

Brothers, sisters et al – 2009 May my LAST Haranguing Hurrah!

If haranguing is defined as “writing characterized by strong feeling” then I accept that term and I am aware that what one of you refers to as haranguing emails are no longer effective if they ever were. **In the past 5 years**, I have tried to present concise, enlightening synopses of information from a wide range of books and many thousands of pages (see page 4). Most of you have cared not to read my email digests carefully or at all, lest a ripple crept into your comfortable complete attachment to - *The Matrix** - our modern day, *Modern Times- Chaplin*. Nevertheless, I have to hold onto shreds of hope that somewhere deep inside the heart of one or two of our family members is a budding intimation that we may perhaps be screwing up as a ‘globalized’ industrial society. I have summarized herein, concepts repeated throughout emails or other writings summarizing modern readings. * *The Matrix* 1999 “... reality perceived by humans is actually a simulated reality created by [the Matrix] in order to pacify and subdue... while their... bodies are used... [to keep the Matrix functioning].”

We WANTED the BEST for our Kids!

Where did we go wrong?

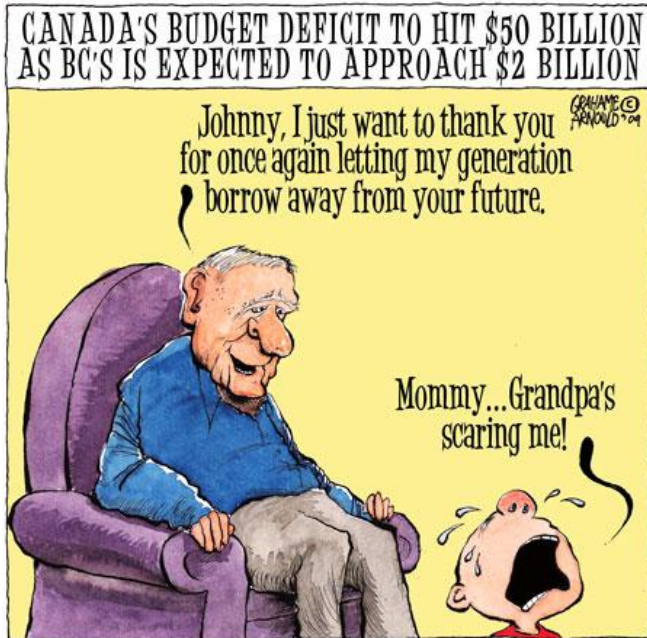
When did we go wrong?

Why can't we break the cycle?

Why do we keep electing the Campbell / Harper types?

Why can't we Stop the insanity?

How did we get to the point where our own soft and gushy life and personal cushy comfort matters more than the future life & health of our kids and theirs?



At one time, our children's future was paramount; we all, especially Auntie Heath, showed them all they were a most important part of our lives. We tried to raise them to be equally caring. We were ever so selective of the food and drink with which we nourished them. Family-wide, we encouraged their sports and a healthful lifestyle; taught them that smoking tobacco was stupid; impressed on them that their teeth were important to general health- to brush, floss and fluoride “only those ones they wanted to keep for the rest of their lives.”

Some of us began at their birth to make choices for their future. We modeled reading in front of them to set an example. We “read” picture books to them before they could even comprehend what the hell we were getting at. Some of us began to make choices that would effect their future planet. Tee, Stu and Thms endured cloth diapers almost exclusively (save family dinners away to MacLeod's) and toddling bare nudnik at C-Wack Lake. Diapers were for a period, schlepped stinky for washing to shared apartment laundry and even Laundromat ten blocks away. Most families back then used the new fangled disposables, generating for each child a landslide of over 3 thousand toxic hydrogel polyacrylate plastic polymer absorbent filth that clogs landfills for evermore. Today they are even more toxic and used worldwide.

Each of our families immersed ourselves in their schoolwork and activities, fund-raising dances and carnivals, hotdog days, and book fayres because it was important to demonstrate to them that their education WAS important. To the best of our own shortcomings, we encouraged them to work hard, be organized, share and to be moral, just, patient and kind. We set an example to volunteer- in class, school and community. BUT we did not show them how to disconnect from *the Matrix* – the machine that controls our very own lives. We and their grand-folks gave them all of what they needed but that wasn't enough, some were given too much of what they desired. A few of us hounded a grand parent or two to ease up on the shower of stuff. Some of us taught them to shop at the VV-Boutique / Village de Valeur while other parents branded them.

Doing Our Small Part?

We take the bus to-and-from, once in a while; we faithfully reduce reuse recycle all of our plastic bags, bottles & paper to do our small part- thinking many small parts will solve our problem and save the world for those we worked so carefully to raise. We fool ourselves and our own kids into thinking our problem is just a matter of believing in and encouraging science to find a solution to global warming mega deaths so that our cozy capitalist consumer “full employment” lifestyle connected to the Matrix, can continue in a lifestyle that would make kings and pharaohs envious.

Today, we continue to cling contentedly connected to the *Matrix* and shun any who attempt to throw “sabots”, endeavoring to disrupt that modern machine consumer *Matrix* connection.

Too many, most, statistically almost all of us in El Norte are so subtly connected to the Matrix that we don't even realize it, for that is the nature of the Matrix. Our society and capitalism this past half century was designed that way- to make us desire.

We flip magazine and junk mail flyer pages from ad to ad to ad! TV ads take up a quarter of broadcast viewing time. We are not the person we want to be without a sizeable selection of stylin' shoes, grooming products, and vestments. We dress to feel good about standing out because without our bling image we think we are less in the eyes of those we stress to impress- to feel like a “successful” somebody. We cover our buses within and without with product promotion, subconsciously inundating our bored lives and minds with desires until they become addictive needs and the necessity to shop or escape and fly for holidays to Blanca de Blanc – undoing all our little plastic bag efforts for years. We turn down the thermostat a degree or three ignoring the FACT that one average flight is equivalent in carbon output to heating a home for a year -love miles alone are killing the planet and automobile abuse is just putting a final nail in the coffin.

Car Conspiracy Killing Us

“Our age abhors public transportation. In the middle of the twentieth century, Europeans used trains, buses, subways, and streetcars for three-quarters of their comings and goings. Today the figure is a quarter. That’s still high compared with the average for North America, where public transportation accounts for only 5% of all transportation.

“**Henry Ford** and **Harvey Firestone** were good friends back in the twenties and got along well with the **Rockefeller** Standard Oil folks. Their affection for one another reinforced a mutuality of interests that went a long way towards dismantling the railroads, and streetcars and creating a vast network of roads & highways.



“Of every six dollars spent by the average North American one is for the car; of every six hours of our life, one is spent traveling in the car or working to pay for it; and of every six jobs, one is directly related to the car.” **Eduardo Galeano** – *Upside down...*

[666 !?!?– make of the numbers what you will.]

Crazy math!

Automobile use is killing the planet AND it’s production along with all the suppliers of parts is a current focus of hope in turning the economy around world wide?!? **CNN How the Wheels Fell Off**. Ford is still running ads for the F-150 truck which now gets **26 mpg** (10.8 L / 100km) - half of all consumer road vehicles in North America are light-trucks/SUVs. Promises of more fuel-efficient small trucks, SUVs (& cars) is not a part of any solution when what we really need is far fewer vehicles on the road, thus a drastic reduction of production. Electric cars are not the answer, because in most places, (not BC) most recharging electricity is still generated from fossil fuels. We all know car abuse in North America is not going to end ’til too late– so we’re pretty much fracked – unless we look for options.

Many through inaction or voting to continue the “Gateway” bridge twinning party have shown not to have any desire in caring to worry about these issues; does this sound fair to younger persons like Daniel or other possible grandkids? We all have led hugely rich, privileged lives. If we really think (and read) about it, it’s now incumbent upon us to pass a little of it forward to those behind us. **It is now evident** that the human species continues towards its own man-made destruction.

It is now up to us in the “developed” world to decide how quickly that will happen and how many moments we have to help slow it all down. We need help in growing the army of dissenters, because the battles are emotionally exhausting and sometimes, like this last BC election, a little disheartening.

Because of our fossil fuel gluttonous lifestyle since 1950, we have condemned billions to slow death by starvation. How despicable are we in the developed world? We are collectively far worse than any genocidal “regal” tyrant ever! And don’t even get me going on

the traditional class system we grew up with. Who are the “Royal Families” anyway, *descendants by divine right?*

I know I have been “a voice crying in the wilderness” most of my life. Although, many dozens of published letters to the editor over the years usually went un-rebutted, thus were accepted.

Apparently not others like this one, published in the Vancouver Sun / Province – Dec. 2008 (\$10.5bn for GM “Canada”)

Turn Backs on GM/Chrysler

Don't Spend a Cent on Modern Horse and Buggy

Around the time of the last great depression, the automobile industry was growing. If the horse and buggy industry had come asking for a handout, they’d have been told the horse and buggy was going the way of... well, the horse and buggy. FDR’s New Deal invested in housing, flood control, hydro-electricity development, farm-aid and reform. It did not invest in horses and buggies.

When one puts together the information available in Jared Diamond’s *Collapse*: ..., George Monbiot’s – *Heat*: ... and James Kuntsler - *World Made By Hand*, one can see that what is needed today, is not a cent more for automobiles. What is needed is a massive multi-trillion dollar investment in the complete redesign of sustainable, fossil fuel free food production and public transportation.

While Spain, Denmark and the rest of the EU are investing heavily in an interlaced network of trains and buses, France in sustainable agriculture and Germany in zero emission home renovation - Harper’s Conservatives will now follow Obama’s lead in investing trillions in highway and bridge construction. They may even bail out the dying auto-industry. What? Shouldn’t that be going the way of the horse and carriage? Fifteen years from now when that money has been wasted in support of the automobile and related infrastructure like BC’s Gateway- climate change issues heading towards us like a runaway train, will make it a worthless investment. **LR**

Bandwagon Jumping

I have been at this over half my life. In the early 1970s, I was backroom stuffing envelopes and licking stamps when Greenpeace started Cypress-St.-Kitsilano. I was there when the old growth forests were under attack. I was there at UBC at the pepper-spray protest when the butcher Suharto came to shake Chrétien’s hand in slave wage trade agreements. I am there now as the Liberals continue to decimate your farm food-lands. Recycling was a useless alderman belittled joke until we worked to promote it. In Ladner, we had to deliver it all ourselves to the River-road centre. Paper recycling didn’t exist in schools until we started doing it. It is not like I’ve recently become concerned.

Many of us marched in the 1980s with Helen Caldicott to promote “*If you Love this Planet*” in an attempt to stop the instant total nuclear bomb destruction of our earth. Consumerism is a just a slower death march for the human species. Why aren’t we all now actively working to end it? Why are we so apathetic?

Our fight today is not nearly as heroic, exciting, loud or explosive as *Star Trek - Memory Alpha’s* Captain George Kirk’s final 12 minutes alive, battling to help 800 living souls survive, but it is an analogy of sorts. Our choices today have never been more important to the future of our offspring. As long as some of us are alive, we will be at war with corporate, capitalist, consumerism. I will continue to espouse that the health and food

system Cuba has today, Canadians 20 years from now will be happy with.

It's perhaps ironic that it's science fiction, which gives us our fantasy belief that the human race will continue to thrive and develop space travel to other planets and even galaxy's. We have often seen in the past that what science fiction can imagine will one day become practice. We can't imagine not reaching for the stars. Yet at the same time we are in a race to destroy earth's oceans, air and land long before interplanetary technology will ever be developed. *Soylent Green* is believable science fiction.

Not a New Rant

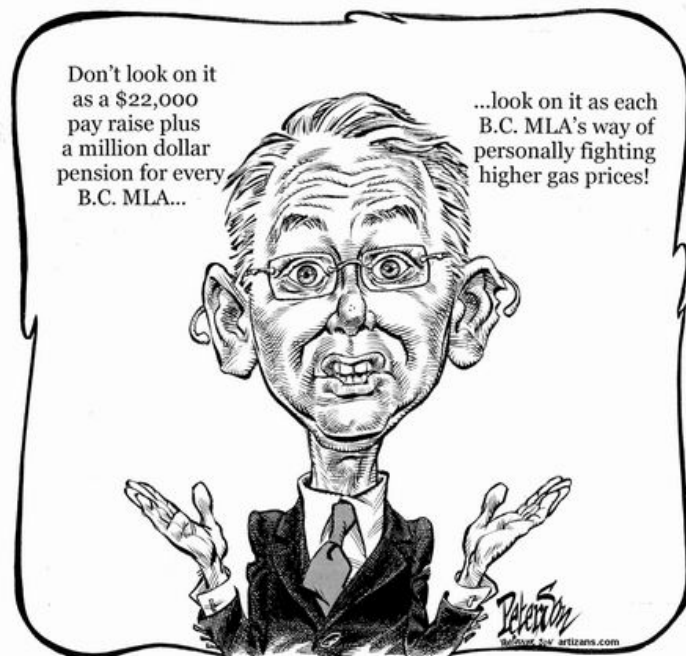
When I was 12 in Cubs, I got into a scrap with a Philip May, a sadist who was trying to burn a live garden snake over a campfire. He started swinging at me so I dropped him. His hobby was raising mice in his garage so he could chop off their heads with a homemade guillotine. Years later he committed suicide. Perhaps in his own small way he was trying to take as many lives with him as he could. The human species is moving towards mass suicide and we in El Norte seem to be unconsciously dead set keen to take out as many in the 3rd world as we can before we go.

In high school in '69 some of us were involved in making a short film about deadly toxic sludge pouring out of pulp mills into the Fraser which motivated some of us to get involved in stopping that kind of practice.

Some of us drove small cars and pooh poohed those who drove SUVs and small trucks "for fun" ever since my first VW Beetles and Honda Civics through the Volvo on LNG.

Long before 2006 and Al Gore's movie, some were yelling out, yet today, too many people, even the mutually in love Campbell and *Fraser Institute* try to downplay climate change and promote things like Gateway, growing the economy, the tar sands and a new Campbell Liberal pipe line to the BC coast.

building highways and bridges to nowhere first, transit second. Harper and Ignatieff have enticed Canadians to do likewise.



There may be some recovery for a while in this useless way to keep people employed making and building stuff we don't need to survive. Harper has given billions of Daniel's future taxes to the auto industry. In the end, we'll be farther into the hole with massive debts future generations will have to deal with, further reducing their quality of life, along with the gawd awful environment we are dumping on them. We will eventually run low on food because of Gateway and farmland decisions the Liberals are making today. Can we call for their heads on a pike then? It will be fun when Campbell and I are in our mid-late 70s and I give him a bloody good thrashing, even if it's wheel chair to chair, for what he did to BC.

Any and all of my emails to each and all of you WERE personal because OUR personal world is under deadly attack, even by our own way of life. **Personal** because unless those of us who have taken the time to read volumes of material to become enlightened, proselytize from the highest rooftops and draw more souls away from the rampant consumer - "grow the economy" lifestyle, we are choosing to doom to earlier death those who follow, far faster than imaginable.

Many years from now, if and when our children's children read what I have written these past 5 years, they may likely wonder why older family members did not understand and chose instead to ignore all the signs to continue living a life ruinous of their world. We know now that Daniel and his peers will seldom reach grumpa Read's age, and they will know it was because of us. I cannot really imagine what will they think of us then? Will they think, "That's just the way it was", and get over it? I doubt it. Likely, and I'm up for it, they'll think "It's *Soylent Green* time!"

When I hear people my age or younger telling their own kids, "We didn't know smoking was bad when we started, but you do so don't ever start." I want to chirp out, "Liar! I knew, you knew, we all knew. Some of us just chose not to." When grandkids grow up and ask us, "Why did you keep decimating the planet with your lifestyle? Why didn't you quit it, to leave something for us?" and I hear, "Because we didn't know any better. We thought science



The last hurrah!

Money market and investment portfolio managers who skim profits moving other people's money around the world, spend all their time today cheering on the markets and advising us to invest. It is now obvious that the market is just numbers based on phony stock economics rooted in what were always, pie-in-sky fiscal models, theories and math built on the sandy foundation of capitalist greed. Politicians and corporations will no doubt continue to convince Canadians and Americans to go out and buy stuff to "kick start the economy" in an attempt to pull us out of this economic depression. **Gordon Campbell has convinced BCers** that we need to go into unprecedented, deep tax debt

could fix things." I hope I am around to point them to all of my writings, which will proudly scream loudly **"You Liars!"**

Dr. Gloom & Doom NOT

I have never once ever suggested, written or said **the world is going to end**. I do not believe the world is going to end.

The world is not going to end. I believe the world is going to be here a number of billion years after humans until it is engulfed by the sun going Red Dwarfish.

However, having read a very great deal and widely in studies of human effect on the earth's environment, especially her oceans and atmosphere, and most recently again, **George Monbiot's Heat**, about insane fossil fuel related human activity since WW2, I do very much believe the human race will be lucky if they can survive at all in small primitive groups scattered around planet earth - perhaps a few million, if they are fortunate.

Moreover, I'm re-reading **Monbiot's** chapter 11 at the moment. He typed the chapter holding his three-month-old only child. *"I see too - confronted as I am now by biological reality - that even while considering the direst predictions and navigating the granite straits of thermodynamics, I myself have also somehow entertained a chiliastic belief in salvation. At the back of my mind, and I think at the back of the mind of everyone who has seriously studied these matters, is a notion that however real our predicament and the difficulties of escaping from it seem, they cannot possibly be true. Someone, something will save us. A faith in miracles grading seamlessly into excuses for relative inaction."*

We are talking here of, in-the-lifetime of **Chris, Jeremy, Justin, Amy, Taisha, Danny, Stuart, Megan, Thms, Sean, Maddy, Andrew, Spencer, Garrett, Liam, Alec and Daniel**. If any of my siblings are lucky enough to live to Grumpa's age, they'll see the dire results brought on by air-travel and consumer society as well.

I am not angry about any of this. I know that the amazing beauty of planet earth, her streams and oceans, forests and meadows, and enough of her diverse life-forms will survive, heal and regenerate, and the human species like countless others will now very likely just go extinct. We alone of all creatures ever, will be able to lay claim that we did ourselves in. I find that fascinating.

It is becoming more and more apparent with the passing of each critical year, that we are doomed as a species because far too many humans following man made religions, still believe and continue to act like humans were **given supreme dominion over and above all other creatures for all eternity**. But, I have complete and utter faith that Mother Gaia will restore her unique heavenly body, pero, sin los seres humanos.

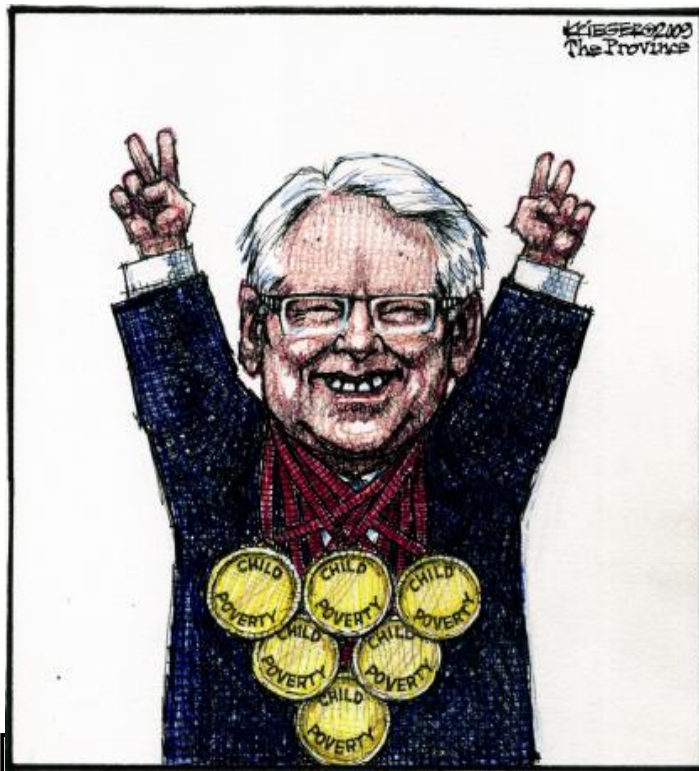
I do not think about or even care if "the sky is falling"; I am content, for I have always lived relatively simply. I now live ever more simply AND fight in my small way to slow down the doomsday machine created by consumer society. I accept fully that the addiction to "growing the economy", full employment, having stuff, flying mid-winter to sunny holidays and driving driving cars runs far too deep in our small destructive corner of the human race for most to ever give it up in time.

Even if we had begun the process of reducing carbon generating, meaningless consumerism, several decades ago, we would still have had to endure the hundreds of millions of human deaths to come. We will continue to mine tar sands and dream about sequestering "clean coal" carbon, seeding oceans with iron and clouds with water or aluminum and and and so that we may fool

ourselves into believing we can have all the stuff we want AND heal our ecosystems. Gordon Campbell has recently been green-lighted by his voters (some in this family) and is even now proceeding with a pipeline for dirty oil to Asia, energy privatization, and a Gateway to bring in our consumer goods.

We might have been able to curb this folly if many millions more of us had cared to unplug from the Matrix / the machine and read:

- **The Weathermakers - Tim Flannery** (Aussi mammologist)
- **Heat: How to Stop the Planet From Burning- George Monbiot** (British environmental scientist)
- **World Made By Hand - James Kuntzler** (American journalist)
- **Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed AND Guns, Germs and Steel - Jared Diamond** (American, PhD Biophysics)
- **Shock Doctrine - Naomi Klein** (Canadian journalist)
- **Climate Wars - Gwynne Dyer** (Canadian, PhD Military History, Senior Lecturer Royal Military Academy Sandhurst)
- **A Green History of the World AND A New Green History of the World - Clive Ponting** (British civil service, Swansea University prof. retired)
- **Open Veins of Latin America: Five Centuries of the Pillage of a Continent AND Upside Down: A Primer for the Looking-Glass World - Eduardo Galeano** (Uruguyan journalist)
- **Sea Sick - The Hidden Crisis In The Global Oceans- Alana Mitchell** (Canadian journalist)
- **Five Ring Circus: 2010 Olympics - Chris Shaw** (Canadian PhD Neurology)
- **How Your World is About to Get a Lot Smaller - Jeff Rubins** (CIBC World Markets chief economist - 20 years)



Gordon Campbell and his developer buddies suckered Vancouverites into a financially and environmentally disastrous 26 day Olympic party leaving monstrous debts, meanwhile BC leads Canada in child poverty and record homelessness, while hospital lineups grow. Wahoo!

Why and How to Read the Disconcerting Truth

I do not read these types of books because I am a masochist. I read them to egg myself on to live ever more simply, even in trying to leave the habit of meat eating behind. I stopped eating most meat some time ago but leaving chicken behind was a challenge especially when bean and lentil protein generate more gas than meat. Reading these types of books will strengthen anyone's conviction to move towards zero tolerance of environmentally destructive habits. It took a while to really enjoy schlepping almost daily 40 minutes to and from the bus, but these books helped me enjoy the privilege to have such a great transit system.

Critically analyzing debt economics this past year leaves only one conclusion. There will now be, surprise Mr. Harper et al, a huge and growing debt in Canada and in Campbell's BC. Your grand and great grandkid(s) will never be able to pay it off any more than we were able to pay off the national debt with the GST as originally designed starting in 1991, leading to lots of what ifs.

- What if the classic economists have it all wrong?
- What if their advice and predictions are based on useless historic ninety year old models? So far so true!
- What if it turns out to be impossible to continue financing debt through an economic system which relies on growing the economy and destroying the environment?
- What if this is equally true world wide?
- What if the real bubble hasn't even burst yet?
- What if our "very best" economists keep getting it wrong on a wish and a prayer for wealth— Greenspan, etcetera.

What if economists in control, and those new thinkers coming out of "top" schools, even those considered brainy and avant garde, have been and are only capable of tinkering with a system that obviously never really worked, and will never work? Sure, a handful may figure a way to milk more profits, temporarily. We the people seem to be voting for those who promise to work just such capitalist mathematical miracles - screw the environment.

The U.S. powers-that-be are cranking out paper money like never before with only a wish and a prayer to back up that new debt. It is like the world's largest Ponzi scheme ever- **trillions of dollars** making **Bernie Madoff** look like an amateur. Bond, bill, note buy-backs for reissue is a crazy way to further increase debt to keep the capitalist consumer cycle hobbling along. US envoys will be negotiating continuously with China and others to convince them to carry on re-financing debt owed until the jig is up. Meanwhile "*China's environment, foodland, water and air are already in dire straits!*" – **Collapse, Monbiot.**

CNBC- Power Lunch, Street Squawk, Fast Money, Closing Bell, & assorted market watch TV- *The Pack, Your \$\$\$\$\$, In The Money, The Help Desk with Gerri Willis, Jim Cramer's Stop Trading* (especially), on and on - all of them have sounded like a whacky pack of cheerleaders this past year and have just plain consistently had it and continue week by week today to have it wrong, since the meltdown started. Why should we listen to them anymore? Our political leaders and those south of the border and in the EU are still dead keen to **grow the economy** – to get **everyone** back working full time to produce stuff so that they have money to buy more stuff and pay taxes.

Canada will go down with the USA - We can no longer keep people "fully" employed making stuff and destroying the human habitable environment. By the books, the USA owes Canada \$11 Billion dollars, but in actual fact it is now closer to \$99bn while

owing a total of \$8+ trillion world wide. (California has never even paid back \$260+ million in energy debt to BC Hydro). U.S. housing prices continue to decline. The average home mortgaged for \$600,000 is now worth less than \$300,000. The ARP program will eventually fall apart, as the government is taking on more and more re-cycled debt through the owners assistance program **www.hud.gov** . Obama's promise of national health care will add hundreds of billions to deficit & debt, sinking them even deeper. The USA's ability to grow enough nutritious food is collapsing due to drought and soon enough peak oil fuel and fertilizer costs. Keeping a starving world at bay will require even more military spending. All of this is happening right now, not off in the future. AND our leaders and theirs continue to promote market recovery to the point where **everyone** is employed 35 hours per week.

Youth today who did everything right, toed the party line and "got themselves a darn fine expensive book larnin' education" in the olde skills soon to be ever more useless, now find jobs scarce and will eventually find them relatively non-existent.



Environmental Costs - MASSIVE

Not covered in all of this or the documentary **I.O.U.S.A.** is, that all of these attempts to keep funding our way of life do not even take into account the costs of crumbling infrastructure – sewage and water, saving the air we breathe, water we drink, land we live on and our food supply. Waiting in the wings for cash- in 2005 the EPA estimated State mining clean-up costs, which will soon turn into a national catastrophe- Montana \$3+ trillion; California \$2+ trillion; Pennsylvania, Texas, New York, Illinois \$1+ trillion **each** (**Collapse: How Societies Choose... - Jared Diamond**)

Over 100 nuclear power plants supply 20% of U.S. energy – 3 out of 4 must too soon be decommissioned due to old age but alternate energy sources will never come close to replacing fossil fuel dictating a need for new atomic energy plants. At the moment, cheerleader Obama is touting clean coal. (Three top books all agree that clean coal energy is an oxymoron. Monbiot shows best why it and tar sands will always be a net dirty source.)

On top of all of this, will be sharply mounting costs of climate related damage- tornadoes, hurricanes, rain related flooding, escalating forest firestorms and related property damage, food loss related to plant disease and drought due to loss of glacial and snow pack runoff and . Worst of all is the fact our seas are dying partially due to carbolic acidification, partly to massive over-fishing, (the major source of world dietary protein will soon enough run out – ouch!) Climate induced health care costs of pandemic disease are set to break out from the pen and coop.

Canadians through many hundreds of billions of tax dollars, will soon enough have to clean up old abandoned mines and deadly toxic waste sites stored in “perma”frost mine shafts now melting, as well as the growing deadly massive tar sands ponds.

Some will question my qualifications. I have no official economics course credits of any kind. Since “retiring” I have read much of the basics including **Hazlett’s Economics in One Easy Lesson** (54 pages), **John Locke – Concise Encyclopedia on Economics and Liberty**, **David Hume’s Treatise on Human Nature**, AND **Adam Smith’s Wealth of Nations**. I’ve also read **Marx’s Communist Manifesto**.

In college, I read and believed **Alvin Toffler’s Future Shock**. He warned in 1970, that with the coming industrial technological conversion to robot assisted production, there would be far less work. He advised society to begin the transition to an 18 hour or less work week. This he predicted would free up lots of time useful for adult “betterment” education, volunteerism, recreation, and fitness. If everyone was employed “part time”, **Unemployment** deductions would be un-necessary. Crime incarceration, physical and mental health costs due to unemployment would be significantly reduced, lowering deductions from pay cheques and income tax. As it is today in 2009, crime is now on the rise. You may have a full time job but those many who don’t will start to redistribute your wealth through your car and home windows, even on the street at the point of a gun. More police is not the answer. I reaffirm that belief in his ideas today because he was right.

At UBC I read Toffler’s **Third Wave** and reaffirm my belief in his idea’s, almost all of which have so far come to fruition.

In the past five years I have re-read or read a number of **Che Guevara’s** and **Fidel’s** economic writings as well as a number of books that are perhaps far more important than any economics bibles – those listed on page 4.

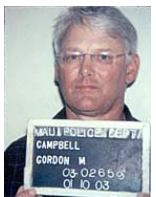
There is no possible algorithm that can work to perpetuate the consumer society’s status quo or even a tiny subset of it. You do the math – especially Dad, Chris, Steve and Jin then get back to us with that magical mathematic solution to relieve concerns.



As it is there are far too few of us "crazies" reading, thinking and howling in the growing wasteland of deaf ears – many of those no doubt damaged by loud iPods.



Even some of the brighter members of society continue to vote Gateway-idiotic-Campbell Republican Conservative, because if we continue to ignore it, it will all just go away when the technocrats fix things so we



can keep bio-fuel flying here and there and plant a tree or two.

I find it ironic that a number of family members are still active in supporting church once or twice a year or more, yet, they have no interest in being as active as possible in doing what is necessary to at least assure the maximizing of the possibility of life before death below heaven on earth itself. Perhaps like WC Fields, it’s to reinforce or hedge afterlife bets and make a deal with St. Peter to hook up inside with the Lord and Saviour. It’s like taking care of

one’s possible life after death while neglecting a planet for those who come after us. It just doesn’t make logical sense.

Some who say, *this is all just the way it is* may be right. But, their attitude is just as accurately then, a death sentence for the human race, at the very least a condemnation of future generations to a far more difficult, dangerous life. They are in effect saying, “*we want OUR cake, let those coming after us eat scraps.*”

Can you or I change the habits of others? No! However, we can quietly disconnect from the Matrix, the advertizing, the subtle message to desire that which we don’t need, and that which is destroying our planet, racing towards the eventual snuffing out of life of millions of fellow humans traveling with us through space and time.

In days of yore, we were concerned about the welfare of every member of the village. Is it time yet for us to feel guilty about our actions and not caring about members of our Global village?

In **Douglas Adam’s Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy** – “a group of hyper-intelligent pan-dimensional beings demand to learn the Answer to the Ultimate Question of Life, the Universe, and Everything from the supercomputer, **Deep Thought**, specially built for this purpose. It takes Deep Thought 7½ billion years to compute and check the answer, which turns out to be 42. Unfortunately, The Ultimate Question itself is unknown.”

I submit to each and every member of the Read, Hall, Dore family, the answer is “to live as gently with only as much as one needs to live equitably in a global village in order to promote the continuance of our species”. Humans may actually be the only animal capable of understanding this concept.

“The Matrix” - Applied

Protagonist **Neo**, (Keanu Reeves), is offered a Red or Blue pill by resistance leader **Morpheus**, (Lawrence Fishburn):

- Blue equals continued boring, dream-like existence.
- Red equals reality- join resistance against the global ‘machine’ matrix culture.

In our Blue world, we do not perceive the world as it really is. We experience it in a way handed down from parents, through our social conditioning heavily influenced and reinforced by school/ media/ news/ advertising/ consumer stock market- saturation, the way ‘they’ thought we should see it, only slightly, almost imperceptibly, changed. Much of what we think we know about our world and how it works is simply wrong because “we” are plugged into the Matrix. Commercial TV is an interface that keeps human beings connected to the corporate machine, TV’s primary **raison d’etre**. Our “knowledge” is sanitized by apathy (*everything I needed to know I learned in High School / Post Secondary*) and via the wealthy, capitalist elite controlled media, their corporate lobbying, and those in political power at the time- though it matters little who it is - same bus, different driver- e.g. Glen Clark’s developer influenced Island Hwy, 2010 Olympic NDP government / Gordon Campbell’s developer friendly BC ALR raping, P3, Hospital, Energy, BC Hydro, R of R, privatization pushing Neo-Con Republican “Liberals”.

As long as there’s a lack of perception, we can make nothing more than superficial changes; i.e. You can not really fix something if you are ignorant to the fact that it is broken.

Professional sports is not about athletics, it’s about selling products; selling a lifestyle to overweight beer swilling arm-chair

quarterbacks. Sports fans are just **Matrix pod-life** attached to corporate money gatherers. “We” the average Joes keep owners and players flush with high roller money while we toil and sweat to make a living while pouring cash into their pockets.

We Flickr, Facebook, MySpace, TwitterTweet time away connected to Oprah *had onions on her burger just now*, ignoring our own reality. Social networking is like a mainline connection to The Matrix. Meanwhile, gaming brains are Matrix connected to copious amounts of online numbing Playstation, X-Box & Wii.

Consumers connected to the corporate Matrix are suckers. They are plugged-in and oblivious to life around them. Their brains are pacified and anesthetized to the reality of global collapse and the great masses of people in our society who are hurting and those not in our society who are having the lifeblood sucked dry to supply materials to keep the machine running and growing. Ex-pat American author, **Richard. K. Moore**, living in Ireland wrote along these lines:

In “Matrix” reality, our society’s globalization is not a project but rather the inevitable result of inevitable market forces: survival genocide in Africa- e.g. Darfur, is no fault of the West’s, but is due to ancient tribal rivalries. Rwanda is an example of this and we go on pretending it had nothing to do with it being destroyed by 300 years of British Colonial slave rule.

Every new measure demanded by globalization is referred to as “reform”. “Democracy” and “reform” are frequently used together, always leaving the subtle impression that one has something to do with the other. The illusion is presented that all economic boats are rising, and Economic failures are explained away as “temporary adjustments,” or else the victim (as in South Korea or Russia) is blamed for not being sufficiently neo-liberal. “Investor confidence” is referred to with the same awe and reverence that earlier societies might have expressed towards, “will of the gods” and “religion”.

“A market is the combined behaviour of thousands of people responding to information, misinformation and whim.” Kenneth Chang

“Economics is the science which studies human behaviour as a relationship between ends and scarce means which have alternative uses.” Lord Roberts

“They say astrology was invented to give the impression that economics is an exact science. Economists never know tomorrow why the predictions they made yesterday didn’t pan out today. It’s not their fault. Frankly, they’ve been left without much to do since the real economy closed up shop and made way for the virtual economy. Today, finance rules, and frenzy and speculation fall more into the bailiwick of psychiatrists than into that of economists.

“The Rothschilds learned of Napoleon’s defeat at Waterloo by carrier pigeon. Now news travels faster than the speed of light, and flying alongside it on the computer screen is money. A ring worthy of Saturn spins wildly around the earth: the \$2,000,000,000,000 that move on world financial markets every day. Of all those many zeros, so many you get dizzy looking at them, only a miniscule portion of this 2 trillion dollars corresponds to commercial transactions or productive investments. In 1997, of every \$100 in currency transactions, only \$2.50 had anything to do with the exchange of goods and services. That same year, on the eve of the hurricane that battered stock markets in Asia and the

world, the Malaysian government suggested a commonsense measure: outlawing currency trading for noncommercial purposes. The shouting of floor traders makes a lot of noise, and understandably those who benefit from currency speculation were deaf to the idea. In 1995, only three of the ten largest fortunes in Japan were linked to the real economy. The other seven multimillionaires were speculators.

“Ten years ago, in 1988, the financial markets suffered another collapse. Distinguished U.S. economists from the White House, the Congress, and the New York and Chicago stock exchanges tried to explain what happened. The word “speculation” was not uttered in any of their analysis. After all, popular sports deserve respect: five out of every ten North Americans play the stock market in one way or another. Just as “smart bombs” killed Iraqis in the Gulf war without anyone except the dead finding out, “smart money” earns 40 percent profits without anyone finding out how. Wall Street, is today the centre of the great global electronic gambling den, and all of humanity is enslaved by the decisions made there. The virtual economy moves capital, trashes prices, plucks fools, ruins countries (third world), and churns out millionaires and mendicants in the time it takes to say, “Amen.”

“The world may be obsessed with personal insecurity, but reality teaches us that the crimes of the finance capital are far more fearsome than those we read about in the papers. Mark Mobius [UPDATE - today’s Bernie Madoff], who speculates on behalf of thousands off investors, told the German magazine *Der Spiegel* at the beginning of 1998, “My clients laugh at ethical criteria. They only want us to increase their profits.” During the crisis of 1987, another phrase made him famous: “You’ve got to buy when blood runs in the streets, even if the blood is mine.” Gorge Soros, the most successful speculator in the world, who made a fortune successively bidding down the pound, the lira and the ruble, knows what he’s talking about when he says, “The main enemy of the open society, I believe, is no longer the Communist but the capitalist threat.”

“Capitalism’s Dr. Frankenstein has created a monster that walks on its own, and nobody can stop it. It is a superstate over and above all others, an invisible power that governs us all even though it was elected by no one. In this world there is too much misery but there is also too much money and wealth doesn’t know what to do with itself. In other times, finance capital broadened the consumer market by extending credit. It served the real economy, which to exist needed to grow. Today, utterly bloated, finance capital has put the productive system to work for it, while it plays with the real economy like a cat with a mouse.

“Every crash on the stock exchange is a catastrophe for small investors who swallowed the line and bet their life savings on the financial lottery. And it’s a catastrophe for the poorer barrios of the global village, whose residents suffer the consequences without ever knowing what caused them: in a single blow each “market correction” empties their plates and wipes out their jobs. But rarely do crises on the stock exchange fatally wound the suffering millionaires who, day after day, backs bent over their computers, fingertips calloused from the keyboards, redistribute the world’s wealth by moving money, setting interest rates, and deciding the value of labour, commodities, and currencies. They are the only workers who could refute the anonymous scribe who wrote on a wall in Montevideo: “*He who works has no time to make money.*” **Eduardo Galeano – Upside down a primer for the looking glass world 1998 p.156-159**

I've certainly included enough to offend just about everyone, so I will make this a last communication with family. No more haranguing emails or letters will follow. I will go quietly about Neo's business and leave you all to fly away on your own fundamental mission to leave little to those, even our own family like Daniel who follow in our massive mud-clomping footprints. All of my writings, emails and urgings to family since 2005 were meant to motivate others to get actively involved in spreading the word to peers and government. Five years is a long courtship in this day and age, so enough. A few of you could have semi-retired earlier to devote time and talents to this because we already have homes full of enough stuff and have done plenty of environmental damage. The results of the 2009 BC elections show that too few are paying attention or even at all concerned.

The one or too few of you who come to your senses soon enough to branch out from the Robert Ludlum mysteries, Harlequin romance novels, Bletchley Park / Enigma / WW II histories about our "glorious" military past, into reading material like that listed herein, will find it helps you break free from *the Matrix*.

You and I, all know how most saw the great "American" dream unfolding for the boomers and their kids- Get an education, go to post secondary, get a 'good' job, work, buy the house and car, work, have a family, work, work, work, RETIRE, travel and play. Reading from the selection of books listed on page 4, strongly suggests that this dream should go the way of the Great Auk, Mastodon, Mammoth and too soon to be, Polar Bear.

If and when any of you decide to join the battle for mother earth, to radically reduce air-travel, to unhook from mind numbing TV, gaming, advertizing, and the consumer machine, yes our version of Neo's *Matrix*, we will be waiting for your energy and talents to help lead your peers way forward.

Break Free – READ Critically

"Critical thinking involves determining the meaning and significance of what is observed or expressed, or, concerning a given inference or argument, determining whether there is adequate justification to accept the conclusion as true. Critical thinking is the intellectually disciplined process of actively and skillfully conceptualizing, applying, analyzing, synthesizing, and/or evaluating verbal or written information gathered from, or generated by, observation, experience, reflection, reasoning, or communication as a guide to changing our point of view."

Of course we don't like change.

In the fall of 1987 **Taisha** was 4 years olde, **Stuart** was two and a half. While visiting their great grandmother, we captured them on video-tape saying goodbye as she sat in her chair. As they did so, she quietly said, "g-bye, g-bye". I was busy taping as the kids, while being hugged, heard something I didn't until I looked at the video a few weeks later after Great Grandma Flora passed away.

- What they heard was her saying "good-bye", PERIOD.
- Shortly after we left Tee asked, "Is grandma going away dad?"
- "Well she might be going away to be with grandpa", I offered.
- "Grandpa's dead dad!" Taisha responded.
- Stuart, joined in with his tiny lithp between 'asthmaticky' breaths, "h'I don't hwant grandmuh t-uh die dad!"
- "Well we all have to die someday, not all of us really lives."

Not only do we not like change, we don't anticipate big changes at all well. We worry when we contemplate big changes in our life.

We fret to the point we make mistakes. Disconnecting from the Matrix is the biggest change a person can make.

"Our thinking and our behaviour are always in anticipation of a response. It is therefore fear-based." Deepak Chopra

When we face our future loaded with as much knowledge and as much history as possible it gives us better tools and abilities which helps us stay calm and go ahead with conviction. If we continue to head forward with denial we are doomed.

We've tried corporate capitalist consumer economics in it's modern state for a century now. We kind of screwed up a little in the late 1920's which lead to the Great Depression. All we had to do then was pump bazillions into a world war, destroy half of Europe, kill 50 million people and burn up 160 trillion liters of fossil fuel. We came out of that war with plastics, converted war factories into manufacturing synthetic shite and loaded down our lives with cheap disposable crap, overloading our landfills. Now, the end of cheap oil dictates that the economy will keep banging its head on a repeated recessions until globalization is halted.

"Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results." Albert Einstein

Paraphrasing Churchill- **"The past will not pass without surrendering to the future."**

Positive NEWS

We have now begun the long process of depression economics and we will as a species, be saved if it lasts at least five years. Why! Because in five years, we will hopefully be on our way to beating our addiction to consumer products and job sharing.

"Success is not measured by what you accomplish, but by the opposition you have encountered, and the courage with which you have maintained the struggle against overwhelming odds."

Orison Marden

As a society- "Our greatest glory is not in never failing, but in rising up every time we fail." ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

Haste La Victoria Siempre

Daideo LR 2009.05.13



**Our Future - if we leave anything for him !
(Daniel @ 10 Months)**

Break FREE from the Matrix NOW

"Ignoring the facts does not change the facts."

"This isn't the 60s! No one gives a shit anymore!"

Milagro Bean Field Wars

***Edward G. Robinson died shortly after making *Soylent Green*.**