

The Modern Slave

JOSHUA STYLMAN JUL 28  624  186  209

A Mirror We Refuse to Look Into

[Read →](#)

186 Comments



Write a comment...



Alice Hesselrode Alice Hesselrode Jul 28

 Liked by Joshua Stylman

Thank you for this thoughtful article. For all those who use a ring or a watch type wearabl you how you feel please take it off and learn to listen to your body. Ask it questions. Feel i your butt on the chair, your feet on the floor, the slight wind from the fan. Stop right now : What do you hear around you. Look up from the screen and survey your surroundings. M: concerted effort to not use GPS. go outside and see where the light and shadow are com With practice you could find your self in any location and know north, east, south, west. L map and at least know the general direction you are going. Above all observe your thought lucid life.

 LIKED (45)  REPLY (1)



Katherine  Katherine Jul 29

 Liked by Joshua Stylman

Beautiful comment.

 LIKED (7)  REPLY



Didz  2Didz Jul 28

 Liked by Joshua Stylman

An uncomfortable mirror, indeed. Loved your post, Joshua, albeit I skimmed through the c
my smart watch told me to stand up. Oh well, I'll re-read it proper when my tracker thinks
to sleep :-)

 LIKED (26)  REPLY



Tomas Tomas Jul 28

 Liked by Joshua Stylman

"The worst states in history revoked the human right to exit."

Unvaccinated Canadians were made painfully aware of thier lack of sovereignty.

Justin Trudeau " So we've said you don't get to get on a plane or a train unless you are va
You don't get to work for the federal public service unless you're fully vaccinated. And as
move forward on proof of vaccinations, to make sure that people enjoying non-essential s
like restaurants or gyms or movie theaters show proof of vaccination to keep them safe a
encourage people who haven't yet made the decision to get vaccinated, to get vaccinated
going to be unequivocal about that."

 LIKED (20)  REPLY (2)



NJ Election Advisor  NJ Election Advisor Jul 28

One of the biggest worms to ever sully the face of the planet

What a cowardly disgrace of a manling

May God forgive what he did to Canadians - but in the meantime may he repent

 LIKED (14)  REPLY



Sun Seeker  Sun Seeker Jul 30 *Edited*

Same in Australia. We could not leave the country for 2 years. Shocking. Unless 98%
population was double vaccinated all borders were closed. A living nightmare. We los
and went underground.

 LIKED (10)  REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Jul 30

Author

Australia was clearly a testing ground for The Great Reset (along w Canada, New and a few others). Sending you good vibes from across the world.

 LIKED (9)  REPLY



BigBuckle BigBuckle Jul 29

 Liked by Joshua Stylman

We have to go back to the Enclosures in Britain in the 18th century, followed closely by the Revolution to trace the roots of modern slavery. People were changed from rural artisans commonly owned land to slum dwelling tenants & wage slaves.

 LIKE (12)  REPLY



Stratman60  Stratman60 Jul 29

 Liked by Joshua Stylman

The one big difference between now and then? The chattel slaves didn't pay to build the plantations.

 LIKE (12)  REPLY



Iain Davis  Iain Davis Substack Jul 29

Brilliant piece. You have expressed a point I have been trying to make for years far more effectively and succinctly than I ever have. Many thanks. Very glad to have found your work and will recommend.

 LIKE (14)  REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Jul 29

Author

Thanks so much for the kind words. It means a lot.

 LIKE (1)  REPLY (1)



Iain Davis  Iain Davis Substack Aug 3

Following a comment received I have just run some of your text through GPTZero indicates you used AI for some of the text of this article. Please can you confirm the case.

 LIKE  REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 3

Author

I'm completely transparent about using AI as a collaborative tool in my world helps with research, fact-checking, and refining arguments, just like working with human editors or research assistants. I also have a good friend who helps edit a number of my pieces. I often bounce frameworks and ideas off both AI tools and human collaborators as part of my creative process. For this piece, I actually went back and forth with AI about the definition of slavery to make sure I wasn't being careless with the comparison or undermining the reality of chattel slavery.

But the core ideas, the connections between my previous work, and the argument itself - that's the culmination of years of my own research and thinking. I'd challenge anyone to prompt AI to write something like this. Ask ChatGPT to write an essay connecting 1871 corporate law changes, consciousness-control patents, and wearable insurance data into a theory about invisible slavery' and see what happens. AI can help me catch errors and improve clarity, but it can't develop the framework I've been building or the map I've been constructing. The idea that comfort and coercion has replaced obvious violence? That cognitive sovereignty is the foundation of all other freedoms? Those insights come from scouring texts and late-night debates with friends, not from algorithms.

My understanding is that these detection tools flag clear, well-structured work over time - they often can't distinguish between AI assistance and simply good organization. If coherent argumentation looks 'AI-like' to a computer, maybe we should talk more about how we've been conditioned to expect scattered, unfocused thoughts to be somehow more 'authentic' than systematic analysis.

I appreciate you raising this directly, Iain - it's an important conversation about how we evaluate intellectual work in the AI age.

 LIKE (3)  REPLY (1)



Iain Davis  Iain Davis Substack Aug 4

Thanks Joshua for your candid reply. I am no Luddite and I do see the benefits of AI, especially for managing large, complex systems. My core centre on people's evident tendency to outsource their own critical thinking. For me, as a research tool it can only serve a very basic function. Rather than Wikipedia, it is useful for names and dates but little else in my view. It is mainstream media in many respects, it's just another information source clearly programmed to be biased toward official narratives. Alas, having your writing skill, I am now unable to discern how much of that is attributed to you. Perhaps it might be worth putting a disclaimer, along the lines of 'AI assisted', in your response to me, before publishing such AI assisted articles. Of course your decision is nothing to do with me. It's just a suggestion.

 LIKE (2)  REPLY (2)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 4

Author

I thought I made this point with the prompt challenge, but anyone who knows me knows it's silly to suggest my ideas aren't mine. I started writing in long form precisely because I was annoying people in my life who were tired of hearing my rants about these topics. I've been developing frameworks for quite some time and working fulltime on refining them (in my inner circle) for the last 5 years.

I'm curious - do you think writers should also disclaim when they use AI editors, research assistants, Google searches, Grammarly, or spell check? Most professional writing involves multiple tools and collaborators. I'm confident readers can evaluate the work on its merits - the accuracy of claims, the validity of connections, and the strength of arguments. The value lies in the quality and accuracy of ideas, not whether someone used spell-check or more advanced editing tools to polish them.

 LIKE (5)  REPLY (1)



Iain Davis  Iain Davis Substack Aug 11

I didn't suggest these are not your ideas. We all have ideas. You and other people should reference their sources, thank their editors and research assistants they have collaborated with. I don't think you should reference spell checkers or similar basic digital tools, but you should to have used technology to a far greater extent than most.

I do not think people should pass off work as their own when it has been written, in sections, almost entirely by AI as yours appears to be. You say you started writing in long form but AI identifies sections of your long form article as being written by it, not you. Presumably, as someone who values AI, you don't challenge its analysis of the claim to be yours. Initially I was sceptical myself, but tests appear to produce consistent results.

As I said, it is really none of my business. However, I shared your work because I admired the writing style which, it turns out, isn't yours. If it is yours, the extent to which it is yours is unknowable. So I feel perhaps simply revealing my own ignorance.

I am not criticising the ideas you have expressed in the piece. I wholeheartedly agree. It is, however, very ironic that you have castigated our enslavement by algorithm but have used just such an algorithm to write your critique.

 LIKE (3)  REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 11

Author

Iain, I appreciate your work and suspect we share overlapping views on many of these issues. I also appreciate that you're pushing this issue further, but since you've essentially called me a fraud, I feel the need to reply.

There seems to be some confusion in your position. Your concerns center on "people's evident tendency to outsource their own critical thinking" to AI, but then insist you "didn't suspect these are not your ideas." I'm not sure how to reconcile these statements - either I've outsourced my thinking or the idea is mine.

Similarly, you describe AI as only useful for "names and numbers" and "biased toward official narratives" yet express concern that the sophisticated analytical writing you admired might be AI-generated. If AI is as limited as you claim, how could it possibly produce the kind of detailed analysis that impressed you?

This piece went through multiple drafts with human collaboration and editing. I've integrated AI into my research workflow and believe understanding these systems is essential to maintaining human agency within them - which is precisely the kind of critical analysis you claim to value.

The **irony** you mention isn't lost on me - I've actually called out my own hypocrisy in using modern tools quite a bit in my

[Expand full comment](#)

 LIKE (2)  REPLY



Astragale Astragale's Newsletter Aug 18

lain - you make good points here & below. Especially by revealing the article were WRITTEN BY AI.

Sadly ironic that parts of a piece warning of the seduction of tech "convenient", were written by tech because the writer found it con
Illustrates what we're all up against.

♡ LIKE (1) 💬 REPLY



Dawn  Awaiting Dawn Jul 29 Edited

♡ Liked by Joshua Stylman

There is a fourth choice: knowing that it was revealed in Scripture that the beast system would materialize, and that we could escape its claws by living in the hope of salvation. They can't control a soul sealed by the Holy Spirit until the day of the redemption of the body. Trust in the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and in patience wait for the joy set before us.

God will judge the earth and all who do wickedly and who reject so great salvation offered freely while grace is yet applied to the sinner. Get his righteousness today by trusting in Christ at the cross. You will escape the second death, see God face to face, and live eternally in heaven and a new earth.

♡ LIKE (8) 💬 REPLY



TBW Jul 28

♡ Liked by Joshua Stylman

Yes, you described it and the grand majority of humans, live it.

♡ LIKE (8) 💬 REPLY (1)



MissRuth Jul 28

They seem unable to help themselves. No self control, no discernment.

♡ LIKE (3) 💬 REPLY (1)



TBW Jul 28

It is the comfortable and easy way. Someone else will do that for them. Not much more than placing one's fate in the hands of "God" only. Comfortable, requires very little except repetition of the same. Anyone else not being that comfortable is then seen as an enemy, someone to be jealous of, etc. It is not really anything new.

♡ LIKE (4) 💬 REPLY



Quay1 Quay1 Jul 28 Edited

Josh. You're getting there... closer and closer. Be still my heart!

Incredible article. When Josh tells you to look at your documents and notice things like pronouns (your name) in all capital letters, he is talking about Capitis Diminutio Maxima. The definition from Blacks LAW dictionary.

Definition of Capitis Diminutio Maxima

Overview

Capitis diminutio maxima is a term from Roman law that refers to the most severe form of status change. It involves a complete loss of a person's rights and status.

Key Characteristics

ATTRIBUTE DESCRIPTION

Loss of Liberty The individual becomes a slave or is imprisoned.

Loss of Citizenship The person loses all rights associated with citizenship.

Loss of Family Rights The individual is severed from their family ties.

Consequences

This form of capitis diminutio results in the total extinguishment of a person's legal capacity and status, affecting their rights and obligations under the law" Blacks Law Dictionary third edition

One reason we are so confused is that they speak to us in LAW DICTIONARY, Legalese, a language that is not in collegiate dictionary, common English. It is a powerful tool they use. No word you can find in the same definition in legalese as it does in Common English. Even the words and, or, is. (These words are in legalese dictionaries. Use them. The ONLY place you see names in all caps are on dead entities. Business names and headstones in cemeteries. The dead. The non living. The PERSON. Look Person

♡ LIKE (11) 💬 REPLY (2)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 1

Author

Fantastic comment, thank you for sharing.

I stayed away from citing Blacks Law Dictionary in my 1871 piece largely bc there's speculation about the veracity, however, I lean toward thinking it's spot on.

<https://stylman.substack.com/p/the-corporate-veil>

 LIKE (2)  REPLY (1)



Quay1 Quay1 Aug 1 Edited

 Liked by Joshua Stylman

Thank you Josh! The law dictionaries are the key. I own as many editions as I can of them. Blacks, Bouviers, Ballantines, etc. the definitions in the older ones are correct. They change the definitions now to fit their power grabs. It is imperative to understand that. SCOTUS has gone back a thousand years to find correct law. Law does not expire. Definitions of words do not change. Owning ALL of them is critical to yourself.

 LIKE (4)  REPLY



Peiternella Hymen  Peiternella Hymen Jul 30

 Liked by Joshua Stylman

Brilliant expose of our all caps strawman identity

 LIKED (3)  REPLY (1)



Quay1 Quay1 Jul 31 Edited

Thank you!

 LIKE (1)  REPLY (1)



Peiternella Hymen  Peiternella Hymen Aug 1

You know doubt have come across Unam Sanctam (1302) which was a papal bull issued by Pope Boniface VIII requiring the complete submission of all people including kings, to the authority and dictates of the pope.

 LIKE (1)  REPLY (2)



Quay1 Quay1 Aug 1 Edited

The Vatican has always been a part of the "game", so to speak. (Council of Nicea). All organized religion is part of the regulate, tax and control game. The original police force, so to speak. One of the original tax collecting organizations. It, along with politicians and bankers especially are the most corrupt professions. They created the whore. They are the whore of Babylon that Isaiah describes. Please do not mistake me for an atheist. I am no such thing. I do not dishonor God in such ways as they. I love and honor Him as He loves us. I do so privately. His bible and His words are a book of LAW. NOT of religion. My bible and my guide is Matthew 10:16.

Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore as serpents, and harmless as doves.

This is the key attitude to freedom. You must NEVER become the wolf. Be as a lamb. Wise. Humble but stealthy is the key. ALWAYS humble and kind. Even with the wolves. Especially with the wolves.

♡ LIKE (3) 💬 REPLY (1)



William Voelz  William's Substack Aug 19

Quay. Good post. Agree. Only one caveat. Israel is primarily two entities. 1. Israel is the firstborn son with a view to ruling under the right's primogeniture. As a disobedient son he must be brought to repentance. 2. Israel is the wife of Jahoveh. As she trafficked with the surrounding Gentile nations throughout the 3500 years since the captivity, she has become the whore of Revelation. And must be restored. Both son and wife will be brought to repentance during the Tribulation that requires the Time of Jacob's Trouble over the final 3 ½ years of the Tribulation. God's plans and purposes regarding His Chosen are without change of mind.

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



Quay1 Quay1 Aug 1 Edited

Yes. I've heard of the Unum Sanctum. A great example of what we are and also that the word Bull is a perfect example to look up in a LAW dic has no connection to anything you know in Common English. Great po this stuff folks!

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



NJ Election Advisor ⓧ NJ Election Advisor Jul 28

Modern HVAC, transportation, digital communications, air travel make the contemporary surprisingly comfortable with few rebels

♡ LIKE (10) 💬 REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman ⓧ Jul 28

Author

Great minds...

<https://stylman.substack.com/p/the-price-of-convenience>

♡ LIKE (3) 💬 REPLY (1)



NJ Election Advisor ⓧ NJ Election Advisor Jul 28 Edited

♡ Liked by Joshua Stylman

Thank you - not sure how great mine is (or ever was), but your second article is

♡ LIKE (2) 💬 REPLY



erin ⓧ erin Jul 28

Graeber wrote about this at length in his excellent book Debt: The first 5000 years.

He talks about how the horrific abuses rained down on the conquered Indians of the Mes had its root in the nasty debt the conquistadors were subject to, from the elite among the poorest foot soldier. The mad scramble for gold and silver at the exclusion of near everytl had its root in the banking houses of Europe.

We are still saddled with it.

♡ LIKE (9) 💬 REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Jul 28

Author

I need to read more Graeber.

 LIKE (4)  REPLY



Jo Patti Munisteri Jo's Blog Jul 28

 Liked by Joshua Stylman

Cogent analysis and warning as usual. I will send to RFK Jr-maybe he'll read it.

 LIKE (5)  REPLY (3)



Anonymous Anonymous's Substack Jul 28

Yeah like RFK gives a shite.

 LIKE (6)  REPLY (2)



Jo Patti Munisteri Jo's Blog Jul 28

It's worth a try.

 LIKE (2)  REPLY



Katherine  Katherine Jul 29



 LIKE  REPLY



Bryan  Bryan's Substack Jul 30

The same RFK Jr. who refuses to acknowledge the genocide and mass starvation , w
subservient to Israel.

 LIKE (4)  REPLY



:yulia: :yulia: Jul 31

Hahaha. RFK jr is a part of this system and he's invested in it.

 LIKE  REPLY



Rob (c137) Robert's Occam's razor Jul 28

♥ Liked by Joshua Stylman

The system has always been broken whether overtly stealing from us or when for example skyrocketed while many thought it was good for their "investments".

All of that reminds me of the bullshit of the American dream that George Carlin talked abo

https://youtu.be/l-o_XCDTyB4

♥ LIKE (4) 💬 REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman ✨ Aug 1

Author

Carlin's work is all timeless.

♥ LIKE (2) 💬 REPLY



Dhruv Varshney Dhruv Varshney Jul 30

♥ Liked by Joshua Stylman

The integrated deep reflection of life today is captured here masterfully.

♥ LIKE (2) 💬 REPLY



AndrewP97 🗨 AndrewP97 Jul 30

♥ Liked by Joshua Stylman

Amazingly powerful look at the real world we live in

♥ LIKE (2) 💬 REPLY



Anastasia Sprout ✨ Anastasia's AdVANTures...CAREaV... Jul 29

♥ Liked by Joshua Stylman

I found great freedom with a Private Membership Association and getting tons of free sup
12-Step financial recovery groups like Debtor's Anonymous, Underearner's Anonymous,
Workaholics Anonymous, and Artists Anonymous. Great article!

♥ LIKE (2) 💬 REPLY



Jane 🌸 Jane Jul 28

I deeply appreciate this article. I will save it for a day when one of my kids wants to read it whenever that may be.

Financial servitude and chronic debt have shackled generations. What changes the picture than just darken it, is CBDCs. I can't look away from their programmability and their perfection with tech already here to manage and surveil.

Until maybe five years ago I used to drive blithely under intersection cameras and highway scanners, walk my dog by the local fusion center, and blankly wonder why the name "Ora" that big building was a little weird. It took a huge affront to my judgment to shake my eyes: looked around, then looked back. Being sort-of-old has benefits.

If memory serves, the digital gulag was introduced to us citizens first as convenience (cell phones, then email) entertainment (xbox, streaming movies, etc) and "connection" (social media). Maybe it was always aimed at a total, autonomous surveillance state and trans-human hybrid. My comment on "MAHA...Embodied Consciousness" disappeared before it posted, but this was a wonderful read.

Growing up enclosed by this grid must impact our kids in ways we can't fathom. Thanks for writing.

❤️ LIKED (7) 💬 REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 1

Author

Thank you for this thoughtful reflection, Jane. The 'sort-of-old has benefits' line really resonates - there's something valuable about remembering what it felt like before the infrastructure was ubiquitous. I'm a GenX'er which means I'm old enough to remember before - but young enough to feel like I can do something about it.

While the culture wars are blazing and distractions are everywhere, the financial con spiraling in is what keeps me up at night. More specifically, the impact it will have on future generations if people don't start understanding it. CBDCs represent the completion of everything I've been documenting - when money itself becomes programmable, even freedom becomes conditional.

The impact on kids growing up enclosed by this system is what drives me to keep writing when it's uncomfortable territory. Thank you for saving this for when they're ready. I hope they'll be open to it.

 LIKED (3)  REPLY



MissRuth Jul 28

 Liked by Joshua Stylman

The Modern Slave article is mind-boggling to say the least. People are so very impressed with technology, it's pathetic. It has truly enslaved humans and they seem not to mind. There's a chosen few who can see through the smoke. If things were being done to benefit humanity, it would be against the law. Thank you, for breaking it down so a fifth grader can understand it.

 LIKE (2)  REPLY



Brooke Kildey Brooke's Substack Jul 28

 Liked by Joshua Stylman

This is a great article - I agree with you totally and have been sharing this information for a long time. You did it so eloquently and scientifically so WELL DONE! Thank you!!!

 LIKE (2)  REPLY



The Watchman The Watchman's Substack Jul 28

♥ Liked by Joshua Stylman

Very good article once again. Linking it today @<https://nothingnewunderthesun2016.com>

Think I'll use the image on control as my Image For The Day, today, with a hat tip to you.

♥ LIKE (2) 💬 REPLY



Crixcyon  Crixcyon Jul 28

Perhaps there are three kinds of slavery...physical, biological and mental. The last two are and not readily experienced in the outside world. For sure, drugs, vaccines and mRNA pop up a great deal of the biological torture (as well as medical tests and procedures). Just about everything else not physical is mental and that is where things get quite tricky.

Biological torture can mean death as much as physical abuse. But mental torture is the worst, mostly long term and hidden in the bushes. You almost have to be firmly entrenched into philosophy or way of belief before they come for your mind. If you are just meandering about with hardly any personal or introspective thoughts, you are easy prey.

♥ LIKE (6) 💬 REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 1

Author

I think you're right about the three types, however, I believe they're all deeply linked. I may be wrong, I believe the mental can protect the other two. If your mind is sovereign, you are more likely to resist biological interventions and recognize physical coercion for what it is.

As Bob Marley said: 'Emancipate yourselves from mental slavery, none but ourselves can free our minds.'

Cognitive sovereignty is the foundation - everything else flows from there. That's why consciousness is so central to everything I've been documenting.

♥ LIKE 💬 REPLY



C.M. Cardinale The Unexpected World Aug 1 Edited

♥ Liked by Joshua Stylman

You mentioned the all-caps names and the 1871 corporatization of the federal government
I CAN CONFIRM THAT THERE IS A CORPORATE DOUBLE OF EVERY GOVERNMENT ENTITY
ACROSS THE UNITED STATES, and it is -- or was -- publicly available for lookup.

I don't know if it's still publicly available, but when I first ran across the general topic of info
that you bring up, I checked a public database of corporate entities. A site like D&B, but a
that didn't require subscription at the time. What I saw was bizarre:

Pages and pages and pages of probably thousands of LLC copies of practically every gov
entity and person: States, cities, towns, government departments, courthouses, tax depa
DMVs, police and sherrifs offices, and even LLC versions of government employees. I sav
personal names of sheriffs, department administrators, etc., etc., each in all caps, and ea
followed by the letters LLC.

The implications ...

♥ LIKE (1) 💬 REPLY



Cathie Campbell  Cathie Campbell Aug 1

♥ Liked by Joshua Stylman

Amazingly well-written truth.

♥ LIKE (1) 💬 REPLY



Antti Säippä  Antti Säippä (@SecondRayer) Sub... Jul 29

♥ Liked by Joshua Stylman

Thank you for this! - Love your insights + this is so timely. Great reading - especially for p
young kids!

♥ LIKE (1) 💬 REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Jul 30

Author

Thank you. As a parent, you might be interested in these...

<https://stylman.substack.com/p/the-cowards-bargain>

<https://stylman.substack.com/p/when-information-had-weight>

♥ LIKE (2) 💬 REPLY



LovelsCourage LovelsCourage Jul 29

♥ Liked by Joshua Stylman

Call me Dr. Neo Strangelove, but

The promised and much hyped as revolutionary utopian paradise (honestly described in t is:

How I learned to stop worrying, and love the potentially imminent solar micronova.

But my REALLY unusual position is that human beings could prevent it

♡ LIKE (1) 💬 REPLY



BastiMama1 ⓧ Jul 29

♥ Liked by Joshua Stylman

Bravo. I will pass this on to everyone I know. Thank you, thank you for taking the time to tl and write.

♡ LIKE (1) 💬 REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman ⓧ Jul 30

Author



♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



Charles Cresson Wood ⓧ Charles Cresson Wood Jul 29

♥ Liked by Joshua Stylman

What a tour-de-force of a post, Joshua! Thank you for all the research that went into proc I share your concerns. Particularly of concern is new research from MIT, which shows tha children are thinking less, able to do fewer cognitive activities that past generations coul because they are becoming reliant on AI. If the future generations can't even think for the how are they going to be able to fight this control grid?

♥ LIKED (2) 💬 REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Jul 30

Author

We all need to learn to be Amish. In all seriousness, I know that's not practical, so I'm sure - being aware feels like half the battle.

 LIKE (3)  REPLY (1)



Charles Cresson Wood  Charles Cresson Wood Jul 30

Coming to terms with what's uniquely human, what cannot be performed by AI, important and necessary, if we are going to win the battle against the slavery type you describe in your article Joshua. I would say the "inner light" or the "divine spark" is unique to humans, and cannot be found, nor will it be found, in AI. This connection, what springs forth from that connection, is our way through this difficult time. It is the source of all inspiration and solutions that so far cannot be seen by us. And yes, being aware of what's going on, and cultivating/exercising independent critical thinking is important.

 LIKE (2)  REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 1

Author

Charles, this gets to the heart of everything. The 'divine spark' you mention is precisely what the Control Grid is designed to suppress - not through force but by making us forget it exists.

The real resistance isn't technological but spiritual - remembering what it means to be fully human in an age that's trying to convince us we're just biological computers waiting for an upgrade. The Amish comment was half-joking, but they've pointed to something essential that most of us have forgotten we ever had. Thanks for

 LIKE (2)  REPLY (1)



Charles Cresson Wood  Charles Cresson Wood Aug 1

Agreed Joshua. They want to have us forget our true nature, so that we be controlled. They want us to think life is all about the material world, than the larger reality (spiritual and material). Thank you for all the work to open up the conversation, and also to knit together the threads that don't perceive, understand, or think about enough. It is the complexity always-present Divine world, where we are all connected, that we must and maintain. That connection will be our source of our inspiration, that us the way forward in these difficult times.

 LIKE (1)  REPLY



GM Paul Jul 28

As an early boomer I could understand you very well. My children and especially my grand would have a hard time getting your attention. I know because every time I question them their daily routine they call me different names though I doubt they know their meaning. I we're going to an authoritarian society soon but we're born free and future generations h their survival state support will eventually revolt against the system. Spartacus will be bac this might take a long time.

 LIKE (5)  REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 1

Author

The dismissal of elder wisdom is part of the programming. Each generation is taught previous generations 'just don't get it' - that technological progress equals human p
May be more my generation but remember Grandpa Simpson? He went from respect patriarch to obsolete relic in one generation. That's not natural cultural evolution - th engineered obsolescence of institutional memory. When the people who remember v freedom felt like are dismissed as out-of-touch, there's no baseline for comparison.

The Spartacus comparison is apt, though I wonder if future generations will even rec their chains enough to revolt. Someone has to keep asking the uncomfortable questi when it makes you the weird grandpa. Clearly you love your family.

 LIKE  REPLY



Ann Tomoko Rosen  On Second Thought Jul 28

I know all of this in my gut. But this is a punch in the gut. We all need to look in the mirror.

 LIKE (5)  REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 1

Author

Sorry, Ann. I need more gut healing than punching - I suspect many others do too.

 LIKE  REPLY



Mrtambourineman Jul 28

As your post accurately and persuasively portrays the technological and emotional numbness of today's working class I was reminded of a song written more than 50 years ago by poet John Lennon called Working Class Hero.

The lyrics suggest that working class people are being processed into the middle class in a machine greased by false hope for individuals who as Karl Marx said "sell their labor power for wages without owning the means of production "

In effect slaves to the system which has been further enhanced by technology undermining humanity

Working Class Hero

"As soon as you're born they make you feel small

By giving you no time instead of it all

Till the pain is so big you feel nothing at all

A working class hero is something to be

Repeat

They hurt you at home and they hit you at school

They hate you if you're clever and they despise a fool

Till you're so f____ing crazy you can't follow their rules

A working class hero is something to be

Repeat

[Expand full comment](#)

 LIKE (5)  REPLY



Stefano Stefano Jul 28

Sorry but the war was lost some time ago. We can and should be optimists, in the sense, speaking nothing authoritarian survives, but realistically, what you're writing about is all h in real time and the vast majority of people (I'm over in Europe) are captured within the te panopticon. And historically humans haven't really been free, in the sense you're alluding I genuinely enjoyed your essay and hope it helps awaken people. What you wrote about is contraption being built is highly technological, made to bridge the gap between the real v the artificial simulation, at the point of origin in our brains. And I appreciated your Huxley because inevitably we're getting closer to BNW, and most of the awakened and aware will choose to be inside or outside the fence, with everything this entails.

But even here there's good news for the initiated. In the sense, what's the point or meani experience we call life? So depending on how we answer this question, how we choose to the derangement of elites doing their schtick onto us, the possibilities of what each of us boundless. This modern contraption of work and taxes, ever since the first industrial revo without the nefarious stuff you wrote about, isn't what life is all about. So taking this cont such extremes for populace control, if it helps to break reality, maybe some good can cor Incidentally I read a post by Peter Turchin today (link below) and thought about the inevit coming of the AI+Robotics reboot of warfare, which we're glimpsing in Gaza and Ukraine, this will inevitably upend elites and the geopolitical order.

https://open.substack.com/pub/peterturchin/p/the-deep-roots-of-todays-geopolitics?utm_source=share&utm_medium=android&r=jpgb

♡ LIKE (5) 💬 REPLY



Darika Joyce Friesen  Jul 28

A brilliant, in depth historical analysis of where we are and how we got here.

What I find particularly valuable is that you have thoroughly outlined how to determine where we are and what we can do if we choose to get out of the cage.

We need only to have courage and faith in the power of one, ourselves. One person starts another, and another.....and then we work together cooperatively to create a new timeline evolution.

I became conscious several decades ago, increasingly questioning everything. Daily, I still question information that I receive.

I agree the solution includes using technology in a positive way for liberation rather than control. When we realize that we have the power of Mother Earth and the entire Universe on our side, we can regain our lives and freedom.

 LIKE (3)  REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 1

Author

Thank you, Darika. I hope you're right about the power of one person starting and others following. Once you see the incoming Control Grid, you can't unsee it - and you naturally want others to see it too.

The conversations happening around this theme gives me hope that more people are asking the uncomfortable questions.

 LIKE  REPLY



Anonymous Anonymous's Substack Jul 28

Pretty hard to find freedom when the guys with the guns show up to collect the taxes.

 LIKE (3)  REPLY



Michelle Mcgarver  Michelle Mcgarver Jul 28

Heartwarming to know I'm not alone, most of its fallacious fear and artificial reality, I always use my own beliefs to make sure I've not become a victim. I'm a slave to map apps now, I see you of innate senses. Well I'm a chic and blonde so my innate geographical ability wasn't strength. Fortunately a bull headed independant person, I refuse to relegate my life to be sounds of a machine telling me what to do, I refuse to express my feelings w emojis and r infused with narcissistic thumbs up, likes or bot friend relationships to be human and hun keep my humility to stay humble and I will not virtue signal at the expense of vanity. It's al human! Ironically I mused yesterday, what if the mirror was never invented?

 LIKE (3)  REPLY (2)



Quay1 Quay1 Jul 28

Go to YouTube. Search Richard James, McDonald state citizen. Meet who you really . the comma after his middle name. Watch the one where he is in a blue shirt first.

 LIKE (2)  REPLY (1)



Michelle Mcgarver  Michelle Mcgarver Jul 28

But I know who I am, what does it do, collect my data and give me a social score

 LIKE (1)  REPLY (1)



Quay1 Quay1 Jul 28 *Edited*

LOL, God no, my sister. Go watch. Please. For me. Let me know in an hour. you I am not wasting your time. I'm freeing you. He passed years ago. His le never die.

 LIKE (3)  REPLY (1)



there is no spoon Jul 28

Great advice! Be aware that this knowledge can be very confusing cau cognitive dissonance as it is at odds with our lifetime of conditioning. 1 system operates using different meanings than we use in everyday cor for a huge number of common words.

 LIKE (1)  REPLY



Michelle Mcgarver  Michelle Mcgarver Jul 28

lol I think I know now, I'll watch! Sorry to be apprehensive. So I've seen it go around c years, prob spot on. If you don't play by their rules, rules that change on a dime, they you,

 LIKE (1)  REPLY (1)



Quay1 Quay1 Jul 28 Edited

Screw them. God is my only sovereign. I answer ONLY to him unless I commit a a statute violation. I'm not a business. I'm a woman. Living. Me woman, to keep i Human. Not a being LIKE a human. One of We, The People. Not a PERSON. 😊 cannot touch the living when we know who and what we are. I don't pay taxes. T IRS form for that. W8-BEN. You are the LIVING beneficiary, BEN. Not the trust, t You are the LIVING WOMAN. Not the transmitting utility with YOUR stolen name Did you apply for your SSN? Did you sign that as a fully informed adult? No. You not.

 LIKE (1)  REPLY (1)



Michelle Mcgarver  Michelle Mcgarver Sep 2

This came around in the 80s ppl quit paying taxes and set up barter biz, so their homes. It seems they pick on the poor guy bc no lawyer money to fight Recently tho I heard they arrested pppl, not sure about the rabbit hole of w happened but I definetly can say it's made the rounds throughout the deca maybe just to make examples? It's like the red heifer lol

 LIKE  REPLY



Tony The Work Evolved Aug 7

Comment for "The Modern Slave"

Brilliant analysis, Joshua. Your documentation of "The Control Grid" exposes the architec modern slavery with surgical precision. But there's a layer beneath even this that deserve examination: the unconscious production of slaves themselves.

The system you describe doesn't just enslave existing humans - it systematically manufa ones through what can only be called unconscious procreation. Most children aren't conc through conscious choice but through mechanical patterns: social expectations, econom pressures, biological impulses, or simply "what people do."

Parents who never developed their own inner authority, who mistake consensus for truth popularity for virtue (as you note), inevitably reproduce these patterns in their offspring. It becomes an extension of unconscious parental programming rather than a sovereign being into existence.

This creates what Gurdjieff called "mechanical transmission" - unconscious parents produce unconscious children who will become unconscious parents themselves. The Control Grid needs to break each generation; it just needs to ensure they're born pre-broken.

Consider: if technological mediation prevents children from developing internal awareness, never learn to read their own body's signals or trust their own judgment, what kind of parents do they become? They'll reproduce unconsciously because they lack the consciousness to do otherwise.

The most radical intervention isn't just recognizing our slavery or developing better technology, it's interrupting unconscious procreation itself. Making reproduction a genuinely conscious choice rather than a mechanical inevitability.

This means creating alternatives to the nuclear family structure that currently serves as the primary mechanism for consciousness suppression. Communities where children aren't treated as property but as sovereign beings with inherent dignity. Economic models that don't require childlessness as retirement insurance. Social structures that make childlessness meaningful rather than a punishment.

The Control Grid's deepest victory isn't enslaving us - it's ensuring we unconsciously create slaves to replace ourselves. Breaking free requires not just individual awakening, but conscious evolution at the species level.

Otherwise, we're just rearranging deck chairs on the Titanic while manufacturing new passengers for the next voyage.

♡ LIKE (2) 💬 REPLY



Parsa Pezeshki  On the written word Jul 30

Is anyone else going to call out the fact that this is another ChatGPT regurgitation? Not that I'm a sin. But the same voice and patterns of thinking get tired fast. (By the way, I pay taxes so I can have paved roads etc.)

♡ LIKE (2) 💬 REPLY (1)



India like the country  A Reality Apart Jul 30

I had a neighbor in Africa who used to consistently refuse to contribute to community repair the road with the refrain, "Good roads bring bad people."

 LIKE  REPLY



SteelJ  SteelJ Jul 28 *Edited*

Great article. As stated, it's hard to break free, very few will. Best thing I know to force co to the real, is go hunting or fishing, especially stream fishing. Sans electronic assistance. sans guide, or you aren't hunting or fishing, he is. Figuring it out yourself is what makes it real. Take kids if any are around and willing. But not always, solo is when you really connect. vestige of the matrix, for a while at least, disappears.

 LIKE (2)  REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 1

Author

You are definitely a role model. As a modern creature, I often spend too much time in nature - when I do my body reminds me in some very unpleasant ways.

 LIKE (1)  REPLY



Dollyboy The Last Australian Libertine Jul 28

The digital panopticon is being built and other than its implementation I fear the masses are so dull-eyed and complacent. They will kill you if you don't fall in line. Know this. We cannot the juggernaut of The State head on without a critical mass and presently that mass is under sedation and propaganda. Our only hope presently is to remain under the radar. I think the future is, at best, going to be a series of guerilla like raids on the control grid. We need more we can exert any force. Here's to dark days!

 LIKE (2)  REPLY



Scotlyn  Scotlyn Jul 28

According to the walrus hunter in this tale,,,

<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/431372-freuchen-tells-how-one-day-after-coming-l-hungry-from>

...what makes a slave is a gift for which we are required to be grateful... (what whips make dogs...)

In any case, this is one of the best reminders of what it means to be human and free. To a the vital energy and purpose within...

Such externals as carrots (not tempting) or sticks (not frightening) don't get a look in.

 LIKE (2)  REPLY



Roundball Shaman Roundball Shaman Jul 28

What is a Slave at base? Someone under the control of Another. Or, someone owned out Another.

The first thing to understand is that everyone is a slave to something – even it is to one's To be owned or controlled by Another is a fundamental violation of personal agency and innate natural freedom as given by Divinity. It is just about the worst abuse anyone can suffer, worse, much or all of that is due today by self-infliction. We enslaved ourselves either knowingly or unknowingly. Either way, the damage and denial of true self remains.

Of course, the call is for one to 'Be Free'. What does that mean, exactly? It means to know free in your Divine mind and spirit... and to act upon that unpolluted divinity. It is when we lose our connection to Divine Mind that we fall into human weakness, corruption, self-pity, and you live with Divine Mind you could never embody any of those negative and limiting qualities of being. They are incompatible.

How can you know that you are living in Divine Mind? Well, take stock of yourself... honestly and deeply. What is your sense of self in this moment? Are you happy? Do you feel free? Do you feel free? Do you feel joy and lightness of life? Or are you unhappy, unsatisfied, feeling empty, restless, bullied, powerless? That will tell you where you fit along the Divine-Mind-Scale.

When historians and philosophers look back about our Age Today... they will refer to it as Enslavement. The Powers-That-Be spent most of their time, money, and energy trying to control and dehumanize The People. And sadly, They's been too damn successful at it. Have you seen so many people enslaved to a little box in their hands... or to what State media wants us to do in following the last social trend in an effort to look 'cool' and 'with it' but in doing so just conform along in the latest trend and meme of how to conform?

[Expand full comment](#)

♡ LIKE (2) 💬 REPLY



jmac Ⓜ Aug 28

thank you for educating us- sincerely appreciate your hard work and precious time- merc

♡ LIKE (1) 💬 REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 31

Author

We are educating one another

 LIKE (1)  REPLY



Astragale Astragale's Newsletter Aug 18

"Human trafficking generates \$150 billion annually through forced labor and sexual exploitation. WHAT?"

What are we supposed to make of this reported 'fact'?

How does ILO calculate such a thing?

Do traffickers open their books? Allow inspections?

This must be nonsense or guesswork.

If this were known, & the "authorities" do NOTHING to STOP it, it would be one of the big crimes in the history of the WORLD.

 LIKE (1)  REPLY



Patti Johnson Aug 7

Again, best editorial I have read this century! I had to laugh though as I was staring at my computer and reading the section with the first patent: "Nervous system manipulation by electromagnetic fields from monitors"

 LIKE (1)  REPLY



Lucien Samms *Lucien's Substack* Aug 6 *Edited*

Respectfully, this is old news.

"No man is free who is not master of himself."

Epictetus, Fragments, 35, p. 317 in *The Discourses*, Everyman edition, 1995.

See also *The Discourses*, "On Freedom," Book 4, Chapter 1, pp. 227-245, especially the story of the former slave who finds true slavery when becoming a senator.

Freedom comes from accepting everything, right now, just as it is. (See Shunryu Suzuki's *Beginner's Mind*).

Zen-Stoic synthesis:

Wish for things to happen as they do.

Follow events, don't lead them.

Make the best of what is in your power as a rational, mortal, universal being by bearing up against pain and by forbearing obtainable pleasure.

Accept everything, right now, just as it is, just as it unfolds.



♡ LIKE (1) 💬 REPLY



Dustin *✉* Aug 4

Joshua, this is the first article of yours that I've read and I very much appreciate your perspective. It is very clear to freethinking people that we are all under the thumb of civilization, which produces a substantial industry of doomsday preppers and apocalypse movies among other counter-cultural trends. But I don't see this modern condition as a concerted effort by the powerful to enslave the masses. Maybe I'm naive to the generational dynasties among us but it seems to me that enslavers, e.g. agents of the government in the form of alphabet soup bureaus and global judicial appointees, "elected" officials, are, in fact, enslaved too. We're all consumers, right? What end are we enslaved to? Is it just the hegemonic power players thirsting for total control over the apex predator of this planet as if they are a Sith Lord? It seems to me that being a subject, subjugated to authority, is one of the primal human conditions and freedom is actually the concept.

♡ LIKE (1) 💬 REPLY



Doug Aug 1



♡ LIKE (1) 💬 REPLY



patrick fitz  Aug 1

This is dumb. You've now turned slavery onto a definition most don't find offensive. Legal and a tax-funded governments that enforce the laws provide stability to human society that otherwise rests at a state of conflict. It's allowed for the explosion in medical technology that benefit from. If that's slavery, then why wouldn't anyone prefer it when the natural alternative is obvious.

If I'm not a "slave" to governments, then I'm a slave to nature and natural selection, or a state of chaos of stateless societies. This essay is the type of thought you hear from highschool intellectuals who haven't seen how modern systems function, or learned about the horrors of human life that didn't get pleasant until (checks watch) like 100 years ago (if you live in our world).

Instead of playing click-bait semantic games and prophesizing that we "open our eyes to delusion!", consider why exactly we reserve the word slavery for, you know, actual slavery

♡ LIKE (1) 💬 REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 1

Author

Thanks, Patrick. You're making the exact argument I anticipated - that because the system provides some benefits, we should ignore how it operates.

Your 'high school intellectual' dismissal is exactly the kind of comfortable condescending essay describes. Rather than engaging with the substance, you're defending a mode of outcomes while ignoring methods. The Soviets also provided stability, medical advancement, and education - but we don't judge systems solely by their material outputs when the methods involve systematic coercion and control.

Interesting that you mention medical breakthroughs in a system where chronic disease is exploding, life expectancy is declining, and people are sicker and more medicated than ever for stability - we're funding endless wars, wealth inequality is at historic highs, and social cohesion is collapsing.

The social contract you're defending was never actually signed by anyone alive today. Terms keep changing without our consent. You call it voluntary participation, but I'm forced to allocate my labor toward killing people in wars I oppose. When opting out means social exile or imprisonment, that's not a contract - it's an ultimatum.

Your false choice between government control and chaos ignores countless other ways humans have organized throughout history. Indigenous societies, voluntary communities, decentralized networks - there are many models between total state control and Maoism. Pointing to how bad things used to be doesn't justify current problems - that's like saying domestic abuse is fine because murder is worse.

And 'clickbait semantic games'? Heh. If I wanted attention, there are far easier ways than writing 4,000-word essays most people have no interest in reading. I'm pointing out that the mechanics of coercion remain the same whether applied with whips or withholding - method changes, the relationship doesn't.

 LIKE (1)  REPLY (1)



patrick fitz  Aug 1

Okay, so your logic is: slavery involves coercion, the modern world involves coercion, therefore the modern world is slavery.

And my rebuttal is: 1) that's a stretch, and 2) if we accept it, then we've watered down the meaning of slavery to the point where it is no longer something inherently negative.

You assume no citizen thinks about the reality of the social contract. They are people who fail to see their invisible bondage. Alternative explanation: they recognize that a world without state coercion and are happy sacrificing some liberties for peace and stability (coercion by one, civilized large gang vs coercion by a collection of smaller, more brutal gangs). You never even consider this as an explanation.

It's perfectly fine to point out problems with the modern world, or disavow the values that modern states engage in. That doesn't support your argument that we're all living in a slave system, or that broadening the definition is helpful. If the modern world is slavery, then nature (which coerces me through pain, hunger, and emotional drives) is slavery. If nature is slavery, everything is slavery. Congrats, words no longer have meaning.

 LIKE (1)  REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 2

Author

You're right that words have meaning - which is exactly why I chose 'slaver' deliberately. While I was intentionally being provocative, I don't believe I was hyperbolic.

I'm not claiming legal chattel status. I'm arguing that the modern state exercises ownership-like bundle of powers over persons - open-ended, violently backed, difficult to refuse - such that citizens experience slavery-adjacent domination. If 'contribution' or 'safety' doesn't change the underlying coercive structure,

Consider the domination tests: Can the state transfer you against your will? through extradition, military deployment, prison transfers. Is exit meaningful? possible? No - priced through exit taxes, fenced by passport/migration regulations, partial due to extraterritorial taxation. Is control open-ended and indefinite? from birth to death. Is there violent backing? Yes - refuse compliance and agents arrive. Are core life domains controlled? Yes - movement, labor, identity decisions, bodily autonomy.

You're assigned a number at birth, tracked through biometric databases, and productive capacity is calculated as a revenue stream for the system. This is taxation - it's comprehensive management of human resources.

Patrick, you're also strawmanning arguments I never made. I didn't claim 'n thinks' - I documented how systems manufacture consent while eliminating alternatives.

Where I think you have logical fallacy is your binary: either accept state ext

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 LIKE (2)  REPLY



Stephen Dedalus [Stephen Dedalus](#) Jul 31

All good points but, at the same time, it's worth reflecting on Ayn Rand's deeply insightful Orwell's 1984. Rand considered Orwell's prediction of a totalitarian technical dystopia to be ultimately flawed because Orwell, being a "democratic" or Fabian socialist with a huge bias concerning the nature of productive free markets, failed to recognize that such a society—capable of sophisticated technological mass surveillance and technological mass propaganda—cannot be sustained without free-thinking men. This is the reason behind the old joke that asks, "what did the communists use before they invented the car?" Answer: "The light bulb." To be sure, there are societies that enslave their populations like North Korea, but the enslaved minds of North Korea would never be capable of sustaining, much less inventing and producing, the sophisticated technology that usually makes the futurist's sci-fi "tools of technological terror": AI, CBDC, bio-surveillance, mRNA, SOMA holidays, etc. Yet even with such technology, fooling or enticing or controlling entire populations of free-thinkers into submission (as in the movie, the Matrix) is not really possible. The technology begins to decay the moment free minds are forced or enticed to "check out." The tyrants that remain wouldn't be able to sustain such technology if their lives depended on it; neither could they force others to do so. (A tyrant can be forced, and it's the human mind that is the only true natural resource). What remains, in the worst case scenario, is something of a stalemate where the society slowly slips back into a pre-industrial model like North Korea or the former Soviet Union in which the population cannot sustain its needs and so finally collapses in revolution or mass immigration.

LIKE (1) REPLY



Josh Hall [JRs Top Tens](#) Jul 30

But...you can just not do any of this. You can sell your house and quit your job and take a smart watch. No one will stop you I promise. In other words, you are not a slave! This is a weak argument - really more a series of complaints masquerading as an argument. I don't know of any period in history you would like to be transported back to but it would be hard to find one better than the here and now - slaves do still exist (really quite terrible), you should find one and they would be interested in switching places with a 9-5er in the suburbs with a job and a car and see what they say

LIKE (1) REPLY



niko niko Jul 28

"The degree of civilization in a society can be judged by entering its prisons." (Dostoevsk

No doubt about it, transnational capitalism's ruling classes are out to march already capti
populations into a biodigital dungeon. What now distinguishes the accelerationist phase t
covid-1984 of closing the dungeon door has been, like the metaphor of the slow-boiled fi
incrementally engineered over more than a century in function creep of a fascist corporat
(envisioned longer by 'social reformers' of the 'Enlightenment' like the panopticon of Jere
Bentham). One might recall renegades like Lewis Mumford or 60s' anti-technocratic resis
trace some of the earlier rollout of institutions and infrastructure, or even earlier the scier
management of Frederick Taylor and pioneering work of Edward Bernays and Walter Lipp
create an invisible government from propaganda and psychological warfare deployed in W

The construction of a soft cage (see Christian Parenti's work by the same name) has bee
of (political) science in the service of capitalist class control over resources, including hui
refining practices of discipline to accompany the punishment of force for more 'holisitic' |
management, not necessarily all that different from methods of torture (e.g., CIA's Kubarl
from MK-Ultra mind control and traumatic shock to remake subjects. Aldous Huxley's pai
concentration camp in the final revolution of the future is likely another one of those prou
pharmafia has no plan to keep (safe and effective!) in curing us of resistance to being not
than lab rats reduced to sterile conditions of society under permanent lockdown to medic
law. The stresses alone of a steady war of attrition from already living subject to bureauc
financial instruments of neoliberal debt bondage, and surveillance capitalism (cf. Shoshar
bear comparison to the slow torture painstakingly detailed in a Kafka novel.

But as with all things capitalist, class will determine what discipline and punishment is prc

[Expand full comment](#)

♡ LIKE (1) 💬 REPLY



Jane 🌐 Jane Jul 28

BTW, link to "America, LLC" leads to "Page Not Found" notice.

♡ LIKE (1) 💬 REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Jul 28

Author

Should be fixed now, thanks for letting me know!

 LIKE  REPLY



Dominick Jul 28

Super thought-provoking as usual, thank you. Sobering and mind blowing. Once again, that we really don't know the half of the manipulation we're subjected to every day.

Just a minor typo in 1 of two images: Engineered Behavioral Dependency graphic (US pat 8,506,148 B2 Nervous System Manipulation) vs US Patent 6,506,148 B2 (2003) Nervous Manipulation graphic.

 LIKE (1)  REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 1

Author

Thank you Dominick for the sharp eye and the kind words.

You're absolutely right - those are actually two different patents: 6,506,148 B2 (2003) vs 8,506,148 B2. Both deal with nervous system manipulation, which is part of what makes this technology concerning - there isn't just one patent for this technology, there are multiple ones spanning different years and approaches.

<https://pubchem.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/patent/US-6506148-B2>

The fact that we have documented government patents for various methods of consciousness manipulation really drives home your point about not knowing the half of what we're subjected to daily. Appreciate you catching that detail regardless.

 LIKE (1)  REPLY



Done. Jul 28

"The Nazis implemented the Reich Flight Tax in 1931 to rob emigrating Jews of their assets. Categorically untrue. Jews were allowed to take their assets with them, and historical documentation is readily available from the German government archives.

(Pro-tip: using Wikipedia as a source is unreliable.)

 LIKE (1)  REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Jul 28 *Edited*

Author

I'm curious what specifically you find "categorically untrue." The Reich Flight Tax exit implemented in 1931, targeted emigrating Jews, and was reported to have generated million Marks.

<https://www.nytimes.com/1937/05/19/archives/reich-gain-large-from-flight-tax-emig-paid-the-hitler.html>

Yes, there were limited exceptions like the Haavara Agreement, but pointing to narrow exceptions that affected a small percentage of emigrants doesn't invalidate the general characterization. Whether the vast majority lost their wealth through 'taxation' vs. outright confiscation seems like a distinction without much difference.

More broadly, you've responded to a 4,000-word analysis of systematic control mechanisms by nitpicking one historical detail while ignoring the entire substantive argument about economic barriers preventing exit. The pattern I identified - that authoritarian systems use financial restrictions to control population movement - remains valid regardless of the precise mechanics of one Nazi policy.

As for Wikipedia being unreliable - yes, I'm aware :-). In this case, I was citing what appears to be the accepted historical record, not challenging it - the mainstream sources themselves document these economic barriers to exit.

 LIKE (6)  REPLY (1)



Done. Jul 29

Yes, I'm nitpicking an otherwise excellent article because details are important and incorrect statements tend to detract from the message (the NY times is just as important but now is not the time to research who controls our media). It's like reading a paragraph with incorrect grammar; hard to take seriously.

History is written by the victors, but there is ample evidence to suggest the wide narrative about WWII is not at all truthful.

I would suggest reading "The Myth of German Villainy" by Delbert Bradberry for a compelling alternative narrative.

<https://www.themythofgermanvillainy.com/>

Germany's own records of what happened during WWII were fastidiously compiled and kept as you would expect from people such as the Germans.

♡ LIKE (2) 💬 REPLY (1)



Usamnesia  Usamnesia Jul 30

So much of what we "learned" about the world politic has now been put under suspicion. Great masters such as Bernays have built the foundation of such propaganda molding and the corporatocracy architecture has enhanced the format. I found the article quite thorough in its description of the methodology employed by them. Although the German Reich Tax reference and the Covid detection wearables are "annoying" to this reader I still am thankful for your treatment of the salient issues of modern slavery.

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



Dr. K 🌐 Dr. K Jul 28

Josh, Sobering and almost entirely true. What you do not answer, which is pivotal to understand which choice matters is who and why? Most religions have a "heaven" of some construct sounds just like what you are describing -- everything is wonderful, streets of gold, and everyone gets along perfectly because everyone is, in effect, following the "will of Landru" as I have before. And in most such "after you die you get this" structures this is epitomized as the place to get to. And now you can get it here and now. The difference is that there you are surrendering to "God" in some incarnation which is "good" and here and now you are sure to ????? Gets dangerously close to distinction without difference very quickly.

One other practical and utterly vexatious point. There are only TWO countries in the world (discounting N. Korea which will not let you go either way) who still have an "exit tax" so that no one can effectively ever leave: The US and Eritrea. The US is the only country where to retain your citizenship you have to be SIGNED OFF BY THE IRS. They compute how much money you might ever pay in taxes and then make you pay that before you leave. (And if you want to know the government's real interest in you is, there is the best possible indicator in the world.) Most people don't frequently "go elsewhere" (Except for Ellen who is still paying the US despite whining...). Because the US takes your money no matter where you go. Talk about golden handcuffs...right there with Nazi Germany. Reprehensible and always has been. Glad we are not there with Eritrea, though.

But the most important article you will write is one that considers the issues in the first paragraph above. I am waiting with bated breath.

♡ LIKE (1) 💬 REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Jul 28

Author

Hey Doc, you're absolutely right about the 'who and why' question - that might be the most important piece to write, though also the most challenging. While we all have theories essentially fighting an enemy we can't fully identify, whose capabilities we don't precisely understand, and whose true motivations remain opaque.

I've been exploring these deeper questions myself, but I tend to only share what feels defensible (when I can show my work). The control systems I've documented are too sophisticated and coordinated to be accidental - which raises profound questions about origin and purpose that venture into territory where the evidence becomes much more speculative.

The religious comparison is particularly thought-provoking. As I've gotten older, my faith in divinity has grown, but so has my discomfort with organized religion. Bluntly, I don't have a middleman between me and God explaining the rules and regulations. Maybe that's the key distinction - it's not about the end state of willing submission, but about who's claiming authority to interpret what that submission should look like. Whether it's priests clearly speaking for God or algorithms claiming to optimize your life, the problem is the intermediary. And the exit tax point is devastating evidence I should have included. The fact that countries like Eritrea, and North Korea make leaving prohibitively expensive tells us exactly what we're up against in these systems. Sigh.

FWIW, I do have lots of more uplifting ideas to share too. I'll get there. First the descent, then the climb out of the abyss :-)

 LIKE (8)  REPLY (2)



Bird's Brain  Bird's Brain Seeds Jul 28

"Whether it's priests claiming to speak for God or algorithms claiming to optimize your life, the problem is the intermediary."

Yes, yes it is!

 LIKE (5)  REPLY



OneDayAtATime  Jul 31

Joshua, I really appreciate this article. I recently decided to turn off spell check on my smart phone and it has taken me about three weeks to recover the focus I lost reusing the device to spell for me. So awful! At least I'm old enough to have been truly taught to spell!

 LIKE  REPLY



Michael  Jul 28

Who said you can't opt out?

Go off into the wild, build your own shelter, grow, capture and gather your own food. No civilization stopping you. On the other hand, if you prefer AC and insect-free living, grocery shelves and clothing stores, then consider remaining a part of the free exchange economy. Everyone in some way disabled has the same choice.

 LIKE (1)  REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Jul 28

Author

One of my best friends in the world tried exactly this. Turns out 'unoccupied' land is owned by someone, building without permits is illegal, hunting/fishing requires licenses even living 'off-grid' means navigating dozens of regulatory systems. The 'choice' to opt out exists if the system actually allows it.

But beyond the practical impossibility, there's a deeper question. When my friend embarked on this path and invited us to join, another friend said he'd rather die than hide in the woods. We of us are modern creatures. The choice isn't really between comfort and freedom - it's between participating in civilization or abandoning it entirely. That's not a choice; it's an ultimatum.

To each his own, but I'd argue that demanding people choose between total social exchange and systematic control isn't evidence of freedom - it's evidence of how complete the system has become.

 LIKE (15)  REPLY (2)



NJ Election Advisor  NJ Election Advisor Jul 28

We know folks who “live off the land” and “on the kindness of strangers”

The stories are bizarre

It can be done - but it's a tradeoff.

They do have a LOT of freedom but also some discomforts.

 LIKE (5)  REPLY



Michael  Jul 28

I thought you might say that, and it is a fair point. One would likely have trouble finding space in any of our wilds these days, for one reason or another.

Even so, there are a lot of shades of gray between feral existence and slaving away at a hundred-hour work weeks. Living rough may be a desperate or illegal plan, but there are still many options. I have a very wide range of choices (in the West).

For example, I have a friend who has happily worked a low-wage job and lived in a perfectly safe and serviceable, \$200k townhome for decades. (He actually bought it for \$119k.) We're talking about a safe area, small, gated neighborhood, in a secure Florida city. He is no slave, using his abundant leisure time to pursue more hobbies than anyone else I know.

 LIKE (4)  REPLY



Christine Aug 22

All true. I have been awake since 2020 thank God. The problem is that we can't choose our options to escape some of the slavery. Until Jesus comes to get us at the Rapture we will have to give our labor through our paychecks, pay tax on everything we do, use useless paper money to survive in this prison planet. Being awake and aware of the real truth is still priceless though. There is freedom in using the brain God has given us to actually think and reason things out for ourselves. Being saved through grace in Christ is the greatest gift of all.

 LIKE  REPLY



Mike McGrath Aug 20

perfectly stated

Perfectly horrible

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



StealthVonDerFakeName  Aug 19

Brilliant - thank you Josh. I am keen to explore the many ways in which:

"The same technologies that enable unprecedented surveillance also enable unprecedented coordination among those who recognize the system's true nature."

The key to success for this I think is the mathematical calculation: the cost of maintaining far greater than the cost of revealing the truth. At least we have that on our side, and can everything they spend vast amounts of resources inventing to curate their false narrative: deploy it against their causes using the far more powerful truth. It will not be so easy as d just there, and they continue to accumulate vast and disproportionate resources at an ala Somehow, getting to a point where we can collectively and efficiently: 1. identify new and tools/weapons developed and deployed against us, and 2. re-tool to counter and reverse progress they might have made.

At the same time, we need to understand the tools/systems used to put so many seeming intelligent people under the spell that has been cast, and find equally effective and efficie methods to wake them up en mass. I agree that the first step is to become aware, but sor is not doing the trick we think it should be having (not with the numbers we need). Equall will be the issue of what to do next once awoken - an efficient route from despair/loss/gri joining the fight against tyranny, and to do all of this efficiently/effectively without contam yourself with the very evil you are up against...

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



Astragale Astragale's Newsletter Aug 18

I agree with everything here but would add something to the following:

"Become conscious and seek freedom. It requires questioning everything you've been taught about citizenship, money, technology, and authority."

In my case I didn't 'decide' to start questioning authority. It came after me. As it came after EVERYONE. "Get vaccinated". Where I live we were threatened with monthly fines AS WELL as being excluded from daily life. I heard talk of armed police finding us & forcibly injecting us.

I didn't decide to question technology either. It appeared on my phone & invited me to get vaccinated about everyone I met - friends, family, people on the street were all potential contagion points.

I didn't decide to start questioning money either. I heard cash would likely be withdrawn and replaced by a CBDC which could give you virus - & anyway, who needs it once we get the CBDC?

As for citizens - far too many complied meekly or with enthusiasm.

It was a very fast learning curve.

Yes I question everything now - the propaganda, the "experts" & "authorities", research, science, technology....EVERYTHING.

But THEY started it. They seriously overplayed their hand.

Which has given us an opportunity to avoid the permanent trap which has not quite closed on us.

It's a war against their propaganda in essence. They will either persuade/coerce humanity into the trap - or we'll persuade enough people to refuse to comply.

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



The Brothers Krynn  Bros Krynn's Newsletter Aug 8

What's needed is some way for us to break the backs of the corporates. Not sure how but if we can loosen their claw in even one field we'd all be better off.

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



Lise McLain Lise McLain Aug 7

Hi!

So what are the answers to this dilemma?

How to fix it? How to stop it?

What are the solutions to this?

What do you propose to stop this?

Thank you!

Lise from Maine (former licensed clinician).

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



Patti Johnson Aug 7

One of the most profound, well documented and red pill editorials I have read. Thank you

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



Nobody Seeds of the Void Aug 7

The Debt Leash is insipid huh. Its why they get you to leash yourself while you're young a about how the world works then spend the rest of your life paying those things off.

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



QQQ Aug 7

You forgot one thing. The manufactured hate of fictional enemies to instill fear in the slav korea, Cuba, China are peaceful countries not waging wats in over 50 years. They also ha prisoners than the "free" usa. Odd huh?

Logically speaking, a blank slate can never hate a peaceful non-warring country, unless h some early childhood indoctrination.

Why do u think u r free and unbiased? What objective measure?

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



septic_observer Aug 2

Seems more like self domestication than slavery.

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



Joe Djemal  Joe's Garden Aug 2

Well, that's the trajectory that the dark triad lot think we're on. I imagine that they also thi they'll dodge the ongoing civilisational collapse and the imminent cascading collapse of t technosphere, and will pop out of their bunkers to restart the whole thing.

They're mistaken. When cascading systems failure hits a system of systems, it doesn't st all goes down. Even their hidden bits of the technosphere will go down rapidly due to ent civilisation and technology, it turns out, are inherently unsustainable. We've used up all th accessible resources, it can't happen again for millions of years. I wonder how the psych do when anything but a tribal existence becomes impossible.

 LIKE  REPLY



Rex Soderlund The Liger Aug 2 *Edited*

This draws too strong a parallel without enough groundwork to clearly separate slavery fr modern society. For example, slavery typically involves total, unchecked authority over in who are treated as property. It's not clear that modern socioeconomic systems meet that standard.

 LIKE  REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman  Aug 2

Author

You're right that it requires more precision. I'm not arguing for total equivalence with slavery.

But consider what the state controls: your movement (passports), your labor (taxatic threat of imprisonment), your body (drug laws), your children (compulsory educatio property (eminent domain). While not total control, this covers most core life pillars.

The key difference is method, not degree. Historical slavery used obvious violence; r systems use bureaucratic exile and economic penalties. Both achieve compliance - c feels voluntary because the coercion is institutional rather than personal.

When exit is prohibitively expensive and alternatives are criminalized, the practical d between 'property' and 'managed citizen' becomes smaller than most want to admit

 LIKE (2)  REPLY



Li2b3th Li2b3th Aug 1

The concept of "the consumer" — a Marxist perspective: <https://youtu.be/4pG-8XLLaE0?feature=shared>

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



C.M. Cardinale The Unexpected World Aug 1

This was one of the best written, most accurate (my opinion), and important articles I've come across.

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



dawnfrench the beatings will continue unti... Aug 1 Edited

"earn money, pay income tax"

This is not correct.

Earn "income," and yes, you must pay taxes on it.

But let's be EXTREMELY CLEAR:

Income is not and cannot possibly be everything that comes in.

The US Constitution separates taxes into two mutually exclusive categories: direct and not-direct.

A tax on everything that comes in is exclusively in the direct category (see US Supreme Court ruling in *Pollock*, which confirms the definition of 'capitation' intended by the framers of the Constitution, the same as popularized by Adam Smith in *Wealth of Nations*; his definition of 'capitation' is "an indiscriminate tax on every different species of revenue," which is everything that comes in).

A tax on income is exclusively in the not-direct category (see US Supreme Court rulings in *Brushaber*, and others; and they confirmed this again in 2024 in *Moore*).

Therefore, income is not and cannot possibly be everything that comes in.

Income must therefore be some definitely determinable subset of everything that comes in, meaning it has a limited scope.

This also means you must consent to this tax by consenting to engage in specifically taxable activities.

Please do not continue to mislead your audience on this topic.

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



Corina Corina Aug 1

Beautifully written essay! I became aware of this mass manipulation about 16 years ago, k started with reading George Orwell's 1984 book as a child. It is very painful to see the dev of the slavery mechanisms and mass adoption with very little dissent from the general po am trying to rebel in my own way by limiting tech, consumerism of products etc. but in es (and will always be) part of this slave system, being aware doesn't change anything.

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



Pamela 🗨️ Aug 1

Another word to describe this condition is "domesticated." Much like farm animals, huma trained to live in enclosed spaces, eat food that is bad for them, and ultimately suffer cog because of a lack of mental challenges and natural stimuli.

We pay for this privilege, as the author points out quite nicely.

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



Neal Flesher Aug 1

This argument in book length with passion and fire.

<https://www.modernchains.com/>

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



Ai Absent Ai Absent Aug 1

Excellent!

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



J Jones  Aug 1

If we had only paid more heed to modern prophets like, Huxley and Orwell, rather than the preponderance of faith in ancient books compiled of tribal fables then maybe we might have been able to avoid these pitfalls. I came of age in the sixties, and was part of the Turn On, Tune Out folks that read their works. I don't know of many that successfully "dropped out", maybe Ram Dass, Castaneda, came close, but all died before 2020. Most of us let the message fall by the wayside and dropped in. We marched back into society to claim our place within the 'establishment' that we knew would enslave us. I will no longer consider those who run in the forests with only a backpack and survival skills to live off grid as paranoid crazies. They are doing something.

 LIKE  REPLY



rossgopicotrain  Jul 31

Excellent piece of writing here; thx for your work and insights vis-a-vis modern-day slave living lol! And although it can be quite disappointing if not depressing to observe so many especially intellectual ones (i.e., professors; political pundits; economists; politicians; etc. oblivious to said reality i have recently come across a writer (i.e., Han Byung-Chul) - an in one no less - who has produced a plethora of books about said dynamics; and here are a more interesting passages from his book entitled, 'Psychopolitics: Neoliberalism and the Technologies of Power':

'Neoliberalism represents a highly efficient, indeed an intelligent, system for exploiting freedom. Everything that belongs to practices and expressive forms of liberty - emotion, play and communication - comes to be exploited.' (page 3)

'The neoliberal regime transforms allo-exploitation into auto-exploitation; this process affirms 'classes'. Such classless self-exploitation - which was something utterly unknown to Marx - makes impossible any social revolution based on the difference between the exploiters, on the one hand, and the exploited, on the other. Indeed, given the auto-exploiting achievement-subject's lack of political We is even possible that could rise up and undertake collective action.' (page 11)

'Today, we are entering the age of digital psychopolitics. It means passing from passive suffering to active steering. As such, it is precipitating a further crisis of freedom: now, freedom will itself be at stake. Big Data is a highly efficient psychopolitical instrument that makes it possible to acquire comprehensive knowledge of the dynamics of social communication. This knowledge is kept for the sake of domination and control: it facilitates intervention in the psyche and enables it to take place on a pre-reflexive level.' (page 12)

'Neoliberal psychopolitics is always coming up w/ more refined forms of exploitation. Cou

[Expand full comment](#)

 LIKE  REPLY



Mark Hopkins  Hopkinesque Substack Jul 31

All slavers use fear to oppress the 'herd'. Corollary to the entrapment of modern convenience is the constant nag by the masters of how those things are threatened. The result is neurosis with a population riddled with anxiety. The markets are about to crash! The bird is coming! Cancer rates are rising! These neuroses send us running into the arms of the slaver! I have a perfect painting to illustrate the banality of fear called The Torpor of Anxiety. poem I wrote for it: Oh torpor, my torpor

I wake to find thee aside my bed

In the sheets, gliding in the grass of my lawn.

Oh Torpor - dreamer in the day

I see thee in the shadows of my mind

When work oppresses me to disrepair.

Oh Torpor, my savior

Smile at me from myriad screens

To placate my hungry mind without answers.

Oh Torpor, torchbearer

Waves crash and shores retreat

And sunrise will repeat again, for now.

Oh Torpor, my great keeper

Slumber soothes me in my death

Breath slows as cycles come around.

Oh Torpor, peace-giver

When all is desolate around me

You call and remind me of what I was.

Oh Torpor, my torpor

I might slip quietly, gently, knowingly...

Into that everlasting good night.

 LIKE  REPLY



The Causal Observer  The Causal Observer Jul 31

For freedom to exist in modern nations two types of taxes must be abolished:

- inheritance tax
- property tax

If you have to pay one or both of these taxes, then your state treats you like a slave. The only way to become free would be to leave for a nation where you pay neither of these.

 LIKE  REPLY



The Causal Observer  The Causal Observer Jul 31

On a first scan, the only issue I have is that paying off debt with debt instruments is mathematically possible. Only in practice it is not allowed to happen because it would hamstring economic development.

 LIKE  REPLY



skyra skyra Jul 31

<https://skyragythia.substack.com/p/silence-is-a-commodity>

 LIKE  REPLY



Andrew Dodds Jul 31

Unless we achieve Luxury Space Communism, working is going to be pretty much compulsory. For most of human history, if you didn't grow your food then you starved; if you didn't pay your taxes to the local Big Man then you'd have to run..

 LIKE  REPLY



Jay B  Jay B Jul 30

--"systems that make resistance economically and socially impossible"

This article is extremely convincing, well researched, and would be hard to argue with. He is surmising that "resistance is impossible" relies on an erasure of populations and cultures that have been practicing liberatory resistance in "the war on consciousness" for centuries. And that's the problem here. That's not to romanticize cultures who have resisted colonialism and slavery and get it wrong but to broaden and deepen our sense of "Control" and "Resistance."

 LIKE  REPLY



India like the country A Reality Apart Jul 30

Before there was a digital control structure for cognitive sovereignty, there was language. appreciate most is that Joshua puts into modern English language the things we need to be aware of. It is no mean task. I've been reading a book, "Die Wise" by Stephen Jenkins death-phobia of North Americans. He says of the constraints of language and consciousness you can't say it, you can't see it." So, thank you Joshua for saying it and helping those of FEEL it figure out better how to say it so that others can see it.

With regard to "freedom", as a middle-aged American that spent most of her life living in countries, I always knew that Americans' concept of freedom was off. I never felt remotely returning to the US. I think it would be a good exercise to put into language what real free actually is. In my own experience, my sense of freedom has always been derived from being relatively wealthy compared to the local population. The elites in the US experience a sense of freedom that those on Medicaid and receiving EBT benefits can only dream of. It would be a good exercise to explore what real freedom could really look and feel like. It would be good to be able to "see" it.

LIKE REPLY



poetinapaperbag Jul 30

My suggestion:

Keep your cash

Accumulate your cash

If cash is no longer kosher in the regulated economy...then it is PRECIOUS, in the irregular

Want a purchase and a transaction unrecorded? ...Then use that "useless" cash you have stockpiled.

The human is cunning and resourceful, start thinking and acting like your enemy... treat the scumbags in suits in kind.

Get smart, barter and find the old and new quids pro quo.

LIKE REPLY (2)



Joshua Stylman Jul 30

Author

Where to keep it?

LIKE REPLY (1)



poetinapaperbag  Jul 31

Where YOU know where it is.

 LIKE  REPLY



India like the country  A Reality Apart Jul 30

In the 1980's in Tanzania the government recalled all the cash (currency) and replaced new notes. Within a six month period the previous currency became worthless. All of who stuffed their mattresses with cash that they couldn't justify to the tax authorities: savings. Paying attention to the system that we exist within is important.

 LIKE (1)  REPLY (1)



poetinapaperbag  Jul 31

Tanzanians obviously were not au fait with how alternate economies work then t they?

 LIKE  REPLY (1)



India like the country  A Reality Apart Jul 31

80% of the country were subsistence farmers or pastoralists at that point. I people didnt deal in cash at all. So most were well versed in a barter economy most were one calamity away from serious malnutrition. It was primarily the class that had cash and the more wealthy of those had managed thru family to set up bank accounts in "forex" in Europe or Canada. There was definitely an economy there with a huge gap in between and living on the poor side did not seem idyllic. That isn't saying it can't work and can't somehow be employed. But I haven't seen any examples of it. I'd love to be pointed in that direction know of any.

 LIKE  REPLY (1)



poetinapaperbag  Jul 31

Primarily it would be for fraternity type trading, wouldn't it?

If the currency (old cash) is intra fraternity viable, then you have an economy outside the digital economy ...In which the fraternity also participates.

The cash economy would be as it is now, which is inside the regular economy but the precious old cash would be viable outside the new economy.

And soon enough, new currencies and tender will be developed just as bitcoins and shit coins were developed in this one.

Using the credulity of Tanzanians as the inevitable result of making new money and unvalue the old cash, is surrendering to the bluff.

Reminiscent of how the public fell for the covid bluff...

IT TAKES A THIEF TO CATCH A THIEF.

 LIKE  REPLY (1)



India like the country  A Reality Apart Jul 31

I am not sure what you mean by fraternity type trading. But I am curious about the topic. Tanzanians had 80 years of colonial rule followed by an experiment of socialist (communist) before I got there and the socio-economic system was pretty broken. Wonderful people and stunning country though.

I can't help feeling that for an economy to work outside of the mainstream system (digital or otherwise) that isn't based on subsistence survival, there have to be a black market of sorts linking the two. But it is not an idea I have thought of overly much.

 LIKE (1)  REPLY (1)



poetinapaperbag  Jul 31

There were a dozen or more viable bank note currencies in Al
Vespucci Land before the Contrived, US Civil War eliminated
the greenback.

In invention will be our quiddities, our quilletts, cases, tenures
,,,,Viva!

 LIKE  REPLY



nikki Jul 30 *Edited*

We are born into this world as debt slaves.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qJrsAlhoEo&t=51s> - "Five days on, two days off, five
two days off..... How long do we do this for? Till your fucking dead!"

 LIKE  REPLY



Mark Neyer  apxhard Jul 30

I wrote almost the exact same thing a week ago:

<https://apxhard.substack.com/p/how-to-make-slavery-work-for-you>

 LIKE  REPLY



Paul Paul Jul 30

This "war on awareness/ cognitive replacement" points to the need to center and ground
in meditative practices to better "know ourselves". At this point it's looking like a spiritual
total control of human consciousness and the planet; we would be wise to develop spiritu
capabilities and a higher mind not subject to the technological manipulation (in addition to
disconnecting and/or exiting as much as possible.)

 LIKE  REPLY



Tony  Jul 30

During the dreadful rule of Jacinda Ardern here in New Zealand when so many wacky ideas were cruelly dispensed, I took to writing satire in an attempt to maintain some semblance of sanity. One of Ardern's minions Carmel Sepuloni at one point proposed that NZ start a Register of Slavery, it was just more manure on ground already ripe for satire:

"Critics of the scheme have revealed that New Zealand itself is home to untold millions of people being driven deeper into penury by politicians just like the self-lauded Sepuloni!

According to social-scientist Trevor Whiteman, we should spare a thought first for the millions of New Zealanders who are actually net payers of tax. According to Professor Whiteman it's not until after most working Monday to Friday, it might not be until sometime Wednesday afternoon that they actually get to keep some of the money they earn. Do they get any say in the amount of tax rates, and various 'sin' taxes they are charged? Do such poor swine get any say as to how their money is actually spent by the government? Could they not, actually, find any better uses for their money themselves? Indeed such people are no better off than many so-called slaves, do they feel and robbed of self-determination to the extent they are.

But at least much of that money goes to beneficiaries of social welfare, you might say? Or Professor says that they in turn are also slaves, tied as they are to the nanny state's apron strings like so many helpless puppets, condemned to the scratching-out of a meagre existence by filling out government forms. (Such is their mental distress in fact, that many are led to think that voting for mad socialists will somehow improve their lot, even as they witness more and more people captured into such slavery!)

But surely, you might say, there's hope? What about the children – surely children here are not subject to abuse and slavery? Sadly, yes, through the tireless efforts of Marxists within the unions and the Ministry of Education over decades to reduce the quality of education, not to mention blatant indoctrination, generations of our children are destined to fall far short of their potential. Condemned thus themselves to lives even less-well-lived than the current crop of citizens.

Professor Whiteman does however offer a glimmer of hope and redemption for the two dozen individual taxpayer slaves whose every dollar of tax goes to pay Carmel Sepuloni's oversized salary. Apparently they can rest assured because, in the world of government solutions, perceptibly slow everything, action can wait for another day, and nothing says "progress" like bureaucracy and paperwork.

 LIKE  REPLY



Martin Butler Martin Butler Jul 30

Some good points but my question with stuff like this is what exactly does the author see alternative? Some kind of libertarian utopia? If so I probably stick with the slavery thanks.

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman ✳️ Jul 30

Author

Fair question, though I reject the false choice between this system and 'libertarian utopia' there are countless ways humans could organize that don't require surrendering 40% of labor to fund wars you oppose while carrying devices that monitor your every move. The first step is recognizing what we're actually living under. Once we do that, we can have honest conversations about alternatives.

♡ LIKE (2) 💬 REPLY



Eric ✳️ Eric Jul 30

Meh - it's hard for me to believe so many people can get so exercised about not living in fantasyland. You guys are worse than the "communists". Methinks they do protest too much.

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman ✳️ Jul 30

Author

Thanks for perfectly illustrating the kind of defeatist dismissal that keeps people from examining their situation. Well played.

♡ LIKE (1) 💬 REPLY



Bill Wilkie ✳️ Jul 30

You lost me at "spectrum."

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY (1)



Joshua Stylman ✳️ Jul 30

Author

Thank you for your thoughtful contribution to the discussion.

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY (1)



Bill Wilkie  Jul 30

You bet

 LIKE  REPLY



Carlen Altman  Earth to Carlen Jul 29

Excellent piece.

I have been thinking about this for years and am impressed at the subtlety of enslavement. Regarding your patent mentioning, I genuinely think the current screen technologies attempt to deter bright people from sharing online - via electromagnetic manipulation/subtle disconnection. Myself and a lot of well spoken friends freeze up when they get on the computer to share. I don't think it's shyness, self sabotage or a coincidence anymore. I genuinely surmise it could be intentional warfare but maybe I'm just Crazy 😏

All of this is why I'm learning about utilizing "dumb" technology like

Ham radios and starting a ministry and PMA about the celebration and preservation of organic genetics while learning natural law and detoxing synthetics and shielding myself.

Perhaps in the grand scheme of things, this is all a part of evolution where a swarm of souls is caught in the World Wide Web (inversion of eternal life) while the rest of us figure out plans for rehabilitating the real web of organic life by getting as dumb as possible. The Amish will be the last laugh 🤖 😏

 LIKE  REPLY



Neda Mise Neda Mise Jul 29

You live in the illusion that you know what freedom is unlike our children, but you don't, nor do we know, just as the slaves before us didn't know they were slaves, they believed that such was the nature of the order of things and that the pharaohs were demigods who could punish them at any moment, just as you train people to live in fear and to believe in the lie that the system that is coming is so overwhelming and powerful that we are all trapped in it and we can't do anything about it. These patents are precisely to scare people into obedience, that they are only able to do what was said, all these assurances would be redundant.

 LIKE  REPLY



S. Anderson S. Anderson Jul 28

I have been getting the creeping sense that my phone and laptop have been "reading my <https://pressfortruth.ca/our-phones-are-reading-our-minds/>?"

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY



Clyde Clyde Jul 28 Edited

"To be clear: I'm not minimizing the horrific brutality of historical slavery or the ongoing h contemporary trafficking. Chattel slavery involved unimaginable physical cruelty, family s and dehumanization that scarred generations. The whip, the auction block, the chain—the instruments of terror that reduced human beings to property through violence and degra Every since my natural biological family was co opted on January 29th, 2003, I have tried understand how conspiring bureaucracies can make "Back Room Deals" on other people: get away with it. Under the "Presumption of Law" anybody working either directly for any "government" is supposedly bound to obey and uphold the U.S. Constitution and respect own States Constitutions. But in reality the Hostile Corporate Takeover of my family wasn violation of all Constitutionally enumerated rights, but a remove and replace operation wh State actors/actresses can force natural biological parents into months of coercive deten them and torment them into acquiescing to their kidnapers (I still remember Patty Hears Stockholm Syndrome.

Enter the P.P.P. Public/Private/Partnerships and when you have an NGO like the Mormon c behind these overt acts of aggression and slavery by converting a simple act of parental c into an accusation of "Child Abuse" to unlawfully search and seize the whole family and e involved are gaslighting liars, but you are cut off from any other means of communication the controlling factions have effectively quarantined the biological mother, father and chil month's and used academics to blame the victims of their own pre meditated violence. D worker, A School Principal, and A Sheriff's Deputy have lawful authority to hold an ex part (excluding the Natural Biological Parents) at the public school to isolate, interrogate, strip and photograph an 8 1/2 year old boy and use that as their "Probable Cause" to inflict wa arrest of both parents just hours after their conspiracy was contrived? The School Princip from one of the county's "Untouchable Families" who are protected by their wealth, layer bureaucracies power, privileged and prestige. And the endless rhetorical exhaustive langu lawfare so that every member of the family has court appointed proxy "Representation". / "Untouchable Family's in every county in the United States"? Slavery is alive and well, jus rebranded by calling them "suspects, criminals, offenders" and a plethora of imaginary cl bore no relevance to the reality of the moment of invasion. Weaponizing children against parents, and forcing parents to "waive their rights" because an activist judge declares it s that make it so? Can an accusation of "Child Abuse" be connected with a violation of 18 U genocide/democide?

 LIKE  REPLY (1)



Quay1 Quay1 Jul 28 Edited

Get a law dictionary. Hard copy. Old ones. They change definitions in newer ones. Look at Family, Child, Infant, etc. child is defined as a "Ward of the state". Your marriage license is applied to the State of Florida? There are three of you in that marriage. You are their RESIDENT, not a citizen of your state. They can tax, regulate and control you. They OWN YOU. THEY OWN YOUR CHILDREN, you do NOT have custody of them in reality. You have no idea the trap you have entered into. You made yourselves statutory slaves.

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY (1)



Clyde Clyde Jul 28 Edited

I have studied the so called "law" for years now, and even taken a law claims course. A contract that does not fully disclose the terms of the contract is fraudulent. And I understood that fraud vitiates any contracts? Even in the Army when they would call you "Property" of the U.S. Army, I always replied, I am only the property of God and His son Jesus Christ. Their claims of ownership based on force and fraud are not valid under the U.S. Constitution's 13th (revised) amendment. Since you seem to advocate and support involuntary servitude to the anti-human, anti-family and anti-Christian world, you are any more reasonable than the beast I declined to kill? Can you define who "owns" me? I can, and it's nobody I ever contracted to be a slave to.

♡ LIKE 💬 REPLY (2)



Quay1 Quay1 Jul 28

If you have a SSN, ANY kind of license, are a resident of your State of, and use zip codes? You are their statutory slave. Voluntarily.

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Quay1 Quay1 Jul 28 Edited

Do you understand the difference between legal and lawful, statute and LA' are not the same things. Unless you understand this you are wandering in a Do you understand Jurisdiction and those listed in the 101 constitutions? If will never win. Have you READ your constitutions? Declaration of Independence not, never complain until you do. When you understand these differences a importantly those documents, you cannot lose. You are nearly bulletproof l And legally, because they cannot touch you unless you commit a common l Capital offenses. Understand JURISDICTION. Are you a fourteenth amendm Citizen, a citizen of the federal government or are you a constitutional citize state as the Founding Fathers were? UNDERSTAND JURISDICTION. Import: questions to understand and know the answers to. UNDERSTAND JURISDIK Sixth Amendment guarantees you the INALIENABLE RIGHT to understand t NATURE (Nature IS JURISDICTION, BABY!) and CAUSE of the charge again THEY HATE ANSWERING THIS. This is why you present YOURSELF to any c special appearance In Propria Persona. No lawyer to bargain away at least \$ at arraignment. Nature and cause baby!! A biggie. You can end it at arraigni demanding PROOF ENTERED INTO THE RECORD OF JURISDICTION. They They don't have it. UNLESS you committed a common law felony, murder, r kidnapping, fraud, battery, arson, CRIMES. Against the LAW. Not statute. St are statutes. Not LAW. Statutes are wholly commercial. They don't apply to But by and large the living don't read. Anything. They are easily enslaved. A establishment lawyer is there to make sure you have no appealable issues a convict you. Thats his only job. He works for them. Not you. But, sadly, no c Nor do they believe those of us who do.

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