

Exit

Version 1.0 | 2021-08-06

by
Justa N. Soul

© 2008-2015 | 2021 Justa N. Soul

Licensed under Creative Commons By Attribution Share Alike Non Commercial Version
CC BY NC SA

Table of Contents

Foreword.....	5
Objectives.....	7
A Guide To Reading.....	7
Which Movie am I In?.....	9
Maya, The Self-Deception.....	11
Sheep and Camels.....	11
Consumerism Consequences.....	11
Over-destruction.....	13
Overpopulation.....	13
One Business, Two Faces.....	14
Culture, Art, and Publishing.....	14
Bots, Spammers, and other Warts.....	15
Technology.....	16
Overforce.....	16
Politics for Politicians.....	17
Authority, Representation, Elections, Mob Rule, Installed Puppets.....	17
Money.....	18
Banking.....	18
Collaboration.....	19
Curiosities.....	19
The Daring Ones.....	21
Isms.....	21
Anarchy.....	21
Native Cultures.....	21
Dedicated Communities.....	22
Bitchun Society.....	22
The Zeitgeist Movement.....	22
Copiosis.....	23
SOS.....	23
The Star Trek Society.....	23
The Culture.....	24

I Can't Play, Quo Vadis Human, or Turn Your Awareness On.....	25
Us.....	25
You.....	26
Atlas.....	27
Intermediate.....	28
Voluntarily.....	29
Evolutionary.....	29
Understanding.....	30
Scarcity.....	31
Economy.....	32
Sustenance.....	33
Goods.....	34
Energy.....	36
Work.....	37
Exchange.....	39
Debate.....	40
Exit and Evolve.....	40
About The Author.....	42
References.....	44
Research Pointers.....	45
Commons Library.....	45
Common Cultural Heritage Preservation.....	46
Complex Systems.....	48
Natural Time Currency.....	48
Education.....	51
Politics.....	52
Economy Without Waste.....	52
Property.....	52
Reciprocity.....	53
Understanding.....	54
Problems.....	55
Measuring Success, Wealth, and Well-Being.....	55
Reading Juice.....	57
Giacomo Leopardi.....	57
Alan Watts.....	57

Miguel de Unamuno.....	57
The Stoics.....	58
Interpersonal Neurobiology.....	58
Against Dark Manners.....	58
Definitions.....	59

*The causes of my servitude
Can be traced to the tyranny of
Money,
All for money*

Serj Tankian [4]

Foreword

I am fed up with increasing prices, taxes, spam, politicians spending my hard earned money on wars or killing machines, corporations dictating what I can do with the art that I have acquired, the chemicals I have to eat, how many minutes I have to spend watching brain wash advertisement between bits of a movie, how much paper I have to move weekly from my mailbox to trash, how many calls I have to leave unanswered because they are from people who want to convince me that they know better what I need than myself.

I often can't help feeling that I'm being treated like some dumb retard little baby who is not capable of taking its own life into its tiny hands and decide what is good or best for it. While this is true of babies and some adult individuals, this is certainly not the case with most of humanity and it's not a secret that this kind of treatment is annoying if not unacceptable for civilized man and woman.

While there are rare examples of cases where alternative choices do exist (for example non-hollywood movies, or biological or not genetically modified food), they pretty much follow the same capitalistic mainstream schema of *make-it-look-scarce-to-extort-customers-money*. And while, at the same time, corporations blind our eyes with supposedly "unlimited" choice possibilities, the only so called "choice" we get is the one that the company or companies dictate, it's the one that is expected to bring in the most profit by being most likely the closest one to the ideal choice of the "average" individual. This is ridiculous at best, for one because individuals have individual needs, wishes, and imagination which cannot be satisfied by average solutions (I can't buy my favorite jeans in orange color because they don't sell well), and for the other because the freedom for real and true individualization of my acquisition is taken away from me at the time of purchase (I can only play mp3 but not ogg files on my mobile phone, I cannot put the same copy of my purchased windows operating system on my machine and my friend's notebook).

Luckily, for about two decades now, there is real free choice available, admittedly, in very few areas of life. Starting with the Free Software initiative and Linux, the computing sector of our lives has been mostly liberated. Today, I can run a free operating system of my choice, I can adapt it to my needs in any imaginable way, I have a wide ranging selection of specialty software - from DVD burning, email client, through web browser, audio and movie editing, to 3D application or games. And where I cannot find what I need among the available solutions, there is no self-grown right that stops me from changing and adapting an existing one to my individual needs. On the contrary, it is even encouraged.

Also, luckily, for an art and culture lover was the emergence of the Creative Commons (CC) licensing for works other than software. The capitalist toll(wut) has reached every home and every human being beyond the ability to think for themselves. I don't know exactly how many small web sites there are on the Internet with less than five paragraphs of text and three photographs (two of which are taken from a free stock

photo site) being “copyrighted” to mimic the corporate greed. I had one of those in the past, out of ignorance, until switching to a Creative Commons type license. And what for? Because the *tollwut* is so forte and the fear so strong of some greedy shark, hyena, or vulture stealing our work that we share with and for humanity and turning it into profit of which they share nothing with us. So it is luck that today there is a choice of licenses available to artists that can neatly define what individuals can do and what for-profit organizations cannot. The borderline is drawn and the exit to the road of freedom is signaled. There is already a wide range of excellent music, literature, and media available under the CC hood today and growing every day.

There are others that have followed and there will be more to come. There remains Public Domain. There is Indymedia and Sourceforge. There is the Science Commons for scientific research licensing, the Free Patents for technology licensing. There is the Open Hardware, the Open Phone, and the Open Car projects. There is the worldwide Freecycle organization. And Open fashion, and open You-Name-It are on the rise. Those are exciting times.

Ever since I have learned about freedom software and the various incarnations of the underlying principle, I have wondered if the same principles cannot be applied to the totality of our lives. All emerging “open” projects have one thing in common. That is the free sharing of ideas in the form of bits and bytes with every earthly individual as long as it does not involve money making. Why is it that the idea of money making is so forcefully excluded from consideration? And what if we would apply the idea of altruistic contribution of the one for the benefit of all beyond the existence of bits and bites? Apply it to real things like apples and bananas and not only? Why shouldn't we?

With this idea on my mind I have started putting together my thoughts and some background information here and there.

Initially this book was thought as a beacon towards a moneyless future. The more research I have been doing, the more connections I have encountered between various topics that must not be seen independently. The current political, economic, and social situation is a disaster. Government and world leaders are puppets in a game which's rules the simple mortal will never ever come to know. We are being brainwashed day by day, hour by hour, literally every minute by media, culture, religion, economy, families, and 99.9% of the people around us. Be honest to yourself, how many people around you would declare you clinically crazy when you told them that they are being controlled or that there is a way to live without money and without a bartering form society.

There are many conspiracy theories out there. Ranging from aliens in government positions, hidden agendas, through exopolitics, Illuminati controlling the world, to atomic world war three or a cosmic disaster followed by natural and human made catastrophes destroying life as we know it. This book is about neither of them. To me those theories are, well, just theories, just another set of mind controlling propaganda in the sense of “a concerted set of messages aimed at influencing the opinions or behaviors of large number of people” [2]. Most of those theories are presented as “testimonies” of this-or-that person who somebody “assures” is a “reliable” source with a “confirmed” identity and an “incredible” story. Questionable information without the possibility of proof by anybody is growing in this uncertain times. They are like scientific hypotheses which only become laws when proven by many independent scientists, and most importantly, by practice. The difference with those theorems however is that by the time they are proven it will be too late to save your buttocks.

Essentially, instead of discussing those various theories, I want to focus on the achievement of the ideal “Utopian” reality which you may call freedom, liberty, utopia, happiness, fulfillment, enlightenment, compassion, sharing, divinity, paradise, or anything else you are longing for. However, before becoming too enthusiastic, I have to advise that by the knowledge that those things are missing from our current setup of the world, it is something that is unthinkable of achieving at this stage of human individual and social development. The chance is lower than one to ten billion (rough estimate). Nevertheless, the worlds that follow should serve as a beacon. Like Buddha's finger pointing towards the moon, I urge you to look at the moon and ignore the finger. It doesn't matter from which side you climb the pyramid as long as you reach the top.

Objectives

I like to see the big picture before engaging in an activity and thus, this book is a way of gaining an overview of some of the individual and societal detriments plaguing us today.

I like to understand the essence of things to be able to discover alternatives, or, at least, hopefully improved ways of living this life. We will touch on some essential things in this book, starting with personal wisdom.

I like to contribute to the awareness that we human beings are all one species, and that we can achieve inconceivably good things when we work together. Aware that it is not the case today, it is still this outlook that underlines the following thoughts.

I like to understand problems, but don't want to stop there. As much as exposition is important, I feel the need to go farther and also seek and try out solutions. Therefore, it was important for me to not only criticize, but also present possibilities.

I dislike authority, because I am sufficiently mature to be my own authority, morally, ethically, in daily life, in public and in private. I like to think that this kind of sovereignty is the basis for our sustainable future, which I will address to some extent.

I like sharing things, knowledge, software, art, culture, philosophy, and preferably collaborate on improvements from one single source of information. This is the foundation of sustainable open technology.

A Guide To Reading

The book is divided into three main sections

1 Which Movie am I In?

Describes some of the reality existing today as a basis to create a common awareness for what is discussed further on.

2 The Daring Ones

Revisits some of the approaches to attempting to improve the individual and society.

3 I Can't Play, Quo Vadis Human, or Turn Your Awareness On

Discusses what approaches can be established in order to advance society and improve our lives as an individual, as an agglomeration of societies, and as the human race altogether.

*They will not wake up in sufficient numbers to effect a change.
I don't believe that most of them are going to wake up until the world is totally wrecked and they are
enslaved.
It's what explains the fact that most have no clue about how they are being screwed day in and day out
by illegal counterfeiters called the IRS.
Truly there will be no change until the citizens are willing to back up their rights.
The chances of this happening are somewhere between no chance at all and a snowballs chance in hell.*

Bob [3]

Which Movie am I In?

1984, 2010, The Independence Day, or Star Trek The Next Generation?

Those who are living in one of the so called “wealthy” countries are undoubtedly living in material prosperity and have amazing possibilities as compared to relatively not so long ago. We are surrounded by all kinds of easy communication (internet, mobile phone, satellite TV, radio) and ubiquitous information, easy traveling (cars, trains, tramways, subways, buses, airplanes, bicycles, taxis). We never before had such a large part of our incomes to spend on non-essential items (outside of shelter, energy, hygiene, and food). We live in a world of extremely fast-paced progress with new inventions and gadgets becoming available almost every day. On the other hand we have the underdeveloped and third world countries where most of families struggle for survival and are still far away from material wealth and peace of mind. Still they are being flooded with the wonders of technology and modern consumer society. At the first glance the reader would be inclined to agree that the first are better off than the latter.

Is this really so? Personally, I am forced to give away around 50% of my income to the government, allegedly for social security, health insurance, and other uses supported by taxes. Discounting rent, food, energy, and communication, the remaining amount is barely enough to live well and impossible to live carefree. What kind of services do I get in return? Besides a tip sized refund, I still have to pay my doctors and medicine, my retirement pension is a question mark, on highways I have to pay the toll, and every service from the government requires a fee payment, the telly and radio and internet programs are full of annoying advertisement and worse than that full of horrific news of wars, criminality, betrayal, incompetence, catastrophes, and dim predictions, even the documentaries are full of sharks, scorpions, crocodiles, snakes, and other beasts. My rights are being diminished day by day: I must not trespass wherever my feet take me, I must not copy and share whatever I like, I even cannot freely use some “protected” art I have payed for, I must not have a critical opinion, not discuss politics, not converse about metaphysics, I must not work when I'm inspired on what inspires me, my blank vote will not be shown on election results to show my disagreement, and so on.

I have been living in some places in the world. North America seemed to be the worst of them. Though being materially overstrung, the restrictions are more obvious there than any other place I have seen. The throw-away mentality there is amazing. I saw people going for mountains of food, discarding all of it after a single bite, and then going again for another mountain of food. On the other hand, one can sense the discontent people feel there. There are many psychopaths there, because people are imprisoned and the only way to get out of the prison is to burn their fuses. The other extreme are Asian and South European countries, and East Europe to a certain extent. There, it's the “Wild

West". Everybody does to his own liking. There is little or no law enforcement, the judicial system is dysfunctional and "everything" and "everybody" is corrupt, logo, crime is flourishing. You are basically left up to yourself and hopefully to a family or group that strongly sticks together. Central Europe seems to be forcing its own extinction by moderate libertarianism allowing all and every minority to dominate the majority.

With this, my experiences, I am asking myself, how many people are really free and happy?

But how would you know that you are free? In a former East European country many people argued that they are not free because they cannot freely (without special permission) travel to western countries. Is it that you are free when you don't need to ask for permission to go wherever you want to go?

Strangely, the Freedom World Report [5] and the World Freedom Atlas [6] tie the freedom of a country's citizen to various variables of the political system - the electoral process, political pluralism, participation, functioning of government - and civil liberties - freedom of expression and belief, association and organizational rights, rule of law, personal autonomy and individual rights.

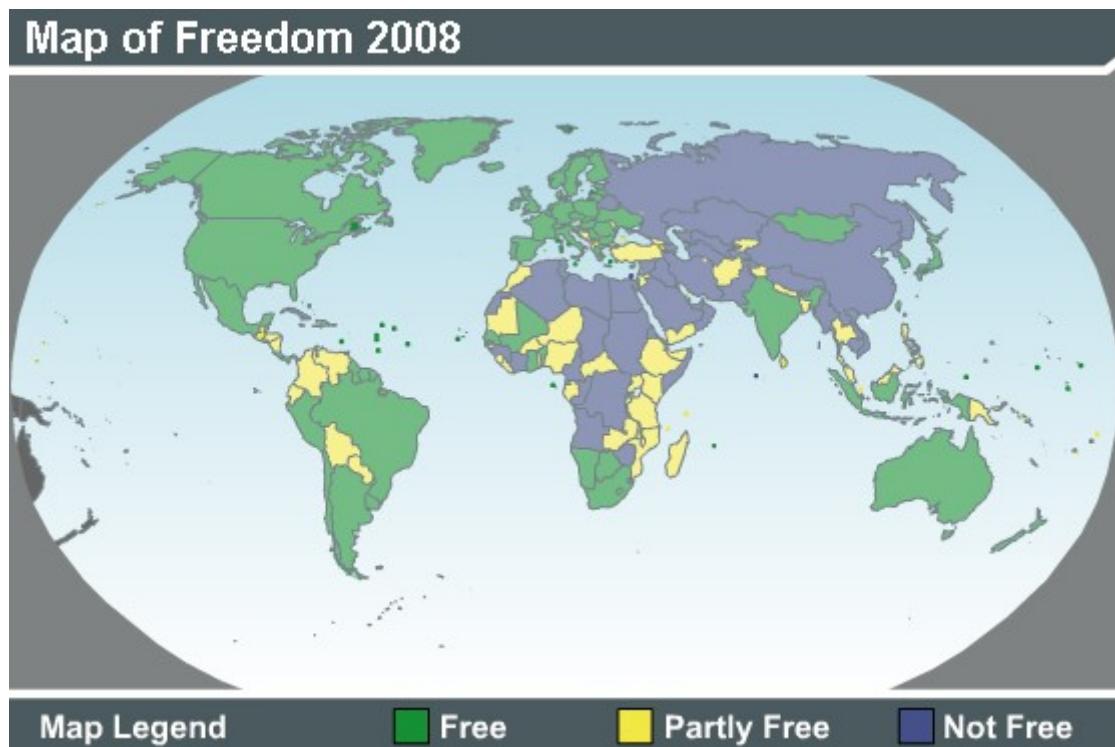


Figure: World Freedom Map [5]

Though my country of residence is one of the high ranking countries, I do not feel really and truly free.

This chapter will briefly graze and highlight some of the well-known problems of our contemporary society and culture that are mostly globally similar.

Maya, The Self-Deception

We live in the world of appearances. Nothing is more valued than “show”, no matter what is the intention, or essence behind it. We are blinded by fools, and we blindly follow the blind proclaiming that we all “see” and repeat the so called thought/political/ideological/ “leader”’s “Maa, maa! Baa, baa! Moo, moo! Hee-haw, hee-haw!”.

It would be absolutely hilarious, if it were not ridiculous!

Sheep and Camels

A “successful” economy needs both. They keep the economy going, they have the “purchase power”, they are the happy “consumers”, they are content with bread and water, bed and work, as long as they can fornicate and consume *ad infinitum*. They will be grateful for a fulfilled life.

Those are the examples of “good citizens”. For them the functional education curriculum is made. They will be good workers contributing to economy and, *cough*, prosperity. And good, because mindless, cannon fodder.

It is manipulation, and therefore it is parasitism, and therefore immoral. The other downsides are the infantilization of rational human beings, the “micky-mousing” of society and tools; ‘til we all become clowns.

Consumerism Consequences

Many times we as consumers are well aware of the benefits and also some of the harms caused by buying a product.

However, it is objectively not possible to ascertain if the overall utility (benefits minus harm) are positive or negative, often because the supply chains, social, political, and environmental circumstances are hidden to us. Let us list some of the factors for consideration.

Benefits from buying a product:

- Personal utility to basic needs of the buyer (livelihood, safety, security, hygiene, health)
- Personal utility to pleasure of the buyer (happiness, personal growth, knowledge, skill, independence, savings)
- Utility to family and social environment
- Utility to humanity, future society, grandchildren (ethical products)
- Income to the worker producing the item
- Capital for the producing enterprise to invest in better products
- Earning from secondary services (banking, distribution, transport, advertisement)

Harms from buying a product:

- Reduction of personal monetary assets
- Environmental impact from production (including raw material sourcing)
- Environmental impact from secondary services
- Environmental impact from product packaging
- Environmental impact from planned obsolescence
- Environmental impact from lack of quality
- Environmental impact from stolen right to repair
- Buyer stress from deceptive packaging and deceptive practices
- Buyer stress from closed source unknown functionality
- Buyer stress from vendor lock in
- Buyer stress from backdoors, spying, privacy deprivation
- Buyer stress from stealing, attacks, phishing, fraud, ransom
- Buyer stress from expired or voided guarantee, or other source of non reparability (unavailable service or parts, no right to repair)
- Buyer stress from planned obsolescence or from lack of quality
- Buyer stress from reeducation needed after product changes
- Buyer stress from unethical production practices (extortion, underpayment, child labor, pollution)
- Loss of interpersonal communication and closeness (due to individual abuse of a product, e.g. electronic addiction)
- Loss of health (for unhealthy, unsafe, risky products)
- Loss of income for smaller or regional producers from big companies (price fixing, trade agreements)
- Eradication of small regional producers and negative consequences thereof (global transport environmental impact, loss of diversity and competition)
- Oligarchies or monopolies determine prices (not supply and demand)
- Loss of democratic influence due to producer lobbyism (preferential natural resource access, reduced natural resource purchase price)
- Rise of regulations that benefit the producer, not the consumer
- Regional (state, country) protectionism that increases consumer prices

Benefit from not purchasing = inverse harm from purchasing.

Harm from not purchasing = inverse benefit from purchasing.

Not all factors must be equally valid for all products or buyer situations. Therefore punctual analysis must be done for specific situations.

Further refinement of this concept would add objective values to the contributing functions in order to be able calculate the **utility of a product unit** for a specific user:

$$U = \text{Sum}(\text{Benefits}) - \text{Sum}(\text{Harms})$$

Evaluate your own consumption.

Influence your choices.

Over-destruction

Industry produces goods to stock. At the end lots of produced goods end up as waste, and so does the waste products from production. This unnecessary pollution is visible everywhere we go. It is hardly possible to find clean spots near populated areas.

This is on top of the pollution we produce just to wrap and package the products we acquire.

Overpopulation

Governments are controlled by the idea of **economic growth**. It is a blinding lullaby which calls for a dedicated discussion. Economic growth relies on **population growth**, which is why governments have a problem with decreasing populations. Look around the world and find a government that welcomes population decline. It does not exist as of 2021.

Blind governments are the main cause of population growth, as no policies for stabilization or decrease will be established under such a thinking framework.

And population growth brings visible problems (pollution, space scarcity, food scarcity, employment scarcity, pandemic probability, excessive tourism, economic migration) that are willingly overlooked by governments for the sake of the politician's personal fame, ambition, and power.

Supporting population growth is an **unsustainable policy** based on **unsustainable ideology**. As with any ideology, only the blind supporters follow. Usually media is collaborating by whitewashing the gravity of the problem like in the documentary "Race To Feed The World" [7] by implicating that there is hope because innovative farmers are pushing for new ways to produce food. Soon we might be eating locusts and insects, or worse [8].

Problem: Population growth

Cause: Economic growth ideology

Effect: Inadequate policies
Cause: Personal ambition
Effect: Unsustainability

Individual sustainable actions: Reject population growth, reject economic growth, dethrone corrupt politicians, change unsustainable policies.

One Business, Two Faces

Businesses are money making machines. Because markets are saturated (proof: there is too much liquidity in financial markets), creating innovative products does not guarantee sustenance, and profits must be made “at all costs” by various means of **money milking**.

In order for a business, under the current ideology, to remain competitive and alive, products and services must be sold at lowest costs. Only companies with maximum profits survive, investing ever more of the profits for recreating the same products with new faces (consequently the **appearance becomes the product**).

For this purpose they have to show their best face towards the customer. The company representatives should be good looking, friendly, open minded, talkative, concerned, understanding, and generous. With grand advertising promising “guaranteed happiness” after purchasing the product, we are so mindlessly eager to let the sales representatives crawl into our pockets.

On the other hand, due to the necessity of making money, all possible costs must be cut down, sometimes even those that are necessary. In this context, customer support becomes a necessary evil and its costs must be reduced, and we end hoping that the robotic customer support offers the correct number to select for the issue we are encountering. This reflects the other face of a business. Customers often perceive this side as being less friendly and certainly less generous. **Customer support erosion** is the consequence and the future.

Further, employees must be minimally paid, coerced into overtime, overloaded, overused, burned out, depressive, demotivated, enslaved. Low costs guaranteed. In wars we had cannon-fodder, today people are voluntarily becoming **industry-fodder**.

Since employees are over-abused, product recalls due to insufficient engineering design are another consequence, and are bearable even until the point where the airplane crashes (see the fraudulent history of the Boeing 737 MAX airplane).

This is the consequence of money becoming the prime cause, and a living, breathing, feeling persons a means, as well as an obstacle, to greed.

Culture, Art, and Publishing

Hollywood: It’s all for profit. Where is the art? Where is the culture?

Entertainment industry is just that: industry. No wonder all sentiment and all heart has vanished from it.

Exceptions apply. There are great pieces of contemporary art. They must be sifted out from piles of unartistic rubbish. Those that are great, are so because they have been made with passion. In many cases the creator is hardly earning enough to live on. Profits usually go to the industrial overlords.

Publishing means making available to public. This is not true anymore with ubiquitously copyrighted material. The only purpose © serves is raising the status of the author and filling the bank accounts of the publishers (instead of the creators).

So why subject yourself to this kind of contracts at all?

Bots, Spammers, and other Warts

Economy does not produce according to demand, but over-produces and stimulates the increase of demand through **immoral methods**, i.e. aggressive advertising, telephone marketing, door knocking and other annoying activities.

January 2007. Cyclone “Kyrill” creates sufficient devastation to earn global attention. The news hits the internet and leads to the spread of email warnings that themselves contain the trojan software “storm worm”. A month later – estimations diverge here – 250 000 to 10 million computers become infected. Trojans' mission is to link his hosts into a global network of so called “bots” that is then exploited and used for sending unsolicited spam emails, or for staging DoS, denial of service, attacks on websites. Internet mafia withers an opportunity and starts blackmailing web site server owners for protection money (to stop the denial of service attacks against payment). A scenario worth a somber script for a futuristic movie.

While the costs of sending spam are literally non-existent, the emailing costs are carried by the thousands of computer and internet connection owners, so profits for spammers are high. Greedy companies are very much willing to spend parts of their publicity budget on spamming. The daily spam mail volume of the storm botnet in 2008 was roughly 51 million emails per day. Considering even a tiny rate of returning customers (0.1% of people returning as a customer gives 51 000 customers per day) and the minor costs, we can interpolate that this behavior will continue into the future.

The amount of spam will continue to double it's volume per year. The trend will go away from word based to image based spam, where the message is embedded in a picture which cannot be analyzed and filtered by most of today's spam filters. Windows based infected machines, lack of personal protection methods and unconscious users will continue to be the cause of more than 90% of the spam volume. The ever increasing trend to switch home computing to open and free Linux systems will sooner or later make also this target system a lucrative preference for spam criminals (even if it was to get 1% of those unconscious users who surf the net and open banners and email attachments as administrators with open access to the system).

Advertisement is spam, too.

Problem: Spam

Cause: Immoral profiteering

Effect: Resource stealing, annoyance

Individual sustainable actions: Filter email spam, use IP spam filters, ignore advertisement, don't click or follow online ads.

Technology

Technology brings lots of benefits but is also a distractor from finding and following a purpose in our lives. It is also a time waster that steals time which we could invest into growing personally. If we don't grow personally, how can then the society advance as a whole?

But technology today brings another problem:

Technology over-promises what it cannot deliver.

Just one example to keep it short: Electronic taps promise touchless hygiene, water saving, safety, reliability, easiness of use. I have yet to use a tap design that always works without annoying because your hands are too close or too far, or simply refuse to release water, or release water only after you have given up and removed your hands. Reliability is the one promised feature that I feel mostly cheated with. And the remaining features are not exclusive to electronic taps but are also available with manual taps.

Most of the **technological products** available do **not fully deliver what they promise**, which is easy to see if you are inclined to research it on the internet.

Is then technology a path to sustainability? Do you think Star Wars story is about technology? It's about the struggle of good and evil within yourself.

Overforce

It is to be expected that with technological advancement and automation the cost of human labor will approach zero (human labor will become worthless). This also means that human labor will become obsolete.

How does then the narrative of population growth, that drives our economic growth today, fit into the picture? If the majority of the workforce will become obsolete, how are we going to sustain our lives, and how are we going to pay for our sustenance?

Politics for Politicians

Politics as **sacrifice** of the governing for the good of the governed and **society as a whole** seems to be out of fashion in the beginning of the 21st century.

Country leaders today rather resemble dictators, tyrants, megalomaniacs, villains, and deviants from tragedies and dramas of the past.

Certainly those that have the benefit of their society in mind are perhaps a few handful among many countries.

The most intriguing and obvious display of thoughtlessness, blindness, and incompetence lies in the globally common adoption of the “economic growth” narrative. The “broken long-play” type of repetition of this phrase seems to enforce the validity of it. It is a thinking bias. Nothing is farther from the true reality of existence.

“Economic growth” seems to suggest “jobs for all”. It certainly seems to be the only known way to sustain an ever growing population. It is a **fallacy** though and propaganda by those who are aware of the problem but unable or unwilling to think of more sustainable alternatives. In reality it means “We do not know of any other way to sustain a growing and aging population and the ever growing government expenses other than by the means of further population growth”.

Only those who do not look, cannot see the **devastating effects** this narrative has been having on our world and society for the past 100 years at least. There is much pollution, poverty, poverty caused migration, war as means to create fake economies, war related migration, criminality, nationalism, tourism caused overcrowding, urban overcrowding, unemployment, rural depopulation, illiteracy, under-education, loss of civism, loss of art and culture, mainstream consumerism.

Authority, Representation, Elections, Mob Rule, Installed Puppets

About the 99.9% world population are camels who are following wolf leaders vested in sheepskin.

Those who are powersick are many. They are not only country leaders, but also “local monarchs” like city mayors, party presidents, organization chairmen, department managers, or civil servants. Those bully types can be found everywhere. They come clothed in any sheep, wolf, or sheep-wolf skins.

It is our moral right and ethical obligation to destitute them.

But then who is to rule us immature, pedantic, scared, reactionary, egoistic crayon-wielding “adults” with microbe-like minds?

Mob democracy, *ehem*, participatory or direct democracy demands mature, emotionally stable stoics. The dilemma of **great responsibility** has been known for thousands of years.

Great responsibility results in self as the unique source of authority. The causality chain must therefore be inverted. There is no avail in demanding direct democracy without

being and authority on our own for ourselves first, though ultimately, as a side effect maybe, for the benefit of all.

Money

“Money is the root of all evil” they say, but rather “it’s all about money, money”.

Money is just an abstract measurement unit for the exchange of goods and services.

A Brief History of Money

In the beginning was barter. It was inconvenient. Instead, we defined shells, metal plates, ornate paper, styled plastic, crypto-electrons as acceptable mediums of exchange.

Then came the powerful and usurped the right to create currency; and underpay services; and indebt friends.

Then the rat race commenced.

Then emerged the outstanding ailments: credit, interest, exchange rate, volatility of value.

And thus a new system of servitude evolved.

Money is in reality a medium that **measures the moral aptitude** of individuals through exposing the level of propensity to corrupt values and the applied inhumanity the greed is able to cause.

And many times people say “if I do not use this service then the person will have no sustenance and will sooner or later steal and rob”. This is a **highly neurotic fear-driven economy**. It is also true that in order to secure sustenance, there are many that turn to criminal activities in order to extract income by stealing and usurping the property of others.

Banking

When I deposit my money into a regular bank account, while banks work with my money to accumulate their gains, I usually do not get any interest on it. Is this how a fair contract looks like?

Collaboration

It is not only a problem on GitHub or in open source in general.

A simple search for “browser” projects on GitHub reveals 158 827 repository results at the time of writing in the year 2021. Given that there are a handful of operating systems this is a rather uncanny number. While the reasons behind this multiplication of unnecessary work are distinct, the effect is not limited to the open source community. The commercial browser market counts 28 proprietary browsers (and 34 open source browsers in the same list) at the time of writing.

Researching the reasons behind this proliferation reveals arguments like:

- Competition: the company that controls the web browser has tremendous power to influence our online computing and communication experience and it becomes very important for a lot of companies to try and win that race
- Income: the company that offers the web browser for free pays the development costs by selling the data that it scrapes from your browsing habits.
- Efficiency: the web browser has become one of the most important programs on your computer, a quasi operating system. For developers the task of creating new programs becomes easier when using world wide standards on which most browsers are based.

However, the truth is that we are **fiercely competitive** and do not want or do not know how to collaborate. We are also very **immature and irresponsible**, so that interpersonal friction often drives away collaborating parties, or leaves projects suddenly abandoned. Silo thinking is prevalent.

Much **work is wasted** in commercial and free software projects; work which is paid by the user (either through spam, unsolicited advertisement, data stealing, cyber criminality) or through wasted effort on irrelevant projects (and so work is not invested in stability and useful features of few existing projects). In open source projects, abandonment culture thrives and is even supported and encouraged by tools like git.

This trend is visible in **all economic areas**, from hardware manufacturing, through banking, online portals, operating systems, to transport or cosmetic, restaurants, bars, bakers, and literally all other products and services.

Diversity is good and necessary, but waste of resources is not. We have yet to devise approaches to **consolidating complexity** without restoring to paralysis or explosion into chaos.

Curiosities

Have you known that Spanish fruit juice makers are purchasing stocks of freshly collected oranges from farmers, after which they apply a needle and extract a small percentile of fruit juice from the oranges before selling them further to merchants that distribute the fruits to markets and shops? Do you feel cheated?

What about the voluminous **fake packaging** that reveals much smaller quantities of product than the package volume would suggest? Don't you feel cheated?

Or the products that come packaged in small quantities inside a bigger package? For some products I wonder if the **packaging** is the majority of the price that I pay for.

Or each **fruit** carrying a small plastic sticker, even when the batch is clearly labeled as to its origin. What's even the point to sell plastic rubbish?

Or the big industries offering marvels of industrial processing technology at "low prices" (chicken anyone?) while sweeping all local, small, independent **competitors** away. Are you happy?

Or the industry cartels **lobbying** our governance representatives into unhealthy, immoral, polluting policies (see Glyphosate debate). Why are you not happy?

Governors are focusing on reducing water consumption instead of reducing **pollution** and increasing sewage processing (or reducing population). How soon will we have to contend with one cup of water a day for washing teeth and sand-baths for corporal hygiene?

We are born with everything we need to work for our own prosperity. Why do we need to work for others or are "unemployed" otherwise? If we do not work "for profit", how do we earn our living?

The Daring Ones

This chapter is listing examples of progressive liberty thinkers daring to show the way towards a money free society and giving a glimpse into how it could work and accelerate social and technological progress of humanity.

Isms

All political ideologies, be it socialism, communism, libertarianism, democratic ideology, fascism, christianism, islamism, judaism, jainanism, egalitarianism, pacifism, capitalism, post-capitalism, transhumanism, make the mistakes of focusing on a **final idea at all costs**, at the same time completely **disregarding the reality of life**.

While all of those had their place in history in trying to achieve positive change (e.g. withering away of the state), they utterly failed due to their unawareness, rigidity of thought, immaturity of their members, and inhumanity of their actions. Stagnation is death.

Dualism, diversity, pluralism are life and they are immutable facts. No amount of wishful thinking will change that. No amount of rules or rituals will change that. **Isms are born to die**.

Anarchy

Anarchy, the **rule of self**, is what a society of responsible and mature individuals will eventually become. The problem with anarchists is that they were trying to do it the wrong way around: abolish oppressive governments (check), while leaving the **rule** open to the immature uneducated **mob** (fail).

Native Cultures

Many lessons can be learned from native cultures, e.g. collective harmony, self-sufficiency, being integral to environment, cherishing balance and harmony, importance of roles within a group, mind-body union for mental health, dance and art as integral part of socialization, parents caring for children, emotional closeness between family members, create a sense of belonging, transmission of values, following natural cycles, balanced life.

Swaraj from india, like ubuntu from southern Africa and buen vivir from South America, are among many traditional concepts from around the world that center on values like happiness, caring and conviviality and combine autonomy, freedom, and responsibility to the community life - qualities that are missing from the global economic system.

We can also learn from the decline of the native North American tribes, who tried too hard to fit in with their conquerors' cultures which led to the tragic loss of identity and consequent crisis.

We can learn distinguish what is **positive in traditions** and what **must be transformed and evolve**.

Dedicated Communities

There are many **modern social experiments** available across the globe. Communities that have struggled to break the bond of capitalist slavery, environmental destruction, or social egotism. Be it Kibbutz, Ashram, Ecovillage, or Commune, many may have been successful with achieving a certain degree of happiness and simplification of daily life, though the struggle for a sustainable society is isolated and often, if not troubled by economic scarcity, is wrought with the same types of problems that stem from the inability of members to be mindful of self and adapt to favor the benefit of the whole community or even humanity as a whole.

In those attempts, the human evolution may have been a neglected factor without which sustainable progress is either impossible or extremely tedious.

Bitchun Society

The fictional Bitchun Society of Cory Doctrow's "Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom" is a world where all goods are as non-scarce as information is on the net. In that world, managing the glut of everything - especially people - is a matter of exploring social networks to guess at the degree to which you should treat some resource with respect and attention. Money has given way to a system based on reputation points accumulated by every social interaction over the course of one's lifetime.

Governments and corporations have given way to "adhocracy" as people organize themselves into leaderless groups for specific purposes.

The problems such a society would have, like a lack of permanent structure and a reliance on a highly subjective reputation system, are like all the good and bad that comes from real-life Internet collaboration.

The Zeitgeist Movement

This movement has the purpose of eliminating scarcity through the abolishing of money and abundance of resources, which would be achieved with technocratic means of government and technological advancement.

In the past 30 years of the internet, we have learned that any technology can be abused by goons (corrupt governments, megalomaniacs, dictators, and criminals) and others who participate in vandalism, loitering, public displays of ignorance, outward obnoxiousness, and other non-socially acceptable practices justified by a directionless but nonetheless strong pack mentality and conformity with other similarly outlandish behaving individuals.

We continue to see it today with machine learning algorithms that misclassify people, for example in insurance, and lead to major inconveniences for the affected persons (e.g. non payment of due policies).

A such, the technological advance, if unsupplemented by **personal growth** of those who define, implement, and control technologies, can become a step towards the dark ages instead of bringing the intended positive change.

Copiosis

Today: Money and profit compel endless economic growth. Money gets created through interest-bearing debt. That means we are all burdened by debt which limits real freedom. With money tied to debt, one dollar is tied to all other dollars. That means, we compete with each other for a limited money pie.

Copiosis (copiosis.com) Solution: Net Benefit Reward (NBR) replaces money and debt. It makes your potential "income" unlimited. Society gives you NBR when what you do creates net benefit. A net benefit happens when your acts produce more positive results than negative ones. As long as positive results continue, you continue receiving reward.

While there are many **technological** proposals to improving economy and cooperation, this particular currency allocation algorithm (Net Benefit Reward) relies on **objective** measurement of data, and **sovereignty** in the sense of enforcement against fraud.

SOS

Save our souls. Who would you expect to save your soul in this world full of ignorants and egoists on genetic auto-pilot? You better start taking care of yourself.

Human nature is very reluctant to accept change. I have been finding myself in such situations over and over again. There are very few ways that lead a human being to giving up its paradigms and ideologies, hardened points of view, habits and comforts, and **change** its mind.

The first is **motivation**. Motivation is a result of "positive" emotions. When you feel motivated you actually want to make a change.

The other is **suffering**. When you suffer you feel like you will suffer eternally (is this hell?) unless something changes. As suffering is your personal emotion it is only you that can change this something either by changing your perception of reality, curing your suffering, or making an external change that causes you the suffering (is this purgatory?).

The Star Trek Society

The fictional Star Trek universe has replication technology, hence absence of scarcity for material goods is guaranteed, at least those for basic sustenance.

The purpose of life and the motivation for achievement come from attaining higher values like harmony, scientific curiosity, exploration, self-awareness, personal improvement.

The Star Trek society is very much modeled on the stoic principles. And as we see again and again in the series, the educated, responsible, mindful, sovereign man is the basis

for such a society.

The Culture

The Culture is a fictional interstellar post-scarcity civilization created by the Scottish writer Iain M. Banks featured in the Culture series.

The Culture is without scarcity as all needs are being taken care of by artificially intelligent sentient machines resulting in a largely hedonistic society, though **learning** is considered one of the most important reasons for life in the Culture. Besides pure pleasure activities, many citizens interact, openly or covertly, with other civilizations, and the ethical struggle is a central theme of those protagonists. A hallmark of the Culture is its diversity and ambiguity, genetically, culturally, socially, and ethically.

The Culture is an egalitarian, stable society without the use of any form of force or compulsion, except where necessary to protect others. It tends to make major decisions based on the consensus formed by its hyper-intelligent Minds and, if appropriate, its citizens. The Minds wield unprecedented power, but are benign and administer this abundance for the benefit of all.

The Culture rejects all forms of economics based on anything other than voluntary activity. "Money implies poverty" is a common saying in the Culture.

There are no laws as such in the Culture. Social norms are enforced by convention (personal reputation, "good manners", and by possible ostracism and involuntary supervision for more serious crimes). The only serious prohibitions that seem to exist are against harming sentient beings, or forcing them into undertaking any act.

The Culture has no flag, symbol or logo as it refuses to place its trust in symbols. The Culture is every single individual human and machine in it, not one thing. Just as it cannot imprison itself with laws, impoverish itself with money or misguide itself with leaders, so it would not misrepresent itself with symbols.

The takeaway is a future transformed by the **evolution of culture** and society's individuals first and foremost, and by technology only secondarily. The only way a liberal anarchy could be achieved, is by taking what is best in humans and placing it beyond corruption.

The key is to ignore the crowd, which is manipulated by the Illuminati. It's good to be aware but we do not dance to tunes tapped out by degenerates. We do not gaze at mirrors made by midgets [2].

I Can't Play, Quo Vadis Human, or Turn Your Awareness On

This part of the book is about what we can do to slow-down or even invert those disastrous trends described in the first chapter.

Throughout the previous chapters I have tried to hint on the workings of a sustainable society. A society that is not controlled by greedy capitalist enterprises neither by corrupt politicians influenced by the latter ones. A society where each and every human is truly free to endeavor in tasks that truly contribute to advancement of each and every human being and consequently the society as a whole in every imaginable aspect, from arts to technology to science to relations.

The questions that you may be asking yourself is however: "What can I do about it?". Is there a way each and every one of us can truly contribute to this advancement? How can I recognize the exit sign and know where to turn to take the beautiful road of life? Where do I start?

I hope that the present chapter can be a guiding beacon for you to distinguish the essence of sustainable social change from unsustainable appearances that distract from what truly matters now and for future generations.

Us

As some smart person said: "We really need to be able to **stop clinging** to these old ideas of citizenship and creed, using these concepts of scarcity to justify our bigotry, to really be able see and think about community beyond the confines of a state."

We share the same planet and we are all connected through the environment and society we share. In order to be successful, we must embrace that common heritage and together strive for this exciting evolution.

This embracing of the common good traverses the action of every individual, your perceptions, sensations, thoughts, decisions, and actions.

There will be always those who are at a lower stage of awareness. As such, there will always be more primitive minds attempting at usurping power and control for their own benefit and the benefit of few resulting in the detriment of the many. To yourself be true, to those who bully you reply: "This far is enough. You shall not pass farther".

The stratification of society is there to stay though, we are truly free when we have a choice on which side we want to stand. We only become fulfilled when we choose the side of values, side of the sustainable future, the side of light.

Yehuda Bauer, a holocaust survivor and historian, nails it: "Thou shall not be a perpetrator. Thou shall not be a victim. And, above all, thou shall **never be a bystander.**"

You

So it is all about you. About each and everyone of us as an individual as every organism, every society is made up of individuals.

To change society for a better future, we must **start with ourselves**. There is no shortcut, no way around, no alternative way, and no cheat available.

This, the evolution of the individual consciousness, is the toughest millennia old venture, the very mountain of King Sisyphus that must be conquered, again and again, by each individual that feels the call of liberty, sustainability, purpose, and fulfillment.

It is toil, sweat and tears, and does not come for free. Advance at your own pace and risk. Now, where do I or you **start**?

To outline the steps to awareness and wisdom may seem more complex than a just a simple predigested formula of behavioral steps for one to follow. However the following statement by Stanislaw Szukalski may initiate you into this wonderful world of **heightened awareness**.

“If you want to create new things for this world, never listen to anybody. You have to suck your wisdom, all the knowledge, from your thumb. Your own self.” ~ Szukalski.

Here are some non-exhaustive hints where to start this journey towards wisdom.

Wisdom: Openness and curiosity

Provides: Mind set to procure answers, even to questions we are not aware we even have, to suck out the wisdom from your thumb, to be able create new things for this world.

Prerequisite: None really. Just look beyond your own horizon. Never stop seeking, exploring, learning, wondering, questioning. All has already been said. All the answers are there for you plain to see. You just need to find them, and notice that the answers materialize when you seek for them. Then practice them (like Sisyphus) to integrate them into your awareness.

Wisdom: Pull not push motivation

Provides: Awareness that actions to become successful must be intrinsically motivated. Awareness that extrinsic motivation may not lead to optimal results. Ability to motivate self and others, to lead self and others. Sensitivity to coercion, intimidation, persuasion.

Prerequisite: Knowledge of motivation types. Knowledge of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs.

Wisdom: Admitting own feelings

Provides: Skill to listen and acknowledge your own feelings instead of rationalizing

them away with biased mental justifications, instead of trying to control them, instead of suppressing them, instead of blaming others for what you feel.

Prerequisite: Understanding the concept of Unamuno's "man of flesh and bone".

Wisdom: Admitting own imperfection

Provides: Ability to listen to and accept other points of view, that are necessarily contextual and individual, accept that those views do not necessarily need to be mine, and also accept that other's points of view do not need to match my views.

Prerequisite: Knowledge of the relativity of life, principle of causality (cause and effect, action and result), presence, awareness, and mindfulness.

Wisdom: Wisdom can be found everywhere

Provides: Ability to find wisdom in everyday life, in daily interactions, in art, in documentaries, in conversations. Ability to not require formal education to find wisdom.

Prerequisite: Be present to notice it, like you would notice a butterfly passing by when present to this sensation at the moment.

Wisdom: Rationality is influenced by sentiments

Provides: Skill in recognizing and dealing with cognitive biases, irrational behavior, change ineptitude, our own fears and desires. Enables mindfulness, and the ability to live by a range of values. Ability to cohere feelings and rationale.

Prerequisite: Understanding Unamuno's concept of the "man of flesh and bone". Theory on cognitive biases. Practice of mindfulness techniques.

Wisdom: Essence versus Appearance

Provides: Ability to question the status quo, to look "behind the scenes", to understand and tolerate people's behavior and choices, to investigate and strive to uncover the true reality of life.

Prerequisites: Presence, critical thinking, openness, curiosity.

Wisdom: Context and Causality

Provides: Awareness of causality of actions and their effects. Awareness of the context of statements. Enables the skill to evaluate opinions, statements, discussions from own perspective and other's context or point of view. Enables tolerance and patience.

Prerequisites: Observant, present, and mindful state of mind.

Atlas

Many movements (many became *isms at some point in time) attempt or

attempted at introducing intended positive changes through new technologies or societal regulations however completely ignored the human factor of the equation.

History has proven countless times over that the outcomes of such *isms prove to be disastrous at best.

To achieve change, change must start with those who desire this change, and that is with our individual perception. Only then we can expect for the technological and societal changes to bring those positive changes we desire.

This is to say that change towards the desired sustainable positive future must, at the same time, address **society**, **technology**, and above all, **personal** development.

Intermediate

Before we advance to more complex topics for which the society has no solutions as of today, let's start simple with this quick-launch summary of what you can do **immediately** and already today to make your contribution towards independence and freedom.

Educate yourself and educate your environment. Seek personal growth, philosophy or spirituality. Make time and space for your own education by reducing or avoiding distractions and avoidance escapes. Practice all types of wisdom. educate your children, educate your environment, pass the message on to your family, your friends, your work colleagues, your neighbors, your whatever-relation-you-have. Show them the beauty of the freedom road and when they are ready to test drive it, show them the **exit sign**.

Make **freedom, prosperity, and sustainability your life philosophy**. Don't make it a movement nor an ideology, neither political nor social. Movements mostly rise with a charismatic leader and also die with him. The free software initiative has no seats in the parliament and needs no marketing. It is only a movement because participants have learned about it word-to-mouth and have been living it freely and voluntarily in ever increasing numbers. So is stoicism a philosophy that requires no leader, and no organization; you just adopt it in your daily life. At the end, you are free when you take responsibility for your own actions and destiny.

Use **freedom economy**, participate in a freedom project or open project (contribute by documenting, translating, educating, programming, building, testing, or some other task) and see for yourself how it works and how fulfilling can participation be. Consume open culture, read independent news, use open standards, use libre software. Reduce or don't use paid products and services if they are made for profit and for customer's detriment, instead of for the benefit of the customer or user.

Become **self-sufficient** to the extent possible for you. Grow our own food, make your

own cosmetics. Reduce, Recycle, Reuse, Share. Be responsible with resources and minimize waste and pollution (reduce).

Think critically. Be mindful of context and causality. Question and evaluate everything, and do not take anything for granted, obvious, or clear. Discover the essence of things, the purpose of statements, especially government propaganda, commercial news, corporate advertisement. Discover the essence of things, the abundance of wisdom so plain to see.

Voice your needs. Vote in programs that support your views and needs. Vote in blank to demonstrate disagreement. Persuade your government and media to count blank votes as disagreements. Persuade governments to adopt a happiness index for your country or region. Persuade governments to seek for solutions to substitute the “economic growth” fallacious narrative.

Strive to unite (not divide).

There are more things that you can do **immediately** to make your contribution towards independence and freedom. If you are willing to seek them, they will present themselves to you.

Voluntarily

We are born to be **free**; to liberate ourselves from the bonds of others and our own ignorance and biases.

Use your philosophies with great care. You will notice that your views **change** with time as you acquire more knowledge and observe great many things along the journey of your life.

As such, turning your own world views into ideologies, propaganda, religions, or tyrannies will, in reality, just keep you **stuck** in one unmovable place and will be detrimental to your own sustainable progress and that of the society and of humanity as a whole.

There is a benefit of informal action. It opens the road toward creativity, responsibility, accountability, and fulfillment, whereas formality is an immoral tool of control, coercion, and parasitism.

Evolutionary

Evolution is the inherent **essence** of existence, the cosmos as a whole, a species, and the individual in particular. In life, who does not evolve is replaced by more apt competitors (“survival of the fittest”).

In Darwin’s theory on the mechanism of evolution, **competition** among living things is

viewed as a major part of the “struggle for existence” and therefore as a basis for natural selection (Darwin 1872).

Competition, and therefore **dominance and submission**, is, voluntary for many, the reality of our everyday life: ideological competition, racial competition, cultural competition, regional competition, property competition, economic competition, workplace competition. No individual and no organization is free of competition, dominance, and submission.

As the first primitive unicellular organisms evolved and developed **cooperation** by forming multicellular organisms, and later further evolved and formed specialized cooperating organs within more complex organisms, so did social structures evolve to form cooperation and thus become stronger. The primitive individual learned to cooperate within the family, then formed groups, then tribes, clans, kingdoms, and nations. We learned to **depend** on each other and to **reciprocate**, those being the means by which relations between individuals and between individuals and their environment are **bonded** and **strengthened**.

And we continue to evolve towards the **one humanity**, to reap full benefits of habitating this beautiful spec of blue.

Every person is at a different **stage** of evolution. Hence the cave man must defend that “the best” weapon is the spear, the middle-ages man must defend that bow and arrow are best, and the cowboy must be convinced that his colt is. Opinions are highly **contextual**, and so are all matters of opinion: the ideologies, religions, philosophies, even the apparently “scientific” opinion, and the thoughts contained in this book.

Therefore we postulate:

Primitive life employs competition.

Evolved life engages in cooperation.

Cooperation is a means by which society can evolve toward a sustainable future.

Elimination of competition, dominance, and subjugation is the means by which cooperation can be achieved.

Understanding

Much evil is caused by lack of awareness, lack of understanding and consequent acceptance of own feelings, evasive distractions, and lack of valued purpose.

But also many conflicts, inefficiencies, depressions are due to lack of **common understanding**, a common definition of the things in question.

And **tremendous effort** must yet be done to create this common basis of understanding, by careful and deliberate curiosity, questioning, analysis, discussion, agreement.

Some examples of creating understanding of commonly used terms are showcased in Definitions.

Scarcity

As opposed to natural scarcity imposed by nature, **artificial scarcity** is staged by individuals or organizations with the purpose of dominance, with the purpose of gaining an advantage, with the purpose of establishing own security, with the purpose of reducing worries with current and future sustenance, or other more elevated needs, with the purpose of making precious time for personal leisure and growth, for **making time** for following a personal **purpose**.

Dependencies for artificial scarcity: follow purpose > make time > reduce worries > establish security (reduce own scarcity) > gain advantage > dominate > stage scarcity (for others)

Natural scarcity occurs when the available amount of a resource exceeds the amount of resources wanted or needed. There is a distinction between renewable or non-renewable resources in that non-renewable resources do not replenish with time.

Dependencies for natural scarcity: wants exceed > needs exceed > amount of natural resources (natural scarcity).

Since the causality for both types of scarcity differs, therefore the **means** of dealing with natural or artificial scarcity must differ in their application. The general approach is to scientifically and critically (non-opinionated) evaluate the **completeness** of the dependency cycles for both scarcity types. Then for each of the dependency elements establish and evaluate the contextually optimum means of dealing with them.

For reducing or eliminating **natural scarcity** the means could be:

- Personal awareness when wants exceed needs, and settle for the needs.
- Personal awareness of the origin of wants and presence and mindfulness practice to deal with this potential kind of escapism.
- Personal awareness of the essence of the need, therefore enabling the next step.

- Prospect for substitute resources able to cover the need.
- Devise just and transparent distribution methods and policies for limited resource needs (e.g. allocation based on needs not wants, individual subsistence first, based in community impact rather than individual want).
- Devise regulations and enforcement of abuse of natural resource consumption when (only when) it exceeds the needs.
- Technological means of reducing the use of natural resources, as well as improved methods for recycling, reuse, and sharing.

Reducing or eliminating **artificial scarcity** might involve:

- Utilize means to evade and circumvent staged scarcity (use open culture, open source, volunteer, share, recycle, reduce, reuse, ...)
- Do not allow yourself to be dominated, by scarcity, cheating, coercion, or otherwise. Do not be a bystander.
- Procure and devise means to automate the provision of daily needs, so that you can free yourself from those who attempt to dominate you.
- Consume what you really need to achieve your purpose and reduce what distracts you from your values and your purpose.
- Do not overproduce, neither destroy overproduction to create artificial scarcity and hence increase market prices.
- Accept longer delivery times for products produced to your order and as such contribute to eliminating overproduction and consequently waste and pollution.

Economy

Modern economy is defined as the production, distribution, and consumption of scarce resources by the means of supply and demand regulation through monetary markets.

For sustainability, we must **redefine economy** to strive replace scarcity with **abundance**, consumption with **need**, demand with just **distribution**, forced human labor in production with **automation**. We must add to the definition the concern of **sustenance** of basic needs and provision for personal development needs, we must enhance the definition with the concern for **environment** and moral **sustainability**, and the overarching objective of happiness.

The original Greek meaning of economy, was the management of household resources with focus on material goods. Today, we must extend the economy definition (economy is for people, i.e. to maximize “eudemonia”, not the narrow objective of financial wealth or greed) and consider recent scientific, societal, and technical developments (e.g. the digital world, where, by the nature of the medium, there is no practical scarcity).

Dependencies for perilous economy:

assure sustenance through labor income > involuntary or forced labor (modern slavery) > excessive production to market > ubiquitous availability > fast delivery > oversupply > artificial scarcity mechanisms > fulfill wants > waste > pollution

Dependencies for sustainable economy:

fulfill needs > demand fulfillment > fulfillment production > elimination of waste and pollution > majority unemployment

Sustainable economy is ultimately based on a **pull principle**, where no overproduction, with all the consequences that plague contemporary economy, happens.

However, the sustenance of each individual through paid jobs cannot be assured with such a pull approach. If people act responsibly, only consume what they need, and no overproduction happens, then no jobs are needed to overproduce and create our contemporary pollution and environment destruction.

Ultimately, the contemporary **perilous economy** functions because many people need to assure sustenance by creating income at the peril of the environment (waste and pollution, hence “perilous economy”), and many other related detriments.

Therefore, the main question is that of **transforming** the perilous economy into a sustainable economy which must be the focus of rigorous, critical, and unbiased scientific **investigation**.

Sustenance

In the perilous economy **sustenance** is defined by **work generating monetary income** that can be **exchanged with goods and services** that sustain our needs.

We must therefore investigate the way sustenance can be assured and at the same time how work must be transformed in order to transform the perilous economy into a sustainable one.

Beyond sustenance, the fulfillment of needs is the core focus of economy. We adopt Maslow’s hierarchy of needs to analyze the various areas of needs that need to be fulfilled in a sustainable economy.

Hierarchy of Needs

- Physiological Needs (water, food, air, shelter, sleep, clothing, health, sex)
- Safety Needs (personal, emotional, sustenance security, well-being, protection, healthy environment)
- Love and Social Belonging (relationships, reputation, esteem, recognition)

- Self-actualization (achievement, self-esteem, pursuing goals, values, meaning, purpose)
- Transcendence (becoming one with all, becoming god, no separation from nature, complete presence and awareness)

How many of those needs can be catered for by the contemporary economic organization?

We argue that **physiological needs** are the focus of the perilous economy, while the remaining needs are either pretendingly catered for, or the excess of physical goods mixed with biased emotional manipulation are rather distracting or even detrimental to achieving the remaining human needs.

It has also become increasingly obvious that extending commercial principles (competition, profit, artificial scarcity, pollution, share value) to common heritage and sustainability is not working out.

New **evolutionary ways of sustenance** and transformation of work for physical sustenance, distraction, and pollution must be further investigated.

Goods

On a daily basis, we do **need and utilize** a wide range of reusable or single-use **goods**. Some examples are: Food items, pots, cups, cutlery, water, gas, electricity, toilet paper, clothes, tooth paste, tooth brush, pajama, bed, sofa, computer, books, journals, ...

Those goods are utilized by those who **work for their sustainability** and produced by those who **work for their sustainability**. Having a closer look at how work interacts with sustenance may shed a light on how we may evolve towards a sustainable economy and hence a sustainable society.

There are goods that can be created individually or only collectively due to lack of skill (knowledge and practice), material resource, or time.

We distinguish goods that can be obtained by extraction or produced

- **prospected** raw materials that are easy to obtain from the environment given some knowledge and basic tools (e.g. water, apples)
- **extracted** raw materials that are more difficult to obtain and require advanced knowledge, and practice or a process (e.g. ores, honey, cork)
- **made** individually by a single person, requiring little practice, given the knowledge, material, tools (e.g. toothpaste, cooked food, cleaning service, teaching)
- **created** artisanally, requiring skill (knowledge and practice), given the material and tools (e.g. shoes, clothes, furniture)
- **produced** industrially, requiring knowledge, practice, advanced machines, given

the complex input materials (e.g. mobile phone, computer, washing machine).

Hence, we distinguish goods by what is required to produce them:

Goods provenience	Skill: Knowledge	Skill: Practice	Skill: Process	Input: Materials	Means: Tools	Means: Machines
Raw: prospected	need	-	-	-	need	-
Raw: extracted	need	-	need	-	-	need
Raw: produced	need	-	need	-	-	need
Made: individual	need	-	-	need	need	-
Creative: individual	need	need	-	-	need	-
Manufactured: artisanal	need	need	-	need	need	-
Produced: industrial	need	-	need	need	need	need

Different good origins require different combinations of skill, materials, and means, while some of the goods available today can be created through any of the three approaches - individually, artisanally, or industrially; an example could be a piece of furniture, bread, cosmetics, energy, or software.

Examples of different good types:

Good or Service Provenience	Example
Prospected raw material	water, air, foraged fruit, foraged herbs, foraged mushrooms
Extracted raw material	gas, crude, ore, earths
Produced raw material	electricity
Made individually	processed food like bread or pickles, cooked food, clothes, tooth paste, furniture
Creatively created individually	Non-physical works of art, software, books, news, journals, magazines
Manufactured artisanally	pots, cutlery, ceramics, toilet paper, clothes, tooth paste, furniture , bed, sofa
Produced industrially	pots, cutlery, ceramics, toilet paper, tooth paste, furniture , bed, sofa, tooth brush, computer, tv, radio

Many of the goods we require can be made individually or artisanally, though there is a wide range of necessary goods that can only be produced industrially, at least for the time being; for example complex electronic devices.

Those researching a sustainable society may wish to concentrate on bringing industrial

production closer to home (artisanal or individual):

- **standardize hardware parts** by use and dimension, power, other specs, but not by manufacturer,
- **engineer** small-scale, open source **domestic energy generators**,
- **engineer** open source **hardware tools and machines** for domestic, individual, or artisanal use,
- **engineer open source domestic items of use.**

Energy

We have excluded energy from the previous discussion, though it may be worth considering the various forms of energy that could be created and also consumed to power individual, artisanal, and industrial scale production.

Energy type	Individual		Artisanal		Industrial	
	Create	Consume	Create	Consume	Create	Consume
Man power	yes	yes	yes	yes	-	yes
Horse power	yes	yes	yes	yes	-	-
Wind power	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Water power	yes	yes	yes	yes	-	-
Solar power	yes	yes	yes	yes	-	-
Photovoltaic power	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Biogas	yes	yes	yes	yes	-	-
Hydrogen fuel cell	yes	yes	yes	yes	-	-
Fossil gas	-	yes	-	yes	yes	yes
Fossil coal	-	yes	-	yes	yes	yes
Fossil fuel	-	yes	-	yes	yes	yes
Atomic power	-	yes	-	yes	yes	yes

We observe that:

- all forms of energy can be consumed by individuals, and artisanal producers
- not all forms of energy can be consumed by industry
- not all forms of energy can be produced by individuals or artisanally

- **man power** is the energy form that can be consumed but **cannot be produced on an industrial scale**

Man power is an extraordinary kind of power that:

- cannot be produced on industrial scale (only individual families produce children)
- is required to keep the industry producing
- is the only source of skill and knowledge, therefore
- cannot be automated (for skilled tasks, for the time being)
- must be motivated in order to be efficient
- must acquire experience or practice to be efficient
- must be educated in order to be effective
- Can be coerced, enslaved, abused, bullied, as men depend on income from work for their sustenance

Work

Considering that industries depend mainly on **man power** and that many employers utilize immoral tactics to extort maximum man power from each individual at reduced costs, and also considering the vicious cycle of the perilous economy, we must question the current approach to work, and evolve towards a more sustainable way of utilizing individual man power for a **sustainable and prosperous** society.

We must define a viable vision of work, for example:

- People shall not be forced to work for sustenance.
- People shall work voluntarily and derive fulfillment from work.
- Sustenance and basic needs can already be provided by machines in agricultural and industrial processes today.
- Distribution can already be done by machines.
- Raw materials mining can already be done by machines.
- Raw materials processing can already be done by machines.

Some of the perilous cycles can be transformed into sustainable cycles with alternatives to perilous work approaches and motivations:

Aspect of Work	Perilous Economy	Sustainable Economy
Forced labor	sustenance need > subjecting to forced labor > impossibility of individual sustenance production	evolutionary: individual sustenance production > individual consumption > excess exchanged on local market
	excessive production to market > ubiquitous availability > fast delivery	demand fulfillment > production to fulfillment (non-perishable goods) > accepting slow delivery

Overproduction	excessive production to market > overproduction > waste	production to fulfillment (non-perishable goods) > elimination of waste and pollution
Competition	Competition > price loss > loss of sustenance	Abundance > invalidates competition
	Competition > income loss > artificial scarcity mechanisms	
	Competition > efficiency gain > automation	
	Competition > lockout of competitors > secrecy tactics	
	Competition > secrecy > loss of work efficiency by security concerns	
	Competition > secrecy > loss of work efficiency by repeated production of the same work in multiple systems	
	Competition > secrecy > loss of standards and compatibility between goods	
	Competition > secrecy > loss of work efficiency by patent wars	
	Competition > secrecy > multitude of ineffective professions shuffling contracts, money, laws, people, propaganda, advertisement, expositions, ...	
Ineffective professions	Competition > ineffective professions > high costs for individual customers and end users	
Automation	Automation > production efficiency > unemployment of man power	Individual production automation > reduction of work time > time gain for personal development
Employment	Employment > coercion > loss of health	Self-employment > contracting > maintain health
	Unemployment > loss of sustenance > work value erosion	Individual sustenance production > need for property
Work value	Man power value based on demand & supply > work value erosion	Manpower from intrinsic motivation > work is a value of itself
Competence	Man power value based on perceived competence > leader's emotional incompetence > acceptance of extortion tactics	Manpower value is absolute (time based) > extortion attempts are vane
	Man power value based on perceived competence > extortion tactics > unjust division of income	Basic income for everyone > additional income for those who work
	Man power value based on contracted not real work time > loss of motivation > burn out	Self-employment > self-regulation of work time > real work time valuation

Valuing work by monetary means has proven widely unjust in the perilous economy:

- Slavery equals work value to nothing
- Underpaid are undervalued workers
- Justly paid is determined by supply and demand
- Overpaid workers stratify the society
- Increasing automation drives work value towards zero

Inevitably, sooner than later, the **cost of human labor** will reach **zero**. There is already an ongoing substitution of human labor by automation. In agriculture and industry this substitution is highly advanced, in other areas it is progressing (e.g. services, medicine, entertainment), in some aspects it has yet to gain momentum (e.g. governance). Fact is that those employed today are the builders of this automation which tomorrow shall produce our sustenance. Therefore, **unconditional universal basic income** paid by those overpaid owners of **automation capital** shall be a decisive factor for future sustainability and stability.

Equal valuation of work effort is another stepping stone towards social sustainability. **Time-based currencies** could facilitate the sharing and exchange of services and resources in ways that contribute to a more just, equitable and sustainable world.

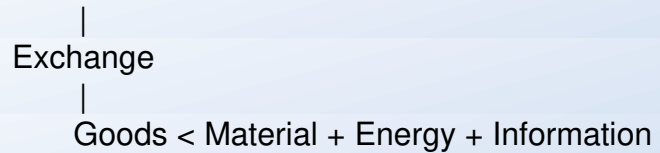
Exit routes to transforming work for sustainability and prosperity:

- **Securing sustenance** from **individual** production
- **Securing sustenance** from **automated** production (universal basic income)
- **Local decentralized material** goods production and exchange (re-localization)
- Transformation of **local markets from push to pull** (“I go and pick up what I need”)
- **Software assistance** for matching market supply and delivery of perishable and non-perishable individual and artisanal production goods
- **Global exchange** of open knowledge and commons goods
- **Independent work** to individual work hours and geographic preferences (transforming extortion into contractual obligations)
- **Intrinsic motivation** (“I want to achieve”) replacing extrinsic motivation (“You do what I tell”)
- Transformation of **industrial and governing organizations** from hierarchical monarchies or dictatorships toward **partisan objective based cells**
- **Equal valuation** of every person’s work effort with **time based currencies**
- **Employee participation** in company’s gains and losses, decisions and obligations

Exchange

An individual has limited possibilities to create all his items of need. Therefore he relies on other individual producers to supplement his needs through **exchange** of his production against other goods.

Material + Energy + Information > Goods



Exchange usually involves supplementary services required to make exchange goods available to others. To a very large extent economy is consists of the supplementary economies of transport, fuels, hubs, advertisement, banking, insurance, taxation, customs, trade wars, and so on.

Most of the **supplementary economy** does not add much value to the quality of life (except the income generated through secondary services to sustain an ever growing population, or the political lullaby of economic growth as the pinnacle of happiness).

Technologies exist to allow minimization and avoidance of overproduction, and throughout the full exchange cycle and supply chain like e.g. electronic product catalogs, make to order, direct delivery. Turning toward local production first together with global goods exchanges can solve many problems like waste, pollution, workplace bullying, erosion of local producers.

As any technology, also new technologies that contribute to a sustainable society are exposed to abuse, manipulation, coercion, political usurpation, and so on. Therefore, technological development must be accompanied by personal development and awareness building by participants in the sustainable economy.

Debate

Novelty is beneficial for neuroplasticity. Debating our thoughts and points of view may **clarify** those for ourselves, as well as deliver new arguments that may enhance our thinking. A form rendered optimal for topical debates are online discussion forums. The strength of forums is that they usually offer separated discussion threads for different topics.

Global educated debate is hosted and encouraged on following sites:

- <https://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Wikidebate>
- forum.philosophynow.org
- onlinephilosophyclub.com/forums/
- thephilosophyforum.com/
- philosophy.stackexchange.com
- reddit.com/r/philosophy/

Those are the places that will open your horizons, in case your local groups are buried too deep in the cave of shadows, for your own taste.

Exit and Evolve

While it is not possible, nor is it recommended, to transform the current world order radically or forcibly, it is advised and possible to progress in a **two-lane manner**:

Perilous Mainstream	Exit and Evolve
- perilous economy	- sustainable economy
- ideology	- philosophy and awareness
- distraction	- values and purpose
- convenience	- truth is inconvenient
- artificial scarcity	- abundance
- material consumption	- material need
- pollution and destruction	- evolution and prosperity
- emotional precariousness	- emotional stability
- motivated by appearances	- essence awareness
- blind spoon-feeding	- responsible pull
- ignorance, ingenuity, infantility	- wisdom, creativity, teaching
- external authority	- self as authority

While many will remain and follow the **mainstream society**, everyone may gain awareness and assume the responsibility to **gradually exit the mainstream** and be a driving force and a **member of the sustainable society**. We may achieve this transition in singular aspects at a time, and not necessarily all at the same time.

The **technology** to create a sustainable, healthy, and humane future has been available for 300 000 years. It is called thought, contemplation, awareness, consciousness, presence, mindfulness, mindsight, or neural integration. We just need to use it.

About The Author

I was born in the communist era in Lower Silesia, the south-western part of Poland. The year 1968 saw a series of movements not only for the independence from the claws of the communist capitalistic dictatorships throughout eastern Europe but also the hippie movements of northern America and west Europe. It was the time of profound ideological changes and the year in which the world has given me the opportunity to participate.

Having spent a happy childhood in vicinity of beautiful mountains, I had many opportunities to enjoy nature at its best during long hikings, skiing weekends, pick-nicks, or simply being in the gardens or fields of both my grand parents, playing in lakes, sees, and rivers, watching the sailing regattas my parents participated in, or simply hanging out with my cousins around the campfires in my uncles orchard while my family gathered together barbecuing sausages to go with the vodka. Growing up always in touch with nature, with cold snowy winters and mildly hot summers, made me appreciative of her beauty and magic and I have never since lost the touch with her always enjoying every minute of it. It is in her maternal bosom where the inspiration is born and ripens.

As my parents were very fond of camping and could afford the traveling, I have been in touch with different cultures from very early in my life, having known most of the south-eastern part of Europe starting with my second year of life. The virtue and passion for traveling remained engraved in my person and after completing my engineering studies in West Germany, where I have been living from my twelfth year of life, I have embarked on some amazing journeys mainly throughout the remaining Europe, South East Asia, and a tiny part of East North America. I am very grateful for those experiences that opened my eyes to many diverse realities.

At the time of publishing, I have been sustaining my family with a job in a multi-national corporation which has been giving me the opportunity to gain many insights into the workings of economy and capitalism as the drivers for technological advancement and wealth propagation.

Since my childhood I also had a strong interest for technology. Flash Gordon being probably the first science fiction movie I had a chance to watch, I was since then fascinated by everything that had to do with cosmos, science fiction, and computers. I had a personal computer from the middle of the 1980-ies, almost right from the beginning of the time where computers started to be pars of our private lives. Though I have learned roughly half of the past and present programming languages, I have never entertained any interest in exploring this know-how in any entrepreneurial matter.

The turn-around came only very recently. It was in the year 2006 when I have finally decided to put Linux on my home box. The operating system was already very famous throughout the world with countless distributions available for those willing to make a change. Naturally being in touch with the idea of open source I have gained a strong interest in the workings of this community driven approach and was at the same time amazed about the impact that this kind of non-coordinated individual contribution could have on society and economy. The decentralized partisan collaboration worked well and I was eager to experience it myself firsthand. In the same year I have started to look for an open source project in which I could contribute, make difference, and at the same

time learn about the dynamics of the idea and community.

Currently I am living in Portugal, and besides my paid job, while not spending my time with my family on the beach of the Atlantic Ocean or on the fields in the valleys of Serra de Estrela mountains where I inspire myself, I am helping develop the Vega Strike space simulator game or thinking about how to advance toward the idealistic utopian society I would be happy to live in.

It is an exciting life journey. While I know that I will not see the society develop the way I envision anytime soon, I also know that I am not alone and invite you to jointly embark on this voyage.

References

- [1] Henry Makow. *Surviving the New World Order*. 2007-12-21.
<http://www.henrymakow.com/surviving_the_new_world_order.html>.
- [2] Wikipedia. *Propaganda*. Last modified on 2008-07-22.
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Propaganda>>
- [3] Henry Makow. Comments in *Obama's Slip Revealed His True Colors*. 2008-04-15.
<http://www.henrymakow.com/obamas_slip_revealed_his_true.html>.
- [4] Serj Tankjan, System Of A Down. *Money*.
- [5] Freedom House. *Freedom World Report*. 2008.
<<http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=363&year=2008>>.
- [6] World Freedom Atlas. 2008. <<http://freedom.indiemaps.com/>> .
- [7] Race To Feed The World. Channel News Asia. 2021.
<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/video-on-demand/race-to-feed-the-world/>.
Retrieved 2021-06-19.
- [8] Solyent Green. Richard Fleischer. 1973. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soylent_Green.
- [-] Henry Makow. *Making the World Safe....for Bankers*. 2008-07-18.
<http://www.henrymakow.com/_by_henry_makow_phdfrom.html>.

Research Pointers

This chapter contains some initial thoughts, starting pointers for further investigation or technical development, on topics that may contribute to a sustainable future.

Commons Library

A global commons library should be endowed with the following features

Check	Feature	Description
	Be of global focus	
	Be in English	
	Host libre licensed materials	
	Should operate as a non-profit	
	Be collaborative	
	Host diverse media types	Images, movies, ...
	Limit empty entertainment without benefit materials	A definition is required, see below
	Uses Universal Decimal Classification (UDC) bibliographic and library classification	It is an open format
	Uses universal archival standards	MIME, ISO8601, UTF, open codecs, and many more ...

A library may be **hosted** on a central server or **distributed** on the InterPlanetary File System (IPFS).

Research topic: We want to limit the availability of transient information and content that is distracting (rants, memes, watch cams, ...). How to define a creative work of art that is purely distractional and does not contribute to individual growth? A clear definition of such a distinction is required, as it even does not exist today, e.g. for social media. This definition would be necessary to define a library which limits the collections to socially and humanely useful exhibits. The Memory of the World Programme calls for the preservation of valuable archival holdings, and as such may have a definition of what is "valuable" and worth preserving (holdings of universal value, to be of such significance as to transcend the boundaries of time and culture, excludes vanity products).

Research topic: A global libre cataloging system is required too, as UDC, and DOI seem

to be behind a paywall. CrossRef API (<https://github.com/CrossRef/rest-api-doc>) may help to retrieve cataloging data, e.g. (https://api.crossref.org/works?facet=category-name:*)

References

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universal_Decimal_Classification
- <http://www.udcsummary.info>
- <https://docs.ipfs.io/concepts/what-is-ipfs/>
- <https://support.datacite.org/docs/doi-basics>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Index_Content_Model
- https://www.doi.org/doi_handbook/DOI_Schema_Release_Notes.html

Common Cultural Heritage Preservation

Never, ever, pay for software, games, books, music, photography, painting, movies, or hosting services. The principle of reciprocity is most widely applied in this area of life and there is a vast universe of open content licensed work available out there on the internet. It's probably more than you can consume in your life-time but to give you a head-start, here are some beacons to point you to the right sources:

Open Content Media	Sources
Open Culture	openculture.com archive.org commonslibrary.org meta.wikimedia.org
Encyclopedia	wikipedia.org
Learning, courses, tutorials, historical documents	wikiversity.org wikiversity.org > journals wikibooks.org wikisource.org
Arguments, debates	wikiversity.org > debates
Dictionary	wiktionary.org
Software and Games	linux.org/dist/ sourceforge.net

Books	your material local library gutenberg.org bookcrossing.com wikibooks.org standardebooks.org openlibrary.org openbookpublishers.com
Audiobooks	librivox.org
Image, photography	commons.wikimedia.org search.creativecommons.org
Painting, digital art	deviantart.com librearts.org
Music	jamendo.com
Movies	
Travel	wikitravel.org wikivoyage.org

Further search keywords: free open source software, linux, creative commons, open content, list of digital library projects

Besides using open licensed works, we may become modern Robin Hoods and force copyrighted work into reciprocity. I do not want to encourage stealing actual physical goods from somebody as this is an abominable behavior. However, in the digital world of abundance there is no moral harm done and copyrights only serve as childish means of enslavement comparable to small children in pre-kindergarden:

"I've painted a butterfly", says one kid.

"Can I see?", asks the other.

"No, because I don't want you to paint one like that", replies the first.

It is **immoral** to support copyright laws and mechanisms that prohibit the humane need and pleasure of sharing especially in the areas of digital data, knowledge, and ideas especially when copyright law is a pretext for creating artificial scarcity, slavery, and . It is like forcibly stripping us of our culture, incarcerating and enslaving our souls. Therefore we must engage in **unlawful and moral** behavior by sharing the naturally common digital material where sustainable. As with any power, before considering such an approach it is our **challenge and responsibility** to assure that genuine creators are remunerated, rewarded, and their sustenance is not jeopardized.

Research topics: With sustainability in mind the moral framework must be further

elaborated, defined, and detailed, as well as exact definitions and information must become available on what content (moral unlawful) is eligible for **sustainable commons sharing**. Maybe one example will help: recent findings in neuroscience help understand ourselves and work towards a healthy life. We do not need to share copyrighted books, but we may summarize important points in a text of ours and publish it as a libre work.

Complex Systems

Complexity theory examines systems that are capable of becoming chaotic and are open to receiving input from outside themselves.

Properties of complex systems:

- **chaotic**: it can have chaotic behavior
- **open**: it interacts with outside of itself
- **interactive**: forms relationships among the elements that interact to compose the system
- **emergent**: self-organization emerges from the interactions among the basic elements that comprise the system
- **integrative**: a system that evolves toward complexity is the most stable, coherent flexible, and adaptive

Moving toward complexity requires energy.

Complexity is the golden middle way between rigidity (zero energy) and chaos (uncontrolled energy).

Interpersonal relationships are part of complex natural systems. Those are families, groups, organizations, or societies that behave like complex systems.

Research topics: Balanced diversity (stability) is good and necessary, but wasting energy (chaos) is not. We have yet to devise approaches, methods and tools, to **consolidating complexity** without restoring to paralysis or explosion of chaos, especially in social and political systems. For example: xenophobia is rigidity and therefore a path to (moral, ideological, philosophic) extinction, immigrant flooding is chaos and thus not sustainable. A balanced (sustainable) global approach is required.

Natural Time Currency

In the beginning was barter. It was inconvenient. We defined shells, metal plates, ornate paper, styled plastic, crypto-electrons as acceptable mediums of exchange.

Then came the powerful and usurped the right to create currency; and underpay services, and indebt friends.

Then the rat race commenced.

Then emerged the outstanding ailments: credit, interest, exchange rate, volatility of value.

And thus a new system of servitude evolved.

Fast forward to another time (and maybe galaxy) and imagine.

We are born with a natural currency in our possession - time. We exchange time for knowledge, skills, money, energy, sustenance, luxury, power.

Underlying all exchanges is still the currency of time that bears some unique properties:

- it is immutable in value
- it is created naturally at a constant rate
- it requires no proof (of authority, of work) except ownership
- creation thereof is not transferable
- earning is not transferable (producer persons get revenue)
- value (prices) is unchanged by supply of money

We use time as production value:

- it takes 1 hour to grow 10 kg of potato
- it takes 1 hour to create 1 W of energy
- it takes 1h to cut hair
- it takes 1 hour to extract 2 kg of iron ore
- it takes 1 hour to melt 2 kg of iron ore into 1 kg of iron (accumulated cost is 2 h per 1 kg iron)
- it takes 1 hour to create iron scissors using 0.2 kg of iron (accumulated cost is 1.4 h)

We use time as currency of exchange and source of wealth and prosperity:

- The producer naturally creates 24 h per day (basic income) time currency. In addition, he creates 1.4 h of income from the sale of scissors.
- The customer naturally creates 24 h per day (basic income) time currency. He uses 1.4 h to buy scissors.
- a group of 20 people together produce 1000 kg of apples in 10 days (10 h per day). Each person earns 5 h. Each kg apple costs 0.1 h.

Further discussion:

- we eliminate the effect of oversupply of currency (as production value and price remain unchanged)
- people not able to work still earn a basic income
- the extrinsic motivation to work remains and is currency (time) earned

- bad players will attempt to game the system (debt, fraud) if you let them (so means of prevention and education are of major importance) and spoil the fun by the mere fact that they exist, which is not a problem of currency but a social problem (of education, policing, deterrents, prevention, civism).
- time based currency still represents desired basic functions: medium of exchange, unit of measurement, store of wealth
- transfer of currency (contractual) problems (donations, credit, debt, welfare, taxes, producer/consumer relations) remain unchanged
- credit is a social problem of contract, not a problem of currency; credit creates contractual dependency that may result in unlawful indenture (law problem)
- transfer of currency (donation, borrowing, credit) is like buying transactions; no distinction here
- interest is unlawful creation of value; interest is biased and a prejudice to one party, does not represent interests of both parties; interest is replaced by service costs to administer the credit; service cost depend on work invested but are independent of credit value
- a patient (without savings) requiring expensive apparatus that costs more than the basic income rate is paid by donations or credit.
- transfers between producers and consumers
 - 1 producer : 1 consumer - direct transfer
 - N producer : 1 consumer - split of income to all producers
 - 1 producer : N consumer - split of payment to all consumers
 - N producer : N consumer - split of payment, split of income
- tax is not a currency problem; it is a problem of managing investment; e.g. common infrastructure (road, rail, well) must be paid by all citizens before availability (investment), e.g. 1000 h building costs for a small village of 10 calculated over 10 years requires an annual fee of 10 h per citizen over 10 years or 100 h immediate invest from liquid sources or from savings. Tax is an alternative for managing common savings and is a governance (political) management problem.
- inflation is part of the problem of value and volatility of value of currencies (as is exchange rates, disparate monetary value of work hour between regions, national buying power) which is remedied by a time based currency.
- the value of goods is an economic management problem of uncoordinated production and procurement, of undervalue (oversupply) or overvalue (overdemand), not a problem of currency.
- time based currency eliminates artificial adjustments of currency and product values; therefore it eliminates regional differences between continents and nations; therefore it eliminated the need for regional production specialization; therefore it makes local production sustainable; therefore it reduces pollution from transportation.

Takeaways derived from the above discussion

- many of the problems related to money today are not currency related problems, i.e. those problems will not be solved by changing the currency type.
- some problems with money (volatility, value, inflation) can be eliminated by utilizing a natural time based currency.

Dictionary

- money is the conceptual abstraction of financial assets and transactions
- currency is the practical implementation of money

First published in 2021 on <https://fediverse.blog/~ /AgainstDarkManners/natural-time-currency>.

<https://www.community-exchange.org/> is a global network that facilitates the sharing and exchange of resources in ways that contribute to a more just, equitable and sustainable world.

timerepublik.com is a global time currency and services exchange. Exchange money, goods, or resources is not supported.

Some regional time currency banks are timebanks.org, timebanking.org, timebank.org.uk, sevaexchange.com.

mastodon tags: #againstdarkmanners #consciousnessevolution #feelandreason #personalgrowth #society blog tags: againstdarkmanners, consciousnessevolution, feelandreason, personalgrowth, society

<https://fediverse.blog/~ /AgainstDarkManners/time-based-currency>

Education

Emotions can stand in the way of a valued life. We deal with our own emotions throughout our entire lives. Emotions those that are propagated from our ancestors, through our parents, from our infancy throughout our adult lives.

Learning to accept our emotions and transform them into positive action must become educational curriculum if we ever want to build a sustainable and prosperous society.

Therefore the **education system** must evolve to include and favor emotional education in parallel with plainly functional and technical education.

Your **call** is to create school books that promote compassionate, humane, mindful, sustainable education for a comprehensive philosophy, ethics, and awareness education from kindergarden to professional life. Those may be published for example on wikibooks.org.

Politics

Lots to do in politics as the main exchange hub of ideas for sustainability:

- Privatization of government services does not bring *any* direct benefits for the citizen and therefore must be categorically negated.
- Persuade governments to abandon GDP as a unique measure of a complex society (ey, sincerely, even in your car you measure at least tire pressure, and tank fill level) and instead adopt a happiness index for your country or region, like for example the social progress index, SPI (socialprogress.org).
- “And Employment For All” Yey! What a damned bold lie! Force your government to explain how politics can force neo-liberal capitalist tyrants, kings and queens to hire all population. How can employment be even an objective for a country.
- Research universal basic income in the context of sustainability and automation. Convince your governments to introduce UBI and to finance it from the industrial automation (already paid by us “faceless” consumers).

Economy Without Waste

Also called **circular** or **zero-waste** economy comprised of the aspects: repair, reduce, reuse, remanufacture, rethink, recycle, recover, reclaim, respect, redesign, reimagine.

It is quite an engineering feat to make products that **leave no trace** when they become obsolete (like those biodegradable sneakers that grow flowers if you bury them).

Your **call** is to openly engineer them and make the designs available to the common heritage.

Property

Property is a scarce good that must used, consumed or transformed in the process of production, even if that process is human sustenance.

Ideologies negating **material property** to individuals have failed and are bound to fail. Property is security and safety and if we cannot rely upon that, all other social structures will be affected negatively.

Tyrannies granting “**intellectual property**” are destined to fail, too, since not sharing is akin to stagnation, and stagnation is death.

Stupidities granting **common resource property** to selected few will fail, because they are unjust and immoral.

A comparison of property attributes may visualize why different approaches may be required to different property types.

Resource Type	Attributes	Abundance	Property	Use
---------------	------------	-----------	----------	-----

Produced Individual Material	Can be reproduced Individual property Individual use (lent individual use)	abundant	individual	individual
Produced Communal Material	Can be reproduced Common property Shared use or individual usufruct	abundant	common	shared
Natural Individual Resource	Cannot be reproduced Common property Individual usufruct	scarce	common	individual
Natural Common Resource	Cannot be reproduced Common property Shared use	scarce	common	shared
Knowledge	Can be reproduced Common property Shared use	abundant	common	shared
Unique Creative Material Works	Cannot be reproduced Individual property Individual use (lent individual use)	scarce	individual	individual
Abundant Creative Digital Works	Can be reproduced Common property Shared use	abundant	common	shared

There exist more abundant resource types, more common property resources, and more shared resources. Nevertheless our concurrent laws forcibly squeeze all resource types into the scarce-individual-individual, which is unnatural and therefore emanates tension that must be liberated.

Research topics: The topic of property is a complex one being the focus of economic considerations for centuries. Nevertheless, still many definitions and interdisciplinary studies are needed to create a just and sustainable property system. For example the idiocy of making abundant resources artificially scarce must be changed in sustainable society laws.

Reciprocity

The way people are able to **sustain** themselves has to achieve **complete reciprocity** in the sense that all natural resources of this planet belong to all of us and must be consumed among all of us. The principle of reciprocity, that is applied in the domain of free and open source software development and usage, must be extended toward material goods production, distribution, and consumption, but on a much larger scale

than it is being done today, for example by sharing your own garden overproduction with members of your family outside your own household.

In order to achieve complete reciprocity, we must be able to obtain **independently and without monetary costs our primary raw materials and energy** required to produce our goods that can be provided openly to those who require them.

In order to be able do so, there must be **abolishment of taxes** and their primary cause, the **governments**, as well as other institutions which mean to uphold the status quo rather than contribute to evolution. Those institutions include countries, football clubs, churches, even some interest groups with dubious agendas. This, on the other hand, can be achieved by ways of **responsibility** and **sovereignty**, which can only be reached with high levels of **education** and **philosophy** (or spirituality, not to confuse with religion).

Understanding

Endless bickering, misunderstanding, conflicts, or wars have been witnessed because many times, though we mean the same thing, we do not agree on the individual expression of the meaning of whatever is the topic of concern. This topic that we have on our mind, that we want to express, transmit, visualize, and make understand, is not engraved in our cognition with words but rather as abstract images, or concepts.

So we must translate our inner world of **concepts** and the relations between them. Those concepts however are **individual** because our life stories are individually different. And our life experiences promote different connections between the neural linguistic and the experiential and memory centers. It is therefore common that different persons use diverging descriptions of the same kind of concepts. An thus, where patience, awareness, openness are missing, conflicts arise.

The way to resolve this type of conflicts is twosome:

- Individual awareness training mentioned many times throughout this book
- Precise definition of those concepts or terms we are trying to discuss.

Too many times, we witness discussions without previous agreement and common understanding on the definition of what is being discussed or debated.

Therefore it is imperative to agree on the basic definition (look it up on wiktionary.org) of the debated term before diving into argumentation.

Research topics: The propertarianinstitute.com proposes a system for “Truth-before-Face regardless of cost”, following a scientific process (a checklist) for testing Testifiable (Truthful) speech, that is usable in court, usable in public speech, and usable by anyone willing to do the work to learn it.

Problems

There are many big and small problems we can work on in common, that is cooperatively, morally, and with the objective of achieving sustainability:

Climate Change, Biodiversity, Factory Farming, Aquaculture - Industrial farming, Fish Stocks, Fish catch per capita, Deforestation and Habitat Loss, Access to Safe Water, Ground Water Contamination, Sanitation, Food Distribution, Food Waste Per Capita, Undernutrition, Child Mortality, Child Protection, Human Development, Human Rights, Literacy, Factual Education, Holistic Education, Cultural Extinction, Diseases (AIDS, ...), Soil Degradation, Human Population and Growth, Population Density, Energy Supply, Arable land per Person, Fertilizer Consumption, GDP per capita inequality, Wealth Distribution, Debt Service, Farm subsidies, Government Debt, Warfare Spending, Warfare Income Consumption, Nuclear Waste, Genetically Engineered Foods, Welfare Rate, Migration, Government Oppression, Pseudo Democracies, Government Taxation, Social Security, Unemployment Rate, Healthcare, Pensions, Crime, Terrorism, Racism, Mental Diseases (Psychopathy, Megalomania), Consumerism, Suicide Rate, Moral Attitudes, Global priorities research, Dependencies (Cell Phone, Internet, TV, Games), Long-term sitting on one's bum, Traffic and Jams, Parking Space, Clean Public Toilets, Ironing clothes, House Cleaning, Healthy Cooking, Hydraulic fracking, Mountaintop removal

Some pointers to continue the necessary research:

- <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/01/what-are-the-10-biggest-global-challenges/>
- <http://ec.europa.eu/COMMFrontOffice/PublicOpinion/>
- <http://www.globalissues.org/>
- <https://80000hours.org/problem-profiles/>
- <http://www.openphilanthropy.org/>
- <https://www.quora.com/What-are-some-global-but-small-everyday-problems-waiting-to-be-solved>
- <http://theholyccontent.blogspot.de/>
- <https://www.scribd.com/document/47196265/The-World-Citizen-Constitution-and-Definition-and-Color-of-a-Civilized-Society>

Measuring Success, Wealth, and Well-Being

By changing the way we measure our success, we can adapt our behavior.

There are various forms of wealth: intellectual, social, individual, natural, produced, financial. We often mingle political (social), time (individual), experiential (intellectual), and cultural (intellectual) wealth.

Wealth depends largely on sustainability, and sustainability is tied to continuity of capital: wealth in the form of resource or asset. The various sustainability types are degenerative, generative, procreative, informational, conservative.

Here are some pointers to data and social measurement of our world.

Data analysis and visualization of the state of the world:

- <http://www.theglobaleducationproject.org/earth/index.php>
- <http://data.unicef.org/>

GDP counts all expenditures as positive expenditures, and this is why the current economy has become predatory. Bhutan measures success not by GDP.

Social Progress index is another interesting measure:

- <http://www2.deloitte.com/global/en/pages/about-deloitte/articles/social-progress-index-results.html>
- <http://www.socialprogressimperative.org/global-index/>
- <http://www.socialprogressimperative.org/global-index/>

Demographic data

- <http://data.worldbank.org/>
- <http://databank.worldbank.org/>

Reading Juice

There is much to learn, if you are curious and open, too much to ever read entirely. And everything you ever need to know to become a wise and aware person, has already been written.

This chapter lists some of the notable masterpieces that may catapult you very quickly into a heightened state of awareness, and maybe even allow you to skip the one or other excellent book.

Again, this is not exhaustive, not binding, and carries no warning signs. Assimilate at your own risk and pleasure.

Consider that there is also much wisdom to be found in everyday life, for example in famous quotes, colloquial wisdom, proverbs, and sayings.

You do not need to study philosophy. Best, because humane, philosophy is found in works of art.

In recent years, there is also more integration between science and philosophy, for example in cognitive sciences, or interpersonal neurobiology, as such it is always beneficial to study interdisciplinary topics of interest.

Giacomo Leopardi

Actually he was a poet, though we consider Leopardi one of the greatest philosophers of all time and declared founder of nihilism. All his works masterly combine philosophy and art. But particularly his pessimist treaties on the human condition, especially life and death are enlightening.

Alan Watts

The philosopher and gifted speaker lectures in the western cultures on eastern philosophies. Through his musings he deconstructs both, eastern and western cultures, and opens your eyes to the transcendent universal philosophy called essence of reality, also called "absolute truth". Amazingly transformative and eye opening.

Miguel de Unamuno

"The man of flesh and bone; the man who is born, suffers, and dies - above all, who dies; the man who eats and drinks and plays and sleeps and thinks and wills; the man who is seen and heard; the brother, the real brother".

If you have read Unamuno, you have read all philosophy. Not much more must be added to give you the igniting understanding on how the integration of emotions and thoughts is essential to a fulfilled life.

The Stoics

They were many stoic philosophers, just web search them. They build upon the tradition of the founding fathers of our cultures, abandoned metaphysics for the love of observable truth and were the first to prescribe what cognitive therapies and neuroscience are able to prove only today as the basis of health, happiness, and sustainable societies: perception, action, will; in neuroscience mindsight terms: observation, objectivity, openness; in cognitive science terms: awareness, defusion, acceptance; in mindfulness terms: presence, equanimity,

The stoic thoughts and guidelines are highways from mental darkness into the light, from hell to heaven, from demon to god. And the best thing is: the texts were written as reminders for the authors only, hence there is no deception, influencing, or any other manipulative intention. Pure essence and the power of truth. They will catapult your life light years forward in your personal development.

Interpersonal Neurobiology

An interdisciplinary, first of its kind, framework about integrating the body and mind complex. The ability of life long learning, and the premises for a healthy life (focused attention, aerobic exercise, novelty, emotional arousal) are grounded in this work.

Highly scientific, highly philosophic, and a work of a man of flesh and bone, "Mindsight" will create a new perspective on your life.

Against Dark Manners

The "Against Dark Manners" blog (<https://fediverse.blog/~AgainstDarkManners>) has many interesting contributions discussing contemporary problems of mind, economy, society, and proposals for evolutionary approaches. It is a precursor and a company of this publication.

Definitions

Cognition: The human cognition is a relational and embodied process that regulates the flow of energy and information.

Wisdom: Possessing awareness and knowledge, and apply both for a course of action (based on values).

Money is the conceptual abstraction of financial assets and transactions.

Currency is the practical implementation of money.

Metadata: An item of metadata is a relationship that someone claims to exist between two entities.

Theology: a system (paradigm) of organizing populations for the purpose of obtaining their obedience.

Ideology: a system (paradigm) of organizing populations for the purpose of influencing political policy.

Philosophy: a system (paradigm) of organization and decidability for the purpose of satisfying particular preferences.

Science: a system (paradigm) of organization and decidability for the purpose of producing universally coherent descriptions.

Law: a system (paradigm) of organization and decidability for the purpose of universally resolving disputes.

Grammar: paradigm, vocabulary, logic of internal consistency with that vocabulary in that paradigm. For producing references (nouns), states (phrases), transactions (sentences), stories (ledgers) of changes in state (operations), by continuous recursive disambiguation.