

Earth Day 2023 - Changing the Hearts

Response to Fast-Growing World Confusion & Conflict

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In the past, we thought we could overlook the mysterious growing variety of world crises. They grew in scale as we developed, seemingly better able to overcome them. However, none continued for as long or expanded as rapidly as the one racing ahead of us today!

Keynes solidly predicted it, as have many others, but others didn't believe it. I've closely studied its physics and emerging self-organization for four decades too, both in detail and general pattern. I had the tools and saw the very leading edge. Then I saw how growth systems multiply their scale and complexity, approaching explosive rates of change in how fast they expand, reorganize, and require their parts also to adapt and reorganize their relationships. That's the killer; what many of us now feel happening.

It comes directly from our very most immature of all possible economic plans, endless exploding unsustainable growth. Compound growth is a fast, quick start to a new life, a *pre-birth* process of not fully formed designs. We can see and feel the strains of its rising peak of internal and external pressures everywhere around us. That it's happening to all of us on earth at once is "the signal" that things can and must change.

Usually, self-animating growth systems in nature gracefully resolve the crises that force them to respond to change or fail. They change what motivates them, their "purpose," from multiplying designs to steering them toward or away from what they're running into. It's a sound, tried, and true strategy, if a bit

counterintuitive for new lives that have only followed a fixed rule for so long.

The civilizations most successful at growing their power seem all to have succumbed to it, though. People easily become socially fixated on endlessly multiplying the power of their profitable concepts. It's cutting that "umbilical cord" attaching us to the false hope of limitless growth that could convince us now that responding to life is our world's best chance at life. We need to "appreciate the signal," though.

WE SEE THE MAJOR RISING THREATS ALL OVER THE PLANET TODAY. That's our signal. It's to "back off, look out, and take care," the most fundamental rule of STEERING. To survive, all new systems need to learn how to steer. All systems that survive growth are examples of the range of strategies that work.

It's risky, like life, but even if the world has a bad slump, perhaps as inexperienced pilots make mistakes, the world getting the signal would largely assure keeping our world cultures intact. Going through a "Tower of Bable" or "dark age" type collapse would not. We would need a kind global "Marshall Plan" to help the world's talents for organizing things, keep those talents, and put them to work on a new plan, caring for each other and making things work for and all around our fabulous new world.

JLH – The world is on the move, but following the rule of growth that got us here, now causing crises, is not the path to our future. As all new life must, it's time to back away from the edge and learn to steer.

