

The Machine in Our Garden

My understanding of what is happening to our world.

Bob Boardman – 2015



Modern Peasants

This is my “worldview”. It is my explanation of how I think about our world is today. I’ll begin my explanation from a spiritual perspective by saying that I personally see our world as a garden entrusted to humankind to be good stewards of, to nurture and take care of, understanding that we too are an integral part of the garden creation. I believe that if we were to do this task properly our world would be a paradise for all who live and behold its beauty. Unfortunately, we seem to have become very poor stewards. Instead of tending and living in balance with the garden that sustains our kind it seems we have multiplied like locusts and have now created a great mechanism which is rapidly devouring the remnants of the garden.

Now I know that I am exceedingly fortunate to be living in my country, New Zealand, at this time in the history of Western Civilization and the world. It is still the Golden Age and the looming climate catastrophe has not yet impacted us. I have a wonderful wife and family and live in a beautiful green land with a relatively small population. I am well educated and have a good job that pays well. Here in New Zealand we have plenty of food, a good health system, our children go to school, there is not much crime and there are no wars. I think of my peasant ancestors in the industrial revolution and the feudal age before that, where perhaps only three children in ten would survive to adulthood. I also look around my world and see the people still living in poverty, squalor, crime and wars. I know that I have been greatly blessed and thank God every day for it.

However, a few years ago something happened to me which made me very much reflect on what is happening to our world. I believed up to that point that because I had worked for 35 years in various occupations, had two university degrees and had raised a family with grandchildren that I had a good understanding of the nature of the world. I thought I was a highly educated, valued professional and knew how things operated. However, when I was working for the New Zealand Department of Conservation I found myself being restructured six times in four years (more times than when I was working the same period for a large multi-national forestry corporation) and this culminated with the Department adopting “*a full business commercial approach based on supply and*

demand". For me this was bizarre. There we were, a nation's public service dealing with conservation adopting something out of a corporation. As a result, I not only found myself in deep opposition but also did a lot of researching and thinking.

Now, several years later, I have come to the conclusion and am in fact convinced, that what I and the vast majority of people in Western Civilization are is a modern class of peasants. We may have a great deal more material possessions, rights and democratic choice than our forebears or illiterate peasants in poorer undeveloped countries but it is simply a matter of degree. In the actual scheme of things we are in fact peasants, none-the-less.

A Mechanism to Rule By

At this point, people will perhaps think that I am alluding to common conspiracy theories regarding a New World Order, the Illuminati, Templars, Free Masons, Swiss Banks, Jesuits, Mafia, the Rothschild family, and so forth. Now I certainly do believe there is a clear and discernible conspiracy to rule the world and I shall present why I think that shortly. However, who exactly is involved and whether it is groups with these names is something that I find to be a speculative maze. There are so many views portrayed by all manner of religious, anti-establishment sects that it is difficult to know what conspiracy theories might have any validity at all. There is a lot of smoke and mirrors. Perhaps that is the whole idea, or perhaps it is all just myth, or perhaps where there is smoke there is fire!

My discernment that we are mostly modern peasants comes from a different path. Probably a large part of my skillset is technical and relates to planning, project work, developing systems and problem solving. I was technical forest manager for New Zealand's largest commercial forest overseeing the analysis to determine the best way to grow the forest. I have helped write standard operating procedures in large organisations. I have written regional tourism strategies, carried out various large scale audits and been a project manager. All these activities have required discerning a big picture view of how things work (or should work) and breaking the whole down into components.

As I look at the world around me it is now very clear to me that a "machine" (a mechanism or system) exists for the purpose of owning/controlling the world's resources. (Another term I thought of using to describe this machine was "beast" because I also see the mechanism as having the resemblance of anatomical features.) The mechanism I see has the following major components (or anatomy):

The Ten Main Components of the Rulership Machine

1. **A Thinking and Control Apparatus (the Brain)** - An apparatus, including a global finance and banking system, that manifests the character, does the thinking (the philosophy and planning) and has the capacity to "influence" the implementation of the remaining components below:
2. **Legal Systems for Creating "Property" (the Mouths)** - The means for breaking down and converting the Earth's resources into bite-sized portions of "property" that can be owned – these are "ownable assets" with things like "titles" that constitute real wealth (eg: land, minerals and capital).
3. **The Financing of "Production" (the Food or Inputs)** - The means and capacity for financing the manufacture/conversion/exploitation of the Earth's raw materials into vast quantities of goods and services (called "production").
4. **The Global "Free-Market" (the Stomach)** - The capacity to consume the vast quantities of goods and services.
5. **Vast Quantities of Fiat Money (the Blood)** - Creation of vast quantities of intrinsically valueless paper markers (called "money") out of debt that can then be used to flow around economies and be used to exchange for vast quantities of goods and capital. However, these paper markers have no clear relationship (standard) to the value of goods or to capital (ie. real wealth) so that it is possible to

manipulate the values of each. (By maximising fractional banking and ensuring floating exchange rates for markers, goods and capital that can be “influenced” in “economies” as required, fiat money functions as a transport medium for wealth and debt. It is analogous to blood, which in arteries transports oxygen and nutrients and in veins transports waste.)

6. **Money Pumps (the Hearts and Lungs)** – The creation of “money pumps” involving inflation and deflation in national economies by having democracies with a Left and Right political spectrum. When the Left is in power they will raise taxes and increase spending, thus creating an inflationary effect. When the Right is in power they will cut taxes and reduce government spending, thus creating a deflationary effect (or a reduction in the rate of inflation). By stimulating spending the pump inflates, sucking in an increase of the earth’s raw materials for conversion into goods and then into markers. It also increases the flow of markers through an economy, inflating the returns from consumption and providing the opportunity to make gains from lending fees and interest based on fractional banking. By curtailing spending the pump deflates. While this will for a time deflate the returns from consumption it will, importantly, provide the opportunity to create more markers in exchange for public debt (called “quantitative easing”) ready for the next inflation cycle. Most importantly, the general lowering of prices caused by deflation (recession) provides opportunities for wealthy “investors” to acquire land, minerals, capital and other real wealth as property. Thus, in the overall process, the earth’s raw resources are converted into property and ownership is transferred from public (common) to private, and from nation to individual.
7. **Systems of “Influence” on Information Flows (the Nervous System)** – These are the think tanks, academic institutions, media corporations and numerous other vehicles used to enable “influence” (not directive control) over education, media and political institutions across the World. This is vital for at least three reasons. Firstly, it is vital to influence events and democratic process so that spending or the curtailment of spending is stimulated as required (eg. public opinion swings Left and Right so the money pumps function in various economic arenas). Secondly, to assist “conditioning” the “appetite” of the beast to maximise consumption in the short-term (see point 10.). Thirdly, by influencing and not exerting clear lines of directive control this ensures concealment and confusion to maintain the illusion of democratic choice and a free and equal society.
8. **Massive Debt (the Excrement)** – The deposits that the beast-machine leaves behind. The creation of a massive capacity for debt (currently US\$61.6 trillion world debt) serves a number of purposes. Firstly, it gives almost unlimited capability to create fiat money. Secondly, it enables spending to be stimulated more easily when required. Thirdly, the need to service the debt helps harness and condition (enslave) labour as a factor of production in the whole process. Fourthly, it provides the means to exert leverage over labour and politicians in any nation that acts in opposition.
9. **A Monitoring System (the Senses)** – Like any great machine or factory things can go wrong and parts may need repair or replacement. These days it is common to put in place cameras, sensors and other monitoring devices on machinery in factories that can be observed in a central control room. If things go wrong, repair personnel or even an emergency response can then be activated. The massive “rulership machine” is similar to other machines. Since 9/11 and the “War on Terror” an up-market monitoring system has been installed.
10. **A Conditioning/Training Regime (the Appetite).** This is the capability to condition and train all the human masses who produce and consume so everything is focussed on the short term and now. The more effectively this can be achieved then the more effective and rapid the conversion of the Earth’s raw materials into property that can be owned. Examples of conditioning systems or measures that assist the conditioning process are: information systems that promote consumption (eg. advertising), debt leverage that forces people to work, deregulation of the labour market to increase productivity, privatization of government services to enable the exploitation of utilities and national resources, and Discounted Cash Flow Analysis that values short-term gains in development more highly than longer-term (using high discount rates).

Now, I ask the reader to look around the world and ask themselves; “Do not all these components actually exist and are they not in operation?” I think the answer is that they quite clearly do exist and do operate most

effectively. The question then becomes, “Do these components act in concert as part of an integrated whole?” Again, quite clearly and without doubt, the answer is that they are functioning as part of a larger system. This then leads to the final deeper question, “Is this system functioning by accident or is it by design?”

Perhaps the mechanism evolved and the fact that it exists is reason enough in itself for concern. Perhaps, as I think is likely, the various components came into existence and started to interact by a mixture of natural developments and clever design. My thesis however, is that the machine that now exists today is the deliberate design of very highly educated and powerful people working over an extended period of time. The following sections explain my rationale for thinking this.

The “Brain” – Understanding the Importance of “Influence” (Component 1)

I think it is a mistake to believe that Western civilization could be ruled primarily by direct authoritarian control. Such an approach would be easily traceable and high risk. If some network or group did present itself publicly as some sort of global controlling entity it is likely they would quickly become targets for revolutions by the masses bent on overthrowing them. I think that if an entity aimed to rule Western Civilization they must achieve this in a manner such that those who are ruled do not understand that they are in fact being ruled. For this reason I think the application of a mechanism to rule is only likely to be achieved by patiently applying “influence” as the main approach.

Another term for this approach is “soft leadership tactics”. Basic leadership teaching says that the essence of leading is very much about “*skilfully using different tactics under different situations to change behaviours, opinions, attitudes, goals, needs and/or values*” (Source <http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu>). Different leadership tactics can be used in terms of “softness” versus “hardness.” This dimension of hardness or softness is defined in terms of how much freedom a tactic leaves the person to decide either to yield or to resist the influence attempt.

Hard leadership tactics leave individuals less freedom than soft tactics. Hard tactics include “exchange,” “legitimizing,” “pressure,” “assertiveness,” “upward appeal” and “coalitions.” These behaviours are perceived as more forceful and push the person to comply. Soft tactics, on the other hand, use approaches to influence behaviours which are considered thoughtful and constructive. Soft tactics include “personal appeal,” “consultation,” “inspirational appeal,” “ingratiation” and “rational persuasion”.

Ultimately, hard tactics can be counterproductive and risky. When people are forced they tend to rebel and be more able to provide hard evidence to justify why they do so. It is far better, if one can, to win people over using soft, insinuating tactics which leaves the door open for people to choose to walk away and say there has been a misunderstanding. Soft leadership (or “influence”) therefore, can be much more easily used as a method of concealed leadership.

How might this approach happen? Well, there can be found amongst wealthy individuals and financial institutions all manner of trusts, institutes, councils, commissions, funds and charities that provide opportunities for influencing others, as well as donating money to academic establishments and political causes. Thus, anybody who is somebody can be invited somewhere, where they can feel a sense of commonality and belonging. It does not matter if they lean to the political Left or Right, a place can be found. Similarly, some of these philanthropic entities set up by major bankers donate to apparently opposing or unrelated causes. Not only does this allay suspicions of bias and agendas the thing to recognise is that the nurturing of opposites is important to be able to manipulate changes in the overall scheme of things.

Another insight about how influence by an Elite might work can be found from considering the influence of mega-banks. In October 2011, a widely reported University of Zurich study called *The Network of Global Corporate Control* (easily found on the internet), found that 147 tightly knit companies, mostly mega-banks and investment institutions such as: Barclays, Capital Group, FMR, AXA, JP Morgan Chase, Merrill Lynch, Deutsche Bank, Credit Suisse, Goldman Sachs, etc, controlled 40 percent of the wealth of the world.

The researchers had gone to a database of 37 million companies and investors worldwide from which they identified 43,000 transnational corporations that were in turn controlled by a core of 1,318 giant corporations (who directly controlled 20 percent of the world's operating revenues and collectively owned through their shares a further 60 percent of global revenues, making 80 percent total). The 147 megabanks and financial institutions then owned half of these giant corporations. Now the Zurich researchers did not say they found evidence of world domination. What they said is that the evidence they found indicated that the 147 companies will compete in the market but act together on common interests.

It is naive not to consider that behind the network discerned by the Zurich researchers there also exists a deeper network that works through influence rather than obvious, easily traceable lines of control or ownership. A look at how international banking organisations work is instructive in this regard. The G30, for example, is an elitist think tank. According to Wikipedia it is "*an international body of leading financiers and academics which aims to deepen understanding of economic and financial issues and to examine consequences*". Another example is the BIS (Bank for International Settlements) that revolves around a two monthly meeting of the CEOs of 60 main Central banks from nations around the world. Both these organisations and many others were established through the philanthropy of major banking identities and the sense is of sharing ideas and working collegially amongst a world fellowship of esteemed peers.

Understanding the "Character" of the "Brain" – A Look at Banks (Component 1 ctud.)

Although I think it is plainly evident that a mechanism to rule the world exists and is working, I find it a lot more difficult to identify who is directing the entity. I can only try and apply logic and hypothesise.

From what I can gather from reading history it seems that in every civilization some individuals and groups have always become very wealthy and powerful compared to the rest. I think that in our Western civilization, a civilization that has spread across our whole world today, it is no different except that our civilization is global and the scale of wealth owned by a few is truly immense. For example, a recent report by Oxfam International in Jan 2014 entitled *Working for the Few*, showed that the world's 85 richest individuals now own as much wealth as the poorest half of the world's population (over three billion people). We can also see from media, such as the internet and Forbes magazine, the identities of many ultra-wealthy individuals.

Looking then at the histories of extremely wealthy families, groups and individuals in our world, one can see that some have lived through all manner of events, religious persecutions, wars, revolutions, and the rise and fall of nations. This being the case, I think it is fair to conceive that there has been learning by some of these wealthy groups and families, perhaps even learning accumulated over many generations involving education and circulation at the highest levels. I then ask, "What might this learning be?" It is logical to consider that the learning may include the following aspects:

- **Power.** That wealth provides the means to gain influence to achieve even greater wealth and power.
- **Networking.** That networking amongst those who are similar will achieve even greater influence.
- **Greater Purpose.** That the reward gained from simply owning and spending vast material wealth has its limits. However, if wealth is combined with education and knowledge there comes the means of achieving some perceived greater purpose – perhaps even a philosophical and/or religious purpose.
- **Elitism.** A sense of group superiority and brotherhood, the belief that they have proved themselves to be the fittest and best, and are possibly even divinely inspired or chosen.
- **Secrecy.** That secrecy is essential for survival and prosperity! The lessons of history have taught them that those that show their wealth and power sooner or later become undone.

Now if there were indeed a secretive, elitist group in our world today who have learned the intricacies of some or all these attributes, we might further ask what their philosophy and mission might logically entail. The answer

that is most plausible to me is the one that is the most obvious, which is simply to be in control of the world they increasingly own.

Of course, as I said previously, this is hypothetical and I am not presenting it as fact. The nearest I think I can come to actual fact about the nature of those who are behind the mechanism is perhaps to look at the nature of the mechanism's first component, which I think is integral to implementing the other components. This first component includes the world banking and finance apparatus. I simply ask: "Can the world banking system be trusted to act for the good of all?" I did a quick search of Wikipedia articles on the various major banks. This is a sample of what I found:

- **Barclays Bank.** (The wealthiest corporation in the world.) In June 2012, fined a total of £290 million (US\$450 million) for attempting to manipulate the daily settings of London Interbank Offered Rate (Libor) and the Euro Interbank Offered Rate (Eribor).
- **JP Morgan Chase & Co.** In November 2009, JP Morgan Chase & Co. agreed to a \$722 million settlement with the US Securities and Exchange Commission to end a probe into sales of derivatives.
- **Deutsche Bank.** Former employees have claimed that during the global financial crisis Deutsche failed to recognise up to \$12bn of paper losses on their \$130bn portfolio of leveraged super senior trades, although the bank rejects these claims.
- **Lloyds Bank.** In July 2014, US and UK regulators slapped a combined £218 million (\$370 million) in fines on Lloyds and a number of subsidiaries, over the bank's part in the global Libor rate fixing scandal as well as other rate manipulations and false reporting.
- **Royal Bank of Scotland.** Staff bonuses were nearly £1 billion in 2010, even though Royal Bank of Scotland reported losses of £1.1 billion for 2010. More than 100 senior bank executives were paid in excess of £1 million each in bonuses.
- **Goldman Sachs.** Criticized for its involvement in the 2010 European sovereign debt crisis. In September 2009, Goldman Sachs, among others, created a special credit default swap (CDS) index to cover the high risk of Greece's national debt.
- **Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.** In December 2012, HSBC (the world's second largest bank) was penalized US\$1.9 billion, the largest fine under the Bank Secrecy Act, for violating four US laws designed to protect the US financial system.
- **Credit Suisse.** Pleaded guilty in May 2014 to conspiring to aid tax evasion. Credit Suisse conspired to help US citizens hide assets in offshore accounts. Credit Suisse shares rose one percent on the day the \$2.6 billion penalty was announced.
- **Merrill Lynch.** In 2002, Merrill Lynch settled for a fine of \$100 million for publishing misleading research.
- **Lehman Brothers.** Lehman Brothers' bankruptcy filing is the largest bankruptcy in US history, and is thought to have played a major role in the late-2000s global financial crisis. On March 11, 2010, Anton R. Valukas, ... report revealed that Lehman Brothers used an accounting procedure termed repo 105 to temporarily exchange \$50 billion of assets into cash just before publishing its financial statements.

Obviously, a large proportion of the major financial banking institutions that control much of the world's wealth have significant honesty issues.

Now take an example of how "fractional banking" works. Let's say you deposit \$1,000 in a savings account. The bank then keeps just \$20 in reserve (a 2% fractional reserve) and loans out your \$980 at interest (currently about 6% in New Zealand). The person who borrows the \$980 pays someone else for goods and services so that the \$980 then eventually makes it back to the bank(s) as further deposits. The bank(s) then makes another loan

equivalent to 98% of the new deposits with another 6% interest. The new loan is paid out for further goods and services, and some or all of the new loan comes back again as new deposits.

And so the original loan keeps coming back as new deposits, allowing the bank(s) to issue further loans. In this way the bank(s) can theoretically create up to \$50,000 of ledger entry loans at 6% interest using your original \$1,000 deposit as a 2% fractional reserve. Of course, the central banks then have to print more intrinsically valueless banknotes to make the \$1,000 extend to \$50,000. These banknotes made out of thin air are called “fiat money”.

In addition to this, the depositors and borrowers supply all the security against the issue of this new fiat money and the banks claim propriety interest (advantage/profit) plus ownership over all the money they have created essentially out of nothing, as well as having ownership lien over all the goods given as security.

Some may think the banks don't do this. According to Wikipedia, the US Federal Reserve keeps a 1.53% fractional reserve, the European Central Bank: 3.69%, Bank of Japan: 1.92%, Bank of China: 0.62%, Bank of England: 0.843% and the Central banks in New Zealand, Australia, and Canada require 0.0%.

In summary, the banking system of Western civilization clearly commits dishonesty and usury on the grandest scale so that the whole system cannot be described as anything other than outright evil. That I think it is also an obvious controlling and implementing component in a greater mechanism points, in my view, to the nature of those who implement the mechanism as being both very wealthy and also very dishonest. For the sake of needing a name to call them, whoever they are, I will call them “the Elite” or “an Elite” from here on.

The “Mouths”, “Food” and “Stomach” – Understanding the Social Darwinian Philosophy behind Property, Production and the Free Market (Components 1, 2, 3 & 4)

Assuming a secretive, wealthy Elite is implementing the mechanism to rule the planet, another indication of their nature is perhaps found in some of the known philosophical thinking of the ultra-wealthy in the world today. From what I can see it generally tends towards Social Darwinism, often in the guise of Libertarian thought and Neo-Liberal economics.

Libertarian philosophy is the root of Neo-Liberal economics. The main idea of Libertarian philosophy is that the “freedom” of individuals must not be violated by the State, that the State has no role to play in the conduct of the lives of individuals. This idea of “freedom” sounds attractive until one realizes that it is about creating a social environment of “survival of the fittest” in human society (eg. Social Darwinism).

Libertarian thought led to the *laissez-faire* economic ideologies of Neo-Liberalism under the likes of F. A. Hayek. In his book “The Constitution of Liberty” Hayek states “*Liberty not only means that the individual has both the burden of choice; it also means that he must bear the consequences of his actions.... Liberty and responsibility are inseparable.*” Thus, what these ideologies actually mean by words like “liberty” and “freedom” is that the rich and privileged should have unregulated freedom to become wealthy by exploiting the environment and the poor, and that they shouldn't have to pay taxes to pay for social welfare and social justice to help the needy. The thinking is that those who are poor and needy are responsible because of their own actions and therefore they must bear the consequences of starvation and oppression. In fact the Libertarian argument even goes further saying, “*Taxing the wealthy to redistribute wealth to the poor actually rewards ‘dependency’*”.

In my view, Libertarian philosophy basically translates to mean, “*Let the poor live and die in misery because that is simply nature taking its course and too bad about the planet. Or, in other words, it is ‘survival of the fittest’ and the ‘top of the food chain’ shall do as they please!*”

In the 1970's this ideology then began to be translated into the basis for running the world's economy. In America, business interest groups such as the *American Chamber of Commerce* and *Business Roundtable* massively increased their membership and committed themselves to “*the aggressive pursuit of political power*”

for the corporation". The corporations amassed a huge war chest and began spending US\$900 million annually on achieving influence. They did this through setting up "think tanks" such as the *Heritage Foundation* and *American Enterprise Institute*, through funding politicians and through funding academics to do serious economic and socio-political studies (Source: David Harvey's *A Brief History of Neoliberalism*, 2005).

Before long the funding led to Neo-Liberal economic ideology, from people like Milton Friedman at the *Chicago School of Economics*, becoming hugely influential and adopted into mainstream politics. For example, it manifested as; "Reaganomics" under President Ronald Reagan in the USA; "Thatcherism" under Margaret Thatcher in the UK; "Rogernomics" under Roger Douglas in New Zealand; and so on.

Neo-liberal economic ideology is based on the argument that human wellbeing is best advanced by "liberating" individual entrepreneurial "freedoms" by the State reducing its controls. This means, to allow strong private property rights, free trade, and to subject almost all human action, needs and wants to the realm of the marketplace (which will determine demand, supply and price). What this ideology has effectively resulted in when enacted is; the privatization (exploitation) of national assets (eg. banks, telecommunications, power supplies, airlines, railways etc.); the deregulation (exploitation) of labour (eg. deregulation of unions) and financial services; the general reduction of taxes on corporations and the wealthy (less spending on the poor); and seeking to generally measure organisational performance based on share price (short term gains).

Deregulation and measuring performance by share price promotes the conversion of resources into goods and their consumption in the market place. Privatization, deregulation and reduced taxation allows the transfer of wealth from public to private property. These processes facilitate the division of the world that belongs to everyone, into property that can be privately owned by the "fittest".

The astounding thing to me is that the basic tenets of Neo-Liberal ideology can and have, been applied right across the political spectrum, from American Republican governments to nominally Communist China. The ideology has been sold by the idea of a "trickle down" effect, that because it is good for business, the benefits to business will trickle down and benefit the whole of society. Unfortunately, in the West at least, it has now been proven that the effect has been exactly the opposite. Wealth has "trickled up" so that in the last 40 years the gap between rich and poor has become greater than ever before.

In the USA for example, one percent now own 40 percent of the wealth, more than the combined wealth of the bottom 90 percent of the population. In my own country, research by the NZ Council of Trade Unions indicates that in the 28 year period 1978 to 2006, labour productivity in New Zealand rose by 90.3% yet average wage increases in real terms showed that employees only received 27.2% of those productivity gains. So where did the major slice of the pie go? Why do two parents have to work these days when 30-40 years ago most families could survive on a single income and still buy their own home?

"Blood" and the "Hearts and Lungs" – Understanding the Workings of the Fiat Money Pump and its Gauge (Components 5 & 6)

This section describes in greater detail what I call "the fiat money pump and its gauge". If one accepts that there are such components as fiat money and a money pump and that they do actually operate as such (as a money pump) in a greater mechanism that is used to rule the world, then surely that is proof enough that there exists a cynical and concealed ruling Elite. Surely it also indicates that the rest of us are but peasants necessary for the operation of such a machine to achieve the Elite's purpose.

As stated previously, for the previously described mechanism to make absolutely vast amounts of paper fiat money and then use it as a means to vacuum up the world's resources and transfer real wealth (like land, property, minerals etc) into wealthy ownership it is necessary to have both the Left and the Right. The other things needed are; influence over society's information systems (eg. education and media), and democracy. Influence of the information systems is necessary so the population periodically swings Left or Right. Democracy is necessary so the population have choice and don't actually feel they are being controlled.

Today's sophisticated money pump perhaps began with creating/financing Communism, the opposing ideology of Capitalism. (Perhaps people will question this. However, a half an hour search on the internet will find, for example, that Wall Street bankers significantly supported and financed the 1917 Russian Communist Revolution - eg. Leon Trotsky.) The downstream Left and Right political parties that were then derived in various nations from these base Capitalist and Communist ideologies and incorporated into our democratic systems work like this:

Left-leaning governments (eg; Labour, Democrats etc) spend money by increasing taxes and welfare which puts fiat money into circulation, thus causing growth in GDP (economic expansion) and also inflation (which is bad for consumers but good for business (producers) up to the point that consumers stop spending - in which case the situation then becomes bad for business).

On the other hand, Right-leaning governments (eg; Conservatives, National, Tories, Republicans, etc) cut spending by reducing taxes and welfare which takes fiat money out of circulation as savings and investments. This reduces growth in GDP (causing recession/depression of the economy) and also deflation (which is bad for business (producers) but good for consumers - up until the point consumers get made unemployed by struggling businesses).

To counter these recessionary effects caused by Right wing governments, generally more fiat money must then be created out of nothing by Central Banks (eg. by "quantitative easing"). At the same time, because the economy is in recession there are great opportunities for wealthy "investors" to pick up struggling businesses and other assets (real wealth) on the cheap.

In summary, these money pumps exist in the economies of nations throughout the world. They are the heart and lungs of the beast that produce and pump the blood of the beast (massive amounts of fiat money) through individual nations and whole communities of nations. A swing to the Right gives the opportunity to create the vast quantities of intrinsically valueless fiat money and to transfer real assets/wealth to the rich elites. A swing to the Left then pumps money through the system. All that is then needed to make the whole system work is the ability to influence certain events and societies' information systems (educational institutions, media and political entities) to generate the periodic swings between Left and Right governments.

Note that this principle of a money pump is not new. For example, President Thomas Jefferson said in 1809 in a debate opposing one of the first attempts to set up a *Federal Reserve* type central bank in the United States: "*If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their currency, **first by inflation, then by deflation**, the banks...will deprive the people of all property until their children wake-up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered....*"

Now, to add to the above understanding, GDP (Gross Domestic Product) is portrayed as the measure of a nation's wealth and whether its economy is growing. However, what GDP (and its nearly identical twin GNP - Gross National Product) actually is, is essentially a measure of the movement of the amount of intrinsically valueless fiat money through an economic system. As such, it is a pressure gauge on the money pump for showing inflationary or deflationary effects.

The benefit of measuring GDP is not to a nation or its citizens but to those who benefit from the banking industry. The more fiat money that is flowing through the system the more the banks can "clip the ticket" in terms of charging interest and transaction fees from fractional reserve banking. When less money is flowing, the opportunity presents for central banks to print (manufacture) money out of nothing and for investors to acquire property.

Two months before he was assassinated, Robert F. Kennedy gave this explanation about the GNP/GDP system. He said; "*Our gross national product counts air pollution and cigarette advertising, and ambulances to clear our highways of carnage. It counts special locks for our doors, and the jails for the people who break them. It counts the destruction of the redwoods, and the loss of our natural wonder in chaotic sprawl. It counts napalm, nuclear warheads, and armored cars for the police to fight the riots in our cities. Yet the gross national product does not allow for the health of our children, the quality of their education, or the joy of their play. It does not include the beauty of our poetry or the strength of our marriages, the intelligence of our public debate or the integrity of our public officials. It measures neither our wit nor our courage, neither our wisdom nor our learning, neither our*

compassion nor our devotion to our country. It measures everything, in short, except that which makes life worthwhile."

The “Nervous System” – Understanding the “Influence” of Information Flows (Component 7)

In 2014 six media giants controlled 90 percent of US media - what people read, watched and listened to. These were News Corp, General Electric, Disney, Via-Com, Time Warner and CBS. These media giants are transnational corporations (TNCs) with a presence in many countries and have a major influence on the whole world's media. (Interestingly too, the founder of News-Corp, the media mogul Rupert Murdoch, is a member of the Libertarian Party.)

Information is disseminated into the public arena through all manner of methods besides obvious media like television, newspapers and the internet. It can be disseminated via academic institutions and think tanks, via political process, and through a combination of all these avenues in a concerted campaign. There are also innumerable links that can be found between the members, trustees and directors of organisations, ranging from prestigious schools, universities, economic clubs, museums of art, hospitals, institutes, foundations, libraries, banks, commissions, etc. The examples outlined below gives just a small but illuminating sample of the sort of linkages that can be found.

I previously mentioned how Libertarian philosophy formed the basis of Neo-Liberal economic ideology that was developed from the work of academics like F. A. Hayek and Milton Friedman, and how this was implemented in the policies of major Western governments (eg. under President Ronald Reagan and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in the 1970-80's). It is interesting then that a brief look at the internet shows that the Rockefellers founded the *University of Chicago*, including the *Chicago School of Economics*, which promoted the teachings of Milton Friedman, and also provided significant funding to the *London School of Economics*. We further find that David Rockefeller studied under Friedrich Hayek at the *London School of Economics* and gained his Doctorate at the *University of Chicago*.

Rockefeller is patriarch of the wealthy Rockefeller family, former chairman of *Chase Manhattan Bank* in New York (one of the owners of the *US Federal Reserve*), Chairman of the *Council for Foreign Relations*, Chairman of the *Trilateral Commission* and member of the *Bilderbergers Group*. In his 2002 autobiography "Memoirs" he wrote: *"For more than a century ideological extremists at either end of the political spectrum have seized upon well-publicized incidents such as my encounter with Castro to attack the Rockefeller family for the inordinate influence they claim we wield over American political and economic institutions. Some even believe we are part of a secret cabal working against the best interests of the United States, characterizing my family and me as internationalists and of conspiring with others around the world to build a more integrated global political and economic structure—one world, if you will. If that's the charge, I stand guilty, and I am proud of it."*

Rockefeller also reportedly made the following statement in an address to a *Bilderberger* meeting on 5 June, 1991 in Baden Baden, Germany: *"We are grateful to The Washington Post, The New York Times, Time Magazine and other great publications whose directors have attended our meetings and respected their promises of discretion for almost forty years... It would have been impossible for us to develop our plan for the world if we had been subject to the bright lights of publicity during those years. But, the work is now much more sophisticated and prepared to march towards a world government. The supranational sovereignty of an intellectual elite and world bankers is surely preferable to the national auto determination practiced in past centuries."* (From <http://www.theglobalmovement.info> - about who controls the media)

Another example is the Libertarians David and Charles Koch who own oil and chemical industries with a combined wealth of more than US\$80 billion in 2014 (greater than Bill Gates, reputedly the world's richest man). According to Wikipedia, the Kochs, who fund Libertarian think tanks like *"The Cato Institute"* and *"Americans for Prosperity"* (the latter helped organise the right-wing *Tea Party*), primarily supported Republican candidates and pledged to donate US\$60 million in the 2012 election season to defeat Democrat President Barack Obama. According to the *Center for Responsive Politics*, of \$274 million in anonymous 2012 contributions (or "dark money"), at least \$86 million was "attributed to donor groups in the Koch network". An article in the *New York*

Times on 26 January 2015 further reported that the Kochs are budgeting to spend more than ten times that amount (US\$889 million) for the 2016 Presidential elections. It is also interesting to note that David Koch is a director on the board of *Rockefeller University*.

The two cornerstones of Western democratic society are the principles of separation of church from state (religious freedom) and the separation of media from state (freedom of the press). However, it is now becoming increasingly obvious that Western democracy, and in fact the whole of world civilization, requires a third separation, the separation of “money” (ie. financial and banking groups and individuals with vast private wealth – secretive or otherwise) from these other three (the state, media, and education/religion). Without this separation, democracy simply becomes a facade for Libertarian hegemony.

The “Excrement” of the Beast - Massive World Debt (Component 8)

Essentially, the massive debt in today’s world appears to me to be mostly the deplorable residue left behind by a privately owned banking system creating fiat money (paper money) out of nothing, where the amount of that fiat money created then gets debited against nations. An example of how this fiat money system works can be seen in the central bank of the US, the Federal Reserve, which is privately owned and partially foreign owned.

When the US Government wants to spend more money than it takes in (which happens often), it asks the Federal Reserve for the money. The Federal Government then gives US Treasury bonds to the Federal Reserve, and the Federal Reserve gives the US government Federal Reserve notes in return. Usually this is just done electronically. The Federal Reserve then sells the US Treasury bonds off to wealthy individuals, banks and foreign governments. (A US Treasury Bond is a marketable, fixed-interest US government debt security with a maturity of more than 10 years. Treasury bonds make interest payments semi-annually and the income that holders receive is only taxed at the Federal level.)

Where then does the Federal Reserve get the Federal Reserve notes? It creates them out of nothing! Instead of issuing money directly, the US Government gets the privately owned Federal Reserve to create it and then the US government borrows it. When this new debt is created, the US Government will eventually pay interest on that debt. Then, unless the Government can somehow create new wealth to pay that interest, eventually the Government will have to go back to the Federal Reserve to get more money to finance the expanding debt. Arguably it is a debt spiral normalised into people’s psyches and designed to go on perpetually, with the objective of constantly expanding the money supply.

As at December 2015, US debt was US\$18.58 trillion (US\$ 18,578,978,700,000) equating to US\$ 57,978 per US citizen, with an annual interest bill of US\$ 0.54 trillion. (Total world debt was over three times the US debt at \$US 61.59 trillion) (Source: <http://www.nationaldebtclocks.org/>).

A quick search on the internet also shows that in the 50 years between 1952 to 2002 US household debt (eg. mortgages, auto loans, credit cards and student loans) increased from virtually nothing to seven trillion dollars (US\$ 7,000,000,000,000). Then, in just another six years between 2002 and 2008, when global recession kicked in, the amount doubled to 14 trillion dollars (which is about where it is in 2015).

The astounding thing is that the dangers of a privately owned US Federal Reserve system were recognised by numerous US Presidents before and after such a system was introduced. Here are few examples of what they said:

- **James Madison 4th US President** – *“History records that the money changers have used every form of abuse, intrigue, deceit, and violent means possible to maintain their control over governments by controlling money and its issuance.”*
- **Andrew Jackson 7th President** – *“If congress has the right under the Constitution to issue paper money, it was given them to use themselves, not to be delegated to individuals or corporations.”*

- **Abraham Lincoln 16th President** – *“The Government should create, issue, and circulate all the currency and credits needed to satisfy the spending power of the Government and the buying power of consumers. By the adoption of these principles, the taxpayers will be saved immense sums of interest. Money will cease to be master and become the servant of humanity.”*
- **Theodore Roosevelt 26th President** – *“Issue of currency should be lodged with the government and be protected from domination by Wall Street. We are opposed to...provisions [which] would place our currency and credit system in private hands.”*
- **Woodrow Wilson 28th President** - Despite these warnings, Woodrow Wilson signed the 1913 Federal Reserve Act. A few years later he wrote: *“I am a most unhappy man. I have unwittingly ruined my country. A great industrial nation is controlled by its system of credit. Our system of credit is concentrated. The growth of the nation, therefore, and all our activities are in the hands of a few men. We have come to be one of the worst ruled, one of the most completely controlled and dominated Governments in the civilized world, no longer a Government by free opinion, no longer a Government by conviction and the vote of the majority, but a Government by the opinion and duress of a small group of dominant men.”*

My sentiment is this; if vast national and world debt is the excremental deposit of the process of creation of vast amounts of fiat money out of nothing for the ultimate purposes of usury and exploitation, then that debt should justifiably all be deposited back into the private banking houses of those who hold to those purposes

The “Senses” – An Upmarket World Monitoring System (Component 9)

It has come a little later than 1984 but “Big Brother” is now certainly here. We all know that technology now exists to video conversations in private rooms, hack computers, track people by their cell phones and use GPS to send a missile through someone’s bedroom window. It is not my purpose here to elaborate on this. It is also not my purpose here to consider conspiracy theories relating to 9/11 or the subsequent “War on Terror” and Middle Eastern wars. (Suffice for me to say that after studying a lot of material I, like many, have become suspicious about the official accounts given of these events.)

The thing that most concerns me is the outcome. As a result of what has happened and is continuing to happen in the aftermath of 9/11 it is clear that the opportunity has been taken to install a huge, sophisticated, global monitoring apparatus which can easily be transferred from monitoring Islamic terrorists to monitoring anyone. This means that if I or any group were to seriously oppose an Elite who had access to this monitoring system then all our finances, communications and movements could be easily tracked. If we became too much of a threat it seems entirely feasible to me that information flows could then be influenced and our threat neutralised.

Because I believe the obvious evidence that a machine to rule the world exists and can see the monitoring capability that is now in place, I now also believe that the design of the Elite will be very difficult to stop until there is a total collapse of our civilization. Perhaps, at that point, the machine will become inoperable and there may be an opportunity for humanity to evolve from a Social Darwinian, peasant-based society that reflects the animal kingdom, into a true civilization based on good stewardship.

Conditioning the Beast’s “Appetite” - The American Illusion (Component 10)

What do we believe is, or should be, the nature of human existence? The United States of America is arguably still the greatest nation in our world today and the pinnacle of Western Civilization, the greatest civilization that has ever existed. This great nation, and to a large extent our world civilization, is based on the American Declaration of Independence, which says, *“We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all people are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among our rights are life,*

liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” Is this what we believe that our existence should be about - equality, liberty and the pursuit of happiness?

It seems to me that most Westerners do believe this and that this is equated to “The American Dream”. This dream is where everyone attains their “right” to equality of opportunity to lead a life of personal happiness and material comfort. And in fact it seems that this Dream has been significantly achieved in the West, which is why Western civilization has taken over the world. The mass of the population, or the large middle classes at least, believe they are well-off and happy because they have available to them a vast abundance of material goods like cars and houses full of appliances to use and consume. Most are well educated, many with trades and university degrees. They have work and income, ample food, medical services and no shortage of media to keep them entertained. They also perceive themselves to have liberty in the form of all manner of choices – the democratic choice to choose their leaders, consumer choice to choose what they consume, and the religious and moral choices of a “free” society.

A couple of questions to ask though are, what do these masses now actually own and are they happy? In the US, the bottom 90 percent of the population owns only a quarter of the wealth. Other Western nations are not too dissimilar. It seems to me that the vast majority of Westerners now actually own little of real wealth and effectively rent much of what they think they own. Most of the property that they think they own is actually either consumer goods or mortgaged. In my analysis, it seems to me increasingly the case that even the Western middle-classes are mostly tenants enslaved by debt and consuming most of what they earn. They may have university degrees, be surrounded by material goods and live in democracies, which is all admittedly a vast improvement on the peasant lifestyles of centuries gone by. However, I suggest the blunt reality is that they are simply a new form of modern peasant. Certainly the illusion needs to be dispelled that their material consumption of goods automatically equates to the American Dream of happiness, liberty and equality.

For instance, Western societies led by the US and the UK are certainly not equal or happy societies. In his book *“The Selfish Capitalist – Origins of Affluenza”* (2008), psychologist Oliver James presented WHO (World Health Organisation) data on a range of Western nations. He found that the average level of mental “distress” (illness) was 11.5 percent in the nations with the lowest levels of income inequality (these were the mainland non-English-speaking European nations of France, Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, Germany and Italy, and also Japan).

He then looked at the results for national surveys of distress in the English Speaking nations of the United States, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Australia and Canada. He found these countries had the highest levels of income inequality and the average levels of mental distress to be more than double at 23 percent. Co-incidentally these English speaking nations were also all those that had implemented Neo-Liberal policies in the 1970-80’s (eg. “Reganomics”, “Thatcherism”, “Rogernomics”, and “Economic Rationalism”). So we need to be clear. Western societies led by the US that have most progressed in implementing the Social-Darwinist Libertarian ideology of the rich Elite are in truth unequal and sick societies that have far departed from the idealism of the US Declaration of Independence and the American Dream.

Conditioning the Beast’s “Appetite” - Training All the Peasants to Operate the Machine (Component 10 ctud.)

I think the thing to really take on board and understand is that Social-Darwinism reflects actual Darwinist mechanisms. It is about evolution, survival of the fittest, being at the top of the food chain, the strong preying upon weak. The objective of the Elite is not the betterment of humanity or the planet but their own accumulation of power and wealth.

Thus, to the Elite, the purpose of the masses, modern peasants, is to operate the Elite’s machine. It is to provide the skilled labour to convert the Earth’s raw materials into goods (production) and then to ravenously consume those goods. By these functions the wealth of the Earth is converted into goods that provide the peasants with paper markers (money as wages). The peasants then use their markers to exchange them for the goods (they buy the goods) so they can consume them. The markers are then accumulated by the wealthy Elite and used by them at opportune times (such as under Right leaning governments) to acquire property, capital and other real

wealth. By this process the wealth of the planet is transferred into private property owned by the Elite. That is what the Elite are concerned about regarding their peasants!

Now consider this. The more effectively the peasants can be trained to be cost-effective labour and conditioned to consume goods, then the more efficient the whole process of wealth conversion and transfer into the private property of the Elite. Thus, the two goals in regard to the Elite's management of the modern peasants of Western Civilization are these:

1. **To condition and train the peasants to be educated/skilled, cost-effective and motivated workers.** This is so they will work in the global labour marketplace to cheaply and efficiently produce vast quantities of goods for consumption in the great global free market.
2. **To make the peasants psychologically sick so they will consume more.** The aim is to replace the "Family Unit" with the "Consumer Unit" because it is a simple fact that one can sell a lot more goods and services to a society full of broken families, broken relationships, unhappy children and criminals. A society like this needs more houses, more TV's and appliances, more lawyers, more prisons, more alcohol, more psychiatric services and medicines, more junk to buy to make them feel better and so on. Basically there is a higher GDP.

Regarding the first goal of the Elite, the training/conditioning of labour comes from consumption, debt leverage, deregulation, privatization, and ensuring a free labour market. Firstly, if workers are conditioned/addicted to the consumption of goods (which, because of media conditioning they equate to "happiness" and "success"), it will lead them and their families and nations into debt. The majority of people want to get an education and skills so they can obtain better paying work to maintain their consumption.

Education and skilled training of workers is important to the Elite to achieve high levels of production in an industrial and hi-tech age. However, if this education and training can also be achieved at the worker's expense so they end up in debt due to student loans, this additionally provides incentive for the indebted workers to work. Add to this debts like mortgages and credit card bills and workers can be highly motivated (enslaved) to work at competitive rates in the global labour marketplace.

When the labour market is then deregulated and unions are broken it is easier to drive down wages and conditions and demand increased worker productivity. When Government owned utilities and organisations are also sold to private owners the first thing that happens is downsizing and contracting out many roles. The free market additionally provides opportunities for reducing labour cost by shifting factories to countries where wages and conditions are a lot lower, or alternatively facilitating the immigration of low paid but skilled workers from countries with rapidly developing economies to the West.

Regarding the second goal of the Elite, if we think about it, one of the foremost drivers for economic growth in Western Society is the breakdown of the Family Unit. The more that people's basic values that underpin their relationships are destroyed, then the more their lives become hell. When people's lives are hell, they will consume more and the Elite will accumulate more wealth.

Consider the consumption of alcohol as an example. Most of us like a wine or a beer. This is fine! Even Jesus turned water into wine and partied with sinners. However, let's face it, when we count the true cost in terms of violence, criminality, broken families, road carnage etc, alcohol is probably one of the most destructive substances in our society today (arguably worse than asbestos, tobacco, 1080 poison etc). Why then is it impossible to bring in effective constraints, particularly in regards to issues such as alcohol sales to young people?

The short answer is because it makes the Elite and the politicians who serve them loads of money - both directly and indirectly. The direct returns come from selling the alcohol products and from taxes. The indirect returns come from "value-adding".

What do I mean by the term "value adding"? I will use "designer drinks" to explain. Designer drinks are things like sweet-tasting mixers of vodka and orange in cute bottles "designed" to appeal to young women. What these effectively are however, are social lubricants that act as a catalyst for damaging behaviours. If we take increased

sexual promiscuity as an example this behaviour is damaging because it will result in increased unwanted pregnancies, abortions, solo parenting, violence, road accidents, sexual diseases, etc.

Now most people would see this as a bad thing. However, if we look at it from a Social Darwinian perspective, where the objective is to promote consumption so the Elite can accumulate wealth, it is exactly what is necessary. Within limits, the more damaged individuals, relationships and communities become the greater the opportunities for their exploitation. The more single parents, messed-up children and broken families then the greater will be the overall downstream addiction to the consumption of goods and services, and the greater the enslavement to both individual and national debt. GDP will go up! Thus, alcohol is the lubricant of the Neo-Liberal consumption machine. This is what I mean by "value-added". It is not just the margin or the taxes that provide the direct returns from alcohol to the Elite, it is the indirect downstream returns from a society being conditioned, through the use of alcohol, to consume.

Alcohol is just one example of conditioning. Soft drinks, sugar, fast-foods and salt are other more obvious examples of how Western society is conditioned. However, there are literally thousands of things that appeal to our addictive desires, our image and self-worth and need to cover our pain and depression. All these can be used by a vast media machine owned by the Elite to condition us. In fact, just the other day I heard on the radio about "olfactory advertising" where certain scents like "baking bread" are being released to market products. We are being conditioned like Pavlov's dogs multiplied a million-fold.

Yes we know very well at least some of the damage these things do. Why is it then we can't do much about it? The Elite knows from its experience with the tobacco industry that if they play the game right it will take at least another fifty years before the opposition gets sufficient traction to get past all their pet academics, lawyers and politicians to change things!

Conditioning the Beast's "Appetite" – Conditioning All the Peasants with "Clown Values" (Component 10 ctud.)

My understanding is that Western civilization with its values was founded on belief in the Christian God. This God was worshipped in cathedrals that were once the tallest and most magnificent buildings in the centres of cities. This God was the Christ Child who came into the world to bring good news to the poor and oppressed. (This fundamental message of hope does not deny the persecutions, crusades and other terrible distortions of Christ's message committed in his name by his Church.)

I guess my cynical observation is that the God of the poor and oppressed has now been replaced in Western society by the US Dollar, symbolised by an all-seeing eye with words written on it saying "*In (this) God We Trust*". Then, as I look around the whole world I see that this dollar "god" is now worshipped in the new cathedrals of our age, all the banks, casinos, insurance buildings, shopping malls etc that tower in size over the old cathedrals in city centres.

In these new cathedrals the Christ Child born into the world that died and rose again to life bringing hope to all has been replaced by idols such as Santa Claus and his pet helper the Chocolate Easter Bunny. Who is this Santa I ask? All I see is the Mammon demon dressed as a jolly clown in a *Coca-Cola* suit where the whole focus is about consumption to make dollars.

Consider then all the other clowns called the "Media" who also support the same Mammon values. There are all manner of these media clowns. Consider the numerous Celebrity Clowns in glossy gossip magazines, rubbish movies, soap operas, political parties, sports programs, and music industry. Are they really role models to idolise and aspire to with their artificial, messed up, materialistic lives?

What do we learn from the Juggler Clowns, all the jugglers of facts who make news into fast-mind-food, headline-grabbing infotainment? What do the Buffoon Clowns of reality-TV and talkback radio teach us? How are we influenced by all the Jester Clowns in their moronic teen-cartoons and comedies? What do we absorb from all the computer Clown Games like; "Grand-Theft Auto", "Resident Evil", "Manhunt", "Hatred" etc?

Then consider the conditioning of all the Advertising Clowns, who use the great Santa clown and all the other media clowns as platforms to sell by infesting them with a myriad of poxy ads, all aimed at fooling billions of poor Fools into consuming all manner of useless stuff that they don't actually need.

And what then are the values we absorb from all these "clowns" in terms of sex, violence, abuse of power, dishonesty, debt, individualism, materialism, narcissism etc?

Basically the world's whole sick media industry conspires to overload human minds with information, addictive wants and stupid, self-damaging trash values that condition us to consume and equate our consumption with "happiness". The media in Western Civilization feeds us all addictive mind junk-food that gratifies our minds in a similar way that sugar, salt and alcohol gratifies our bodies. Just as physical junk-food makes our bodies sick and obese, so the media clown-values we feed into our minds condition our behaviour to be sick and self-destructive. It is, as the saying goes, "Garbage in – garbage out!"

Personally, I think the "image of the beast" (Rev 13:11-18) is the flat screen (eg. TV, Movies, Computers, Phones, I-Pads etc) that portrays all the demonic values that have risen up out of the beast itself (out of all the "*peoples, multitudes, nations and languages*" - Rev 17:15).

Conditioning the Beast's "Appetite" - The Corruption of Public Services (Component 10 ctud.)

The cornerstone of Libertarian/Social Darwinian philosophy is that the "freedom" of individuals must not be violated by the State, that the State has little role to play in the conduct of the lives of individuals. A major outworking of this is the argument for the reduction of the size of Government, in particular the reduction in the size of Public Services. This argument is supported by spin that private enterprise in the marketplace can manage national assets such as: banks, telecoms, power generation, airlines, railways, forests, fisheries, mining etc, more cost effectively than the public sector, and in the process taxes to all can be reduced. Undoubtedly there is truth in this but it is only part of the picture.

What I have personally observed is that the more the Public Service is reduced, the more the focus shifts from servicing the long-term interests of a nation's citizens to servicing the short-term interests of foreign owners and shareholders, who increasingly hold sway over the politicians. Yes, it is true that public servants often represent bureaucracy but what is also true is that their purpose and allegiance is to serve the "Public" and the "Nation". In my observation, when there is a strong Public Service there tends to be a strong ethic to honestly serve the Public and Nation, backed by things like "standards of integrity and "codes and conduct".

I would further argue that career public servants tend to have intimate knowledge of, and loyalty to, the national resources they manage. Thus, because of their allegiance and knowledge, I would argue that a strong Public Service provides a layer of protection to the interests of a nation and its citizens that exceeds short-term election cycles and share price profiteering based on corporate asset stripping. For this reason, a strong Public Service and government departments are the enemy of the Elite and are targeted for dismantlement. This is achieved by Elite-serving politicians installing "professional managers" as department heads, chief operating officers and other senior public service roles, and tasking these "professional managers" with restructuring the public sector to follow business models or ultimately be privatized.

The thing I have observed over the last 30 years in the Publics Service is the rise of "professional managers" as department heads and other senior roles. These people have not risen up through the ranks of the departments they lead (as used to happen) but tend to be businessmen, accountants, lawyers, and other "professionals" who circulate around in political and business circles. They are appointed without any deep understanding of, or allegiance to, the public department's purpose, culture and people (what I call the "real landscape"). Their main understanding and allegiance is to the "political landscape", which all too often tends to be driven by Neo-Liberal ideology. The result in my view, has been the dismemberment, privatization, politicization and outright corruption of the Public Service so that in effect they become the "Political Service" serving the corporate and Social Darwinian ideology that holds sway over the politicians.

Conditioning the Beast's "Appetite" – "Candy Stealing" (Component 10 ctud.)

I call using a high discount rate in investment analysis "candy stealing" because it is how our children's futures are stolen by the Elite, *"as easy as stealing candy from babies"*. Discounted cash flow analysis is the main mechanism used in carrying out the cost-benefit analysis of options for major spending/investment projects (eg. developing power schemes, building new factories, planting forests etc). If a high discount rate is used this ensures that the option that will make the biggest short-term returns will look the most attractive financially.

My observation is that when this happens it is mostly about making shareholders richer now rather than building the wealth of a nation for its citizens and their children in the future. It is what happens when the trans-national corporation replaces the nation-state and shareholder rights assume priority over the rights of citizens in the new order of things. I feel I can say this because I led a team in a trans-national corporation that carried out the investment analysis to develop management regimes for one of the largest commercial plantation forests in the world.

How does it work? Discounted cash flow analysis basically requires compounding all costs as they occur forward then discounting all final expected costs and revenues back to a net monetary value now (called net present value - NPV). Generally, the discount rate used must give a net return in today's monetary value that will exceed the monetary values that would be gained from investing in other competing projects and, at a minimum, exceed the monetary returns that would be gained from putting the money in the bank and earning interest. When investment analysis is done one finds that the higher the discount rate used the less viable long term projects become, even if they would make a lot of profit upon completion.

For example, if someone uses a 5% discount rate and has \$100 in their hand now and invests it in some project it must earn \$105 in a year's time to have the same value. In 10 years' time it must earn \$163. In 100 years' time it must earn \$13,150 to have the same value as \$100 now. If one then doubles the discount rate to 10%, the \$100 now must earn \$110 in a year, or \$259 in ten years, or \$1,378,161 in a hundred years to have the same value as \$100 in the hand now. As you can see, the effect of the discount rate used is huge! (Note that none of this considers inflation.)

This is why, using an example from my country New Zealand, there is no widespread replanting of native kauri forests which produce beautiful and valuable timber. It is also why even quick growing pine forests are cut down at an early age when the wood is poor quality. Pines can be harvested at 20-25 years. Kauri takes perhaps 70 years before harvesting (if not a lot longer).

The problem is this. The higher bank interest rates are on debt, the higher interest rates generally need to be on deposits for banks to attract funds to process through the fractional reserve banking system. Thus, discount rates used in investment analysis are always going to have to be higher than bank interest rates for investment projects to compete with bank savings. The net effect is commonly very poor investment in the future, depriving real wealth from our children and future generations for the sake of maximising monetary profits now – hence the term *"stealing candy from babies"*.

The real criminality comes when governments and transnational corporations controlling major national resources and national assets use high discount rates to guide their investment decisions in large projects that will influence the real wealth and wellbeing of a nation and its citizens over the long term – like planting forests, managing fisheries, improving infrastructure (roads, power, telecoms, water etc) and building more efficient ways of harnessing energy supplies. When that happens they are simply stealing from future generations to benefit current shareholders.

The Four Horsemen – Where It Is All Headed!

The old view of democracy is to see it as the successful system which freed the West from the old tyrannies of kings and dictators and hierarchies of cronies who lined their pockets with ridiculous wealth at the expense of the peasant masses, and used things like death squads and torture to oppress anyone who disagreed.

Unfortunately, the new view of democracy is that it is now the failing system that is wrecking our planet. The tyrants of the past, such as Stalin, Hitler and King Louis XVI have been replaced with a new, more subtle, tyranny run by a secretive mega-rich Elite. Under their new tyranny they own the media, education and political systems and this enables them to enslave the rest of us by addictions to consumption and debt.

As a result, the masses in our Western democratic societies simply cannot value anything beyond the short term electoral cycle of three to five years (depending on the country). The vote is always for consumption! *"If you don't keep all the goodies coming you are out!"*, we say. With modern democracy the future is always sacrificed for the conflicting consumptive benefits of localised electorates now. The blunt fact is that our current modern democratic systems are simply incapable of resolving the larger, long-term problems facing our planet. Look at Kyoto, Copenhagen, Paris and all the other moves to save the planet from global warming.

Thus, it is not hard to see where the machine of the Elite is taking us. The great beast that is devouring our earth mother who supports us has corrupted and prostituted her so she has become "The Great Prostitute". To use Biblical symbolism, *"the kings of the earth have committed adultery with her and merchants of the earth have grown rich from her excessive luxuries."* Now the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse are riding forth to her four corners, whether we like it or not! This is what I have seen:

- *The Lamb opened the first of the seven seals. Then I heard a loud voice like thunder say, "Come!" I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out self-righteous as a conqueror bent on conquest. The rider was named "**Religion**" and from his mouth came lies. It was the False Prophet.*
- *When the Lamb opened the second seal, I heard a second loud voice say, "Come!" Then another horse came out, a fiery red one. Its rider was given power to take peace from the earth and to make people kill each other. To him was given a large sword. Its rider was named "**War**" and from his mouth came hatred. It was the Anti-Christ.*
- *When the Lamb opened the third seal, I heard a third voice say, "Come!" I looked, and there before me was a black horse! Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. Then I heard a voice saying, "Two pounds of wheat for a day's wages, and six pounds of barley for a day's wages and do not damage the oil and the wine!" Its rider was named "**Money**" and from his mouth came corruption. This rider was Mammon, the adulterous partner of the Prostitute.*
- *When the Lamb opened the fourth seal, I heard a fourth voice say, "Come!" I looked, and there before me was a pale green horse, the colour of death! Its rider was named "**Environment**" and a cloud of fear was following close behind him. This rider was given power over a fourth of the earth to kill by sword, famine and plague, and by the wild beasts of the earth. This last rider was Hell come to the Earth.*

Consider this last horseman. Under the title "Global Warming", Wikipedia states: *"Since the early 20th century, the global air and sea surface temperature has increased about 0.8 °C (1.4 °F), with about two-thirds of the increase occurring since 1980.... In its fourth assessment (AR4 2007) of the relevant scientific literature, the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reported that scientists were more than 90% certain that most of global warming was being caused by increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases produced by human activities. In 2010 that finding was recognized by the national science academies of all major industrialized nations. Affirming these findings in 2013, the IPCC stated that the largest driver of global warming is carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from fossil fuel combustion, cement production, and land use changes such as deforestation. Its 2013 report states: "It is extremely likely (95-100%) that human influence has been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century...."*

"Climate model projections were summarized in the 2007 Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). They indicated that during the 21st century the global surface temperature is likely to rise a further 1.1 to 2.9 °C for their lowest emissions scenario and 2.4 to 6.4 °C for their highest. The ranges of these estimates arise from the use of models with differing sensitivity to greenhouse gas concentrations."

What then will be the effects of Global Warming? Professor James Lovelock, who developed the “Gaia Hypothesis” (the hypothesis that the Earth and its biosphere is a self-regulating system), said in *New Scientist* magazine (Jan 2009) “...At 4 degrees C (world average temperature increase) we could not survive with even one-tenth of our current population. The reason is that we would not find enough food, unless we synthesized it. Because of this, the cull during this century is going to be huge, up to 90 percent. The number of people remaining at the end of this century will probably be a billion or less (from the current seven billion)...”

It is against this background we find the likes of the Libertarian brothers, Charles and David Koch, who paid US\$4.5million into their “Knowledge and Progress Fund” between 2007 and 2010. Their Fund then gave the money, along with an estimated US\$500 million from other anonymous donors in the decade prior to 2013, to organisations like the “Donor’s Trust” and the “American Enterprise Institute”. These have then led a campaign of pseudo-science and disinformation against climate science research and attempted tactics such as smear campaigns against the reputations of leading climate scientists (source: *NZ Herald* 26 Jan 2013).

Already the world is undergoing the greatest species extinction event since the end of the dinosaurs 64 million years ago. Now, at the end of 2015, an apocalyptic catastrophe is already its process. As climate induced droughts, fires, floods and storms combine with rising sea levels, famines, economic collapse, crime, wars, people migrations and the destruction of habitats, we face ahead a scale of suffering greater than all the past famines, wars and plagues in human history combined.

Is there a Solution?

Personally, I believe there can never be a complete solution to the human exploitation and corruption of our world and each other until our human condition is redeemed. I think that even if we, by our own human abilities, were to develop utopia tomorrow our current human nature is such that we would soon find ourselves back on the same road to corruption as now. Thus, my personal belief is that any ultimate solution to our condition must be spiritual and involve divine intervention (and thus, much prayer is advisable!).

However, again it is not my purpose here to put upon anyone my own spiritual beliefs. My purpose here is to explain some pragmatic steps that I think are necessary to destroy the current machine-beast that is causing us to devour our world and each other, and hopefully prevent this particular beast from being resurrected again (not discounting that there may be other “beasts” to be faced in the future).

Firstly, I need to say that personally I think there is not enough time left to prevent the apocalyptic catastrophe that is coming. Theoretically, it could be prevented but currently I don’t think there is sufficient understanding, organization and will to overcome the Elite and dismantle their machine. For example, I don’t believe there is the current capability to dismantle the current world banking system or go cold-turkey on breaking our addiction to consumption. I believe those actions will only be possible (but not a certainty) as a result of the extreme crisis ahead.

At that point of crisis I then believe there must be a revolution where every last remnant of the Elite are exposed and their machine-beast is utterly destroyed and replaced. Now I believe the best way to destroy the machine and seek to prevent it rising again is to do two things:

1. **Ensure that all wealth and its movement is transparent.** The concealment and secret transfers of wealth are the basis for the majority of exploitation, corruption, abuses of power and criminality throughout the whole world. I believe it must become a strongly enforced capital criminal offence to conceal the possession of wealth or secretly transfer wealth. (I am not suggesting that the ownership of wealth should be a capital offence.) Any “secret wealth” discovered should also be forfeit to government on behalf of the common people.
2. **Place a limit on the maximum wealth that can be accumulated by any individual or group.** The vast and growing gap between rich and poor is the root of many problems. I ask, what gives the “right” to a few “Elite” individuals or groups to possess, own or control for their own benefit massive portions of

that which supports us all? The only rights that I can see they have in this regard are Darwinian, those of beasts in the animal kingdom. They have no moral high ground. The moral high ground lies with good stewardship, for it is only that which will bring the survival and wellbeing of our world and all who depend on her. Thus as someone committed to be a good steward to my planet and to others I repudiate and oppose Elitist rights! In the next section entitled “Applying Plato’s Law of Wealth Distribution” I outline how I think this might be done.

Now in all of this, I am not advocating the abolition of Capitalism nor advocating Communism or any particular system above others. Obviously, I do not support any use of GDP as a measure of economic wealth and nor do I support the current fractional reserve banking and fiat money systems. I also absolutely believe that private banking institutions should have no involvement at all in the issue of “money” supplies. In my view, the issue of money must only be the responsibility of governments and all currencies must be based on forms of real wealth (productive land, minerals, capital assets, etc), not endless debt.

Clearly, I support the absolute and true freedom of the press. To achieve this I see the necessity of the separation not only of state and religion/education from the media but also the absolute separation of “money” (ie. financial and banking groups and individuals with significant private wealth) from these other three. All must be separate and freed from subversion by the others by strongly enforced laws. Without this separation democracy simply becomes a disempowered façade.

Bank usury is a massive world problem that cripples individuals, families, communities and whole nations. In my discussion I have also spoken against the use of high discount rates in investment analysis, which I have also linked to bank interest rates. In my view, if humanity is to become a good steward of our planet it simply shouldn’t be possible to value the future less than the present, which in effect translates to short-term profiteering and always underinvesting in the future. For these reasons, I am a strong advocate of governments across the whole planet ensuring by law, zero or very close to zero rates for interest and investment.

In conclusion, history is littered with the pendulum swinging from one extreme to another, replacing one tyranny with another. The challenge is to seek balance and retain what is good and build on it, to not “throw the baby out with the bathwater”. For example, I think the US Declaration of Independence is a great basis to begin from but it needs certain additions which I have added in capitals below:

“We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all people OF ALL NATIONS (NOT JUST THE US) are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights AND RESPONSIBILITIES; that among our rights are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; AND AMONG OUR RESPONSIBILITIES ARE GOOD STEWARDSHIP OF THE WORLD’S ENVIRONMENT, MANAGEMENT OF THE HUMAN POPULATION, AND JUSTICE FOR ALL IN OUR WORLD ECONOMIC SYSTEM.”

Plato’s Principle of Wealth Distribution

Ancient Greece is acclaimed as the birthplace of democracy. It therefore seems fitting to me that we should turn to the great ancient Greek philosopher Plato for moral guidance and a common sense solution to try and redeem the failing democratic systems of our Western Civilization. In his “Laws”, Plato said that the wealth of the richest individuals should not exceed five times the wealth of the poorest (five times or ten, it is the principle that is important). I suggest a system based on Plato’s guidance along the following lines:

- A. **Maximum personal income is linked to the least.** Personal income in real terms is taxed so that the fulltime income of the richest does not exceed ten times the fulltime income of the least rich.
- B. **Maximum personal wealth is linked to the least.** The effective personal assets in real terms of the wealthiest persons are taxed in such a way (eg. capital gains taxes) so their wealth does not exceed ten times the assets of the least wealthy.

- C. **The Wealthy can only become wealthy if the wealth and income of the poor also increases.** The way for the wealthiest to become even wealthier is to increase the wealth of the least wealthy in terms of income and assets (if the wealth or income of the least wealthy is increased by a dollar, this would allow the wealthiest to increase their wealth or income by ten times as much.)
- D. **Taxation is always applied at an individual level.** The basis of taxation would be at a personal, individual level, and in real terms. Schemes that pool the wealth (income and assets) of any sort of group, family, business or organisation or community into the hands of one or a few persons for their personal use and personal benefit would not be allowed.
- E. **No "Parasites".** It would be the responsibility of "The System" (whatever it was eg. Capitalist or Communist) to provide work for each person who was in a position to work (people would have a right to work). On the other hand, it would be the responsibility of each person who was in a position to work to actually work or they wouldn't get paid (so people would also have a responsibility to work). The underlying principle is "no parasites" – neither upper-class parasites who exploit the masses nor lower-class parasites who exploit the system.
- F. **Applied globally.** Ultimately, the system would be applied not only within nations but across all nations.
- G. **The penalty** There will always be those who try to corrupt the system (as well as system failings). Considering the damage that wealth inequality is doing to people and our planet, the common agreed penalty for any serious, deliberate breach might appropriately include a permanent stripping of wealth from individuals down to the level of the least wealthy.

The world has the technology to apply a global system based along these lines, if there was the human will to do so. What would a system like this achieve? The following effects appear likely:

1. **It would quickly depower consumption.** Greed and opportunity for making vast individual wealth appears to be the main driver of our consumption based economies and many associated mental, social and environmental ills in Westernised nations. The tolerance of extreme wealth imbalance is arguably the primary driver of debt, of the destruction of our environment and of many of the sick social behaviours in our World today. If there was a strongly enforced upper wealth limit on individuals it would therefore significantly reduce the whole incentive driving the current system that is destroying us.
2. **It would reduce overpopulation pressures.** The ultimate aim would be to move towards a global system for wealth equality. When the people in Asia, Africa and Latin America have the same wealth as in Western countries, it would reduce high birth rates and other global pressures on the environment in those non-Western nations, which cause conflicts between communities and nations.
3. **It would reduce corruption.** Someone quoted, *Money is power*. Lord Acton quoted, *Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely*. Thus we could say, *Extreme wealth leads to extreme corruption*.
4. **It would reduce the spread of massive lies.** It would make it more difficult for individuals and groups to amass vast amounts of wealth and for that wealth to be used for financing the development and spread of destructive ideologies (like neoliberalism and pseudo-scientific misinformation used by climate change deniers). It would make it a lot harder for wealthy elites to control vast swaths of the media and the internet.
5. **It would not destroy democracy or communism or capitalism or globalisation.** Plato's Law still aims to provide personal reward for entrepreneurial activity but it also balances this with community responsibility to create a healthier world. In this it certainly supports a global approach.