

The Fan and The Seed

There are only a few likely scenarios for the culmination of the current human population explosion.

The fundamental reason for the demise of a civilization is not the number of people, but how much they consume relative to how much their environment can sustain. Reducing population without reducing consumption doesn't help. The momentum of Capitalism has taken us far beyond the sustainable limits of our environment, and some kind of a collapse is imminent. It's no longer a question of whether the shit hits the fan. It's a question of what we do with the fertilizer on the other side.

It's time to lay the groundwork for building a new civilization.

Most of the countries of the world have the best government that money can buy and it sucks. We call ourselves a democracy, but we call the system that sustains us democratic capitalism, and we call ourselves consumers as we buy a lot of cheap crap to throw in the dump. Capitalism has failed us miserably, just as it did in the 1930's. Our infrastructure is pathetically dilapidated, the stuff in the stores is very energy, resource, and pollution intensive cheap crap, most of the money is in the hands of cunning fools who aren't spending it on the health of the community, and capitalism is doing nothing about it. Unregulated capitalism got us into the Great Depression. It certainly wasn't capitalism that got us out. It was socialism that put the people to work building the infrastructure for producing the wealth that enabled capitalism to function again.

We need a new system for organizing community energy. If we wait for government or the marketplace or some people called 'they' to fix it, it ain't gonna happen. Human energy is the most wasted resource on the planet and capitalism and government are channeling very little of it into constructive endeavor. Don't wait for government or capitalism to save our asses. Get to work. Much of the work needed to sustain a comfortable community doesn't really need much community planning, it just need someone to do it. Most of the community is too busy watching a screen or playing with toys to get the work done.

In times past, when survival was firsthand, most of the work was done without the involvement of money. Everyone pitched in, slackers were dealt with openly and quickly, it was easy to see what needed to be done, the work got done, and the community gained leverage over entropy.

The complexity of our current civilization has come hand in hand with capitalism. Capitalism worked well in the age of plentiful energy, seemingly endless resources, and lots of room out back to take a dump, but that was then and this is now. Capitalism has become an inept, inefficient, and obsolete system. In the midst of the feeding frenzy of cheap energy and big

business, we've forgotten the underlying purposes of work. No one is pulling the weeds. Instead we poison them, Monsanto style. When times are hard, instead of getting the work done, we demonstrate in the streets because we can't buy more cheap crap to throw in the dump. When I see thousands of people demonstrating in the streets, I visualize what their community would be like if they were all at work growing the food and maintaining the infrastructure that sustains them.

When we demonstrate against the government, we're complaining about where the people we elected are taking us, but the candidates were largely chosen by capitalist money and elected by the advertising money that sways the votes of the most ignorant of voters. Once they're elected, they're surrounded by the money of capitalism. Money buys power. Capitalism is the real government, so money is the real vote. So vote with your money. Be aware of where your money goes when you spend it. Show your neighbors where the money goes. Don't tell them, show them.