

## Community

From its earliest evolution, the human species has been dependent on community. Community survives when individuals don't. Community is much more efficient, much safer, and results in a much better life overall. Suddenly, we find that cheap and easy communication, manufacturing, and transportation have created a global community that, for the moment, for most people, has rendered local community more or less unnecessary. Most of the needs previously met by local community are now being supplied by regional and global sources. Cities and suburbia have almost no local community, and most of what little they have is centered on play or fear, not work, and depends on oil based transportation. Without cheap oil, it's really not that local. As the true cost of transportation becomes evident and we travel much less and haul much less freight, local communities will become increasingly physically isolated. Local community will once again become centered around the production of food. Most children are growing up with no real knowledge of the basic purposes, structures, and functions of local community when we're about to have a desperate need for it. Local community will, of necessity, reestablish, but, without much cultural inheritance, it will have to reevolve.

Climate change, overpopulation, de-evolution, resource depletion, and pollution are about to mess with us in a big way and few of us are ready to deal with the evident future. Mass starvation and plague are becoming ever more likely. For much of humanity, hunger supercedes morality. In places where, for whatever reason, people are unable to adequately feed themselves, community will need to protect itself from widespread piracy and plunder. A major pandemic would be much more merciful.