



RESEARCH ARTICLE

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A REVOLUTION IN OUR CONSCIOUSNESS IS NECESSARY

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ARTICLE INFO

ABSTRACT

Article History

Received 24th July, 2025
Received in revised form
20th August, 2025
Accepted 19th September, 2025
Published online 28th October, 2025

The natural right to water, earth and air as basic human needs is being increasingly eroded in our time. Most people are becoming more and more dependent on those - be they the super-rich or multinational corporations - who postulate and exercise a right of disposal over them. The desire to own and have, a new kind of materialism, is a hallmark of our civilization, accompanied by increasing inequality. A situation similar to that before the French Revolution. A revolution of consciousness is therefore necessary if real revolutions are to be avoided. People's basic rights must be fulfilled again.

Keywords:

Consciousness, Wanting to possess,
Materialism, Fundamental Rights, Natural Law.

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Citation: Manfred Doepp, 2025. "A Revolution in Our Consciousness is Necessary", International Journal of Recent Advances in Multidisciplinary Research, 12,(10), 11781-11783.

INTRODUCTION

There are natural laws and there are natural rights. These include the fact that every human being has a right to land, water and air in order to be able to live independently and feed themselves. These basic needs must be guaranteed by society. J. J. Rousseau repeatedly emphasized this in his works (1,2,3,4). Erich Fromm emphasized this polarity in his work "To have or to be", which now seems to have become a duality. (5). The possession-oriented thinking of people living in civilizations has turned the availability of existential resources into a question of economic status. Originally, water, air and earth - land and soil - were the basis of human life. They are natural necessities without which no one can exist. In materialistic societies, in which most people have lost their connection to nature, this fact has been swept aside by a rampant consciousness of wanting to possess. Wanting to have more and possess more than is enough has become the generally desired norm, which could deal a death blow to humanity. The immense creativity of nature has created living beings, including every bacterium, every mineral, every plant, every animal and every human being. Everything together forms a whole. A policy that promotes the sell-out of these self-evident facts denies this natural unity, selectively excludes many people from the whole and ultimately produces global genocide.

One truth: Its very existence - which would not be possible on this speck of dust in the galaxy that calls itself Earth or Terra with a soul Gaya without these self-evident truths - establishes the right of every human being to use them freely. This is a binding truth and, as it were, a law of nature that requires no scientific expertise, religious approval, legal discussion or contractual formulation for its earthly and extraterrestrial effectiveness. Paradoxically, in the civilized world, in which every conceivable attempt is made to position oneself as enlightened and responsible, water, land and parts of the air are being withdrawn from free access. The awareness, the elementary clarity about the inseparability of human existence and earthly resources has been reduced in the course of the civilization process. The right to private property and the unrestricted power of disposal over it was extended to the entire earth. This is a severe loss of freedom and a barrier in the process of coming to terms with the question: "Why am I?". An answer to the question of the meaning of existence can be derived from the duality of physical and mental existence. It is not a yardstick for explaining the structure of the world, but an ethical orientation for a life worth living. Namely, to enjoy personal freedom, to be able to use the gifts to secure our existence and to protect the garden of abundance, nature, which in its generosity offers everyone a home, from abuse and consumption. Personal freedom ends – of course - where it begins to restrict the freedom of others.

Civilization?: Man, once living in freedom and untamed, has been released from this meaningful function, which imposes restrictions on the use of each individual out of his own accord - now he is civilized. But where civilization overflows, culture is minimized and the connection to the whole, i.e. what can be described with the word spirituality, is destroyed. Today, civilized man is an isolated atom, absorbed in the anonymity of industrialized mass society, in which being is determined by having. The process of civilization has dissolved the natural communities in which sharing and giving receive more social recognition than owning. Gathering became an applauded quality. Those who have, are prominent; those who have nothing are a nuisance or even a useless eater. Unnoticed as in the sun, his ego fades. In a real community, everyone is seen and has their place. This is perhaps the most striking difference between the original "we" and civilized individualism. Decades ago, when the author was at school, some pupils stayed in the same class for years. This was accepted as normal, and later they became construction helpers. Today, such children are "psychiatrized". Part of this is that in the 1st and 2nd world, the family as the basic social unit and anchor of stability is increasingly being removed.

In the here and now: With every step in technological development, from the hand axe to the gigafactory, from the flintstone to the nuclear reactor, from one-off production to assembly line production and the insatiable desire for added value, man has moved further away from his origins. Conscious existence in and with nature is buried under the rubble of the insatiable desire to have in an unnatural world of plastic, concrete and asphalt. The consciousness of possession is firmly anchored in the mind as a construction and integrated into practical action. Purpose and utility set the pace for social relationships. Mindfulness, mutual care and cooperation, core elements of genuine communities, are services for sale. This outlines the contours of materialistic civilization. It is a form of society of "every man for himself" against everyone.

The elementary needs to breathe, drink and eat were immersed in this acidic melange and refined with an irrational belief in progress, the legalization of all areas of life and the endless pursuit of comforts for needs that can never be satisfied. Sweetened with the key word prosperity, the commitment to nature has been dissolved. The result is a realm of artificially created scarcity. The unnatural right of individuals and commercial structures to exclusive access to and exploitation of all resources is considered normality. Here, the self-evident is no longer self-evident. In the firestorm of ownership consciousness, stock exchanges and share charts, the basic conditions are consumed by the flames, which blaze all the more wildly the more self-evident things they can consume: Drinking water as a coolant for server farms, meadows built over with solar parks, forests cleared in favor of wind turbines, farmland drenched in chemicals, air polluted by exhaust fumes in the overcrowded stone deserts that call themselves metropolises, and emissions trading, the modern version of the Western indulgence trade. CO₂ certificates are the bell jar in the cathedrals of the pseudo-conservationists who poison every living creature that reduces their yields, pollute the oceans with their waste and particles and devastate the planet at its base. Ringing coin frees their non-existent conscience and the shareholders who are greedy for returns from their debt to the whole.

The lucky ones : While original communities of hunter-gatherers, in which the individual drew his identity from the community and the present moment of life - the here and now - made no attempt to use more than they needed, in the civilized world perception and experience are fixated on having more. It is passed on from generation to generation through inheritance law and extended into the future. The Pirahã, for example, an indigenous people of around 350 people who live in the Amazon region of Brazil, are in the now. They do not know what possessions are, do not count what they have and pay no attention to the past or the future. Only what they see and experience themselves is credible to them, and occasionally also what someone who has directly witnessed an event tells them. This concept of truthfulness impregnates the Pirahã against rumors and nips feelings such as worry, despair or fear of losing tomorrow what they have today in the bud. (6) What applies to worldly possessions also applies to the "divine". The religious storytelling of original sin, damnation, hell and redemption, with which the churches filled their treasure chests and became the most important landowners, had no effect on the Pirahã.

The American linguist Daniel L. Everett not only failed in his attempt to proselytize the Pirahã in the 1970s, but also became an atheist after his experiences with these free people without fear, who live in the midst of what is taken for granted. Why should one be more unhappy with a god than without one? The missionary, who only knew Jesus from the Bible and hell from hearsay, had no answer to this question.

Inferno?: In civilization, things that are taken for granted have no place in the canon of social values. With the help of religion, law and the power of capital, they become tools of power to exercise dominion over the dispossessed, to train and discipline them, but not to inspire them and liberate them from deprivation. On the contrary: wealth is increasingly concentrated in favor of a minority. Over 40% of the world's population share just 0.6% of the world's wealth, while 1.6% of people own almost half of the world's wealth. The new billionaires (soon to be trillionaires) could easily buy entire countries. The picture is similar when it comes to farmland. It is the artery of the food supply and often the last straw in developing countries to at least provide themselves with something edible. Private investors, corporations, but also the Gulf States, for example, whose land and water resources are limited, are buying up valuable land with their dollars from the oil business. Money, as a reminder, has no intrinsic value. It is merely a promise, which can be terminated, that you will get real value for your money. This insubstantiality is reminiscent of glass beads, which had a magical meaning for the indigenous peoples of North and Latin America and were therefore of inestimable value, although they were nothing more than cheap export goods for the colonialists from Europe, whose descendants are now turning on the money printing press at will.

Buying up the self-evident: According to an estimate by the development organization Oxfam, more than 220 million hectares of land in developing countries were bought up by foreign investors or leased on a long-term basis between 2001 and 2010. The situation is no different in Europe. As early as 2013, the globalization-critical non-governmental organization (NGO) Attac criticized the practice of so-called land grabbing in the European Union: "(...) Land grabbing is not only a problem of the global South, but is also progressing in Europe:

three percent of landowners control half of the agricultural land in Europe. These 'land elites' are actively supported by public funds within the framework of the common European agricultural policy (CAP). Small farms, on the other hand, are increasingly being squeezed out" (7). More and more water sources are being bought by multinationals who then sell the water in bottles. This development is not an unusual phenomenon. Aristotle already criticized the inequality of wealth in ancient times. In the Roman Empire in the 3rd century BC, small farmers were economically destroyed by large landowners who used slaves as cheap labor. Today, it is machines and a few workers who dig up the fields and harvest the crops. Tomorrow, robots will be doing their work in fully automated large-scale operations. Where are the people who are no longer needed as workers? Millions upon millions already have to hope that, in order to survive, they will be given a ration of what they take for granted by those who have.

The fault line of civilization: The have-civilization is the real threat to the human species. To disguise this perception, the toxic mindset of self-admiration is injected into the body of the moral ego, which cannot bear the sight of impoverishment and lack: I am because I have; if I have, I am - I am not interested in anything else. This is the neoliberal "way of life", in which people are exploited to the hilt, the used and superfluous human waste ends up on the street as in Berlin, Paris or Washington, vegetates in a grave in the cemetery as in Cairo or in the garbage dump in Ghana.

A social construction based on this attitude has no future. The social structures that cast a shadow of solidity on the surface are unstable. In order to support them, freedom, equality and fraternity are just as hypocritical as the protection of nature, which does not encompass the whole, but selectively excludes. The isolating having distances people from each other, alienates them from nature as a unifying element and ultimately from themselves as social beings. This is a fault line of civilization. More than two billion people have no access to drinking water in their homes or on their property. Over 700 million have to walk more than 30 minutes to meet their basic needs for clean water (8). More and more are being born into or falling into these conditions. The time is approaching when the masses will fight back against their lack of prospects. Signs of this are the uprising of the poor in South Africa in summer 2021 or recent social eruptions in Indonesia or Nepal, triggered by the ignorance and corruption of the ruling elites, who feed from golden plates while the ordinary population starves (9).

CONCLUSION

These examples should suffice to make it clear that a revolution of consciousness is necessary, which as a result will reorganize the right to the self-evident things of this earth such as soil, water and air and end the absurd struggle for survival in an actually rich world. People freed from scarcity and dependence will invent a positive future. In the future, will wealth be limited, inheritance rights abolished, drinking water and arable land socialized, the air purified from the dirt of progress, and prosperity for all become the common goal? Is it the conscious path back to the origins? Whatever is to be discussed, it should be discussed. Everything else culminates in crimes against humanity - and in worldwide civil wars.

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