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Source: <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.space.policy/2007-09/msg00712.html>

- *From:* Willie.Mookie@xxxxxxxx
 - *Date:* Sat, 29 Sep 2007 13:05:00 -0000
-

On Sep 28, 10:14 pm, "Jonathan" <wr...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

<Willie.Moo...@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message

news:1191000271.570967.269230@xx

So, you agree, that Joe Strout was inserting your comments into a conversation you never said anything about so that he could hijack the conversation.

On Sep 27, 11:39 pm, Joe Strout <j...@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

In article

<aranders-E3AA10.22523927092...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, Alan Anderson <arand...@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

"Jonathan" <wr...@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

Soon, the collective weight
and intelligence of the
masses
will decide on all matters of
importance, and in real time.

That's a depressingly pessimistic prediction.
"Collective

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intelligence"

is amazingly low

Not always; it depends on how it's organized. See
<<http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0385721706/>> for
example.

and "the masses" tend to consider celebrity
and
entertainment to be important.

Well, true. Not sure what can be done about that.

Best,
– Joe

--
"Polywell" fusion -- an approach to nuclear fusion that
might actually

work.

Learn more and discuss via:

<<http://www.strout.net/info/science/polywell/>>

First off I don't see where Johnathan has posted in reply to my
comments.

Second, your faith and allegiance to the ideals this nation and most
nations were founded to support are woefully lacking

Third, your lack of faith is only exceeded by your lack of vision and
knowledge.

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As to the discussion you are attempting to start in the face of my suggestion, your conclusions are based on the asinine presumption that what entertains people and engages their idle curiosity is the same thing that is important to them and motivates them and directs their efforts.

The fact is that wealth is spread more evenly than at any other time in human history. That great amounts of liquid assets are in the hands of millions of people. And these people all have common political interests in the global marketplace.

This will inevitably lead to the next great development in human history – the end of the nation state as we know them today. The end of the right of governments to kill people, to steal from people and to lie to people. This will bring about the end to many difficulties that now seem intractable and will bring about an age of relative peace stability and wealth against which this age will appear poor indeed – in the more privileged of nations.

I agree completely. Market systems and democracies best mimic a naturally evolving ecosystem...nature.

Yes, this is an emergent system. However, both markets and democracies suffer from certain deficiencies. These have been outlined by Nobelist Dr. Ken Arrow in his impossibility theorem. Basically when you try to use scalars to measure human values you have the possibility of preference loops. This leads inevitably to cycles in the market and cycles in voting and no clear consistent progress. This knowledge discovered in the 1950s, and universally acclaimed in the 1970s, has not been used to fix the system, but has been used by a minority of specialists to put the fix in on the system. That is, if specialists poll the population and determine where the preference loops lay, they can navigate those preferences to whatever end point they like by controlling the order of decision making. This is most blatant in the closing room at a car dealership when you're buying a new car. It is also seen in the inanities that pass for debate these days. Candidates don't really differ on policy, just the order that the policy is carried out. That's because they have very different goals in mind based on polling data.

My hobby is chaos
and complexity science, which is essentially a new form

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of systems theory, but based on abstract Darwinian principles.

Well, the problem is scalars can be uniquely ordered whereas human values are not necessarily ordered in that way. I can like B better than A and C better than B, but it frequently happens I like A better than C. This cannot happen with scalars. It can happen with feelings and when it does, this preference loop can be navigated to any end point by a knowledgeable specialist who has control of the order of voting, or even the order of thinking about issues. Editors for example.

In chaos theory this is the magnifying factor that allows the butterfly wing to start a tornado after a short time – so to speak.

My answer is to replace the scalar systems of voting and money with a vector system.

Another Nobelist, Wasily Leontief devised the input–output method of econometric analysis – wherein the inputs and output of an economy are put in tabular form. Taking columns on this table tells you all about the contributions of inputs. Rows tell you all the costs of outputs. Columns and rows are vectors, and the transformation of one vector to another completely describes a monetary relationship.

Not generally recognized is that Leontief's work is an answer to Arrow's impossibility theorem. That is, if everyone has an internet enabled PDA that securely transacts business – call it the valuenet – then individuals can make declarative statements about things that they like and things that they don't like. This is similar to voting in the old system. Their personal PDA encodes this in a personal transaction table, and when they buy and sell things (including their labor and so forth) values are adjusted vector fashion.

What happens is that the ideals of the market and of democracy are executed continuously completely and not subject to cycles (of the Arrow type) or manipulation.

Democracies, markets and freedom spread like a healthy forest alongside a freshly damaged ecosystem.

Democracies and markets are subject to common mode failures and so cannot do what we expect of them. This is well known among specialists, but generally not recognized or addressed by our leaders. Likely because our leaders owe their power to exercise of this specialist trade.

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Such natural forces
are relentless, pervasive and imaginative.

People, not systems have imagination and when they believe in themselves, they can work wonders. This is true. Government's proper role is to assist in this process. Of course it is typical of government's to take responsibility for all good things that happen, even if they don't deserve it, and blame all bad things on someone else, even if they don't deserve that. haha.. We are all taught irrespective of where we were raised, that our government and our nation –whichever nation it is– and our religion – if we live in a non–secular culture – it better than everyone else's – and that all the good right and happy and joyus things in our lives were brought to us by our nation government and so forth – and all the bad things that happened were someone else's fault. This is a fantasy. But it is a fantasy that is unversally accepted – nearly. And it is one that is easy to see through. The imagination and will and heart of each individual has the power to bring joy and plenty and happiness to others. Governments do not do this. Governments and culture and society at its best – provides vehicles to empower individuals to be their best. But generally governments produce a weak and dispirited people and then exploit the wounds in their psyche it creates to maintain and enlarge its power.

Those 9.5 million people who have managed to scrape together \$37.2 trillion in liquid assets have the power if they work together to bring governments to heel – much as the barons brought John I to heel – and tell them to get their act together and as Hipparchus told the physicians of his time – to do no harm. I humby suggest that the following rules be universally adopted by all governments, and those that reject these, be rejected by all;

- (1) Thou shalt not kill – you shall not wage war one nation against the other (court mandated killing is something else in this context).
- (2) Thou shalt not steal – you shall not tax, or cause to be spent on public matters, more than your people can afford (the Schumpeter limit) (theft is something else in this context) – accounting procedures and the public reporting of results in a clear consistent manner should be the norm, not hiring accountants to report to the government. We got it backwards.
- (3) Thou shalt not bear false witness – you shall not operate, keep, or study matters that are known as national intelligence.(advertising is something else in this context)

As I said,aggregate global tax rates are about 2/3 of all there is, and reducing that to 1/6th all there is would be a huge immediate boon to humanity. Those turned from power and government employment would quickly find jobs in the resulting booming economy. All the industrial capacity turned away from building and maintaining weapons would be best served by increasing food production (swords into

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plowshares) The world spends \$3.2 trillion on food, and needs only something on the order of \$0.4 trillion to adequately feed every body. Given Reagan's 3:1 ratio (who was the only political leader who looked clearly at taxes) this means \$1.2 trillion government programs worldwide would achieve this end. (assuming they're all honest) This is far less than the \$3 trillion per year we spend on militaries. i am not proposing this as a permanent program. Economic growth would quickly fill the gap – but this would be done immediately and sustain for three years or so, until economic conditions were improved enough to fill the gap. Then the program can be reduced to something 1% this size – to take care of emergencies. I saw a special on Animal Planet where folks were going out and rescuing pets and livestock that were abandoned when an Arizona town was over-run with forest fires. Too bad we're not as concerned with humans as we are with animals.

But clearly, with cessation of hostilities generally, and ending the lies and the lie making factories, and the wide availability of jobs, along with adequate food and water – the majority of the unrest in the world would end almost immediately. Sure there would be pockets of folks and crazy individuals. But this is more of a policing effort not a military effort.

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It's only a matter
of time before the diseased nations of the world relent.

That will never happen because of the common mode failures outlined by Schumpeter in his multi-volume – human values and social choice.

I mean.. I would bet everyone here believes in Darwin, democracy and market systems.

Darwin, yes. emergent system in the natural environment yes.
Democracy – no, market systems – not yet. I believe the market system has a potential to become an emergent process that properly constituted can encompass features we associate with the best democratic systems. Namely, by using vectors rather than scalars to encode wealth (vector money) and using declarative statements to encode the vector portion (similar to voting whenever you want on whatever you want and having your votes immediately carried out) – and transacting these through a value net – we can have an emergent system that resolves Arrow's paradox and moves us forward as a species.

The nice thing is once a workable system is developed and deployed, it will be picked up by everyone as it naturally displaces weaker systems. Just as stronger currencies displace weaker ones – this currency system is stronger than any paper or metal currency in a large variety of ways and will quickly displace all existing

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currencies.

This is how the barons will take over the crown. They will arrange for their own purposes the value net. And once it exists, it will be widely used by all to do business. And once that happens, taxes will be levied, but not paid. All wealth will be outside the hands of the governments. If the system be honest. That is, secured against snooping. Powerful techniques exist to secure transactions like these. At that point, the barons can cause governments to adopt the three policies i've outlined for good government.

Many use transfer pricing between subsidiaries to avoid taxes anyway. This legal and legitimate system of handling international trade can be easily encoded in a system of banks and made universally available to everyone. It is at this level that conflict will arise between governments and people, led by the modern day barons.

At this point the three rules can be proffered to the governments to allow them to access a portion of the new value-net.

Just what few of you will accept is
that complexity science has shown all three are merely
subsets of a more general and universal tendency to
...self-organize.

Chaos theory shows us the importance of trifles under the right conditions. Exponential amplification is required.

Arrow has demonstrated the importance of one trifle – order of voting. He has shown that this results from the scalar nature of vote counting and the non-scalar nature of human values. So, this has nothing to do with amplification – it has everything to do with information being incompletely accounted for. So, this has nothing to do with chaos theory – although there are other chaos based effects once you have an operating system that works reliably.

Vector based currency as i've described it, taken from Leontieff's work – answers Arrow and allows the first step toward readl government..

Marketers and Politicians have used Arrow's knowledge to grab power. Knowledgeable academics have soft sold the shortcomings because they fear a loss of faith in democracy and markets. They have come to fear this because specialists have raised this issue to them so that they would soft sell it. Other academics busy in their own fields, accept the judgements of knowledgeable academics they trust and respect. The public subject to the cheerleading of their governments for its own worth since birth, accept unquestioningly the precepts. Those that do

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not are generally malcontents that have personality issues. Non-specialists, non-expert, non-academics who point to a possible problem are told they are wrong, or easily made out to be a malcontent.

The 'integral' so to speak of the complexity sciences is the Complex Adaptive System, derived originally from the study of random boolean networks. A single abstract model that explains nature, and in all of its myriad forms. From galaxies to emotions.

Yes, by 2030 according to Moravec and Kurzweil, humanity will have the computing power to replicate the human brain. By 2040 we'll be able to buy a box load of human brains for the price of a laptop. by 2050 we'll be able to buy a planet full of human brains for the price of a laptop.

So, what will the world be like when everyone has their own think tank? everyone has their own planetary population dedicated to their tiny concerns? What happens when these computer systems are attached to actuators and sensors?

Moravec in his book ROBOTS describes this in detail. Kurzweil speculates about this as well in his THE SINGULARITY IS COMING.

Well before these dates we would do well to reign in the power, the abuses, and the lies of governments since the singularity event that is predicted will likely take on the character of whatever is powerful at the time of the singularity.

That is, we could be building berserker machines or angelic machines – depending on our intent. And one way this intent may be modified is to adopt the three rules I've offered here.

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Complex Adaptive Systems – Webs of Delight <http://www.calresco.org/lucas/cas.htm>

CALResCo Complexity Writings <http://www.calresco.org/themes.htm>

And they all do the same thing, they relentlessly attempt to increase order over time and with Darwinian cleverness.

Not one specialized theory will provide a magic bullet. My vector money suggestion resolves a very particular form of failure of democracies and markets. Adopting the three rules I suggest here will resolve much of the pain and suffering and many of the woes of the world today. The studies you recommend may provide solutions to other problems. But when they do, their results will be easily

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explained and their benefits easily seen.

There are also computer programs that program themselves to achieve goals and use sexual reproduction to select against an environment that rewards the goals set out. These are all useful things. Especially when we can model the entire human race accurately. We can make decisions based on effects that it is impossible for a single human to understand – but would certainly benefit everyone once the tool was available.