Special Feature

CONNECT

Collaborating - To A Point?

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Convergent interests are not to be overlooked – rather, they're to be understood!

It's easy to assume that many people, including those who hold positions of power and influence, are collaborating to succeed in nefarious activities. Part of the reason for this is, it appears – because they are!

At the same time, the term "conspiracy theory" is increasingly being used, partly out of stupidity but partly to shield such nefarious activities. It's painfully clear that the "conspiracy theory" slur is used to make people reluctant to ask questions, think critically, or even simply THINK. It's also a term used almost entirely by – if I may use this phrase – "the other side."



When I say, "the other side," I don't mean the spirit world. Although the increasing division in how people appear to regard others who dare to hold different points of view is repugnant – promoted as it is by many people in positions of power – sometimes there's little alternative than to use such a phrase.

By "the other side" – divisive term as that is – I refer to people and collectives Ithe mainstream media being one example! who chuck the term "conspiracy theory" around like a game of "Chuck the Duck." Whether they do it out of stupidity, to shield nefarious activities, or simply because they're paid to play this game – the result is the same. All those people who don't want to become social pariahs as a result of questioning the official narrative – or who still have regard and trust for the mainstream media [bless them!] keep to their line. At least, I assume they do, although their numbers are shrinking.

But here's where it gets interesting! I've observed something fascinating

about most of the people and collectives [the mainstream media is one, but this goes WAY beyond the MSM] that respond like **Pavlov's dogs** immediately they come across any doubt, questions, or challenge. Their response is to automatically – and I suspect, with no intervention by the conscious mind - utter the phrase "conspiracy theory."

In short, the Pavlov's dogs study was designed to find out whether dogs could be conditioned to salivate whenever they heard the sound of a bell. Originally the sound of the bell was linked to the arrival of food, but after a few pairings of the sound and the food, the dogs salivated when they heard the bell even when no food was given. The answer was – yes, they could be conditioned in this way.

Pavlov's Dogs, or Pavlovian Conditioning, is explained in detail by Simply Psychology in - <u>Pavlov's Dogs Study And Pavlovian Conditioning Explained.</u>

Such people and collectives invariably have their own *conspiracy theories*. While these are a topic for another article, I'll just mention one. Almost all the people who say they don't believe in conspiracy theories, believe – it appears – in a conspiracy theory called - the *anti-vax movement*.

This baseless conspiracy theory is the belief that people who have doubts about, questions about, or dare to challenge any aspect of any vaccine are part of a worldwide conspiracy. Have you ever heard such nonsense? For a start, what purpose would such a conspiracy have?

I suppose this baseless conspiracy theory stems from fear. Fear, that is, of harm - harm, that is, to **Big Pharma's** profits and credibility. I'd have thought pharma companies had enough to worry about, due to their own criminal activities and negligent practices, without the need for politicians, mainstream media journalists and many members of the public to believe in such a baseless – and paranoid - conspiracy theory.

Many lawsuits have been brought against Big Pharma companies and the details of these can be seen online, such as on **Drugwatch's** page on **Pfizer**. **Trovan** is just one drug made by Pfizer that has killed people. It's an antibiotic and in 1996, Pfizer carried out an illegal – unapproved - clinical trial in Africa. Mainstream media platforms such as CBS News and BBC News reported on the resulting deaths of 11 children and the dozens more who were left disabled. Pfizer paid four families who lost children due to Trovan – eventually – fifteen years after the illegal trial!

Drugwatch has a page about <u>AstraZeneca</u>, too. This company has also had lawsuits brought against it and has been found guilty of corrupting clinical trials and illegally promoting antipsychotics.

Can anyone imagine that, if people were being injured and killed by food products, people who declared they weren't going to eat those same foods were termed "anti-fooders"?

On second thoughts - the answer is probably, a yes!

Richard Cox is a podcaster and a writer who publishes his work in different formats which can be accessed from his website - The Deep State Consciousness. He's the author of a book called - Contemplating Conspiracy: Excursions into Undiluted Madness. Richard's book focuses on the fact that the reality is that life is more complex than merely a huge web of conspiracies. He also makes the point that the polarisation between the people who understand that there's an agenda - or rather, there are agendas - and those who don't - or won't - see it, causes a problem.

Tell us about it!

Richard suggests that two possible paths emerge from such division. One – the more popular path - leads us all to dig in and hit back even harder at *the other side*. As he rightly says, this is the path of seeking to insulate ourselves ever more firmly in our existing worldviews, whilst dismissing all other worldviews.

The second path is to – as he puts it – emerge from our trenches, let go of our egoic grip on our opinions and open up to mystery. That is – the sense of mystery that arises from acknowledging that we don't actually know what this world is, or how it works. We don't know who, if anyone, pulls the levers of power, we don't know to what extent conspiracies operate, to what extent randomness is at play, or to what extent global circumstances are the inevitable consequence of incentives and the structures we establish. It may even be the case that nobody knows.

The great result of admitting that we don't know, Richard argues, is that we may find that our attempts at understanding are enhanced by ideas that - at first - look like undiluted madness. Conventionally minded people may learn something from considering conspiracy. Conspiracy theorists may benefit by taking seriously the *undiluted madness* of mainstream opinion.

To me, this is not only a great pitch for the book, but a fascinating suggestion for how we might move forward together as the society we are – or rather we need to become.

I don't know when it became taboo to have different opinions, but it doesn't lead to a world in which I'd want to live! I've been asking myself for three years now - why are so many people so sure that they're right, that their response to anyone with a different interpretation of the same facts - or even, a different set of facts - is to insult them and insinuate that they are wrong?

Much as I like a good conspiracy theory – or at least, used to, before so many of them became conspiracy FACT! – reality is – as Richard Cox reminds us – more complex than a network of conspiracies. Despite the mantra of Islanders – that is, people who still think there's an Island, as in the 2005 film The Island – it is NOT against the laws of physics for more than eight people lor 650 even, the number of MPs in the British parliament to work together on something. It would of course be an error to assume that they've all

attended a planning meeting about that something. The attendance record of most MPs in parliament alone proves that such an event is unlikely.

There are many reasons, however, why a lot of people – and collectives such as businesses, industries, non-governmental organisations [NGOs] and other entities – are all singing the same tune, at the same time, with the same words. It's as if they're in lockstep, sometimes.

Sometimes, it's because they are. But, sometimes, they're not. **Interest convergence** can explain a lot. Interest convergence, as a sociological concept, was coined by <u>Derrick Bell</u>, an American lawyer, academic and civil rights activist, in the 1970s.

Derrick Bell is often credited, according to his Wikipedia page, as one of the originators of **critical race theory** [CRT]. Critical race theory, of course, is a highly polarised topic – but then, these days, what isn't? I have to say, on the face of it, the theory sounds reasonable – but that's a topic for another time.

Derrick developed his concept of *interest convergence* in relation to racial equality. The concept, explained by Helpful Professor in - <u>Interest Convergence: Definition And Examples</u> - is that progress towards racial equality *only occurs when the interests of dominant and subordinate groups converge.*

This is a specific application for the concept, but it clearly can be applied to other situations, especially given its plain English name and that it's a concept that's easy to grasp.

Another way of describing this concept is – people with power only do things that benefit them personally. People with power won't do something because it's the right thing to do.

As a fictional example showing this concept in play, let's say that a county council in England wishes to make their county more environmentally sound. This wish may well arise from a blend of doing the right thing for the people who live and work in the county and pressure from above – government diktats to increase sustainability and the like.

Let's say that the council discovers that a significant grant of money is available from central government, in return for making certain changes to the way things are done in the county.

Let's say that those changes result in a 15 Minute City situation, in one or all of the cities in the county. Perhaps the same applies to the towns, too as is being planned all over the world. As a Greek News article SC-3191A - it's Not What We're Told - reports, in principle 15min cities sound like a good thing - most things we need being within close reach. BUT, the way it's being sold causes many to smell a rat. Should we be concerned?

To answer that question, a range of articles from a range of People's Media sources that may be informative about 15 Minute Cities can be seen in the <u>Library</u> and <u>Bank</u> sections of CONNECT's **History Book**.

It's only natural to be concerned about massive changes like 15 Minute Cities, taking place all over the world, with little or no input from communities. Wouldn't it also be natural for people who live and work in that county to attend a public meeting about the changes - and let rip with the accusation that the council is conspiring with the World Economic Forum [WEF]? I think it would be entirely natural.

For an indication – if it's needed – of what the WEF – an unelected and unaccountable body - thinks is good for the world, a range of articles from a range of People's Media sources can be seen in the <u>Library</u> and <u>Bank</u> sections of CONNECT's **History Book**.

An accusation that the council is conspiring with the WEF would be entirely natural - but would it help to prevent the installation of the infrastructure for a 15 Minute City?

I'd say – it's unlikely it would help to stop it. I think it would almost certainly play out better if the people who are aware of the WEF's - and other globalist - agendas kept that to themselves and focused on local issues.

Such as – that the restrictions are coming in – but not the amenities that will make it a 15 Minute City – so the question needs to be asked of the council, who's going to benefit – and how? Transparency is needed!

Such as – that so-called low-traffic neighbourhoods don't result in a cleaner environment. They merely move the pollution to a different area – usually where less wealthy people live and work – so again, the question needs to be asked of the council, who's going to benefit – and how? Transparency is needed!

Such as – that the answer to the question of how will the emergency services get to the homes of people who need them in time, is badly needed!

Such as – that the answer to the question of where is the council's risk assessment that takes into account every negative outcome from the changes – including the increased isolation for many people? That risk assessment – based as ever on worse-case scenarios rather than best-case scenarios, is badly needed!

Without a single member of the council going to a single Davos extended plotting meeting – sorry, I mean social gathering attended by wealthy influential people – it looks as if the county council is in cahoots with **Klaus Schwab** [the WEF's founder] and his friends who have too much money, too much time and too much influence over policymakers.

Most council members, however, probably won't even have heard of the WEF. If they have, they are vague about what it does. They're certainly not primed to receive a bung directly from the WEF – *probably* – although I may be wrong about that!

Derrick Bell's concept - that progress towards racial equality *only occurs* when the interests of dominant and subordinate groups converge – is here being played out, with *racial equality* replaced by *green concerns*.

A few years ago, **Greta Thunberg** was being heard – it appears – only by young people – a *subordinate group*. Now – it appears – she and her aims are the poster child of the WEF – part of the *dominant group*.

It rarely helps to raise the topic of the agendas in play, I'd say, with the people who are unwittingly helping to bring those agendas into fruition. Even if they are doing it knowingly, it won't usually help, I'd say, to raise the topic of the agendas.

By keeping schtum about the global agendas, at least there's a clear advantage when – in my fictional example – the council is challenged about their plans to create an open-air prison. Sorry, I mean a clean, green, happy place where we are all - in the coming future - supposed to live. A place where nobody needs to wander more than seven and a half minutes lbecause it's 7.5 mins each way – so 15 mins there and backl - from their cell – sorry, their home – to meet their needs.

Inevitably, any challenge in such situations will lead to accusations of being a conspiracy theorist.

I think this is because people with power, when challenged about how they use that power, assume that the challenger is part of a conspiracy.

It appears to me that the real *conspiracy theorists* are the people who – currently, until it changes - hold power over others.

After all – THEY [**The Hierarchy Exploiting You**] are the people who are constantly talking about conspiracy theories.

The rest of us understand the truth – that life isn't that simple.

In reality, there are conspiracy theories and conspiracy facts.

Then – not to be overlooked but definitely needing to be understood - there are also *convergent interests*.

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CONNECT'S Maxim and Oath

Connect is only interested in finding and sharing the TRUTH. In search of that TRUTH, we only pose questions – we have no answers.

	By: Helen King	
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2	<u>LINK</u>	Drugwatch: Pfizer
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3	<u>LINK</u>	Deep State Consciousness
3	LINK	Amazon: Richard Cox: Contemplating Conspiracy: Excursions into Undiluted Madness
4	<u>LINK</u>	Wikipedia: The Island [2005 film]
4	<u>LINK</u>	Wikipedia: Derrick Bell
4	<u>LINK</u>	Helpful Professor: Interest Convergence: Definition And Examples
5	<u>LINK</u>	Connect-M3: SC-3191A – it's Not What We're Told
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