

A Political Essay, February 22, 2011

It would seem we have come nearly full circle with social and political realities. When I was a young activist in the '60's, the war and civil rights were issues that spread across the globe. Uprisings in former colonial states and youth movements in western countries spelled a confrontation with Oligarchs and Plutocrats in Latin America, as well as here in the United States. We have been passive since, and given a choice of paths between a political confrontation with the established order or pursuing personal gain and spiritual enlightenment; we have chosen the latter to our detriment.

I admit to a profound failure of political imagination and the ultimate resignation from global crises on an unprecedented scale. Now forty years later, the young are rising again. Across the Arab world and in the streets of European capitals, youth movements express their outrage and confront the inequalities brought on by Neo-liberalism's market strangle hold on wealth and resources, bludgeoned from the third world through debt and autocratic rulers. We are human, connected, what happens in Madison or in Benghazi, becomes one of many pebbles thrown into the pool of history. Each ripple adds to the wave.

It is time to reaffirm our commitment to a social democracy. Challenge the Plutocrats who have co-opted our democracy, sold us to the highest bidder, subdued us with mindless garbage in our media and campaigned relentlessly to mystify, stupefy and rob the populace of their birthrights as citizens, through fear in the political dialogue. Embracing global conflict as an ongoing enterprise, with religious fervor and self-righteous nationalism, the Palin's and Beck's march us to their corporate masters into a dark age of American Theocracy, as they line their pockets with their profits of fear. How are we to overcome the blinders of Faith & Fear, Inc.? We find ourselves confronting religious zealots determined to freeze humanity in a fearful, subservient condition. We must resist this embracing of radicalism in traditional religions, we should resist wherever and whenever its expression is in politics.

We refer to ourselves as a Christian nation, yet we are as far from the unconditional love expressed by Jesus, as the warhead on a hellfire missile. The political and economic crises we face today sweeps us before it like a natural disaster and just as in a disaster, we do not turn aside from each other but reach out and grasp with a fierce love those less able, those less fortunate and pull them from the flood. We must now stand again against a tyranny of greed and corruption in a kingdom of deceit. Resist and peacefully blockade the largest financial institutions and stock exchanges across the globe!

Most wealth in this century is a result of debt; make the institutions responsible for the IMF feel the pain. If we do not, the hustlers of power will continue to consolidate their control of global resources, eradicating human cultures, feeding us a diet of monoculture, while their global casinos of stock exchanges and vulgar material excess, devours the earth beneath our feet.

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