

THIRTEEN

A PILOT TEST OF BUSHIST POLICIES

Of the scores of studies I've conducted over my lifetime, the results of a pilot test for the Global Sounding were the most jolting, and yet in the way that here science supports the common sense that bolsters democracy, also reassuring.

From “opposition to environmental action and global concern” to “encouragement of regressive social action,” go down that last column, level after level.

On the next page I'm repeating the Global Sounding matrix for ease of reference.

With any knowledge of the Bush years, in case after case one can see the policies embodied in the avowals, stances, and actions pushed with the relentless and indeed holy fervor of a crusade by President, Congress, even Supreme Court and millions of enablers and followers.

As detailed in the End Documents, on all fifteen indicators for the Global Sounding—and in regard to all fifteen tenets for translation of these indicators into a Moral Code or new Global Ethic—one can see how Bushist policies were designed to drive us backward not just on four or five indicators, as I had expected.

There one can see the backward thrust for *all fifteen indicators* and *all fifteen moral tenets* for both general and moral evolution.

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The Global Sounding

Levels of evolution	Indicators of progression	Indicators of regression	Regressive policies
Cosmic	Sustainability of complex life forms	Environmental devastation	Opposition to environmental action and global concern
Chemical	Gaia Hypothesis/ symbiosis	Environmental devastation	Opposition to environmental action and global concern
Biological	Health and Longevity	Environmental devastation	Opposition to environmental action and global concern
BRAIN	Parental love and nutrition	Lack of love and nutrition	Minimize governmental support
Psychological	Self-actualizing	Lack of fulfillment	Maximize defense, minimize growth
[Cultural]	High priority for arts	Low priority for arts	Minimize support for arts
Social	Freedom and equality	Control and inequality	Maximize control and inequality

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Levels of evolution	Indicators of progression	Indicators of regression	Regressive policies
Economic	Balanced private/public	Imbalanced private/public	Maximize imbalance thru privatization
Political	Democracy	Authoritarianism	Oligarchic probe toward authoritarianism
Educational	Capacity for learning and independent thinking	Curtailing of facilities for learning and independent thinking	Radical de-escalation for progressive education
Technological	Emphasis on technologies of actualization	Emphasis on technologies of destruction	Radical escalation for the military
Moral	Living by the Golden Rule	Power of greed and corruption	Living by the Brass Rule
Spiritual	Sense of identity with humanity and greater being	Slavery to materiality	Celebration of absolute power of wealth
Consciousness	Cognitive, affective, and conative scope	Curtailing of scope of mind	Devaluing scope of mind
ACTION	Encouragement of progressive social action	Repression of progressive social action	Encouragement of <i>regressive</i> social action

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In that last column for the Global Sounding matrix, in comparison with positive indicators—in the link between negative indicators and regressive Bushist policies—one can see what intuitively shocked the rest of the world and appalled the experts at every affected level and activity bearing on human evolution.

Go down the last column, and behind the terse and disarming lines for both negative indicators and regressive Bushist policies lie these memories—documented in hundreds of books beyond the old power of burning them or the sickness that now seeks to evade and repress them.

* Behind the three indicators for the planetary foundation for all evolution: seven relentless years of the Bushist policies of opposition to environmental action and global concern affecting not simply biological, but potentially even chemical and cosmic evolution!

* Next up, behind indicators at the brain's juncture between natural and social science: the cutback of governmental support for the child care and nutritional programs that shape the difference between rich and poor in development of the human brain.

* Next, affecting personal development: the vast shift of funding from social needs to the self-glorifying lunacy of military overkill.

* Affecting social development: the drive in case after case to return to the time, prior to the American revolution, of rule by king, noble, or master over one's subjects, serfs, or slaves.

* Affecting cultural development: the drive to cut back the public funding of culture in any form—e.g., the Public Broadcasting Service, National Public Radio, National Endowment for the Arts—to further numb and dumb us down.

* Affecting economic development: the cutback to free banking, airlines, and everything else bearing on personal and national well-being from regulation or social oversight—hastening “survival of the fittest,”

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the triumph of inequality, and the heyday of megalithic corporate control.

* Affecting political development; the drive to drown government by the people, of the people, and for the people “in a bathtub” so the “top one percent” might bask in the lush world of me, myself, and I.

* Affecting educational development: the drive to end the dangers of progressive education and return to the safety of lock step teaching through top down control.

* Affecting technological development: the drive to build ever bigger and better bombs and more and more of them rather than any more of this wimpy pansy “human potentials” stuff.

* Affecting moral development: the drive to ever more skillfully claim the cloak of the Golden Rule while violating every aspect of this rule and getting away with it.

* Affecting spiritual development: the drive even to claim God for oneself and one’s friends and thereby justify robbery of others as the Devil’s own.

* Affecting the expansion of mind and higher consciousness: the drive to mock as snobs, pointy heads, elitists, or uppity any display of the greater mind, heart, or soul.

* Affecting action to build the better world: the drive to curb the danger of the civil rights, women’s, human, peace, environmental movements, or anything else erupting with each new generation that might unsettle the status quo.

And yet after seven years of this, it’s up and at ‘em once again for 2008 and 2012. With the same old multi-billion-dollar funding and the same old bag of tricks, once again the pathology of leaders and the pathology of enablers and followers erupts to push for control of our nation and our planet with the pretense of new faces.

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*Focus on the Bush Years and the Grinding
New Reality of Evolution*

Undoubtedly the focus in this book and in this measure on the Bush years as a launching point for both this measure and a psychiatry and management science of evolution will be deplored.

We forget that all the laws, customs, and measures we use today to move ahead originated in grim realities few wished to face in earlier times.

Intelligence testing in all its forms originated in psychologist Alfred Binet and physician Theodore Simon's work to open the way to a better future for retarded children. The development of the MMPI and all other measures for psychiatry and psychotherapy arose out of the persistence of the few wanting to do something about the misery of neurotics and psychotics the many preferred to sock away out of sight in "looney bins." The fact of global misery for still a majority of our species through the mishandling and mismanagement of cities and nations led to the burgeoning development of the scores of new measures of global health and happiness I detail in *Measuring Evolution*.

Hence we've anchored the Global Sounding in the grim warning facts of the Bush years and the universal hope for something much, much better ahead.

The necessary basic concerns of progressive scientists about new measures I address in this book's companion *Measuring Evolution*, which provides the case for validation, a guide to the use of this new measure within the development of other measures of global well-being, and examples for a wide range of prospective users and decision makers.

As for status quo science, this measure and pilot test will likely be avoided as "too controversial." For regressives nothing but either

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ignoring it or the howling of anathema and the hurling of brickbats will serve the cause. For skeptics and all the rest of us to note, however, is this “new” fact about evolution that advanced work in practically all fields of science confirms.

For over 100 years the prevailing impression has been that evolution takes place very slowly, if not over eons then at the very least many centuries. But as with the concept of “punctuated equilibrium” that Niles Eldredge and Stephen Jay Gould finally battled into acceptance within natural science, within social and systems science the consistent finding for chaos theory and other so-called nonlinear theories is that under the right circumstances evolution can take place *extraordinarily fast*—indeed within seconds to weeks or months depending on the level and activity.

The shock of the fact of rapidly accelerating large scale physical change for our planet is at last being driven home to millions of us by the brilliant documentaries and presentations of former U.S. Vice President Al Gore, evolutionary systems scientist and Gaia theorist James Lovelock, and others in dramatic ways.

As up there on the screen, inescapable now, we see the lakes shrink, rivers dry up, deserts and population expand, the polar ice melting, the seas rising; as the ancient majesty of the glaciers crack apart, and rock there for a second, and then like giants slaughtered tumble into the ocean; as like the whirl of an increasing horde of the mythic Furies hurricanes, tornadoes, typhoons and tsunamis attack the shores, and people, and cities of this earth—thereby to our wonderment and horror fast global change Writ Large is being driven home to us.

But still almost wholly unrealized outside the understanding of only a fraction of scientists, is the speed with which evolution supposedly Writ Small and Slow in the case of the attitudes, beliefs, customs and

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mindsets monitored by social science can impact the Writ Large world in either a progressive or regressive direction.

The consistent finding is of how, at the level of the “science in exile” on which this book has focused, evolution can rapidly take place in a progressive or life-favoring direction—or in a regressive, life-diminishing, or *devolutionary* direction, as in the case of the swift rise and impact of the Nazis in Germany.

In other words, the fears originally of Gunnar Myrdal, Erich Fromm, the Frankfurt School-UC Berkeley team, Milgram, Asch, and others we examined in chapter two—and since then the worldwide fears of scores of scientists and scholars in many fields regarding what can happen to, and in, and radiating out from America—are not exaggerations.

They are grimly and factually supported by the rock solid scientific grounding I have tried to begin to tap into with the development of the Global Sounding.

Those inclined to discount Global Sounding results should ponder this fact.

As we’ll see in the next chapter: Rather than being solely based on the methodology and findings of any one out of many fields, the alignment of the scales of the Global Sounding is to both basic and advanced findings for the fields of physics, chemistry, biology, brain science, psychology, sociology, economics, political science, education, and the sciences of morality, spirituality, consciousness, and action—or the thrust of “conscious evolution.”