

Tribalism

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This writing is a description of and not a condemnation of human tribalism and its dynamics and effects. It is also meant to be an expression of love and acceptance of all of humanity, and a supportive message to the very challenging human process in which we are all participating. It is a recognition that tribalism, in all its traditionally practiced forms must be transcended and evolved out of in the near term by collective humanity. It is a description of what must now change in humanity if we want to continue to survive and if we want to thrive as a species on this planet without simultaneously and blindly destroying the planet, and with it our cherished dreams, communities and ongoing process of life. This writer has no judgment of tribalism or the ego dynamics that drive its process and sees them as a necessary early evolutionary phase of any species. That said, the prior value of tribalism has run its course and for many reasons must now be fully and consciously surrendered and transcended, not vilified. Tribalism can only be transcended via unconditional loving self-aware consciousness, education, and functional social modeling. This requires intentionally chosen heightened valuation of all of humanity and of the natural environment. This shift in values must occur within individuals and the human collective, nothing else can achieve this goal. Human beings have free will and this sovereign power must be applied if we wish to achieve higher purpose, goals and our greatest potential.

One of the reasons we are now required to fundamentally change as a species is due to the simple increase in human population itself, another is our collective habitual ignorance of and indifference toward our global process of polluting the planet and of how this blind tendency is destroying our living environment. Tribalism would say that this is “our world” as if it were a possession to be done with as we egoic-ally choose. We have followed this course and tendency to our collective detriment, without learning from our prior choices, and without counterbalancing conscious understanding, discipline and wisdom, and this tendency must now change. I would suggest that continuing to operate from such an egocentric, simplistic and non-adaptive vantage point is literally deadly to our species.

Other species on our planet have always had barriers to unfettered proliferation, (i.e. geographical limits, limits of temperature, limits of the boundaries of mountains or of continents, limits of naturally occurring food sources, predation by other competitive species in the local environment keeping their numbers in check, etc.). Humans no longer have any of these due to our development of empowering technologies. Therefore, previously natural ecosystem influences and dynamics have not ruled or limited us for a long time now. All that is left to hold back humanity’s further rapid population expansion is lack of resources, available territory to expand, our willingness to destroy ourselves or each other, and the broad spectrum destruction of our natural planetary living environment as a result of our technologized life process. We are now even trying to develop new technologies to get past these seeming barriers, still without being required to fundamentally change, be self-accountable, evolve or learn as societies and as a collective species. Without these remaining and substantive limitations nothing would stop humanity from “destroying our way” to ever greater numbers and taking even more from the planet, without any adequately comprehensive forethought or consideration of the results of our actions. Our population is currently projected to grow from 7.5 billion to over 9.0 billion people by 2050. It is up to us to now intentionally choose to be intelligently self-governing in new and more adaptive ways.

Our only option now is to learn to govern ourselves more consciously and intelligently, and with greater wisdom and discipline, greater love and caring and greater respect for each other and the natural world we co-inhabit and are

dependent upon with all other species. We can do so, if we simply recognize the requirement to do so and then willfully choose to do so. This goal of attaining collective survival of humanity and earth's other species can be accomplished via immediately accelerating the evolution of humanity. By doing so we can collectively transcend our traditional modes of life and society and decision-making and thereby learn a completely new way of life process and existence that is healthy for all of humanity and the planet and all of its co-inhabiting species. Currently 600 species are going extinct per day, COVID19 is ravaging our global societies and global climate change is accelerating. We must now intentionally choose to "learn to learn" a different way than we ever have before and comprehensively change our developmental course.

Tribalism, in all its gross and subtle forms, is killing our species, most other species and the planet. Tribalism is a vantage point and ongoing dynamic of "us and them" as well as a vantage point of "us Vs. them". It is even a vantage point of us Vs. the planet and us Vs. every other species on the planet, soon it may appear to be us Vs. the destructive climate changes we have ourselves created. Tribalism is a process of voraciously consumptive individual ego-identity that has been expanded from an individual ego process to a group ego or even a national ego identity. It is a vantage point of constant comparison of self and other, of polarized and polarizing values and goals that are then operated from viscerally, blindly and subconsciously whenever we make decisions, take actions or interpret the meaning or implication of any moment of life. It is a dynamic of fear of not being in control as a social group, and as individuals within the social group. Tribalism is a globalized manifestation of the fear of all individuals within groups operating at the level of the semi-conscious group's sense of "we and us". Tribalism itself is what may rob our children and all future generations of human beings of their God given birthright to a healthy abundant beautiful natural world.

Tribalism is based upon a historically preexisting predisposition toward distrust, judgmental-ness, fear for the safety of the tribe and for the safety of each tribal member. Placing the wellbeing and desires of the tribe above all other considerations. Tribalism has become a species developmental glass ceiling and is a literal species level learning disability. Tribalism is also a key ingredient in the formation of culture, shared group consciousness and of tradition itself, so it is an insidiously subtle influence on our world that drives us and determines our choices, without our realizing it is doing so. Tribalism is not wrong, bad, evil or unacceptable, nor is the human ego process in its current moment of evolution bad or wrong. They are simply vestigial developmental phases and tendencies that were required for humanity to grow and evolve to the point that it currently has, and now they no longer have either value or functional purpose, nor can we any longer afford to operate from them. They now cost far more than they offer us. Their toxic and toxifying effects, metaphorically similar to the pollutants released from burning diesel fuel, can no longer be tolerated by the planet or by our societies. Paradoxically, it may be the fear of the toxic and destructive effects of tribalism that eventually leads to the demise of tribalism, just as one thorn can be used to dig out another thorn from one's finger. (i.e. One fear driven tendency or fear producing situation can drive us to collectively face and transcend another more profoundly detrimental fear driven dynamic). The fear of the detrimental effects of tribalism may motivate us to evolve and to develop a completely new form of global social process. Still I would suggest that while our fears are part of our evolutionary process, that conscious and willfully chosen love is also key to it and perhaps the salvation for us all, if we choose to rise above our processes of fear. (See the book: "A World Without Fear", for methods of transcending fear comprehensively and permanently).

Tribalism is a globalized fear, safety and control strategy and a species level "habit" that has become codified and concretized into national identities, traditions, politics, legal systems, systems of economics and social culture in all of its previous and current forms. It is also the traditional mechanism by which hierarchical society has been organized and structured and then concretized to our collective limitation and detriment and has thus generated seemingly intractable social and political problems. Tribalism is driven, guided and organized by the ego dynamics of desire and greed. It conditions humanity to seek social status, attention, power, control, sex, money and ever more time to "enjoy" them.

Tribalism is the all-encompassing and underlying rationale that we use to say that it is okay (i.e. to destroy our world and each other in order to feed our families or our nations. It is based in primal survival drives and subconscious feeding instincts and is so unconscious and pervasive as to render us blind to it. Tribalism generates various forms of group think, including that of "us Vs. them" forms of patriotism, and therefore tribalism supports toxic competition, waging war, and terrorism

in the name of keeping the “homeland” or the tribe (whatever tribe we belong to) safe from “them”. Tribalism is judgmental-ness of other groups and willingness to fight other groups just waiting to happen. In reality we are all them to some other tribe!

Tribalism is literally a sociopathic dynamic of rationalized willingness to destroy and compete against any perceived or imagined other or “projected enemy” because “we” are better, more important, special or more right than “they are”. Any form of imagined “betterness” is mere illusion and is used as fuel for battle, control and competition. There are no human beings that are better than any other human beings. Tribalism places the primal drive, greed and human desire above the wellbeing of the planet and all its species. It is what supports our endlessly feeding on the planet and polluting and toxifying it without our being willing to also be accountable for our actions or being willing to fundamentally change ourselves so as not to destroy the very ground we walk upon. It also rationalizes all groups of humans predatorially feeding upon each other, whether the mode of feeding is economically, socially, religiously, politically or emotionally through judgment of the imagined others wrongness or intentionally choosing to see them as different and “less than us”. Tribalism precludes and shuts down the emotional processes of empathy and compassion for the planet and for all of humanity. Therefore, we become numb and unable to care about everyone else that are not us or our tribe (even the tribe of family).

Tribalism is not and cannot in any way ever be truly and unconditionally lovingly inclusive and unconditionally supportive of all of humanity because it only wants others to “join the larger or better tribe”, the newer better version of the tribe, or the safer or more powerful tribe, and thereby to conform to the new tribe’s norms, values, rules, beliefs, decision-making tendencies and expectations, and by doing so to then assert control over those who have joined the tribe, and feed off of their contributions to the tribe. To even operate from the tribalized vantage-point of “all humanity is one” is only to say that all of humanity is part of a larger tribe. Anyone who operates within any group, no matter how seemingly well-meant in their intentions, beliefs or values, and brings these energies, feelings, habits, tendencies or fear driven control or safety strategies is corrupting of the consciousness of a non-tribalized group of human beings. This is not to say that healthy group and nation interaction and social process is not possible and feasible, it is to say that in order for this to occur we must all choose to change now. We must transcend traditional tribal tendencies, and consciously define a new way forward for humanity.

The only way forward for humanity from this moment on is to transcend and evolve out of tribalism and tribalistic fear and its associated ego-driven tendencies. If we try to continue with tribalistic dynamics as a prerequisite to the development of any organization or social movement, even if we do so with the well-meant illusion that any “they” must someday become the “better us if they just learn how”, then we are still only replicating a more complexified form of tribalism and judgment of others process or way of life, to the human species collective defeat.

The only solution to tribalism is consciousness and love, the only antidote to fear is love and the only path to unconditional love without fear is through attained unconditionally loving, compassionate, consciousness. From this conscious vantage point all are loved and understood to be worthy of love, all the time, without requirement and without condition. From this vantage point all can be supported, facilitated, helped, nurtured and nourished. From this vantage point none are excluded via hierarchy, social status, bias or prejudice. From this vantage point we are all worthy, valid, recognized to be lovable and of realized value. From this vantage point we can all learn to change, to love one another and to survive in the world and to ensure that the natural world and all its beautiful species survive too. From this vantage point we can see all other human beings as our own innocent children and continually love and care for them as such.

There are many fundamental and constructive steps that can be taken to efficaciously resolve tribalism globally and individual ego locally. Some of them are:

- Ongoing collaborative dialog on various internet platforms.
- Ongoing education as to other non-ego based social management, cultural development and relationship management options.

- Development of multiple “Councils of Elders” in every nation, including thought leaders, philanthropists, and enlightened economic “movers and shakers” can work together with all other strata of tribalized humanity to facilitate catalytic positive and constructive near-term change.
- Methods and techniques for transcendence of individual ego and ego process, and larger scale tribalistic dynamics.
- Methods of healing the historical cultural wounding that often holds tribalism in place and creates a rationale for its continuance.
- Methodical resolution and transcendence of the process of fear at individual and group levels, including traditional and cultural fear projections and safety strategy focuses.
- Ongoing education as to the overall human mental, emotional, energetic and spiritual process necessary to transcend ego process and its large-scale tribalistic manifestations.
- Conscious individual and group intention setting, meditation in all its forms, energy healing work and prayer.
- Facilitated transcendence of the influence of the consensus consciousness on individual and group cognitive and emotional dynamics.
- Global development of empowering constructive social dynamics and movements that tend to assuage fear and mistrust, by helping all peoples to understand each other better, and which are based upon open large-scale collaboration in the achievement of collective goals for the common good.

World Systems Solutions, a non-profit organization is being formed now, it is being designed and envisioned to become the antidote to tribalism and a catalytic globally collaborative mechanism for generating conscious loving healthy community. It is an engine of global service and of healthy global transformation. It is being designed to be the antidote to tribalism and competition and to develop a model of what humanity can become and evolve into via the freewill process of humanity. The WSS organization must never become a “we or an us”, there must never be a perceived “them”, there must never be any group, organization, person, political system, religion, culture or nation that is looked upon by the consciousness or the subconscious of the expanding WSS process with mistrust, judgment, desire for control or requirement of conformity to any of “our” better values, beliefs or principles. No human is bad or wrong, and even though many tribes demonize other tribes there are no demonic human souls. There are only those humans who still function from tribal tendencies, from ego, from fear, from ignorance, projected mistrust, habits of greed or the simple lack of other perceived options as to how they could live life, survive, thrive, and make decisions or achieve their goals, and feed their families. If we do not choose to understand these truths consciously and comprehensively, we will only recreate tribal dynamics of fear, safety seeking, mistrust and control seeking. Otherwise we will only knowingly or unknowingly seek to create “a better tribe” that will then fail humanity in its time of greatest need. Even if we work tirelessly to recreate a better tribe, it will only be a better tribe that cannot survive the effects of its own unconscious life process.