# Peace in the 21st century

Our adversarial system and our language of war

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We are living in a culture of war – our very language reflects this!

Politicians win or lose their seat. We then have an opposition and a government of the day

The opposition’s job is to oppose all new ideas, good or bad, that are presented to either better the lot of the people or destroy some of the benefits of people – depending if you’re a right-wing nut job or a “bleeding heart” leftie!

One politician admitted to lying but excused himself because he lied “in the heat of the battle”.

The “battle” was a debate with another politician!

In our school’s education system, you came top of the class whilst the other was last!

Even in the academic world they are working to disprove another academic’s work!

TV and radio stations have “target” audiences.

Manufacturers target the teenage shoe market or the over 55’s.

Corporations conduct hostile takeovers - launch campaigns - crush the competition!

Medical establishments are losing the war with AIDS and fighting cancer.

In our judicial system my lawyer fights it out with yours.

Today we ask what lies beyond adversarial processes and institutions which are set up for adversarial purposes?

Is there a politics which is not adversarial, which is oriented to problem solving?

Is there a judicial system which is not adversarial and yet delivers justice?

To what extent are our educational and religious institutions adversarial and competitive and generate a particular kind of orientation which is detrimental to building friendly relationships and a strong sense of community and of solidarity? Of “all for one and one for all”?

In a free and democratic country like Australia, how do we develop efficient effective institutions that have a capacity to be competitive but which have at their heart a commitment to the building of a collaborative and co-operative relationship between our combative institutions, like parliament, like our judiciary and especially our corporations!

So right now, we have a system of winners and losers and the trickle-down effect that economists boast about, where they state that if big biz makes money, you get the trickle-down effect.

Can we see the trickle-down effect of adversarial systems?

* Rich people
* Middle class people
* Poor people
* And on a world basis:
* Developed nations
* Developing nations
* Exploited nations

If we want peace, we need to speak peace. Can we all learn a new language? A language of unconditional love? What and how do we speak this new language of unconditional love? We all speak different languages so how can we do that? It’s really easy. Actions speak louder than words so the action of sharing our world’s resources, is the language of unconditional love.

Which brings me to my next subject: economic justice.

Since the late 1980’s I’ve observed an agenda being implemented by conservative governments that is destroying the middle class.

In the UK its about 60% accomplished with the cutting or removal of so many benefits by their tory government who were also hoping to privatise the NHS. That idea was stymied by voters’ outrage.

With a minimum wage of UK pounds 7.83 per hour or 297.55 pence (around AU$540 per 38-hour week) they are still better off than Americans.

In America it’s been a horrid success as you know. Americans are facing destitution as around 70% of the middle class has dropped down to the lower class, while what used to be the lower class has become the homeless class with 565.000 people living on the streets, in cars and in homeless shelters.

By the way, in America the minimum wage is US$7.25 per hour (AU$9.39) per hour or US$275.50 (AU$356.83) for a 38-hour week, while in Australia minimum wage is $18.29per hour or $695 for a 38-hour week.

We are more fortunate in Australia however we are seeing a casualisation of jobs and casuals are not given the same protection as people in full time jobs. And we now have far too many underemployed forcing the middle classes down into the poorer class.

So, we see the same agenda being forced on us here, but we are Aussies and we will resist!

But why this agenda you ask? Think about it. When the middle class is removed there is no bridge between the rich and poor. That’s when we see devastating effects as the corridors of separateness become wider and wider.

And we go back to what? Kings and slaves?

How then and who will bridge the gap?

Kevin Rudd, a former labor PM referred to the gap so often, because he was very aware of the inhumanity caused by this gap.

So, is there a solution? Yes indeed!

An unconditional, tax free basic income for everyone. A just way of sharing the world’s resources and lifting humanity out of poverty. This was successfully trialed in Finland in 2016 and in Canada a 3-year test program started last year where $1320 per month is paid to every person and $1820 per month for people with disabilities.

In NSW, Luke Foley the parliamentary leader of the NSW branch of the Labor Party is the only politician that I know of that knows and has spoken of it and is in favour of a basic income.

In February this year full time employment stands at 8 million five hundred and thirty-three thousand. 8,533,000.00. But more than half of our population - 53% or 12.5million people - are aged between 25 and 64.

That’s the age range often used as a “working age” population for there is no universal definition of a “working age” population.

Based on those figures we know that around 4 million people don’t have a job. Add to that the loss of jobs to artificial intelligence - aka robots - that take more and more of our jobs (40.000 jobs lost to robots in the USA in 2017), governments will have no choice but to implement an unconditional, tax free, basic income for all.

For more information and to decide for yourself do read a book titled “Utopia for realists” by Rutger Bregman, or “Raising the floor” by Andy Stern.

Where will the money come from you ask? Monies spent on welfare by government totaled $157 billion in 2015-2016, that figure up from the $117 billion in 2006-2007. Based on that it will rise to at least, if not more than $197 billion by 2023-2024.

Add to this the money from the sale of our resources - if those resources were not given to the multi-national corporations that take our resources and pay no tax - one example is BHP Biliton. Another multinational giant, Chevron USA, was finally hit with a $300 million tax bill after losing a landmark profit-shifting case that hopefully will have global implications, for the Australian Tax Office’s case in the federal court has been closely watched by the tax and business community and will give the ATO greater confidence to challenge other multinationals about their tax affairs.

$300 billion from 1 company. Add to that the others that don’t pay due to loopholes in the system that enable tax avoidance by those who are already too rich and government would have more than enough to pay for the basic income.

At this point we would have no rich, no poor, all would be equal with equal opportunities.

The big multinational corporations love to take and pay no tax. If you are interested in learning more, I recommend you read a book titled “When Corporations Rule the World” by David C Korten.

Political illiterates: the worst illiterate is the political illiterate - hears nothing, sees nothing, takes no part in political life. He doesn’t seem to know that the cost of living, price of rent, medicine all depend on political decision.

That brings me to politics.

Politics

Our political system is the 1749 adversarial Westminster system which the greatest minds on earth formulated in that day and age. Nothing wrong with this system and there is nothing wrong with a horse and cart, but today we are driving cars.

It’s obvious that we need a new system. The adversarial system is outdated and isn’t really working. Too much time is spent by politicians fighting instead of problem solving. We need a system where co-operation and teamwork replace the antagonistic fighting and name calling that our politics is renowned for. All parties need to work at understanding the current and future needs of the community and the Australian people.

In Australia we have the Liberal Party and the Labor Party and then the smaller parties, but let’s just focus on the Libs and Labs. One has the interests of the already too rich the other has the interests of the 12.5 million workers.

The Liberal Party of Australia was founded by Rupert Murdoch’s father in 1943. In that same year he also founded the Institute for Public Affairs (IPA), which we are told is a think tank and which is listed as a charity! Yes, they have charity status which means they pay no tax.

What charity advocates the removal of the minimum wage, the deregulation of the workplace and other worker debasing ideas?

As Murdoch is a media giant, his newspaper articles are all slanted at applauding the Liberal Party and casting a slur on the Labor Party. As such, he has far too much power in the say of the running of our country.

The Liberal Party, just like the Tory Party in the UK and the Republican in the USA, is a conservative party and we really need to know what it is that they wish to conserve?

In my research and study of the situation it is obvious that they want to continue to be the rulers of the world they live in, want the privilege they have had and the entitlement they believe they have to money.

An example is the current $64 billion tax cut for big business which Prime Minister Turnbull has said he will implement.

How can we turn around this unfair and undemocratic situation?

Firstly, no donations to political parties from any donor, be they corporations or ordinary people, because we know that by donating to political parties, they then get what they want from them. Surely this is corruption!

Instead, the government of the day gives each political party a million dollars to spend on their reelection campaign. End of corruption!

We also need a federal ICAC (independent commission against corruption). We have a state ICAC so why not a federal one? But none in power want to implement this. Mmmm, I wonder why?

We really do need a party that’s “all for one and one for all”.

Disarmament

The USA has a love affair with guns. Did you know that more Americans have died from guns since 1968 than in all the wars in USA history, including WW1 and WW2?

And yet, every day there is a mass killing of students. According to data from the gun violence archive a total of 34 mass shooting incidents have occurred as of February 21.

And the 14 Feb 2018 Florida incident made headlines after 17 people were killed at a high school north of Miami. People reacted but the gun lobby objected to anything that had to do with disarmament.

The students started a campaign protesting and had this to say, and I quote:

“The adults have failed us. We refuse to learn in fear, and reject turning our schools into prisons. We will accept nothing less than comprehensive gun control and if it’s what it takes, we will shame our national policy makers into protecting us, not just in schools but in churches, in movie theatres, on the streets and in the communities of colour which are disproportionately devastated by the sickness of gun violence.

The lawmakers who fail to support us, those that look for answers to our nations gun problems to everything but the guns themselves, will be complicit in every death that comes after.

To every politician sitting in congress working behind us you get to decide who lives.

So, this is not a partisan issue for us - there’s nothing cosmetic about life or death.

This is about guns and it’s about our morality as a country when the commander in chief’s solution to this country’s gun problem is more guns - you know we have a moral problem in the Whitehouse.

When national policy makers value the blood money of the National Rifle Association (NRA) over the lives of children, you know we have a moral problem in the halls of congress.

And when this is doomed to happen again, when in the coming weeks and months more of my peers will be slaughtered in their own classrooms, when their deaths will be dismissed as collateral you know we have a moral problem in this country.

So, let’s make one last thing clear: their right to own an assault rifle does not outweigh our right to live.

The adults have failed us. This is in our hands now and if any elected official gets in our way, we will vote them out and replace them ourselves. Enough is enough is enough.”

And in solidarity with them, I now quote from a favourite book which speaks of a new world order to begin in 2025:

“The new world order will be founded on an active sense of responsibility. The rule will be “all for one and one for all”. This attitude among nations will have to be developed. It is not yet present.

The new world order will not impose a uniform type of government, a synthetic religion and a system of standardisation upon the nations.

The sovereign rights of each nation will be recognised and its particular genius, individual trends and racial qualities will be permitted full expression. In one particular only should there be an attempt to produce unity and that will be in the field of education.

The new world order will recognise that the produce of the world the natural resources of the planet and its riches, belong to no one nation but should be shared by all. There will be no nations under the category “haves” and others under the opposite category. A fair and properly organised distribution of the wheat, the oil and the mineral wealth of the world will be developed, based on the needs of each nation, upon its own internal resources and the requirements of its people. All this will be worked out in relation to the whole.

In the preparatory period of the new world order there will be a steady and regulated disarmament. It will not be optional. No nation will be permitted to produce and organise any equipment for destructive purposes or to infringe the security of any other nation. One of the first tasks of any future peace conference will be to regulate this matter and gradually see to the disarming of the nations.”

A beginning has been made when on 7 July last year “the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons” or the nuclear weapon ban treaty was passed and became the first legally binding international agreement to comprehensively prohibit nuclear weapons with the goal of leading towards their total elimination.

So, take heart my friends because the first step to disarmament has occurred.

Also note that we are now in the age of Aquarius for the next 2160 years.

Where universal brotherhood, co-operation, unification, peace and goodwill will be the goal

Where from self-service we proceed to world service.

And let us remember that peace is free. Always available, instant delivery. And no work required. For liberation is the note of the new era.

And so, be immovable in principle but flexible in detail and never compromise the essentials, but do give way to the non-essentials.

Remember to keep the mouth shut and the mind open. The mind is like a parachute, it only functions when its open. And it takes courage and strength to keep it open. And because the mind fixates on one set event and repeats it ad infinitum and upon this a judgement is made, to fit it all in, inaccuracies occur.

And most importantly identification with the one life is crucial for in identifying with another - the two become one.

Thank you.