts of 'power' pretty exclusively... turned our backs pretty sharply on those who dared to let reality creep into their speech...

...but not today....

Today other voices are being raised that counter false division... that refuse to say 'the poor' are anything but the shadowy unseen figures that lurk behind the scenes... stroking their weight of gold and watching the globe to anticipate where it must be placed... to lure the unsuspecting and the complicit with its 'credit'...

(...and today [10.24.13] we were given a really good illustration of this when the City of Fresno demolished yet another encampment... a small, established group of women had built community together... good fellowship... were causing harm to no one... but the City found their living arrangement... by its very existence... posed an intolerable challenge to the logic of 'the state' – the ideology... propaganda... that it's needed to 'protect us'.... When one of the women who'd lived there for three years was asked, "What will you do now?" she replied, "Let go and let God figure it out." That is richness. Thank you sister for that gift.)

Globally we are seeing that the presented governance structure is paraded like PR... a charade to entertain and 'occupy' 'the people'... to satisfy with pretense our need to believe in some degree of 'fairness' or 'legitimacy' in the rationale we're given to 'justify' our lost lives.

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'Ponzi scheme' defined: "...a form of fraud in which belief in the success of a nonexistent enterprise [in our case called 'progress'] is fostered by the payment of quick returns to the first investors from money invested by later investors [our 'investment' coerced... extracted with violence]. Named after Charles Ponzi (died 1949), who carried out such a fraud (1919 – 20.)"

So 'progress' always was a Ponzi scheme... the former so-called 'European peasantry' is paid off with so-called 'New World' blood... and on it went... each 'new discovery' or 'new conquest' in reality new rape and pillage of the earth... grabbed and stuffed into the maw of 'power'... that eats without cessation and without thanks... its only thought how the expense of each new conquest can be pushed off down the road... its only thought 'the race'... to be the 'last man standing'... the one who rules o'er all... amidst the Pyramid's collapse... the one on whom the crown is planted... 'controlling interest' of the world... who calls the tune the earth-entire must dance to... all living-now... all coming... and all thought of what can be.

(It wants to triumph especially over our sense of our own possibilities... we... as from 'power's earliest beginnings... being the critical ground to 'cover' and to claim.)

A Ponzi scheme which sucked us all into the machinery of 'power'... as drivers and as fuel (in truth its 'fuel' we all were simply...) eyes full of its false promises of payment down the road... a promissory note that never could be paid...

...but *that* we didn't know.

And so we let our hearts turn cold and brittle... our faces frozen masks... so we could betray each other... and crisply turn our backs... until we caught our sad reflections in the glass... and, all-unwilling, saw the shadow that looked back.

We class-conflicted humans... with our eyes on 'power's' purse... for long now we've avoided our devastated earth... but now that purse... it shakes out empty... and at last we turn to truth... and our gaze now that we see her... without judgment... she returns.

And now there's no one left to con... the Pyramid is  
coming down... and with it banners, walls, illusions... all...  
...all fallen back to earth...  
...and now...  
...we look around.

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In earlier iterations of this apocalyptic confrontation of 'power' with 'the people' – and a brief pause here to thank the man who recently published a book on the Occupy movement (I believe it had the word 'apocalypse' in the title...) for the information that the ancient meaning of the word 'apocalypse' was "to uncover" or "to reveal."

(...and whenever I hear people refer to 'Ancient Greece' I think, "thank you, thank you Martin Bernal... who wrote *Black Athena: The Afroasiatic Roots of Classical Civilization, Volume 1: The Fabrication of Ancient Greece 1785 – 1985*... for the necessary reminder that 'Ancient Greece' was an invention – the concept... the lie... the propaganda... 'Ancient Greece'.... The 'ancient world' was 'the Great Mediterranean Bowl'.... Here's one example (as well as an example of how we uncover the truth [reality] by following our questions...) I was just reading the "Epistle" to Sir Thomas More's *Utopia*... in which the writer tells a story about Diogenes "now, who's 'Diogenes'?" I wondered – who... when he saw his fellow townspeople in urgent preparations for an invasion by Alexander the Great... began rolling his tub up and down a hill. When someone stopped and asked him why he was rolling his tub up and down a hill, he replied, "everyone else is so busy, I thought I should be busy too..." When I went to the footnotes to find out more about this strange tale, I learned it was from 'Lucian' – "well, who's 'Lucian'?" – and I found out that Lucian was a Syrian... born about 120 A.D.... who went to Athens to learn the ancient Greek language so he could read the works written in it...)

He described it as a moment of enlightenment or revelation... a point of crossing-over from which one can't cross back... and he said that many members of Occupy had experienced this 'Thelma and Louise' moment....

(...and this is another good example of how 'power' changes the meanings of words it's threatened by...)

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But to return to this thread of 'leadership'... in earlier iterations of this apocalyptic clash of 'power' with our refusal to go back to our debased status... 'power's m.o. (*modus operandi*...) was to identify the 'leadership' and get rid of it....

Of course they still do this... even with 'Occupy – which professed no leadership – they did this. I remember hearing that 'certain occupiers' (who not-coincidentally were key to the encampment's success...) were hit with 'stay-away' orders from the courts.

But missing from the discussions of 'leadership' – a thread that it's critical that we-the-people take up – is “where are we going? ...” “leadership to what?...”

Because... how... for any group that is activist... can 'leadership' of any form exist... if that question hasn't occurred to it? if the only thing it says is, “Resist! Resist! Resist!”? If that's the extent of our activism then there truly is no leadership... and 'leadership' we need... otherwise our ship is rudderless... and founders in the blast of wind or water 'power' brings... as we sit and motionlessly dream...

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If we had done our analysis... there's no way any of us could have sat blithely in encampments and think 'power' was gonna let that go on. So *all* of our thought process in encampments needs to be about "how do we seed the future in this community so we can be supported?" "How do we inoculate ourselves against agent provocateurs?" "How do we increase our numbers?"... because we are ready tinder... we-the-people... we are ready for the light. Bring it. Bring it.

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So rather than 'no leaders'... it seems a key part of our motto must be "all of us are leaders"... individually... collectively... severally...

...individually... collectively... severally...  
...we know where we're going...  
...and our oars find 'fit' in the same ship...  
...and they pull in stroke together...  
...and we find we're moving forward... finally...  
...finally rowing in the same direction...  
...and all knowing that when we reach our  
destination...  
...we will look around and notice we can breathe...  
...as free beings...

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WUR, Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 radio show: “Reclaiming Our Stolen Gifts... Our Leadership... To Establish A Future Based On Distributed Generation” (Pt. 2)

Today we'll be interweaving... because they are necessarily interconnected... several themes: “how do we regain our leadership abilities... how do we reclaim possession of our own gifts... and begin planning the transition to a future based on opposite premises to class.

I've put up the page – “Miklos Nyiszli Lessons On Class” – because in December I'm planning to devote a significant portion of that month's shows to reading and commenting on his book, *Auschwitz: A Doctor's Eyewitness Account*... which I consider to be an extremely important book because it reveals in graphic detail... and in a way that no sociological or political treatise on 'class' possibly could... that 'class' is embedded in the way that all of us think. Just as Alice Miller said in *For Your Own Good*... it wasn't a freak, random accident that folks went along with Fascism across Europe in the 1930s and 40s... they were ready soil for it... and, what we're going to be considering is that we are always ready soil for totalitarianism until we decide to confront the mindset of 'class' within our own thinking – thinking that we're all trained in. Almost every day I hear some illustration in people's speech of this reality... that it's embedded in us... in our thoughts... people saying, “well, I just want my child to get a good education and get a good job...” How many times do we hear that? How many times did we speak it as parents? “Get a good job... be a good worker...” And we are entering in a time when there is no ability anymore of the earth to crank out enough wealth to capture the hands of enough people to allow the notion of a system based on 'fair compensation for work'... of... “you give up your autonomy as a human being and we will give you a job”. Well that 'social contract', as we call it, can't continue anymore. 'Power' knows that, that's why they're rushing, rushing, to plan our future for

us... they got the ‘Trans-Pacific Partnership’, the ‘Trans-Atlantic Partnership’... they’re trying to unify the globe... quick! quick! make sure we got nowhere to go... then... when we start getting restless... direct our eyes to: “look! look! we got this U.N.-sponsored... that means it’s all of us globally... at least the big, smart ones... us important ones... we are figuring out... how to keep you guys... eating... given that we can’t give you ‘jobs’ anymore. But, don’t worry, we got it covered.”

Now... not only does that consign – because ‘hierarchy’ is a key ideology that they can never let go of because that would mean letting go of their exclusive privilege... so there’s going to be folks who don’t get to have ‘local self-sufficiency’... it’s not going to be an ‘even’ distribution... it never has been under ‘class’... it never will be... and once again we’re letting our so-called ‘betters’ decide these big questions of who gets to eat... who gets to use a little bit of their gifts... and who doesn’t. So given that this transition is inevitable... what we’re arguing in this space... is that it’s time for us to make the decisions for us.

And Miklos Nyiszli is, I believe, necessary for us to take in for us to get it that we have no choice but to step up.

I want this to be a useful conversation for those of us who want to plan the transition.

On the page “Miklos Nyiszli Lessons On Class” I wrote the following:

This morning (10.31.13) I listened to an interview with a man, Jack El-Hai, who has written a book called *The Nazi and the Psychiatrist*... about the life of a man sent by the U.S. military in 1945 to evaluate the captured Nazi leadership – to determine their mental fitness for standing trial. What surprised me most about the interview was the apparent belief of the interviewer that there must have been some common



pathology that the leadership suffered from... he kept digging to find out what it was: "So did the psychiatrist [Douglas M. Kelley] ever find that trait?" he asked near the end of the interview... when... had we been discussing it... had we been discussing Alice Miller... Miklos Nyiszli... Karl Popper... it would have been obvious... for all of us... that the pathology is the class system itself....

There is a total absence of logic in the way 'work' is discussed across the political spectrum (again... this speaks to the reality that the class system is totalitarian... "a single pattern of thought"... is what that word means... impressed across all aspects of society.) The obvious truth that we are captives within the coerced work system (whether it's the 'money-illusion' (always, always undergirded with 'manufactured scarcity'...) or the illusion of 'our betters' that coerces us...) –

(...and we're going to be talking more about coercion hidden in seeming assent. We see this across age, but young people are more vulnerable to this hidden coercion because they're new to the experience of dealing with this system. So, when someone in authority says, "this is the right thing to do..." youth credit it – which would make sense under 'wholism'... under terms of generalized health... then it would make sense for young people to look to more experienced people for guidance. And 'power' is determined to provide the only 'guidance' young people can find. The 'echo-chamber' that Jeremy Bentham describes is an expression of this imperative of 'power... this determination of 'statesmen' to claim exclusive possession of that quality called 'guidance' – because the youth are looking for it... and 'power' insists on being the one that gives it... the 'power'-guys want to have the routes all nicely-paved and say, "here... go this way... and you'll find the guidance you need..." And I've learned in my life that that's a lie... the guidance that we need

I had to fight my way to... or... in some cases... ‘float’ my way to... the ancestors can sometimes just pick you up and carry you along... or bring things to you... but it definitely wasn’t given to me by the system....

So there is a hidden coercion when ‘leadership capacities’ are monopolized by the few... as we all come to this earth striving to figure it out... seeking knowledge... so if the ‘power’-guys say, “there’s no way to get it but through us...” that’s a kind of a coercion because it’s a ‘necessary’ for us as for all living things... knowledge... so they manufacture scarcity there as well....)

So... on the one hand... when we don’t hear the truth spoken... the truth that our gifts are coerced in a coerced-work-system... when we don’t hear that spoken over the airwaves... (the truth that it’s perfectly obvious that we are not independent actors while “on the job”... but rather puppets... and yet the discourse of the pundits all implies that we are independent actors...) while on the other hand we hear all this... judgment... this accusatory anger directed at folks who are doing their job... because... the paycheck... the paycheck... has a powerful hold over us... we’ve been atomized... we don’t have any other source of survival... and so the discourse is contradictory... we hear all these attacks on folks... like the firefighters who let that man drown because it “wasn’t in their job description...” the police that herd us... the folks who fly the drones.... There is this assumption that we uniformly hear over the airwaves that they are responsible... and that anger never broadens out to embrace the class system itself.

(What specifically led me to write this was hearing criticism of Janet Napolitano [this morning, 10.31.13] because of acts this current university functionary committed as a functionary of government. It strikes me

that these attacks must be for the benefit of young people with little experience with the coerced work system....)

That's nuts. It's an insane assumption – insane because it flies against all of our own personal experience when we are that person in that job and we know that there are certain walls that we cannot heave ourselves over... or even peek over if we want to keep that job –

... it flies against truth... in saying implicitly that captives are not captives... puts us in an unfair position. We are supposedly independent actors... responsible for what we do... and yet... the resources that we need to survive are kept in the hands of the few... and if that were spoken we could start talking about it... but no interviewer ever states the obvious... no interviewer ever calls any of these pundits who express this outrage on it.... To live under such patent insanity does violence to what we are as human beings... as living things.... It undermines our humanity.

This is that moment that Christopher Fry spoke of... that time when wrong comes up to face us everywhere... “the longest stride of soul men ever took...” is that stride that's in front of us right now. We have to represent for humanity itself. It is at risk.

When asked what he thought was the key message Dr. Kelley left for the world, the guest (Jack El-Hai) replied in Kelley's own words: “There are people who would gladly climb over the corpses of half of the population to gain control over the other half.”

Now that is a pregnant beginning... will the pundits follow up?... will the necessary questions be asked... the obvious conclusions be drawn?

Göring: Why, of course, the people don't want war. Why would some poor slob on a farm want to risk his life in a war when the best that he can get out of it is to come back to his farm in one piece? Naturally, the common people don't want war; neither in Russia nor in England nor in America, nor for that matter in Germany. That is understood. But, after all, it is the leaders of the country who determine the policy and it is always a simple matter to drag the people along, whether it is a democracy or a fascist dictatorship or a Parliament or a Communist dictatorship.

Gilbert: There is one difference. In a democracy, the people have some say in the matter through their elected representatives, and in the United States only Congress can declare wars.

Göring: Oh, that is all well and good, but, voice or no voice, the people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger. It works the same way in any country.

(Hermann Göring in an interview with Gilbert in Göring's jail cell during the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials (18 April 1946, from *Wikiquote*)

So... as the people waking up is the chief threat 'statesmen' face... and today we are waking up apace... the entire human race... we can look around and expect to see... the 'common threat' card of states being played liberally... but let's not let ourselves get duped... please... we have the chance now to get free... and that means globally.

Of course we the people who have lived long enough know this... know not only that the lust for limitless power

exists... but that it is coterminous with 'statesmanship' (the exclusive hold of the few on 'leadership'...) i.e. that it is precisely this mentality that is leading us....

Yet this is never discussed.

Yesterday (11.02.13) I listened to a conversation on The Moyers' Report about the Trans-Pacific Partnership – the thinking driving which is of actors whose loyalties are not tied to particular states... and the pundits all professed shock... that such a major trade deal could be arrived at in such a fashion... a process well beyond the reach of we-the-people... and they professed confusion as to why China is excluded... averred obliviousness as to how these 'power'-guys could imagine that 'the economy' could 'get better' if 'the people' are leveled to a common misery.

And then one says, "of course for the people in 'power' things are pretty good. They're doing fine." And another explains, "they don't have much contact with people who are suffering." And then there was, I'm sure, much sage head-nodding at this... but no one said... "Hasn't it always been like this? And for millennia? ...irrespective of ideological justification? Whether it's 'democracy' or 'communism'?" ... as Göring said. "So what do we do about it?" is the obvious, key question... which of course no one asked.

It's as if there's this invisible barrier which all the pundits agree never to mention but to always respect.... So as they don't ask the obvious... the implicit message is: "they are our betters... nothing can be done...." Instead of stating the truth: 'leadership' is our common inheritance... it belongs to all of us... we must take it back..." and then following the questions that come from that.

As the obvious is never stated in speech that we hear... as young people growing up... we learn from the silence... as we gain experience in the world... that “nothing can be done”... and so we make our compromises and adjustments... all unconscious.

Living our lives by conventional lies means living in insanity. So what would push us past dull unconscious despondency?... the hump of lethargy?... the boulder of resignation and fear that “nothing can be done?”...

(...because this is what our parents [unconsciously] taught us...)

...Lucian suggests... and Shakespeare... and all those who broke free of conventional thinking... that it is rich and diverse *experience* that does this... helps us break out of corrals... both physical and mental – engagement with our fellows... and speaking out loud what we see – which may perhaps have implications... for how we plan the transition.

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In recent shows we’ve been arguing that we can’t grow up as a species while letting the few lead. That just seems so obvious, doesn’t it? So why aren’t we discussing it? ...except we’re duped by ‘class’?... by the belief in differential capacity among us... instead of uniform capacity and differential gifts... that *in toto* mean ‘abundance’ – an abundance that ‘power’ has set the entire store of its organized and concentrated energy against our achieving... it will spend its last breath to keep us from seeing it.

When we see that ‘self’, in reality, is also a collective ‘we’ – which... as we see this... leads us to a greater understanding of how it is that... as Karl Popper says... fully developing individualities manifest altruism – it helps us see why

there is an association in minds... between the notions 'wealth' and 'death'.... (And also... as in Congo... 'wealth' means 'death' because 'wealth' *brings* death... it brings 'power'....)

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Recently I heard a doctor's story over the public airwaves. It was about going somewhere to do doctoring and finding that before doctoring could meaningfully take place... the people first needed proper irrigation, say... or maybe it was drainage... the point being that what they needed... was to do with engineering... i.e. not his 'specialty.'

The story reminded me so much of a novel I read once, that I believe was largely autobiographical, by A. J. Cronin...

(...and this example also shows the power of words... as this novel, *The Citadel*, led to the creation of the U.K.'s National Health Service...)

...that took place in the 1920s in South Wales. The hero of the story was forced to do his first 'post' [internship] as a doctor's assistant in a mining town – which meant a lot of ailments:

For an hour and a half [Andrew Manson, the doctor] sat in the little back-shop cubicle which was the consulting room, wrestling with a packed surgery until the walls sweated and the place was choked with the steam of damp bodies. Miners with beat knees, cut fingers, nystagmus, chronic arthritis. Their wives, too, and their children with coughs, colds, sprains – all the minor ailments of humanity. Normally he would have enjoyed it, welcomed the quiet appraising scrutiny of these dark, sallow-skinned people with whom he felt he was on probation. But now, obsessed by the major issue, his head reeled with the impact of these trifling complaints... (A. J. Cronin, *The Citadel*, 1937, p. 14)

The ‘major issue’ is typhus. Our hero at first tries to soldier on alone, once his attempts to raise the interest of the District Medical Officer (Griffiths) prove unsuccessful. He’s confused as to the source until his colleague, Philip Denny, pulls his coat:

“You’ve got cases too?” Andrew asked with tense interest.  
“Four! All in the same area as yours.” He paused. “And these bugs [bacteria on a slide they’re looking at] come from the well in Glydar Place.”

Andrew gazed at him, alert, burning to ask a dozen questions, realizing something of the genuineness of the other man’s work, and, beyond everything, overjoyed that he had been shown the focus of the epidemic.

“You see,” Denny resumed with that same cold and bitter irony, “paratyphoid is more or less endemic here. But one day soon, very soon, we’re going to have a pretty little blaze-up. It’s the main sewer that’s to blame. It leaks like the devil, and seeps into half the low wells at the bottom of the town. I’ve hammered at Griffiths about it till I’m tired....

“It’s a damned shame,” Andrew burst out, forgetting himself in a sudden rush of indignation.

Denny shrugged his shoulders. “He’s afraid to ask the Council for anything in case they dock his wretched salary to pay for it.” (p. 15)

[...the budget... the money-lever craftily converted into blunt instrument... has ever been the daily tool of choice to keep us reined and feeling hopeless... its use means they can put in storage its brute force.... If we are only allocated so much of the earth’s treasure... and told we must live within those limits set... and we believe it... whether ‘we’ is an individual... or a community... or a nation... we are reined-in effectively. – PS]



Having a frustrating day, Andrew stops by Denny's lodgings and finds his friend is very grim:

Philip received him in morose silence with a gloomy eye and a darkened forehead.

Then, after a moment, he said: "Young Jones died this morning at seven o'clock. Perforation." He spoke quietly, with a still, cold fury. "And I have two new enterics in Ystrad Row."...

"We must write to the Ministry of Health."

"We could write a dozen letters," Philip answered, with grim restraint. "And all we'd get would be a doddering commissioner down here in six months' time. No! I've thought it out. There's only one way to make them build a new sewer."

"How?"

"Blow up the old one!"

For a second Andrew wondered if Denny had taken leave of his senses. Then he perceived something of the other's hard intention. He stared at him in consternation. Try as he might to reconstruct his changing ideas, Denny seemed fated to demolish them.

Manson muttered: "There'll be a heap of trouble – if it's found out."

Denny glanced up arrogantly.

"You needn't come in with me, if you don't want to."

"Oh, I'm coming in with you," Andrew answered slowly. "But God only knows why!"

...

Denny had made his plan and timed it carefully. The late shift at the mine had gone in an hour ago. A few lads hung about old Thomas' fish shop at the top end, but otherwise the street was deserted....

Immediately above Glydar Place they reached the main manhole of the sewer, a rusty iron cover set in rotten concrete,

and there they set to work. The gangrenous cover had not been disturbed for years but, after a struggle, they prised it up. Then Andrew shone the torch discreetly into the odorous depths, where on the crumbled stonework a dirty stream flowed slimily.

“Pretty, isn’t it?” Denny rasped. “Take a look at the cracks in that pointing. Take a *last* look, Manson.”

No more was said. Inexplicably, Andrew’s mood had changed and he was conscious now of a wild upswing of elation, a determination equal to Denny’s own. People were dying of this festering abomination, and petty officialdom had done nothing. It was not the moment for the bedside manner and a niggling bottle of physic!...

His heart was thudding with excitement. It might not be orthodox medicine, but it was the best moment he had ever known. (p. 20 – 1)

Now... neither these two doctors... or the doctor whose story I heard recently over the airwaves... in facing the reality of the situation they were in... said, “hold on a minute... Let’s wait a bit so I can get the proper approvals... or degrees... or clearances... No, they trusted their senses... their intelligence... their analysis of the situation... and they stood in solidarity with their brothers and sisters – took ‘humanity’ as their ‘tribe’.

They came from a place of love.

Kropotkin, in pointing out how individual initiative blossoms in the security created in ant-tribes... saying this is equally true of bees... also observed:

These small insects, which so easily might become the prey of so many birds, and whose honey has so many admirers in all classes of animals from the beetle to the bear, also have none of the protective features derived from mimicry or otherwise,

without which an isolatedly-living insect hardly could escape wholesale destruction; and yet, owing to the mutual aid they practise, they obtain the wide extension which we know and the intelligence we admire. By working in common they multiply their individual forces; by resorting to a temporary division of labour combined with the capacity of each bee to perform every kind of work when required, they attain such a degree of well-being and safety as no isolated animal can ever expect to achieve however strong or well-armed it may be. In their combinations they are often more successful than man, when he neglects to take advantage of a well-planned mutual assistance. (Petr Kropotkin, *Mutual Aid: A Factor of Evolution*, 1902, p. 16)

“...a well-planned mutual assistance...” is exactly what requires, endorses and develops, fully-developing individualities... as does, “...a temporary division of labour combined with the capacity of each [individual] to perform every kind of work when required...”

And this obviously ties in to our question of education... once we're in our future freedom... and perhaps as well in transition...

(...and to my brothers and sisters who long for freedom: after all we've suffered at the hands of the 'philosopher-statesmen'... of the would-be masters... under the regime of class... why do we turn to them and passively ask for their guidance... ask for our future to be 'delivered' to us? Why do we restrict our efforts (thinking) to “tinkering with the machinery of death”? *They*... so full of their deeply-lodged sense of their 'legitimate and exclusive possession and prerogative of leadership'... are planning “the transition.” Why aren't we?)

...

And last week when we said, “Let’s think through the challenges of transition *now*...” we didn’t mean: “let’s develop the local and global organizations that could ensure that there would be no distribution interruptions...” No. All we need of infrastructure exists – or largely... there will be things we see we need... e.g. ‘the state’ does not facilitate mobility... to say the least... it wants us to be captives... so it’s expensive to travel... and yet we need this *physical* inter-knitting of our experience... not just our inter-knits on the Internet.

And we certainly don’t mean: “Let’s figure out ways to get our brothers and sisters back in harness... so we can ‘get things done’...” No. If you think this... some time with our three sources of power is advised. We have what we need... the issue is believing it – which is essentially believing in ourselves. So we have to push forward the truth that *coerced work is a con*... that there’s no need for it – and if you encounter resistance when you say this... then talk about it... test the notion... distribute as broadly and as deeply as you can those discussions... *that’s* the ‘distribution knitting’ that needs to be developed. We have the Internet and all the bits and pieces of self-sufficiency... so the issue is getting free... so we can begin organizing and using these things.

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Now compare the rich and interesting diversity implied in these examples of the fluid inter-play of life-with-life... with the imposed and deepening rigidity we’re living with daily... for there’s no doubt our power as human beings has decreased – Plato’s dream of fixity has not dimmed... just the opposite... we’re moving ever-faster toward its realization... because we have not consciously organized against it. (It’s only when we consciously resist that resistance can gain momentum – and critical mass....)

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But what Popper fails to address is... where his own reasoning takes him... which is that 'the state' itself is totalitarian... in requiring of its citizens... to subject... rather than grow... their individualism.... This is the 'single pattern of thought' inherent in the state's very existence (rank). To raise the hope up of 'checks and balances'... is but holding a candle to the sun (Sir Thomas gave me that one, 'the people' gave it him...) when it comes to our freedom (defined as "freedom from necessity"... ) it's worse than irrelevant... it's undergirding propaganda.

It seems Popper held to a romantic view... that for him was rather unusual... unusual given what he knew... for him to see so unrealistically... which is why I think we need Nyiszli (see: "Miklos Nyiszli Lessons On Class"....)

And as far as the state 'protecting' us goes...  
...a sufficient time to reflect will expose...  
...that the ruthless commodification of life that it sanctions and condones...  
...is making our lives a hell-hole. – PS]

We see here that Plato recognizes only one ultimate standard, the interest of the state. Everything that furthers it is good and virtuous and just; everything that threatens it is bad and wicked and unjust. Actions that serve it are moral; actions that endanger it, immoral. In other words, Plato's moral code is strictly utilitarian; it is a code of collectivist or political utilitarianism. *The criterion of morality is the interest of the state.* Morality is nothing but political hygiene. (Karl Popper)

[...and Popper's words ring particularly prescient as we look about us at the accelerated efforts of 'the state' to 'cleanse' urban areas – of those without homes... of 'criminality' – defined broadly in this same 'utilitarian' sense Popper is talking about... i.e., that which challenges 'the state'. When I listened this past Friday (11.01.13) to a discussion of the militarization of the police... how 'Homeland Security' has pressured more and more urban areas to create a detailed surveillance grid – 'domain awareness'... a matrix-map of so-many-square-foot sections for ease of drone-targetting... using a 'crime-fighting rationale... in which cell-phones are data-collection devices for the state ("information biometrics")... and the police are encouraged to view their city as a battleground. And as the drones buzz the pleasant propaganda buzz drones in our ears... massaging away our fears... "no, no, no," we're told, "this isn't a police-state you see, gaining greater and greater substance around you daily... police-states are passé... at least for we modern democracies..." No matter, we're told, that their soothing tones fly in the face of the reality we see building around us daily... cities divided into carefully-plotted matrixes... surveillance cameras everywhere... drones constantly buzzing overhead... while the airwaves are flooded with soothing propaganda.... Let's give ourselves a good shake, brothers and sisters, and find the means to communicate authentically... locally... not as members of any tribe but the Tribe of Free Beings....– PS]

[...Overt Fascism is the fangs... but totalitarianism is the snake itself... and its coils are tightening around us as we speak...– PS]

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