

PROFOUND TRANSFORMATIONS

CURRENT PERSPECTIVE # 44

CP # 44 documents and reinforces the need for **PROFOUND TRANSFORMATIONS in the realm of Governance Structure, the Economy and the Social Safety Net**. Some of these Transformations were first explored by the author in *THE SHAPE OF THE FUTURE* (2000) and others were added in subsequent publications by SYNERGY / E M Risse as noted in **CP # 43**.

To place these **PROFOUND TRANSFORMATIONS** in context and to insure there is no confusion concerning the importance of other fundamental changes that are **ALSO** necessary to avoid the **EXTINCTION** profiled in (*CP #42*), this CP is presented in **THREE PARTS**.

PART ONE addresses the important actions that must be accomplished to repair the damage done to Democracy, the Environment, the Economy and citizens health over the past four years.

Among the key resources providing context for **PART ONE** are (1) Richard Heinberg, *MuseLetter # 328, United States: An Obituary* (2020) Heinberg is among the most respected observers of the current economic, social and physical condition in which humans find themselves. His expertise focuses on energy and especially fossil fuels.

and (2) David Bollier, *The Great Awakening: New Modes of Life Amidst Capitalist Ruins* (2020). Bollier is a leading scholar on the topic of **The Commons**. (See David Bollier and Silke Helfrich *Free, Fair and Alive: The Insurgent Power of the Commons* (2019) New Society Publishers.

PART TWO explores priorities that have been on the table for years, decades and even longer. Most of these priorities have not yet migrated into Overton’s Window of broadly and seriously discussed topics. Among the key resources to support PART TWO is Richard Heinberg, *Making America Ungovernable* (2020) *Resilience dot org*.

PART THREE focuses on a summary of the **PROFOUND TRANSFORMATIONS**. Among the key resources for PART THREE are Sirio Lopez, *Why Do We Struggle? For the Shared Enjoyment of Life and Caring For the Rest of Nature*, *Resilience dot org*. (2020) and *Work, Democratize, Decommify, Remediate* (2020) Multiple Signers.

In addition to the volume by Bill McKibben (*FALTER: Has the Human Game Begun to Play Itself Out?*) cited in CP # 43, key resources for CP #44 include:

Asher Miller: *Is the “Great Unraveling” Upon Us?* (2020) – a series of interviews by Resilience dot org – and

Richard Heinberg, *A Simple Way to Understand What’s Happening... and What To Do* (2020) also by Resilience dot org.

PART ONE – THE IMMEDIATE PRIORITIES

A key Reference Resource setting the Context for **PART ONE** is: John Dean and Bob Altemeyer *Authoritarian Nightmare: Trump and His Followers* (2020) *Melville House*.

PART ONE provides a brief summary of topics to illustrate the point that there is much to do **IMMEDIATELY**.

THE FIRST 100 DAYS

President Elect Biden appears to be assembling a talented and experienced transition team to come up with the comprehensive list “First 100 Day Priorities”. **PART ONE** focuses on the most important themes from a Human Settlement Pattern perspective.

There is, of course the Immediate need for Pandemic Rescue. This includes a vaccine that is BOTH safe and effective and medical procedures and economic compensation for those who have suffered the PRIMARY impact of the Pandemic.

See Joe Buscaino *What Cities* [Actually Cities, Counties and REgions] *Need From the Biden Administration in the First 100 days*. The list is daunting in the context of 100 months much less 100 days. The tasks are made more difficult by the dereliction of the responsibility to govern over the past four years. In addition there are land mines set to up to prevent reversals of ill-advised actions **BY FOUR YEARS OF Trump Administration Anti-Governance**.

A key immediate objective must be to reverse the ecological damage done by the Trump administration to the environment by gutting regulations and priorities of the Environmental Protection Agency. As of the end of November according to *The Washington Post* (27 January 2010) the Trump administration has weakened 125 environmental policies and regulations. He has targeted 40 more topics for modification before 20 January when he leaves office.

BEYOND THE FIRST 100 DAYS IT DOES NOT GET EASIER

Julie Dermansky *Over 550 Environmental Groups Rally Around Call for Biden to Act of Plastics Pollution in 2021* (2020) DeSmog Blog

The tasks are not made easier by the major Russian Hack of Federal AGencies and ENterprises in the past three years.

A longer term objective will be to amend the US Constitution to make it clear that every citizen has a Constitutional RIGHT to vote and that all residents who are not yet citizens have a path to citizenship. This means there must be amendments to the **Electoral Count Act of 1887** so that there is a clear path to a final count of the votes general elections with penalties for acts to undermine the electoral process unless malfeasance can be proven in a court of law. See Allan Lichtman, *The Embattled Vote in America: From the Founding to the Present* (2018) and Jean Willoughby, *Vote for Land Justice* (2020) *The Agrarian Trust*.

Over the past two plus centuries of Presidential Elections no one has challenged a clearly valid election after they have been declared the loser based on existing law.

As suggested by Katrina vanden Heuvel, before the 2020 election: *No Mater Who Wins, it's Time to Get Rid of the Electoral College* (2020) *The Washington Post*. That will not be an easy task. There have been over 700 formal attempts to eliminate this confusing, undemocratic and outdated election compromise of 1778.

There is one other hang-over relic from the constitutional “great compromises” of 1778. That is the composition of the U. S. Senate. Gerrymandering and U.S. Senate composition diminish the power of the majority of voters – the voters in the places where most citizens of the United States now live and work. See David Markovits and Ian Ayres, *The United States is In a State of Perpetual Minority Rule, The Washington Post*, (2020) and Nester M. Davidson and Paul A. Diller, *A City-Suburban Coalition [where the vast majority of the citizens live and work] Can't Win While “the System” Favors Rural Voters.* (2020)

One further objective of **PART ONE** is to emphasize the core role of AGencies – that is to GOVERN. See Joel Stronberg, *The Role of Government in Climate Matters; Isn't it Obvious?* Less Government is not “good government,” it is just less government. Simplistic whining for lowest possible taxes or unbridled “freedom” are also not legitimate overarching goals in the context of vast citizen inequality and failure of equal protection of the laws as noted below.

An important part of governing will be to crank up the importance of cyber security to forestall the threats to power grids and other infrastructure as well as Ransomware which can target small business and small units of governance as well larger Organizations.

GROUND WORK

Another overarching objective for which the ground work must be laid soon is to restore citizens faith in Science and overcome the profound confusion caused by elected and appointed AAgency officials labeling facts as “Fake News” to further their political agendas.

It is illegal to shout “Fire” in a crowded theater and over emphasis on “free speech” can have a disastrous impact on democracy. See for example Paulina Villegas, *South Dakota Nurse Says Many Patients Deny that Coronavirus Exists – Right Up Until Death, The Washington Post* (2020) How did this dying person come to this view of the Pandemic? From the lies told by the current President and his Authoritarian followers.

There must be a balance between the “right” of free speech as intended by the framers of the constitution and to cause of harm by the dissemination of lies and unfounded conspiracies. In the past four years THE PRESIDENT has spewed at least 23,035 documented lies and false / misleading information spread by “the president who would be king” – to say nothing of his Party’s Echo Chambers – this from the author who is a veteran of the Free Speech Movement, Berkeley, CA 1964.

Then there are ‘real’ conspiracies. Jeremy Lent in *The five Real Conspiracies You Need to Know About*, (2020) *Patterns of Meaning* sketches out **REAL** Conspiracies:

The Conspiracy to turn the world into a giant marketplace for the benefit of the wealthy elite.

The Conspiracy by transnational corporations to turn billions of people into addicts [both economic and medical].

The Conspiracy to plunder the Global South for the benefit of the Global North.

The Conspiracy to hide the effects of climate breakdown for corporate profit.

The Conspiracy to grow the global economy indefinitely while killing most of life on Earth and risking Collapse of Civilization.

We list these five **REAL Conspiracies** to highlight the difference between the unfounded **Social Media Conspiracies** (and the dog-whistle codes and signs of

White Supremacists) as contrasted with the conspiracies that are **REAL** and that are a threat to Civilization.

It also must be made clear that it is NOT ‘discrimination’ to NOT support ‘conservative views’ that is simply an expression of political philosophy by social media owners and members.

CLIMATE CHANGE AS ONE CATEGORY TO DEMONSTRATE THE COMPLEXITY OF “THE LIST.”

Joel Stronberg provides a detailed list of tasks related to climate change that face the Biden team. This reference is cited to give the reader a sense of the what the elements of a comprehensive listings of the immediate tasks ahead would look like. Even this list is not complete. Joel Stronberg, *Climate Policy in the Biden Era: On a personnel Note* (2020) *Civil Notion*.

John Feffer offers a amusing but thought provoking view of a root cause of the current problems: John Feffer *The Problem of Surplus White Men* (2020) *Foreign Policy in Focus*.

BACKGROUND STATIC

There are several topics that while at first may seem like “Background statics” that are in fact fundamental societal dysfunctions that must be addressed:

Vocabulary: See Appendix One: On Vocabulary, Capitalization and Typography

MassOverConsumption without extractors, processors or consumers paying the full cost of their consumption – the solution is to eliminate “externalities.”

Human Settlement Patterns are complex Organic Systems. It is important that citizens UnderStand what that means.

Of critical importance is the fact that NO ONE is paying the full cost of their settlement pattern decisions. More on this in PART TWO. This issue is being explored by the Not For Profit *Strong Towns* in context of “The Growth Ponzi Scheme.”

Human’s Primitive Genetic Proclivities control ‘modern’ citizens actions. See E M Risse *The Little Book* (2020), John Dean and Bob Altemeyer *Authoritarian Nightmare: Trump and His Followers* (2020) *Melville House* and Jay Maddock *Opinion: Your Brain’s Built-in Biases Insulate Your Beliefs From Contradictory Facts* (2020) *The Houston Chronicle*.

UNDERstanding the power of the exponential. See Prof. Albert Bartlett’s “the most important video you will ever see.”

Also UNDERstanding the issue of Scale is critical. Kirkpatrick Sale *Human Scale* (1980) *Academic Press Canada Limited* stated it well:

Big government, big business, big everything – how the crises that imperil modern America are the inevitable result of giantism grown out of control– and that can be done about it. Prof. Sale examines a nation in the grip of growthmania and presents the ways to shape a more efficient and liveable society built to the Human Scale.

Also see E. F Schumacher *Small is Beautiful Economics as if People Mattered* (1973) *Blond & Briggs*.

The concept of infinite growth on a finite planet is addressed in PART THREE of CP # 44.

A TRUTH, COMPENSATION AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION

It is clear that a huge swath of citizens – close to 48 percent of those who voted in the 2020 Presidential Election – have demonstrated that they have

lost contact with reality. Losing by 6.9 million votes means you lost, Period. This is especially true when there is absolutely no evidence of fraud that would call into question the outcome of the election according to Attorney General of the United States William Barr.) To the extent there was cyber crimes or foreign interference in the election, it did not impact the outcome.

Over 40 unanimous decisions of state and federal courts have found NO creditable evidence of fraud beyond unfounded conspiracy assertions that did not meet the threshold criteria for judicial consideration.

In addition, the election was characterized as the most fraud-free election in the memory of professional election managers. Further, the 3 November election was among the most lopsided victories in a presidential election ever.

Given that around 48 percent of those who voted on 3 November **STILL** believe that the Loser actually won the election it may be reasonable and expeditious to convene a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to flush out the damage done by a President who has lied / misled over 23, 000 times in less than five years.

A Truth and Reconciliation, Compensation and Commissions would help clear the air.

You may have noted a word added to the proposed Commission title:
“Compensation”

In the event 4,000,000 die from Covid-19 by 2022. Further, if it is found that had the president acted in an informed and rational manner between January 1 2020 and January 20 2021 only 1,000,000 would have died then the families of the other 3,000,000 victims are due compensation. The same formula should be apply to other victims of gross malfeasance and dereliction of duty. Those who belong to the Republican Party and supported the idiotic false voter fraud claims should be first in line to compensate the AGencies for expenses that result from the false claims of voter fraud.

And just in case we need it, here is one more resource to keep in mind: Daniel Hunter, **10 Things You Need to Know to Stop a Coup (2020) Waging**

Nonviolence. Also see Paul Farhi *Secession? Rush Limbaugh floats a startling notion – then quickly backs off* (2020) *The Washington Post*.

PART TWO – THE ESSENTIAL PRIORITIES THAT HAVE BEEN ON THE TABLE FOR YEARS, DECADES AND LONGER.

A key Reference Resource for **PART TWO** is Daniel Kemmis *Citizens Uniting to Restore Our Democracy* (2020) The author knows well the municipal and REgional context in which Daniel Kemmis has become a revered scholar. The author met Daniel only once but has Great Respect for his work. *Citizens Uniting to Restore Our Democracy* was chosen as the Key Resource for PART TWO because, as important as overturning the U.S. Supreme Court in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* (10 January 2010) – the key to stopping the destructive avalanche of ENterprise and INstitutional money into the electoral process – this step even with doing away gerrymandering and eliminating the Electoral College are THE ARE NOT ENOUGH. There is much more that has been on the thoughtful citizen’s agendas for years.

COLLAPSE

“Collapse” has been a topic of concern for decades. Jared Diamond published his New York Times “bestseller” fifteen years ago and republished it nine years ago. Jared Diamond *Collapse: How societies choose to Fail or Succeed* (2005 / 2011) *Penguin Books*,

There is much to learn from Diamond’s *Collapse* as well as his earlier *Guns, Germs and Steel* (1997). One significant difference between the work of Diamond and the current reality is that the societies that Diamond profiled in *Collapse* -- including in the second edition – were ‘relatively’ small. A significant insight is finding that they there were as large and prosperous as they were and still collapsed. Some were isolated – Easter Island and the Norse colony on Greenland. Others were among the largest Urban Agglomerations at the time of Collapse. The Key issue is that we are now considering **PLANET-WIDE COLLAPSE** – not just a one society collapse.

Erik Assadourian, *Living With Collapse* (2020) *Gaianism* includes references to: Pablo Servigne and Raphael Stevens, *How Everything Can Collapse: A Manual for Our Times*, and *Another End of the World is Possible: Living the Collapse*. Together resources such as these document that there is a significant major cohort in all nation-state societies who believe that the Western Civilization as it was known before November 2016 is already in a state of **Collapse**.

THE COMMONS

The concept of **The Commons** has a long history. The English established the Charter of the Forest (The Forest Commons) which provides for the use of the Commons forest resources by “free men.”

Contemporary societies concept of The **Commons** is based on, among other foundations:

The UN World Commission of Environment and Development, Chairman Gro Harlem Brundtland, *Our Common Future*, (1987)

Elinor Ostrom (Nobel Prize 2009): *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*. (1990 / 2008) Cambridge University Press. (This work destroyed the core premise of the “Tragedy of the Commons” by Garrett Hardin (1968). This “tragedy” suggested that humans could not intelligently cooperate to optimize the Value of the Commons for ALL owners. This “tragedy” was a favorite “conservative” excuse to avoid creation of The Commons and thus to create equitable distribution of Commons Resources.)

For the most comprehensive contemporary perspective on the Commons, see David Bollier & Silke Helfrich *Free, Fair and Alive: The Insurgent Power of the Commons*. (2019) *New Society Publishers*. Also see Jay Walljasper *All That We Share: A Field Guide to the Commons*, (2010) *The New Press* and Simon Kaye, *Think Big, Act Small, The Triumph of The Commons in the UK*, (2020) *Shareable*.

COOPERATIVES

Cooperatives are a primary vehicle for facilitating contemporary application of **THE COMMONS**.

David Bollier, *Nathan Schneider's Bounty of Fresh Ideas for Cooperatives* (2020) *David Bollier Blog*

UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME

The concept of Universal Basic Income is a strategy for overcoming the grossly inequitable distribution of resources where-by every citizen receives a monthly stipend. This is one of the most often cited alternatives to the grossly unequal distribution of resources generated by colonial and later neoliberal Capitalism. Guy Standing, *The Case for a Basic Income* (2020) *Great Transition* and Jeremy Lent *A Cornerstone of a Moral Economy* (2020) *Great Transition*.

The Universal Basic Income – or “Basic Income” where different citizens receive different stipends depending on preexisting criteria – also identifies some who have reservations about the concept. This is perhaps because they harbor prejudice vis-a-vis those who they believe are “lazy” or are just “other.”. See Ian Gough **A False Promise** (2020) **Treat Transition Initiative**.

THE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES

Just two horrifying vignettes in the time of the Pandemic – there are many more for those who have the time to dig up the numbers.

- As of 17 November 2020, the combined wealth of 647 U.S. billionaires increased by almost \$960 Billion since mid March, the beginning of the pandemic lockdown – an increase of nearly \$1trillion in less than a year.
- Since March, there are 33 new billionaires in the U.S. and thousands are newly accused of stealing food so their children do not go hungry.

Chuck Collins *Report: Billionaire Wealth vs. Community Health* (2020)

There must be a redistribution of wealth AND new Economic Systems to evolve an equitable distribution of the planet's resources for all humans and protect all natural ecosystems.

The argument against redistribution is this:

“I earned this wealth fair and square. There is no basis for taxing it away”

Actually there IS a basis for taxing it away: The system which delivered these rewards – and an unfair share of the planets resources – was and is NOT UNFAIR.

The Colonial, and later NeoLiberal Capitalism, is a vehicle for stealing resources, not a system for conservation and fair distribution of the planet's resources.

The first thing to be stolen by Capitalists was gold and silver and then the land was taken from the aboriginal owners, Next came the timber from the forests, then the fertile top soil, coal, oil and gas and metals from under the surface owners and most recently rare elements and metals. See above concerning the **REAL CONSPIRACIES.**

Displacing Aboriginal owners was helped by advanced weaponry (Guns), Biological diseases (Germs) and metal tools. Say, that might be a book title (**Guns, Germs and Steel** perhaps)

A WORD FOR THE WEALTHY

The Wealthy – lets say the top 20 percent of the economic Ziggurat – need to UnderStand that if they to not level the playing field and distribute the over abundance of wealth they have collected there will be revolts and they will lose everything via stranded assets. Chris Nelder *Stranded Assets* (2020) *Energy Transition.*

What the wealth have is mainly paper (stock certificates) with no real tie to reality. The vast majority of citizens do not own stock and have not benefitted from increases in the stock market.

CITIZEN MEDIA – A CITIZEN VOICE.

One reason citizens lose out in debates about economic policy is that they lack of a Media voice.

As documented in CURRENT PERSPECTIVE # 09 (24 March 2011) Every Organization except for Citizens / HOuseHolds have their own Media. ENterprise Media (Mainstream Media, Social Media, Corporate Propaganda and Lobbying), INstitutional Media (not-for profit Organization’s communications) and A Agencies Media (governance publications) all have their own Media.

Only the Fourth Estate – Citizens / Households as defined by **The Estates Matrix** in Risse, *TRILO-G* (2010) – are without their own Media. All three of the other Estates try to fill this void and convince Citizens / HOuseholds that these other Media really have “The Message” – Citizen related Content that Citizens / HOuseholds can rely on and BELIEVE.

The role of Social Media – Currently a major subset of ENterprise Media – is clearly a popular poison. Cat Zakrzewski, *The YOU TUBE alternative RUMBLE highlights conservatives’ move to more hands-off social networks* [i.e. a ‘net work’ that is free to disseminate propaganda and lies labeled as **THE TRUTH.**] (2020) *The Washington Post*.

A good example of the political right using ENterprise Media masquerading as Citizen Media can be found in Dana Drugmand *A Right Wing Think Tank is Behind the Controversial Great Barrington Declaration Calling for COVID-19 Herd Immunity* (2020) *DeSmog Blog*.

Also see again the report by the South Dakota nurse who noted that patients were dying with COVID-19 but still believing the lies of ‘conservative’ and ‘Republican’ propaganda on their death bed. “This cannot be happening..., COVID-19 is FAKE NEWS.”

SOCIAL MEDIA as a misnomer. It is NOT ‘social’ at all. It is a way to make money and thus is an ENterprise. See Facebook, et. al. An entertainment tax should be levied on all publications / broadcasts for which a fee is charged or for which advertising is sold.

CITIZENS RIGHT TO DATA

Citizens have a RIGHT to the data generated by ENterprises tracking activity. If anyone sells it, it is the subjects and they get the revenue similar to the sale of advertising. Kirstie Crail *Taking on the Tech Titans: Reclaiming our Data Commons* (2020) *Transnational Institute*.

The evolution of Facial Recognition Technology has created a new source of data about which there are ownership questions. See Kurt Cobb *Do You own your own* (the image of your own) *Face* (2020) *Resource Insights*

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Artificial Intelligence is another source of data that belongs to citizens, not to ENterprises. It is also another source of revenue to support Universal Basic Income. As documented in Risse *THE LITTLE BOOK* (2020) and *CP # 42* there are many who believe the uncontrolled development of Artificial Intelligence has in itself a dangerous potential. John Horgan *Will Artificial Intelligence Ever Live Up to Its Hype?* (2020) *Scientific American*.

HOW TO SPEND THE REVENUE FROM THE TAX ON ADVERTISING.

A tax on the revenue generated by sell advertising should be a major source of support for Universal Basic Income.

THE RESURRECTION OF IDEAS FROM THE PAST

Institutions in Europe such as *Extinction Rebellion* and *Transition* are finding useful insights in historic movements, in particular socialism. Alf Gunvald Nilsen *Marx on Exploitation: An ABC for an Unequal World* (2020) *Open Democracy*. and Eduardo Sasso *Einstein's Take on Capitalism, Socialism, & A New Kind of Business* (2020) *Resilience dot org*.

“Socialism” now seems as much of a political third rail as it was in the era of Joe McCarthy. It is unfortunate that the rise of Russian Dictatorships caused ideas from “socialism” to be buried by the fear of “communism.” Socialism is NOT Communism. Communism was and is a stalking horse for dictatorships.

Because the current President of the United States acts as if he is the lap dog / puppet of the Russian President Vladimir Putin it will be interesting to see if this relationship is explored and exposed in the future. Authoritarians stick together. Trump is said to be considering leaving the United States if he cannot be President. He would be welcome in Brasilia, Istanbul or Moscow and perhaps Beijing.

HENRY GEORGE

The longest standing “modern” idea that would (even today) directly address the evolution of functional Human Settlement Patterns is the strategy laid out by Henry George (Sept 1839 – Oct 1897).

George proposed a tax on the value of land generated by public infrastructure. For example if an Agency builds a road or a sewer line that serves your land, You pay a tax based on the increased value due to the new infrastructure / service. This tax is levied on **Potential** Value, regardless of what you actually build on the land. Bankers and land speculators saw the danger of this strategy and worked to have Georges’ strategy buried. ENterprise Media played a major role in this effort. The strategy has been applied in Australia and in some U.S. States. See the work of Mason Gafney and others to defend Georg’s strategy and implement his ideas. Henry George *Progress and Poverty* (1879).

PART THREE – THE PROFOUND TRANSFORMATIONS

THE MOST IMPORTANT GOAL

The most important long term objective for Homo sapiens is to evolve **Functional and Sustainable Settlement Patterns in the URbanSide and in the COuntrySide** as further explored in CP # 46, Forthcoming.

Functional and Sustainable Human Settlement Patterns are this important because, as documented by Risse, *THE SHAPE OF THE FUTURE* (2000), HUMAN SETTLEMENT PATTERNS HAVE A CONTROLLING IMPACT ON THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL WELL BEING OF HOMO SAPIENS.

The Objective of this CURRENT PERSPECTIVE – and the others in this series (#s 43, 44, 45, 46, 47 & 48) – is to sketch out an overarching long term vision of what must be done to reverse the trajectory of HeadWinds that otherwise will result in EXTINCTION of the Homo Sapiens and most other species.

THE PATH TO FUNCTIONAL AND SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENT PATTERNS

Capitalism and Politics-As-Usual has run Human Civilization into an unsustainable ditch. The “free” Market Place has failed to yield an equitable distribution of the planets resources, Time is running out to shift the Economic, Physical and Social Structure that have resulted in dysfunctional Human Settlement Patters in the context of the HeadWinds outlined CP # 42.

This is a tragedy because THE MARKET COULD HAVE EVOLVED TO CREATE A FAR MORE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES IF THE MARKET WAS IN FACT AN ‘OPEN MARKET’, AND IF ALL PARTIES IN THE LAND DEVELOPMENT PROCESS -- INCLUDING END USERS – HAD PAID THEIR FAIR

SHARE OF THE COST OF THEIR SETTLEMENT PATTERN DECISIONS. See *Strong Towns* for the example of the Ponzi Scheme of inappropriate infrastructure.

In order to evolve Functional and Sustainable Human Settlement Patterns in a Democracy there must be a critical mass of citizens who agree with the need to support PROfound TRansformations of the Governance Structure, of the Economic Systems and of the Social Contract. The context outlined in *CURRENT PERSPECTIVE # 42*, makes it clear that humans now have little time to evolve a Profound Transformation of GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE that reflect economic, physical and social realities so that work on all three critical elements can proceed.

The following three subsections sketch out the three critical SYSTEMS / STRUCTURES that must be addressed.

A. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES

Let us start with the need to Transform Governance Structures.

The Prime Objective is to move nation-state powers to the REGIONAL Level. Citizens must create THE BUCK STOPS HERE governance for components of government that have populations for between 4 and 20 Million.

The second objective must be to focus on smaller scale Democracy with viable Governance Structures (AGencies) at the CLuster, NEighborhood and Village scales in addition to such Structures at the COMMUNITY and REGIONAL scales. These Structures must evolve to be coterminous with the organic components of Functional and Sustainable Settlement Patterns in the UrbanSide and in the CountrySide.

B. ECONOMIC SYSTEM STRUCTURES

There must be a PROfound TRansformation of ECONOMIC Systems to support equitable Conservation and Distribution of the Planet's resources'. Capitalism and 'the free market' – including the economic gloss that nation-state and multi-state AGencies have placed on the Market – have failed to equitably allocate the planets

resources as documented by the number of citizens living in poverty across the planet.

The objective must be to phase out Capitalism and NeoLiberal Economics because of the gross inequality they have engendered.

Not UNDERSTANDING the power of the exponential function (See again Albert Bartlett and his “most important video you will ever see” noted above) and Not UNDERSTANDING how the ecology of the planet functions, economists came up with “Alice in Wonderland externalities” and flat rates which underlie the subsidies that support dysfunctional Human Settlement Patterns. These facts are documented with real life examples in Risse, *THE SHAPE OF THE FUTURE* (2000), As noted above, there cannot be Profound Transformations of Economic Systems unless there is a critical mass of citizen who UnderSTand and Support Profound Transformation in Governance Structure, SocioEconomic Structures to guarantee the Social Contract. Further, these citizens must implement the needed Transformations by Democratic Processes.

C. THE SOCIAL CONTRACT STRUCTURES

The Author uses the term “Social Contract” to embrace the Systems that insure the delivery of INfrastructure, Shelter, Food, Health, Education, Mobility and Access as well as Amenity and Security that support viable COMMunities and provide citizens with freedom and Safety.

From 1500 to 1945 processes of Colonialism and then Global North Capitalism drove “Growth” paid for by consumption of the planets resources. After World War II this resource consumption yielded an explosion of the Middle Class in the United States which obscured the unsustainable trajectory of Mass OverConsumption.. This was due to the more effective strategies and technologies to exploit the consumption of Natural Capital especially in the Global South.

Living off of Natural Capital – not just Fossil Fuel but Air, Water, Top Soil, Forests and Marine Ecology – is a dead end similar to living off of financial capital. This consumption paid for expansion of the Social Contract until 1975.

THE BASIC COMPONENTS OF THE SOCIAL STRUCTURE

Before delving into the PRofound TRansformations of these three spheres of concern there is an even more basic dysfunction to note even if a path to a functional future is not yet clear. It is imperative to at least note the whale in the bathtub and the outlines of a sustainable Social, Economic and Physical Environment.

The best perpetration for UNderStanding this exploration is to review Chapters v., vi., and vii of Volume II, *Democracy in America* by Alexis de Tocqueville (1840 – first publication in English).

It has been very clear since the publication of Robert D. Putnam *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community* (2000) *Simon & Schuster* that the fabric of the American Social structure was been fraying. In Putnam's perspective the COMMUNITIES of the United States were hemorrhaging **SOCIAL CAPITAL**.

Following a scholarly and exhaustively researched, footnoted and indexed 541 page book, Putnam concludes with Chapter 24 “Toward an Agenda for Social Capitalists.” In this Chapter Putnam italicizes seven objectives for the next 10 years (that is until 2010). It would take an effort equal to Putnam's original work to determine how much Human Capital was generated, if any by these seven objectives.

At first glance the answer appears to be “not much.” On the topic of getting more citizens to vote the answer seems to be 1) stop removing citizens from voter registration records and 2) elect a mentally challenged president who voters will flock to the polls to vote out of office in the next election.

The two decades following the publication of Putnam's book saw a lot of Strum and Drang concerning returning to the regeneration of ‘family values’ but little evidence that fervent conservatives or vocal evangelicals were living up to their own rhetoric much less convincing others to take action to build Social Capital.

Then in March of 2020 David Brooks published a 30 page essay in *Atlantic: The Nuclear Family Was a Mistake*. This essay hit a nerve based on where it is ranked by Google searches.

There is a reason why SYNERGY had declared “family” a Core Confusing Word and that SYNERGY and others (the Bureau of the Census) have started to use “HOuseHold” to identify those who live together in a UNit. FAMILY no longer is the component of human settlement. Brooks essay documents why that is the case and suggest alternative sets of relationships.

In the 40 years before Putnam published *Bowling Alone*, the most viable focus of creating Social Capital and great places to create and raise a ‘family’ was in a Planned New Community. Putnam does not even mention Reston / Bob Simon, Columbia / Jim Rouse, The Woodlands / George Mitchell. All three ‘founders’ were actively engaged in building Social Capital as an incentive to attract new buyers and to meet the needs of the COmmunities HOuseHolds.

The author was an actor on the stage of Planned New Communities in the United States and is familiar with those in Western and Eastern Europe. He lived in four large planned New COmmunities (Columbia, MD, Reston, VA, Fairfax Center, VA, and The Woodlands, TX) and helped plan and implement half a dozens others. He designed, planned and managed the development – including the unique Governance Structure – for a Planned New Village with five NEighborhoods (Burke Centre, VA).

I had moved into all of the Planned New COmmunities early in the development phase. That was not the case for The Woodlands. While the others did not present problems with making of new friends / fitting in – and did not exhibit the problem that David Brooks describes. In The Woodlands the COmmunity was largely build out was settled and fitting in was a problem for new HOuseHolds. Everyone already had their friends. Living through the Pandemic did not help because of the emphasis on Social Distancing.

MAKING CURRENT CONDITIONS UNDERSTANDABLE

Leaving the Nuclear Family issue for now and turning back to the three spheres of concern. The reason most leaders of AGencies, ENterprises and INstitutions oppose Profound Transformations – aka “Profound Change” – is because they have succeeded under the current context. The reason the vast majority of citizens have an inequitable share of the wealth is because they are not in positions of power.

Billions have not “succeeded” and those that have prospered are afraid that they would not prosper if the Systems were changed.

The HeadWinds spelled out in CP#42 and details of the evolution of human support systems in CP#43 and first two PARTS of CP#44, are further articulated in CP’s#45 through #48 (forthcoming)..

At least in English, human’s do not have a sufficient Vocabulary to articulate the scope of the subjects that must be TRANSFORMED. The “Socioeconomic Structure” may be as close as we can get in a short phrase. At the root of “Socioeconomic Structures” is “The Economic System.” However, the whole range of economic systems do not touch on all the ways that neoclassical economic action has failed to support a sustainable human society

Perhaps “Civilization” rather than “Socioeconomic Structure” is the best terminology to describe what has gone sour. See parameters of ‘Civilization’ on the home page at <https://emrisse.com>

Citizens lost track of their CIVILIZATION and an UNderStanding the roles of AGencies (Governance Structure), ENterprises (Economic Structures to generate revenue for investors), INstitutions (not-for-profit ORganizations) and Citizen / Household Civil and Civic Norms that provide context and structure for their lives.

The Socioeconomic Structure provides the Homo sapiens Safety Net

Nearly half the U.S. population (48 percent of those who voted in the 3 November 2020 Presidential Election) believe that a narcissistic, pampered, authoritarian, failed but charismatic imbecile off a TV “reality” show could be a national leader if he told them what they wanted to hear and made them feel good about recapturing the illusions of past reality. See again John Dean and Bob Altemeyer *Authoritarian Nightmare* (2020) *Melville House*. Also see Jerrold M. Post *Dangerous Charisma* (2019) *Pegasus Books*

“The Problem” is that Civilization is presented in layer on layer of **COMPLEXITY**. For example there is a cohort of citizens who are concerned with the conflict caused by the “Patriarchal” nature of society. See Luis Teodoro Gutierrez *On Laudato Si’, Fratelli Tutti, and The Terminal Decline of Patriarchal Civilization* (2020) Mother Pelican.

No traditional concept of Social / Political structure can address “most” of the dysfunctions of the current social / political structure. For example see Richard Swift *Embedding the Economy with Care* (2020) *New Internationalist*.

For that Reason the future system must be fundamentally DIFFERENT IN STRUCTURE than any current GOVERNANCE, ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL CONTRACT STRUCTURE.

GROWTH VS DEGROWTH

The first overarching challenge is addressing the assumed requirement of “GROWTH”.

The imperative of Growth in an economic system to support prosperity has been debated since (1. The Industrial Revolution, 2, Adam Smith or 3. The End of the US Civil War – choose one). At the end of the last century, the decline in Growth after 1975 began to raise serious questions about the imperative of “Growth”.

Lester Thurow documented the decline in Growth in detail before the turn of the century but still asserted that “Growth” was a GIVEN. See Lester C. Thurow *The Future of Capitalism: How today’s Economic Forces Shape Tomorrow’s World* (1996) *William Morrow and Company*.

Before the Great Recession (2007 to 2009) Benjamin M. Friedman wrote *The Moral Consequences of Economic Growth* (2005) *Alfred A. Knopf*. Friedman did his best to put the most favorable spin he could on the imperative of growth.

Then the Great Recession knocked the stuffing out of ALL the assumptions related to Growth in nation-state and global Economic Systems.

In 2007 Robert B. Reich launched an attack on the current driver of “Growth” *Subcapitalism: The Transformation of Business, Democracy, and Everyday Life* (2007) *Albert A. Knopf* and then others attacked Friedman. Joseph E. Stiglitz in *THE PRICE OF INEQUALITY: How Today’s Divided Society Endangers Our Future* (2012) *W. W. Norton & Co.* attacked the primary shortcoming of the Capitalist Growth Machine – The rapidly expanding INEQUALITY.

Robert J. Gordon in *THE RISE AND FALL OF AMERICAN GROWTH: The U.S. Standard of Living Since the Civil War* (2016) *Princeton University Press* put the nail in the coffin. But you still would not know this from the fervent pitch for growth spewed by every politician and every economic development executive.

Steven Pearlstein, a Pulitzer prize winning columnist for *The Washington Post* and a faculty member at George Mason University who, in the authors opinion, thinks straighter than most economists, put the issue in the form of a question. *CAN AMERICAN CAPITALISM SURVIVE?: Why Greed in NOT Good, Opportunity in NOT Equal, and Fairness WON'T Make Us Poor* (2018) *St. Martin's Press*

The conditions for “survival” that Pearlstein outlines would kill Capitalism and Growth as it is practiced in 2020 because Capitalist rely of Greed (the obverse of charity and benevolence), unequal advantagem, monopoly and fear fairness and sunlight.

Once Colonial Capitalism discovered ways to use industrialization to exploit the planets resources it was “Katy Bar the Door.” Capitalist were sure that GREED was VERY GOOD.

THE BOTTOM LINE IS THAT HUMANS CANNOT AFFORD TO CONSUME – ON A PER CAPITA BASIS – THE PLANET’S RESOURCES AS THEY HAVE IN THE PAST 200 YEARS AND ESPECIALLY OVER THE LAST 75 YEARS.

Thoughtful observers now rely on resources such as these when considering “Growth” and the driver of growth – Capitalism.

Herman E. Daly, *Beyond Growth: The Economics of Sustainable Development* (1996) *Beacon Press*.

Donella Meadows, Jorgen Randers, Dennis Meadows, *Limits to Growth: The 30-Year Update* (2004) *Chelsea Green Publishing Company*.

Tim Jackson (forward by HRH The Prince of Wales) *Prosperity Without Growth: Economics for a Finite Planet* (2011) *Earthscan*.

They are joined by a new generation of anti-growth advocates:

Jason Hickel *Degrowth: A Response to Branko Milanovich*, (2020) *Jason Hickel Blog*

Dick Burkhardt *The Necessary Alternative to Growth is DeGrowth* (2020) *Resilience dot org*

Justin H. Vassallo review of Jason Hickel's book **Less is More: How DeGrowth Will Save the World** (2020) *Brave New Europe*. (Foreword by Kofi Klu and Rupert Read of *EXTINCTION REBELLION*).

Francois Schneider *Resources for a Better Future: Degrowth* (2020) *Uneven Earth*.

Giuseppe Feola *Degrowth and the Unmaking of Capitalism* (2020) *De Growth dot de*.

Caroline Whyte *Aggregate Green Growth is a Mirage: We Need to Take a More Scientific Approach to Societal Wellbeing* (2020) *Feasta*

Timothee Parrique *Pausing the Game of Growth* (2020) *Degrowth dot de*

Nathan Barlow *Reflecting on the Emerging Strategy Debate in the DeGrowth Movement* (2020) *DeGrowth dot de*

Beth Stratford *Green Growth vs. DeGrowth: Are We Missing the Point?* (2020) *Open Democracy*

In spite of howls of protest to the contrary, doing away with Capitalist 'Growth' is the most important Economic objective Homo sapiens can embrace. Unfortunately, in the conflict between Growth and Sustainability, each camp has its army of believers. The argument for the need for Growth to yield prosperity is nothing but the argument for policies that make the already rich even more RICH.

As suggested in PART ONE, the future might better involve working less, consuming less and enjoying more. In other words: Happiness and equality, not Growth of Gross Domestic Product.

The following Subsections of PART THREE provide a survey of Perspectives on topics related to Profound Transformations.

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE PARAMETERS – “REGIONALISM”, NOT JUST “LOCALISM.”

On the topic of REgionalism, Daniel Wahl is a respected advocate of an evolution of European REgionalism that disregards the existence of nation-state boundaries. See Daniel Christian Wahl *Re-REgionalisation As a Pathway to Diverse Regenerative Economies* (2020) *Medium dot com* and *Bioregional REgeneration for Planetary Health* (2020) *Medium dot com*. Also see Victor M. Toledo *Rethinking Democracy From the Perspective of Political Ecology* (2020) *Resilience dot org*

The graphic presented at the heading of the two essays by Daniel Wahl is a map of the European BioREgions. While not as powerful as the graphic featured in CP #46 they do -- based on the authors experience on the ground in Europe – a good job of getting across the ‘idea’ of BioREgions while disregarding nation-state borders.

Citizens cannot change SOcioeconomic STructure without control of the Governance Structure and the ability to Change that Structure. As luck would have it, thanks to the U.S. Supreme Court (*Citizens United*), those in control of the economic levers have bought their way into control of the Governance Structure. They in turn have sold the idea that the rich are looking out for citizens when in fact they are milking them dry – See the 2017 “tax break for the rich.”

Due to the complexity of the current Economic Systems the majority of citizens are LOST, Period.

As noted above, it is imperative to move the nation-state powers to the REgional Scale.

New Agency Structure with a “buck-stops-here” focus may be the New Urban Region – fundamental building block of current Human Existence. Or it may be termed the BioRegional Scale which is composed of more than one New Urban Region. As an aside, proponents of Profound Change in the United Kingdom have expressed dissatisfaction with their centralized (nation-state) government for a nation-state one sixth the population of the United States.

And Yes, “local” is a Core Confusing Word.

THE ESTATES MATRIX

Part of SYNERGY’s work on the topic of Citizen Media and the statement (attributed to Edmund Burke in 1837) that the “Fourth Estate” was the English News Media of the day. This led to the publication of a 5 X 9 spread sheet in PART TWO, Chapter 4 through 7 of *TRILO-G* (2010) that summarizes the 700 years (1302 to 2008) of Estate Metamorphous in Europe BS VT association North and South America and to some extent Africa and South East Asia.

The bottom line of this analysis is that the New Fourth Estate (Citizens and Their HouseHolds) have no voice that is their own.

The Profound Transformation must articulate a basis for such a voice – Citizen Media – to articulate Democracy.

Citizens must be able to vocally support the evolution of sustainable Food Systems, Water Supply, Health and Security in a way that fits with Homo sapiens Primitive Genetic Proclivities as well as the needs of today and the future.

THE HOUSEHOLD DEBT CRISIS

The Great recession was triggered by un-supported debt. The Pandemic has resulted in a mountain of un-supported personal debt that not exceeds the levels of the Great Recession. Aaron Karo *A debt Reckoning is Unavoidable – Will Activists seize the moment?* (2020) *Waging Nonviolence*.

Karo suggests that a debt crisis is inevitable and that it should result in a across the board debt forgiveness which has historically been a frequent strategy for clearing the economic system of debt.

TOOLS

Tools to establish fora to evolve citizen Democratic Perspectives on the topics related to citizens' well being include Citizen Assemblies and the concept of Study Circles. Study Circles are the tool the citizens of Sweden used to fashion a national position of Sustainability. This concept developed by Karl-Henrik Robert was termed The Natural Step. *The Natural Step For Business: Wealth, Ecology and the Evolutionary Corporation* by Brian Nattrass & Mary Altomare was an attempt to import The Natural Step into the United States.

THE GREEN NEW DEAL

The Green New Deal is a popular movement that is not comprehensive enough to be “the Solution” and it cannot be based on “Green Growth” See Manuel Casal Lodeiro *20 Reasons to Prefer DeGrowth to the Green New Deal (As a Political Option to Address the Collapse of Civilization)* (2020) *15/15\15 dot org*.

ANTI-CAPITALISM

Capitalism cannot be supported by consumption of Natural Capital.

Matthew T. Rose review of David Whyte, *Ecocide – Kill The Corporation Before it Kills Us*. (2020) *Brave New Europe*

Barry C. Lynn *CORNERED: the New Monopoly Capitalism and the Economics of Destruction* (2010) *John Wiley & Sons*

Joseph E. Stiglitz *Globalization and Its Discontents Revisited: Anti-Globalization in the Era of Trump* (2018) *W. W. Norton & Co*

POLITICAL PARTIES

Political Parties have no role except to work to insure that the members are reelected and to game plan and support the image of looking out for the interests of those about whom they only care at elections time.

That raises the question noted by Jennifer Rubin concerning citizens led by political parties rather than principles of democracy, *Are we governable?* (2020) *The Washington Post*.

ENERGY

Intelligent Energy Policy will be a key to effective Climate Change Strategies and to Economic Recovery. Living on the Gulf Coast of Texas and in what is termed the Energy Capital of the World it is easy to be overwhelmed by the messages from the oil and gas industry. There is one sane voice in this REgion Chris Tomlinson who writes a regular column for the *Houston Chronicle*. Here is a representative selection of Tomlinson *Chronicle* columns:

Leverage COVID-19 Anger to Boost Economic Justice, Aug 2020.

BP Buries a Dagger into the Heart of the Oil and Gas Industry, Sep 2020.

Ending Racism Would Add Trillions to US Economy, Oct 2020.

Oil and Gas Industry can Lead in Cutting Carbon Emissions, Oct 2020.

Four opportunities for Oil and Gas Workers in a Low-Carbon Economy, Oct 2020.

Hydrogen is Key to Texas Role in Clean Energy, Depending on its Color, Nov 2020.

Oil Companies Should Boycott Arctic Drilling Auction, Dec 2020.

Evolving Texas Grid Marks Beginning of the End for Fossil Fuel Electricity, Dec 2020.

Income Inequality Growing Faster Than Ever Due to Covid-19,
Dec 2020

Continued investment in oil and gas infrastructure will result in “stranded assets.” Chris Nelder ***Stranded Assets (2020) Energy Transition***

A key benefit of renewable energy is that they can be added in small increments that directly support ***A Small Farm Future*** in the CountrySide. Chris Smaje ***A Small FARM FUTURE: Making the case for a SOCIETY Built Around LOCAL Economies Self-Provisioning Agricultural DIVERSITY and a SHARED EARTH (2020) Somerset House***. You will hear more from Smaje in CURRENT PERSPECTIVE #46. Also see Phillip O’Sullivan ***build small, Think Big (2020) Red Pepper***.

THE AGENCIES THAT SUPPORT DECENTRALIZED DEMOCRACY MUST EVOLVE TO BE BASED ON THE ORGANIC COMPONENTS OF HUMAN SETTLEMENT PATTERNS.

Succession is not the answer. Each REgion needs to exhibit the full range of choices, not be a collection of like minded true believers. A ‘state’ of Trumpsters would be in constant turmoil. Oliver Sylvester-Bradley ***Decent Gov Now (2020) Open Coop***.

WHO WILL STAND UP FOR REGIONALISM?

There is a National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) which has championed some aspects of REgional Governance. Their moto is “Building REgional COmmunities.” The emphasis might better be placed on “Building Balanced COmmunities WITHIN Functional REgion New URban REgions.”

Along with the National Association of Counties, NARC has held conferences and seminars on the topic which the author has participated in during the 90s. One stumbling block to NARC leadership is that the members of the governing boards of these ORganizations are steeped in the traditions and mind sets of the municipal / County / State system of the Northwest Ordinance.

In spite of his broad agenda for informed change, it is not clear the Richard Heinberg we have cited for many important perspectives would agree with the focus of SYNERGY / E M Risse on Profound Change in GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE and the role of REgional AGencies.

In *MuseLetter # 328, United States: An Obituary* (June 2020) Heinberg laments the prospect of The United States being broken up into separate fiefdoms. However he seems to more favorably view the need for REgional Governance in *A Simple Way to Understand What’s Happening... and What To Do* (October 2020) But then in *Making America Ungovernable* (November 2020) he seems to reverse himself. Seeing REgionalism framed as a overarching goal may help him see this as a path forward.

IN THE OLD DAYS

SYNERGY / E M Risse has extensive experience drafting and managing human settlement pattern controls. Before the deterioration of governance systems it was possible for the author to draft and help guide through the AGENCY and Legislative process a REGIONAL Land Use Control System to this day protects the 6,000,000 acre Adirondack Park . That required leadership provided by Nelson Rockefeller, Charles Lanigan and D. David Brandon and the members of the Temporary Commission on the future of the Adirondacks. Such an effort would be impossible in today’s strife riven political structure.

THE FINAL WORD

The author believes that the best way to end this *CURRENT PERSPECTIVE* is to recommend that readers carefully read Richard Heinberg's essay *The Year Consensus Reality Fractured* (2020) *Resilience dot org*. This work lays out what is at stake if action to implement Profound Transformation outlined above is not undertaken.

A second recommended reading is Daniel Herriges's *We Don't Live in a World of Cartoon Villains* (2020) *Strong Towns*. Herriges attempts to put in context the rancorous conflict between political factions that threaten to rip apart out democracy.

APPENDIX ONE: ON VOCABULARY, CAPITALIZATION & TYPOGRAPHY.

This NOTE updates both **APPENDIX ONE – LEXICON** and **APPENDIX TWO – CORE CONFUSING WORDS** of *THE SHAPE OF THE FUTURE* (2000)

In the evolution of a robust and functional Vocabulary to accurately articulate the complexity of Human Settlement Patterns, SYNERGY / E M Risse avoids the use of several Core Confusing Words and attempts to evolve words, phrases and letter sequences that are intuitively clear in the context used. The Core Confusing words that are avoided include **UNCAPITALIZED** use of the words “city”, “exurban”, “family”, “local”, “rural”, “sprawl”, “suburban” and “urban”.

Capitals are employed for the key elements of the settlement pattern Vocabulary because words that have specific meanings with respect to Human Settlement Patterns must be treated like Proper Nouns to avoid confusion. Within the guidelines of conventional grammar, ENterprises, AGencies and INstitutions are free to employ All Caps, Initial Caps and Interior Caps to differentiate and advertise their products and services. Parents create new Proper Nouns when they become parents.

Why should those trying to UnderStand and articulate the complexity of Human Settlement Patterns be required to rely on confusing words and phrases and arcane rules of grammar?

Due to the fact that Capitalization survives most inter-system translations, Capitalized terms are employed when a specific definition of a word or phrase is intended. ALL CAPS are used for

emphasis. This is because *italics*, underlining, **bold**, **color** and **highlighting** are often removed in software translations – e.g. different software used by email providers.

Many words, phrases and letter sequences used in SYNERGY / E M Risse communications, Perspectives and books that APPEAR to exhibit ‘irregular capitalization’ are defined in the GLOSSARY linked from the *RESOURCES* page at <https://emrisse.com>. The evolution continues and some use of Capitalized words have not yet been added to SYNERGY’s on line GLOSSARY. Many of the words used by SYNERGY are defined in ***THE SHAPE OF THE FUTURE***, APPENDIX ONE – LEXICON, however, these definitions were current when the book was last revised.

In addition to consulting the GLOSSARY, one can Google ‘e m risse’ followed by the word, phrase or letter sequences in question – for example ‘e m risse J / H / S / R / A’ – and find a definition and / or find the word, phrase or letter sequence used in context.

Links are not provided for referenced resources which are out of the control of SYNERGY. References to resources not authored by E M Risse can be located via an Internet search.

An expanded Capitalization strategy has been employed since the publication of CP # 33 (June 2014). In the past, a second capital has been used **WITHIN** compound words with specific meanings (e.g. OpenSpace, SubRegional, etc.) to focus attention on the need to understand the exact meaning of these terms.

As noted in APPENDIX TWO of ***THE SHAPE OF THE FUTURE***, there are some confusing words for which there is no good substitute in English. In the past the words Unit, Cluster, Neighborhood, Village, Community and Region (including New URban REgions) have been capitalized. In Current Perspective # 33 and subsequent publications, a double capital is used to start the title of each organic component of human settlement pattern – e.g. UNit, CLuster, NEighborhood, VillAge, COmmunity, REgion. Also additional words will be given Interior Capitals (e.g. HouseHold and SubREgion) as the need arises.

If you do **NOT** find the avoidance of Core Confusing Words and expanded Capitalization to indicate the application of a precisely defined Vocabulary useful to articulate a comprehensive Conceptual Framework for Human Settlement Patterns, you are welcome to create your own Vocabulary system to achieve UnderStanding in the context of Awareness => Interest => UnderStanding => Informed Action with respect to Human Settlement Patterns.

However: Do not be deluded and think that you will achieve UnderStanding much less Informed Action using an inadequate Vocabulary which triggers Unfounded and Conflicting Neural Linguistic Frameworks. These words reflect Disorienting Naive Reality founded on Primitive Genetic Proclivities. See Current Perspective # 24 ***Live By / Die By*** linked from the *CURRENT PERSPECTIVES* page at <https://emrisse.com>.

NB: Evolving a functional Vocabulary is an ongoing process and feed back is welcomed. Please DO NOT provide blanket negative feedback UNLESS you also provide an alternative strategy to evolve a functional Vocabulary. The continued use of Core Confusing Words and limited Capitalization of words – especially for the organic components of human settlement – is NOT an acceptable response. Also see *Millennials Destroyed the Rules of Written English and Created Something Better: The Spelling and Grammar Rules Do Not Apply on The Millennial Internet*, Rachel Thompson, *Mashable* (2 APR 2018).