

Misdirected Funds; Misdirected life.

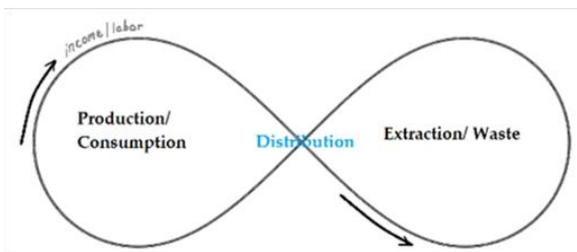
We all live in what we call our Price System. Technocracy has always tried to point out that it is so much more efficient and fair that we redirect away from a money system to that of an energy accounting one. Yet, we are still anchored to the old "coin of the realm."

If money would actually be spent to create situations that truly benefit people, well, what a world of difference that would make.

For 40 +/- years, the United States has increasingly refused to do what is required to maintain its position of technological and scientific leadership of the world. Our nations more recent habit of cutting public funding for scientific research and practice of dismissing science and distorting data, has been noticed by much of the world.

Why does Technocracy advocate a measurable accounting method as the means of controlling the flow of goods and services?

Quantifiable Environmental and Social Impact Standards (*Current choices in standards*) and Energy (*Technocracy's initial outlook in the 1920s*), are chosen instead of money or price because they possess the characteristics that a satisfactory mechanism of distribution must possess. Money relationships are all based upon 'value', which in turn is a function of scarcity. Hence money is not a 'measure' of anything, but is a display of scarcity. Money is negotiable - it can be traded, stolen, given or gambled away, lending it to be a great 'token' for crime of all types.



Graphic of Step Six in Transition Plan

Below is an outline of a Transition Plan that would take us from the current economic system to one based on Quantifiable Impact Standards and Energy.

PHASE I

Step 1- Metrics

- Application of metrics
- Human labor potential
- Waste and energy

Step 2 – Distribution Channels and System

- Land Management
- Renewable Energy Sources

Step 3- Integration within a price system

- Disposal and recycling
- Centralized waste management
- Solid consumption
- Integration of Energy Consumption

Step 4- Production and efficiency

- North America in the Status Quo
- Economic stability
- Vertical structures and inefficiencies
- Energy flow: from product to consumer
- The natural economy: biometrics & waste solutions
- Artificial Scarcity: Increasing debt
- NACSA (North American Continental Services Agreement?) and waste

Step 5- Energy standard in currency

- Relationship between
 - The force needed to do a task
 - The energy needed to exert that force
 - The efficiency in performing that task
 - The residual damage or benefit of said task
- Fiat & Fraud
 - Avoid abstraction, price instability, coercion, and corruption
 - Avoid economic volatility

Step 6- Integration within an energy currency system

- Extraction- production- distribution- consumption- disposal – See graphic to right
- The energy currency and continental services
- Quantity produced / damage done

Why Not Measurement In Place Of Money?

W.H. Orser 1996 Published in: Technocracy Digest, 2nd quarter 1996, No. 320, OKANAGAN REVIEW, Okanagan Falls, B. C., January 11, 1996

A NEW APPROACH

Behind antisocial acts and attitudes is an ancient economic system which penetrates and corrupts nearly everything within the society. It is this system that must be indicted and banished forever.

Since 1933, Technocracy has advocated an entirely new approach to today's problems, and points out that: **the current monetary system causes the individual to seek advantage for himself at the expense of others in society, and in opposition to the general welfare.**

The present money-based system generates antisocial behavior and attitudes among individuals and groups; it creates class distinction and class hatred; it supports social tensions and internal strife.

The current monetary system compels people to live under conditions of poverty, although the goods and services are either available or could be produced to satisfy all needs.

Money is the cause of 95% of crime.

Money is a world-wide carrier of communicable diseases. Money encourages waste, creates excessive demands for raw materials, and provides the motive for environmental pollution, as well as aggressive wars.

The use of money as a vehicle of distribution is ludicrous. However, there is an alternative. Technocracy asks why not "measurement" instead of "money"?

Money is an expression of value, stated in terms of price, (*which is why our current monetary structure is referred to as a "price system"*).

Price depends on scarcity. For thousands of years past, mankind has lived under conditions of natural scarcity, and still does in most parts of the world.

Technology advanced to the stage where scarcity has to be imposed artificially in order to maintain the current economic system.

The alternative to the use of evaluation as a means of distribution, is the utilization of the concept of measurement.

Technocracy's Transition Plan provides the accounting means whereby there can be a balance between distribution and what we are sustainably capable of producing.

That's its function -- to record the demand for goods and services, thereby determining the amount to be produced.

By applying one specific technological measuring device, production and consumption can be balanced, and the first specification for social harmony is immediately achievable.

A measurement of the energy cost, environmental and social impacts of physical production and services.

These measurements would then become the basis for regulation of all production and distribution as, what we are faced with is a physical problem -- not a political one.

If science and engineering can put people on another planet, it should be a small job to balance production with distribution.

TECHNOCRACY CALLING ALL TREKIES

By Steve Bottomley



This last year being the 50th anniversary of Star Trek, perhaps we should consider if we are as scientific socially as we should be, or perhaps better phrased, could be.

Particularly with regards to purchasing power, is the method we are using in compliance with modern technological levels, and is the society we live in in accordance with the dream of living in a modern space age like in Star Trek?

The dream aside for now, let's take a look at reality. We are using the dollar as the means of purchasing all products and services. Canada basically copies the States, so we can ask why does the United States use a monetary unit called the dollar?

The "\$" symbol is thought to likely have come from Spanish Dollar (the line in an S for Spanish is the first part of the D) which was the first world currency, the piece of eight of silver (the word Peso comes from here). This mirrored the German "thaler" at that time of Joachimsthal, Bohemia where a silver coin was minted. The English is Dale = Valley, so dollar is really dale-er or coin of the valley. The Spanish Dollar was an official currency in the States at one time, and the word just stayed.

Now consider the inefficiency of this purchasing unit. It continues to circulate, making it party to gambling, theft, loss, illegal activities, to mention a few .

In 1933 Technocracy Inc. proposed using an energy credit as our purchasing unit. All transactions would be unidirectional and final; no continued circulation. Calculating our energy produced in a given period we divide this by the population and arrive at an energy credit total for the given period for every citizen.

Recently we have created an outline for a Transition to an Environmental and Societal Impact Standard. We have known we can do things the scientific way for decades. It takes the people to want it.

Money Is A Superstition

L.W. Nicholson 1998 Published in: Technocracy Digest, 3rd quarter 1998, No. 329

Great progress has, and is, occurring in the transferring of money from one individual, or corporation, to another. First, the direct exchange of goods with the old barter system, then to the use of seashells as a medium of exchange, then to the coining of little metal disks, to the printing of various quantities on paper, and now to electronic transfers on a world-wide basis. However, in all the progress in such money exchanges, the old money and value concepts remain the same as in the days of the barter system, and the same old problems continue to plague humans.

What is money?

Answers to these questions have never been successfully established by scientific analysis. Even its existence anywhere in the physical world has never been proven. It doesn't grow on trees, so where does it grow?

The concept of money is only a mental concept. It exists only in the "minds" of humans. It is a human belief, and is used and accepted by no other animal on earth. It is only a superstition, designed by humans, to control their own operations in the physical world. People's desire for the accumulation of money has grown out of all proportion to the far more important aspects of human life in a physical world.

The U.S. has destroyed farm products, and paid farmers to produce less; has subsidized the foreign purchase of farm and manufactured products, to keep local farmers and businesses in business, and to provide jobs for the nation's labor force in a technological age -- all because of the monetary concepts of a past age. As a result, Forty-million Americans live in poverty.

These trends clearly indicate a need for more efficient designs for the distribution of goods and services in a technological age of rapidly increasing abilities in the production process, with a declining need for human labor.

To abandon old concepts and learn new ones is never easy -- and are almost impossible for the chief beneficiaries of the current system.

HUNNERD AND THREE DOLLAR PUPPY

By Steve Doll

I was first awakened to the dangers and pervasiveness of money many years ago. I wrote a letter to the editor of the local paper, entitled "The Hunnerd and Three Dollar Puppy."

"A few days after Christmas last year, my wife and I took a walk around the neighborhood. Along the way, we encountered two little boys, about six years old, playing with a German shepherd puppy. I had the pleasure of enjoying the companionship of such a pet when I was the age of the two boys, and naturally I made over the little dog. The one boy, obviously the owner, was all smiles. The other, however, stood off to one side, scowling. Finally he said, "My daddy's gonna get me a better puppy than that. It costs a hunnerd and three dollars."



A hunnerd and three-dollar puppy. An isolated remark from a petulant six-year-old? I think not. I read it as an

indication of a national mindset, the tendency to view everything, right down to the feel of a warm puppy, as a marketable commodity. This child is the product of his environment and his conditioning. And how many more are there like him, six years old or sixty? Is this the direction in which we're heading, or are we already there?

I leave it to the reader to ruminate on a society that instills in its children such a sense of commercialism that a six-year-old will view a fuzzy puppy as nothing more than a status symbol.

I never found out if that little boy got his hunderd and three-dollar puppy. I don't care to. It pains me too much to think of that poor animal, pining away for the touch of a hand of a little boy who has gone on to 'bigger and better' things.

SOLVING THE MONEY CONUDRUM

By Steve Doll

A few years before this article (*The Hunderd and Three Dollar Puppy*) was published in 1974, New York Jets quarterback Joe Namath made headlines by becoming the first NFL player in history to command a \$200,000 per year salary.



Fast forward to the present, in which such compensation for a single game would be scoffed at, when players routinely demand a hundred times this amount for a sixteen-game season of play.

Has money become so devalued that there must be ever-increasing amounts of it to get anyone to do anything? Or have ever-increasing amounts of it been so inculcated into the human psyche that enough is never enough?

Why is it many lottery players will not consider it worth the effort to invest ten or twenty dollars on a paltry million-dollar prize – a hundred-thousand or fifty-thousand fold

return on their investment –yet stand in line for a shot at a half-billion dollar jackpot? Is it the human behavior of “greed” – a vague element that many people blame for our social ills, but is actually intractable because it is entirely subjective, and therefore unquantifiable?

In *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald opined that the rich are different from the rest of us. Although biologically incorrect, rich and poor seem to share one behavioral trait in common: neither ever has enough money. To the poor, it's a necessary vehicle to securing the goods and services to survive. To the rich, it's a scorecard, a direct pipeline to power. Why? Because we believe in it as a legitimate means of obtaining those goods and services. It may be argued that it is the most entrenched belief system in the world, trumping even religion, because where prayer is iffy, money always turns the trick.

A TRIP TO FANTASY (FIAT) LAND

Over the years, we have seen money progressively losing touch with the physical goods and services it is used to exchange. At one time, it took physical form, as something tangible that people desired: shiny metals, cowrie shells, even salt. Then came paper certificates that were issued to represent a certain amount of gold held on deposit. These certificates then took on a value on their own, far in excess of the perceived value of the gold. Thus, money became decoupled from physical reality. Now, in the days of electronic funds exchange, all physical properties of money have been phased out – we are not in a fiat economy.

The system of value and exchange has become so murky and so far-removed from physical reality that the ongoing tradeoff of physical properties for empty tokens of exchange has become a positive danger to our support systems. Do poachers killing rhinoceroses for their horns and elephants for their ivory have anything against the animals? Do loggers cut down rainforests because they don't like trees? No, they do it for the money and the purchasing power it represents. The list can go on and on, ad infinitum.

The hard truth is, the more the philosophy of money becomes a belief system, ever farther detached from the reality of the tangible resources it is used to exchange, the greater the danger it becomes to the support system required by all Earth's denizens.

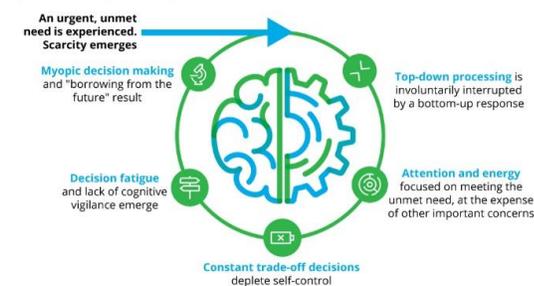
*Money is really a credit and debt system. one of the most perverse features of our present monetary system is its basis in debt. In the current economic system debt is used to create the money supply.*¹



As human populations increase, and the strain on the earth's support systems follows, such an erratic system presents more dangers than it resolves.

It is therefore imperative to devise a system of managing and distributing our physical resources in terms of themselves, not vague philosophical considerations about who deserves what share. Bytes of information or electronic tokens of debt (money) do not put roofs over heads or feed empty stomachs. Nor do they give any thought to such phenomena as species extinction or climate change.

Figure 1. A scarcity mind-set cycle



Source: Deloitte analysis.

Graphic: Deloitte University Press | DUPress.com

A SCARCITY OF UNDERSTANDING

Despite the current age of instant communication and technological marvels, science and the analytical process seem to have been pushed to the back burner in favor of, as Henry David Thoreau lamented, turning out future generations of dollar-chasers – any leanings toward science and discovery simply vehicles to this end.

How much time is spent on teaching elementary school children – all students, not just the “gifted” ones – how things actually work?

1. [The Debt-Based Economy](#)

How many walking the aisles of The Gap or Walmart or Circuit City for clothes or the latest in digital wizardry actually know how these things got there,

and what processes and resources it took to get them there?

How many people think food mysteriously emanates from some obscure production line in the back of the grocery store?



Have they seen a farm, or a factory? Compare this to how much time is focused on intangible concepts like patriotism, freedom, and democracy – and, of course, the subject of money.

But how did we arrive at this point? When did we depart the real world, and board the debt train? It began when technology increased production so much that it began to outstrip people's ability to pay for the goods. And with each step in the process of automation - of introducing machines to replace human labor - buy now, pay later has become later. And later. And later. Buy now to support the (false) economy. Credit, and therefore debt, has become in most minds an intrinsic, intractable part of life. And so has trading off the earth's tangible resources to support an ever-expanding debt structure.

RETURN TO REALITY

So how to break the money conundrum? First, by acquainting young people – for it is there that the change must take place – with the realities of the physical world that is the source of all we see and use. Early in the twentieth century, Alice Barrows Fernandez, educational innovator and member of Technocracy's forerunner, the Technical Alliance, proposed that in the reception area of every elementary school in the nation an electric motor should be on display, to acquaint young people with the true source of all the things they use – energy and

resources. Although technology has carried us beyond this point, the concept still rings true.

To affect a cure, a doctor must first make an accurate diagnosis, based on all available data. Simply attempting to swat at the elusive fly of “greed” with a gossamer swatter composed of intangibles like “conscience” and “responsibility” won’t cut it.



Money Addiction

Decoupling the human psyche from the money addiction – and that’s what it is, ably stoked by its strongest proponents and beneficiaries – will take a dose of exposure to hard, physical reality. We can do it voluntarily, in a controlled process in which positive alternatives to a debt-based exchange system are made available; or, we can take the hard road which physical reality lays out before us. Technocracy has offered such an alternative, in the form of system of production and distribution based on real, tangible physical properties of energy exchange – the source of all life and activity on earth.

Whoever first made the observation that our children are our future had it backwards. **We are our children’s future. The decisions and actions we adults take today will have a direct bearing on the world our children will live with.** The best legacy we can leave them is a rational, sustainable means of developing, protecting, and distributing our finite world. As it stands, money with its non-relationship to physical reality, just doesn’t fit the bill – not a hunnerd and three dollars, or a hunnerd and three trillion.

FINDING A NEW WAY

By George Wright

“One of the saddest lessons of history is this. If we’ve been bamboozled long enough, we tend to reject any evidence of the bamboozle. We’re no longer interested in finding out the truth. The bamboozle has captured us. It’s simply too painful to acknowledge, even to ourselves that we’ve been taken. Once you give a charlatan power over you, you almost never get it back.”

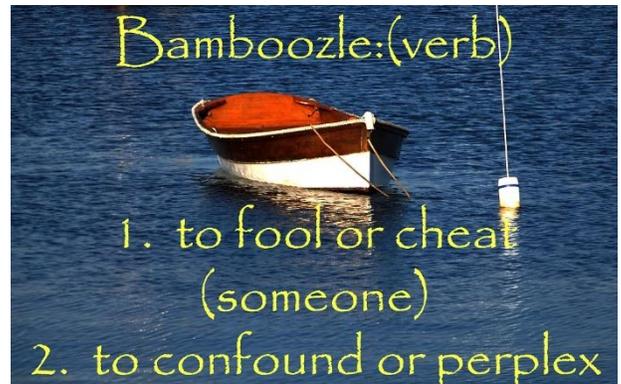
Carl Sagan – The Demon-Haunted World.

Oh, so often, words written or spoken at another time, transfer so directly into those living in the present. I speak now, mostly, to our citizens taken aback by a legislative direction exploding before our eyes. We, for the most

part, are aghast at the incoherent, vindictive and juvenile ramblings of a leader.

This seems so out of place – so, not like us. But this is not new. It is a direction we have been headed for many years.

The “bamboozle” has been going on forever, in one guise or another. History shows us that only on rare occasions have we been able to gain a foothold on real social justice. The trickery is to try to undo any social advancements. It first uses subterfuge, lies and distractions. This is a work



in progress – slow at first, then a more pronounced movement. In all that while, we unthinkingly follow through life blindly accepting more and more outrageous doctrines.

One huge ‘bamboozle’ is the scarcity myth that says; “we don’t have enough to have efficient and effective production and distribution of our resources to all people throughout the globe”; that fallacy was been created to keep many people working hard while a few keep all the resources and dole them out as they see fit. ¹ Scarcity isn’t the problem.....Sociologists have found that social inequalities, distribution systems, and other economic and political factors create barriers to resource access. ¹ (*The Scarcity Fallacy -Stephen Scanlan 2010*)

How does all this tie into the Scarcity Myth?

We have been bamboozled into believing that we must fight others for our share; to tear ourselves and other nations apart for our share of food, money, health care, energy, safety, and a multitude of other things.

We know, inside, especially after reading about the newer technologies, that we have the capability to produce and distribute abundant food, water, energy, and other life giving supplies.

What we have been fooled into believing is that we must take from others to get our share.

Suppose you invent a whole bunch of new commodities. One of the problems is that a lot of those new goods will be products that reduce the amount of labor required to produce more. Yikes, a problem!

No labor -- no wages. No wages -- no purchasing. No purchasing -- no more money in circulation. Obviously, what we need here is an economy that expands fast enough to provide enough wages to keep this merry-go-round running. We will borrow money to make more jobs and when it comes time to pay it back, we will just borrow more to pay off the old loan and make more jobs. This begins to take on a mystical quality.

This appears great for the economy and for the people loaning money. The economy keeps chugging along, burning up more irreplaceable natural resources and generally devastating the landscape. The people who loan the money keep clipping coupons. Wow! A perpetual motion machine!

Of course, the debt keeps getting bigger and the interest keeps growing until it becomes a bigger share of one's income. What happens when the interest equals the income? **It won't ever get that far.**

The last stage of a Price System is usually a hyper-inflation. In the 1920s, it brought Hitler to power in Germany. When governments go broke, they usually crank up the printing presses and try to inflate their way out of it. It is possible for the supply of money to reach abundance -- at which point it becomes worthless.

The really important question is not, "How much money do you have?" but, "How much will your money buy?"

And the even bigger questions are, "How much is your interest payment in relation to your income? How much debt can you support?"

MONEY and how it defines us

By Cody Nelson

Do you define yourself by your monetary worth? Are you a master of money or a slave to it?

Some people, like myself, sit in the middle, neither slave nor master. We coexist in the economy, putting in about as much as we take out sitting on the fence of financial comfortability. Not too broke to cry about it but not rich enough to live without a little worry.

There are those that are rich enough to live in a state of pronoia (*the opposite of paranoia*), not worried about what will come because they simply have enough money to handle it how they please. Some only have enough to barely acquire the bare necessities (the slaves), so they give their youth and health in exchange for a monetary equivalent, which is almost always, not equivalent at all.

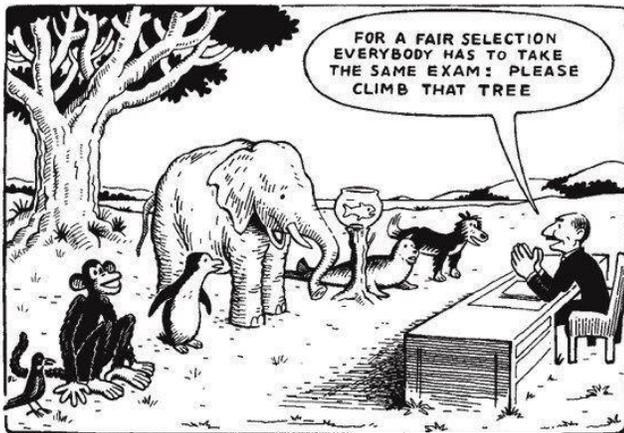


My first job was a slave job, working in Pendleton, Oregon. I made twelve dollars per hour and had to build the deck (roof) of a trailer. My duties included lifting two to three 80 pound plywood boards at a time; lay 5 to 9 of them on the trailer; screw them down, sand them, glue them, and then cover them with a large rubber tarp; staple the tarp down, cut the excess off, blow it off; push the trailer out of the way; clean the area and finally push the next trailer into the cat walk to start all over again.

We had about twenty minutes to do all of this before management was yelling at us to hurry up and move in the next trailer. The floors were covered in saw dust, nails, staples, loose supplies and only a chain at knee level as "protection" from a fall of ten feet. It was just the way it was.

It didn't really make sense to me that I was risking so much and only making \$400 a week, while if I were to hurt myself I would have to pay anywhere from \$1,000 to \$50,000 in hospital bills, and possibly be impaired for life.

If I was risking so much, shouldn't my check reflect that? Unfortunately, no. We live in a society that judges fish by their ability to climb a tree.



If you happen to be good with numbers but not with your hands, good news! You will probably make more than the kids that like to build things. Not because you are smarter, or because you are better than them in any way, it is because our system does not measure labor fairly. An architect makes far more money than a construction worker or a carpenter, even if the carpenter is risking more and working harder than the architect. Their goals are the same, build a house. The end is the same, house built. So, shouldn't their payment be somewhat even?

We are raised thinking that if we work hard and put in our best, we will come out on top. THIS IS NOT THE CASE. We must change our social structure and mind set. We need to value good work ethic and compensate accordingly.

MONEY IS NOT THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL

"We live in a society that loves money, loves having money and glorifies those with money.

Many people have made money their priority, and this is the problem. I have said this before and I will say it again: Money is a tool or resource for your life. It is not your life. It can be evil if you make it your life (hence love it) or the objective of your existence. We do this by prioritizing making money over everything else.

Imagine a household where the parents are always at work or doing something or the other in search of money.

Time together as a couple is compromised; time with family is compromised and many times, even their own health is compromised.

They are deluded into thinking that if they reach a certain status or level of finances, they will spend time on these other things.

They don't realize that money is a moving target; it will never be enough. If you make a million, you want five. If you make 10 million, you want 20. If you get addicted to the attention that money brings, you always need to make more or buy something bigger to retain the attention."²

What then shall we do?

Find a way to transition into a no money society, where the exchange medium is not transferable and therefore not corruptible. A system where scientific innovations are shared freely to help all of society, not just created to line the pockets of a few. An economic system that considers the impact on the environment and society to be as vital to itself as how much debt it can generate for the general population to create the impression of great wealth for the few.

2. [Money is Not the root of all evil](#)

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