

## **Funny Money**

Money is a symbol used in trade of materials and work. Money that does not represent anything tangible, work, or property, or physical objects, is not real but is available for investment in an effort to increase the amount of funny money and to support development of anything tangible, such as a business or cause. In its existence without connection to tangibility, it's funny money, strange stuff.

Funny money is neutral. It represents nothing and is nothing until it's used to support anything that has tangible existence. Funny money has no value in its state of waiting to be invested. Addiction to funny money can destroy the world's economy and help destroy all life.

Funny money can be used by investing it into something positive, for example a farm that grows food to feed people, improves the soil and thus the earth and provides income that supports or helps support workers.

Money that pays for destructive work or war is negative money or evil money. We define evil as that which works for the destruction of life and our earth.

Economists, politicians, and military people may tell us the subject of destruction by war and the subject of money used to support destruction is more complex than my definitions, too complex for the layperson to understand. When an expert tries to obfuscate something simple with arguments for the ununderstandable complexity of an issue that affects all the people and all life, the old saying "Ignorance is bliss for the screwer but deadly for the screwee." should come to mind. We (all the people of the earth) are often willing to believe what we are told by seeming authorities.

When a large chunk of the world economy is founded on funny money and on money that has negative value because it is used for destructive purposes, the economy will founder and die. Humankind cannot continue to wreak destruction on the earth and expect to survive in good condition. We will fail economically and destroy what we need to survive if we continue to practice war and to deal in evil funny money.

## **Responsibility**

It may be popular to believe that large corporations have no

responsibility and no restraining moral structure when they set about to destroy the world for material profit. But let's talk about responsibility.

Corporations do not have power beyond that given to them by their investors. Their investors are individuals, and those individual investors share responsibility for what corporations do. If you invest in a corporation and that corporation uses machinery to tear off mountaintops or if that corporation manufactures weapons for war or in any way supports or engages in war, you are responsible for supporting war and destroying life.

Let's not fool ourselves into believing that we lose morality and responsibility for our actions and the actions of our money because other individuals invest with us, and our identity becomes hidden in the crowd. Each investor shares responsibility for everything the corporation invested in does.

If British Petroleum, as another example, destroys a large part of the Gulf of Mexico, every investor in British Petroleum shares the responsibility for that destruction.

Investors are responsible for knowing what their investment empowers and for making sure that empowerment doesn't go outside the bounds of morality the investor would accept as a fully identified and fully responsible person.

What about war? War too is a strange concept of structure of behavior and beliefs.

It can lead me to a prison term or to my own death if I operate as an individual and kill people. Why does the morality change if I operate as a citizen of a nation and kill citizens of another nation or pay for materials that kill citizens of another nation? Why does government, which is always composed only of individuals, gain the moral right to destroy life and the earth because it is embodied as the government of a nation?

Government gains the right to perform immoral actions because the citizens of nations, the citizens of the world are morally ignorant, asleep, unaware of what is going on, ignorant about their moral responsibilities, watching television, busy consuming goods that bring them material happiness in this moment but turn their attention away from the degradation and death that corporations and governments bring to the world.

The first step toward accepting our moral responsibilities is education about what is going on in the world. Information is readily available. We have to work to be ignorant. As we, all humankind) advance further into actions that will not sustain our environment in harmony and support life, it's harder to do

the work that sustains our ignorance. So far, we, humankind as a whole, seem willing to do the work it takes to sustain the ignorance that allows corporations and governments to continue destroying the environment for material gain.

Are we going to sustain our ignorance or begin to educate ourselves in an attempt to overcome the ignorance that allows us to rush toward oblivion for ourselves, our progeny, and the earth that supports all life?

## **Energy on an Individual Level**

There are solutions to problems that now assault the environment. Many of the effective solutions come on an individual level and tie inextricably into the two subjects I've written about previously, "Funny Money" and "Responsibility."

If we hope to solve the environmental problems that assault the earth, we have to feel a sense of moral responsibility toward the environment we live in. We have to recognize the craziness of booby-trapping our own home, this earth that spins beautifully around our sun, so that it is more and more likely to kill us or simply be incapable of supporting life.

If we poison the air we breathe by the way we live, and then we die from that poisoned air, haven't we committed suicide and defined ourselves as crazy?

We can effectively change the way humankind approaches its environment on an individual level. Specifically, if I use less energy, I put less poison into the air. If I make sure that none of my actions support destruction of life, I have advanced toward environmental harmony.

My actions influence people around me. If I bring my life into support of the earth, support of all life, and if I influence, through my way of living, those around me, I have stepped forward, into positive existence that supports all life and the earth, our home. I have stepped forward into beauty and joy of existence, and I have helped assure that beauty and joy of existence can come for generations as yet unborn.