

Our One Possible Solution

Let's start with the good news.

When one looks at the data of almost every indicator of worldwide human progress with clear eyes and brains, it is immediately apparent that we have come a stunning distance in a very short time. From extreme poverty to the education of girls, from the birthrate per woman to the advancement up the income scale, from crime rate to life expectancy, almost every parameter trumpets our success.

This data is available from the UN and other unbiased researchers. But it is almost universally ignored and never reported in the press.

Read Hans Rosling's *Factfulness*. It is one of the most important books out there. But if you don't want to bother and you're willing to learn how very wrong you are about most things in the world, take his test at <http://forms.gapminder.org/s3/test-2018>. I can almost guarantee you'll be amazed. We really do have good reason to be proud of how well we are doing as a species.

Now the bad news.

There are two titanic exceptions to this, our environment and our political institutions.

The corruption, especially in the US, the degradation of our democracy and ecology, our inability to work together for the greater good, could well wipe away how well humankind is doing in so many other spheres.

Let's face it friends, as living beings we are facing an unprecedented crisis that could destroy our way of life or even our species. Unless enough of us are willing to clear our eyes and brains, face this and become friends enough to join together and do something about it, our cushy lifestyle or our very lives are doomed.

The ecological balance of our world is far more fragile than most people are willing to accept. I didn't much like the movie *First Man*, but when he remarks upon how thin our atmosphere appears when viewed from beyond, it rang a bell.

Our oceans are far closer to dying than almost anyone on Earth understands. They produce thirty percent of our oxygen and provide sixteen percent of our animal protein. All the ice in our world is melting far faster than almost everyone comprehends. And if our bees and other pollinators go, that's another thirty percent of our food supply and eighty percent of our wildflowers. And epic fires, droughts, storms, floods, inundations, with their concomitant mass migrations, and exotic new viral plagues are only more and more likely if we don't do something to stop them.

I know many people who already feel it's too late, many who think manmade climate disruption is a hoax and many who welcome our demise with warm-hearted fervor as the fulfilment of their religious prophecies. But I am one who feels that we really are meant to be shepherds of our living, vibrant, biosphere and, yes, when needed, of each other. And I believe in the possibility that our species, in the end, has by far the potential and more not to fail at this. We already have and know the solutions. We are just not implementing them.

But our situation is critical. And our problems are gargantuan. So only an earth-shaking solution could possibly work.

It is my experience that Martin Luther King, Jr., was not only the best spokesperson for the new paradigm our species has produced, but that he was also prophetic. Towards the end of his life, he repeated the same theme over and over:

“A radical revolution of values”

“A radical redistribution of economic and political power”

“A radical restructuring of the architecture of American society”

Another way of expressing this is ‘a great leap forward,’ like The Leap Manifesto that Naomi Klein and her sixty Canadians came up with in 2015 or The Green New Deal that our up and coming, concerned young minds are trying to bring about now. Such things may presage what will actually work or, who knows, be the turning trigger themselves.

We have come to the point where, if we are to survive as a species at all or in the manner in which we are accustomed, we must somehow bring this about.

The time is now. It is do or die. Soon it will be too late.

But what can we possibly do?

With our government bought by the fossil fuel industry, the biggest corporations and the wealthiest families, our two-party gridlock and our minds, thoughts and dollars being distracted towards the most ridiculous things, what’s our path forward?

I have written a small book about this called *A New American Evolution*. Consider reading it.

But consider this, as well.

We must find a mighty stick to fracture our fossilized infrastructure. Twists and tweaks won’t do.

In order to bring about the tremendous changes we need in the little time we have, we must be willing to look at something which everyone seems to find utterly terrifying and extremely dangerous, but which is so less dangerous than what we already face it’s ridiculous. And it really could be far more brilliant and beneficially world-changing than reckless or damaging.

As a still relatively free citizenry and with states less corrupt than our national government, we need to arise, join together and utilize the one tool built into our Constitution by our wise forefathers that has always been available but has never come about since our Constitution was created. We must push for a Constitutional Convention.

After the one we had at the inception of our nation, there was consensus that more was needed. So George Washington and his cohorts brought the first ten amendments into being. They are known as the Bill of Rights.

Since then, seventeen other amendments have been added, usually because the states started to get close to a convention and this so frightened Congress and the President that they acquiesced and gave the people and the states what they wanted.

But now it’s time we finally had another. It’s the only way we could bring about the changes necessary in the time we have.

Read *A New American Evolution*. We could accomplish more than you know.