

CHAPTER VII

# Gottlieb's World

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Oh brave new world  
that has such people in't

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# AMERICA

There is only one way to stop the corporate juggernaut that threatens world freedom, and that is for the citizens of the U.S. to quickly establish a system of governance that would restrict the power of U.S. corporations and private groups to influence national or international affairs.

Americans are the ones who must do this, as it is the U.S, which is the sole superpower today, and it is primarily the unrestricted ambitions of some of its powerful citizens that threaten world freedom.

It's amazing how many Americans are totally unaware of what's happening to their country. It's even more amazing that among those who are, seemingly, there are none with the imagination to conceive of a better society in which to bring up their children.

The fictional America described in these pages utilizes an economic-political system designed to curb excessive wealth and power, as it is understood that the only way to restrict the influence of wealth is to restrict the excessive accumulation of wealth.

America isn't a Utopia for it is still populated by people who possess human frailties and do all the foolish things people do. However, its economic-political system creates a more mature and friendlier world than the United States has ever been for most of its citizens.

It's a world that nourishes the lives of all citizens, rich and poor, male and female, white, black, and in-between, and it's a social environment in which commoners the world over would want their children and their children's children to be born.

## PARADIGM SHIFT

“Paradigm” is a term originally used within the scientific and academic communities meaning a different model or example. “Paradigm shift” as used here, refers to a shift of perspective, a new point of view that changes the way people see the world around them, encouraging them to do things they would never have once thought of doing—like rebuilding their society from the ground up.

What's needed in the United States of America today is a philosophi-

cal paradigm shift: a new, realistic, logical way to perceive life, one that rejects pessimism and instills people with optimism in both the present and the future. It's one that rejects the concept that people are evil and advocates their goodness and potential, one that creates greater expectations and dramatic change of behavior within the passive masses.

A participatory democracy can exist and prosper only when the citizens of the society possess such a philosophy. The citizens of the fictional America described in this chapter do. They call it “The Philosophy of Active Humanism,” and it's for people who are tired of politicians and rich masters and who are ready to help produce change, if such change is realistic and plausible.

- *Active Humanism is a private belief. There are no group prayers or group rituals. The philosophy advocates the right of the individual to believe or not believe, and to behave accordingly.*

- *It's a belief the current selfish use of the brain for private wealth and power is destructive and can end only in disaster for the species and the planet; a belief the species must learn to use the brain effectively for the common good or perish from this Earth; a belief the good life for all is here on planet Earth, if people actively and intelligently cooperate to secure it for all.*

- *It's a belief change is the essence of life, and change, growth, and evolution are one and the same; a belief active energy lies at the core of change, and the controlled and directed use of human energy combined with conscious reason will produce positive physical and intellectual change.*

- *It's a belief education is the catalyst to intellectual evolution and mature human behavior, and conscious use of energy is crucial for the species to metamorphose from low, animal-level to high, human-level.*

- *It's a belief in the Principle of the Greater-Force, belief cooperation between lots of people is the only way to fuse the Greater-Force, and a belief consider-*

*ation for the needs of one another the only way to retain it.*

- *It's a belief welfare is what a human society and government should be all about, for provision of the common welfare is why people have grouped together since the beginning of time.*

- *It's a belief in the collective responsibility of society to ensure the welfare of each and every citizen, not merely rich citizens, white citizens, aggressive citizens, nor male citizens; a belief part of this responsibility is to guarantee each citizen access not only to the needs of survival, but also to a fair share of society's good things.*

- *It's a belief people are born, live, and die just as other living forms; a belief life-after-death has never been proven to exist and it's foolish to base human behavior on the "faith" it does, when it's more likely it doesn't.*

*And because people have only this one opportunity to enjoy the good things of planet Earth and contribute to the species' welfare, it's a belief it is in society's best interest to ensure every citizen be given the opportunity to develop and become all he or she can become.*

- *If the emotional support of a supernatural being, however, is needed it could be considered a religion. But its sole relationship to supernaturalism is the belief that if there is a Creator, he, she, or it has endowed the human species with the brain as its major means of survival, and will offer no additional assistance to help an individual, or the species, to survive. Not ever!*

- *It's a belief that only when such a philosophy as Active Humanism is held by the majority of a nation's commoners can society be transformed into a more equitable place for all.*

The fictional America described in this chapter is a society whose core philosophy is Active Humanism, plus the two following premises:

One - you can change and improve people's intellectual and physical behavior by changing their social environment from hostile to friendly.

Two - you can transform a hostile social environment to a friendly one by changing a "them-against-us" form of governance to one truly of the people, by the people, and for the people.

There is much criticism of government today in the mass media, but what is government?

The dictionary defines it as "a system of rule" or "a system of political administration." True enough, but not a clear enough explanation.

Generally, government is the institution—the human invention—that provides society its basic stability and meaning. It's a system of organization essential to the maintenance of social order, and the central headquarters where important decisions affecting all citizens of a society are made.

Government's basic function is—and has always been—to regulate human activities within the geographic boundaries of the social system, and to organize and efficiently use all resources within these boundaries. It accomplishes this by regulating the needs and wants of individuals and groups possessing different interests.

Unfortunately, in primitive cultures, the concept of government has evolved not only from the basic human need for social order, but from the specific need of aggressively brutal, or deceptively sly, minorities to command obedience of the ignorant common majority.

The early Greeks recognized three basic types of physical government by which human social relationships may be ordered: the rule of one, the rule of few, and the rule of many, but not all.

The rule of one is a system of governance in which a sole ruler supported by well-organized, well-armed supporters holds the absolute power of a society. All governments of one-person rule are authoritarian systems based upon the claim that the chosen ruler is a superior person deserving to wield total authority. The power of such a ruler is arbitrary, and often ruthless.

For commoners, almost every aspect of daily life in this type of social order is regulated by intimidation and brute-force coercion. Constant fear

fused to natural timidity deprives people of the courage to attempt change.

Such governments offer privileged citizens maximum social benefits while commoners are positioned on the lowest rungs of the social ladder and receive few benefits.

Planet Earth has seen more than its share of such systems.

The rule of few is little different than rule of one because it, too, is authoritarian. The ruler is not sovereign, but has a chosen group of consuls or advisors to advise, approve, or censor his decisions and policies. The design of this society's government, laws, and institutions also places commoners on the lowest rungs of the social hierarchy, assuring privileged citizens maximum social benefits.

Earth has also seen more than its share of such systems.

The third type of social system, recognized by the Greeks of the Classic Period, is government of the many, but not all. The political structure in the city-state of classical Athens represented many, but not all of its citizens, and came closer to a democratic way of life than any other culture, before or since.

Yet it wasn't a true democracy, because females weren't recognized as equals, and many of the good citizens of Athens owned slaves. It's impossible for true democracy to exist simultaneously with slavery, for the two are based upon opposite human values.

These three systems of governance—rule of one, rule of few, and rule of many, but not all—have one thing in common that makes them bad systems for commoners. They are them-against-us systems that advocate rule by privileged citizens. None is concerned with the welfare of society's commoners, and ruling groups are allowed to abuse commoners.

Societies ruled by kings, dictators, aristocracies, or witch doctors have been bad for commoners. Modern day societies under the influence of industrialists, merchants and moneylenders have proven to be just as bad. All are examples of them-against-us governments.

A society can either be a them-against-us society or an all-of-us-together society; it cannot be both simultaneously.

Why not? Because it is either government's function to attend the welfare of select private groups and protect their wealth and wealth-producing capabilities—as it does in the U.S.—or it is government's function

to see to the collective welfare of the total population. It cannot do both simultaneously. That's why!

What the people of planet Earth haven't seen is a government managed by all of its citizens; a government in which all citizens contribute to mold the values and laws governing their lives; a government by which the collective welfare of the entire society is attended.

The rule of all is the only form of government that remains untested on planet Earth. Theoretically, it's the only form of governance within which aggressive minority groups can't acquire ruling power. Theoretically, it's the only form of governance that won't tolerate lavish wealth side by side with massive poverty and ignorance, and the only one that holds the potential to create a friendly, compassionate social environment capable of nurturing all citizens.

Such a society holds the promise of full physical and financial security for all of its citizens, for if all participate in governance, all are privileged, and all will have access to the fruits of fair government.

Such a political form has been labeled "participatory," or "direct," democracy. It is the only form of government with the potential to create a "civilized" society, a true civilization. It is the social system feared most by privileged people: an economic-political system of the people, by the people, and for the people; all of the people. It's a society in which political and economic powers are so diffused, neither individual nor group can grasp control of the narrows to the nation's survival.

It's the form of government rejected by the "Founding Fathers" of the U.S. republic. It's the form of government recommended by young Americans in their 1962 Port Huron Manifesto. It's the form adopted by the citizens of fictional America.

It may be difficult to envision such a society, but it's simply because there are no role models: the institutions needed by a direct democracy have yet to be invented. They don't exist.

Certainly, none of the class-inspired institutions of today: the two-party political system, two-part legislature, private property; privately controlled money system, organized religion; none of these devices designed to retain the status quo by a ruling elite would be functional in a direct democracy. Their objectives are contrary to those of a political-economic

system in which the entire citizenry rule.

### **POLITICAL NOURISHMENT**

President Wilson once said:

...When I think over what we are engaged in doing in the field of politics, I conceive it this way, men who are behind any interest always unite in organization, and the danger in every country is that these special interests will be the only things organized, and that the common interest will be unorganized against them. The business of government is to organize the common interest against the special interests...

This is a very different perception of government's function than popular perceptions held by most Americans, or by the Founders of our pseudo-democracy.

### **New Government**

Although the delegates of 1787 rejected both the mandatory vote and commoner participation in government, Americans insist upon both. They believe a nation has a better chance for survival, and its citizens a better chance for security, if all citizens have a voice in choosing their form of government and every citizen is required to participate in its administration. They understand a dedicated political commitment from each citizen is the only way to secure true democracy.

Therefore, fictional America is designed to make an active citizenry the driving force of politics, and citizen participation in the nation's law-making and administrative processes is conceived as a duty, not a right; an obligation, not a privilege.

The premise is if an American expects to share the benefits of the American System, he or she must pay their dues; being born an American isn't enough.

Each citizen is required to contribute to society's welfare by participating in government on a rotating basis: to take his or her full responsibility and obligation in establishing society's values, policies, and behavior.

It all starts with a two-part contract between the whole American citizenry, collectively known as "society," and each individual citizen. The contract isn't between groups of people with geographic, political, economic, religious, or ethnic differences—all superficial differences. Nor is the contract a legal document. It's merely a pledge, part of the foundation

upon which this new society builds its strength.

The first part of the contract requires you, as a citizen, to make specific contributions of time and effort to society's welfare at predetermined times during your life. These contributions will earn you specific rights.

The second part requires you to pledge other citizens the guarantee that in return for their identical contributions to society you, as an integral part of society, will grant to them the identical rights granted to you.

The pledge doesn't mean you must love your fellow citizens, or even like them. It does mean you must respect their claim to all the rights you expect from society.

In essence, it means you pledge to protect their rights and look after them, and they pledge to protect your rights and look after you. You see to it no one pushes them around, and they do the same for you.

It's the strategy that ties every American to every other American, regardless of race, religion, or the amount of money in the bank. The common denominator is "American citizen." It's the necessary first step to acquiring true equality and true freedom for all citizens of the country.

America is a single country, not a republic. It is not a union of fifty semi-sovereign little countries, or "states," each structured to favor the dominant groups of the region, as it is in the U.S. America. It is a union of individuals, and Americans consider themselves Americans first, not Californians, New Yorkers, or whatever the geographic region in which they live.

Unlike the republican structure of the U.S., America possesses a single, unified, efficient, political structure called "New Government." The fifty-one kingdoms and the fifty-one different sets of rulers, with fifty-one different sets of laws, and fifty-one different sets of taxing formulations found in the United States don't exist in America.

The alarms are probably clamoring within your head right now. A strong central government that plans the overall society? What about the doctrine that "government is best that governs least?"

Such a claim is true, but only when applied to a them-against-us government. Only when government is comprised of people whose interests are unrelated, or contrary, to the interests of the governed, and government's unregulated powers allow these people to care for their in-

terests at the expense of the governed.

Such a claim is neither true, nor relevant, in a participatory democracy in which the government is us; all of us.

Strong central management with the ability to design and execute short and long-range plans is what helped to build the corporate conglomerates of today by allowing them to use corporate resources in the most efficient, profitable way.

Americans believe the efficiency of self-serving corporate boardrooms will prove just as efficient when brought into the nation's political planning rooms by people who have a direct stake in the long-range results of such planning. New Government is one of the social inventions necessary for a participatory democracy to be successful.

New Government is a giant support system, very much like support groups in the U.S. for alcoholics, divorcees, and other emotionally vulnerable people. Unlike these groups, however, which begin to function only after a person has suffered the consequences of a hostile social system, New Government utilizes the nation's resources to protect citizens before they suffer physical, emotional, intellectual, and economic abuse.

To create their society, American commoners have endowed New Government with four specific goals designed to eliminate the fundamental causes of social ills found in all low-level Earth cultures.

First: to help preserve and maintain the natural health of planet Earth for future generations, New Government is authorized to administer the use of the nation's natural resources.

Second: to nourish intellectual and emotional maturity and to eliminate ignorance of the masses, New Government is empowered to deliver essential education to all citizens, young and old. Free, throughout all of life.

Third: to restrict the accumulation of excessive economic wealth and power by aggressive, ambitious citizens, and to reduce extreme economic differences within the nation, New Government is empowered to regulate the economy.

Fourth: to increase domestic tranquility and reduce international conflict, New Government is authorized to vigorously promote the concepts of cooperation and consideration.

New Government is divided into seven resource sectors, each sector administered by an agency responsible for its development and regulation. The duties of each agency are clearly defined, with no overlapping jurisdiction. Each sector operates on the local, regional, and national levels. The seven sectors are:

1. Natural Resources
2. Human Resources
3. Education
4. Justice
5. Finance
6. Science & Technology
7. International Relations

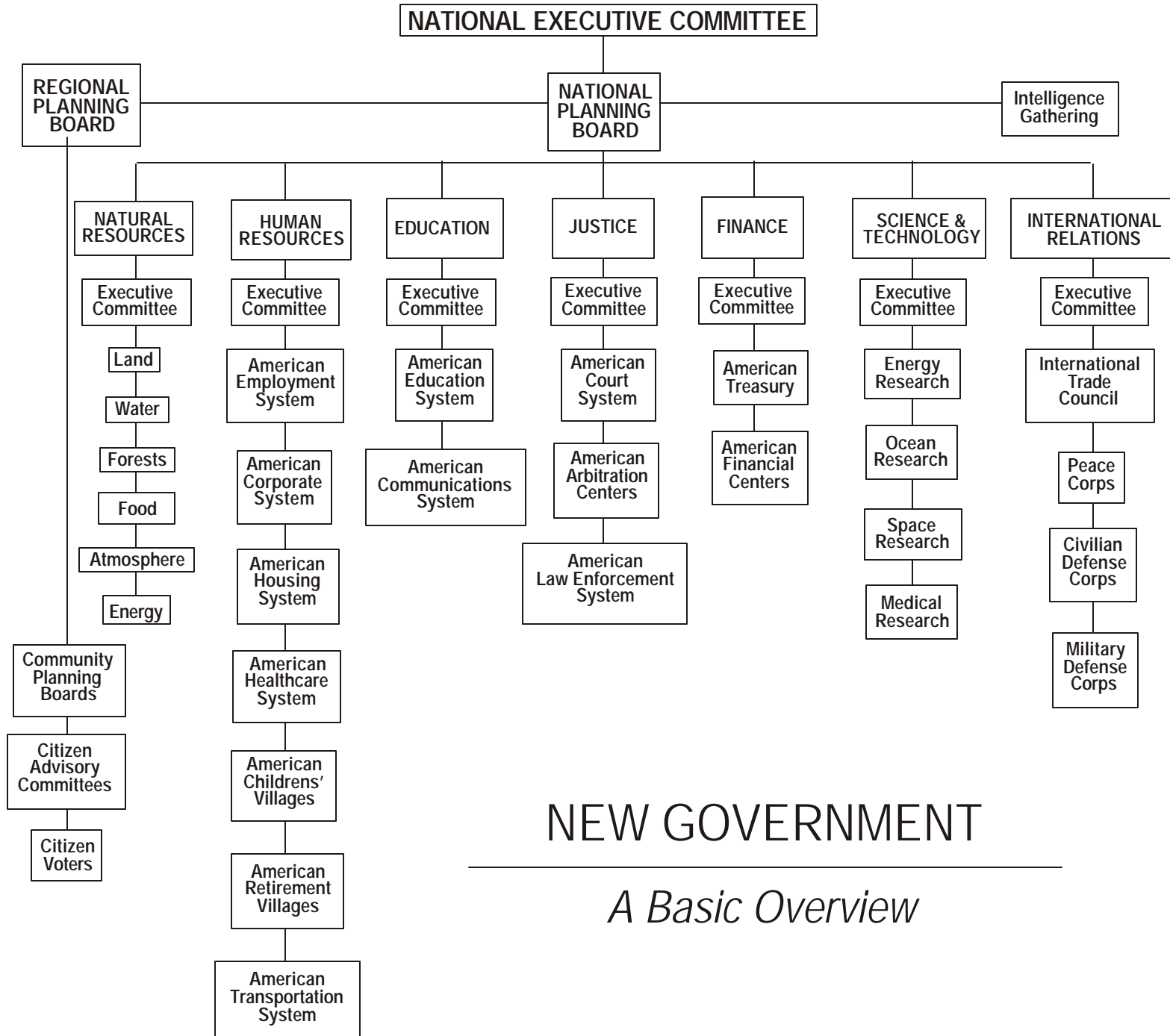
(Diagram)

At the local level, Community Planning Boards guide the activities and growth of each town and city in the nation. These are supervised by one of the fifty Regional Planning Boards; each of which is responsible for coordinating the activities of the Community Planning Boards within its jurisdiction. Community and Regional Planning Boards make recommendations directly to their respective constituents via print, radio, television, and computer media.

The National Planning Board is responsible for collecting and interpreting data from each of the seven sector headquarters, and for coordinating the activities of the fifty Regional Planning Boards. It is the agency that creates integrated, national, short-term and long-term programs.

At each level, a planning board assumes responsibility only for those activities it can do more effectively than the board above it. All boards have the power to suggest and enforce laws, but none have the authority to make laws. Only citizen/voters can do that. In America, lawmaking responsibilities belong exclusively to citizen/voters, not to a group of specialists called "lawyers."

All planning boards possess the same structure: one citizen/specialist from each of the seven resource sectors plus five ordinary, worker citizen/voters who are either employed, unemployed or retired. This mix guaran-



# NEW GOVERNMENT

## *A Basic Overview*

tees that the needs of all citizens, and not merely those of powerful special interest groups, are attended.

A National Executive Committee coordinates it all. The committee is comprised of one senior member of each of the seven resource sectors; each member having served one term on the National Planning Board. There are also five ordinary, worker citizen/voters on this committee.

The National Executive Committee makes recommendations of national and international importance directly to the citizenry, guaranteeing that citizens receive the most accurate, current information upon which to base voting decisions. Should an unforeseen vacancy occur on the committee, an appropriate member of the National Planning Board fills the position.

The committee chairperson communicates often with the citizenry in Open Forum.

Members of all Planning Boards and of the National Executive Committee serve a one-year term and then resume their private lives.

The people are the administrators of New Government. Each citizen is periodically required to assist in government, and each receives proper training to help fulfill administrative responsibilities. All citizens participate in doing the things that nourish society, so it can nourish them in return. Upon completion of a term as citizen/administrator, the citizen resumes private life, allowing another to step forward to fulfill his or her public duty.

Together, the National Executive Committee, Planning Boards, citizen/administrators, and citizen/voters are responsible for the overall health of America and its citizens. Together, they are New Government, a political structure providing consistency and continuity of philosophy and political policy at all levels of the American society. A consistency and continuity missing in the political structure of the United States.

### **INTELLECTUAL NOURISHMENT**

The men who wrote the Constitution of the United States were aware of the relationship between an educated citizenry and a functioning democracy. A few, a very few, wanted to include provision for a national university in the document. Most, however, were fearful of an educated citizenry.

It's one of the reasons the power to administer public education in

the U.S. has been relegated to individual states and not the federal government. A federal authority, which would presumably receive the best qualified advise from the most qualified people in the nation, might create a public education system that produced graduates too educated and knowledgeable to accept a hierarchal social system that produces immense wealth for the few and perpetual poverty for the many.

The strategy of allowing each state government to create and administer its own public education system goes hand in hand with Madison's strategy of dividing commoners into many factions so that they may never unite in common cause. It gives the privileged citizens governing each state the authority to determine content and quality of such education.

In essence, it gives them the power to deliver whatever kind of education they wish to the common children of their respective states and to indoctrinate them with whatever values and truths they wish. It's why the values and beliefs of common children educated in New Hampshire are different than those of Mississippi. It's why "higher education" in the U.S today produces individuals educated to contribute to corporate, but not society's, welfare.

There is a general disagreement in the U.S. as to what the function and content of an essential education should be, and the best ways to deliver such education to the student. As a result there is chaos and confusion.

Whether this is an honest condition, or merely an imitation of the Oceania Establishment's strategies to lower the intellectual abilities of common children may never be known.

Generally, however, the function of a basic, or essential, education should be to prepare young citizens not only to cope with contemporary challenges being hurled at them today, but also the unimaginable and unexpected challenges of the future.

An essential education does more than impart knowledge or aid in developing vocational skills. Such an education, whether by trained teacher or well-meaning parent, imparts values, attitudes, and develops lifetime habits of thought and behavior and influences the type of society and individual produces, and accepts.

A belief of all cultures in all eras, until the development of North



America, was that only privileged male children are worthy of receiving a formal education. Privileged female children were rarely given the same education as males.

It was the advent of Christianity that prompted the teaching of commoners, children and adults, to read and write. But only because an ability to read the Bible was the proven path to creating good, obedient Christians, and good, obedient Christians rarely questioned or challenged the hierarchal status quo.

Accepting the status quo not only means the acceptance of political rule and hierarchal structure, it also means acceptance of society's values and beliefs, many of which are inherited from cultures long deceased and incompatible with contemporary life. This inflexibility, this refusal to accommodate new knowledge and new attitudes has contributed to the slow death of all great societies of the past.

Most schools in colonial America were schools owned and operated by organized religions. History records that both organized religion and America's privileged families fought long and hard against legalizing public, secular education for commoners.

The accusations of poor public school education and the rapid dismantling of the U.S. public school system today is nothing more than a renewal of the battle by the forces of religion and privilege fortified by their entrenched government vantage points.

Citizens of our fictional America understand the relationship between participatory democracy and education. They realize that to govern properly extensive knowledge is needed, high, human-level thinking is needed, emotional discipline is needed, and command of language is needed.

Americans believe that a free, public school education for every citizen combined with the cooperative use of their physical energies will help them to build a true civilization, a society that cares for all of its citizens and sees to it that none are deprived of the opportunity to fully mature.

They further believe striving for the common welfare, rather than expending energies solely for individual self-interest, is the only way to guarantee human security and dignity, and the only way to attain peace and not war.

These beliefs give Americans a vitality and sense of purpose through-

out their lives currently absent in all other Earth people.

#### American Education System

Americans believe it is the responsibility and obligation of each generation to teach the following generation not only how to survive, but how to survive with dignity and integrity. This is accomplished by organizing society's resources to provide free education for all citizens, and by allowing all who are willing and capable of teaching, to teach.

In America, there is no price tag on education. From kindergarten through college, the public treasury finances public education, which is free to all citizens—and mandatory for all who are capable.

Citizen education is administered and supervised by the American Education System. The system's prime objectives are to help each citizen develop faith in self's ability to meet life's challenges, and to prepare them to meet such challenges individually and together.

It accomplishes its objectives by providing each child with the skills of high, human-level thinking and problem solving, by promoting wisdom and the application of wisdom to social relationships, and by instilling each with a sense of social obligation and responsibility.

These objectives are similar to the goals of the U.S. business community's "reengineering" policies to help corporate employees to communicate and work more effectively together. However, the American Education System's "reengineering," or "programming," isn't to produce greater profits for some, but a more harmonious, beneficial life for all.

New Government has divided life into five stages: infancy, childhood, young adult, mature adult, and elder. Americans expect citizens to acquire specific fundamental information and experiences during each stage.

As a curious self is recognized as a healthy self, during infancy, parents are required to help develop their child's curiosity by consciously functioning as teacher/role model as well as parent. Child and parents participate in programs to help everyone cope with their new relationship, and help the infant to cope with the newness of everything.

The programs are designed to strengthen the child/parent relationship and to develop positive habits of thought and behavior. They are also designed to help build the child's self-esteem during these formative years, when such confidence is needed most.

During the preschool, childhood period, children are formally introduced to the three building blocks of high-level thinking and behavior: curiosity, cooperation, and consideration. They are introduced to the complexities of human relationships, taught to recognize and acknowledge the needs and wants of others and the advantages of doing some things together, and some separately. They are also taught the skills of forming friendships.

Americans believe a school should be a healthy environment for children and citizen/teachers. Accordingly, schools in America are designed along the order of shopping malls in the U.S.A. They're spacious, friendly, inviting environments filled with trees, shrubs, and flowers. To ensure that each child receives his or her share of personal instruction, classrooms are small. All schools are equipped with the most current teaching technologies

Because schools are also considered healthier gathering places than bars, lounges, and shopping malls, many function as community centers remaining open during evening hours to provide safe, friendly places to hold neighborhood social and cultural activities.

In America, it isn't blind patriotism that is encouraged, but friendliness and respect for others. At the beginning of each school day the children make a pledge of allegiance not to a flag, but to each other and to all the citizens of America. The pledge, which is nothing more than an extension of the American social contract, helps to transform the contract into a vital and integral part of every day life.

In elementary school, children are started on effective communications skills, for Americans understand the right of free speech is useless to people who can neither read, write, nor speak intelligently and effectively. They understand these abilities are among the essential skills of human survival, without which an individual is dependent upon others to solve many everyday problems, and without which participation in a participatory democracy would be difficult.

Elementary school children are taught that they are unique animals with unlimited potential. They are taught to distinguish between right and wrong, negative and positive, low-level and high-level thinking and behavior.

By explaining human strengths and weaknesses and their relationships to human problems, and by encouraging each student to overcome life's obstacles either by themselves or with the aid of others, whichever they believe the more efficient method, the education system helps young citizens to discipline themselves and to mature.

The children are instilled with values that equate time not with collecting money, but collecting and sharing experiences with other people: of picnics and concerts in the park, of friendly conversations and debates, of hiking remote mountain trails and rafting down white water rivers, and of wandering the halls of museums and art galleries to better understand the past.

They're made to understand that time should be positioned at the top of their value scale right beside life, that once gone neither can be replaced, that opportunities to experience and to learn should not be delayed for a more opportune or convenient time, for such may never come.

They're taught the importance of contemplation and the necessity of setting aside daily thinking time, time to be consciously spent in solitude away from the distractions of everyday activities, such as television and radio entertainment. They're introduced to the computer and encouraged to establish 'puter pals on the Internet.

Periodically, a committee comprised of educators, medical specialists, and parents assess the abilities and talents of each child, developing a "Growth Program" designed to nurture the child's natural abilities. At all times the student is guided in an education compatible with his or her normal tendencies and, when old enough, personal preferences.

High school students are given advanced courses in the use of language. They're taught to respect the power of words and are familiarized with the art of demagoguery and the techniques by which double-talk and lies are cleverly delivered as truth. They're warned of the dangers of emotionally charged words, such as "patriotism, communism, socialism, radical, conservative, and leftist."

They are exposed to the techniques of conflict resolution and mediation, and helped to understand the present by learning of the past, concentrating more on people relationships and less on dates and events.

They're encouraged to study and discuss the thoughts of the great

philosophers and authors, and to distinguish between truths and theories. They're taught about human dignity and made to understand ideals such as justice and honor are never compromised, and never outdated.

They're also taught that unregulated production is irresponsibly destructive, and impulsive consumption foolishly childish.

They're taught that wealthy members of the U.S. Establishment gain objectives not only because they are better organized than commoners, but also because they make long-range plans and possess the patience and the perseverance to transform plans into reality.

Throughout their lives, Americans are encouraged to think about and discuss everything, and not to accept a statement as truth if it is unclear or illogical.

High school and college students are taught about loneliness and the biological and social reasons for male-female relationships. They're taught the importance of carefully selecting a life-mate with whom to share the challenges and memories of life. They're encouraged to establish a stable relationship before having children, and taught such a relationship goes hand in hand with maturity.

Students are made aware of the global population problem and counseled that, under the circumstances, breeding like rabbits isn't what intelligent humans should be doing. They're made aware that the availability of desirable jobs is related to population size: the more people seeking employment, the greater the probability of getting a less desirable job: basic logic, 101.

They're taught to think of parenting as a cooperative social venture and made to understand New Government will hold them just as accountable for the quality of children they bring up, as it holds business people for the quality of the products and services they inject into society.

Males are emphatically made to understand New Government will hold them legally, financially, and morally responsible for their offspring, until the child is grown to adulthood.

In America, education is not a competitive activity, and educators reject the low, animal-level concept of "good" and "poor" students. Americans understand that people have different capabilities and learn at different levels of efficiency. Each student is encouraged to do his or her best

and allowed to take final exams when each is ready to take them. Grades are based upon a student's capabilities, projected potential, and actual progress and not compared with the grades of other students.

After graduation from high school and college, school records are transferred to the Public Archives. Never are they released to a private corporation to be judged for employment potential. In America, all graduates are competent.

American high school and college students are periodically required to assist at local hospitals, schools for the handicapped, prisons, and American Children's Villages, which have been created to care for orphans and abused children during the transition period. In this way, each young citizen receives direct experience with the consequences of undisciplined low-level behavior.

To give young people a further appreciation of society's basic needs and problems, each learns the ways society disposes of its garbage and toxic materials by working on a garbage truck collecting garbage. In America, garbage collecting is considered among the nation's most essential functions, and garbage collectors are among the highest paid public employees.

Young adults are required to serve one year in the Peace Corps, visiting other countries and gaining experience with people of other cultures. Those who show a liking and an aptitude for such people relationships are invited to join the International Relations Sector.

Young adults are encouraged to experience nature's pleasures before they're committed to family and other time-stealing obligations, before their so-called "golden years" when the body can no longer climb awesome mountains, and the self is too weary and cautious to chance the turbulence of white-water.

At some time during young adulthood, all American citizens are required to begin serving in local government, much like U.S. citizens today are expected to temporarily serve military or jury duty.

Teaching in America is regarded as crucial to survival of the nation, and public educators are among the most respected and highest paid public employees. There are more teachers in the American Education System than in the U.S. Education System, and far fewer students per class.

Teacher qualifications, however, are higher than those for teachers in the United States. Citizens wishing to teach must not only prove capable in their specialties and well versed in the techniques of knowledge transfer, but also show they possess a temperament suitable for teaching.

By demanding that everyone acquire the same basic education and learn the same basic social skills, will a society produce human robots?

Of course not! People are incredibly complex animals, possessing a great many options from which to develop individuality. We differ physically, intellectually, and emotionally. We possess different talents, ambitions, and needs. Add differences of economic status and the consequent diversities of interests, and it should be apparent the few social philosophies and skills required by New Government comprise only a small fraction of the knowledge a person can acquire in a lifetime.

Americans, however, understand that learning and effectively using these mandatory social skills are more essential to the survival of their nation and the human species than upon the development of any other human abilities or technologies.

They understand, if every human on planet Earth mastered the use of computers and space travel to other planets—but still couldn't get along with neighbors, near or far, and still weren't considerate of each other's needs—little of importance would have been mastered.

They realize the only way to sustain a participatory democracy is the mastery of cooperation and consideration, and the development of high-level thought and behavior on the national level.

#### COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

America's communications system is comprised of three networks: the Open Forum Network, the Education Network, and the Entertainment Network. Each is a public, not a private corporation.

##### Open Forum Network

The heart of the communications system is Open Forum, the medium that allows citizens to participate in the policy and lawmaking processes of government. It's the vehicle by which citizen/housewives, citizen/firemen, citizen/bakers, citizen/nurses, citizen/artists, citizen/postal clerks, citizen/sales clerks, citizen/secretaries and all other citizens are given the opportunity to offer opinions and suggestions to citizen/administrators—and to

each other.

Every home is equipped with an interactive telecommunications device, enabling citizen/voters at home to respond to the questions and recommendations of citizen/administrators. All topics are accepted for discussion or debate on Open Forum, guaranteeing the true concerns of the American people are constantly attended.

Open Forum is the means by which all citizens of the nation identify common ideals and values, choose which rights they reserve for themselves and which they relinquish to society, which products are to be produced in the country and which imported, what to teach in public schools and what not, and all the other important decisions now made in the U.S. republic by politicians and power groups.

Public affairs in America are never conducted behind closed doors. Open Forum cameras and microphones cover all official public meetings, assuring citizens access to all the information they should have, when they should have it.

Prior to voting on issues, both proponents and opponents are allowed to state views in Open Forum. Only after exhaustive examination of an issue is a vote taken. If the topic is of local interest, only citizens of the locality vote. If it's of regional importance, all citizens of the region are expected to vote. When of national importance, every citizen in the nation is required to vote.

Sixty-five percent of citizen/voters must accept a proposal for it to be accepted. This guarantees social policies are made by a clear majority of citizens.

Open Forum is also the source of daily local, national, and international news. Commercial advertising isn't accepted.

Does a mandatory voting law conflict with the concept of individual freedom? Is the inconvenience of compulsory ballot casting an unreasonable price to pay for true liberty? Is it wrong for society to require every capable citizen to cast a vote on every important issue? Is it wrong for a society to expect its citizens to function as mature, responsible people and contribute not only to their own well-being, but to society's?

No more wrong than a society that demands its citizen/drivers wear seat belts for their own welfare, or come to a complete halt at stop signs.

Certainly, no more wrong than a society that demands its citizens go to war to fight and die for it.

### **EDUCATION NETWORK**

In America, education is viewed as a lifelong process, and citizens are encouraged, and assisted, to continue their formal education after graduating college. The American Education Network brings specialized credit courses directly into the home.

It's through this network that the men and women of education and science are brought into the social mainstream as an active, positive social force free from the isolated bondage to which they've been condemned by the rulers of low-level societies, such as the United States of America.

In America, schools and scientific research facilities are considered instruments of social change and all academic and scientific news is brought to the citizenry directly from the source, not filtered through privately owned news services or government agencies. The latest findings and newest theories in all scientific and social disciplines are clearly discussed and analyzed on this network. Citizens aren't allowed to remain ignorant, even should they wish to.

Only relevant commercial advertising appears on this network.

In America, the terms "progress" and "growth" don't mean bigger cities with bigger buildings, and more people crammed into smaller areas to provide developers, shopkeepers, and politicians greater revenues. Nor does it mean increased sales for the business world. In America, the terms refer to the increase of essential knowledge and skills within the general population, and the evolvement of the overall citizenry from low, animal-level to high, human-level.

### **Entertainment Network**

The third part of New Government's communications system is the American Entertainment Network. This network functions as a counterforce to the privately owned entertainment industry and the heavy dose of sex, violence, and mind-polluting garbage it injects into the U.S. society.

The network, which includes television, movies, radio, recording, and video publishing provides a showcase for the creative, but invisible, talents of Americans who aren't in "show biz" but would like to be.

Productions may originate within a private or public source, but in all

instances the criteria for acceptance by a local network affiliate is originality and proficiency. Because the network belongs to the citizenry, and not to private industry, the length of a television or radio performance isn't restricted to thirty or sixty-minute segments as it is with commercial programming in the United States, but may be as long or brief as its creators believe it should be.

Amateur entertainers are encouraged to hone their skills by performing throughout the network of American Children's Villages and American Retirement Villages.

Exchange programs between communities make it possible for the talents of one community to be enjoyed by citizens of another.

Videos of all productions are stored at the American Public Archives for the enjoyment of future generations.

Limited commercial advertising is accepted on this network.

### **ECONOMIC NOURISHMENT**

When the founders of the Constitution of the United States sat down to draw up a blueprint for their new nation, the type of government they knew best was monarchy. Societies governed by rulers, whose whim was enforced by armed troops, ruled every European nation of their time. The history of human kind, which they knew well, confirmed all nations of the past had similar them-against-us governments.

The delegates thoroughly understood the nature of these systems, and it's doubtful any of them believed their new government could evolve into anything else. Many of these privileged men believed only such a government could control the frustrated stirring of the common masses and their demand for democracy.

Their knowledge of history also informed them many monarchs had enriched themselves by using the powers of state to develop and operate state businesses in direct competition to the private sector. None of the delegates, however, wanted their personal means of accumulating wealth jeopardized by political authority.

It's why the Constitution is designed not only to protect the property of the privileged from the propertyless masses, but also from the men of government. It's why governments of the U.S. are forbidden from competing in the market place.

Americans, however, reject the primacy of private property and capitalism as the central core of their society. They don't believe economic values are the prime values of human life; the values that promote social contentment, peace, and true progress, the values that protect the environment, promote essential education and eliminate illiteracy and poverty.

They're not against free enterprise; they simply don't believe the free, unrestricted enterprise of the United States is good for their country. Nor do they believe placing the welfare of a corporation or industry before that of a community or the nation is logical or healthy.

Americans firmly believe that an economic system that allows a comparatively few wealthy families and private groups to grasp control of a nation's resources is socially destructive. They believe their economic system should be more rewarding to the common workers who produce the real wealth of the nation.

They've designed a system, therefore, that incorporates suggestions presented in the platform of the 1872 National Labor and Reform Party as well as those offered by respected economists in the 1930s. The system treats natural resources as an economic pool of wealth to be shared by all, although not necessarily on an equal basis, for it is recognized that people have unequal abilities, ambitions, and perseverance, and should be rewarded accordingly.

In Open Forum, Americans have authorized New Government to control and regulate both natural and productive resources, and have approved economic policies to prevent any individual or group from gorging on the wealth of the nation.

They've passed laws to punish any person depleting or poisoning the nation's natural resources and endangering the health or safety of present or future generations of Americans, and have established four economic principles designed to produce an economic system compatible with the objectives of their social system.

These principles assure that the corporate tail can never wag the public dog, as it does in the United States.

### **1. American People Own Natural Resources**

Americans acknowledge the claims of future generations to the nation's natural resources, and understand private ownership of these re-

sources has been a destructive force throughout history. They have authorized New Government to assume responsibility for their productive use.

All of the nation's real property has been nationalized. The waters, lands, and air space above the nation have been declared public property to be used for the benefit of the whole society, and not for select individuals or groups. All homeowners have been reimbursed the value of land underneath their homes.

The homes and other structures, which are created by man, and not nature, are considered personal and not real property and remain privately owned. Citizens are allowed to buy and sell them, as always.

Though removed from private ownership, there are natural resources that are not removed from private use, and citizens may rent them from New Government for approved purposes. It's illegal, however, for any citizen, or group of citizens, to destroy or contaminate a natural resource in any way. Such irresponsibility is considered a major crime, calling for harsh punishment.

Neither citizens nor corporations of other countries may own real property or structures upon such property.

### **2. New Government Regulates Money Supply**

Americans believe it ludicrous for social agencies to starve for funds while private money manipulators create money out of thin air to be used for private benefit. They believe as many Americans of the 19<sup>th</sup> century did that the people's government, and not private interests, should control the country's money supply.

They believe they should take the advice of Sir Josiah Stamp, once the president of the Bank of England, at the time a privately owned bank:

*...Banking was conceived in iniquity and was born in sin. The bankers own the earth. Take it away from them, but leave them the power to create enough deposits and with a flick of the pen they will create enough deposits to buy it back again. However, take it away from them, and all the great fortunes like mine will disappear, and they ought to disappear, for this would be a happier and better world to live in. But, if you wish to remain slaves of the Bankers and pay the cost*

*of your own slavery, let them continue to create deposits...*

The citizens of America have authorized New Government to control the nation's money supply and operate a national banking system.

As the economic health of a society is based upon the proven truth that economic prosperity is produced by lots of people with surplus money to spend, New Government is dedicated to the premise that the greatest possible economic prosperity will be produced if all adult citizens have surplus money.

Accordingly, New Government has introduced four unique concepts to the nation's money system.

Unique Concept One: The value of the American dollar is based upon the lowest, legal wage paid by an American corporation to a worker for one hour of labor.

The strength of the American dollar is based upon the present and future physical and intellectual productive capabilities of the American people, and upon their willingness to produce the products and services needed to nourish the American society. It has no relationship to the amount of shiny metals or stones stored in a treasury.

Unique Concept Two: America's monetary system is very much like the Subtreasury Plan proposed by some citizens of the U.S. in the 1830s. The system is comprised of an American Treasury, and a network of American Financial Centers. The Treasury, a government agency, is the nation's central bank. It produces and monitors the nation's money supply, and maintains the American Credit System.

The Treasury's function is to nourish the economic health of the nation, not to produce profit for private owners, as it is with the U.S.'s Federal Reserve System. It's to meet the legitimate and realistic financial needs of all citizens. It's to guarantee the money supply is used in ways primarily beneficial to society, and not to moneylenders, speculators, or other interest groups.

New Government's basic income is derived from bank surpluses produced by traditional deposit creation, and the rental of real estate for residential, agricultural, and commercial purposes.

Profits from deposit creation are used not only to finance personal

and business loans, but also help to finance community projects such as Children's Villages, Retirement Villages, and Healthcare Centers.

The American Treasury may charter private banks, but these may serve only corporations, not individuals. Private corporation bankers are legally prohibited from doing business with individual citizens. Nor are they allowed the benefits of deposit creation, for when a "corporation" banker makes a loan, it's his money he's lending, and bookkeeping records must show the proper reduction of capital with each loan.

The corporation bank's income is restricted to the funds collected through interest payments and fees. As private bank chains are illegal in America, a corporate bank is restricted to a single office.

Although deposits in American Financial Centers are fully guaranteed by New Government, deposits in corporate banks aren't. In America, public is public and private is private.

New Government doesn't levy personal income taxes. Americans believe working citizens deserve to keep all earnings produced by their labor.

If you were a public employee, would you refuse to take payment in American dollars because New Government printed your money without first borrowing from a moneylender? Wouldn't you have trust in a social system you help maintain?

If you were a supplier to an agency of New Government, would you refuse to do business with it because it didn't have shiny gold or silver to pay you? Wouldn't the guarantee of the entire American people to secure the value of their dollar with blood and sweat be sufficient? It should. It's the only guarantee the Congress of the United States has given since 1971, when the U.S. was taken off the gold standard.

Unique Concept Three: Adult citizens automatically receive American Credit Cards granting limited credit at all legitimate businesses in the country. These are the nation's only legal credit cards for individual citizens: money-rich corporations aren't allowed to offer the citizenry such services.

The number on a credit card is a number assigned to the citizen at birth. It's this number used throughout life as he or she fulfills various public commitments, and in return receives various citizen benefits and credits.

The card entitles a citizen to financial credit in any American Financial Center in the nation. However, the credit obtained isn't a loan as it is in the United States. It's an advance on earnings, and low, simple interest rates are charged. The use of compound interest is illegal in America.

Nor are business owners required to pay fees for the privilege of accepting credit card payments as they are in the U.S. The American Treasury assumes administrative and operation costs for the program.

Unique Concept Four: In America, individuals or groups are never allowed to accumulate the economic power that allows them to abuse other Americans or interfere with the country's economic health.

New Government has been authorized to restrict the size and activities of all corporations, which it does with a few economic policies designed to remove working Americans from under the oppressive thumb of more privileged Americans.

First: Only people may own corporations. Corporations aren't allowed to own other corporations: holding companies and other tax-evading, deceptive devices are illegal.

Second: Activities essential to the nation's welfare, such as the production and sale of munitions, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, food, energy, etc. are categorized as "essential industries," and companies operating within these industries are publicly, not privately, owned.

Third: The concept of employment in the U.S. refers primarily to private employment. In America, however, New Government provides millions of employment opportunities relevant to society's health, as well as those assuring government's efficient operation. These include cleaning polluted waters, planting trees and nurturing forests, providing citizens with essential education, rebuilding slum areas and overcrowded communities, operating American Financial Centers, Retirement Villages, Healthcare Centers, and Children's Villages.

New Government employs citizens to perform all the necessary social services that are under-funded and neglected in the United States, because one or more private power groups want them neglected.

Americans understand that effective parents and homemakers are essential to the welfare of American society. Accordingly, they have authorized New Government to establish policies rewarding economic credits

to homemakers and parents that see to it that their children receive the essential education society wants them to have. These credits include the benefits offered by American Healthcare Clinics and American Retirement Villages.

Fourth: To restrict the accumulation of individual wealth and power, New Government limits the amount of wealth a citizen may remove from the national economic pool in a lifetime. The amount is realistic enough to provide incentive, and generous enough to indulge human desires for comfort, luxury and a "superior" material lifestyle.

But upon reaching this level of affluence—regardless of age—it's mandatory for a citizen to withdraw from the economic arena, leaving it for others who have yet to provide financial security for themselves and their families.

American Financial Centers also function as financial advisors, informing a citizen/depositor of unsound money management practices, and suggesting ways to help eliminate actual, or potential, financial difficulties.

These basic money policies prevent individuals and private corporations from tampering with the nation's financial health, and guarantee that funds are always available to finance society's needs and wants.

Personal financial records of American citizens are unavailable to private enterprise. Private firms are allowed to maintain a limited database of their customers, but they are legally prohibited from sharing or selling the information to others, nor may they possess personal records of citizens who aren't customers.

Personal privacy is zealously enforced in America, and prying, or spying, upon an individual or group is considered a crime.

### ***3. Public Companies Are Truly Public***

Americans commoners understand laws and regulations can't prevent human greed anymore than they can stop other human traits, but they know as long as they remain united, they will possess the greater political force, making it difficult for greedy collectors of wealth and power to abuse their economic power.

Enterprise is encouraged in America, but not the free, unregulated enterprise found in the U.S. by which citizens are legally allowed to do as they please with their property or wealth.



Any American may obtain a small business license and open a business, and as long as he or she doesn't steal from the citizenry with overpriced wares and services the license is renewable.

New Government policies concerning the establishment of new corporations are more complex.

Hundreds of years ago, when the concept of corporation was first conceived, the investors of a corporation were awarded a charter to conduct business for a restricted period of time by a king or other authorizing body. At the end of this period, if the corporation had lived up to the expectations of the authorizing body, the charter would be renewed for another limited period, otherwise, it was canceled.

In the U.S., however, it doesn't work this way for a corporation is allowed to remain in existence as long as shareholders want it to remain in existence. But that's not the way it works in fictional America.

In America, corporations aren't legally awarded the "rights" of people, as is so foolishly done in the U.S., and renewal of a corporate charter isn't dependent upon its profitability, but upon its fairness and honesty with the segment of the public it serves.

Americans wishing to form a corporation to do business with the American public on the local, regional, or national level first must obtain the appropriate charter, valid for a restricted period of time. Conducting business without a charter is a crime.

Because the quick-profit frenzy in the U.S.'s fantasy land of Wall Street influences the U.S. economy more than the real world activities of production and sales, Americans utilize an alternative method to provide new and older corporations needed capitalization.

Applications for a public stock offering is made to the proper New Government agency which, after verifying the offering's legitimacy, places notification on Open Forum.

Citizens wishing to invest in the venture may do so, but the investment is limited to no more than a tiny fraction of a single percentage point of its value.

This method of capitalization eliminates power grabs by banks, insurance companies, and other wealthy investors and removes unnecessary pressures upon corporate managers. It also guarantees that all sharehold-

ers receive full voting powers and equal benefits of ownership.

When a privately held corporation accepts government aid—which Americans consider a public investment—the corporation is, from that moment on, a public corporation, and what it does and how it does it are no longer private matters, but public.

As the public welfare is the legal province of New Government, all corporations doing business with the public are carefully regulated by the Department of Audits.

This agency is comparable to the U.S.'s Internal Revenue Service, except it doesn't collect taxes, it monitors the honesty and ethics of licensed businesses and chartered corporations.

The department is one of New Government's largest, employing thousands of inspectors and accountants. The citizenry has authorized the creation of the agency in Open Forum upon the logic that it's essential to police the honesty of groups that have historically proven themselves dishonest.

Employers in America aren't expected to undertake responsibility for worker health and retirement insurance as they are in the U.S., for Americans believe such policies are illogical and unfair to owners and shareholders. As they believe wages belong to the worker, so do they believe profits belong to the business owner. What's fair is fair.

Accordingly, New Government has established national health and retirement programs for all citizens.

The economic activities of America have been divided into three spheres of influence, each rated by its relative importance to the security of the nation.

Sphere-one contains essential activities, such as education, employment, food, healthcare, munitions and armaments, pharmaceuticals, housing, energy, chemicals, and mass transportation among others. Citizen consensus, taken in Open Forum, is that all activities crucial to the security of their society be removed from the private sector and transformed into public corporations. Therefore all sphere-one corporations are public corporations.

Sphere-two contains less essential industries. Sphere three contains all activities that contribute to creature comforts or produce trivia. Corpo-

rations within these two spheres are privately owned. However, should any grow to a size where it wields excessive influence within its industry, the citizenry reserves the right to break it into smaller units, or to transform it into a public corporation.

Citizen/employees of public corporations earn a special class of shares called, “worker/investor” shares. This makes them owners of the company, and automatically gives them a voice in management as well as a share of profits. If they do a productive job, they profit. If not, they lose, just like any other investor.

In America, managers of public corporations haven’t the power to fleece shareholders with inflated salaries and benefit packages, and all are held legally accountable to shareholders—and to society—for the actions of their corporations.

Corporations aren’t allowed to claim proprietary rights to inventions, formulas, knowledge, literary or musical works, or other creations of the brain as they are in the U.S. These are credited to the individual or groups actually making the intellectual contribution. Financial royalties, where applicable, go to these people not to the corporations employing them.

If research and development of a product or technology is at the expense of a private corporation, it is given the opportunity to exclusively market the product or technology for a reasonable, but limited, period of time.

If the product or technology is developed partially, or wholly, with public funds it belongs to the public and the initial manufacturing and marketing rights are awarded in open bid to the company offering the highest quality product or service, at the lowest cost.

#### ***4. New Government Regulates Wages and Prices***

Many men, in many eras, have commented upon the fact that the actual producers of wealth remain the poorest. Perhaps, none has said it as well as Abraham Lincoln in 1847: “Inasmuch as most good things are produced by labor, it follows that all such things of right belong to those whose labor has produced them. But it has so happened, in all ages of the world, that some have labored, and others have without labor enjoyed a large proportion of the fruits. This is wrong and should not continue. To secure to each laborer the whole product of his labor, or as nearly as

possible, is a worthy object of any good government”

As Americans believe this also, there are no acceptable levels of unemployment in the country. Americans believe only respectable employment can give an individual the security and dignity needed for full maturity.

New Government has fixed the minimum-maximum rates to be paid to unskilled citizen/workers for an hour’s labor. The hourly rate enables citizens with little education or vocational training to comfortably support themselves and their families while they seek the training necessary to improve their economic condition. This policy helps unskilled citizens to lift themselves out of impoverishment.

New Government has established the minimum-maximum rates to be paid to skilled citizen/workers, taking into consideration their relative importance to society’s welfare, and the costs and time necessary to acquire these special skills. This category includes architects, engineers, doctors, accountants, and all the other so-called “professionals.”

New Government has no unemployment insurance plan. There are no handouts of money; there is only fair employment.

The American Employment Network, operating in conjunction with the private employment industry, guarantees a job to every citizen who wants one.

To do its job effectively, the Employment Network, in cooperation with the Education System and the National Planning Board, conducts an ongoing program to help forecast the nation’s future employment needs. The three agencies see to it that talent and energies are available when and where the jobs are available or needed.

In America, the code of the marketplace is “Let the seller beware.” Accordingly, the citizens have authorized New Government to also regulate what the Congress of the United States refuses to regulate—prices.

New Government has established rates of markup and profit for various business activities, and prices of goods are based upon actual production costs, as they were once-upon-a-time in the United States. Stealing from the citizenry with overpriced goods or poorly made products are considered criminal activities and such crimes are vigorously punished.

These economic policies enable New Government to eliminate inflation and depression by stabilizing the nation’s economy. They allow it to

quash excessive private economic power, promote a fairer distribution of wealth and opportunities, and bestow a comparatively high value to the lives of all American citizens.

### **SOCIAL NOURISHMENT**

There are many other benefits bestowed upon the citizens of America. Some are obvious, others not as obvious. A few of the benefits listed below require a small monthly or annual fee. All have been discussed by the citizenry in Open Forum, and approved on the basis that mature people always pay their own way in life.

#### **Individual**

There are no personal income taxes in America. Rental income from the nation's natural resources, plus the income produced by the American Financial System cover most social and governmental needs.

Uncaring societies of the past have allowed the lives of their common citizens to fade into oblivion: unrecorded and unrecognized.

The American Memories Program is the mechanism by which each American citizen leaves a statement of personal philosophy to posterity; it's the record that proclaims to the world he or she has existed. Every life is documented, and records placed in the American Public Archives.

To assure that all the elder citizens of the U.S. are included in this program as the nation is being transformed from a republic into a single, democratic country, high school students visit the elderly residents of nursing homes, collecting information about each: writings, photos, taped recitations—memories.

In this small way, every American is empowered to communicate with the future.

#### **Family**

If the individual is the flower of the American social system, the family is the garden that nurtures emotional stability and positive intellectual growth. Positive family relationships are high on the American value scale.

To guarantee every newborn a nurturing environment, New Government uses its authority and all its powers to promote the family and the values of family unity. In many ways, Americans are reminded throughout all of life that a stable society is merely an extension of stable families.

### **Healthcare**

In America, the health of the citizenry begins with the intake of healthy foods. Americans believe farmers are essential to the nation and that the citizenry should do all it can to remove farmers from under the thumb of greedy, profit-making middlemen who impoverish them by siphoning food profits into their own pockets.

The food industry, therefore, has been removed from the control of corporate conglomerates and returned to family farmers. New Government programs are designed to assist small farmers.

One such program transfers the processing, transportation, and distribution of food from profit-making middlemen to nonprofit, public corporations. Public corporations also provide the small farmer with temporary use of the expensive machinery necessary for efficient planting and harvesting operations.

Another New Government program is the Food Belt Program. To facilitate the daily supply of fresh produce to large cities, a ring of farms has been established around each large American city.

These programs function in conjunction with the Water Conservation & Dispersion Program that researches and implements methods and systems to capture rain water and transport it where needed.

In America a citizen is allowed to become a doctor or a businessperson, but not both, as the objectives of the two conflict. Americans prefer doctors to concentrate upon their health and not upon their wallets. Doctors are never allowed to own hospitals, clinics, or diagnostic laboratories; these are always public corporations funded by the community, or by New Government. Or both.

Part of the American philosophy is "a healthy body assists a healthy brain," and "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Accordingly, at birth each citizen is assigned a Healthcare Center doctor who functions as the family doctor and who is expected to know and care about the medical needs of each family member.

American Healthcare Centers, which are found in every city and town across the nation, are dedicated to the total health needs of the citizen. Each contains a medical clinic that performs all preliminary medical examinations. Should private sector medical services be found necessary

after such an examination, citizen/patients are given a written estimate of probable costs to help them shop wisely.

Each Healthcare Center also possesses a Fitness Complex offering public baths, exercise rooms, diet clinics, health lectures, and dozens of other programs related to physical and emotional health.

Because pharmaceutical companies are public companies, owned by the citizenry and regulated by New Government, drug costs are also more honest in America than in the U.S.

American Children's Villages provide homes to the children who regularly are abused and beaten by immature, emotionally unstable grown-ups. Each village is staffed by mature adults who provide children with love, care, and guidance preventing them from becoming lawbreakers and prostitutes; helping them to become emotionally and intellectually stable; helping them to become productive, happy citizens.

Healthcare Centers and Children's Villages are two more of the social inventions initiated by the American democracy to maintain the health of its citizenry.

### **Housing**

Americans believe natural life forms should live in natural environments. They believe the stress and strain of living in overcrowded, hostile city environments contribute to intellectual, emotional, and physical human disorders.

They also understand that people have always needed neighborhood just as they have always needed family, for while the family fills the emotional need for home and love, the neighborhood helps fulfill the human need to belong to a group.

Americans understand that people cherish privacy. However, the deliberately designed isolation of townhouses and walled-in fortress homes offered by many U.S. developers in response to the fear generated by the media's emphasis on violent crime are not to their liking.

Americans don't want "developments," they want neighborhood communities. They understand builders can't build "neighborhoods," that neighborhoods evolve from the sociability of people and their daily activities, so they have asked architects to give them designs conducive to neighborhood life: shopping centers and schools within walking or bicycling dis-

tance, and homes conducive to neighborhood socializing, for those times when people feel like socializing.

New Government has established programs to eradicate all slums and congested cities remaining from the previous political order, and has begun replacing them with environments responsive to the needs of people.

The trend in America is to small, neighborhood owned businesses. The megastore chains in the U.S. are no more, for it is recognized that they have driven thousands of local citizens out of business and taken away the often anticipated interaction with familiar neighborhood entrepreneurs and the warmth of the neighborhood shopping experience.

However, where the citizenry, in Open Forum, have decided they prefer to shop a larger retail outlet providing more services or wares under a single roof, the outlet becomes a community corporation organized into small departments, each individually owned by a resident of the community.

Such a concept is similar to the franchised "specialty" departments in large U.S. department stores, or the modern, indoor "flea markets" that have sprouted all across the United States.

### **Insurance**

Humans are the most insecure life form on the planet. Throughout the ages, our insecurities and fears have produced our worst habits and traditions, and helped some opportunists to amass great wealth.

Fear of change forces us to cling to institutions that stifle positive creative energies. Fear of death has given birth to organized religion, which presumably gives purpose to life by promising a highly improbable "life-after-death." Fear of economic deprivation and hardship has given birth to the insurance industry, which today permeates the activities of humankind.

An "insurance" company is a money company started by one person with a great deal of surplus money, or by a group of people who pool their money to provide the financial and legal requirements necessary to offer insurance services.

The insurance industry is like the gambling industry: both gambling casino and insurance company play the percentages—which are always in its favor. It's why both industries are extremely prosperous, and why there are so many casinos and insurance companies in the U.S.A. today.

It's why casino resorts have the money to build the most glamorous, luxurious, and expensive architectural creations on the planet, and why insurance companies can build some of the biggest buildings on the most expensive real estate in the biggest cities of the U.S.A.

People living in a money society need the assurance that the funds to protect against the disruptions of life are available when needed. For a price, they insure themselves against every possible type of economic disaster from the costs of replacing a shipment of bananas lost at sea to the funeral expenses of an unexpected death, from the repair bill of a smashed auto fender to the future costs of a child's education.

In Open Forum, the citizens of America have decided they don't want privately owned insurance companies in their social system. They see no logical reason why they, as intelligent individuals, can't pool their own money and form their own nonprofit insurance services. They believe such an arrangement would provide insurance at the lowest possible cost to everyone. They've authorized New Government, therefore, to establish various insurance programs for them.

A monthly, or annual, premium paid into the Retirement Program guarantees residence in an American Retirement Village. A premium paid into the Healthcare Program guarantees lifetime medical assistance. A premium paid into the Vehicle Maintenance Program guarantees service and repair of vehicles. A premium paid into the Funeral Program guarantees funeral costs; one paid into the Homeowner's Program guarantees home repair and replacement in times of disaster.

None of these programs pay cash to the insured. They merely replace the wares or provide the services specified in the policy, which only qualified, certified vendors may provide. This eliminates the fraud and thievery plaguing the insurance industry of the U.S., resulting in lower insurance premiums for all Americans saving them millions, if not billions, of dollars annually.

It also guarantees that private insurance companies don't own the biggest buildings in America.

### **Law, Order, and Justice**

The objective of *The Law* in America is to maintain social order and provide justice. There are no laws favoring one group of citizens over

another, and rich Americans have no special influence within the system.

Infractions of law are graded according to the seriousness of the crime. A first-level crime is a minor offense, a second-level crime an intermediate offense, and a third-level crime a major offense.

Penalties for infraction of law are uniform throughout the country. In this way, penalties for wrongdoing are consistent in every court in the land and Americans are treated equally under the law.

The belief of Americans is that most "lawbreakers" are ordinary citizens guilty of temporary criminal behavior; that they are citizens needing help.

New Government, therefore, rejects physical punishment as a norm and tries instead to determine and correct the underlying causes of an individual's antisocial behavior. Only when a citizen uses brute-force to harm another citizen is punishment harsh, and possibly terminal.

In many cases involving criminal behavior, law breakers are first examined by psychiatrists, psychologists, and sociologists employed at American Healthcare Centers, whose recommendations are presented at trial.

Judges are nonexistent in America; a single individual isn't allowed to play God. A jury not only determines whether or not the accused is guilty, but also decides the level of punishment to be administered.

For minor civil disputes, the judicial system uses arbitration and mediation—not court trial—saving money and time. While at college, every citizen receives training in both techniques and is expected to serve within the judicial system when called.

To eliminate position-of-power abuse in law enforcement agencies, prisons and jails are regularly visited by Citizen Advisory Committees. These committees comprise the eyes and ears of society and are a basic tool of New Government. The committees regularly report to the proper authorities, and just as regularly ensure that authorities perform as expected.

### **Economic Retirement**

Studies show most U.S. working citizens do little, or nothing, to prepare for retirement. Earnings are too meager, and they are constantly cajoled to spend what little they have by the capitalist controlled media.

In America, New Government actively involves each citizen in the retirement process, and no citizen faces his or her elder years alone at the

mercy of human predators. By one method or another, everyone is attended and allowed to live and die in comfort and with dignity.

Upon reaching the status of elder, a citizen is required to retire from economic activity to make room for the young people first entering the economy. Citizens who have been capable, or fortunate, in their money dealings can select their private retirement lifestyle. All others move into one of the thousands of American Retirement Villages spread across the nation.

These villages are a perfect example of people providing for themselves through cooperation and planning. By actively participating in New Government, and by making small regular payments to the Retirement Fund, Americans earn the right to this security. It's one of the benefits of being an American.

When Americans retire from economic life they don't retire from civic life, but continue their participation. They serve on Citizen Advisory Committees, they continue to vote, and they continue to function as active, contributing citizens in a society, which wants them to continue functioning as active, contributing citizens.

### **National Defense**

Here, we find thinking radically different than found in the United States. Of course, this is because it's a strategy established by common, not privileged, citizens.

Americans fully understand there are other people on planet Earth who covet their natural resources. But the American philosophy of defense is unlike any other people on Earth, past or present.

They understand high tech, expensive weaponry and big countries don't necessarily win wars anymore; Korea, Vietnam and the Russian attempt in Afghanistan attest to this truth.

Nor are there privileged groups in America with the arbitrary power to send commoners off to war, for common people govern in America, and the lives of commoners are valued and considered indispensable; each and every one. This philosophy includes commoners in alleged "enemy" nations, too.

In America, control of the nation's military force is the responsibility of the International Relations Sector for, after all, war is nothing more than

another way Establishments conduct international relations. The low, animal-level way.

Because American commoners of 1787 hated war and distrusted standing armies, the President of the United States wasn't given the power to declare war, and the power to raise armed troops was restricted to the individual states. The president could issue a call for troops only to repel attack.

Americans of the 21st century agree with this principle, therefore, the Executive Council cannot declare war. Only citizen/voters in Open Forum can make such a decision.

The American military consists of a single, national defense force, forbidden by law to set foot on foreign soil during times of peace, and forbidden to use force against American citizens at any time, for any reason.

Because it is the national belief a people aren't conquered until the enemy physically invades its territory, all American adults are required to train as citizen/soldiers during specific periods of their lives. In the event of an invasion, neighborhood armories make weapons available instantly. This policy nullifies arguments for private ownership of weapons, particularly military-style weapons.

There is only one government spy agency in America, and that has but a single function. It's to accurately pinpoint at a moment's notice the exact location of all potential enemy leaders and their families. In the event of a sneak, brute-force attack upon American soil, it is these people—and only these people—against whom swift, pin-point retaliation is made. Americans will not vent their anger or take revenge against innocent commoners.

### **The American Dream**

Americans understand most of them will never be rich. But they also understand acquiring vast wealth is the universal dream of commoners, and the dream itself a stimulant that gives purpose to purposeless lives. It's why people with little money are so easily seduced by the urge to gamble.

Gambling and lotteries in North America go back to the very beginning of the continent's development. The original Jamestown was financed by a lottery of the Virginia Company in London, England. And as popular

as cards and dice were in all thirteen colonies, so did almost every county seat have a lottery wheel.

Throughout American history the lottery has been a popular method of raising money for churches, schools, and relief funds. Lottery funds helped to establish such institutions as Harvard, Yale, and Princeton.

Private groups interested primarily in profit, however, managed lotteries. In the 1840s, public indignation over the corruption and flagrant dishonesty within lottery operations generated a reform movement. By 1860, profiteering by lottery middlemen was reduced, as lottery permits were stopped in all but three states.

Promoting them as fundraisers for popular charities, Louisiana politicians continued to issue lottery permits to gambling syndicates. Of course, Louisiana politicians, bankers, and newspaper owners continued to get their cut of the profits.

After the soft economic conditions of the 1970s, politicians across the U.S. adopted the lottery technique as a means to raise additional funds without raising taxes. Today, state lotteries flourish, as unaccountable to the public and as prone as ever to the dishonesty of dishonest people.

Wanting even more money to squander, many state politicians have legalized casino gambling to get the increased tax income. Nourished by the base instincts of a hopeless, purposeless citizenry, we now witness the rapid spread of despicable gambling environments to the most wholesome of U.S. towns.

But what other than the dream of gaining unexpected wealth can shed a ray of hope upon hopeless working people, and keep them pacified? Didn't Oceania's Establishment use the same devious device to salve the anger and frustration of its common working masses?

Americans understand gambling is almost as natural as breathing, and that there will always be people willing to gamble a little to win a lot. The American Lottery System is designed to soften the gambling urge, while making the dream of wealth come true.

The system's function isn't to raise money for education or social needs, presumably, as it is in the United States. It's to fulfill the universal dream of wealth for as many Americans as possible; to give people who would normally never possess wealth the opportunity to enjoy life as it can

be enjoyed only by possession of wealth.

The American Lottery System promotes fifty-one weekly lotteries: fifty regional and one national. The system functions without middlemen, all money raised is distributed to winners. Minus costs, of course.

Although it's a goal of the lottery to produce as many financially independent citizens as possible, it's a responsibility of New Government to see citizens don't gamble away earnings or savings in an attempt to win. Each adult citizen, therefore, is allowed to legally buy only two tickets per week, one for the regional lottery and one for the national.

Computers at American Financial Centers certify winners have bought no more than legally allowed. The citizen's American Credit Card number is the control factor. Attempts to buy more than one ticket in a specific lottery, or a ticket in a lottery of a region other than of residence, invalidates a winning ticket.

Each week, there are fifty coordinated, but separate, regional lotteries held in America. First-place winner of a regional lottery gets \$2-million, no less, no more. Immediate disbursement. One-lump sum. Tax-free. There's \$1-million to squander and enjoy, and \$1-million to assure a secure retirement. Additional numbers are drawn for lesser prizes until all available money is dispensed.

The weekly national lottery uses the same rules: One ticket per week, per person. Winners receive \$10-million each. Immediate disbursement. One-lump sum. No taxes. All remaining money disbursed in lesser prizes.

After winning a first prize, a citizen is forbidden by law to participate again in the lottery. The philosophy is one win per person is enough; it's another's turn.

These are but a few of the possible rewards of participatory democracy that fulfill the basic needs of people. These should be the objectives of any changes to the pseudo-democratic U. S. system.

## WHAT THIS MEANS

It means the path to America's—and humanity's—security and survival isn't self-interest and self-indulgence. It isn't the accumulation of personal wealth or economic and political power. It isn't shunning the re-

sponsibilities and obligations that go with living in a collective society, and allowing others to assume that responsibility.

It isn't harassing or bullying people who are different than you, or weaker, or less capable. Nor is it taking advantage of people less educated or slower thinking.

It's granting to every individual the opportunity to become all he or she can become, and recognizing that humanity is the better for it. It's giving to each child an essential education and helping it to understand the wonders and the truths of life, including its traps and hazards.

It's helping each citizen to understand that a people society needs the collective interests and participation of all its citizens, if it is to be a friendly and fair society.

It means there is a better way for a people to structure their society than the primitive hierarchal systems that currently dominate planet Earth. There is a better way to create a true "civilization," and that better way is the mature, adult way we call "participatory democracy."

That's what Chapter VII means.



