

(Free) Will, Choice, & Power

Preliminary Notes to Further Exploration of Free Will

By Alex Kochkin, June 2007

Preface and Epilogue

Humanity is closer than ever before to activating the most extreme consciousness and reality-shifting possibilities. As of this writing, the level of tension between catastrophic change by human or natural origins and the influx of higher consciousness has grown to a truly unprecedented magnitude.

We have before us a very simple proposition: *If a sufficient portion of humanity as a whole* proves unable to voluntarily make *new* choices based on a *greater level* of discernment on behalf of a spiritually-based and life-affirming future, then events will rapidly catalyze this process for us. However, there is no principle that says we must allow ourselves to fall into a catastrophic abyss first before deciding it is not in our best interests as human and spiritual beings.

Our ultimate destiny is that of spiritual beings occupying a unique medium between the solid physical matter of planets and the non-physicality of pure Spirit. This is the purpose of human biology: to provide a distinctive interface between these two aspects of creation. Our destiny is to discover the possibilities available within the magnificence of Creator consciousness.

The human species is a young species by cosmic, as well as human social-psychological measures. We have *so much potential* that is far beyond that which seems, from our limited perspective, to be an endless array of material and social failures and successes at personal or global levels. The relationship between consciousness – especially that anchored through human form – and our natural and synthetic environment is truly an intimate one. This is gradually being discovered through many of our physical and biological sciences, and is something that people focused on the spiritual sciences have known for a long time. We are indeed a vital part of an entire planetary organism, whether we see this clearly or only vaguely. By the brief measure of a few thousand years and now by an even briefer measure of decades as we face impending planetary climate change – it would seem that we have lost our way. Not so – *if* we only intend and choose differently – *right now*.

Humanity has reached a point wherein we have devoted our resources toward destructive conflict among ourselves and with our natural world.

This cannot continue unabated. We can and must make new choices and act upon them. It is within our grasp and capacity to do so. The first step is to wake up to this option. We have so artfully managed to distract ourselves with personal and collective pleasures and power-seeking that we, as a species, seem hopelessly *unconscious* to an impending dramatic crossroad in our reality.

An enlightened future *is not* about polarities. It is not about who we do or do not vote for, democracy or plutocracy, or war or peace. It is not about differences between various religious texts and what various groups of people think about them. It is not about capitalism or the corruption of society by the “commodification” of our personal and social relationships. These are all the short-term choices that we seem to have already made by default and for which we now seek remedies.

An enlightened future *is* about how diversity and contrast can truly function as part of a coherent and unifying whole that is greater than the sum of its parts – and that at the same time benefits each unique part with the perspectives of all parts. Our challenge now is to facilitate ways for the greatest number of people to see this as a choice for themselves and to act accordingly.

What is before us is the emergence of an evolutionary shift in our physical, social, psychological, and spiritual existence. This shift benefits everyone, regardless of their personal circumstances or belief system. All that is needed is to surrender our ordinary personal and societal “ambitions” to welcome the adventure beckoning to us more powerfully every day from our future selves. Thus, we can find resolution to all aspects of ordinary human suffering and our seemingly endless conflict with our natural environment.

Can we open ourselves to the possibility of something wonderful? Can we let go of the old long enough to intend for ourselves an enlightened future?

This is truly the choice before us now. It has always been our choice to make.

What matters is now. Always.

“From the beginning, two obvious choices are offered to mankind. One is leading to a bright future if the desires of the Great Spirit are honored. ...the other would eventually lead to the destruction of this world as we know it. This destruction has happened several times before and for similar reasons.”

– from Robert Boissiere *Meditations with The Hopi: A Centering Book*

Introduction

In our corner of existence, closely bound with the concept of a “flaw” or the unrecognized/ unanticipated “event” in Creation that led to the rise of the darkness, there are two main aspects to “will”: One of personality-centered consciousness, “small-I” for short, and another of higher consciousness, “large-I” for short. The personal will, when used under circumstances of freedom, means that the “small-I” will freely operates without distortion from control matrix and without influence from a distorted set of values and beliefs about reality and oneself that have been implanted or imbedded by the control matrix by virtue of existing under its terrible influence.

Joining “small-I” in constant connection to the higher consciousness of “large-I”, the dynamic could be called “humanity + 1”. Meaning it is more than itself. Imagine awakened humanity.

Choice is naturally related to this process. There are the small choices of personal preference in daily life, sometimes simple and innocent and sometimes made “under the influence of” the prevailing matrix of consciousness. Intent must govern choice. So what do we intend? This is the beginning of clarity and power. As we gain greater

understanding, we gain the ability to be more specific and begin the process of responsible creating. Do we exercise our choices and actions from the perspective of the self-centered “small-I” or greater awareness of “large-I”? Clarity is called for once again, otherwise imbalance persists.

For those who are aligning their intention/attention (and their personality-based will) to the higher evolutionary impetus of Creation, surrender to higher power/higher self/highest levels of Creation Consciousness and our “large-I” is the preferred mode as it permits the “small-I” to enjoy a full range of expression and communion through something greater, more encompassing, more “Home” to higher Spiritual Self. The sense and feeling of freedom is extra-ordinary.

In this context, a “drop of water” rejoining the ocean does not lose its identity, it only gains the vastness of communion with the ocean. Imagine many “drops of water” in this state.

The ocean becomes ever more so alive and aware at all possible levels: “Humanity + 1” !

Free-Will, Choice, and Power

Most of human history has demonstrated behavior based on perceived scarcity, conflict, and fear to an extent verging on addiction. What we have seen is an endless drama in which humanity has set up situations of extreme conflict – between light and dark, haves and have-nots, powerful and powerless – like a game of perpetual brinkmanship with itself and its planetary environment. Survival mechanisms have transformed into domination-accumulation-gratification mechanisms based on human foibles, but made to appear as progress, achievement, and evolutionary advancement of the species. Meanwhile, disastrous results are being reported as to our destructive impact on everything from human interactions to the decimation of cultures and environmental collapse.

Where is the turning point when people reach that place where they finally decide, “enough is enough,” and then act on new imperatives for positive change? (Domestic violence works this way, with two people unable to reconcile themselves internally or with one another. This dynamic feeds international or civil wars that can last for many years, even spanning generations when projected across societies and nations.)

Have we become too psychologically accustomed to operating from an illusion of the separate, individual self? One can see this every day, particularly among discouraged young people who may question the assumptions of our society, but have no sense of how things could be substantially different in a positive way. What we now see in dress, behaviors, and other expressions is the unfocused angst tied to identity confusion, unresolved socio-cultural turmoil, and lack of security and hope for a future that seems worth investing in. Young people are only mirroring back what they are picking up from their families and society as a whole. This culturally reinforced sense of isolation keeps us from living in a more awakened way that further encourages emergence of a higher state of awareness and being for all, regardless of what generation one is a part of.

Our society generally informs us that we have the freedom to choose foods, styles of dress, jobs, schools, to marry or not, to vote or not, etc. Each of these choices includes a consequence or outcome. For some, material possessions, wealth, and the advantages of career advancement with absolutely no consideration of a larger/higher perspective and the impact on others have become addictions.

Consequently, choices at this level do not involve very much of our higher or larger self. If we do not know any better than believing that the only game is what is presented through social-political norms – if we don't know any better than to continue making limited choices, then how can society as a whole change how it functions? Too often the result is a cynical, self-defeating, "can't change the system" attitude where positive "future-present" choices are obscured and dismissed as impractical or impossible. This culturally reinforced sense of isolation keeps us from living in a more awakened way that further encourages emergence of a higher state of awareness and being for all, regardless of what generation we are a part of.

It is time to change "the game" and the very rules describing "the game." It is time for the emerging new paradigm to become more evident for people to see, to compare, and to experience a fundamental difference for themselves. This will encourage more people to choose a positive future rather than a paradigm that continues to devolve into chaos.

Our current norms are not based on the immediate-now and they're not based on future-present. At best they are past-present. Yet throughout history, there have always been forward-looking people whose concerns and intentions are for the highest good of all. No matter what their personal circumstances, there are people operating from a level of timeless freedom that is perhaps difficult for many of us to imagine.

Currently, more and more people identify with forward-looking, positive values and beliefs *and the positive belief systems they are embodying are increasingly "out of sync" with established norms.* This can lead to a collective breakthrough in which large numbers of people create a new future and a greater level of freedom they can barely imagine at first.

Communicating this potential and facilitating people to act on these higher principles is of paramount importance now.

A "Higher Power"

"Lack of power, that was our dilemma. We had to find a power by which we could live, and it had to be a Power greater than ourselves. We look upon this world of warring individuals, warring theological systems, and inexplicable calamity, with deep skepticism. In other moments, we found ourselves enchanted by a starlit night, 'Who then made all this?' There was a feeling of awe and wonder, but it was fleeting and soon lost."

Personal and Social Healing

"One of the hallmarks of this non-sectarian organization that pioneered a level of personal and social healing in a modern context, has to do with its emphasis on reconciling the 'personality self' to a greater self of 'higher power.' In doing so, a greater context representing a greater whole is available to anyone for healing and insight." "The terms 'spiritual experience' and 'spiritual awakening'...show that the personality change sufficient to bring about recovery...has manifested itself among us in many forms."

*-excerpts from Alcoholics Anonymous
(1939 edition)*

As this is communicated effectively, people will then need help in exercising their prerogative to choose in accordance with their higher self instead of their separate self. As more people come forward and participate from the context of their larger self-perspective, this process will gather speed and so will its rate of acceleration.

What if people were to re-discover the true power of their free-will? When people feel powerless, they withdraw into a deeper sense of separation and helplessness. Connecting with the heart and higher self provides insight into new solutions and offers a new type of hope based in certitude and intention for a positive future. Knowing and using our innate power to set intentions and make choices leads to advanced democracy and more mature planetary citizenship.

Choosing out of higher motivation is really about thought or consciousness determining form, instead of tacitly allowing existing forms to determine consciousness. This is not about changing limited, old paradigm forms and expecting them to serve entirely new purposes. This is more like reaching into the well of one's own spirit, of one's own higher self, to help a new future self emerge into the present. This is what can create a positive future that works for everyone. To do this requires new ways of thinking, as well as of being. It is essential to our well being that we be aware of this.

Language and our use of it plays an important role in social or group consciousness. It can help in discerning the right choices.

Discernment with Compassion

Discernment *with compassion* is a relatively new vision, one with ancient roots. It asks each of us to allow a more expansive perspective to come into play in order to remember and reestablish our interconnectedness, to acknowledge that what happens to another ramifies each of us in myriad ways. Our world has seen too many examples of the outcome of selfish thinking and actions. We have evolved technologically to the point of completely annihilating every species on Earth with the push of a single button that would launch an irreversible destructive cascade effect.

Conversely, our need to step back and recognize the crossroads at which we stand has become just as critical an imperative.

Extreme circumstances, such as natural disasters, war, and near-death experiences, can stimulate new openings for people to connect with their innate freedom to choose greatness over smallness. Greatness of being is our potential and promise. But it is as though we have fallen into a deep sleep of endless distractions and cannot find the clarity or energy or will to awaken long enough to remember this promise of greatness. Therefore it seems fitting that it often takes extreme situations to shake us from this state of seeming helplessness.

Could it be that, in the prolonged process of learning to *consciously* reach for our potential greatness as spiritual beings, humanity has *unconsciously* been involved in a game of brinkmanship, going from one set of extreme situations of conflict and dangers to another? Perhaps these extreme situations help to mirror our best and worst as a way to present clear choices to people as we begin to reach for choices that represent a positive future in the present.

Choice is the operative word.

A much greater power exists based on the power of compassion, universal love, and cooperation. It is time for that power to now assert itself more visibly. This is a vast untapped reservoir of universal awareness that will give rise to new structures and processes specifically focused on creating a positive and sustainable future, globally.

The question everyone has before them right now is: “How many more genocides, wars, ecosystem failures and horrific events, before people say, ‘Enough is enough,’ and truly mean it?” This is not unlike a domestic violence situation when one person chooses to walk out and begin creating a new life for him or herself – or when the perpetrator comes to a truly profound realization and ends the violence. This is not unlike someone addicted to drugs, like alcohol, waking up one day to the realization that they have done something so awful that they know they desperately need help to stop their destructive behavior. For humanity as a whole, perhaps it will be a natural disaster of epic proportions that brings everyone out of their collective sleep – or perhaps something of human design.

There’s nothing better than a *really big context* to help people put things into a new perspective for themselves. Instead of total disaster, perhaps something more extraordinary and sublime will happen.

Perhaps more and more people will literally wake up to a sense of a different reality and realization of themselves as spiritual beings. Perhaps many will wonder how it was possible we have existed for so long, and with such a deep and potentially devastating level of *non-awareness* of a greater field of being we are all a part of. The power of our own higher consciousness “stepping in” cannot be dismissed, especially if it is part of a natural “fail safe” mechanism intended to intervene if too many people fail to engage their personality-based free-will to choose a more evolved and compassionate existence for themselves. This is like having a high-level program running in the background of our biologically based self, ready in the event of an imminent system failure.

How far will humanity “go along for the ride” by remaining asleep to our innate ability to choose a better and more evolved way of being? As we do awaken, we must be compassionate toward ourselves for we have been kept asleep and “in the dark” for too long and too often have acted out of blind ignorance. Can we afford *not* to have the trump card of “global awakening” played?

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For more information on bulletins, GA News, and the book, *A New America, An Awakened Future on Our Horizon*: see website www.pfcn.net

Discernment with Compassion

An ever-evolving broadness of mind combining the use of free-will and innate intelligence to resolve specifics within the context of an integral whole that emphasizes the interconnectedness of a greater “oneness” we all share as sentient beings in a larger cosmos of creation.

- from *A New America, An Awakened Future on Our Horizon* 2005