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### *How Much Falls On Deaf Ears?*

The world used to be more real—at least we thought so. We assumed who were friends and enemies, and a culture for us to fall back on. Now that's gone. Young persons, trying to sort it out are bewildered. And we older ones, if fortunate enough get what's happening, understand that they took our culture and left us with algorithms.

Is that a sad thing? Of course, but not as much as it is bewildering for the young, making their floundering attempt to latch onto a life that makes sense. And because they live in a culture where reality's been traded for ideologies, they've a tough road.

The relevant question now is whether or not those around us speak for themselves—or are they being spoken for? And how far and deep has the algorithm/ideology penetrated? Can we take solace with any so-called liberal/conservative among us? Is it possible to identify with either of the two political parties and still think for oneself?

I'm in a good position to take on that question. Over 15 years, my readership grew into groupings of 500 to whom I send out my articles. Now, when 100 or 2 bounce back as undeliverable (box is full/-lapsed email), that's only a minor blip in my readership.

However, two major events in the last 15 years have awoken me from a deep sleep. First, I thought that because I'd grown-up a blue-collar democrat (socially liberal/fiscally conservative), I had shared values with the left. As it turned out, I had none. The left, had traded their culture for elite algorithms. They didn't know it and cared even less.

The left had been the anti-war party—now they voted to fund war—even more so than the right. The left had been socially liberal—now no vestige of liberalism was left .

In masse they left my readership. In my town they ceased to include me as a friend. When I presented a Supreme Court finding that the 1st Amendment is intended to invite dispute, they reacted between unreceptive and hostile, at times—apoplectic.

Why was that? Over time, they'd bought into *notions of equity*. Fat people were no longer fat—referring to *fat people* called for shunning and censor. No longer could you distinguish someone in a group as 'the black guy'. And, no longer should someone get ahead on merit—the non-performers among us were brought to the front of the line.

Making it worse, as a 50's male I enjoyed pushing the edge and rattling cages. When I would employ such methods in my critique of the left, conservative readers would come out in full support. All was fine in my world, just as long as I didn't go after both parties. Then, in response, along came Trump and the election cycle of 2015.

For any who don't know, Trump is not anyone that a rational body politic would have as president. The Trump phenomena is a backlash to Obama/Biden/Harris. Even a warmonger such as Teddy Roosevelt was far more intelligent than Donald Trump.

Worse, Trump is a consummate liar. Everything was/is a lie. He had no intention of ending the war in Ukraine. In the 2nd year of his presidency, support for that war is unchanged, simply handed-off to the EU—shifting his mayhem to more immediate whims.

But Trump isn't my focus here—it's the commonality that underlies both parties, not something as simple as being warmongers (which they are), but having bought into the same algorithms such that underneath it all they are more a uni-party than distinct.

As a result, with so many on the right/left having bought into unquestioned elite control, political writing (for me), seems a waste of time. And it makes me wonder, when I send out articles in batches of 500 readers, how many continue to read them at all, and for those who do, because they've traded questions for answers, do they even care?

Given that I'm passionate about what I do with my 2 pages—what's bringing me doubt? Back when I was critiquing the *left*, I lost many readers—it didn't matter that my arguments were reasonable. After inauguration, I began critiquing Trump's murder/mayhem only to find something powerful in the political process—commonly labelled as *mass formation*. As a result, on the *right*, I'm abandoned by long-standing friends.

What is *mass formation*? What has it done to our culture? Is the change just for now

—or something that lasts forever? Let's visit a little history: during the 1700s, in the West, a time of faith, the morning ritual for many had to do with 'how will I lead a good life today?' Our founders (men of faith), assumed Americans to be rational beings. And, they were correct, which resulted in the adoption of the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

But the 20th century brought something new and difficult to fathom onto the world stage. Historically there had been *classical dictatorship*, implemented by force, but now there emerged something different—totalitarianism. Something not known/seen before.

What was totalitarianism? It's a political movement where force is not needed to take control. It resides in the fact that so many of us are scared, lonely, divided, conquered, atomized, willing to adopt *mass formation* so as to have something to cleave unto.

With no necessity it be rational, individuals give themselves over without hardly a question. Think back on Covid when authorities outlawed religious services but kept Costco open. And parents died on ventilators because hospital visitation was a taboo.

In mass formation, no argument is allowed, and if a question gets pushed, it's met with hostility. Educated persons are susceptible because schools acts to indoctrinate, away from questions towards established narrative. Soon, there's only the 1 narrative.

Examples are everywhere. Consider Europeans, without a war machine or industry, ready to take up the fight with Russian over Ukraine—without any regard for the facts. And all is made worse by media control in the hands of elites (something only made possible with mass communication). As a result, *mass media* informs *mass formation*.

My old dem friends are incapable of remembering I grew up one of them, a blue collar, socially liberal and fiscally conservative—because they are neither. And, erstwhile conservative friends see me *bashing Trump and complaining*, while they equate Trump's support for Title 9 women as balancing-out Iran/global slaughter. Sad but true.

How deep does mind control go? Can we take solace that without elite madness, man is a rational being? Until then—we stay away from where we don't belong?

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