

We Are All Related

Idolizing

We are all related. We need to remember, however, how to relate to others and how to relate to ourselves. We need to remember how to relate to Mother Earth, and the Family that Mother Earth is related to: The winds, the waters, above and below; and to the Sun and Moon, and our cousins beyond our seeing, but not beyond our knowing.

It's a powerful thing. It also ignored. We are led to believe that there are people above us and people beneath us. That we are either not good enough to belong, or too good to relate to others.

Our society has been bent to White European Fails system. A system that has failed to protect people and the environment, but instead protects wealth and the power of wealth. We can't relate to that, but we are always pushed to try to relate to the unrelatable.

I would have never dreamt that I'd live in a time of comical tragedy wherein people who have accomplished nothing have become wealthy simply by their celebrity of doing nothing. Or worse, by their celebrity of doing selfish or bad things.

"Social Media Influencers" is about the emptiest of pursuits I can think of, and yet, it's a real thing. It's a commercialization of appearance, vacuousness, ignorance and outright stupidity. People are literally Famous for being Famous, while people with talent, people who are courageous, people who work their whole lives to help others, are considered less important or unimportant entirely.

It didn't used to be this way. It doesn't have to be this way. We can turn our attention, our energies and our efforts towards better things, better people and find ourselves relatable again.

Journalism in the mainstream is failing us more than it is informing us. Major outlets in print and TV pursue 'access' to powerful people rather than accuracy of the information they relay. They are essentially, megaphones, stenographers, for all those who mislead us. They repeat what is said, regardless of how absurd, contrary to known facts, and pat themselves on the back for being the one to be able to do so. Even as our country is murdering itself on the World stage. Reporters don't report, they repeat. *We should call them Repeaters*. They only serve to reinforce lies, and not facts. They don't do research, they do puff pastry. Ummm! Tasty! What was that?

Poverty is Artificial

Poverty is created by Greed and promoted by greedy people, who work in greedy corporations. They use all the amenities that our taxes pay for: Roads, waterways, water, sewer, Fire, Police and military, but they pay little or no taxes because they are too wealthy to pay taxes.

Somehow, not carrying their share of the burden despite them benefiting unequally from those amenities, becomes a point of pride with them, and for those who have access to them who report on their wealth rather than their greed.

And they demand that the rest of us pay more of what little we earn, in order to support the systems that keep and protect them. They even get government hand-outs in the billions of dollars (Example: Oil Companies get \$80-300 Billion in grants from the Federal Government, despite making their highest profits of close to a trillion dollars a year. Do Oil Companies 'need' that? No. And it's not just Oil Companies: GE pays no taxes, year after year.)

And for some reason they are all touted as 'successes' and as 'leaders of society' when they are nothing more than the robbers, stealing from us all. Now they are coming after our Social Security, Medicare, and retirement savings. They got huge tax breaks, and the debt ballooned because of that, so now, shame on us greedy pensioners for wanting the funds we paid into for all those decades, Mitch McConnell and his gang are hell bent on taking that away from us because "someone has to pay", but not the wealthy.

Social Safety Nets such as SNAP, which feeds poor families, often times our Veterans, and welfare for the needy, are seen as 'evil' and as being a 'drag on society', despite their share of Federal dollars being a mere fraction of what the Oil Companies get (as a reward for exploiting our common resources and keeping it all for themselves).

The Poor are seen as the problem, not the Greedy. And that is the problem. But no one is addressing that. Journalists will go out and 'examine poverty' and what they deem 'the root causes' of poverty, but they will never look at the greedy who are in fact the cause of all that ails our society.

Anyone who attempts to point out the inequity is labeled "Socialist!" And the word "Socialist" is tied to "Communist" and they are two different things. Just a note here: Communism was never Communism, as defined, but rather, a system of corruption that rather than shared the wealth, robbed the poor of their property and their labors, because the power held by the leaders was absolute and absolute power (say it with me) corrupts absolutely.

Socialism is what taxes are. We share the infrastructure, the agencies, the police departments, fire departments, schools, water, sewer, management of dump sites, management of

disasters... that's not paid for by each individual, we could never afford that, so we pool our funds (taxes) to pay for, run & manage those things.

Socialism is also Social Security and Medicare. We all pay into it for decades, and those of us who survive to the age & stage where we qualify for it, benefit from the accumulated interests those funds gained over time, and from the greater pool of contributors than just us. It's why we don't have Gramma and Grampa in the gutter, begging for food.

But the Greedy want to take that all away from us as well. Republicans have always (since Nixon) tried to break those systems because the very wealthy whom they serve, benefit the most from not having to contribute, and from the disparity between their increasing wealth and the increasing poverty which creates a desperation in society that allows them to exploit our labors.

But journalism reports on Poverty as if Poverty is the problem that ails society, rather than on the Greed that creates the poverty and the desperation.

Fashionable Stupidity

Sarah Palin made ignorance fashionable. The anger towards anyone that pointed out she was lying, or that she was wrong, was striking. She was the embodiment of Republican Ideal Woman: Ignorant, beautiful, amusing, abusive and above all, arrogant. So the party promoted her despite her having no experience beyond being the governor of Alaska, which she operated like a little kingdom, attacking any law enforcement that cited her family for breaking the laws, even trying to get the head of the State Patrol fired because he wouldn't nullify a ticket.

The virtues the Republican party claimed to stand for went out the window. She riled up the racism in her crowds with her rhetoric. It was her rallies that first "penned reporters, like livestock" and they weren't allowed to leave their 'area' to interview anyone because she had made it dangerous for them, insulting them as "Lame Stream Media"... and the press, instead of pushing back on this, ate it up. Fast forward to current day, and you have the President of the USA declaring the media as "The Enemy of The People" exactly as Hitler did when he rose to power. And they eat it up! They work to please him rather than to expose him.

They'd rather have a President they can call "Accessible" than one they can call truthful. And if they report anything other than what he wants them to say, they find they have no access. And here we are.

He clownishly tries to cover for the fact that he thought Alabama was on the East Coast, above Georgia, by literally defacing an official weather forecast map with a Sharpie, to make it appear

as if Hurricane Dorian would have hit Alabama. He's the president of a country and he doesn't even know which states are where. Fashionable Stupidity has reached zenith. And while we are following that, he's taking billions away from our military infrastructure, readiness, and basics, to fund his Wall. A Wall. Because walls were a great impediment to invaders in the 13th Century.

He's not doing that to protect us. He's doing it so he can say he kept his promise to build a wall. A promise based on ignorance and stupidity. His promise to have Mexico pay for it, is all but forgotten.

Meanwhile, the agencies and instruments that did protect us from invasions, drug dealers, Human trafficking across our borders, is being dismantled, defunded. Does that make sense? No. Does that hurt people? Yes. Does it hurt property, and the environment? Yes. Are people at the border angry over this? Yes. Will they vote for Trump? Probably. Why? Because they have been brainwashed for decades that Democrats are the enemies of all they need in life. A baseless assumption, contrary to all the facts, and yet, promoted as if a reflex, throughout political discourse, making us all a little more stupid, more susceptible, more vulnerable to everything that hurts us, while at the same time, unable to understand basic steps needed to protect ourselves and to prosper collectively by being able to relate to others, to our environment, and to all that surrounds us and that would give us greater strength, greater justice and greater peace.

Heroes should be people who do courageous things to help other people, not people who do outlandish things to make themselves richer; not people who steal from others, deal in bad faith, to make themselves richer. Maybe we should learn a few things from the Indians we tried to assimilate into our values. Clearly, our values are killing us as a nation.

All My Relations

You know where to find me.

~Cat

PS, My email has been down for a month, but I will catch up with you all when it is repaired.