

‘A Question of Future’

Prologue

Time imparts a sort of dull numbness on those of us already on the other side of that sine wave of life. With the assistance of gravity, the final downward journey seems not only faster, more prone to dangerous rocky outcrops, but often, with the light of day so far behind us, we can barely feel its life-giving warmth against the back of our aged necks. The fact is that after time has wasted us within this, our calamitous world, we have endured so much of the negative, that it is nigh impossible to see even the possibility of change. Century after century we evolve spectacularly in all the wrong areas, and when life itself retaliates, slither back

like dark serpents, to find solace within the refuge of our monoliths of greed and techno-accumulations. In our arrogance we have deemed ourselves heroes and then, to make matters worse, we spite the lives and beliefs of others, in order to justify our own concept of right and actions enacted for the betterment of our kind. When will we learn?

I dream of utopia, a world where humanity cares for humanity regardless of creed or colour, resources are shared and indifference to the plight of others is replaced with compassion. I am not alone. I know that. But can this dream become a reality? Is this utopian world simply a flight of fancy? I think not. I believe that if we can visualise this utopia, see it in our minds, it can become real. After all, it is how all that has come before us came into being. First there was an idea, then a process and finally an achievement.

So whom do we trust, who can we rely on to guide us toward this better way of life? Government? Religion? World Leaders? I think not, because they are simply the point of the blade, the voice and therefore propagators of the greed. So how do we reverse this conspiracy of life, this abomination of so called civilised society? The

answer is simplicity itself; it starts with us, you and I.

We have allowed the world to become what it is because we have said nothing, sat back and watched ourselves deteriorate, become desensitised and accepting of a world of hate, racism and greed. No one else is to blame- not governments, not religions, not leaders, but each and every one of us. We let it all happen. We watched and said nothing, and as long as it didn't affect us, we slept soundly in our cosy beds.

So what is wrong with us? How could we let this injustice take place? Human beings are flawed. Our evolution may seem spectacular to us, but we are children, driven by primeval urges. We judge, hate, we are jealous, greedy and ambitious. We dream not of being happy, but having more than someone else, being better than someone else. Until we learn to control these urges, we can never live in a successful utopian society; we can never live in any society that will work, whether it is communist, republican, democratic or calathumpian. The fact is clear that no concept of social structure can ever be successful until the urges for power, corruption and greed are overcome.

So how do we begin to affect change? Those to whom we have given power are in turn governed by other powers, all based on economic factors. Without this economic power there can be no ascension to political power. The leadership is simply a pinnacle, with a tiered structure beneath, of those people with whom the power and assets of the power must be either shared or at least of benefit to. In order to maintain political power, there must be a mass communication to the general public to sustain support and the belief in the direction of the governing body. Today this is the most prevalent and decisive aspect of political power- the media. Technology is now the means by which the world operates. What we see, we believe, and what we approve of and vote for is ultimately governed by television and what is presented to us. Those in power have the ultimate weapon, the ultimate manipulation of reality.

Look at it this way. Our world is in a state of constant war. What do we watch on television and at the movies, and at home on videos? We watch war, conflict, and horror- we are inundated by it. So why do we want to watch it, why are we so interested in watching hate, destruction, gore?

Perhaps we are not. Perhaps that is what we are taught to watch and taught to accept.

Governments of the world, nearly all of them, rule by fear of one kind or another. People driven by fear are easily manipulated and will respond in a predictable way. This way, governments can enact their agenda with little interference. With the general populous in fear, it is not difficult for a government to show how protective it can be, with police, armed forces or whatever. Without the government, there is no safety. Without aggressive foreign policy, the odd invasion, dominance and control there can be no safety. All of this is over-ridden by commercial gain and governments are driven to success and maintaining power by this very fact. So who is controlling whom? That is a very good question. The answer to that is so complex it is almost unanswerable. The cycle of greed, scratching backs, blackmail and manipulation has been going on for so long, no one can remember who started it, only that we always have to consider all the benefactors. The bottom line is that if we don't arrest this cycle, then nothing will ever change. This cycle is ingrained in our thinking, every one of us. If we never question it, how can we ever expect change?

I for one want my kids to grow up in a world of peace and prosperity, not a world of struggle and conflict. Utopia is certainly a long way off, but there must be a start and soon, before it's all too late.

The magic word here is money. How can we overcome a structured society that is driven by, and the powers that be, exist because of, money? The answer is simple. We the general public have a power far greater than we think we have. Imagine if we all decided not to see movies about war. Soon the studios would realise that they wouldn't make any money if the public wouldn't pay money to see the movies. So they would then make movies about subjects that the public were interested in.

If the general public refused to watch TV programs that were violent or immoral, how long do you think it would take the TV stations to change their format? You see we have the ultimate power and the catalyst for change- how we spend our money. It all gets back to us. If we revert to our animal instincts and urges and continue to support a society that feeds on negativity and the worst aspects of life, then there will always be a world that reflects that acceptance. Should we change this cycle, then the world will change as a consequence.

If we accept fear as our motivator, then we open the door to our worst fears.

The amount of guns and deaths by guns in America is a testament to this fear. That society is filled with fear; fed it day after day on hundreds of channels showing graphic pictures of war, crime, corruption, greed and propagating the fear of race, religion, terrorism, foreign attack etc. In Canada, there are more guns per capita than in the US, but only a fraction of the gun deaths. Why is that? That society is not governed by fear- not inundated with negative reinforcement.

In Australia we are very lucky to live in a society that is relatively safe, and free from a great deal of what is going on in the world. But we are heading in that same direction. We, the people, of not only this country but also the world, must make some important decisions, and soon.