

RANT

Now I don't want to get off on a rant here, but there are things going on in the world today that are lost causes. The looming coincidence of global warming, fresh water shortages and peak oil, coupled with the societal conditions of today are such that any political, economic, environmental, social, judicial, educational, cultural, religious, animal welfare or humanitarian endeavor is rendered moot.

Consider - in 1800 the human population of this planet was about one billion. After WWII it was about 3.5 billion. Today it is quickly approaching seven billion, and by 2020 it will be about 8 billion! Assuring this mass of humanity a reasonable standard of living is making irreversible destructive demands on the environment. All of the calls for recycling, preservation, ecological awareness or any other effort to preserve nature is increasingly lost in a population largely unaware and actually uncaring (if it disturbs their effete consumerist way of life) about a natural world considered an adversary or resource supply rather than a living-breathing being with which we co-exist.

It is thought education is the key, that the greater number educated, the greater number that will attain a meaningful life and contribute to society. But to educate this growing mass of humanity is an exercise in futility. Their sheer numbers preclude the necessity of even a basic education as anything beyond this is largely wasted. They are evermore being given knowledge of things that are becoming less necessary as computerization and robotization perform an increasing number of tasks while those tasks needing human labor of increasingly of a menial, repetitive nature that do not justify a large remuneration. Indeed, the glories of enlightenment ideals are being lost on this human tsunami to whom such ideas are irrelevant since their lives are ever more focused on existence.

Those animals that titillate the effete expectations of this oblivious population are completely lost to them as part of the living, breathing biosphere that has feelings, fears and a great perplexity as to why they cannot live the lives to which they had evolved: Many are slaughtered without compunction being considered pests, or, as well fed humans well insulated from the rigors of nature, exercise the "sport" of "hunting", or torture them with blood "sport". Others are subjected to the cruelest of trials in so-called "research laboratories" in which modern day doctor Mengeles inflict the most macabre of "tests" in the interest of determining which chemicals or conditions are best in "the interest of mankind." Others are killed – euphemized as "culling the herd", to keep their numbers from overwhelming their continually shrinking "parks" to which they've been restricted. **Of course no controls are ever put on the human species that breeds without restriction and whose increasing needs always impacts the rightful place of all other species.** Even more unfortunate are those wild animals confined in "theme" entertainment parks or in zoos. But they have an easy life compared to many domesticated species: Many kept as pets are never allowed to live the way to which they evolved, being caged, chained or deprived to be who they are. Most egregious of this are those who run "puppy/kitten/bunny mills" where the females are bred constantly to exhaustion, and where their lives are spent in cages living on wire screens. Not much better are those bred and raised for their pelts, the fur trade being one of outrageous cruelty, especially since most of the animals are considered wild, with effete wearers completely oblivious to those lives wasted so they can strut their "position." More unfortunate are those kept as a food source – caged, penned and yarded so that their ability to provide food (for humans) is maximized at minimum cost each – none allowed to live the ways to which they had evolved.

The flora are impacted even more severely. Whole forests are destroyed – without any concern that they are habitat for many other species – either to create needed space for humans and to supply raw material for lumber, paper, etc. Much of this is used and thrown away; lumber, paper and other

products are never considered as once having been living things being considered instead as being easily disposable and readily replaceable.

Even the Earth herself cannot avoid being degraded by the human tide, with its pretence of filtering or recycling its increasing output of garbage, sewage and other chemicals polluting her ground, her waters and her atmosphere. Her natural processes are increasingly denied as more tracts of land are taken for golf courses, vast housing spreads, shopping malls, business and industrial “parks”, recreation areas (golf courses, stadiums, etc.), military bases and graveyards – this last in honor of a species that has become the planet’s cancer.

Several coincidences in the last half of the 18th century led humanity to its present predicament. The dawn of the scientific age, the use of coal – later to be supplemented by petroleum – to fuel the beginning of industrialization. From this evolved today’s consumerist economy – and consumerism is the antithesis of a healthy planet – with the philosophy that EVERY individual, no matter how infirm or incompetent, has the RIGHT to live like everyone else: The right to live where he pleases, work where and at what he pleases, eat whatever and whenever he pleases, recreate however and wherever he pleases and to breed as many as he pleases.

But global warming and peak oil are placing this rapacious juggernaut in danger: As human population overwhelms the earth destroying all of nature – eating everything that grows, swims, crawls, walks and flies and using everything else – to satisfy its decadent needs and thereby minimizing the heretofore characters of civilized society, all of those attributes once considered civilized – justice, literature, culture, art, music, science, philosophy, etc. – will become rolled into one authoritarian hegemony. This will become necessary as cheap energy – that enabled humans to think they could reproduce without restraint, and enabled their societies to support this growth – begins to run out. Despite all the pie-in-the-sky talk, no other liquid fuel has the same calorie per gram content of petroleum. Yet the great mass of humanity tries to continue its course by thinking “alternatives” can become used, never realizing that the basic supplies – steel, aluminum, plastic and others – can only be produced in the quantities needed by using coal and petroleum. If the many billions of the human species manage to survive global warming, the end of cheap energy will bring societal strains that will make necessary the eventual “womb-to-tomb” control and regulation of the majority. By necessity human society will become – as the earth is stripped of all of its flora, fauna and mineral wealth to satisfy the consumerist life-style – not unlike that of the ants or the bees: A vast triple-caste system in which the huge majority will exist at the behest of and totally controlled by the state as their fortunes decline. There will be a middle class – the “technocrats”, those who’ve been “educated” – i.e.; trained to their occupation – who serve to maintain the machinery of society. At the top is the elite, blue-bloods and CEO’s of huge global corporations – Eisenhower’s Military Industrial Complex – whom the other two castes serve. Moving about in the nether-world between the middle and upper classes will be the politicians and clergy who support themselves by maintaining the fiction of democracy and the predilection of the lower class to rely on myth and religious definitions of reality.

When humans ate the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge, they lost being in awe of the magnificence of Nature. By learning Her rules, Her methodology and Her reasons, She became familiar. Nature became known, he trivialized her and therefore useful in ways unintended. He turned and began to destroy Eden by trying to control, regulate and direct her ways. She and her denizens found themselves being increasingly marginalized as the great cancer of civilization slowly strangles Her.

Since the 18th century, too many couples have had three or more children that lived to breeding age. Today, if you have three or more children, you are part of the problem. Only when there is a **SERIOUS** effort to end the growth of – indeed equitably **REDUCE** – human population, can we begin to consider surviving the present crisis.

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