

TERRORISM

Since 9/11, the world has become hypnotised by the concept of terrorism. Our news is dominated by seemingly senseless acts of violence perpetrated upon people who seem personally disconnected to the terrorist and essentially innocent. We have watched governments react by committing acts of terrorism against those labelled terrorist, but always including innocent people. Increasingly, the world has become a more dangerous place with more regulations and limitations upon individual and group freedoms.

It is important that we look at the phenomena from a larger perspective. Otherwise, we are doomed to drift to an abyss: a humanity gripped by fear and implicitly sanctioning an endless war with no hope of victory.

I suggest that we look at it through a health and healing model. In the 1960's, when we had Uranus and Pluto conjunct in the sign of Virgo (a sign associated with health and healing), the concept of healing crisis and holistic healing practices become popularised. Many of these concepts are now mainstream practices.

One concept is that bacteria and viruses are always present within the body. They are destroyed by the resources of a healthy immune system. We get sick from these bacteria or viruses when the immune system is weak or compromised. A holistic way to treat bacterial or viral invasions would include strengthening the immune system and decreasing stress thereby allowing greater of resources.

Conventional medicine, in contrast, focuses primarily on using drugs, chemicals or radiation to attack the virus, bacteria or cancer cells. It sees the patient as a victim and sets up a war to defeat the enemy. Often the patient dies of the cure.

If we use these concepts to analyse the current world social situation, we can begin by acknowledging that the terrorist has always been present in human culture. They are simply individuals or groups who feel powerless to effect changes in a system that they see as alien or toxic to them. They seize upon opportunities to increase their power. They flourish as fear of them increases. There is no way to defeat them.

They flourish because our planetary life is compromised. We have created vast disparities in wealth, we tolerate cruel and manipulate governments and we are burdened by environmental pollution. Our spiritual organizations are often hypocritical or corrupt. Large segments of the population are politically disenfranchised. As a system, we are evidencing a weak immune system.

We need to see that we are in the midst of a healing crisis. We are in the process of emerging into a realization that we are One Humanity and stewards of an inter-related eco-system. Through our collective suffering Humanity's heart must open.

We will have to demonstrate that we can solve the physical survival issues confronting us. And, we will have to find a way to collectively share our money and resources.

Instead of a war on terrorism, we must shift to a Program for Global Healing and Sharing. We need a global strategy to create healthy communities. We need in every country Departments of Peace to at least balance the Departments of War.

We can be assured that our communities would have healthy immune systems if we can at least insure that the basic human needs are met. Each family needs to have productive and creative jobs which give them credits to obtain the following: nutritious food, quality housing, heating, clothing and health education and services.

All children and adults need a range of education options that are provided on the basis of need rather than on a user pays basis. Education needs to be structured so that it supports the healthy development of the physical, emotional and mental needs of the individual rather than simply equip them to hold jobs within society. Environmental restoration projects need to be created at all levels and involve all ages and groups within society.

Finally, to produce a community with a healthy immune system, we need to cultivate leaders. They need to be encouraged to develop individual and group visions. As a group, our leaders need to develop clearly articulated and publicly presented vision and mission statements with strategies for their success.

We can envision a future in which we recognize the child who has the potential to grow up to be a terrorist. They will be seen as early warning signals that our culture's immune system is weakening. Based on their emergence, perhaps our love and wisdom will flood our communities with the resources needed for the child and all of us to grow and evolve.