Mean Arrangements of Man? Or Social Beauty?

Enormous problems are currently facing Humanity. Huge numbers of people are suffering from material poverty and/or impoverished souls. Economic instability and economic warfare threaten to cause global economic chaos and World War III, potentially with nuclear war. The specter of heartless, hideously technocratic, and increasingly totalitarian global governance has become a growing concern. It is important to address the root cause of these social problems and stimulate widespread respectful public dialogue about potential solutions.

In the final analysis, we, the general public, can choose to accept and continue the current economic model, global corporate capitalism, that predictably generates **Mean Arrangements of Man** and **Social Atrocities**, or we can choose an alternative economic model that generates **Kind Social Arrangements** and **Social Beauty**.

The Children's Hospital Public Economy Model (CHPEM) represents an alternative to the currently prevailing economic model, global corporate capitalism. The CHPEM has been successfully practiced for decades in the real world of public children's hospitals, internationally. It has generated kind social arrangements and great Social Beauty within children's hospitals. It could be applied to the general economy of nations.

The CHPEM is foundationally based on a set of social understandings—regarding Human Nature, motivation, leadership, competition, and freedom--that is completely different from and more wholesome and accurate than the set of negative and demoralizing social understandings upon which global corporate capitalism is based and upon whose acceptance corporate capitalism depends.

A key <u>root</u> problem with the corporate capitalist economic model—a major root from which many of the model's harmful effects grow—is the model's negative, simplistic, incomplete, inaccurate, and demoralizing understanding (or at least portrayal) of Human Nature. The capitalist model greatly overemphasizes the innate non-altruistic capacities of our Human Nature and minimizes our innate altruistic capacities. It contends that human beings, realistically, are primarily selfish and rather hopelessly so. It cynically warns against having too much faith in Human Goodness. Furthermore, it largely ignores the fact that the expression of our non-altruistic or altruistic behavioral capacities can be upregulated or downregulated, depending on the social milieu.

Human Nature is far more complex, and human beings have far greater capacity for human goodness, than the corporate capitalist economic model appreciates or admits. The capitalist

model largely denies Humanity's innate capacity to create large scale Social Beauty; it largely denies opportunity and freedom for us to even try to do so.

Whereas the corporate capitalist economic model is foundationally based on negative and incomplete beliefs about Human Nature, the CHPEM is foundationally based on a positive, nuanced, more accurate understanding of Human Nature. The CHPEM honors and encourages the innate altruistic capacities of our Human Nature, upregulates the expression of those capacities, and provides opportunity and freedom for humanity to create Kind Social Arrangements and large-scale Social Beauty.

The corporate capitalist economic model not only promotes its incomplete and demoralizing beliefs about Human Nature, it also promotes other social misunderstandings: It insists that monetary incentive is an essential component of any economic model. It promotes a perverse, incorrect, and unhealthy understanding of the nature and role of competition. It inherently and increasingly populates positions of leadership with individuals who are inclined or otherwise willing to upregulate the expression of their non-altruistic behavioral capacities, as opposed to being committed to upregulating expression of their altruistic capacities. The corporate capitalist model not only promotes these social beliefs, it rewards those who embrace those beliefs, and it depends upon Humanity's uncritical acceptance of those beliefs.

In contrast, the CHPEM not only promotes its positive understanding of Human Nature, it also promotes moral incentive (rather than monetary incentive), an accurate and healthy understanding of the role and nature of competition, and a leadership model that populates positions of leadership with altruistic natural leaders—people who exemplify the altruistic aspects of our Human Nature. Furthermore, the CHPEM nurtures the human soul, while the capitalist model crushes and atrophies the human soul.

Largely because of its social misunderstandings, particularly its negative and disparaging beliefs about Human Nature, the corporate capitalist economic model is an abusive social and economic model that predictably generates Mean Arrangements of Man and Social Atrocity, rather than Kind Social Arrangements and Social Beauty. Indeed, pediatricians have personally experienced how the Social Beauty of children's hospitals has been severely diminished when practices and beliefs of corporate capitalism have been injected into the workings and culture of children's hospitals. The "corporatization" of children's hospitals has also threatened the quality of healthcare received by children.

Perpetuation of corporate capitalism's prolonged dominance over Humanity has depended on inadequate challenge of its core social beliefs, particularly its beliefs about Human Nature. But its social beliefs (particularly about Human Nature) represent its Achilles' heel---where it is most vulnerable. For example, if its beliefs about Human Nature were to be effectively challenged,

the abusive nature of the corporate capitalist economic model would be exposed, and the public would realize that the capitalist model is inappropriate and does not deserve public support.

The above concepts are extensively discussed in a manuscript entitled **Sowing Seeds of Social Beauty** that tells the untold story of the CHPEM, explains the social understandings upon which it is based, suggests how it could be applied to the general economy, describes what societies might look like if it were applied, and addresses anticipated fears and concerns about application of the CHPEM to the general economy. The major theme and primary emphasis of **Sowing Seeds of Social Beauty** is the fundamental difference between the core social understandings of the CHPEM and the core social beliefs of the corporate capitalist economic model---particularly the different understandings of Human Nature.

The primary purpose of *Sowing Seeds of Social Beauty* is to introduce the CHPEM and encourage, facilitate, and inform healthy, respectful, widespread public dialogue that focuses on the foundational social understandings of the CHPEM versus the foundational social (mis)understandings of corporate capitalism (capitalism's Achilles' heel). After extensive public dialogue has occurred, the public could democratically decide whether to accept and continue the **Mean Arrangements of Man** and **Social Atrocities** that are predictably generated by global corporate capitalism, or gently and peacefully transition to an economic model that generates **Kind Social Arrangements** and **Social Beauty**.

Sowing Seeds of Social Beauty concludes that the major root cause of the social disease that is currently afflicting children and all of Humanity is the prevailing economic model, global corporate capitalism; and a remedy that deserves serious consideration by the public in nations around the world is the option to gently, thoughtfully, and democratically transition national economies, individually and collectively, from the corporate capitalist economic model to the CHPEM. Widespread application of the CHPEM to the general economies of nations (democratically and in creative ways that are unique to each nation's needs and preferences) could markedly improve the health of the social milieu in which humans live and could markedly reduce forever wars, obscene income disparity, intolerant polarization, loneliness, despair, and the current march towards hideously technocratic totalitarianism.

Sowing Seeds of Social Beauty also concludes that it is naïve, totally unrealistic, even pollyannish, to believe that the current unhealthy global state of affairs can be successfully treated if the prevailing economic model continues to prevail. Humanity needs and deserves a new social and economic model. Humanity deserves Kind Social Arrangements and Social Beauty, not continuation of abusive Mean Arrangements of Man and Social Atrocity.

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The full 340 page manuscript of *Sowing Seeds of Social Beauty* and four 1-2 page summaries of it may be found on the following website: <u>www.notesfromthesocialclinic.org</u>