

To: Fairfax press, Hoc Mai Australia Vietnam Medical Foundation, universities et al.

## **PROGRAM RATIONALE FOR OPENLY DEVELOPED GREEN PROJECTS**

### ***Overview and Recommendations:***

In his book ‘Screw Business as Usual’, which was advertised in the Australian Financial Review Boss (April 2012), Sir Richard Branson discusses how Victoria Hale realized on her way to a New York pharmaceutical conference that there is no vehicle to accept donated intellectual property to maximise its utility for assisting everybody (2011 p. 175). New research, education and development are usually aimed at the comparatively rich who hope for ‘trickle down effects’ from this secret development, including by wiping out older practices. Many development problems for the poorest people in the world arise from the closed development trajectory. For reasons also addressed later, it is generally self-defeating as it presents restricted development opportunities, unstable and dysfunctional investment opportunities, increasing inequality, growing global desertification, global warming and so inability to meet the needs of future generations.

US housing and financial directions which brought the global financial crisis also drive Australians through their professional associations. A Republican on PBS News Hour recently pointed out that the amount of US higher education debt is higher than credit card and car debt combined. Many communities instead need useful, interesting, paid or unpaid work close to home. They often need simple, reliable, cheap tools and related services or products, especially if there is little maintenance capacity for complex technologies. Yet in higher education institutions, huge debts are increasingly forced on students by many theoretically driving enclaves, which cannot deliver jobs or investment outcomes anywhere near the expectations they have fuelled, except for a few who are comparatively well connected and lucky. Try to open institutional content up to package and deliver it to help wider communities get green jobs, services or products cheaply.

Australians have as much responsibility as anybody else to turn this global development situation around as the dominant market and institutional operations appear unable or unwilling to do it. The comparatively poor often need development related services and products which are ***cheap, simple to use and maintain, openly available and green.***

Development recommendations are made and justified later with the above in mind:

***1. Take a leadership role in devising vehicles which openly accept donated intellectual property to maximise its utility for helping everybody, starting with the poorest, in cooperation with higher education authorities and others.***

***2. Manage openly to gain social and environmental goals in regional programs and projects instead of doing secret business as usual. Rural universities or others may be more cooperative than big ones. I only know Sydney University (as much as anyone can be said to know multiple closed collegiate theoretical swamps) so address it here.***

*3. Establish a Screw Business as Usual: Do it in the Open style of program and some green, filmed, projects (like the green toilet block addressed later). Put an open, green, development direction to the Sydney University Senior Executive Group fortnightly meeting of the Vice-Chancellor (VC), Deputy VCs, Deans and other university officers. (If nothing else, it will be interesting to see what they do with it.)*

*This is ideally a Local and Rural Community Engagement committee matter. It would probably be killed in the Education and Research Training committee, which is probably driven by a lot of closed, compulsory curriculum content and highly dubious questionnaires which usually get put through a computer and then called scientific.*

*4. According to the University of Sydney White Paper (p.30) the Sydney University Senior Executive Group:*

*....will agree with the divisions what, if any, learning and teaching resources should be developed on a university-wide basis for example to meet the needs of particular groups such as international students.*

*There are some wonderful British and other TV programs already out there on anatomy, civilization, English language, etc. etc. etc. Identify them and use them rationally in teaching as cheaply as possible. (There appears no attention to such resources at Sydney Uni. They could be anywhere compared with journals or books.)*

*5. The Hoc Mai, Australia Vietnam Medical Foundation Annual Report 2011-12 suggests more committed support may be found in both countries for improving health and communication in comparatively poor populations, not just comparatively rich ones. One wonders what intellectual property related to Hoc Mai Foundation teaching, research and development activities exists and how relevant it may be for other countries. More broadly one wonders what intellectual property Sydney University or others have that may be useful for development in poor environments.*

*6. If Sydney University wants to control obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease as claimed, let alone musculoskeletal problems, falls, and other health problems in comparatively wealthy countries, the easiest way is assisting better personal habits by designing related work, sport and other active entertainment. There is nothing like these three as a means of avoiding the couch, the car, too much sugary, fatty food and illegal and legal drugs, which all have disabling effects, especially when combined. The Sydney University Senior Executives, however, may naturally prefer genetic, rather than environmental explanations for everything that happens to anybody in the world, so may not wish for such simple answers, only more money for research and business as usual. Try the University of Sydney Union Sport and Fitness or the pub?*

*7. The Sydney Uni. VC states local business leaders identified communication, health and the environment as having huge potential for research and productivity growth and it is exactly these areas where some of the University's most innovative researchers*

*are making significant contributions (Sydney Alumni Magazine, March 2012). I wonder who and what at the institution operate in ways which are open, green, cheap, simple and/or available for development. If they exist I can't find them. This is no way to run a global learning and teaching institution but I bet they are mostly the same. Is University of Sydney Union Sport and Fitness capable of offering anything better?*

*A related problem at Sydney Uni. and the University of Sydney Union run by students from a different website, is a lack of any reliable list of student clubs and societies with contact email addresses and an effectively coordinated management so that anyone can offer students paid or voluntary work which may or may not be relevant to their own, educational, career or personal development. Everything is operated in small collegiate circles which are highly dysfunctional and inefficient for everybody involved.*

*8. The Financial Review (Autumn 2012) publication Master your MBA advertises a Global Executive MBA at the University of Sydney Business School which promises participants will: Learn across four continents; Discover fresh perspectives; Complete real projects; Emerge more connected. Students apparently also Engage in 5 x 2 week face to face modules over 18 months. Consider using the open website content [www.Carolodonnell.com.au](http://www.Carolodonnell.com.au). It is designed to meet all these requirements and could easily be offered more flexibly than in 5 x 2 week face to face modules. The proof of the student pudding is in what is turned out, not what those behind some curtain tick. I taught this civilization and management content at Sydney Uni. for eleven years after helping develop Australian risk management directions for ten years in the NSW Department of Industrial Relations and in the NSW WorkCover Authority.*

*(I have now retired on my little pile of money, which I have again invested in local housing, having pulled it joyfully free at last of all the lying bastards in the Australian Financial Review and on TV, like the Macquarie Bank, who recommended more superannuation and their repulsive investment services nightly before the 2008 crash. Naturally such people are often big supporters of more charity. It shuts everybody up.)*

### **Australian development rationale related to the above recommendations**

This is to ask for your help by first proposing an open, jointly organized development direction aimed at improving habitat. I was originally writing to Richard Branson of Virgin Unite and to Ecotact, an organization building toilets in slums in Kenya. These were discussed in Branson's book, 'Screw Business as Usual' (2011). I found one can only tweet to Virgin Unite although the website claims to allow attachments and Ecotact in Nairobi doesn't have an email address - apparently business as usual. See related discussion attached of an Intrepid trip I recently made to Africa and Dubai.

As Dateline on SBS TV (1.5.2012) pointed out, African elephants are being poached at an increasingly rapid rate for ivory which is sold primarily in China and elsewhere in Asia. These wild animals appear likely soon to be wiped out and they are far from the only ones. Many people in the poorest parts of the world still live in villages where overpopulation has turned the lands around into desert as well as encouraging the

destruction of wild animals. In many parts of Africa, animal tourism is the only substantial earner of hard currency. Toilets get noticed and green toilets, of a kind which prevent rather than encourage desertification, could educate everybody who visits national parks and initiate training and work for people who live in many comparatively poor rural areas and related urban regions everywhere. This is discussed again later.

Branson's book provided lots of good ideas for green development, rather than pages of the usual white noise which many professional management writers present, in case one learns or steals some real secrets of success or action, the details of which they may or may not know themselves. However, professional circles normally try to pull themselves up together through related collegiate secrets. In Boss (April 2012), even the Professor of Medicine and Infectious Diseases at the University of Malaya could not say what she does beyond getting her own cup of coffee in the morning. Tan Le, based in Sanfrancisco after a commerce law degree hopes to find 'biomarkers' that could catch early signs of epilepsy, autism, Alzheimer's disease and depression'. Finding more work, exercise, active entertainment and education are likely to be of far greater benefit than drugs, legal or not. PBS Newshour reported recently that US expenditure on 'opiate addicted' newborns has gone from \$190 million to \$729 million in the last ten years. The US and related development direction is not good but Australian professionals pick it up.

Branson discusses the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa which operates 'to provide food security and prosperity across Africa through the support of smallholding farmers'. People can 'freely and easily avail themselves of these smart business practices, information for farmers, access to good seeds and healthy soils, access to markets, finance and storage and transport (p. 204)'. One wonders exactly how the Alliance is designed to help 'the bottom billion' of the world's population who see 14% of their children die each year but who also pump out far more to replace them and who are rapidly creating deserts or slum dwellers with little or no choice. Even in the 'golden decade' from the end of the Cold War to 9/11 these countries where 'the bottom billion' dwell, lost money (Collier, 2008, p. 1). How does the Carbon War Room give support – secretly? Many Muppets ruined in the US housing driven financial collapse may suspect they have seen it all before. (Newly retired, I was comparatively lightly grazed in 2008.)

The problems of comparative overproduction and under consumption appear best addressed by openly planned, greener development directions, designed openly in regional community interests, rather than in professional interests. This depends partly on more open and cooperative communication, with the related capacity for developing more relevant green skills on the job. Where students are currently placed or end up often depends on narrower links between professional associations which are designed to feather more established nests by the provision of more secret services and products. They do not cater well for poorer communities needing cheaper, simple, green services.

I taught for two years in Northern Nigeria after the Biafran War and recently visited global and national parks in Kenya and Tanzania as an Intrepid tourist. I wrote the attached report to send to the Intrepid Foundation, among others. It argues protection of many species and their denuded habitats are ideally treated openly as early enterprise to raise quality of life for all children of the world, not only sick or poor ones. Tourism is

Kenya's number one industry but the usual feudally driven struggles over land and its produce are killing off whatever poor families must rely on yet again. Tourists are too polite to mention this and hope for the best. Prince William, on the other hand, perhaps remembering his dead mother, recently said:

Tomorrow will be too late. Elephant and rhino are being mercilessly and illegally poached at a rate not seen for decades.....these two majestic animals will be, in a few short years, but a memory in the wilds of Africa (Sydney Morning Herald, 27.4.2012).

Elephants and rhino are far from alone in their trouble. In the historical competition for African land and resources, international or local feudal forces are winning increasingly rapidly. Growing availability of guns, vehicles and planes combine with unchecked overpopulation and desertification. There is intense competition for grazing stock, land and meagre supplies of wood and water. Nobody points out poor females have no choice about whether they have kids or how many. Westerners choose fewer kids but we are not allowed to be killed when we are old if we want to end our lives and also make our bodies useful instead of painful drains on family, communities and natural resources. Outdated feudal drivers at every turn prevent freedom of choice and hinder poverty alleviation. In this global context one often wonders exactly what the point is of supporting Medecins sans Frontieres and the multitude of other organizations like it.

Most academics who write about innovation, unfortunately, think about patents. The number of patents registered plays a role in determining the supposed quality and prestige of universities, so they are locked into promoting this process. As a former academic I often watched with wonder at the promotional activities of the Sydney University Business Liaison Office, dedicated to assisting academics develop patents. Doing so looks to me like a very poor way of encouraging innovation because it is extremely secretive, bureaucratic, expensive, slow, highly uncertain and driven by the interests of the investors in making financial returns, rather than applying the original research which was funded. I would hate to have to be a researcher involved in such risky business. I would avoid it like the plague and I guess that many would like to. Help them do it to assist poor or other people who often need cheap, simple, easily maintained technology.

Patents are part of the same collegiate professional rackets described in the article entitled 'Harvard backs open access to cut journal bill' (AFR, 30.4.12, p. 30). The Harvard Library Director pointed out:

We all face the same paradox. We faculty do the research, write the papers, referee papers by other researchers, serve on editorial boards, all for free.....and then we buy back the results of our labour at outrageous prices.

This collegiate system is bottling knowledge up to support a growing number of closed professional enclaves which may or may not have useful, as distinct from dysfunctional, relevance for anybody but themselves. Students and governments are usually paying for these systems on the dubious expectation that they are worth it. Like being sold property

by some Gold Coast developers, once you're hooked into this system you've got a vested interest in believing optimistic rubbish about your expected results and helping pass it on.

My intellectual property is at [www.Carolodonnell.com.au](http://www.Carolodonnell.com.au). Many others may like the opportunity to make any expertise they have and value available to others, for free or not, during work or in retirement. For example, when working for government I tried to get films on tunnelling and crane safety made, to preserve the skills of our most highly respected inspectors and to teach the new ones, but to no avail. This waste of expertise is typical of institutional behaviour seeking to preserve its professional secrets, so as to remain above criticism, direct the market and reduce competition. To the extent that we may all want different things the quality of any service or product depends on the capacity for judging it fully in the open, perhaps to tailor it differently for local use.

The report 'Is Less More? Towards Better Commonwealth Performance' (2012) by the Australian Government Department of Finance and Deregulation claims to want to structure the financial framework to allow for pooled funding arrangements and for appropriate amounts to be more readily distributed among entities pursuing shared objectives (p.4). Strategy 14 in the University of Sydney 2011-2015 Strategic Plan apparently seeks to develop and implement a coordinated university-wide framework for local and rural community engagement. It seeks 'to identify a sustainable number of projects that include opportunities for education and research activities, in consultation with external groups that will directly engage local residents, students, staff and alumni'. This appears to be an opportunity for partnerships to achieve social and environmental aims through programs and related projects which are managed openly. (Being an optimist I've said that countless times in the past twenty years and always been wrong.)

As Branson's Screw Business as Usual also points out:

*'Most of the existing leadership models have been built in silos, that is, we've created isolated areas of responsibility for different areas. There is little or no encouragement for them to work together, and they are limited in their geographical scope.....Sadly, because of the way we've built our political systems, driven as they are by the power of the vote, politicians hands are tied as they attempt to do what's right in the short term, for their constituencies rather than for the planet'. (p. 258)*

The book goes on to state we eat the wrong foods and that with diabetes and obesity on the rise, if nothing changes, by 2040 health spending in the UK and the US could rise to 20% of GDP. The Australian Financial Review Magazine article 'What Price a Life' (April 2012) points out doctors and their supporters hate to admit anybody will die. They increasingly see themselves as preventing illness through routine testing and new cutting edge drugs and technologies. This will become increasingly disabling and expensive as baby boomers grow old. The comparatively rich and aging global populations will now hog resources against the interests of poorer or younger people, as well as driving greater social inequality, desertification, species loss, global warming and other problems. Old people like me should at least be allowed to be killed if they want to donate their bodies.

That would collect a lot of resources. I feel Australian Catholics, politicians and their ilk have stupidly been pushing me around against our interests in one way or another from cradle to grave. It would make more sense to work together. Knowing what I know about professional research enthusiasms and treatments there is absolutely no way I wish to embark on all the schemes they have dreamed up to keep me alive as long as possible.

As a representative of the Australian Medical Association and South African doctors pointed out on ABC TV recently, one of the many reasons so many Africans die is that African doctors prefer to live somewhere else. I can understand it. In Australian universities, on the other hand, competition for undergraduate or postgraduate students from overseas may easily be presented as charity, which is part of helping their 'cutting edge' research and education. The Hoc Mai Foundation sensibly sponsors 3 month training so that many more people may mutually benefit from more integrated learning experiences which are also cheaper and better designed to avoid cost and family stress.

Many more students might benefit from much shorter stays which relate to the carriage of projects in their home countries. Sydney is awash with artistic projects and people with questionnaires. They often appear to come from communities where much more practical work relevant to people in their communities of origin is needed. Instead they encounter a lot of theoretically driven curriculum, hopefully on their way to a better life than they left. At Sydney Uni., through study, one may hope to find better connections. However a cup of coffee at Sydney Uni. costs \$3. From global perspectives, who but the comparatively rich or horribly indebted could afford it? They need shorter, relevant stays.

One naturally agrees with Elder Ela Bhatt, of the Self-Employed Women's Association of India when she said:

If our goal is to build a society where everyone's basic needs for food, clothing and housing are fully met, and where the full potential of every human being is realized, we will need a radically different approach (Branson, 2011, p. 311).

It is broadly, openly oral and in writing or film, etc. so we can all assess quality service, product and management outcomes from individual or apparently expert perspectives, depending on the need. What does Wild Aid do to save the last remaining tigers? I guess tigers and many people compete for land and those with the money, numbers and guns are fast killing off tigers as they are slowly studied in sophisticated technological ways.

Last year, the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources at Sydney Uni. held a very informative research symposium called Resilience: Can our Environment keep bouncing back? Harris referred to a simple investment framework for environmental resources and a related tool for planning and prioritizing public investments in natural resources and the environment called INFFER. This requires decision makers to be explicit in their assumptions and start planning with regional maps in which significant public assets are ideally identified and simply graded in terms of their high or low significance and related threat, prior to making recommendations for action to improve

their nature and resilience. Harris used the regional framework to address benefits and threats to private activity, as well as public benefits and threats to natural environments.

The above approach appears consistent with the World Health Organization (WHO) Declaration of Alma-Ata, which declared that primary health care ‘involves, in addition to the health sector, all related sectors and aspects of community development, in particular agriculture, animal husbandry, food, industry, education, housing, public works, communications and other sectors; and demands the coordinated efforts of all those sectors’. The WHO approach to healthy action sees all work, play and related living as located in regional communities and environments from which risks and related challenges arise and which should be acted on cost-effectively. Health professionals screw it by turning life into many high tech. medical projects supported by handmaidens. The following project is suggested to develop a balance against these driving forces.

### **THE TOILET AND THE TOOL BOX (THE REST ROOM, HONEY) (DEVELOPMENT PROJECT NO. 1)**

International parks, tourism, communication and related regional heritage protection are ideally leading edges for open, non-profit program plans and projects competitively delivered to achieve key social and environmental goals. Reforestation is faster than other ways of reducing carbon, according to Parry on the SBS TV program ‘Amazon’. Call for and support open tree planting partnerships and strategies to improve land management and water quality. Explore solar energy, water tanks and other energy and waste management possibilities. A greener toilet block is suggested as project No. 1, to assist home building later in many related regional areas. We all have to use the toilet.

I returned from Nairobi before I read in Screw Business as Usual about Ecotact, which is apparently taking a private sector approach to fill the glaringly obvious need for public toilets in slums. Let us all go green openly together. One wonders if Barefoot Power in Sydney or anybody else would be interested in leading development of such a project in Sydney and/or beyond. Program and related project management generally requires:

1. Consultative development of clear program and related project aims and objectives
2. Clear strategies to achieve the program aims and the related project objectives
3. The provision of the budgets necessary to undertake the program and its project/s
4. Monitoring of project performance and evaluation of the outcomes
5. Clear accountabilities for program and project management and expenditure

#### **The Toilet and the Toolbox Project Aims:**

To provide cheap services and products which use natural resources in more sustainable ways –(i.e. from social, environmental and economic perspectives):

1. Build a greener toilet block suitable for use in arid or semi-arid areas comprised of two toilets and a hot shower.



2. Justify the design, acquisition and use of materials and labour in the toilet block construction from social, environmental and related cost perspectives.
3. Film and explain construction of the greener toilet block and deliver the information so as to make the process available to others to use in related regional environments.

The NSW Fair Trading Home Building Contract seems a clear, informative and helpful product to serve the above aims. It must be filled in properly for quality management. Ideally, the people who originally called for the contract must see that it clearly reflects their aims. Clause 11 of the contract is the **prime cost items schedule**. When filled in it should clearly display the required inputs and amounts related to the step by step achievement of the key conditions which originally led to the contract agreement and its expected production outcomes. Clause 12 provides the **progress payments schedule** which is also related to the staged and approved completion of the work. This may also relate to the later **schedule for inspections**. This ideally ensures work quality, the resulting periodic payments and any related accreditation of skills developed on the job. Any necessary variations to the contract may be justified and documented on the way. This is part of a research process related ideally to increasing quality of services and reducing their cost by provision of more plain English information about variations.

The above program and project aims are ideally designed to approach life and death internationally, from the basic community development perception of the primary need to provide good sanitation and housing for flourishing communities, rather than by applying a medical treatment and research model, in which death appears most naturally seen as medical failure and the point at which God decides. An Open University (OU) meeting I attended in England (29.5.08) stressed the importance of quality, access and scale in OU curriculum production, dissemination and monitoring. The reason for the establishment of the OU was to make higher education available to many more people through TV, radio, books, videos and the internet. All registered OU students have access to an approved tutor – local or online. I assume education should also be aimed at achieving more affordable, accessible, higher quality and greener services and products. This requires openness. Secrecy ensures ignorance under another name. Open it up.

Clear identification of **key** stakeholders, as well as all stakeholders in a program or project is crucial for good management. **Key** stakeholders are those for whom the proposed social and environmental benefits are ideally designed on one hand and those who fund the project on the other. The stakeholders are all those who have an interest in the project. A stakeholder management model contrasts with a stockholder management model. The latter traditional market model addresses only financial interests of investors in a project. The stockholder management model assumes that driving financial interests naturally deliver social and environmental goals as well. Increasing inequality, environment devastation and related instability facing future generations in Africa and elsewhere shows this is not the case. Do business in the open so we all learn and teach.

**HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD?**

The destruction by lightning and fire of the Branson home on Necker Island on a night of sharing with family and friends after having finished Screw Business as Usual were surely signs that the word and flesh have been left but God is fed up to the back teeth with stupid, feudally designed plans, structures, services and products on His land. Open programs and projects up for His delight in services and products for all creatures great and small, etc. Having seen some of his movies, any friend of Jeff Skoll is a friend of mine. Nobody beats New York and Hollywood Jews. They have fabulous historical connexions and huge global entertainment and education back stories going for a song. Take what you like. Ask PBS News Hour, BBC, ABC, SBS, etc. etc. etc. for more.

This is the opposite global direction to Freud, who thought that the Nazis would never get him in Vienna and was not wrong. However, one can only agree with the English woman who said that if Earnest Jones and some others were examples of what psychoanalysis offers, she'd rather go through life with gin and tonic. I'd put money on new partners, surroundings and attitudes for curing or reducing health problems every time, especially in bed, but only if they are much cheaper. Who caters these days for the Eastern suburbs affaire? Baby, make me a bush toilet. A related discussion of gambling is attached.

As serious movies often demonstrate, how to deal with apparent discrimination (apparently unfair treatment) may be most effectively grasped in related regional, historical, cultural, political and economic contexts, also based on study of the unique surroundings of the particular situation. To do this requires more open, broader, clearer, more scientific, empathetic and democratic (*as distinct from more opaque, narrower, dictatorial, adversarial, rule-bound and expensive*), treatment of concerns or disputes.

Corrupt conduct may also be support for family and community by another name. For example, the expatriate worker in Northern Nigeria was once advised to employ a male steward for the house and a Tuareg guard for the compound. The latter was known as a wise move to avoid robbery. One's 'myguardie' was invariably from a desert dwelling tribe who organized changes of the guard with tribal brethren from time to time. Depending on the situation and where one stands, many common work structures based on ethnicity in feudal and 'modern' societies, may be seen either as corrupt and/or discriminatory, or as sensible forms of taxation or commerce to set up better orders and feed poorer families. Broadly open and common sense approaches to a range of relevant evidence appear to be better than feuding lawyers to resolve debates. We must be better informed, particularly by those who claim to represent the poorest and who ideally should try to do so comparatively honestly and openly in company with everybody else.

For example, the Development Guide 2011 catalogue of publications I picked up in Washington is symptomatic of huge central problems. The twelve publishers represented in this catalogue produced by Stylus publishing include those from the Commonwealth Secretariat, an intergovernmental organization representing 54 member countries, the World Health Organization, Oxfam Publishing, the Australian CSIRO and Earthscan. You would think that they would know what they were supposed to be doing to help. However, the description of every research publication the catalogue briefly covers, never gives a take home message, so appears designed to tease and deny key information, not

deliver it. These publications are costly and should be on the internet free to all. It is criminal for a global or national authority, which claims to represent and seek the good of all people, to spend huge amounts of money on research and then bottle it up.

It seems they prefer the African health worker to buy the publication and attend the conference rather than spend their tiny budget on patients. This direction is not the open and free market well within their power to provide at least in regard to their own product. I hate these types of people and all others like them. They may claim to work at the UN or somewhere like it but cannot even act on this bit of the bleeding obvious, which is that it is expensive to play the games they take for granted and that many behind those who do so carry their cans. I see the banality of evil and smell sulphur not merit or inclusion.

On ABC TV, Fairfax media business was recently described as levying advertisers by creating audiences for Fairfax products and its advertisers' products. Fairfax cannot compete in US or other English speaking markets which are increasingly crowded with diverse product and which have historically been able to deliver many larger audiences than Fairfax much more cheaply. Plan openly to pursue the truth in the public interest. In Africa newspapers appear as one of few bright spots for potentially bringing order and accountability more cheaply to English speakers through providing information. They deserve to be supported not destroyed by US TV and other media where the drivers often jettison good independent news coverage for commercially driven schlock called news.

Regional aims should be to identify greener service industry development, related products and bargaining approaches to match mining, manufacturing and other primary industry and community directions, which may also be led or matched in communication, construction, transport and other services. Ideal links between national parks, zoos, commercial developments and related non-profit ventures, are ideally also analyzed with a view to gaining agreement on how to improve the value of the land, water and air for native flora and fauna, including people. This is where many new small business and government jobs and career paths ideally should also begin, ideally with multi-skilling. Fit the teachers around the work and give up trying to force students to visit them in distant, new buildings being put up very slowly, so those who do so now, continue to drone inconveniently. They do not work well and are far from cheap (to put it politely).

From this global perspective, religion is ideally a personal moral statement, an attempt to express love or worship through work and/or caring, creativity, and all that goes with it. If God exists, He appears committed to evolution, which includes the evolution of people. If God wants people to evolve, how can they do this well if they also feel they must make an unconditional lifelong choice, either as a proposing marriage partner or a priest? This seems to set oneself and others up for failure, by denying past personal attachments and related learning and also by denying the potential of future unexpected environmental or personal change, in oneself or in others. If priests did not have to make a commitment to priesthood and celibacy for life there could be more comings and goings for many more circumspect and potentially useful folk, as in the case of Buddhist monks offering youth more limited periods of service. This also occurs, as I understand it, in the German army. Join the army with Katy Perry and perhaps teach singing and dancing along with the rest.

The International Symposium at Sydney University entitled **The Asia-Pacific War: Return, Representation Reconciliation** (30.9.2011), reminded me of the great novel 'The Revolt of Mamie Stover', which I remember as a US movie of my childhood, but picked up recently in a second hand Glebe bookstore. In the novel, Mamie was forced into leaving her work in Hollywood when a jealous boy-friend cut her face. She travelled to work in a brothel in Hawaii, a land rigidly stratified socially and also along ethnic lines before World War II. What happened when US forces were stationed there in very large numbers could be characterised as major social breakdown or major entrepreneurial democratization, depending on one's view. Mamie saved and struggled to buy land by clever and disciplined management of her own affairs and then as a manager of others. I guess there may now be many more women like that who are travelling more today.

I also guess sex workers might like more opportunity to pursue education designed to lift them up professionally by first recognizing the potentially greater social value of their work, if better recognised and conducted with more appreciation of its therapeutic potential. The potential value of the military in helping this direction is great. There are ways of seeing 'higher class' sexual services that appear better than those we have, for example, in providing leading services to assist support of people in poorer communities. Australia has a very good sexual health record with related services and management guidelines, although there seems perhaps an irrational over-emphasis on condoms in poor countries. Wherever the forces, miners, builders, truck drivers and others are working, those seeking to provide sexual services often work nearby and in a global economy the pace of all such movements is likely to increase greatly. One wonders how Catholics and other Christians, among others, address this reality and how they could address it better.

At the Asia-Pacific War Symposium, Neville Meaney said Japan seeks to be a 'normal' nation. In the aftermath of the global financial crisis, and with the current lack of any clear direction forward from US or European leadership so as to avoid stagnation or else repeated or worse financial catastrophe again quite soon, it seems clear the current state of the normal nation is confused. I don't think we should be so confused but should instead engage in open debate and action aimed at producing peace and the sustainable use of power and natural environments, commencing with those that are poorest.

After what we learned following the global financial crash of 2008 about the way they operate, we Muppets know we cannot have a clue what the smartest guys in the room are doing before they destroy us and get out. They also give plenty of money to charities to stop us asking about the rest of what they do. I think I see the logic of mass murderer, Brevik, yet I've never had huge education fees, small business collapse, returned to live alone with mother, or gone bald when young. Even for me, however, it is hard not to hate the lying feudal male controls and their mates we all inherit in one form or another. As shit on posters at Sydney University says, 'Don't tread on me'. We exist. Kill Brevik. Keeping him alive should normally be seen as a waste of taxpayer funds which should provide welfare for more deserving people who have to grasp at every turn for survival.

(Looks up and sings☺) Isn't it rich? Isn't it queer? Finding my time this late, in my career – but where are the clowns? There used to be clowns. (You'd better find me some clowns quick smart or I'll be even more pissed off with you mob than usual. Just do it.)

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(a.k.a) Lilith the Magic Pudding, Chief Alternative to Faith, Ruler of the Knight and Queen of the Monkeys. [www.Carolodonnell.com.au](http://www.Carolodonnell.com.au)

## **THE PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICE, THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY REVIEW AND PROGRAM BUDGETING**

On Inside Business on ABC TV (6.5.12), Mike Smith stated banks and good business generally want most to see consistent, reliable direction where government normally works clearly towards doing what it said it was going to do and does it. He thinks Australian banks should get back to raising deposits rather than just lending money and that people who are affected often shout. One could only agree. However, I hope banks don't start behaving like Telstra, as somebody else suggested, as mine has so far appeared to have comparatively clear and consistent financial practice, unlike Telstra.

Will a Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) assist introduction of program and related project management, established openly in the public interest? What exactly is the PBO going to do and why? It seems potentially to be another expensive bureaucratic game placed in the way of spending money with clearer aims, more direct action to meet them and clearer accountability than in the past.

If you want to be afraid already, read 'Is Less More? Towards Better Commonwealth Performance' (2012) by the Australian Government Department of Finance and Deregulation and ponder if they have a clue what they are dealing with from the broader conceptual perspective of the modern public interest in social, environmental and economic improvement, rather than constant legal dogs' swill. If this report 'Is Less More' is the outcome of a Commonwealth Financial Accountability Review one can only watch in horrified anticipation of what the PBO might want. What exactly is the point?

Nevertheless, in 'Is Less More?', the Department of Finance and Deregulation claims to want to structure the financial framework to allow for pooled funding arrangements and for appropriate amounts to be more readily distributed among entities pursuing shared objectives (p.4). Strategy 14 in the University of Sydney 2011-2015 Strategic Plan seeks to develop and implement a coordinated university-wide framework for local and rural community engagement. It seeks 'to identify a sustainable number of projects that include opportunities for education and research activities, in consultation with external groups that will directly engage local residents, students, staff and alumni'.

This appears to be a key opportunity for many partnerships to achieve many social and environmental aims through programs and projects managed openly together. NSW government has painfully battled uphill against the odds for years in this direction and the moment Kevin Rudd stepped onto the stage I recall almost squealing with delight. Now is the time to implement the recommendations below. Just pick up a club and do it. I feel sure Queenslanders, Western Australians and others will naturally thank you for it as they have such far flung communities and resources with huge communication needs. See related international, national and local direction below and attached.

Cheers

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