

ELECTIONS

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I was very low yesterday, after the elections, but sadly acknowledging that if half of American sees something different from what the other half sees happening, then we probably have to get deeper into the hole before a consensus arises on a new reality.

But last night a sense emerged of why we lost the elections, and what we need to do to achieve real change.

What I sensed was what this election lacked was truth. The Democrats were willing to let the Republicans set the agenda and the rules. Within that, there are only shades of untruth, never a gut sense of "YES!!! These folks are finally telling the truth". To win, in elections or everyday, we need to speak and live what is our truth, and listen to what is the truth of others, to find a common and deeper truth that brings us together. Did the Democrats speak of our worldwide economic empire and its harmful effects on others? Of the U.S. training bin Laden? Of running out of oil and instigating wars to obtain the last reserves? Of taxing the rich and corporations to get our country out of debt? Of our growing tax burden being caused by tax avoidance of the rich and the corporations?

Here are the truths I sensed last night that we need, in order to achieve real change:

* Acknowledge to ourselves and the world our country's criminal and immoral roles in the ills of the world, that we have personally benefited a life of relative ease compared to the rest of the world because of it, and that we can still live well, and in some ways better, without the benefits of the U.S. economic empire.

* Make public the roles of corporate greed and abuse of power underlying the present harmful course of our country and world. Acknowledge the role of advertising in the concentration of wealth and power, and limit its use. Separate ourselves from that corporate world, experience and make known to others the more benign alternatives that exist and the ways to control corporate abuse - even if that means eliminating corporations. This one has a big learning curve to get to public consciousness.

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* Refuse the legitimacy of corporate and governmental economics based on discounting our future. Embrace, as much of the rest of the world is, the far more effective economics of wholeness and sustainability that is based in our deepest personal and moral values.

* Bring the sacred into our lives and our politics. People hunger for it so much that they embrace even the empty shell of it offered by the religious right. Embrace personally, and with others, the direct experience of the sacred that brings us into oneness, rather than into conflict with people of different religious traditions.

* Acknowledge the falseness of our sciences that deny the existence of life-force energy and the consciousness of every tree, rock, and atom of existence. Demonstrate the effectiveness of physics, biology, medicine, and social sciences that have moved beyond the proven failures of materialistic sciences.

* Open into the healing and enriching vulnerability and intimacy of true community and tribe. One taste, and we can let go of the ersatz world of TV. Bringing an alternative world based in truth, compassion, justice and the sacred into vibrant existence is necessary for others to experience it and be able to let go of what we've had. It is in our own lives and communities that we can bring a new world into existence, and sharing that world by living it out loud, that we can achieve true change.

Politics never leads. Only we can do that.

Keep on dancing, my friends!