

Investing in the Future

As our hard earned tax dollars are being siphoned through the pockets of the military-industrial complex, as Mother Earth is being destroyed by U.S. weapons of mass destruction, and as our Mother's children are being killed everyday by illegal U.S. arms trading, it is time to draw the line in the sand and take a moral and ethical stand against the death traders. We are not all activists or shamans or have the wealth to fight a corrupt political system, there are still other alternatives that warrant examination and can be put into practice immediately.

And if we believe that there is still a hanging chance for beauty and joy in these very dismal times, if we believe that life is worth living rather than fighting for, and if we truly believe in the brotherhood of all humanity, then we can start to make change for us, for our children, for Mother Earth, and for the future. This can be done more simply than might appear possible, but it takes a major change in mindset, and a focused commitment.

Traditional investing has usually gone the road of military-industrial, oil, and chemical stocks. It is this traditional investing that has funded and been responsible for the polluting, raping and pillaging of our planet's resources and peoples. Unless there is a tax revolt, which could very likely occur in the near future, the only other option for saving the planet and saving ourselves is to change our lifestyles, make new choices, and invest wisely. In California, a number of counties and even the state are beginning to look at the benefits of making socially responsible Green investments, with taxpayer dollars. So the very first option, both for local governments and personal accounts, is to pull all money out of traditional banks and savings vehicles, and transfer them to socially responsible money funds that promote Green and sustainable development, and allow you access to your funds as would a checking account.

Right then and there, the money launderers would lose the funds that they would otherwise use to invest in more war and chaos in the world. You, in turn, could choose where you wish your money to be invested; in rebuilding communities, alternative and renewable energy systems, sustainable development, recyclable goods, environmentally sound products, educational products for alternative schooling, pollution busters, etc.

This is only step one. Step two is to buy out of the polarizing left-right paradigm that keeps people divided and continually warring over labor and corporate profits by, instead, buying into a united front that rebuilds America, with dignity, from the bottom up. That means giving up the Walmarts and the Costcos and supporting such organizations as Global Exchange, where you buy and sell directly to and from small businesses that set up in your community. You become part of the exchange and offer whatever services and goods you have, sometimes for profit and sometimes for barter. That means, if you're a teacher, you can teach by purchasing alternative teaching products, and those who wish to send their children to your classes can support you with food, clothing, shelter, and classroom materials, in addition to small stipends for your services. No one will get wealthy but everyone will take care of one another. Small, supportive and sustainable villages will form unaffected by the growing unemployment or below-sustenance-level slave wages being offered by the corporate raiders.

Communications systems such as community radio and TV will promote new companies that help developing communities sustain themselves, and these companies will sponsor and support the sustainable and community development message that is broadcast to the community. It will also help pay for on-air education and possibly communication/education centers where students can learn new skills that teach them conflict resolution, sustainable urban development, social and cultural studies, as well as the arts, literature, clean science and democratic principles based on truth and integrity.

This is not a new democratic concept; Venezuela is currently attempting portions of this model to the extreme displeasure of western corporations. That is why the Bush administration has tried to overthrow the Chavez government and continues to do so. But sustainable living and cooperative models will very soon take precedence over the military/industrial models. And some will live to see the future and the changes. There is much more to this model that must be developed to make this type of change. In the coming months I will go into more detail. Until then, focus on the good in humanity whenever possible and peace be with you.

In Lakech, Dawn