

The Catastrophic Dawn of Civilization



How can it be that a fact of such
deadly import, a fact hardened by more than
a century of Enlightenment investigation
---a fact, no less, which reveals the cause
of the climate crises raging toward us. . . .
Yet *no one* has come forth to warn the World:
*The State has, historically, been waging
a sociopathic war against Nature?*

ken gunther

Almost a century of study by the finest intellects of the Age of Enlightenment yielded a shocking psychopathology which every person wanting to stop Climate Catastrophe needs desperately to understand:

The nation/state has *a/ways* believed, 1) Nature (the Universe) is the arch-enemy of mankind. And 2), at the nation/state level, civilization's abuse of natural systems has *a/ways* been clinically psychotic.

So when

- ✓ the staggering consensus of thousands of scientists insists we are rushing toward the end of the World as we've known it;
 - ✓ and when for 47 years (since the Stockholm Earth Summit of 1972) the frightening but irrefutable consensus is categorically rebuffed;
- then the State's incomprehensible apathy concerning imminent Climate Crisis looks very much like approval of Climate Apocalypse, which is, sadly, entirely consistent with the State's Nature-hating psychosis.

The paralysis of the State concerning Climate Armageddon has begun to stink like psychotic catharsis. We need desperately to grasp what an Earth Summit looks like to nation/states which have been abusing Nature, and Nature-loving peoples for thousands of years! Enviro and Indigenous leaders of the World in one place. Not so long ago such a gathering of Nature-advocates *in the same room with State forces* would have ended in massacre with no witnesses!

It's past time we understand: The State is not like us, folks. *It never was.* If you're waiting on the State to suddenly wake up, well: The states (nearly 200 nations) have sat by and *let the threat of thermonuclear holocaust terrorize the future of every person on Earth for the last 75 years!* For you see, we have allowed sociopaths to rule us. If we don't rout them, and soon, we'll find them secure in high places with entire rooms full of *our* money to pay their fortified militias for years to come, the lot of them grinning down on us while we literally drown in the rising floods made worse by our *hesitation to fight aggressively!*



Copyright © 2019, ken gunther
All rights reserved
under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions

Duplication/replication of this work is a violation of applicable laws when done without the prior written permission of Ken Gunther and Gaiadigm Publishing, Inc., or Ken Gunther and Gaiadigm Books. All rights are in them and by them alone reserved.

All reasonable efforts have been made to obtain permission for quotes and illustrations included in this edition. If any acknowledgment has been omitted, copyright holders are encouraged to notify the publisher.

Printed in United States of America.
Text is set in Kabel LT Std

First print edition
ISBN-13: 978-0-9754608-3-2
ISBN-10: 9754608-3-8
Library of Congress Control Number:
2019915592

First eBook edition
ISBN-13: 978-0-9754608-4-9
ISBN-10: 0-9754608-4-6
Library of Congress Control Number:
2019916901

The Catastrophic Dawn of Civilization / ken gunther
Science: Social Science, Anthropology, Archeology
Portions of this text are extracted from
"Lilith: Testament of a Life"
Gaiadigm Publishing, Inc. & Gaiadigm Books
gaiadigmbooks.org & gaiadigm-publishing.org
USA

For Marshall Sahlins,
in whose long, deep shadow
this author feels he knows but little
about orthodox anthropology/ethnology.

And in memory of Pierre Clastres,
Theodor Adorno & Stanley Diamond,
for fearlessly plumbing to
the *animus*-infected roots of our civility.

And to Philip Wylie,
who struggled so valiantly to know;
who risked so very much to appease
a merciless curiosity;
and who taught me to forge ahead
into the darkness without fear.



Gaiadigm Publishing, Inc.

&

GaiadigmBooks.org



The future predicted in *The Dialectic of Enlightenment* has proven to be so accurate over the decades since its publication, one feels pity for its angry detractors. Why? Because, with Climate Terror now stalking the World, the *Dialectic's* critics must deal with a double smackdown. For its authors, Theodor Adorno and Max Horkheimer, not only predicted civil society would come to a disastrous end, they showed how *our abuse of Nature would CAUSE that disaster*: They said, Civil society's disaster is "a pattern of blind... *domination of nature*...."

Criticized for being "too dark for healthy consumption", ironically the authors went on to show how Utopia was possible! Yes, Utopia! They argued, the way civil society interprets the World is a "wrong condition", that a "right condition" would be one of *restoring peace between [civilized] humans and nature*...."

They did not stop there. They gave us the *formula* for Utopia! All we had to do was rebuild civil society according to the outcries of those lives we had hurt the most! More simply put: All we had to do is let our genocides and extirpations speak!*

* In their words: "The need to let suffering speak is a condition of all truth. For suffering is objectivity [which] weighs upon the subject...."





And in this emergent hour
intuition instructs
this Scribbler
to place this little book
under the light
of that World - irradiant SUNRISE
smoldering in the great heart
of
VARSHINI PRAKASH



The Catastrophic Dawn of Civilization

PROLEPTIQUE

— WHAT HAS THE DAWN OF CIVILIZATION TO DO WITH
THE STATE'S APATHY TOWARD CLIMATE CATASTROPHE? —

(Prolepsis, a rhetorical device by which objections are
anticipated and answered in advance.)

Right out the gate, as they say, the reader will want to know: "What has the dawn of civilization got to do with the nation/state's paralysis toward helping we Climate Rescuers with our formidable challenges?"

Fair question. Actually, it has *everything* to do with it! Just as the deeper wounds implanted in us in childhood have *everything* to do with the rest of our lives. So, if culture truly adapts to environment, "a catastrophic dawn for civilization" will have *everything* to do with the future of civilization. Yet, this answer, waxing metaphorical, might benefit from a more direct approach.

Anthropologist Pierre Clastres, student of the famed anthropological structuralist Claude Levi-Strauss, lived for years with Nature-aligned peoples in South America. Imagine an anthropologist raised in a reserved, urbane and me-first [civil] environment stunned to suddenly find himself living among the kindest, most contented, warm, generous and independently skilled people he'd ever known; imagine the culture shock of this experience repeated for him so many times in the forests of South America, it caused him to conclude,

The emergence of the State brought about the great typological division between [Indigenous] and Civilized man; it created the *unbridgeable gulf* by which *everything* was changed. [Emphases added.]

(Clastres is unique among career academics in daring to cite *the State* in a negative sense.¹) By study's end, seriously put-off by ethnology's avoidance of the *origins of civilization*, Clastres poses this great quandary of anthropology many times and in several ways.

All civilized peoples were *first* primitives.... Why did some peoples cease to be primitives? What *tremendous event*, what *revolution* allowed the State [coercive hierarchy] to emerge [among peoples where coercion and hierarchy were universally disallowed]? Such is the mystery (*perhaps a temporary one*) of the origin [of coercive hierarchy in society]. [All emphases added.]

Clastres stresses this “unbridgeable social gulf” in every way.

≈Why do all Indigenous peoples choose great suffering and even death rather than become civilized...?≈

He speaks of

“...the absolute *mastery [over] nature* (that obtains only for our [civil] world and its *insane* Cartesian project, *whose ecological consequences are only just beginning to be measured*)....” (1987!) [Emphases added.]

Time spent with Nature-aligned peoples called the Guayaki, in the forests of Paraguay, taught Clastres, the gentleness and respect which flowed between these people, if not provably innate in humans, was clearly seated in a total rejection of the coercion/hierarchy of the civilized State. So deeply did he find the gentleness, respect and personal freedom imprinted in Nature-loving peoples, he wrote:

Only one structural, *cataclysmic upheaval* is capable of transforming [Indigenous] society... [That upheaval is] hierarchal authority...[which must have been] imposed on them by *external violence*.... [Emphasis added.]

But unable, for his entire career, to locate such a *catastrophe*, such a *revolutionary upheaval* in history; unable to locate any act of man or Nature equal to the violence demanded by *his own theory*; unable for decades to pin down some archaic *cataclysm* violent enough, and *long-lasting enough*, to force contented and well-adjusted societies to suddenly (historically speaking) submit to a damaged and distorted way of looking at Nature; seeing Nature-aligned peoples in the lethal and degrading manner in which the State sees them, Clastres, scientist through and through, stayed true to this thankless search right up till his untimely death!

Of course, back then science had no way of knowing about² and apparently saw no reason to look for³ “...one of the most widespread and intense droughts of the last 50,000 years or more...!” This National Science Foundation article from back in 2011 continues: “The H1 Megadrought, as it’s known, was one of *the most severe climate trials ever faced by anatomically modern humans*.”⁴ Dr Curt Stager, discoverer of the Great Drought of 15-14,000 BCE, added a most-crucial point: “There would have been nowhere [for the tribes of humans] to go...”

This one-of-a-kind *thousand-year drought* appears (to this writer) clearly to be Pierre Clastres' perfect-storm scenario for *the dawn of civilization*, which he plainly hoped would one day soon be discovered somewhere back in history! Thus he predicted...

Natural catastrophes (*droughts*, floods, earthquakes, the disappearance of [a key food] species, etc.) can provoke a local scarcity of resources. Still, this *would have to last a rather long time* to lead to...a *social pathology* [among the catastrophe-affected peoples] bordering on [an extreme of violence like] war.... [Emphases added.]

Thereby, though it is *not* key to the thesis of this book, it is clear to us that *Dr Curt Stager, and his team of geologists, has at last discovered that "tremendous event", that "revolution", that "cataclysmic upheaval", Pierre Clastres literally spent his life analyzing and searching for!*

And again, though not essential to our argument, we intend to show in addition why Clastres' "unbridgeable social gulf", which sprawls between the *animus* of the nation/state for Nature-loving peoples; and (approaching from its other end) the gulf which sprawls between Indigenous peoples' fear of the nation/state's Nature-hating pathology, a void so vast and so divergent it has proven—over thousands of years of extirpations and genocides Worldwide—to be as *socially* uncrossable as Clastres claimed!

It is *this* insoluble dichotomy which forced Clastres to *repeatedly* predict a disaster somewhere in our past as violent and long-lasting as is Dr Stager's Great Drought, dated toward the end of the late Pleistocene.

¹ Even euphemisms like "the establishment" are used gently in academia, unlike Clastres' first dissertation, titled *Society Against the State(!)* [Underscore added.]

² Deep-core sampling is much advanced today.

³ This lack of a rationale might not stand, depending on Dr Stager's *reasons* for undertaking his lake core-samplings all the way from Africa to Europe.

⁴ One might wonder why Clastres didn't propose the *ice ages* as the cause of civilization? An obvious reason was the plentiful presence of water. Whereas the severe aridity of the Great Drought would cause a near-complete kill-off. *Clastres just could not resolve the State's murderous loathing for Indigenous peoples in anything less than some grisly violence done to some humans in the distant past.*

— World-Academy and the State Umbilicus —
 Backdrop for a Preface

The reader will early-on notice, this text's secondary go-to (after Pierre Clastres, anthropologist) will be the collaborative work of Theodor Adorno and Max Horkheimer, an early opus of theirs titled *The Dialectic of Enlightenment* (hereinafter *The Dialectic*, or *Dialectic*).

This treatise was easily their most controversial collaboration. Both men were broadly versed in Social Science, World History and World Philosophy. This writer would say, the keenness in their perceptions was due to their being foils for each other's method of mentation. At any style of thinking, it can be fairly decided: Because *The Dialectic* dared to question what is lauded, to this moment, as civilization's unrivaled progress; because they found in this "progress" far more in the way of blind pathology and danger for the *entire* World, critics, generally, tried to write-off *The Dialectic's* sense of reality as "too dark and negative".

That truth should be limited by how despondent it makes a person feel is hardly a scientific reaction. But how handy! Suddenly a "despondency rule" for disappearing the most realistic thinking ever to "darken" the lexicon of social philosophy. (Makes one wonder if Kierkegaard's *Sickness Unto Death* left them shattered on the fainting couch?)

While clearly just *opinion*, shockingly even the colleagues closest to the premises of Adorno and Horkheimer hid for a time under this "too despondent to be healthy" rule. This dodge of issues was led by sociologist Jürgen Habermas. And the "problems" *other* critics had with *The Dialectic* typically came down to: "How could there possibly be anything *fundamentally* wrong with glorious civilization?"

What in fact *was* the problem? The 300 or so pages of *The Dialectic of Enlightenment* distill to The most ruthlessly reflective judgment of civilization and the imperial State ever written! "Worse" yet, along the way, Adorno and Horkheimer dared expose even the failures of World Academy—the sum of which criticisms equaled reason enough for an unforgettable book to be promptly "forgotten"!

For instance,

But as the real emancipation of humanity did not coincide with the enlightenment of the mind, education itself became sick...commoditized.... Finally, under the conditions of late capitalism [early fascism],¹ *the half-educated condition has become the objective spirit* [of education].² [Stress and brackets added for clarity within the authors' argument.]

(This critique of academe is more thoroughly fleshed-out later in the book.)

In the years intervening between the 1940s-'50s (when *The Dialectic* was composed), and from then until, well, today, year piled on year, as the *primarium est principium* of this prophetic book sent forth its first dark blossoms, it soon enough finally proved, the disaster of its time (the horrors of Nazi Germany, Nanking, Dresden, the Russian march into Germany, the bombing of Tokyo, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, so forth) was, and remains, despondently factual to this moment!

The source of today's disaster is a pattern of blind domination...*the domination of nature* by [civilized] human beings, *the domination of nature* within human beings, and, in both of these...the domination of [all human beings by the State]. [Emphases and brackets added for clarity.]

The latter is Professor Lambert Zuidervaart's truly brilliant summary of *The Dialectic of Enlightenment* in the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. He goes on to quote Adorno and Horkheimer...

...The wholly enlightened earth radiates under the sign of disaster triumphant...How can the progress of modern science and medicine and industry promise to liberate people from ignorance, disease, and brutal mind-numbing work, yet help create a world [a State] where people willingly swallow fascist ideology, *knowingly practice deliberate genocide*, and energetically develop lethal weapons of mass destruction? [Stress added.]

Such Goyaesque³ truth-telling about civilization and the State are why *The Dialectic* was flogged and forgotten by our gadget-fixated and ultra-commoditized culture. On the other hand, philosophers to this day find Adorno (specially) unavoidable and insurmountable.⁴

We will let the following fairly seal *The Dialectic's* fate for the State-aligned humanities. For it says out-loud and in broad daylight...

...[The State's] inflexible *animus and distrust for nature*...
 The desperate, destructive urge directed against *everything*
which embodies the lure of nature. [Stresses added.]

That said, how could any department of humanities not examine what amounts to the calling card of civilization and the State, if for no other reason than fascinating study? How could both history and the humanities miss, for 70 years(!), *The Dialectic of Enlightenment's* noisy and unbashful prediction that *the State's desire to dominate Nature can only end in disaster*? For it had *already* given us Nazi Germany! And unless dismantled, would continue to wreak horror across the World! But past truths *being* passed: The State's unrestricted freedom to exert its Nature-*animus* at will threatens us once again! But *this* time, witness:

The Climate Catastrophe raging at us back in 1972 has arrived, undeterred thanks to *zero action* from the nation/states and...AND... with *zero warning from State-aligned academy!* And further, just as back in the 1940's and '50s, when *The Dialectic* first brought said *disaster* to light, today's (2020s) disaster is exponentially worse than it was 50 years ago! Keep in mind: *We're talking news of the State's pathological hatred for Nature going effectively unannounced for half-a-century across the World by the State- and its Academy-aligned press!*

And so, those of us clinging to our sanity must ask: "What's the best word for describing half a century of not caring to save one's own nation much less all the lives our nation/states are *sworn* to protect?" The sane and the brave would say, "pathological". But then...is something making we Climate Rescuers hesitate, even tremble, before the word "pathological"?

Based on over a century of Age of Enlightenment studies, *The Dialectic* has proven beyond all argument: If the State has *always had an uncontrollable animus toward Nature (and Nature-loving peoples)*, and yet year-on-year we Climate Rescuers continue to plead with *the same States* to help us mitigate the Climate Catastrophe raging at us, are we not, by this pattern of unjustified expectation, reflecting the State's pathology?—that is, for decades now expecting from the State a result different from the *end of the World denial* the State has been spitting in our faces for half-a-century?

And, even beyond the jittery precipice this text finds humanity to be in at this prescient hour, the fact that *Academia*, for these many decades, has chosen *not* to warn the World of the nation/state's *historic* and *pathological Nature-animus*, seems to this writer to be the most belief-paralyzing aspect of all! Why? Because, unlike the archaic pathology of the State, we sane have *no* choice but to decide: *World Academia* has (for this almost half-century interim of unfathomable silence), for all we can tell, been in its RIGHT mind!

Finally: We can go on denying the foundational principle of Adorno and Horkheimer's *Dialectic* (that the nation/states have *always* suffered from a Nature-hating pathology) till we gulp for our last breath. Yet still the facts are proof apodictic! *Humanity (and all of life) is trapped exactly within the Nature-hating cataclysm which The Dialectic predicted back in the 1940s!* So now we can only ask, "What knowledge, more than *accurately predicting the end of the World as we've known it*, could possibly be more crucial, more alarming or more demanding of immediate recognition?"

And, of course, though Adorno and Horkheimer couldn't know why in their time before the Great Drought was discovered, some of the finest minds in the World seemed collectively to be wondering: Could it be that what has gone wrong is a case of Civilization, using its nation/states to act out some archaic grudge against Nature, somehow could care less if it *itself* dies in its war against life on Earth?

Yet throughout this we must keep in mind: Criticizing the mental health of the State can quickly damage a career in academia. Therefore *all but* Pierre Clastres, Theodor Adorno, Max Horkheimer, Marshall Sahlins and Philip Wylie (to this scribbler's knowledge) have either been afraid to (or worse, never thought to) name the State as culprit! Even Marx does not name the State when, speaking of us "at last resolving"...

- ...the antagonism between man and nature...the riddle of history solved. [!]

Neither Freud...

- Civilization is constructed in order to dominate [read: wage war against] Nature [when he could have said:] Civilization, *acting as the State*, etc.]

- We struggle against nature in order to destroy it, thereby making the world a desert and severing what connects us to other human beings. —M.T. Jones
- ...The argument varies, but its intent is ever the same—to separate man from nature —Stephen Jay Gould
- In its preoccupation with the conquest of nature... —Lewis Mumford
- ...The suicide of civilization is in progress [as it asserts itself] over the forces of nature. —Albert Schweitzer
- Violence is directly connected to an exploitative, destructive relationship of humankind to nature...Goethe...describe[s]...the domination of humankind over nature as the destruction of the foundations of human life... —Sigrid Lange
- The end of the human race will be that it will eventually die of civilization.
—R.W. Emerson

(The thoughts of many other perceptive thinkers will follow in later chapters.)

And last of all there's the grim fact: A whole World of nation/states expects us not to notice that even beyond exterminating Nature-loving peoples for the last ≈10,000 years, the States, *to this moment*, dear reader—despite the U.N.'s "bill of rights for Indigenous peoples"—frozen in their grisly Die, Primitive! syndrome, are still, still, still abusing, and even decimating by fire, flooding (damming) and corporately-paid militias, Nature-aligned peoples across the World!

How, still trapped in that archaic Nature-hating shadow, can our futures seem darker or grimmer? Still we must, *at once*, begin a reëducation of State-aligned humanity; all the while hoping, wishing, praying and working, working, working as if there is time remaining to flip this tragic (and long predicted) apocalypse on its head and kill it once for always!

That said, this querist knows... There is a sachem among us who can assemble from these pages the "magic" to convince the Nature-hating nation/states that Climate Rescue is not an act of *helping* Nature but a necessary final battle *with* Nature! 'Cause THAT the State might find alluring!

¹This has a most current ring to it.

²A prediction that some day two presidents of the Empire would *proudly* declare, "I haven't read a book since college", and the people would laugh and cheer!

³Goyaesque, as seen through *his* realist lens of *church* and State, not our lensing of *Academy* and State.

⁴After the fashion of Kant's and Hegel's ever-repeating insurmountability.

The Catastrophic Dawn of Civilization

— WHAT TO DO WHEN THE CAUSE OF A GLOBAL TRAGEDY IS SIMPLY BEYOND BELIEVING? —

PREFACE TO AN INTRODUCTION

Any theory which claims a beyond-belief *cause* will do itself well to climb into the nearest dumpster and pray for cover, ugh! Where it gets complicated is when the theorist is literally doing his best to save the future; that is, to keep Earth's environment as close to how anatomically modern man has known it since first light struck his eyes!

On the other hand, how fortunate if his theory—a theory by the way not *unknown* to World Academe—can be graphically displayed in less than 500 words! Here goes.

The most *accessible* proof this scribbler has found comes as high paradox. A President of USA, who shall go nameless, wanting to cut the costs of disaster relief to the people of Puerto Rico, asked the Department of Defense to henceforth “Nuke all hurricanes” as they appear. Inside word has it, the Department responded as follows (the versions vary):

Although our Agency can implement the president's proposal within a matter of days, dropping a hydrogen bomb on a hurricane will not destroy it. At best, it may only cause the “eye” to wobble a bit. Of course, our Agency will proceed to implement the procedure without delay if so instructed. At the President's command, we are, etc.

Why mention such a seeming inconsequential item? Because of the “unbelievable” paradox it punctuates! Let us explain.

We Environmentalists fought for, and after *decades* of struggle won, the attention of the United Nations with the holding of the first World Environment Summit in Stockholm, 1972! Quickly said, for almost a *half-century* the one nation to most passionately *block* our Climate Rescue efforts turns out to be *the same nation* prepared, on a moment's notice, to “nuke hurricanes at will”!

(We need point out, the nation/state views the hurricane/typhoon — along with tornados, earthquakes, volcanos (*sic et al.*), tidal waves, lightning strikes, etc.—as Nature incarnate! [But, “oddly”, the State exempts Nature from its explosives including its nuclear bombs! These the State protects!])
The great social philosophers Theodor Adorno and Max Horkheimer set out as follows what is, in fact, the oldest feud on Earth:

...[The State's] inflexible *animus* and distrust for nature... The desperate, destructive urge directed against everything which embodies the lure of nature. —T. Adorno and M. Horkheimer, *Dialectic of Enlightenment*

In their prophetic book* Adorno and Horkheimer show exactly how Nature has *always* been arch-enemy of the State. Taking up that thread, the present text shows this Nature-*hating* reflex to be the very Principle which civilizes both the State and its people! This is made explicit by a global history which shows, all nation/states were *founded* on the extirpation or genocide of Nature-*loving* peoples!

And so, for this Preface, we will limit our message to this: When it comes to harming natural systems, leaders of the nation/states of Earth suddenly come alive, offering their very best in bombs and the biggest, reddest buttons they can push. But when it comes to what looks (to them) like *saving* Nature—even saving themselves and the World in the bargain—they find ways to hold off...for decades, good reader! *Thus the Climate Catastrophe raging at us in 1972 still advances undeterred!*

That said, how can one *not* wonder: Is there any Indigenous culture remaining on Earth whose wisdom council, in any reasonable scenario, would have delayed (since 1972, under conditions of ever-worsening climate) the criminalizing of fossil-fuel use and the shuttering of corporations producing it?

That considered, what thinking person could, ever again, consider a national legislature a sane (much less logical) institution? A record this disastrous resembles a high school project gone wrong. Such a project certainly could not have turned out worse than "the end of the World as we've known it!"

So forgive us if, one last time: What's the best word for describing almost half-a-century of not caring to save one's own nation much less all the lives the nation/states are sworn to protect? The brave and the sane would say, *pathological*. Not incidentally, *that's* exactly as Age of Enlightenment scholars called it 150 years ago!

* Civil society has arrived *exactly* where *The Dialectic of Enlightenment* saw it headed back in 1940s-'50s!

— THE STATE AS IRRATIONAL ACTOR —
A MORE EXPLICIT INTRO

Planet-wide, in the last five years alone, there's been enough weather catastrophe globally to make World Climate Emergency a no-brainer. And the reality? The thing standing between climate healing and a future of climate disaster is *the absolute and shameless resistance of the State* (the often oligarchically steered nations of the World)! For, as the cover blurbs to this book are blaring: Blockage of climate rescue by the State has been the case at all Earth Summits since the Environmental Conference in Stockholm, 1972!¹ That's ≈half-a-century of blockage displaying an *ignorance of global disaster nothing short of insanity!*≈

There is a reason for this and it is historical. We "Enviros", as we are known to the State—whether activist, scientist or NGO—are seen by bureaucrats as "Primitive Peoples masquerading in modern dress". We are classed as "savages carrying briefcases and shoulder bags in place of spears, feathers and war-paint". Age of Enlightenment studies show State governments, for thousands of years; helpless to control their hatred for Nature-aligned Peoples. The evidence is legion. When First Peoples are not out-rightly exterminated they consider themselves lucky to be "merely" driven into the "wastelands" of Earth to survive—or not.

We Enviros need at once to understand: All the good science in the World can not sway such sociopathy.² And to arrive at a meeting accompanied by Natively-attired persons is to force the State to swallow, in public, its genocidal past! We *must, and soon*, realize: The State can not grasp a human point of view!³ And the more humane a given sensibility is (e.g.: a whole World of people in danger), the more the cataNatural (*sic*) pathology of the State rises in defiance of helping!

Once we have realized the State is psychologically incapable of adopting any positive posture toward Nature (in the short term we are left with)—and since the cooperation of the States of the World is essential to *rapid* global climate-disaster mitigation;⁴ and since, finally, the income of the States' closest allies depends upon continued and unrestrained global pollution—we Enviro Activists, of all stripes, will finally see, we are daily facing-down an insensible and unyielding enemy! *But worse yet...*

At this time, effectively, no one on Earth (with a voice) is aware of the State's intractable Nature-hating psychosis, much-less how to treat it!^{1, 2}

Yet there are so many climate activists whom, once armed with the knowledge this little book has to share, would ardently brainstorm for tactics and solutions for dealing with global governments' deadly denial. All it would take is to help this scribbler get out the word* as to what tactics can best, and most quickly, help us overcome the State's (decade-on-decade) psychotic paralysis concerning Climate Rescue! [*See asterisk footnote (below) and "And so, where to from here?", page 198.]

¹ United Nations Conference on Human Environment, June 1972.

² And sociopathology it is. For the State's hatred of Nature extends ruthlessly deep into crushing the Nature inside ourselves as well.

~... Civilization has been constructed on a perverse and *mistaken idea* [that] human Nature endangers our existence.~ (Emphasis added.)

—Marshall Sahlins, *The Western Illusion of Human Nature*

The control of internal and external nature has been made the absolute purpose of [civil existence]. —*Dialectic of Enlightenment*, Adorno & Horkheimer

³ How such a pathology has come to pass is, of course, vetted within this book. Truth be told, once its archeo-history is known the nation/state will be seen as the *emotional derelict* it is! *For the birth of the State is likely the saddest story ever told!*

⁴ The UN is fundamentally a world-assembly for the resolution of nation/*state* problems. If the States of the World, as a group—understanding they are almost wholly controlled by the most polluting nations on Earth—can not be convinced (in the short term we have left) to give Nature what it is demanding for our continued (climatological) survival, quickly said: This little book has in mind skirting years of UN bureaucracy via the start-up of A Peoples' World Parliament,* mandated on the basis of State intransigence in the face of a *universally recognized global emergency*. Such a climatologically dedicated *global actor* (like a Peoples' Parliament) is the only unilateral force which could *peacefully* countervail against the clinically irrational resistance of the nation/states.

* We have in mind here George Monbiot's concept of a World Parliament, a Peoples' Summit based on the rapidly assembled yet brilliant success of the World Social Forum held in Porto Alegre, Brazil, in 2003, headed-up by luminaries no less in stature than Noam Chomsky and Arundhati Roy! (See "And so, where to from here?", page 198.)

Yet, a key element is missing in all this; an element keeping us from getting our climate solutions up and running. It is the failure of we Enviros to inform the World of what, exactly, is causing the globally lethal intractability of the nation-states to realize: We need at once to save the World from Climate Catastrophe! Need we add? Help!

To keep this introduction
as short as possible yet retain
some cohesion of elements,
at this point we must
jump ahead to page 198,
which begins the wrap-up
of Part 1.

The closing of Part 1
leads us into its final
section titled:
"And so, where to from here?"

— RESOLUTION [BY THE STATE] OR REVOLUTION [BY THE PEOPLE] —

To end Part 1: War-wise Chris Hedges says, “We can’t know...that is, one can never predict what degree of State abuse is going to trigger a revolt of the People; or really even possess any foreknowledge to guess if that revolt will be peaceful or violent. What we *do* know is this: It’s always the State which determines the configurations of revolt”.

Hedges is saying, a People can go in (pardon the verb) shooting for peaceful change and end-up in a bloodbath. Or a people can have every intention of violent *revolution* (“They’ve given us no choice!”) and end-up with a peaceful *resolution* from a terrified State. Yet in *any* case, John Kennedy’s warning should alert all of us...

≈The State which makes peaceful revolution impossible makes violent revolution inevitable!≈ —John F. Kennedy

That the nation/states, and the mega-elite class which effectively controls them, sneer at such wisdom, is simply more proof of the indolent stoicism of hierarchal power. In any case, we must ask: *What is it the People need most which the State is doing little or nothing about?* While the answer to this question should be duple and obvious, it’s not. Poverty, health-care, wages, police and court abuse, homelessness and other issues still blot out the climate- and nuclear crises rushing at us.

And so long as the People of the World can not visualize climate- or nuclear catastrophe as a *personal* or *local community* issue, and as long as we do not on-mass overturn the seats of government, *the State will remain immovable* in its posture of doing nothing!

The state is static, and does not evolve into something different. The state of the present equals the state of the future.

—Christiane Bohnert, *Impure Reason: Dialectic of Enlightenment in Germany*

For when it comes to the issue of respect for Nature, and even respect for history, the State is, and has *always* been, more ignorant and immovable than the People! So, what to do during this interim of terrifying State inaction...?

In that the wealthy elite of the World—and the now gargantuan corporate edifice they control which, not incidentally, includes entire colleges and universities—in that the ultra-wealthy elite are, and long

have been, effectively steering the nation/states of Earth into a *destructive* common future (which the State chooses to view as progress), should we not stop for a moment and ask ourselves...

When it comes to forcing a boycott or divestment strategy on, say, a large university, why is it that no school yet, even under such publicly humiliating pressure, has ever, ever, EVER chosen the obvious alternative of *demanding that the do-nothing State legislate the climate action the students are actually clamoring for?* Do we really think these educational monoliths don't understand: It is *the pathological immobility of the State* which is triggering these fossil-fuel uprisings? Do we think these schools aren't fully aware that, as little Greta Thunberg says, "Hello, World! Sorry for the inconvenience but our Home, this Earth, is on fire"?

Of course they know. And many schools knew long before we the People knew! Problem is: Little that is politically essential to the State has changed since feudal times, back when schools of the World (where they even existed) lived in fear of offending the ruling church/state. The problem with the State's "status quo at all costs" is: The academe/state umbilicus has been so sycophantic, incestuous and self-serving for so many centuries it may, tragically, be unseverable at this late date! At any rate, it certainly seems so.

Worse yet, think about it: *Why is none of us surprised when even the most prestigious schools on Earth choose to opt for complete fossil fuel divestment rather than dare demand that the nation/states take the one action which, effectively, the whole world is begging them to take!* Some incredible coincidence? We don't think so.

These things being so, one would think that boycotting the oligarchy itself (the top one-tenth of one percent who effectively oversee the universities of the World *as well as* the nation/states!) would be the most direct follow-the-money tactic an endangered populace could pursue. For does not the elite Ruling Class of the World have names and addresses?

Of course, they do. But those addresses are multiple and often globe-spanning, with most being inaccessible "fortresses" with private militias or the equivalent in local police or even military protection.

And never forget, these globe-floaters are persons without an actual homeland; without an Earthly PLACE to care for, to love or go home to when the trials of the day are done; a Nature-PLACE; an Earthy matrix of soil, water and sky which our bodies and psyches have been carefully synchronized with since the birth of humanity; a PLACE we've been *evolutionarily* stitched into, with *all the other life of that region*, for at least 3 billion years! Such persons think of a Nature-PLACE as expendable.

Which is to say, there is no place on Earth which, to the ultra-wealthy, is too precious to sacrifice in order to increase their wealth. If it costs turning Bangladesh, the Philippines, or even all of Indonesia, into a resource-stripped wasteland, well, so be it! That's "progress"!

And, finally...

This writer has had occasion to refuse coöption by a first rank dignitary among the 1980s global elite.* Because his (stunningly substantial) offer was brokered by an employer/benefactor within my regional sphere of opportunity—and preferring that i not be remembered in headlines as "LOCAL ARTIST IS CUT LOOSE BY WEALTHIEST MAN ON EARTH"—my simple, Indigenial [sic] rebuff (of a "guaranteed" career success) demanded a wise rejection. As a result of this experience this scribbler can assure: Any success "guaranteed" by the wealthy elite amounts to constantly genuflecting to a *global* club of high cohesion and unethical opportunism. Meaning? The "magic" the wealthy elite can conjure for you at a finger-snap can also be evaporated on a farcical whimsy, and all of it dispatched with a blowback sophistication which leaves the applicant looking like the bad guy!

And so...

* Armand Hammer, international financier, pharmaceutical and oil baron. Often called the Last Tycoon, Dr Hammer was, most of all, a major patron of the arts.

— AND SO, WHERE TO FROM HERE? —

THE MOST AWESOME TEACHING MOMENT WORLD ACADEMY EVER MISSED!

With the foregoing pages in mind—during the anxious interim which usually precedes revolution—this writer's sights are fixed on a Peoples' World Parliament. *Not* another United Nations but its logical successor.¹ For when push comes to shove, the UN serves the State not its People.²

[The structure of the UN] does not match the duties it is supposed to discharge. —George Monbiot, *Manifesto for a New World Order*

Even small member-nations at the UN must beg the consideration of the Security Council. This is, and has long been, at the very least, unethical.

And so, if the nation/states of the World—understanding they are limited in action by *the most polluting nations on Earth*—can not be convinced (in the short time we have left to act) to give Nature what "She" is demanding for our continued climatological survival, this book has in mind bypassing frustrating years of UN bureaucracy (47 years to date)² by way of the incumbent erection of a Peoples' World Parliament.¹ But wait. Incumbent? Really?

Yes, we dare say "incumbent" because, the institution of a Peoples' World Parliament is hardly the massive project it may seem at first sight. For fact is, such an organization has long had *a mandate to be up and running yesterday!* For if we stop and think about it, *such a World assembly (of the People, not the States) has actually been pre-authorized and mandated by some 47 years of State do-nothing intransigence² in the face of a universally recognized global emergency!*

So, realistically, how rapidly *can* such a parliament be assembled?

First thing to keep in mind is: Approval of the nation/states for such a Peoples' assembly is not only *not* required, State involvement would stymie the very concept of such a forum. For the *charter* of a Peoples' global justice organization must, from the outset, set in stone the fundamental need to *externalize any and all nation/state control!* Why? Because failure to do so is sure to leave an opening for some State to slip in and begin a hostile take-down. For the paranoid State just cannot repress its urge to control the World!

As regards the urgency to take our global emergency straight into its legislating phase? This writer will never forget the thrill of the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil, in 2003! This smashing success was thrown together in just a couple months, as I recall, and was magnetized by such luminaries as Noam Chomsky and Arundhati Roy!

And what was it which assured the wild enthusiasm of 50,000 attendees? It was a global social vacuum so obvious it has long been obscene: *A summit for the People! A summit to counter...*

...The tiniest and most unrepresentative of the world's minorities [the IMF, World Bank and WTO, which globally] assert a popular mandate they do not possess, then accuse *us* of illegitimacy. —George Monbiot

And every attendee felt: This summit was a smackdown of Dick "Snidely" Cheney's and George "Smirkly" Bush's panting urge to "bomb Iraq into the stone age" for my oil-mad homeland.³

And finally, such a parliament could be formed *ad hoc* within a single global assembly, after the shining example of the World Social Forum, begun in São Paulo, Brazil, back in 2001. In fact, it would be wise for any Peoples' Parliament planners to seek the experience of the World Social Forum's (horizontal) leaders. For they are good and honorable folks with the very best at heart for the People of Earth, Earth's creatures, *and* an egalitarian existence for all!

These matters spoken, this scribbler would gently suggest inserting our mission-statement into our parliament's very name. Such a thing will enable people around the World to recognize both our organization's gravity *and* (its vastly egalitarian) goal at a glance!

The Peoples' World Parliament for Global Survival

Such a name is instructive as well, for it cries out "*Global Emergency!*"

That said, such a dedicated *global* actor is the only unilateral force which (it seems to this writer) can *peacefully* countervail against the *clinically insane resistance of the nation/states of the World*. And allow us, please, to repeat: This will *not* be a difficult sell. For our product is something the People of the World are, already, literally dying to obtain: For all we ever wanted was a voice in rescuing our collective future!

Also, if we may be allowed a *personal* note on the question, is the winning of such a parliament realistic? Frankly, it depends on the people fighting for it. What do we mean? This writer will never forget the fear of his own people to confront the US Government over the hazardous treatment we'd been suffering since the beginnings of our public-safety work. But my fellow employees, believing "You'll never win against the government", were afraid to join me and stand tall. Thus some 4,000 government-fearing comrades (not to forget our State-groveling PA's) left this writer to head off to Washington, DC with nothing for moral support but a brief he'd constructed for the cause.

As to that brief?⁴ The opposite of "an appeal to authority", it read as an element-by-element citation of federal law paralleled by a case-by-case display of the failure of that law to protect the lives of a certain class of worker. Namely us. Quickly phrased, it was a frankly bloody *demand* which made clear: The US Fed. needed *at once* to provide our class of public safety worker with health and safety protections commensurate with those it was providing judges, law enforcement and fire-rescue.⁵

For this Claimant's argument back then was (and is still today): When you make your rightful position *clear beyond reproof*, you can win. But... (and a *big "BUT"* this is)...in the formulating process you *must anticipate and destroy all choice for the enemy*. For if you leave any exit open to them it will become the portal which flushes you out!⁶

Finally, the very first action of our Peoples' Parliament should be to force the World Court (ICJ) and the ICC * to hold the UN, the Security Council and the fossil fuel industry criminally negligent for the damages and deaths so far wreaked across the Planet by some 47 years of inaction concerning climatological disaster! As to the winnings from such a suit? They should fund the relocating, rehabilitating, etc. of those millions harmed to date by *long-avoidable* climate catastrophe, with a continuance of the Peoples'-loss awards legislated into the future.⁷

* International Criminal Court: I.e., what, literally, could be more criminal than terrorizing every person on Earth for decades?

A second action of this Parliament should be revealing, after hundreds of years, the sycophantic, incestuous and self-serving collusion that has gone on between the States and the many State-aligned academic institutions of the World.

For quickly put by, why would any college or university choose to endure, week upon week (at times, year upon year) the public humiliation of being complicit in climate catastrophe rather than step up and shift the blame exactly where it belongs? On the State—for the many decades of nation/state-disregard for the future of us all? Do we really believe our educational institutions don't realize: *It is the nation/states, as a collective force, which are at fault for the World communities' decades of traumatic suffering, suffering because of inaction concerning climate- and thermonuclear hazard?*⁸

And this too, "The United Peoples of Earth" should bring before the World Court and the ICC, for belated resolution, 75 years of terrorizing the People of the World with the threat of thermonuclear annihilation, an emotional outrage for every adult and child obliged to live-out their lives with this spirit-crushing awareness!

Finally, our parliament needs to reveal to the World at large WHY no educational institution on Earth ever steps up, takes the pathologically negligent State to task for *its thousand abuses of the People*, including the very worst: *Doing nothing—NOTHING!—to end mind-numbing decades of impending climate- and thermonuclear catastrophe!*

Why expose the negligence of the World Academy? Firstly because, with no time for us to invent, much less deploy, *mental and emotional therapy for the nation/states of the World* (Great Gaia, how does one even go about placing a State under psychological supervision?), one hopes the shock of ending State/academy collusion might, at long last, get the States to focus attention on their own Nature-abusive pathology.⁸ Such exposure will also help the People of the World to understand what levels of collusion, obfuscation, propaganda, punishment, fraud and duplicity, were required to dig us into this "impasse of inscrutable ignorance" we find ourselves stymied by today!

So far as this specular querist can see, only a Peoples' World Parliament—in league with the World Court, ICC and (a hopefully repentant and humbled) World Academy—can embarrass the bullying and insensible States⁹ to finally stand down and pitch in, pitch in to cure the biggest emergency humanity, and most life on Earth, has ever faced.



And, finally, yes: All this *is* like a nightmare, my friends, except we are not dreaming! Hopefully enough of us can come alert to the truth of the States' historical pathology in time to save Earth's environment as we have known it at least since our hominid days!

Lastly, we are disturbed to find a key element still starkly absent from our presentation here; an element stopping us from getting our climate solutions up and running. That element? The *immediate* problem of we Enviros to alert Academia and the World press of what, *exactly*, is causing *the globally lethal intractability of the nation/states of Earth* to finally realize: *To save Life on Earth from lethal Climate Catastrophe we must act at once!* For as things stand, the nation/states are at least 47 years truant in their duty to rescue the People and much of life on Earth!

And so the backstory to THE BIG WHY OF CLIMATE INACTION (which, not incidentally, is the very zizm of this book) needs be spread at once like a Natural cure across the World! For our collective (*all of life*, that is) future appears to depend on our understanding, and exposing, the tragic pathology of the State!

¹ We have in mind here George Monbiot's concept of a World Parliament, an institutional Peoples' Summit whose creation should be based on the rapidly assembled yet brilliant success of the World Social Forum, Porto Allegre, Brazil, 2003, attended by 50,000 wildly enthusiastic people, including officials from the IMF and World Bank who were refused the right to speak.

² Never forget, it is UN *politics* which has overseen *all* the failed Climate Summits since The United Nations Conference on the Human Environment was held in Stockholm, Sweden, in June 1972! What statistician is prepared to say, or even to estimate, how many Indigenous villages have slid into the ocean in the 47 years since that first Climate–Action Summit; or how much property loss, or how many lives and maimings, have transpired worldwide since that first failure to take action; or how much drought and flooding damage; or how many mudslides and fires, etc., etc., etc.?

³ At cost of lives, human and otherwise, which was anything but cheap.

⁴ *Health-Risk Duty-Imperative of Ocean Lifeguards*, © ken gunther 1989, submission to Library of Congress Records for US Dept. of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health, OSHA Hearing, page 23133 Public Document 370 © 1989.

⁵ Been there. Strange town. Alone, against *four* Goliaths (The CDC, Dept. of Labor, Natl. Acad. of Sciences, and OSHA.) See HRDIOL Project, ken gunther, *Federal Register*, 1992. Final Rule on Bloodborne Pathogens: Friday December 6, 1991, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Final Rule 29 CFR Part 1910.1030, Page 64098. eLinks as follows:

https://books.google.com/books?id=Yb0jvbRR8MC&pg=PA64098&dq=ken+gunther+lifeguard+hrdiol+project&hl=en&newbks=1&newbks_redir=0&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiC00fNtLIAhVMPnOKHchwADIQ6AEwAHoECAAAQAg#v=onepage&q=ken%20gunther%20lifeguard%20hrdiol%20project&f=false

and at: <http://cehdclass.gmu.edu/jkozlows/lawarts/07JUL92.pdf>

⁶ The following DENIALS OF PROTECTION *preceded* my US Government hearing: 1) In Palm Beach County (Commissioner Karen Marcus, P&R Dir. Dennis Eshleman & Asst. John Herrick); 2) US Lifesaving Asso. (Joseph Pecoraro, Pres.); 3) American Red Cross Water Safety Program; 4) State of Florida (H&R Services, Sec. Gregory Coler); 5) Florida Legislature (Senator Tom McPherson). [Denial went berserk at Fed. level.] 6) Centers for Disease Control (a. H.H. Humphrey, Public Health Serv. CDC; b. M.B. Gregg, MD, Epidemiology Asst. Dir.) passed my brief on to James W. Curran (MD, MPH, CDC Dir.), whose denial was based on a *scientific* screed: ≈The molarity of ocean water kills viruses & bacteria which might harm a worker.≈, which 16th-Century science cost this Applicant a 7-page chemistry Appendix refuting the CDC's comparing the dynamic molecular structure of Earth's oceans to saline solutions deadly to bloodborne pathogens! Play dirty much?

⁷ Because the UN is *the* institution permitting the do-nothing stance of the nation/states of the World, a posture which, after almost half a century of inaction, amounts to a fail which is criminally negligent!

⁸ Which pathology this thesis maintains was initiated by the H1 Climate Catastrophe of 14,000 BCE. See also above chapters titled: "An Archaic Cataclysm..."; "An Event Capable of Causing Transgenerational Psychopathy..."; "A Drought where Migration was NOT an Option", and "The Great Drought: Trials and Scars".

⁹ In fact, this writer would be unsurprised to learn the nation/states have, at times, "encouraged" academic institutions to crush all climate-related protest when it appears, even offering the assistance of the National Guard, or Department of Homeland Security (as with I.C.E., which is regularly launching incursions signaling it as the President's latest incarnation of *posse comitatus* in the US.) We should be prepped for this by the vicious treatment the State has leveled at we Enviro for over half a century now. For the State has always wanted to criminalize (as terrorists) persons found "aiding and abetting Nature". Hopefully one day we'll understand how all of the State's secreted and subliminal Nature-hating folds into one amazing World-scale mural of almost incomprehensible historical madness.

Hobbes and the Age of Enlightenment

I curse you, Nature! I dare you to strike me down!

Because Mother Nature does not strike him down, our civilized brothers think Nature is afraid of them. They believe they are free to hurt or destroy the Earth.

I think the poor man is sick with hating Mother Nature.

Is that man arrogant or just plain ignorant, Mother?

That man frightens me, Mama.



Concept, elements & speech (c) ken gunther

Artistic realization, Diego Barbosa (2019)



© Tim D. Peterson

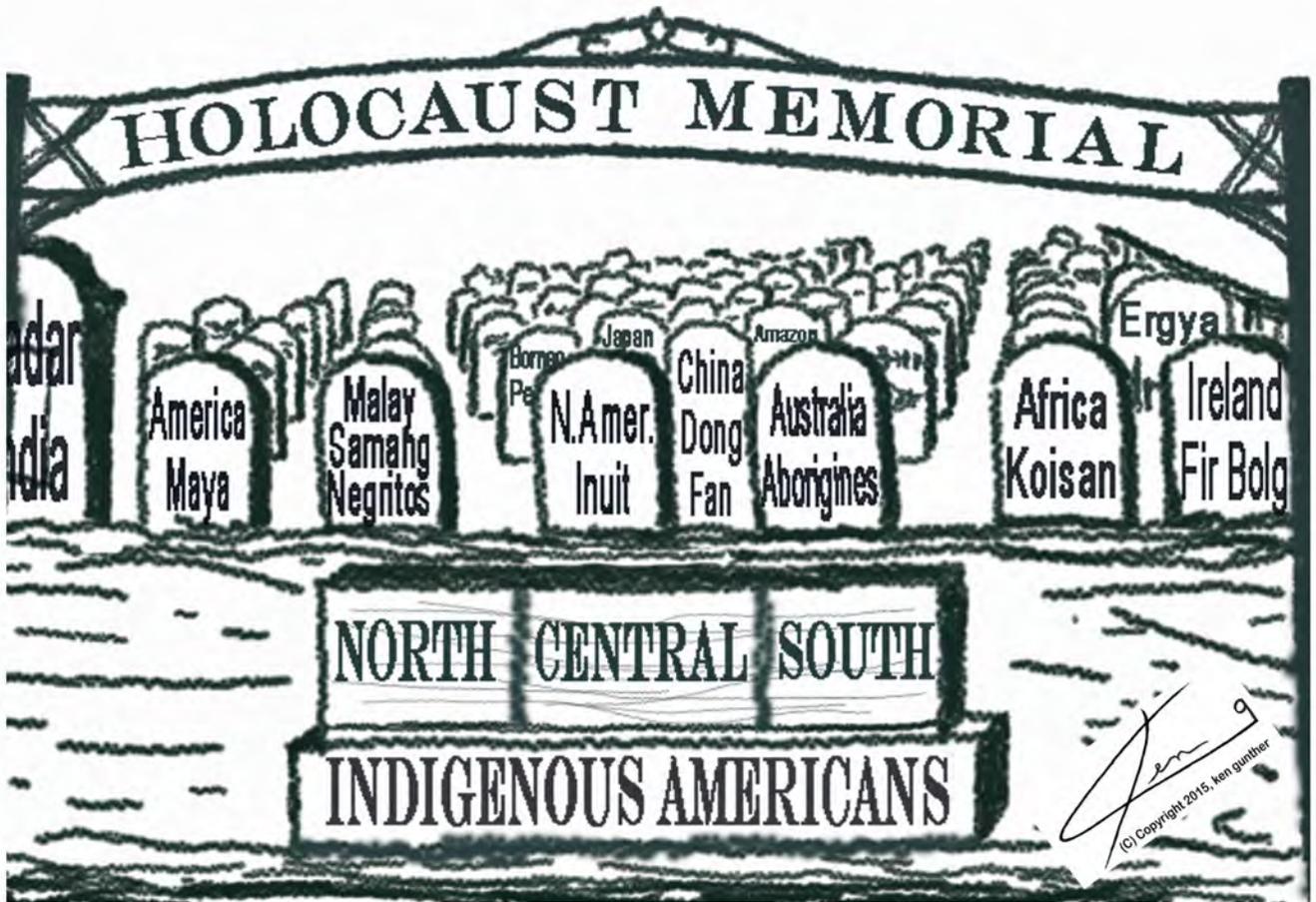
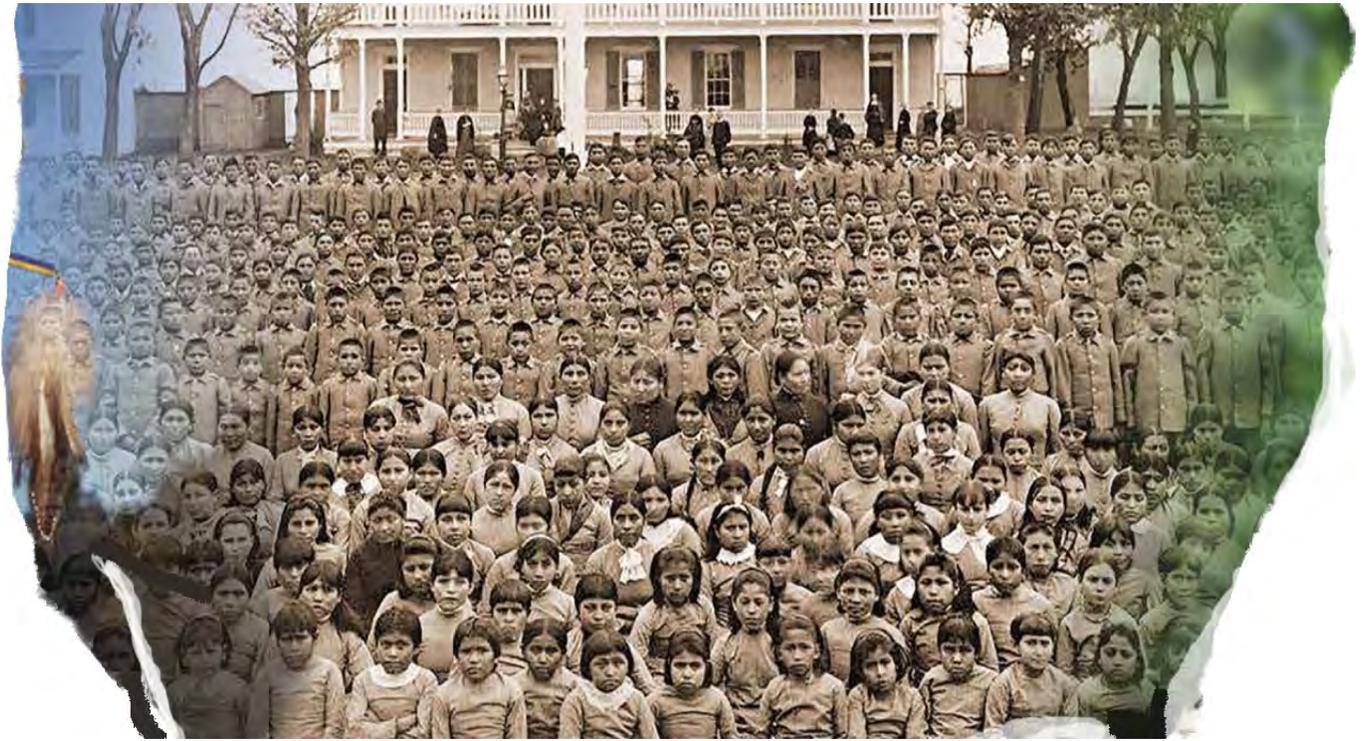
“Escape” into the Clouds

Imagine your sacred, fertile, river-fed homeland now a treacherous 2-mile descent. What horrors had to have been inflicted on these people to cause a homeland abandonment of this magnitude? Yet this is the story of indigenous peoples the World over.

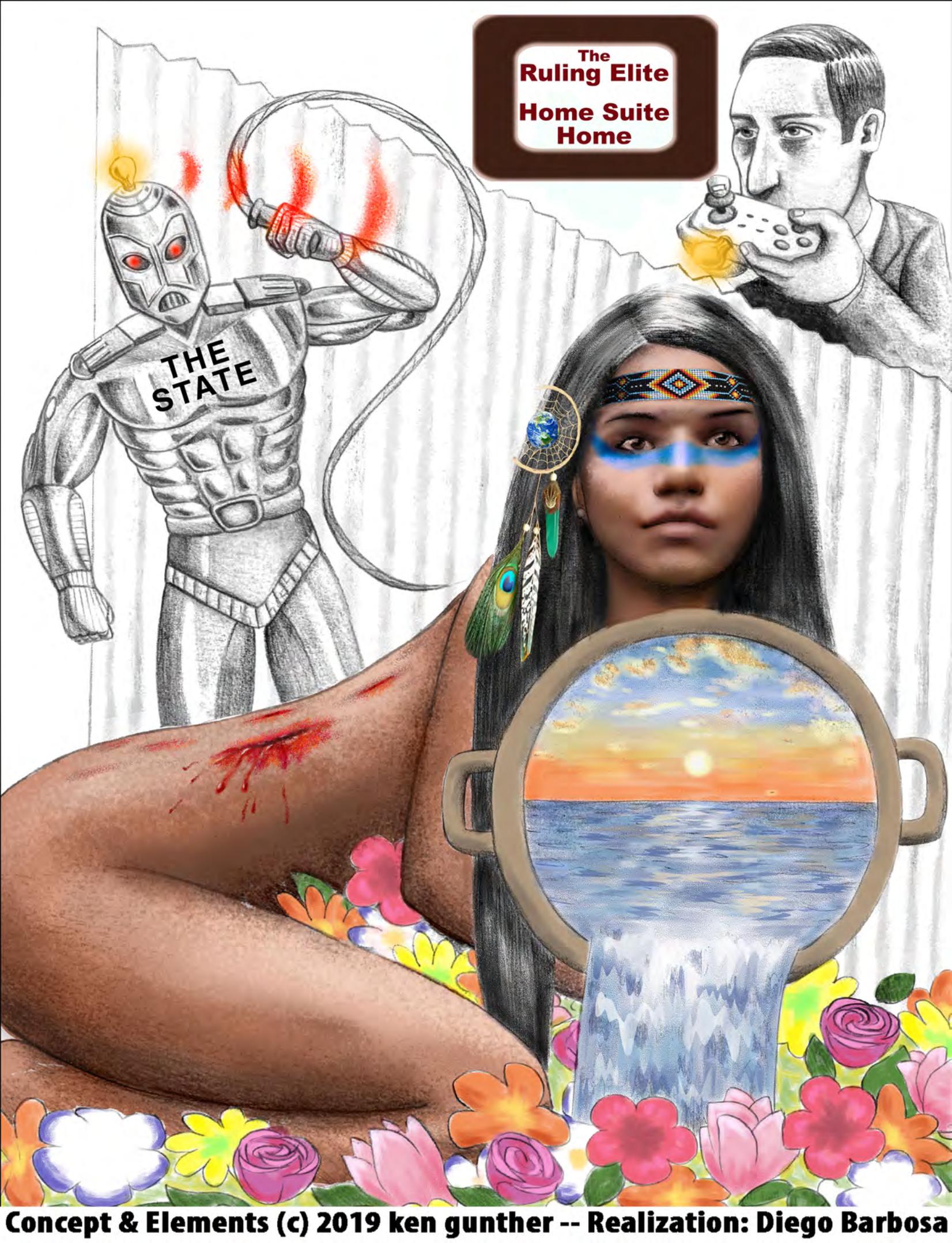
**Die,
Primitive!**



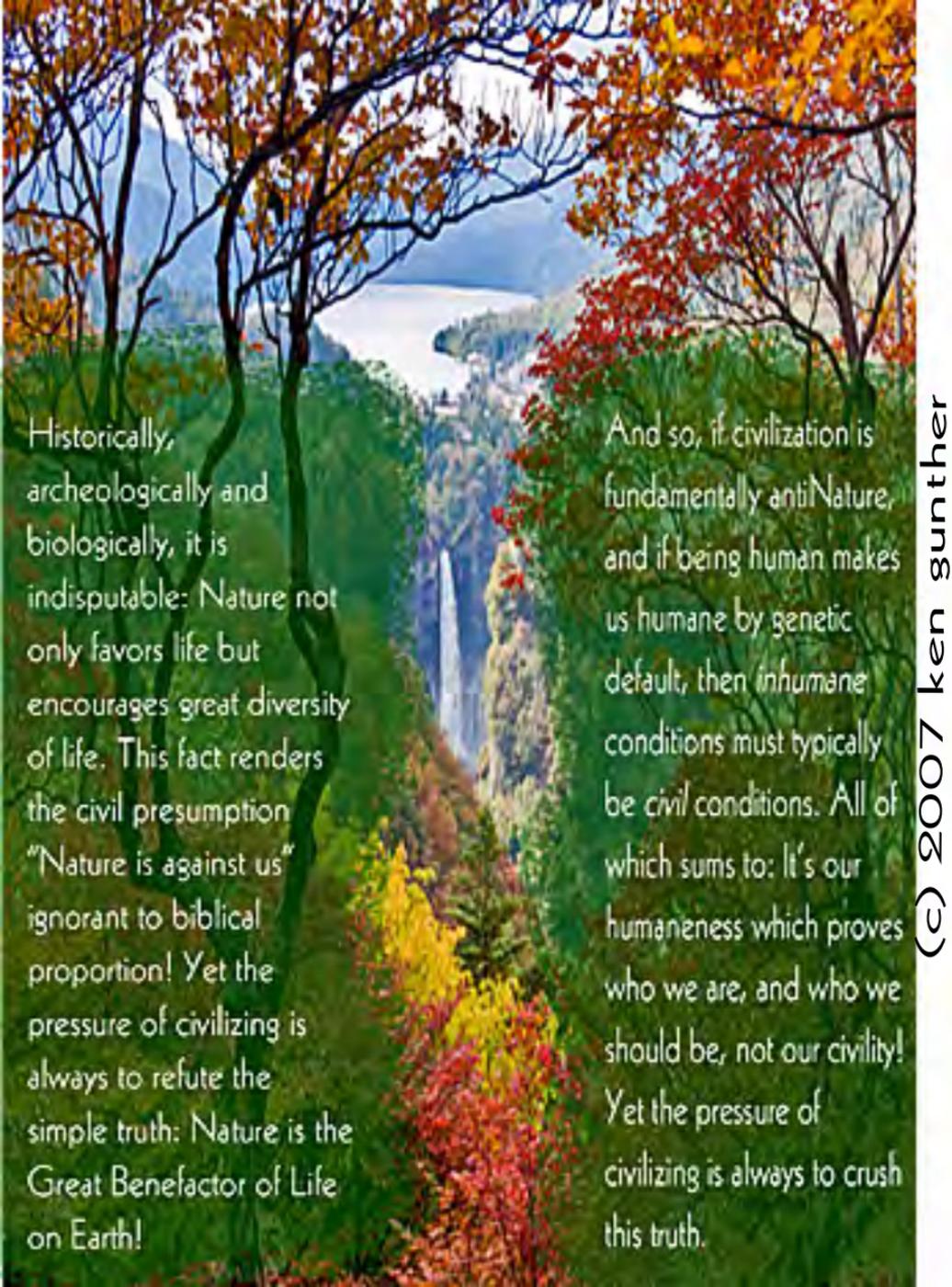
Art: by Marty Jones Concept & elements (c) 2011 ken gunther:



The
Ruling Elite
Home Suite
Home



Concept & Elements (c) 2019 ken gunther -- Realization: Diego Barbosa

A scenic landscape featuring a waterfall cascading down a rocky cliff into a pool of water. In the background, a large lake is visible, surrounded by mountains. The foreground is filled with trees and bushes displaying vibrant autumn foliage in shades of orange, red, and yellow. The overall scene is lush and natural.

Historically, archeologically and biologically, it is indisputable: Nature not only favors life but encourages great diversity of life. This fact renders the civil presumption "Nature is against us" ignorant to biblical proportion! Yet the pressure of civilizing is always to refute the simple truth: Nature is the Great Benefactor of Life on Earth!

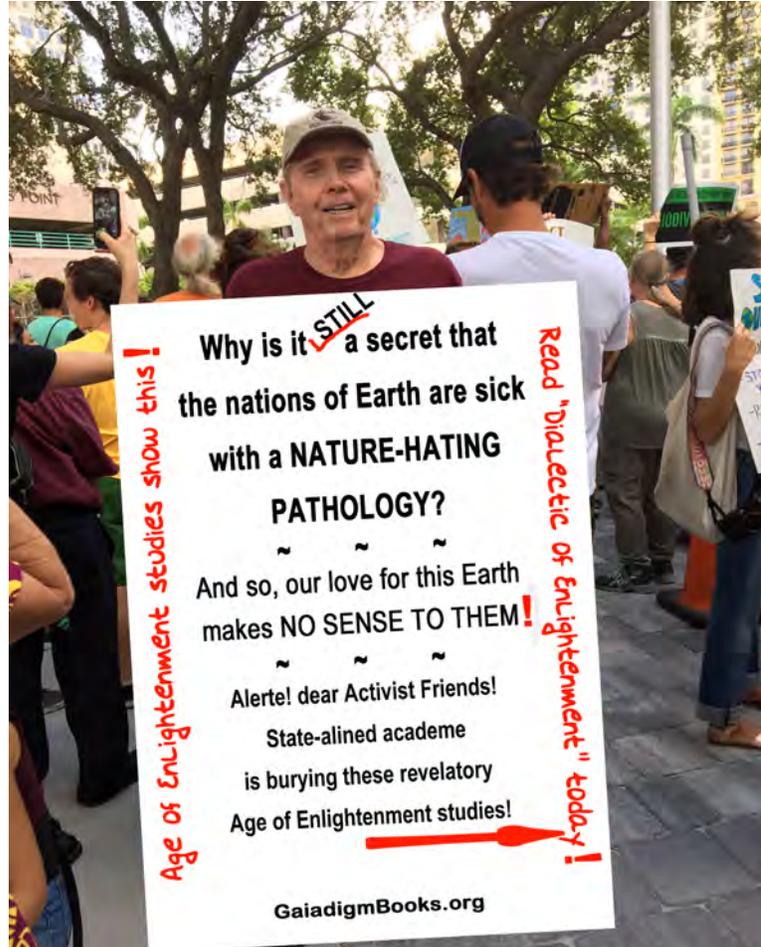
And so, if civilization is fundamentally antiNature, and if being human makes us humane by genetic default, then inhumane conditions must typically be civil conditions. All of which sums to: It's our humaneness which proves who we are, and who we should be, not our civility! Yet the pressure of civilizing is always to crush this truth.

Earth remembers when
Nature was SACRED to



everyone
everywhere!





Age of Enlightenment studies show this!

Why is it ~~still~~ a secret that
the nations of Earth are sick
with a NATURE-HATING
PATHOLOGY?
~ ~ ~
And so, our love for this Earth
makes NO SENSE TO THEM!
~ ~ ~
Alerte! dear Activist Friends!
State-alined academe
is burying these revelatory
Age of Enlightenment studies!

Read "Dialectic of Enlightenment" today!

GaiadigmBooks.org