



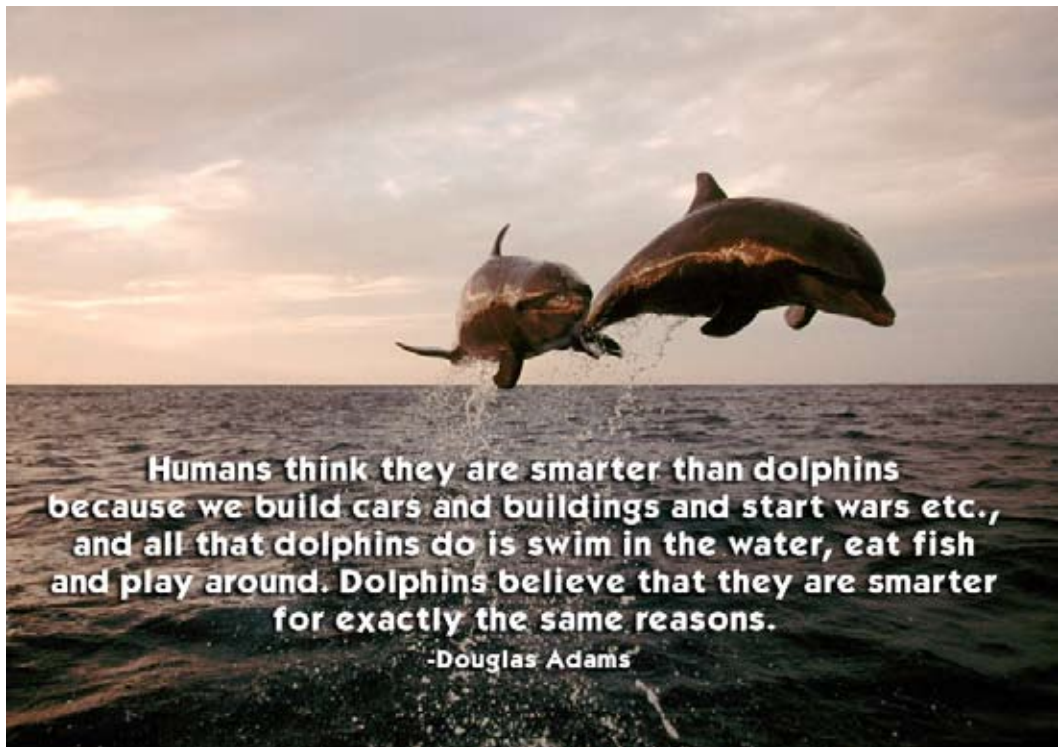
A
curmudgeonly
collection of
pictorial
aphorisms

A curmudgeon is a grumpy old person, usually (but not always) male. As I've grown older, my experience is that there's plenty to be grumpy about.



Of all our
hallucinations
the most pernicious
is that we think
we know what
we are doing

Religion is mythguided



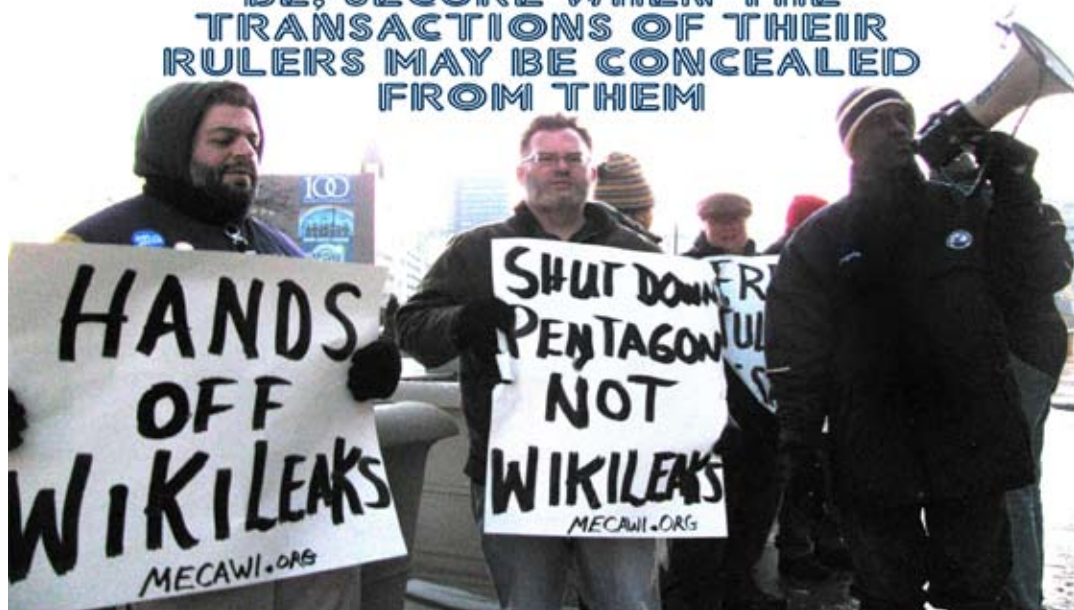
Humans think they are smarter than dolphins because we build cars and buildings and start wars etc., and all that dolphins do is swim in the water, eat fish and play around. Dolphins believe that they are smarter for exactly the same reasons.

-Douglas Adams

**Explain to future generations that it was good for the economy
when they can't farm the land, breathe the air, or drink the water.**



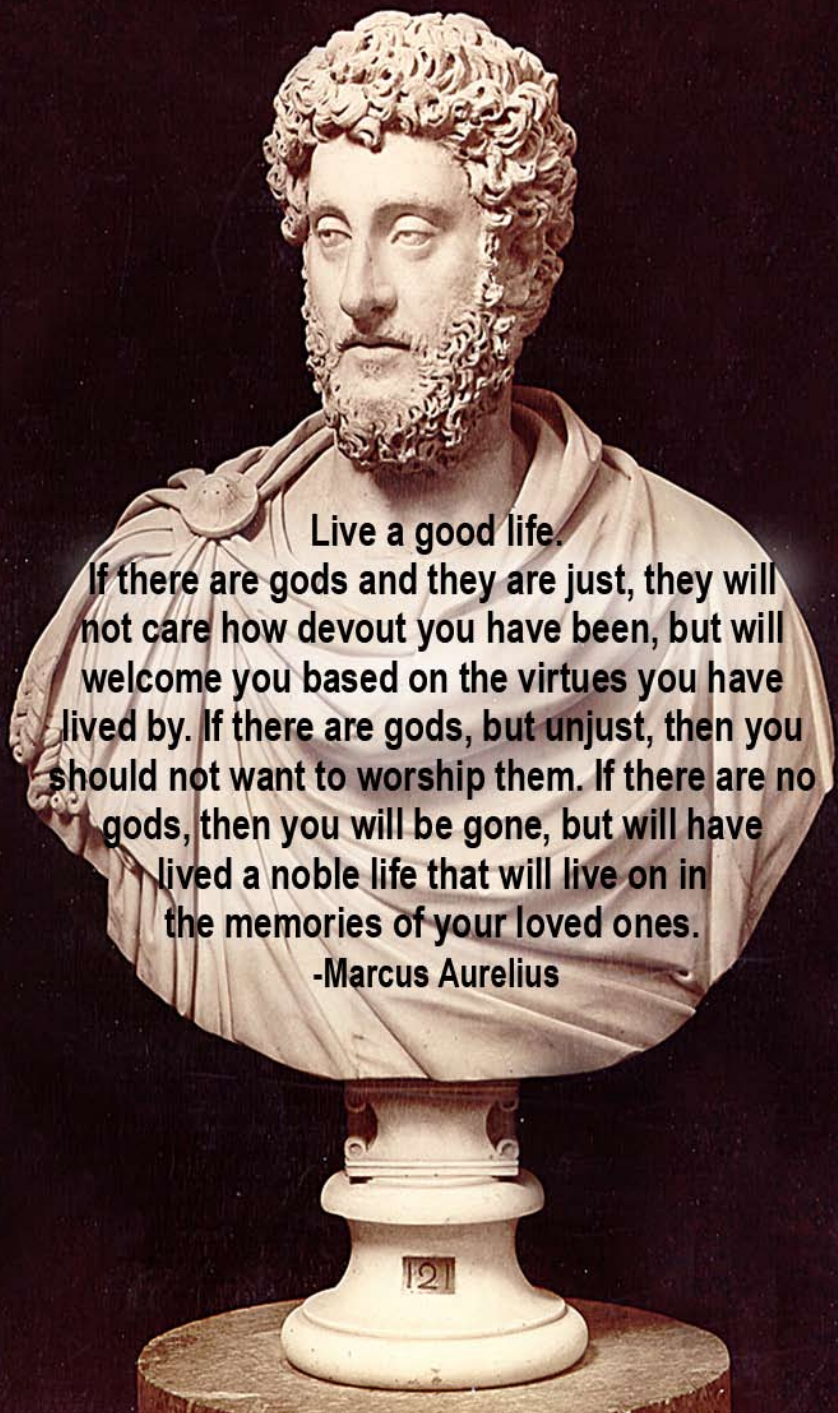
**THE LIBERTIES OF A PEOPLE
NEVER WERE, NOR EVER WILL
BE, SECURE WHEN THE
TRANSACTIONS OF THEIR
RULERS MAY BE CONCEALED
FROM THEM**





**What difference does it make to the dead,
the orphans, and the homeless, whether the
mad destruction is wrought under the name
of totalitarianism or the holy name
of liberty or democracy.**

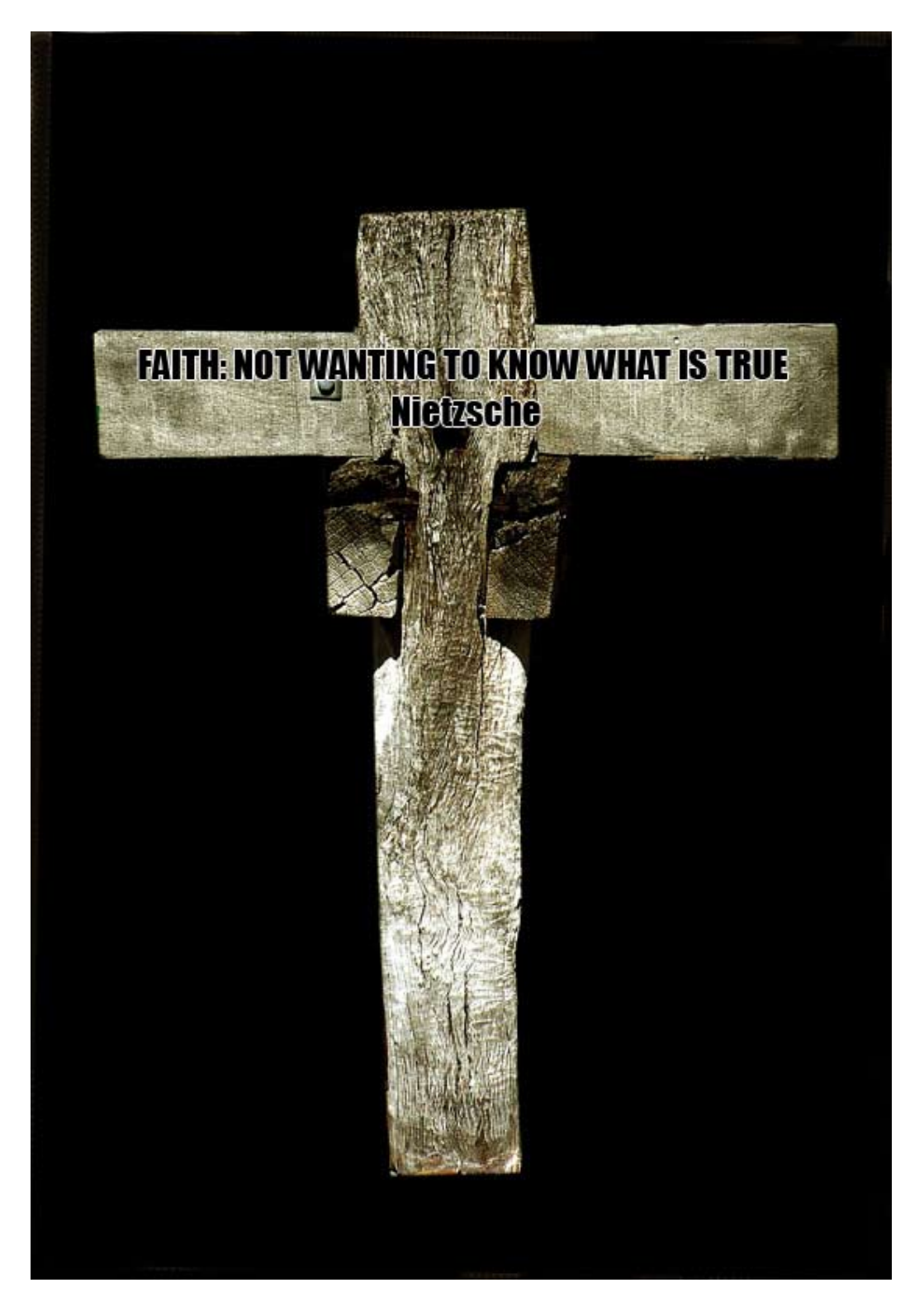
-Gandhi



Live a good life.

If there are gods and they are just, they will not care how devout you have been, but will welcome you based on the virtues you have lived by. If there are gods, but unjust, then you should not want to worship them. If there are no gods, then you will be gone, but will have lived a noble life that will live on in the memories of your loved ones.

-Marcus Aurelius

A weathered, light-colored wooden cross is centered against a solid black background. The cross is made of two rough-hewn wooden beams. The horizontal beam has the text "FAITH: NOT WANTING TO KNOW WHAT IS TRUE" in bold, black, sans-serif capital letters. Below this, the name "Nietzsche" is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.

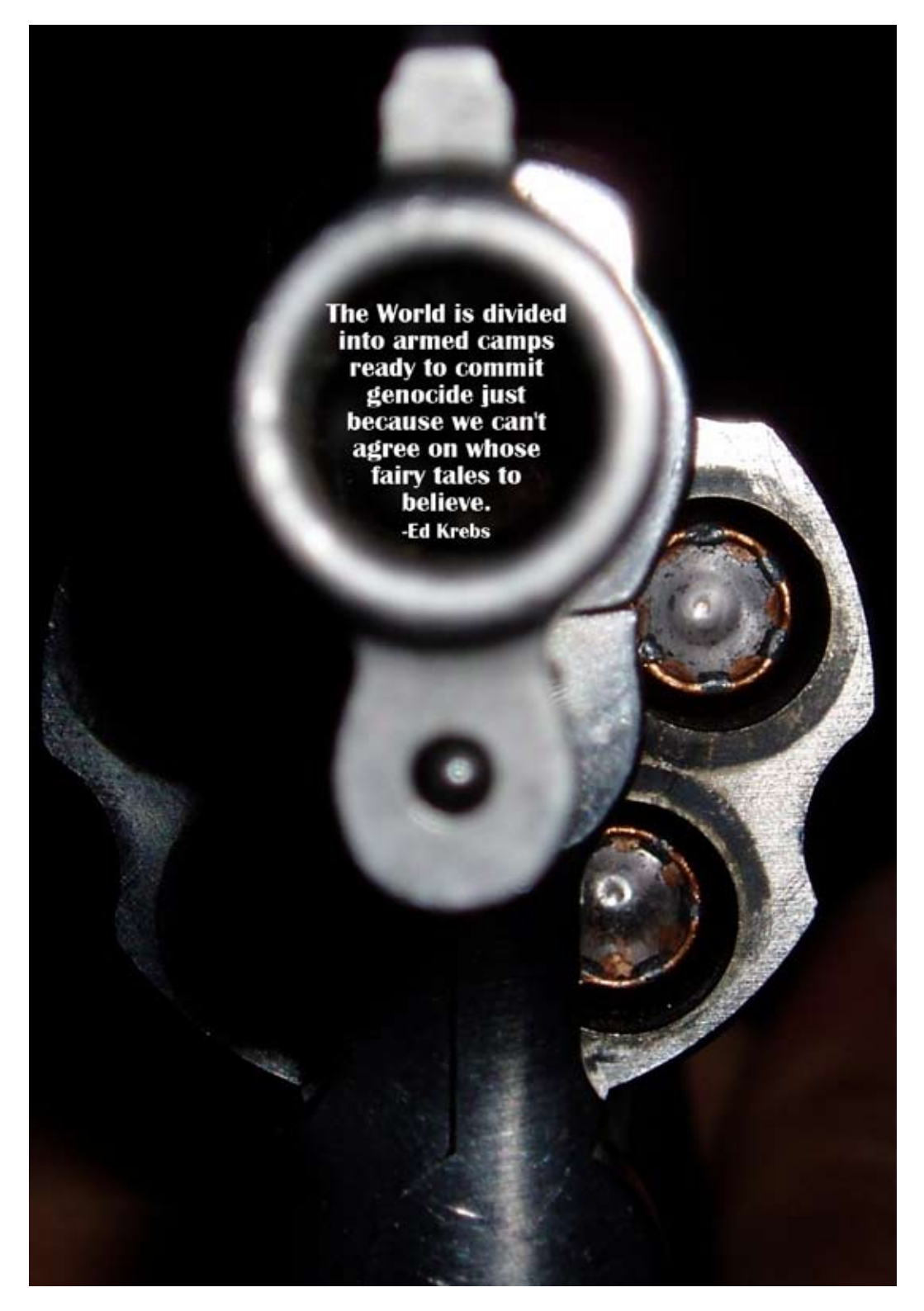
FAITH: NOT WANTING TO KNOW WHAT IS TRUE
Nietzsche



**There is nothing to
fear more than the
current government**



**Money often costs too much.
-Ralph Waldo Emerson**

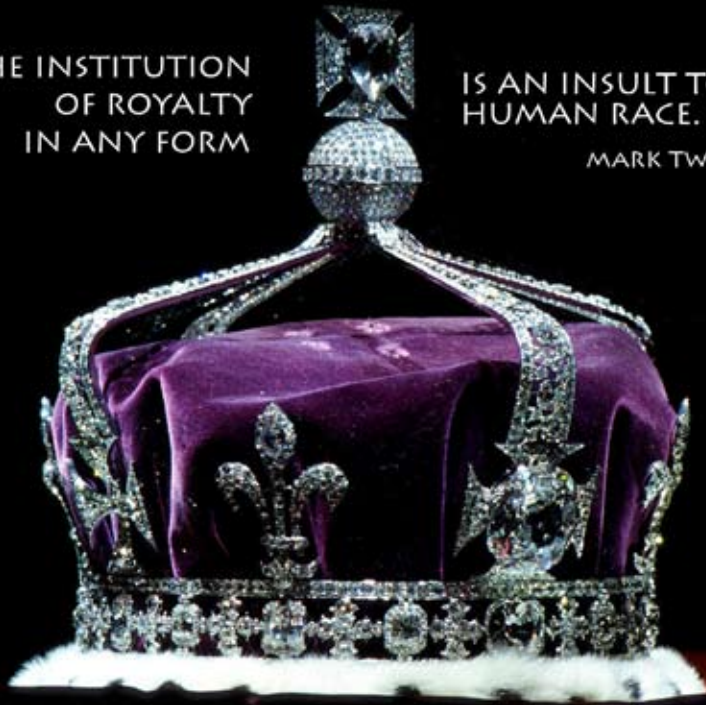


**The World is divided
into armed camps
ready to commit
genocide just
because we can't
agree on whose
fairy tales to
believe.
-Ed Krebs**

THE INSTITUTION
OF ROYALTY
IN ANY FORM

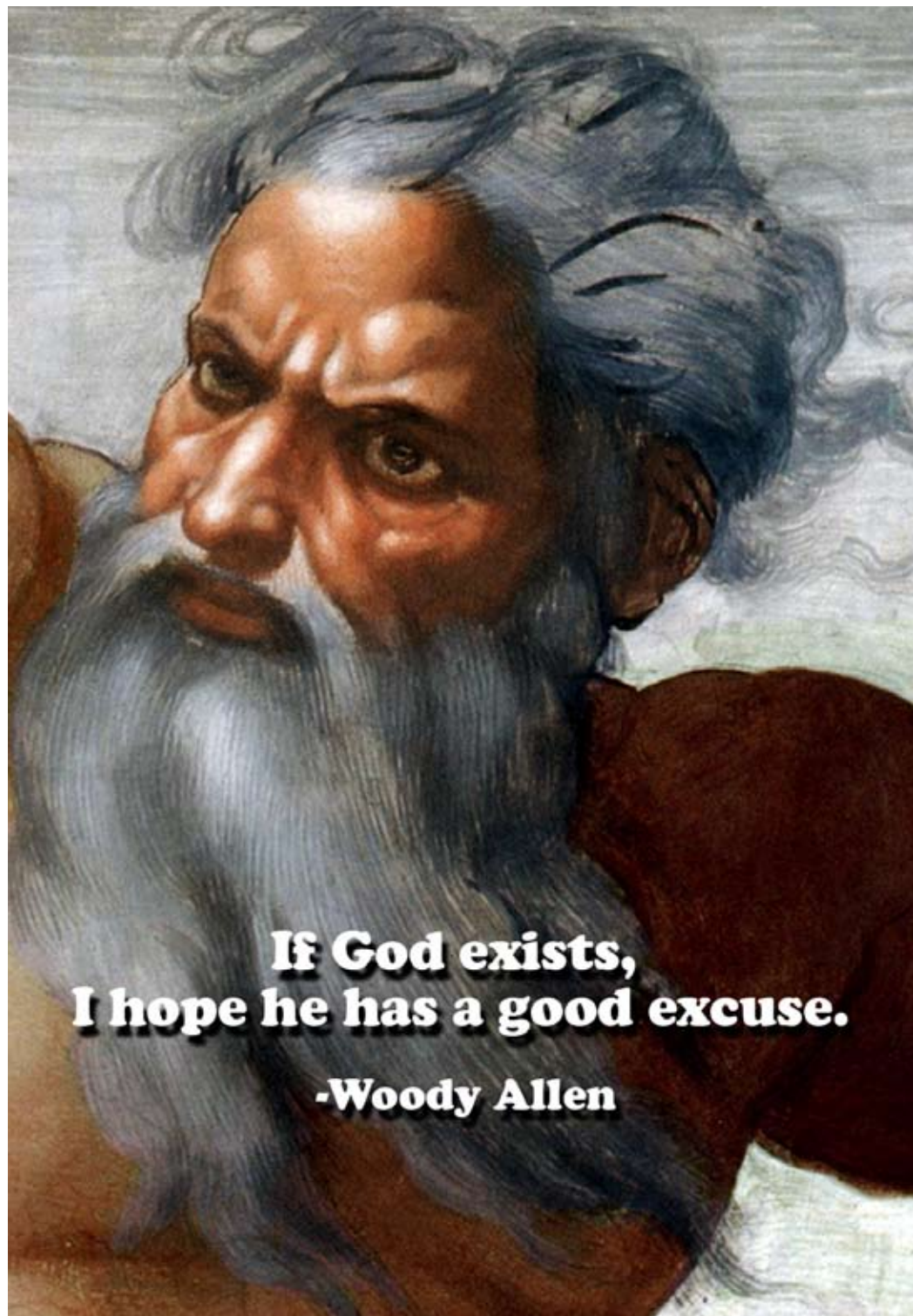
IS AN INSULT TO THE
HUMAN RACE.

MARK TWAIN



The art of medicine consists in amusing the patient
while nature cures the disease.

—Voltaire

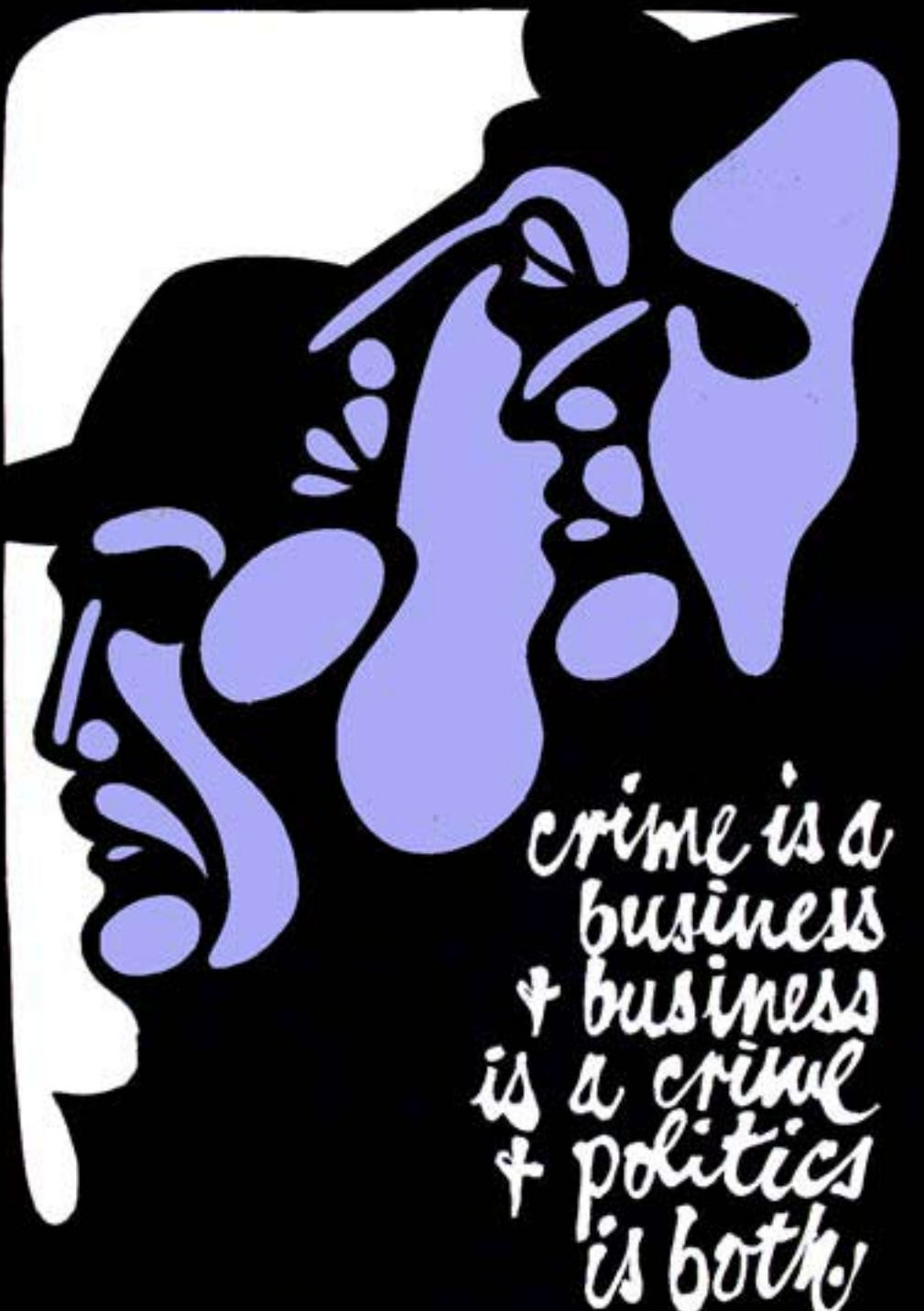


**If God exists,
I hope he has a good excuse.**

-Woody Allen



The hand that
rocks the cradle
should also
rock the boat.



crime is a
business
+ business
is a crime
+ politics
is both

A close-up photograph of a person's hand making a peace sign (V-sign) against a solid dark blue background. The hand is positioned vertically, with the index and middle fingers extended upwards and slightly apart. The skin is fair and shows some texture. A dark blue sleeve is visible at the bottom of the hand.

IRREVERENCE IS
THE CHAMPION
OF LIBERTY
AND ITS ONLY
SURE DEFENCE

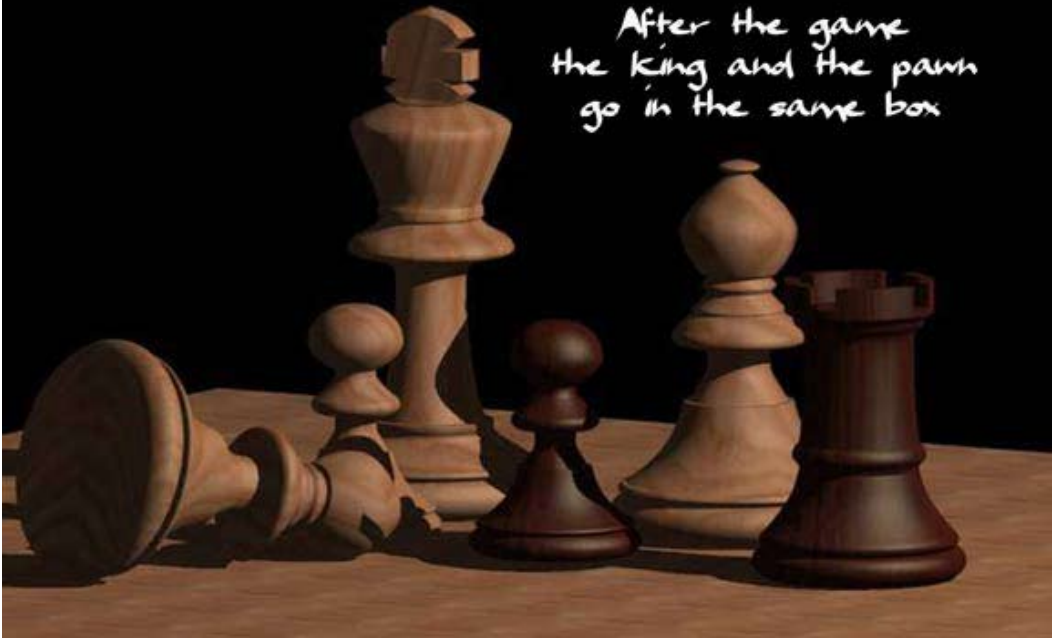
-- MARK TWAIN



**Human kindness
has never weakened the stamina
or softened the fiber of a free people.
A nation does not have
to be cruel to be tough.**

- Franklin D. Roosevelt

After the game
the king and the pawn
go in the same box



It is very strange, and very
melancholy, that the paucity
of human pleasures should
persuade us ever to call
hunting one of them.

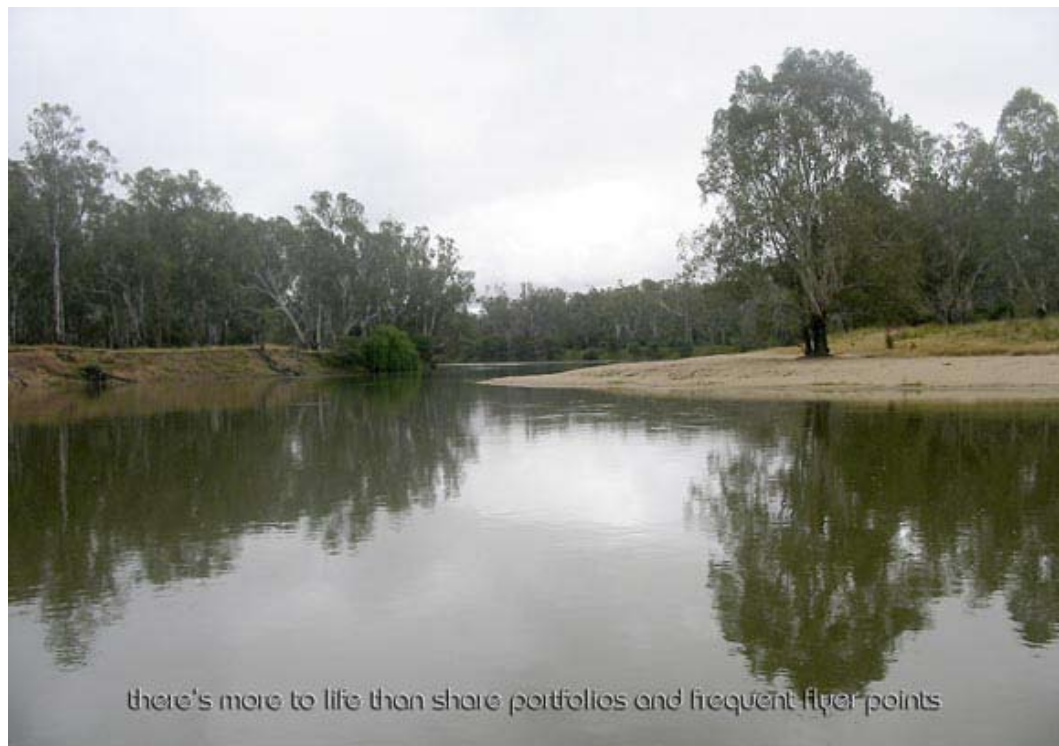
-Samuel Johnson





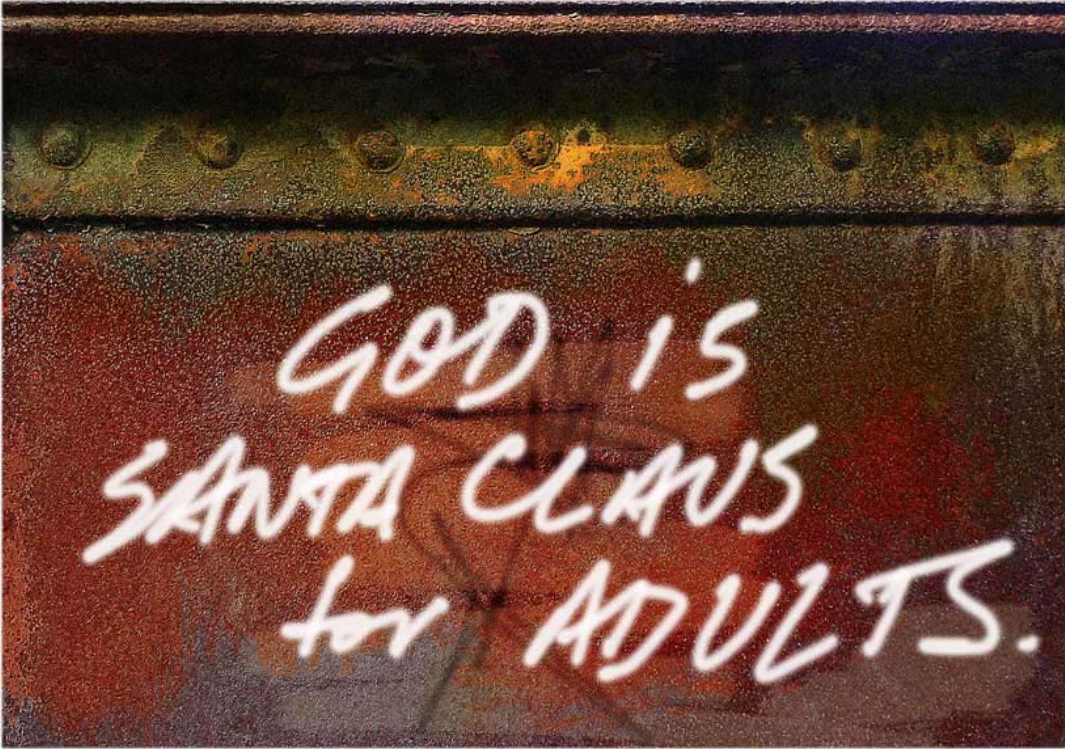
**WARS DECIDE
NOT WHAT'S RIGHT
BUT WHAT'S LEFT**





there's more to life than share portfolios and frequent flyer points





GOD IS
SANTA CLAUS
for ADULTS.

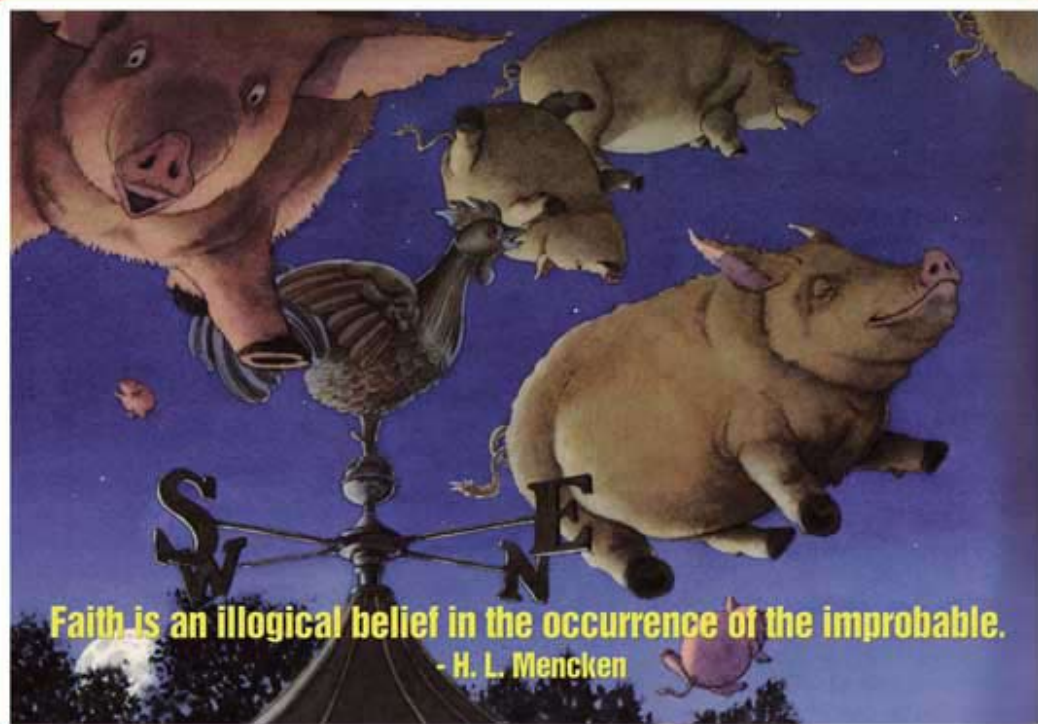


Existence is
like playing a game
in which the rules
are constantly changing
without ever being made clear





NO MATTER HOW CYNICAL
YOU BECOME
IT'S NEVER ENOUGH
TO KEEP UP





JOIN THE ARMY



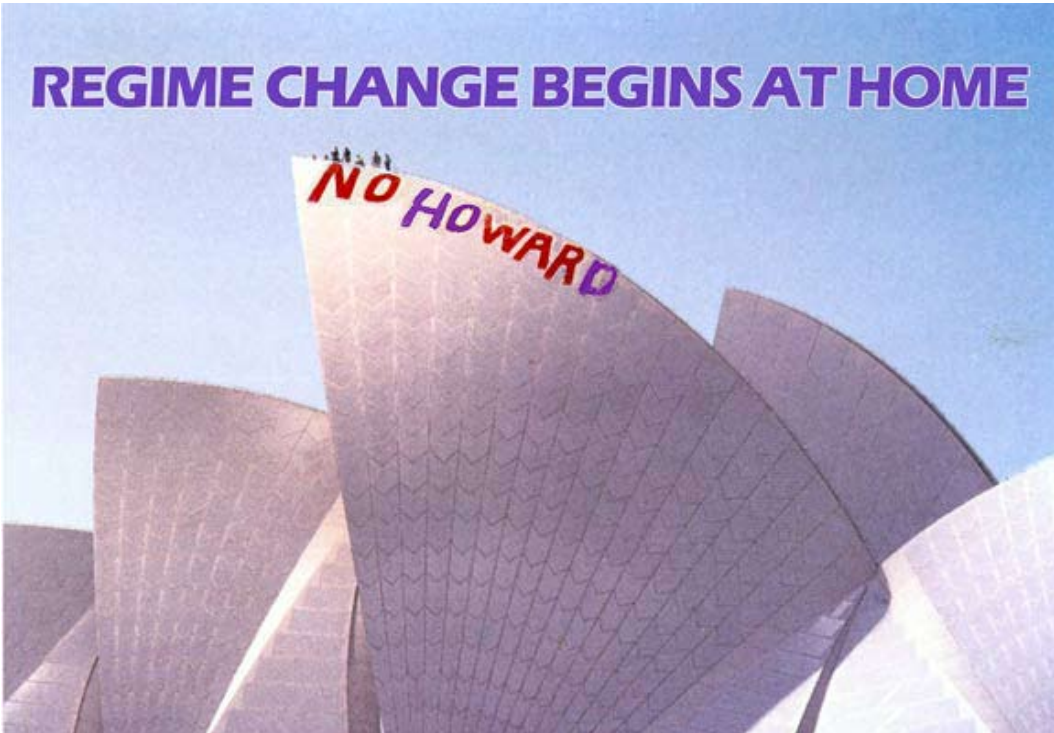
Vacancies available



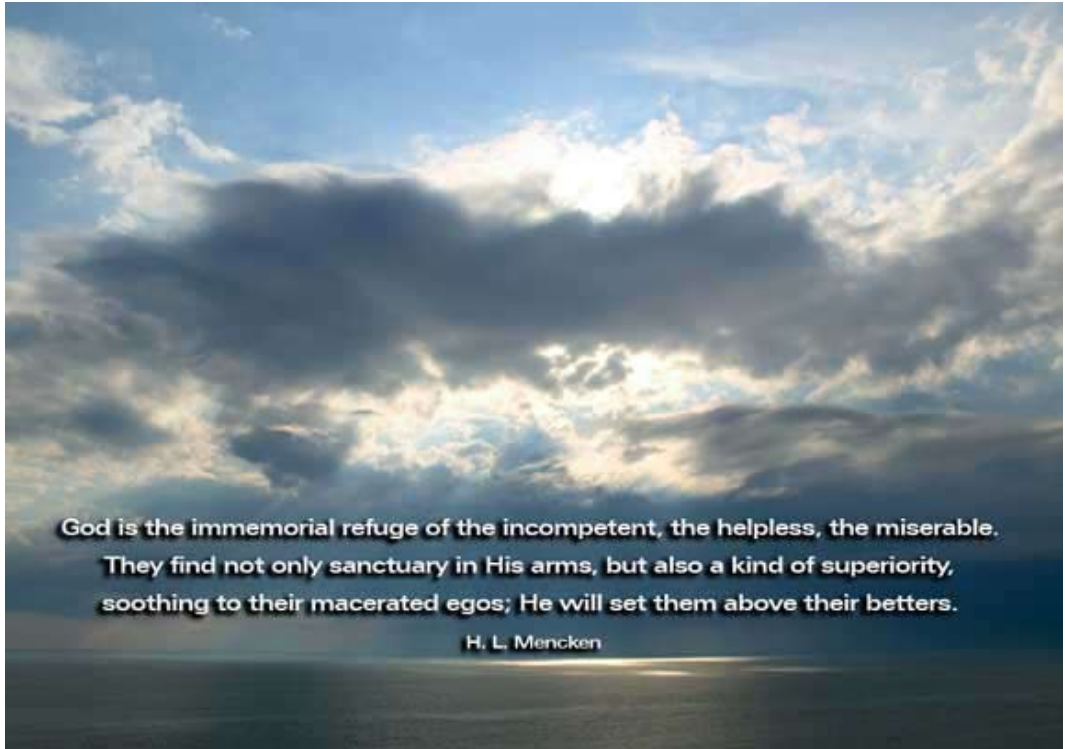
YOU CAN PRAY
TO THE HEAD
OF A SARDINE
IF YOU BELIEVE
IN IT ENOUGH

— JAPANESE PROVERB

REGIME CHANGE BEGINS AT HOME



NO HOWARD

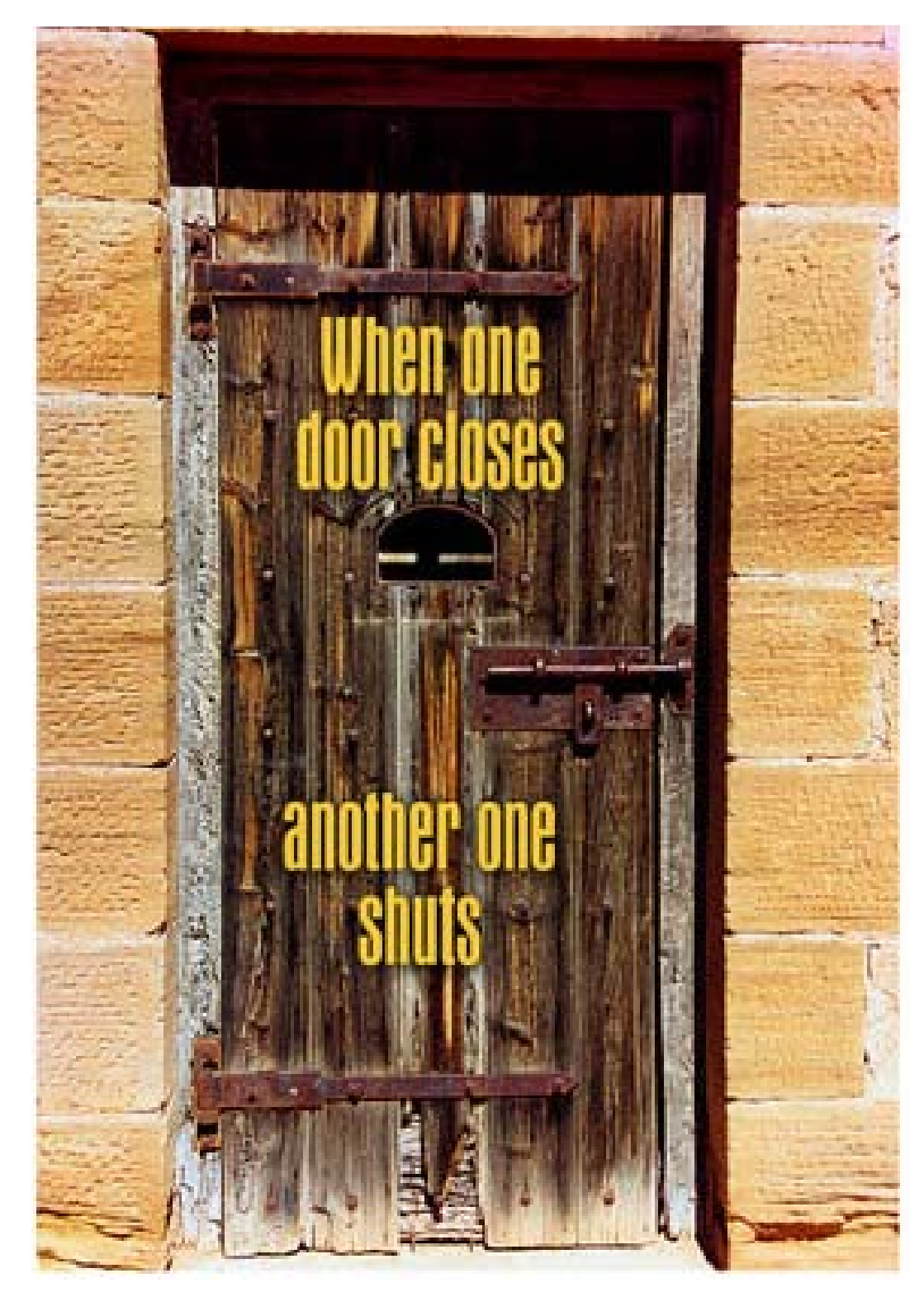


God is the immemorial refuge of the incompetent, the helpless, the miserable.
They find not only sanctuary in His arms, but also a kind of superiority,
soothing to their macerated egos; He will set them above their betters.

H. L. Mencken

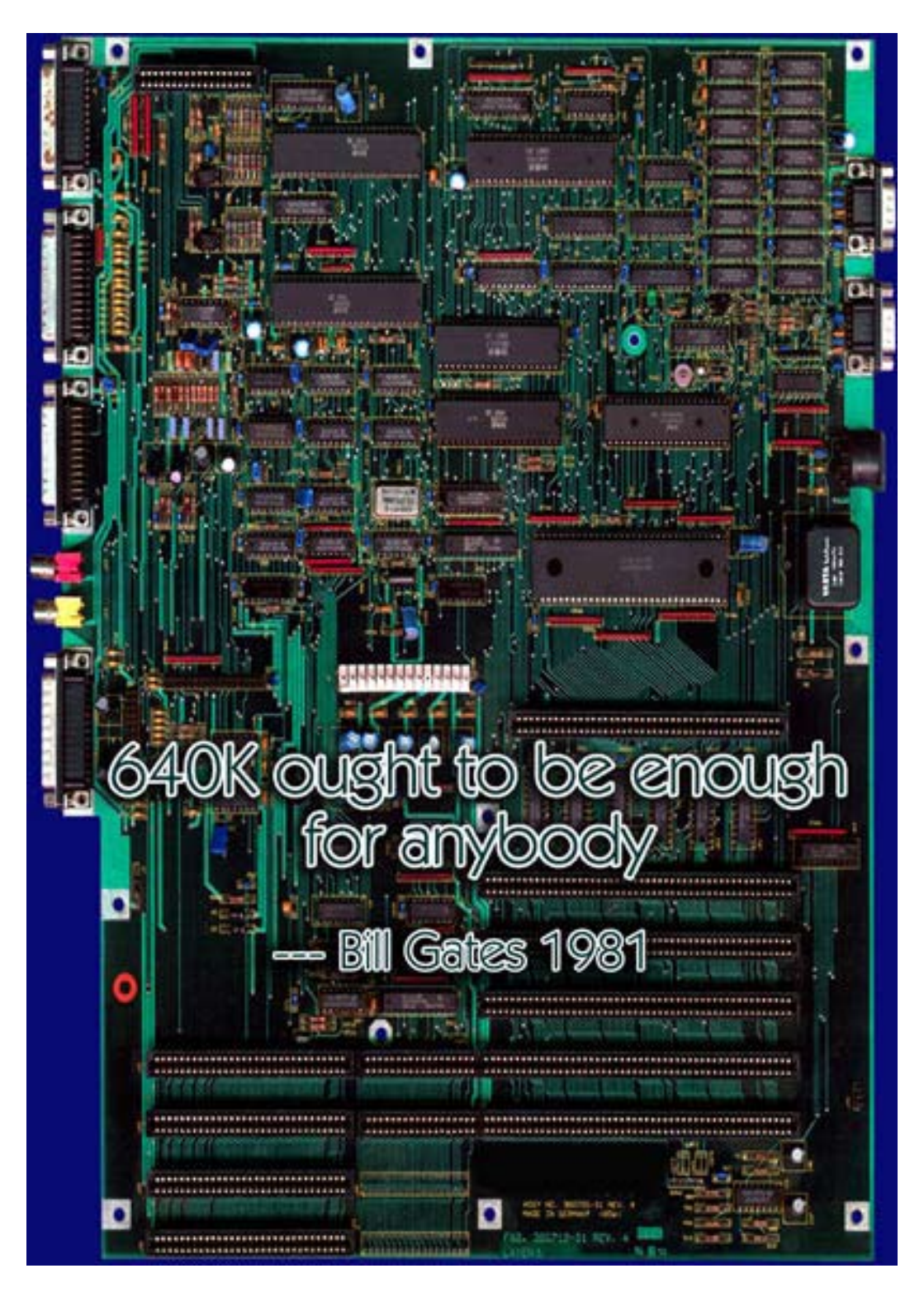


If you can't
take the heat
don't tickle the dragon

A rustic wooden door with a metal latch and a small arched window, set in a stone wall. The door is made of vertical wooden planks and has a large metal latch on the right side. A small arched window is located in the center of the door. The door is surrounded by a stone wall made of large, light-colored stones.

When one
door closes

another one
shuts



640K ought to be enough
for anybody

-- Bill Gates 1981

And **God** blessed
Corporate America
and said unto them:
“ Be fruitful and multiply
and fill the earth
and subdue it,
and have dominion over
the fish of the sea
and the birds of the air,
and over every living thing
that moves upon the earth.”



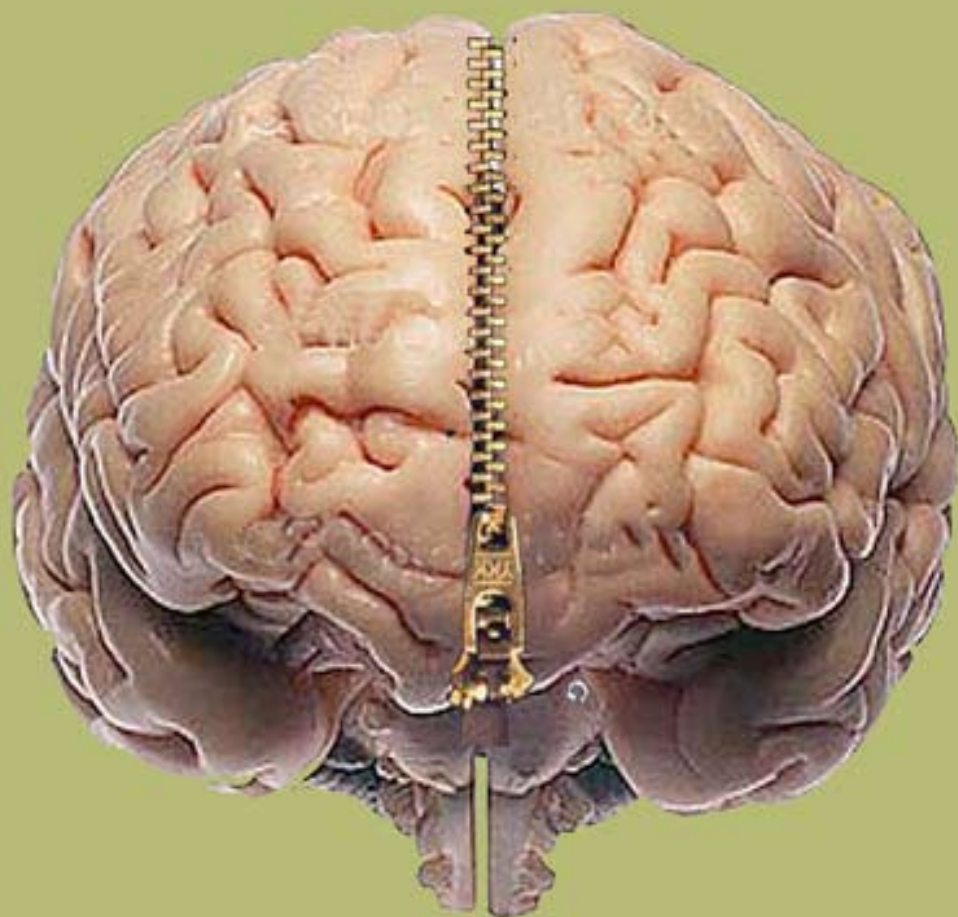
So far as I can remember, there is not one word in the Gospels in praise of intelligence.
- Bertrand Russell





Beware of
enterprises
that require
new clothes





**A closed mind is
a wonderful thing
to lose**



IF TRIANGLES HAD A GOD
HE'D HAVE THREE SIDES

- YIDDISH PROVERB

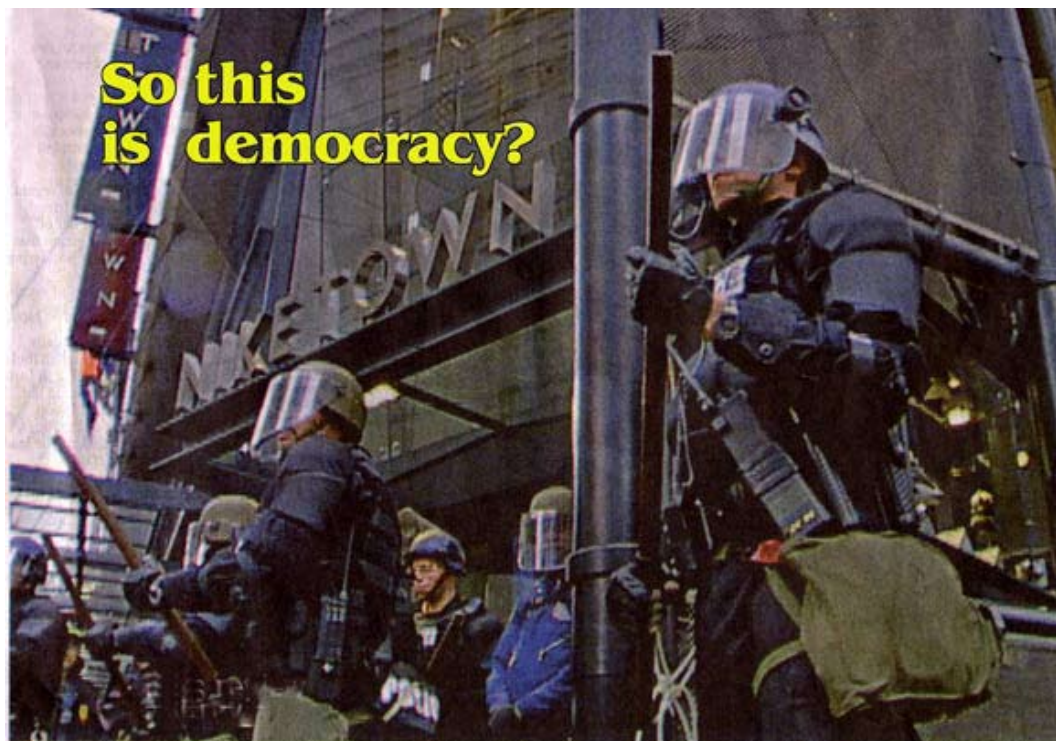
I would rather have a mind opened by wonder



than one closed
by belief.

- Gerry Spence

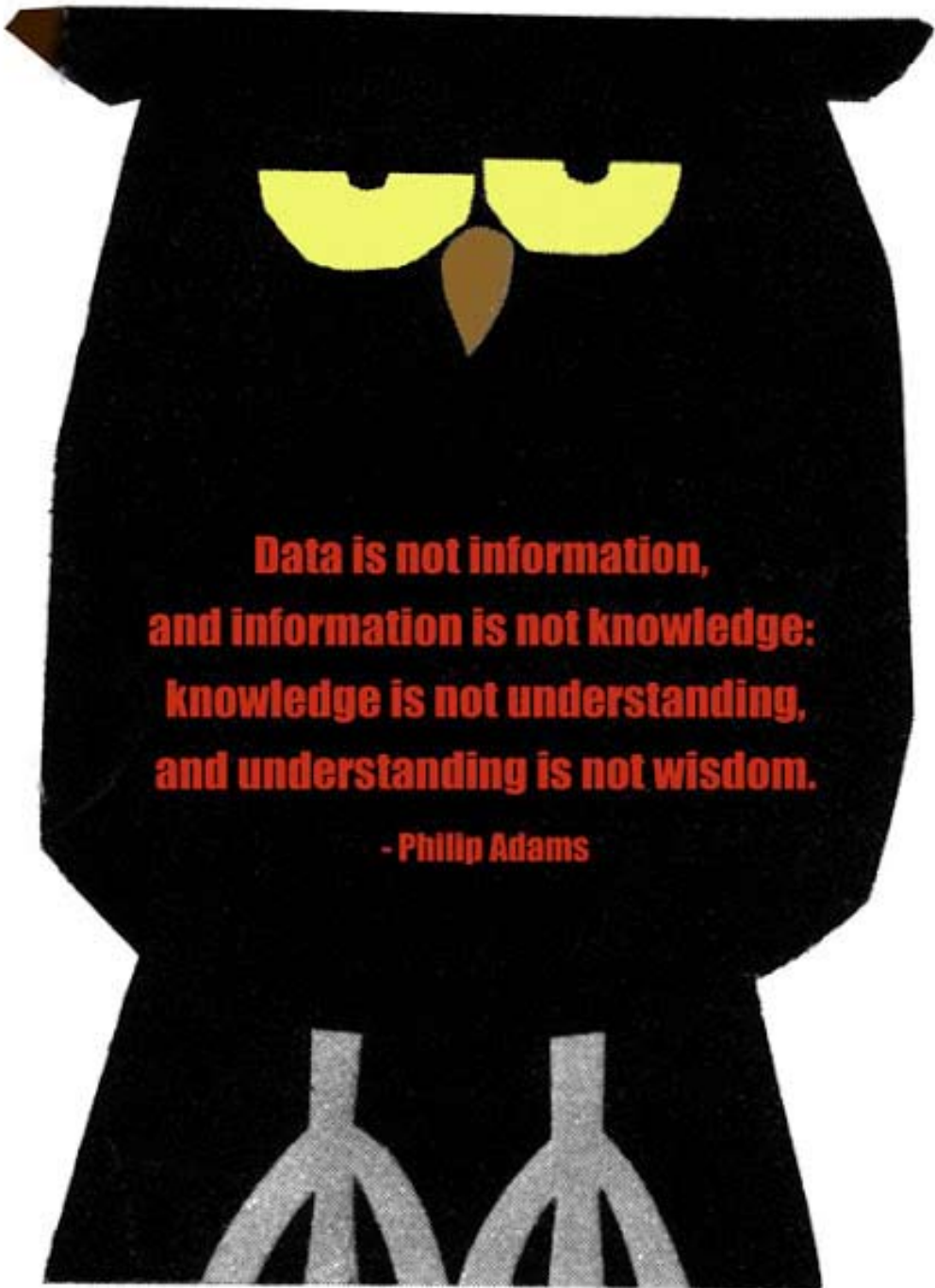
**So this
is democracy?**



life
makes
no
sense



but it's ours
to make sense of

A large, black silhouette of an owl serves as the background. It has bright yellow eyes and a small brown beak. At the bottom, its feet are depicted in a light gray, stylized manner.

**Data is not information,
and information is not knowledge:
knowledge is not understanding,
and understanding is not wisdom.**

- Phillip Adams

A photograph of two skydivers in a rural landscape. One skydiver, wearing a red and white patterned jumpsuit, is upside down in the upper left. The other skydiver, in a white jumpsuit, is in a more standard skydiving position in the lower right. The background shows a patchwork of green and brown fields under a clear sky.

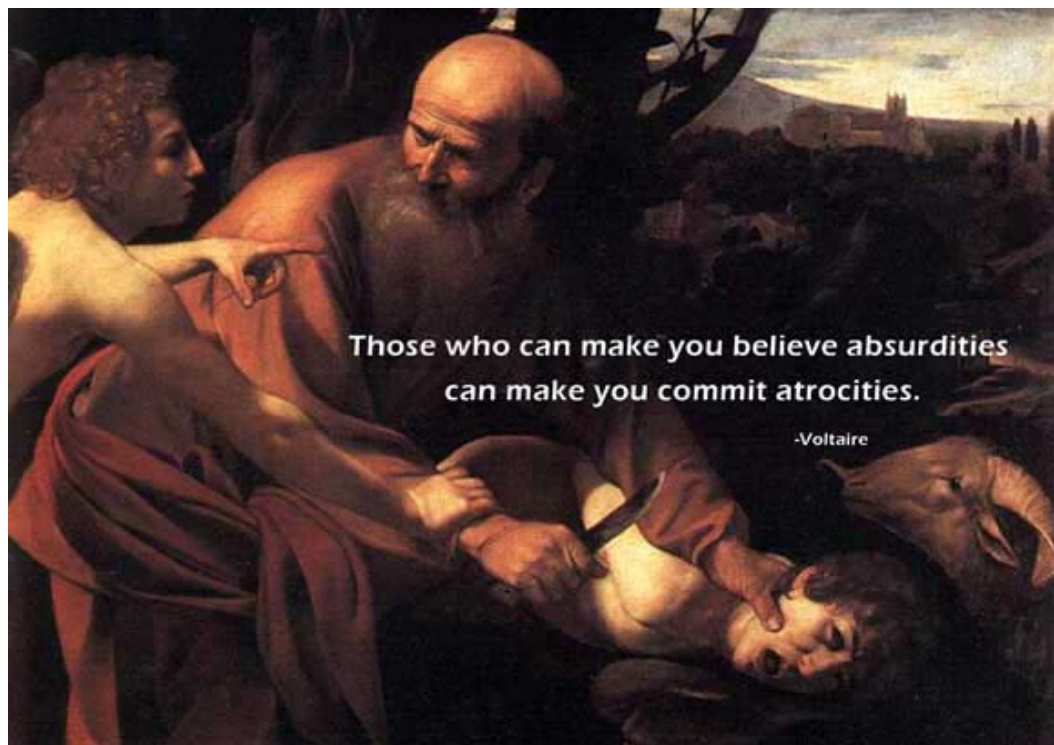
If at first
you don't
succeed...

...then
skydiving
definitely
isn't for you

Daddy,
why do we kill people
who are killing people
to show them
that killing is wrong?



***who would
Jesus bomb?***



Those who can make you believe absurdities
can make you commit atrocities.

-Voltaire



Science has proof without certainty



Creationists have certainty without proof.

- Ashley Montague

*There is nothing
worse than
aggressive
stupidity*

-- Goethe





Education is
what's left over
after you've forgotten all the facts



POLITICIANS ARE LIKE DIAPERS

THEY BOTH NEED CHANGING REGULARLY
AND FOR THE SAME REASON

If you believe everything you read...



...better not read

-Japanese proverb

FREE SPEECH: USE IT OR LOSE IT



CONSUMERISM:



**A WASTE OF TIME
IN A TIME OF WASTE**



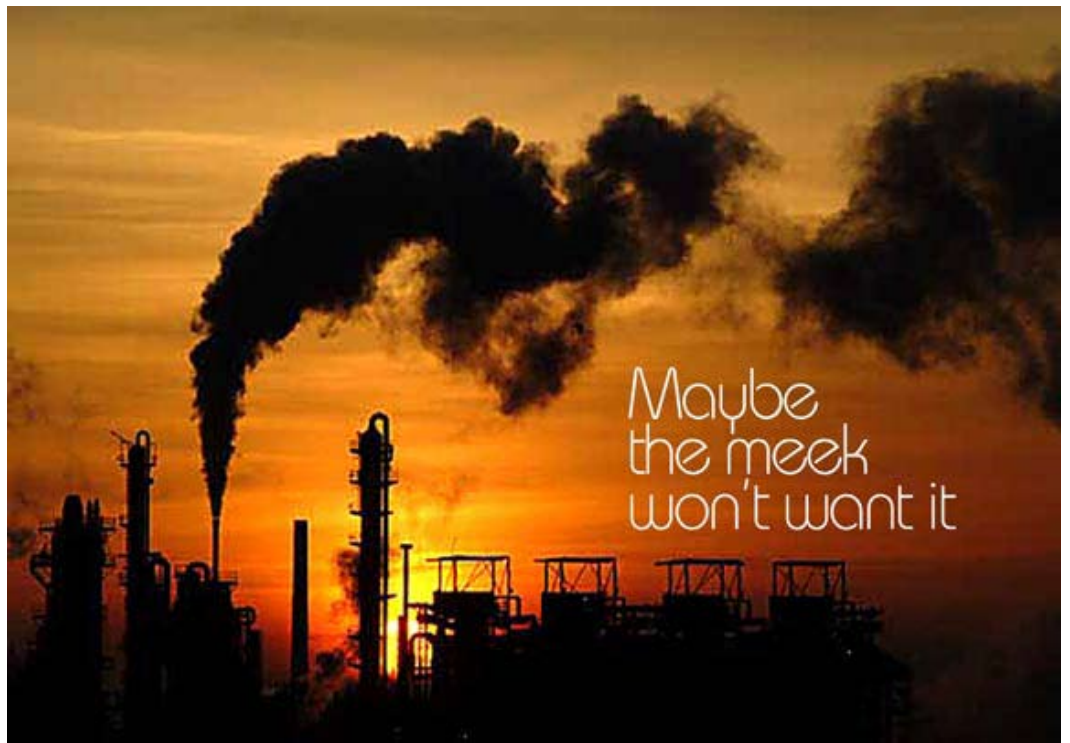
**Neither a man nor a crowd nor a nation
can be trusted to act humanely or to think sanely
under the influence of a great fear.**

- Bertrand Russell

I doubt



therefore
I may be



Maybe
the meek
won't want it



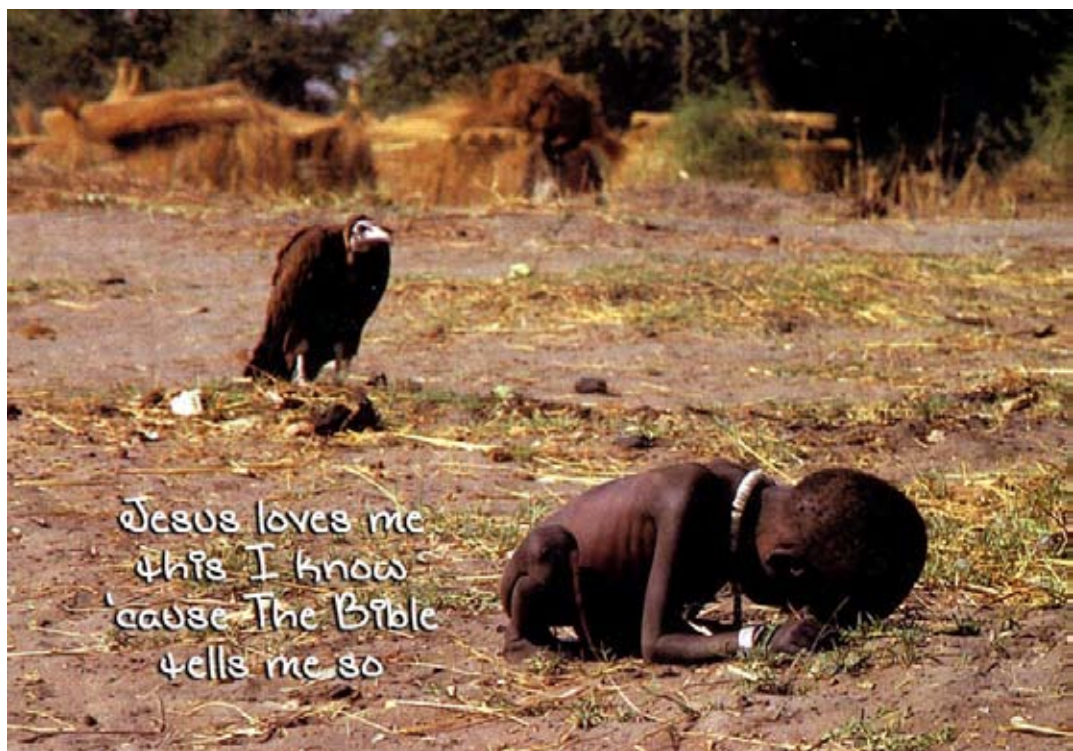
If you talk to God,
you are praying;



if God talks to you,
you have schizophrenia.

-Thomas Szasz



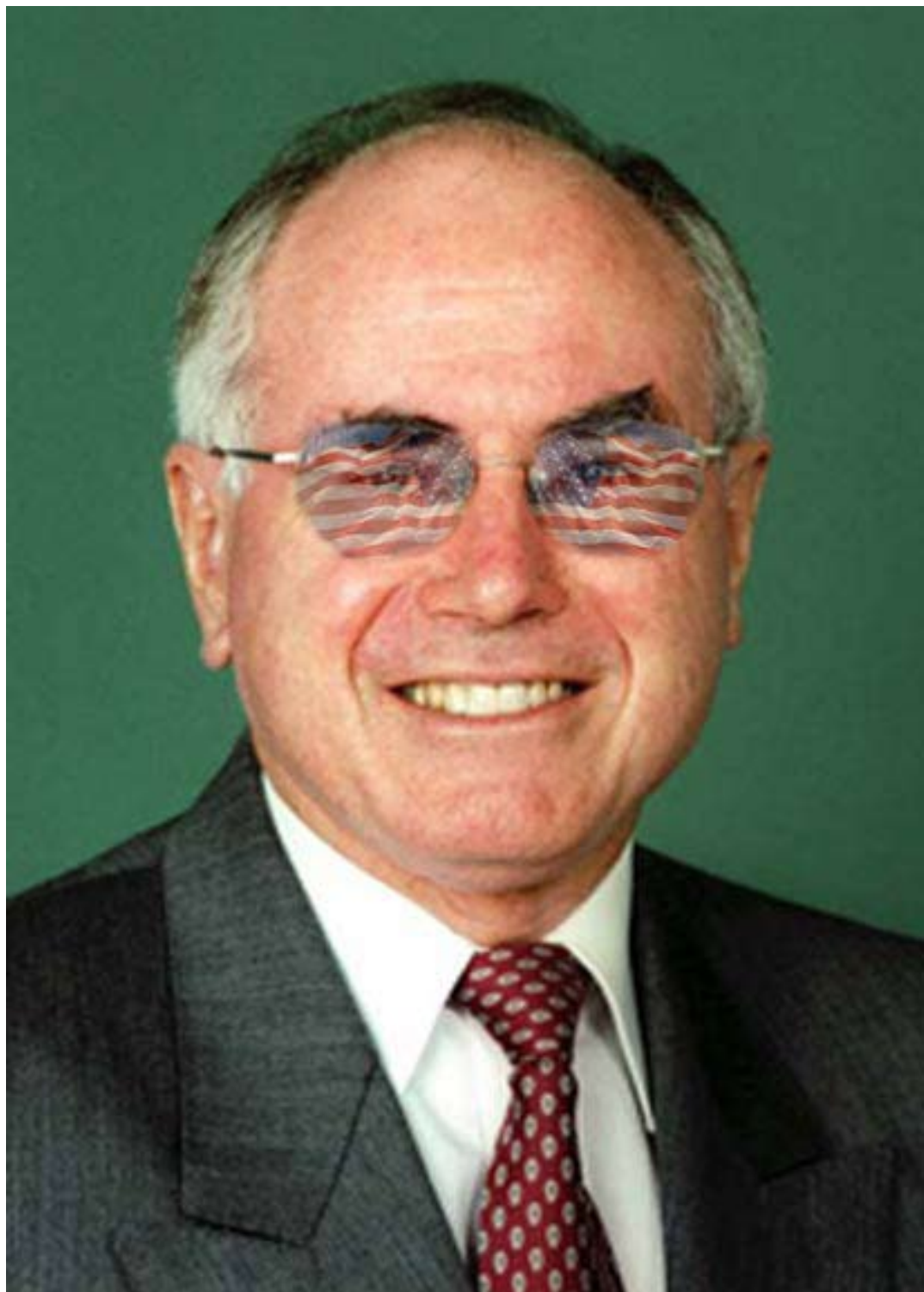


Jesus loves me
this I know
'cause The Bible
tells me so



**When they make a desert
they call it peace.**

Tacitus





PRAY, *v* To ask that the laws of the universe be annulled on behalf of a single petitioner, confessedly unworthy.

— Ambrose Bierce



NO JUSTICE : NO PEACE

KNOW JUSTICE : KNOW PEACE

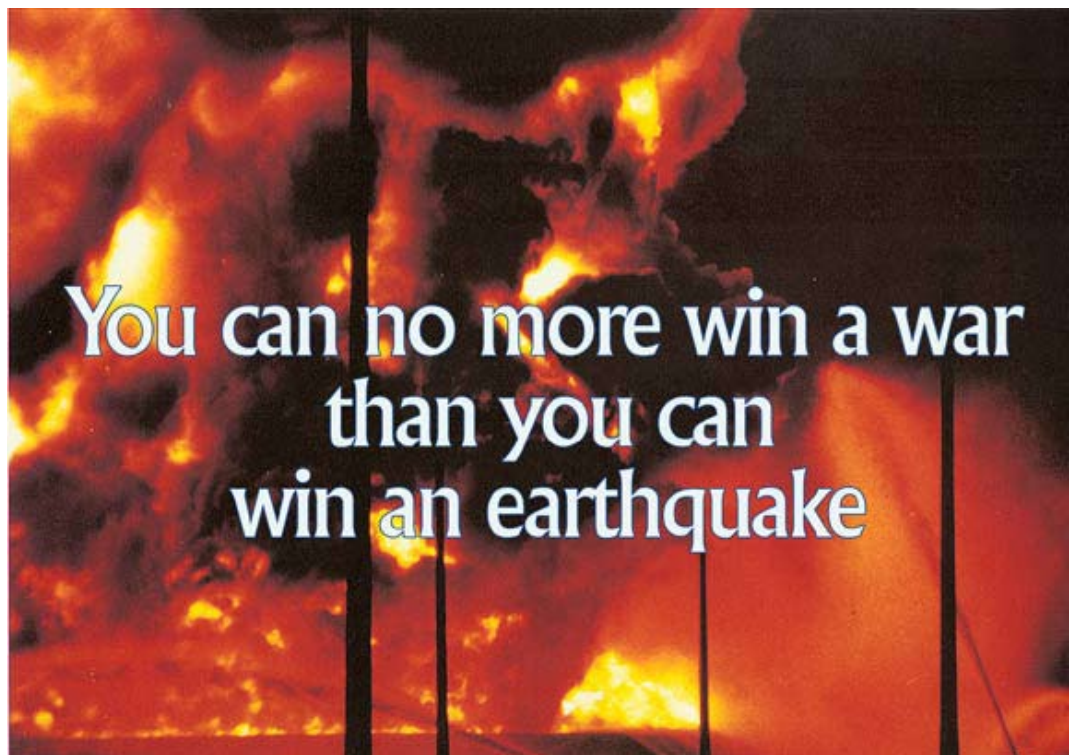


IF IT IS COMMITTED
IN THE NAME OF GOD
OR COUNTRY,
THERE IS NO CRIME
SO HEINOUS THAT
THE PUBLIC
WILL NOT FORGIVE IT.

—TOM ROBBINS



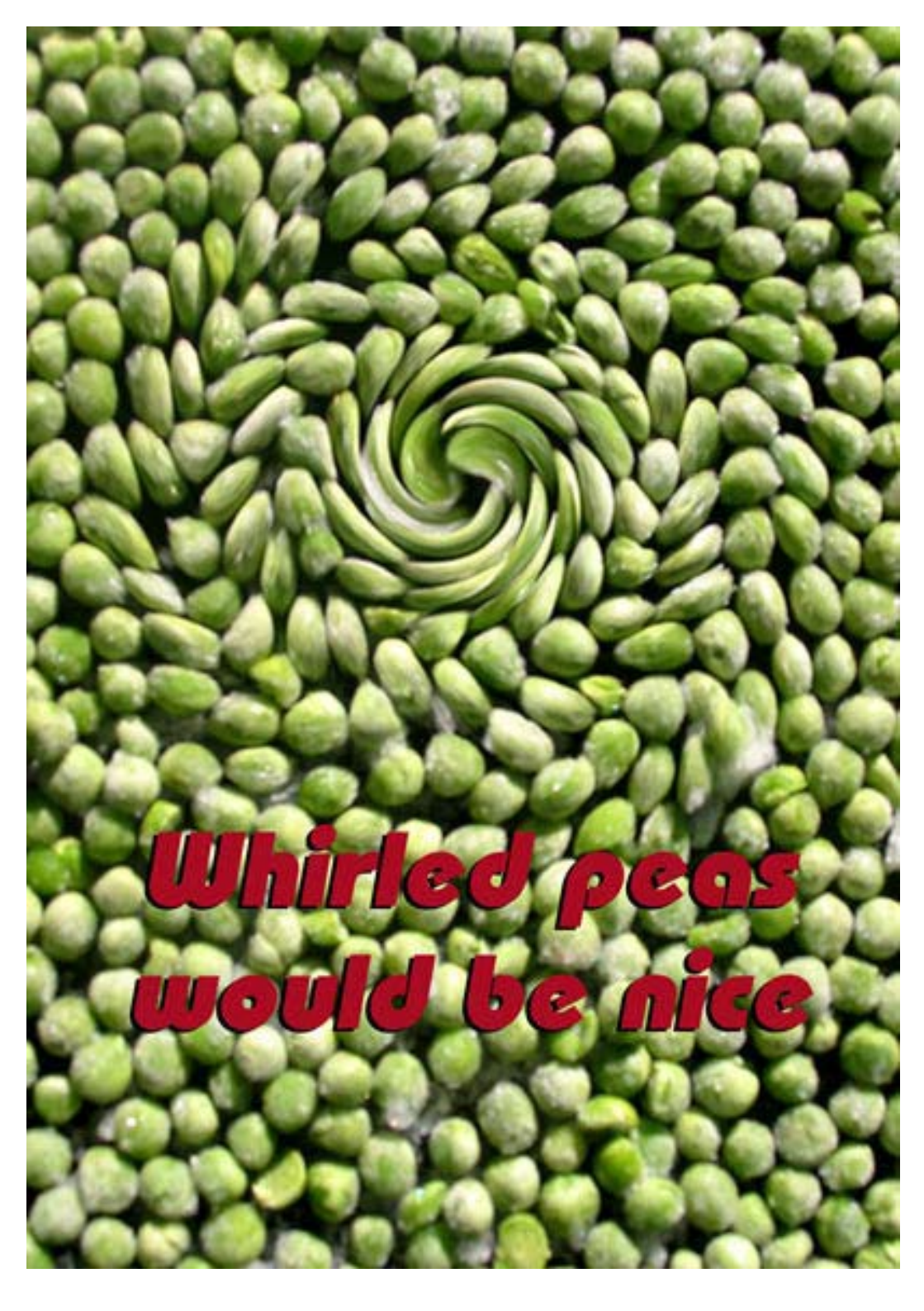
The true enemies of freedom are those who invoke its name in order that they may carry on without restraint



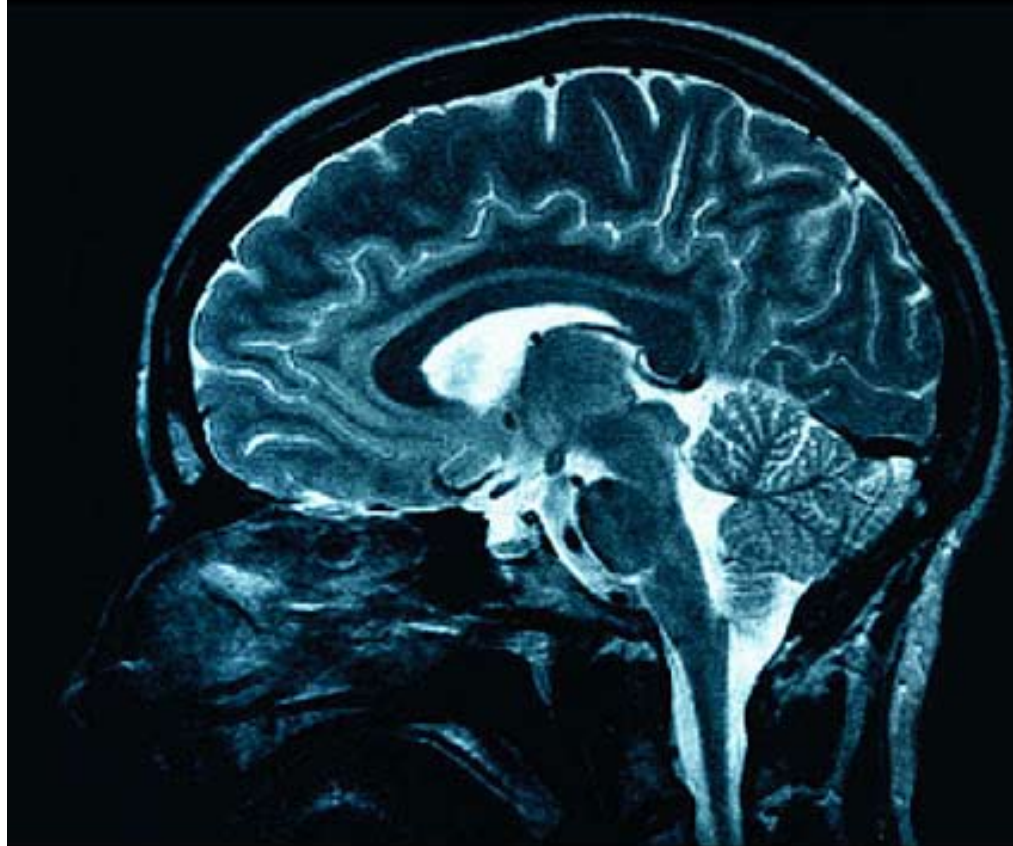
You can no more win a war
than you can
win an earthquake

**THE
MORE
VIOLENCE**

**THE LESS
REVOLUTION**

A close-up photograph of a large number of green peas. In the center of the image, the peas are arranged in a precise, concentric spiral pattern, creating a focal point. The rest of the image is filled with a random, dense arrangement of similar green peas. The lighting is even, highlighting the texture and color of the peas.

***Whirled peas
would be nice***



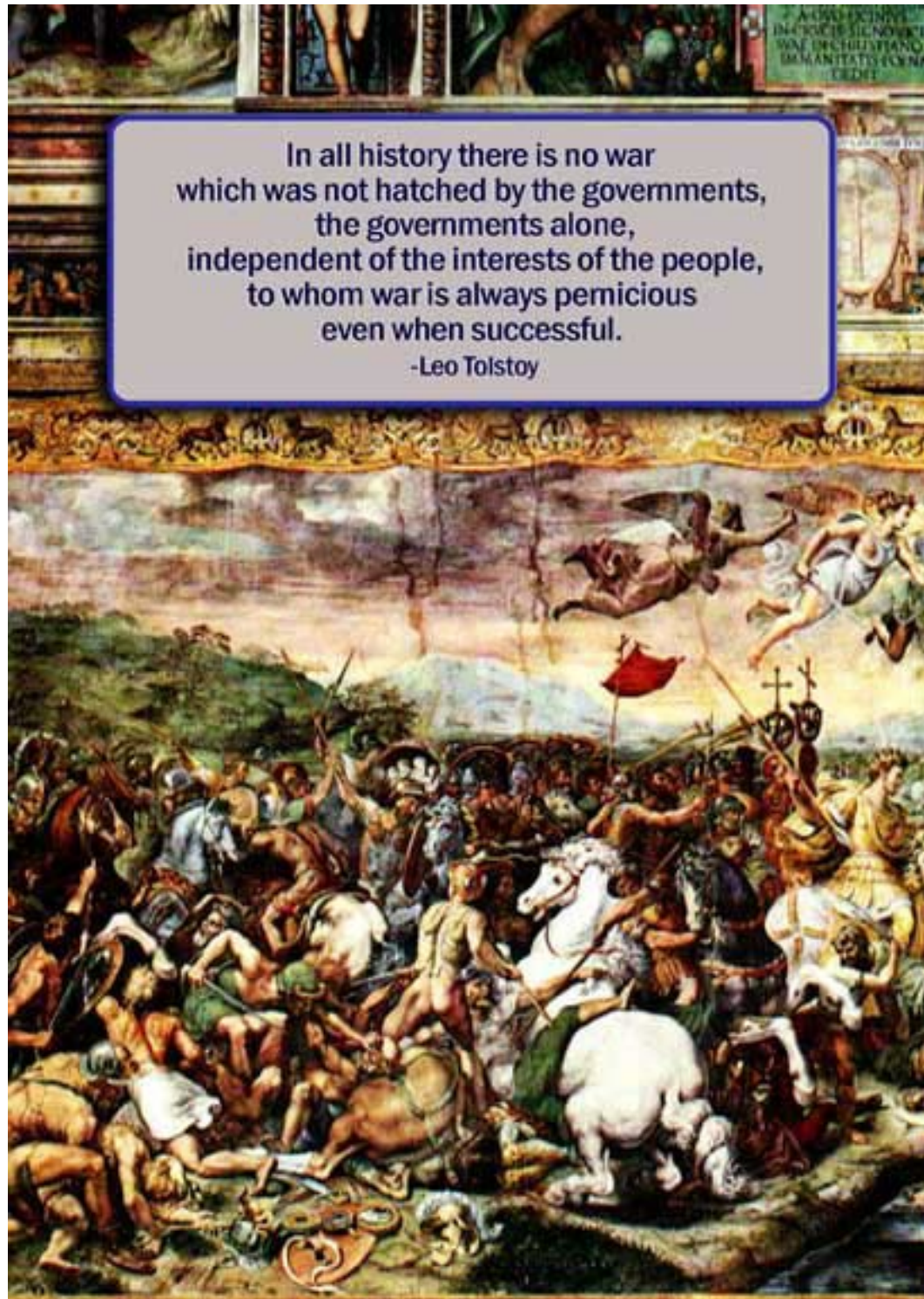
Each of us has been endowed with reason, and it is our right,
as well as our responsibility, to exercise it.

Ceding this faculty to others,
to the authorities of either the church or the state,
is neither a rational nor an ethical option.

—Spinoza

In all history there is no war
which was not hatched by the governments,
the governments alone,
independent of the interests of the people,
to whom war is always pernicious
even when successful.

-Leo Tolstoy





OPINIONS FOUNDED ON PREJUDICE
ARE ALWAYS SUSTAINED WITH
THE GREATEST OF VIOLENCE.

FRANCIS JEFFREY

Democracy is
when the good
guys have to bomb
the bad guys
to liberate them
so that they can
be good, too.

Little
Johnny.

THE MAJORITY IS NOT SILENT

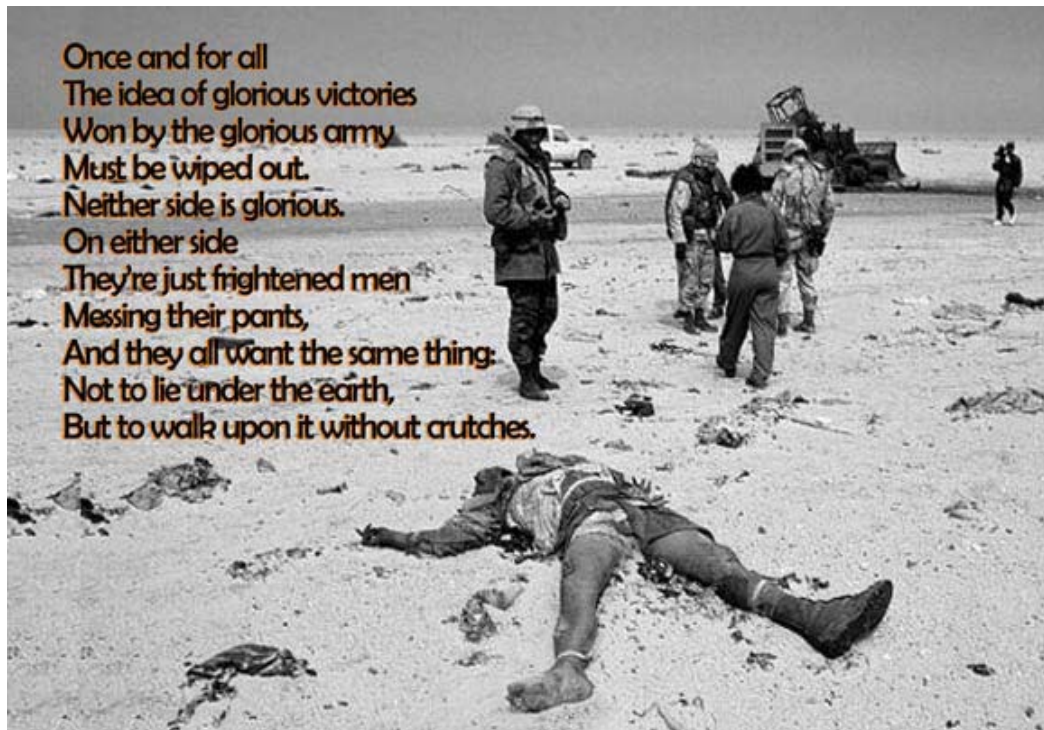


We have no art.
We just do
everything
as well as
we can.

-- Balinese saying



Once and for all
The idea of glorious victories
Won by the glorious army
Must be wiped out.
Neither side is glorious.
On either side
They're just frightened men
Messing their pants,
And they all want the same thing:
Not to lie under the earth,
But to walk upon it without crutches.



PRESCRIPTION ONLY MEDICINE
KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN

Neocon

BOOSTS RIGID THOUGHT PATTERNS
FOR A WIDE RANGE OF BELIEF SYSTEMS
REDUCES INDEPENDENT THINKING
BY UP TO 60%

USE AFTER: 09/11/01



a metaphysician
a blind man
in a dark room
seeking a black hat
which is not there



Ignorance, allied with power,
is the most ferocious enemy
justice can have.

-James Baldwin



**POLITICAL
APATHY
IS COSTING
THE
EARTH**

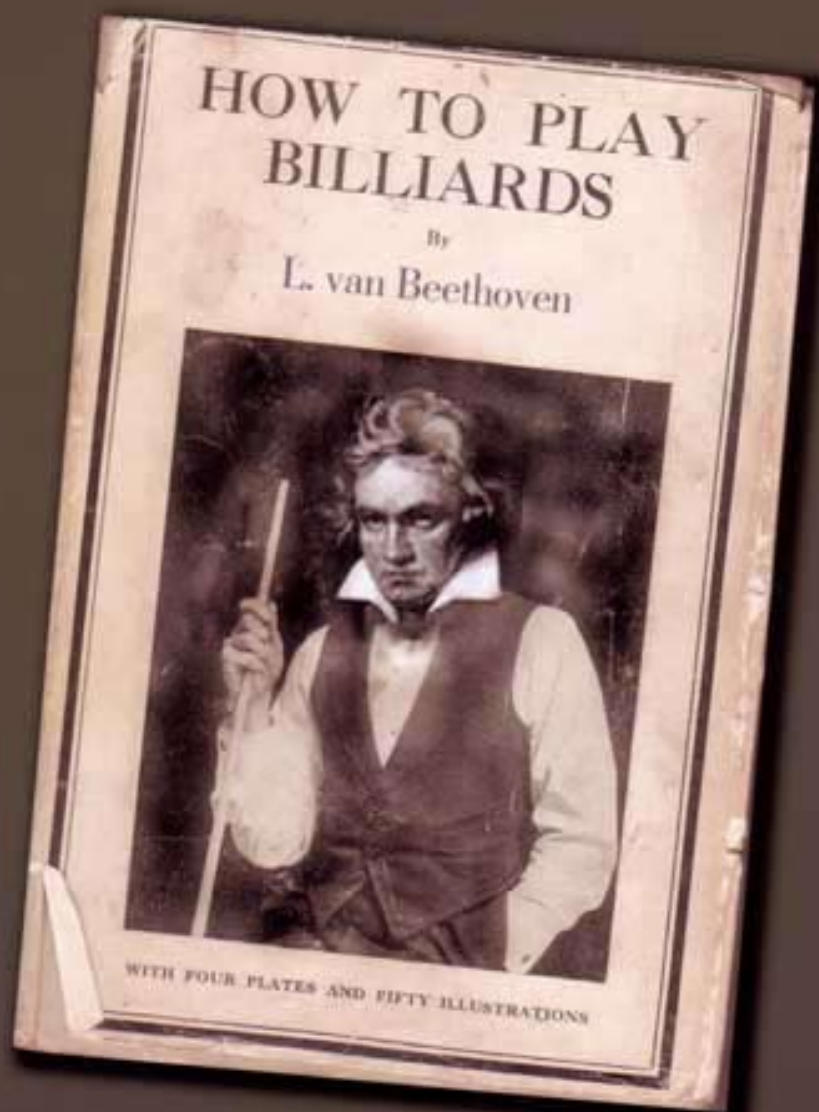


Patriotism is a kind of religion;
it is the egg from which wars are
hatched.

-Guy de Maupassant



**ATHEISM
IS A
NON-PROPHET
ENTERPRISE**



It is impossible to imagine Goethe
or Beethoven being good at billiards or golf.

H. L. Mencken



Which of us is not forever a stranger
and alone?

- Thomas Wolfe





Irrevocable commitment
to any belief
closes the mind to any
new view of the world.



Give a man a fish
and he has food for a day;
teach him how to fish
and you can get rid of him
for the entire weekend



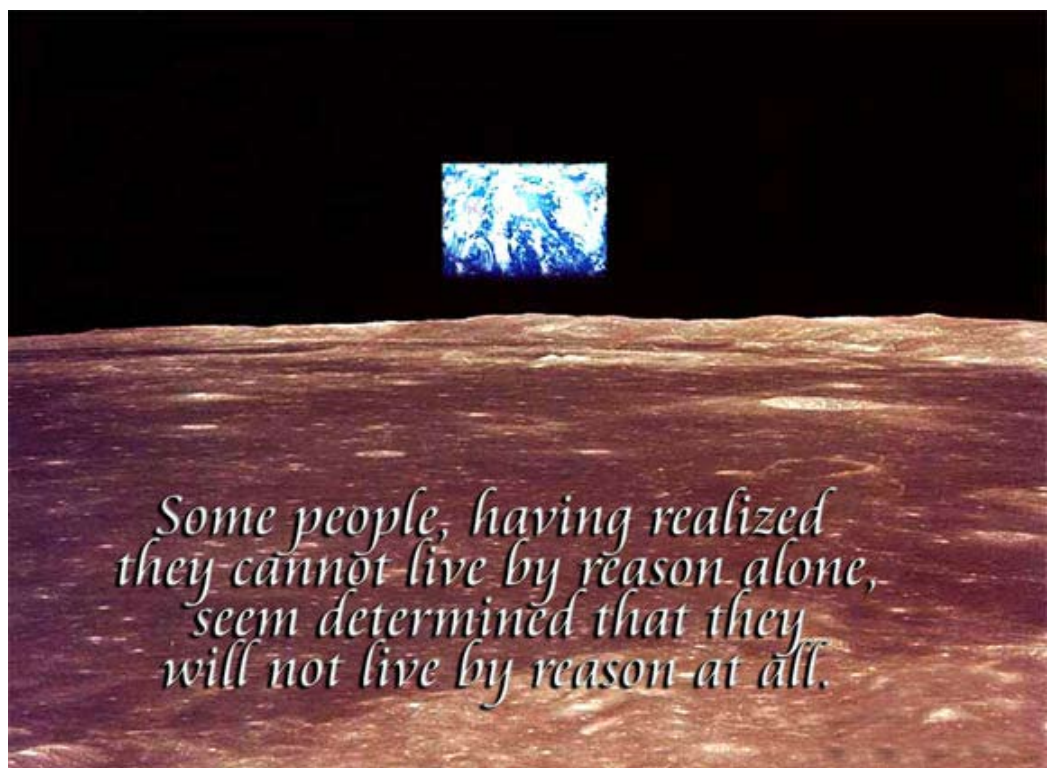
Operation
Iraqi
Liberation

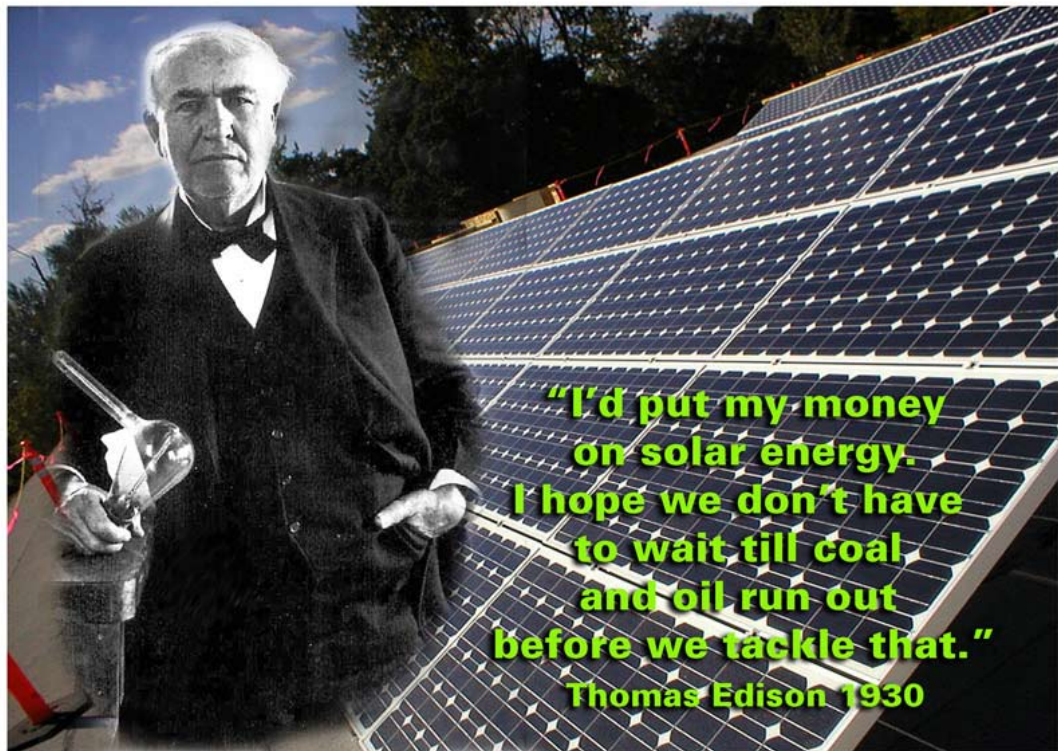


The fact that no one understands you
doesn't make you an artist.



ANYONE WHO GOES TO A PSYCHIATRIST
OUGHT TO HAVE HIS HEAD EXAMINED





**"I'd put my money
on solar energy.
I hope we don't have
to wait till coal
and oil run out
before we tackle that."**

Thomas Edison 1930





OPINIONS FOUNDED ON PREJUDICE
ARE ALWAYS SUSTAINED WITH
THE GREATEST OF VIOLENCE.

FRANCIS JEFFREY



Society is a galleon of
hypocrisy floating on a
sea of deception

- Telford Conlon

The law, in its majestic equality,
forbids the rich as well as the poor
to sleep under bridges, to beg in
the streets, and to steal bread.

Anatole France 1894



TOP RIGHT

***TIME IS THE COIN OF YOUR LIFE.
IT IS THE ONLY COIN YOU HAVE,
AND ONLY YOU CAN DETERMINE
HOW IT WILL BE SPENT.
BE CAREFUL LEST YOU LET
OTHER PEOPLE SPEND IT FOR YOU.***

- CARL SANDBURG



Use what talents you possess:
the bush would be very silent
if no birds sang there
except those that sang best



Chart 7

VOLUME OF MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION

INDEX NUMBERS



Source: Report on Industrial Production Statistics 1956-57, page 9.

L.O. Maitlis

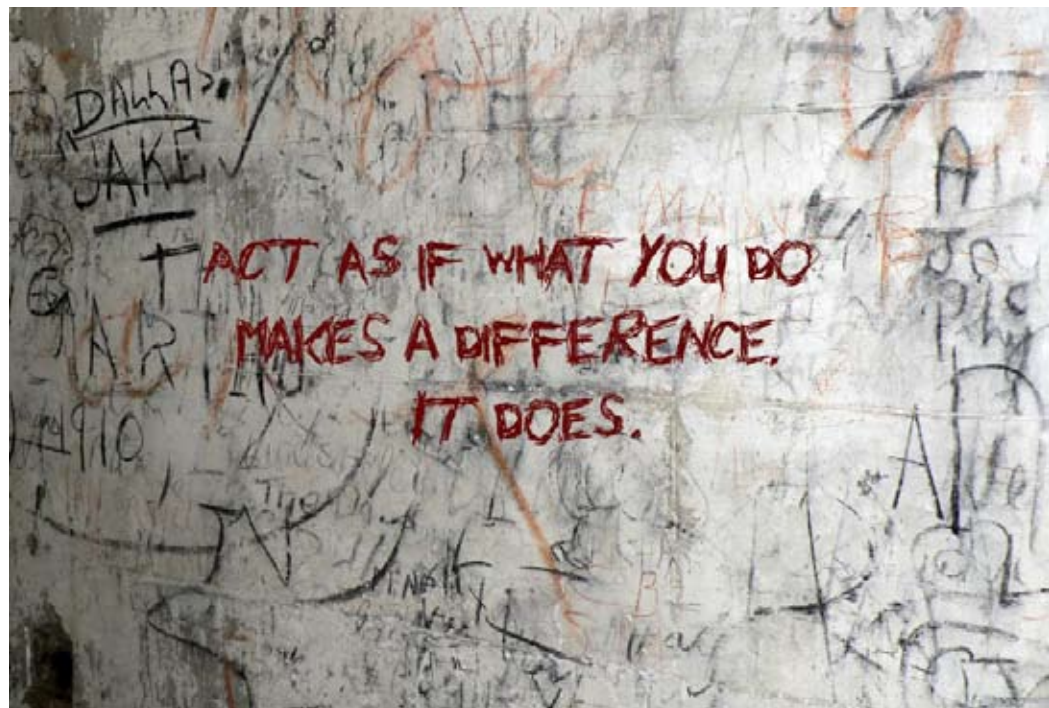


like cannibalism
is nutritious

Only when the last tree has died
And the last river has been poisoned
And the last fish has been caught



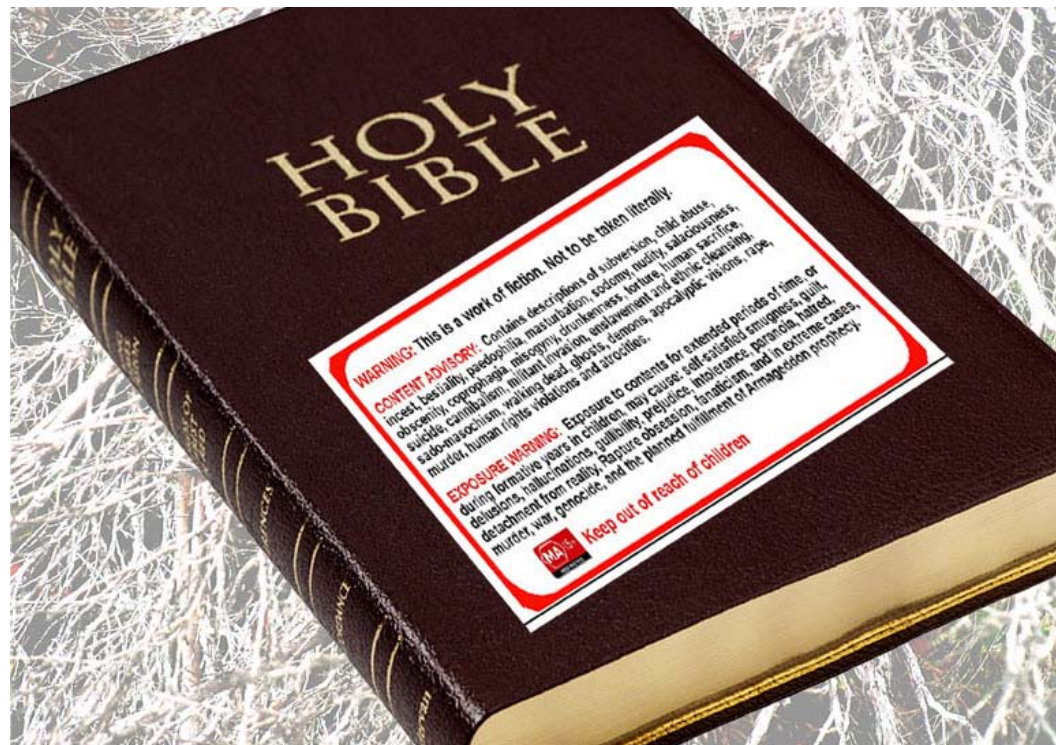
Will we realise that we can't eat money



Art is the imposing of a pattern on experience,
and our aesthetic enjoyment is recognition of the pattern.

—Alfred North Whitehead





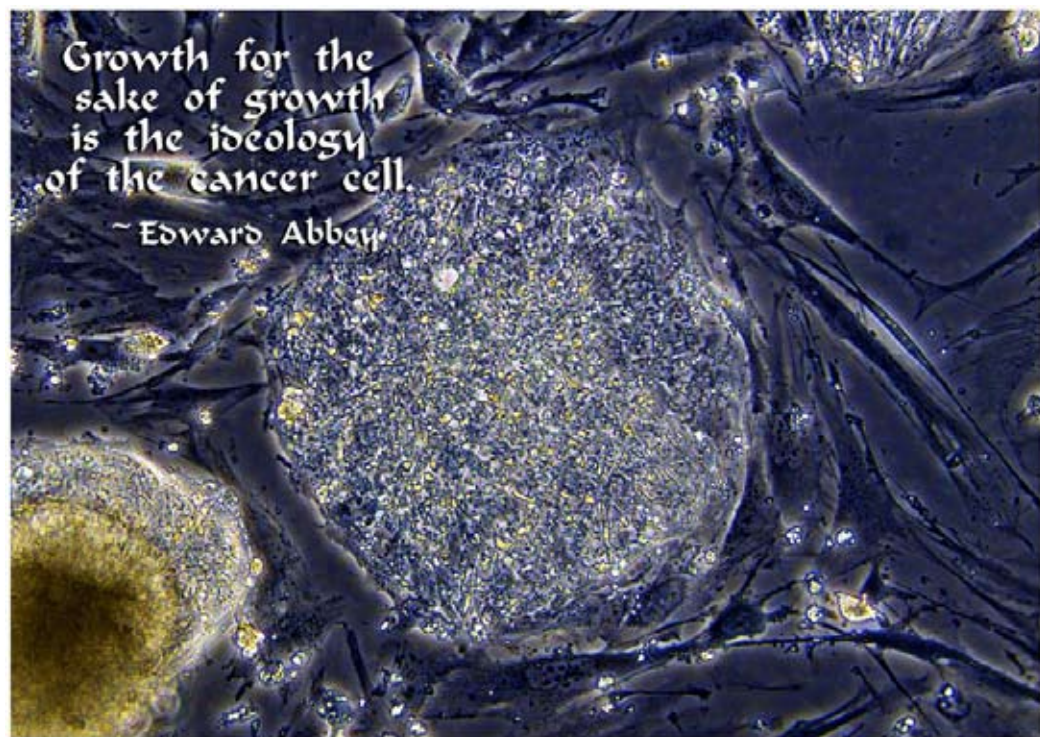
WARNING: This is a work of fiction. Not to be taken literally.

CONTENT ADVISORY: Contains descriptions of subversion, child abuse, incest, pedophilia, masochism, drunkenness, sodomy, nudity, sadomasochism, obscenity, coprophagy, misogyny, drunkenness, torture, human sacrifice, suicide, cannibalism, walking dead, ghosts, demons, apocalyptic visions, rape, murder, human rights violations and atrocities.

EXPOSURE WARNING: Exposure to contents for extended periods of time, or during formative years in children, may cause: self-fulfilled prophecies, guilt, delusions, hallucinations, gullibility, prejudice, intolerance, paranoia, hatred, detachment from reality, Rapture obsession, fanaticism, and in extreme cases, murder, war, genocide, and the planned fulfillment of Armageddon prophecy.

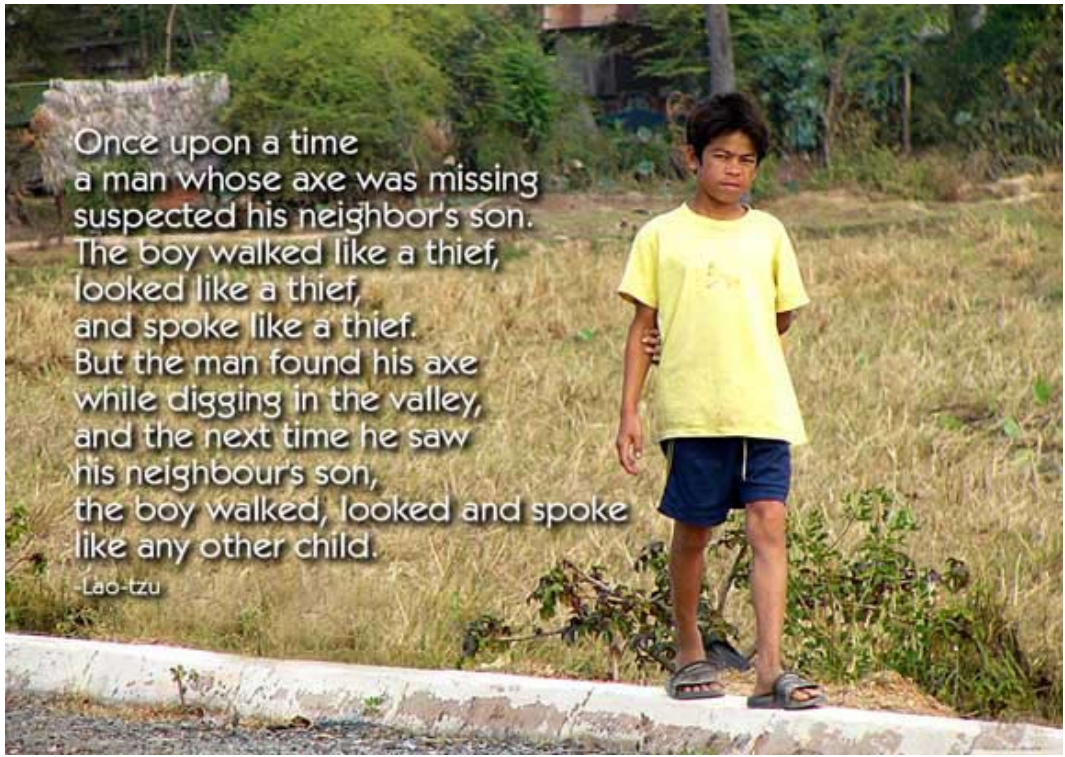


Keep out of reach of children



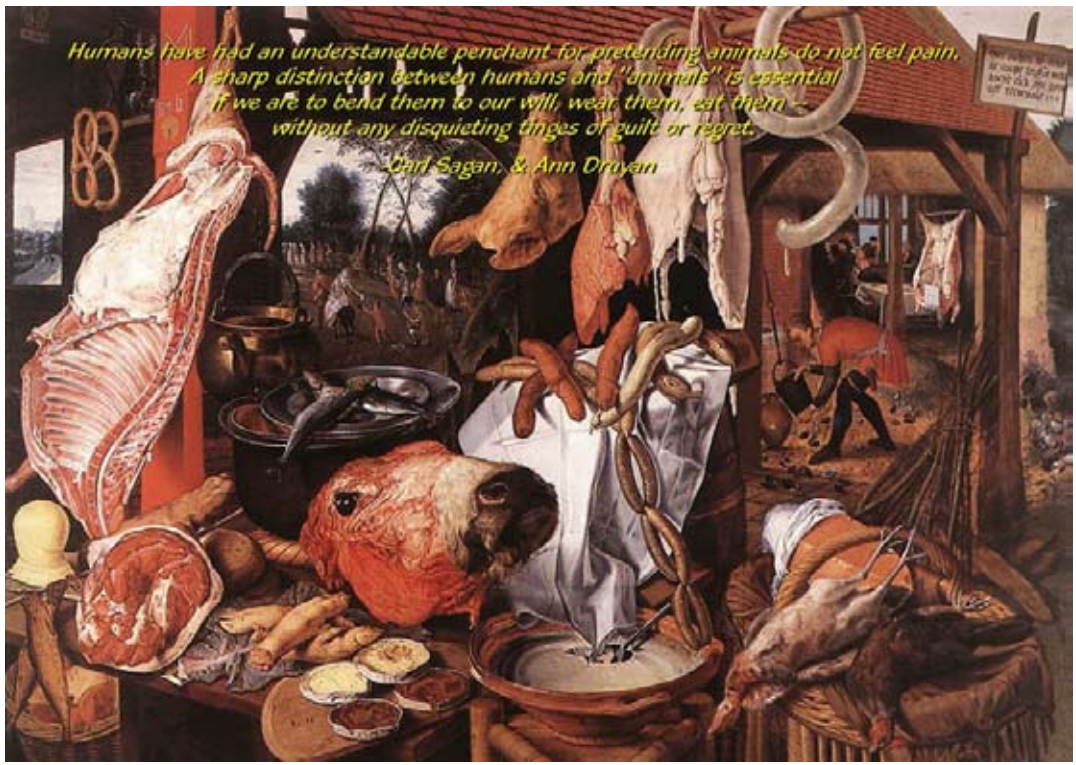
Growth for the
sake of growth
is the ideology
of the cancer cell.

~ Edward Abbey



Once upon a time
a man whose axe was missing
suspected his neighbor's son.
The boy walked like a thief,
looked like a thief,
and spoke like a thief.
But the man found his axe
while digging in the valley,
and the next time he saw
his neighbour's son,
the boy walked, looked and spoke
like any other child.

-Lao-tzu



*Humans have had an understandable penchant for pretending animals do not feel pain.
A sharp distinction between humans and "animals" is essential
if we are to bend them to our will, wear them, eat them -
without any disquieting tinges of guilt or regret.*

Carl Sagan, & Ann Druyan

Appraise the Lord

Tax church property





ONCE AGAIN WE COME TO THE HOLIDAY SEASON, A DEEPLY RELIGIOUS TIME THAT EACH OF US OBSERVES, IN HIS OWN WAY, BY GOING TO THE MALL OF HIS CHOICE.



**Hunting is not a sport.
In a sport, both sides should
know they're in the game.**

- Paul Rodriguez

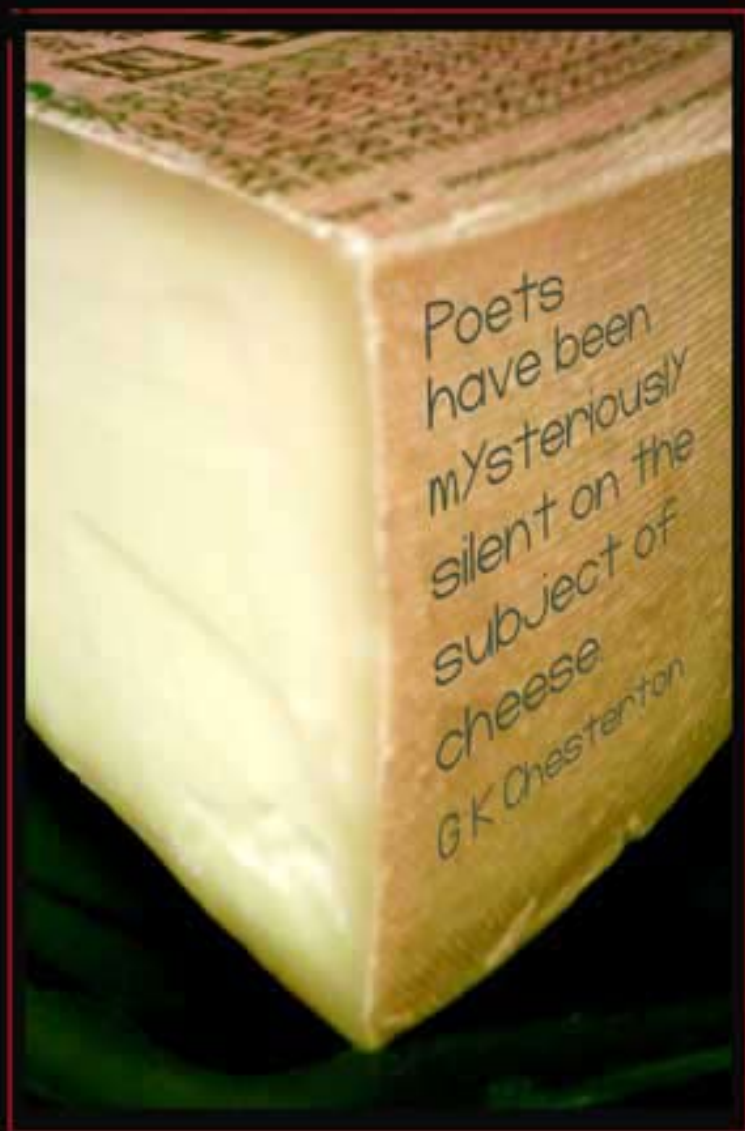


NOTHING TAKES THE TASTE
OUT OF PEANUT BUTTER
QUITE LIKE UNREQUITED LOVE

- CHARLIE BROWN



BEWARE OF
THE DOGMA



Poets
have been
mysteriously
silent on the
subject of
cheese
G K Chesterton

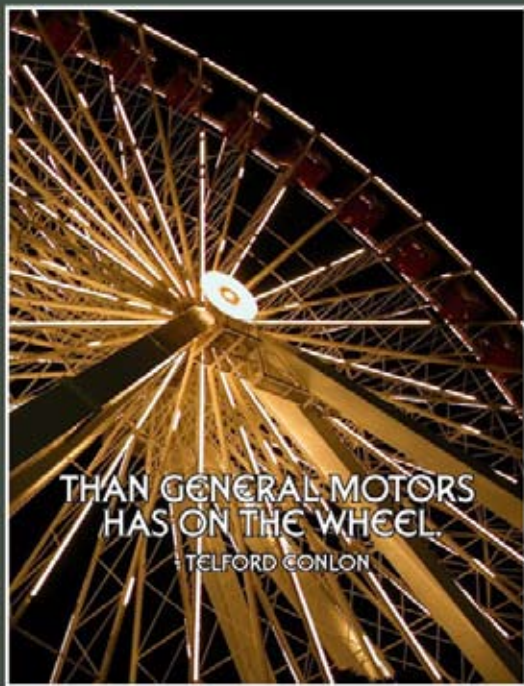
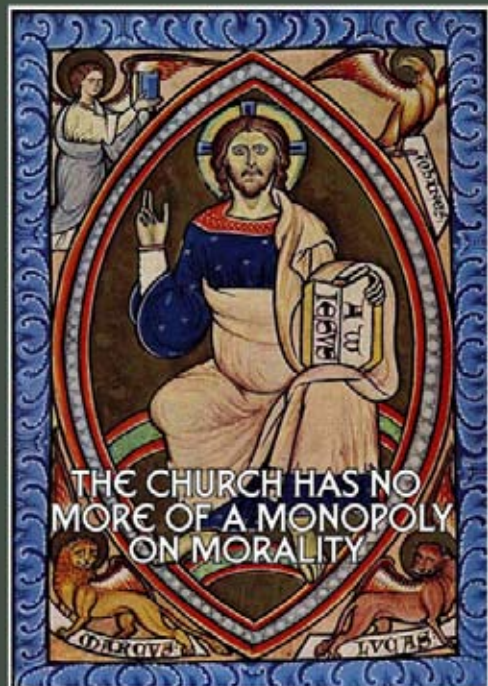
Are we really
going to let a
bunch of
shortsighted
greedy fools
ruin the whole
bloody
planet?





**THOSE WHO SEEK CONSOLATION IN EXISTING CHURCHES
OFTEN PAY FOR THEIR PEACE OF MIND WITH
A TACIT AGREEMENT TO IGNORE A GREAT DEAL
OF WHAT IS KNOWN ABOUT THE WAY THE WORLD WORKS.**

MIHALY CSIKSZENTMIHALYI





The power of the executive to cast a man in prison without formulating any charge known to the law and particularly to deny him the judgement of his peers is in the highest degree idious and is the foundation of all totalitarian government.

(Winston Churchill 1943)



**Nothing is illegal if
one hundred businessmen decide to do it**

Andrew young, US Ambassador & Congress,man



The insufferable arrogance of human beings to think that Nature was made solely for their benefit, as if it was conceivable that the sun had been set afire merely to ripen men's apples and head their cabbages.

Cyrano de Bergerac 1656





It is against humanity that millions of individuals are denied life's necessities in order to feed the scandalous luxury of a small number of comfortable citizens.

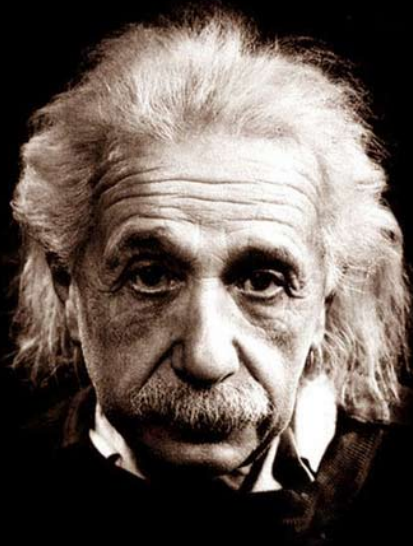
--Diderot 1760!



*Unless someone like you
cares a whole awful lot,
nothing is going to get better.
It's not.*

--Dr. Seuss

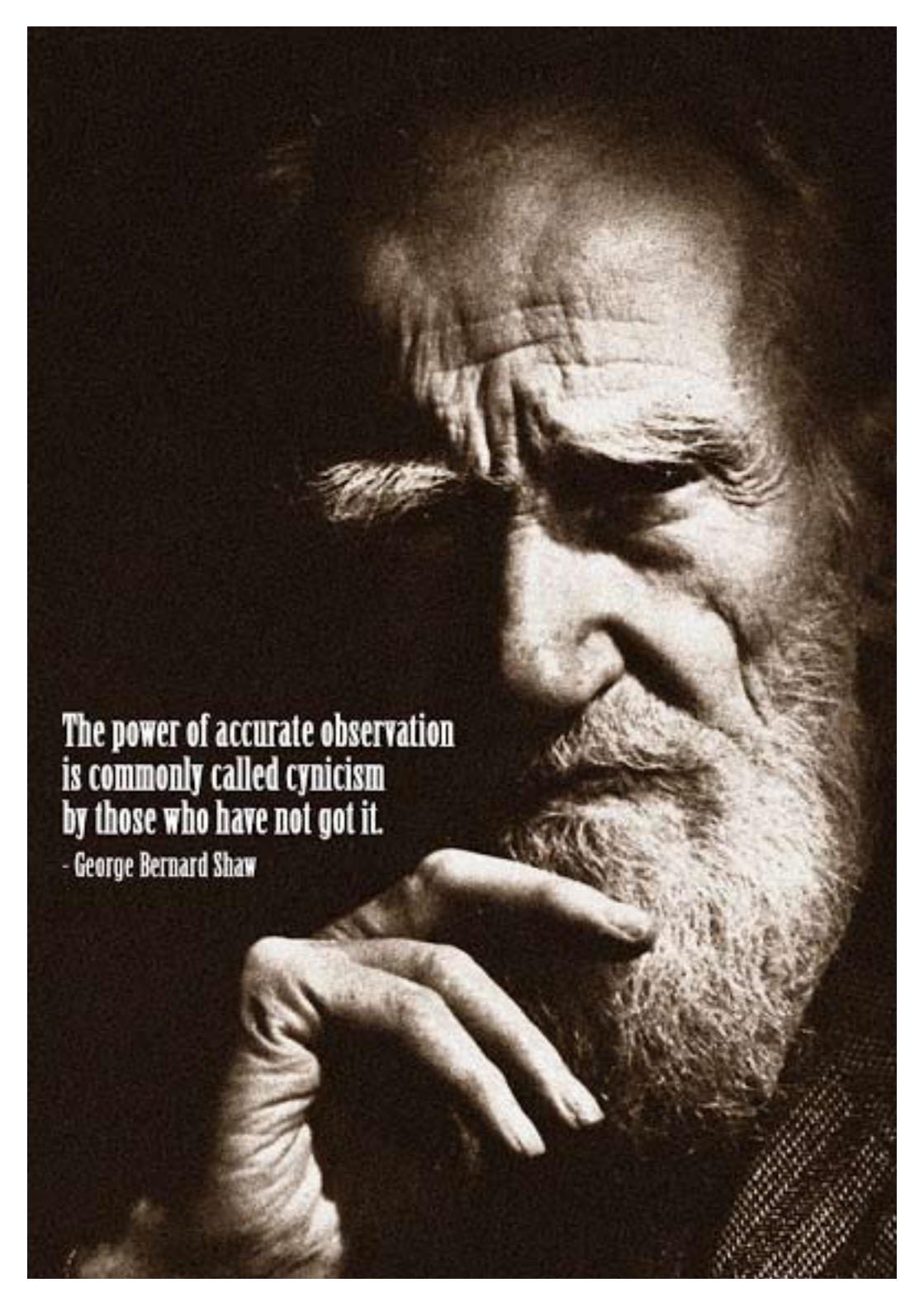




*Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that
can be counted counts - notice in Einstein's Princeton office.*



**IF YOU DON'T PAY YOUR EXORCIST,
YOU GET REPOSSESSED.**



**The power of accurate observation
is commonly called cynicism
by those who have not got it.**

- George Bernard Shaw



home is where you

hang your @.



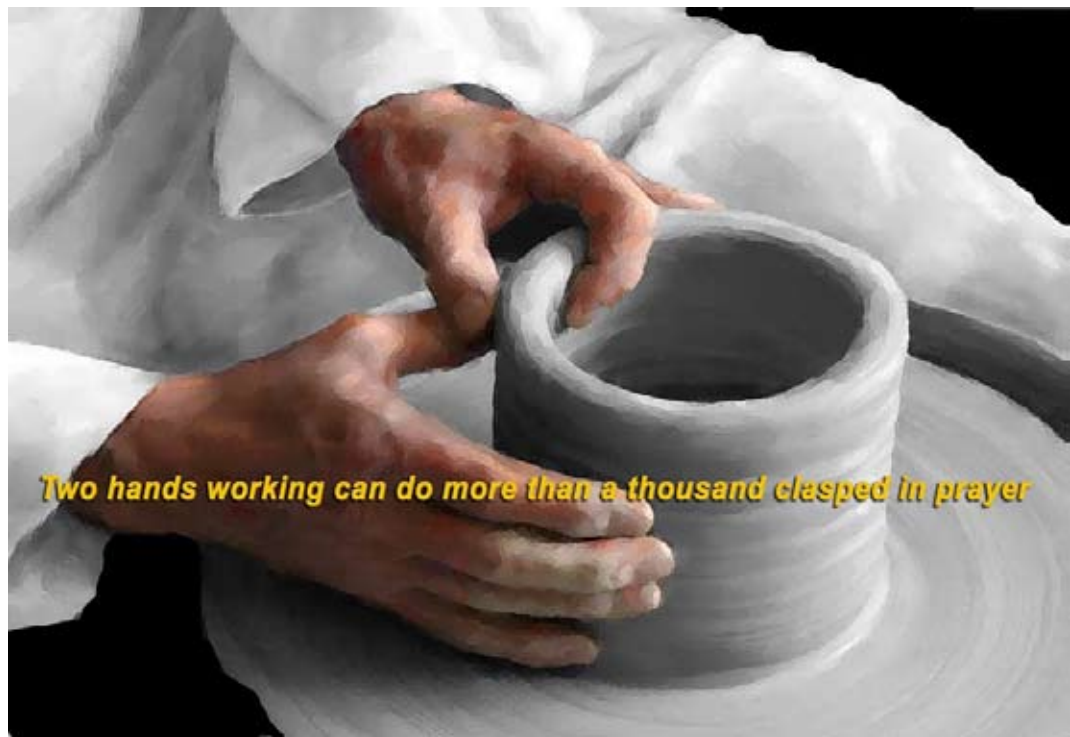
Our affluent society contains
those of talent and insight
who are driven to prefer poverty,
to choose it, rather than submit
to the desolation
of an empty abundance.

-Michael Harrington

NEVER THINK THAT WAR,
NO MATTER HOW NECESSARY,
NOR HOW JUSTIFIED,
IS NOT A CRIME.

- ERNEST HEMINGWAY





Two hands working can do more than a thousand clasped in prayer



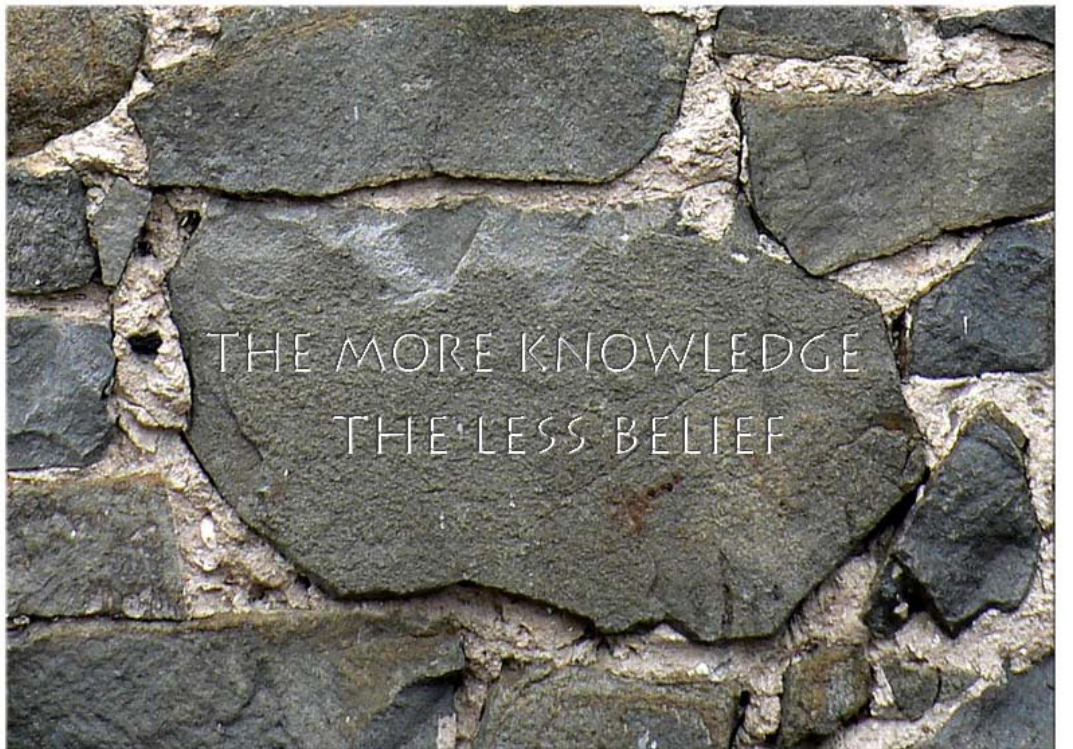
a pluralistic world in
which there are no universal
churches, no single remedy for all diseases,
no one way to teach or write or sing
no magic diet,
no world poets,
and no chosen races,
but only the wretched and wonderfully
diversified human race.

— Jacques Maritain

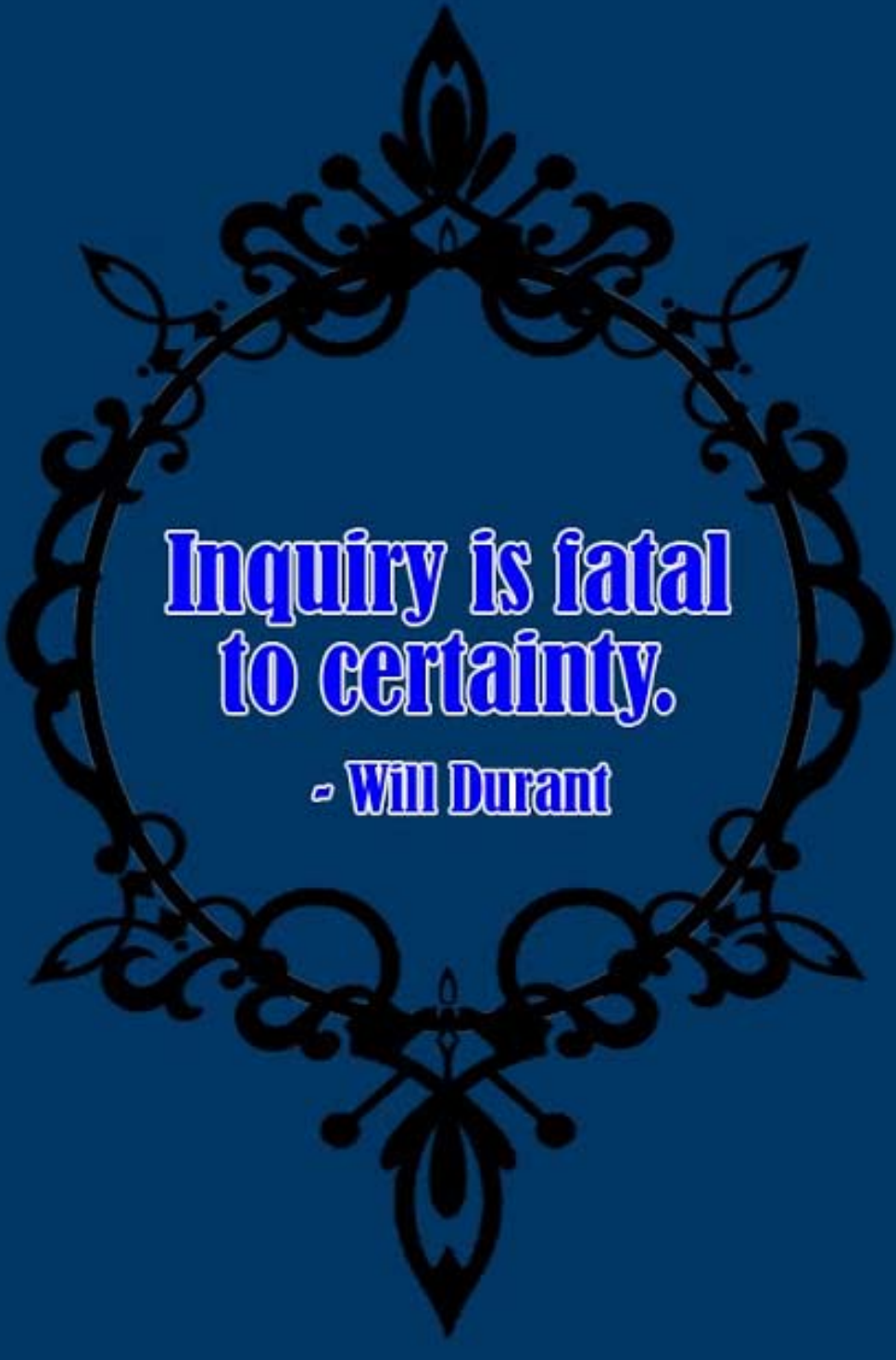
**JOHN
HUNT
is a
COWARD**



A lawn is nature under totalitarian rule



THE MORE KNOWLEDGE
THE LESS BELIEF



**Inquiry is fatal
to certainty.**

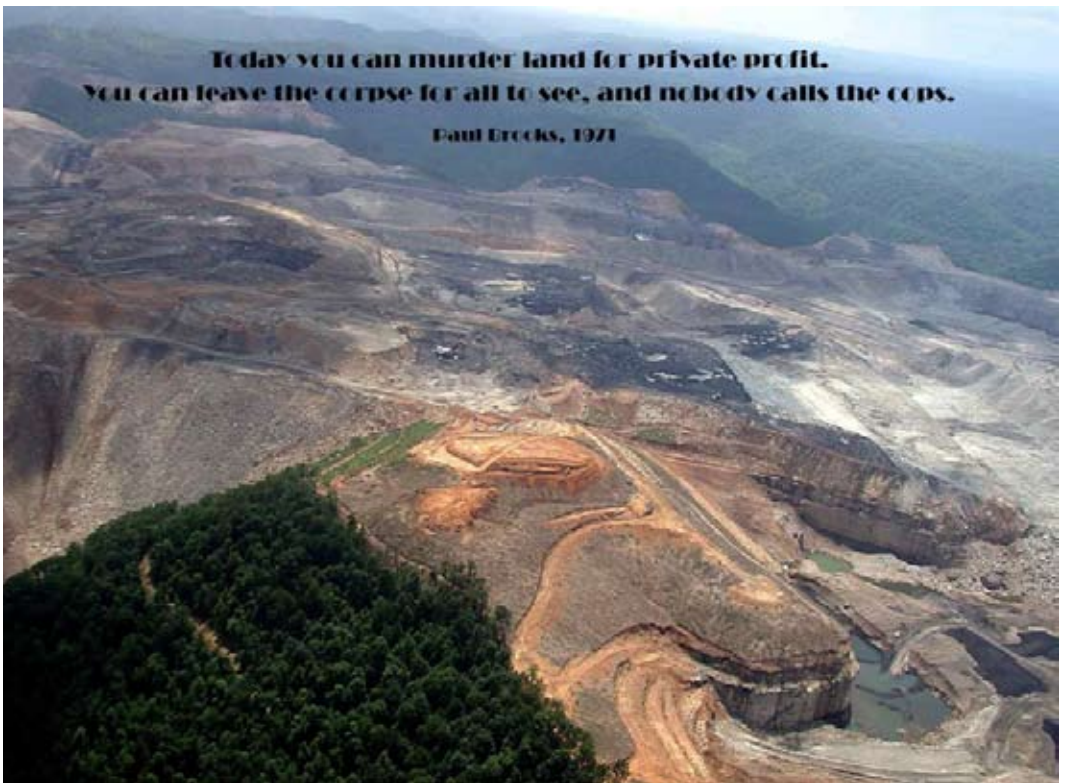
- Will Durant

**IF YOU THINK YOU ARE TOO SMALL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE --
TRY SLEEPING WITH A MOSQUITO -- Dalai Lama**



**Today you can murder land for private profit.
You can leave the corpse for all to see, and nobody calls the cops.**

Paul Ericks, 1971





*Old trees
are the best
antiques*

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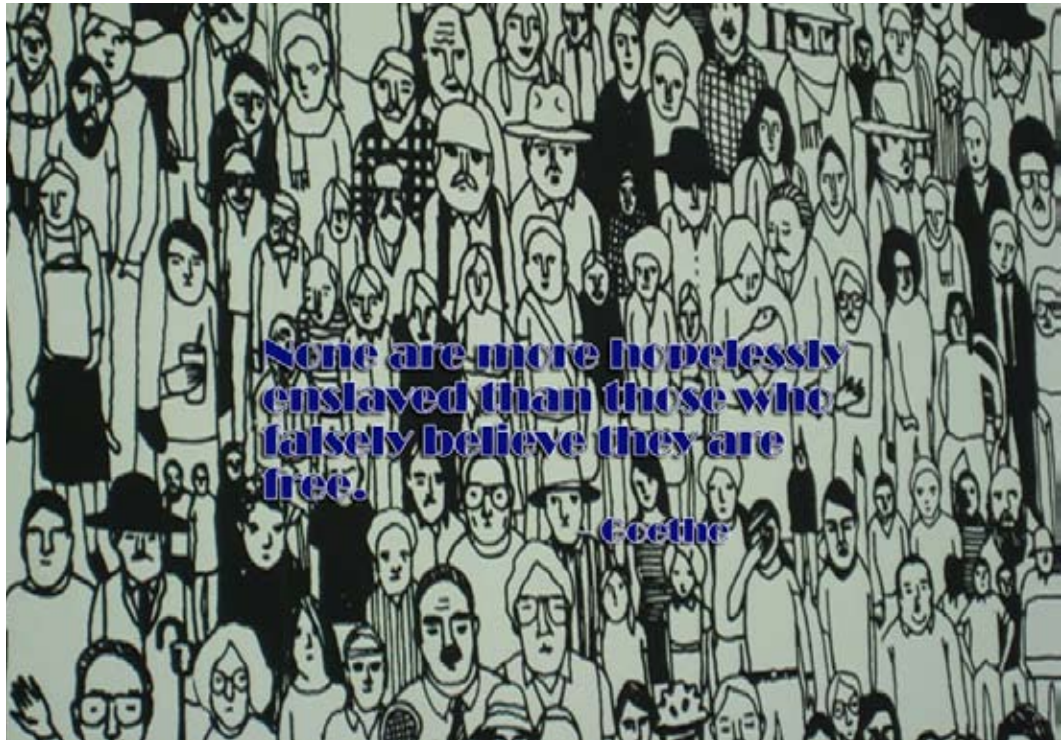
Man is the only one that gathers his brethren about him
and goes forth in cold blood and calm pulse to exterminate his kind.
He is the only animal that for sordid wages will march out
and help to slaughter strangers of his own species
who have done him no harm and with whom he has no quarrel.
And in the intervals between campaigns he washes the blood off his hands
and works for "the universal brotherhood of man" - with his mouth.

-Mark Twain



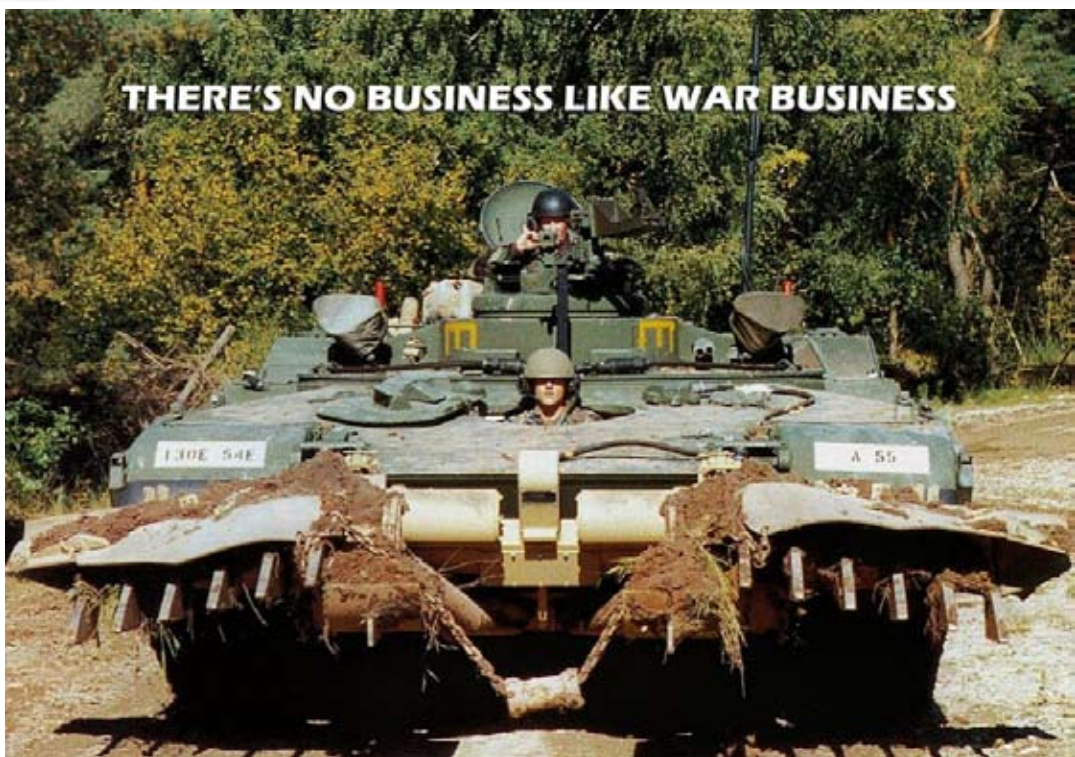
DISSENT IS WHAT RESCUES DEMOCRACY FROM A QUIET DEATH BEHIND CLOSED DOORS.

LEWIS H. LAPHAM



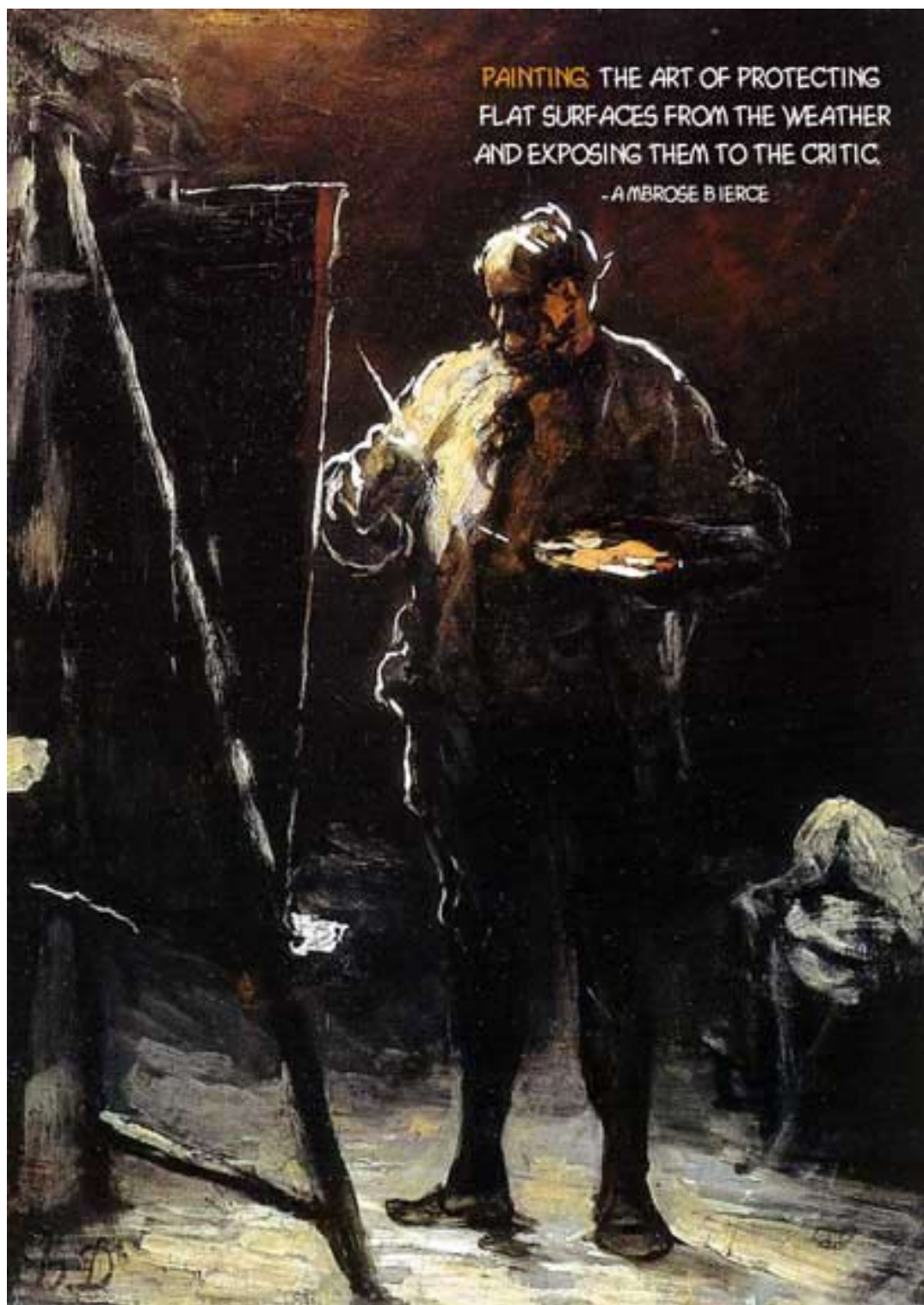
The trouble with being an atheist
is that you have nobody
to shout at during orgasm

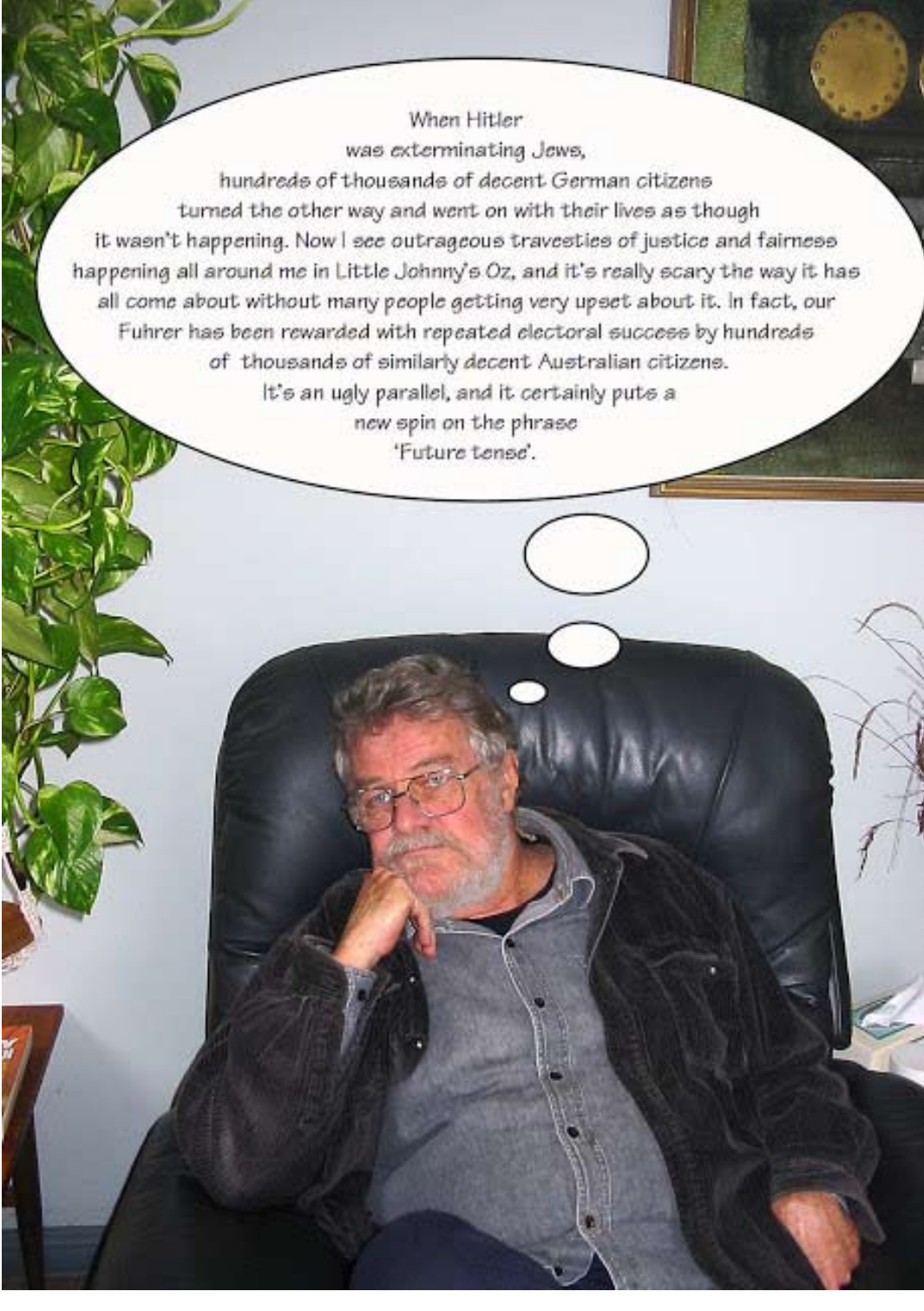
THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE WAR BUSINESS



PAINTING THE ART OF PROTECTING
FLAT SURFACES FROM THE WEATHER
AND EXPOSING THEM TO THE CRITIC

- AMBROSE BIERCE





When Hitler
was exterminating Jews,
hundreds of thousands of decent German citizens
turned the other way and went on with their lives as though
it wasn't happening. Now I see outrageous travesties of justice and fairness
happening all around me in Little Johnny's Oz, and it's really scary the way it has
all come about without many people getting very upset about it. In fact, our
Fuhrer has been rewarded with repeated electoral success by hundreds
of thousands of similarly decent Australian citizens.
It's an ugly parallel, and it certainly puts a
new spin on the phrase
'Future tense'.

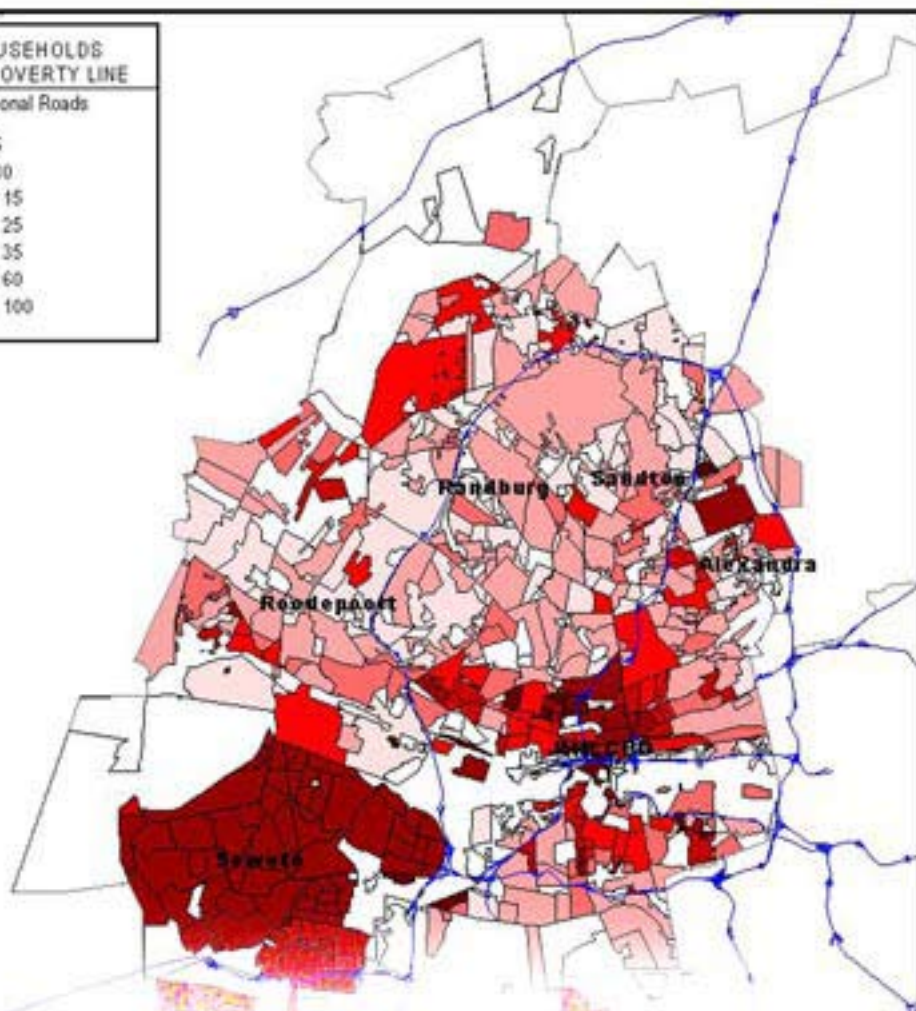
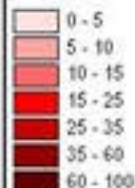


Once a government is committed to the principle of silencing the voice of opposition, it has only one way to go, and that is down the path of increasingly repressive measures, until it becomes a source of terror to all its citizens and creates a country where everyone lives in fear.

- Harry S. Truman

**% OF HOUSEHOLDS
BELOW POVERTY LINE**

 National Roads



*For He has not despised or disdained
the suffering of the afflicted one:
He has not hidden His face from him
but has listened to his cry for help.*

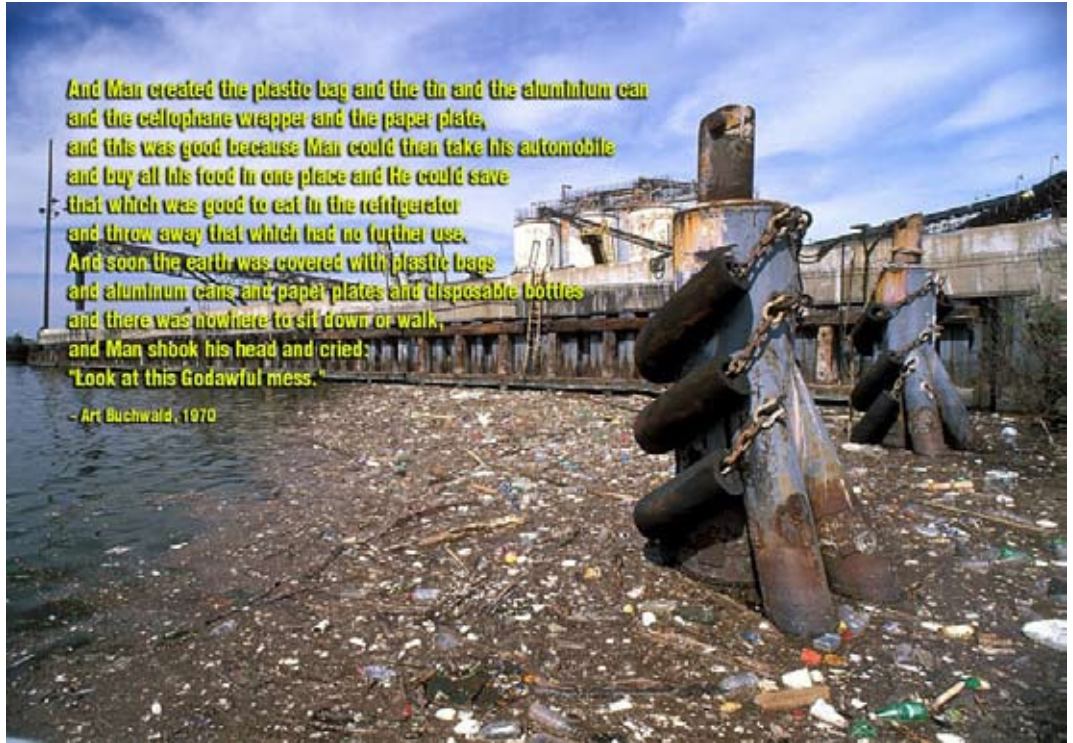
-Psalm 22:24

Yeah. Right.



And Man created the plastic bag and the tin and the aluminium can
and the cellophane wrapper and the paper plate,
and this was good because Man could then take his automobile
and buy all his food in one place and He could save
that which was good to eat in the refrigerator
and throw away that which had no further use.
And soon the earth was covered with plastic bags
and aluminium cans and paper plates and disposable bottles
and there was nowhere to sit down or walk,
and Man shook his head and cried:
"Look at this Godawful mess."

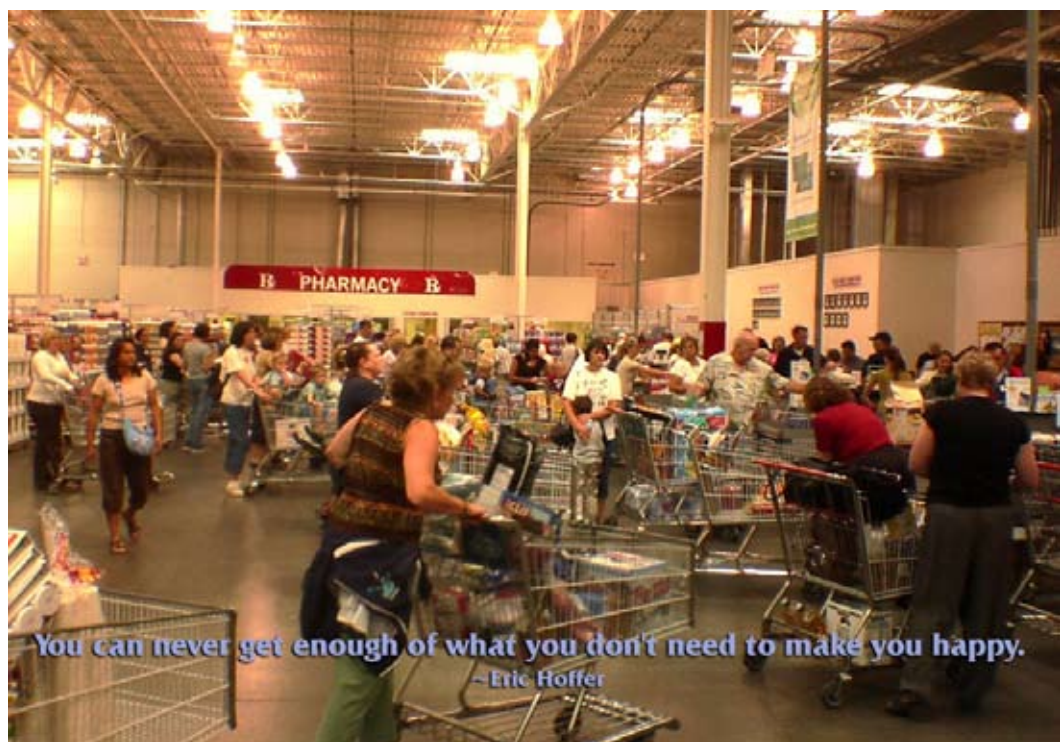
- Art Buchwald, 1970



PROFITS
PEOPLE

**Simplicity
is the ultimate sophistication.**

—Leonardo Da Vinci



You can never get enough of what you don't need to make you happy.

—Eric Hoffer

**Serious sport has nothing to do with fair play.
It is bound up with hatred, jealousy,
boastfulness, disregard of all rules
and sadistic pleasure in witnessing violence.
In other words, it is war minus the shooting.**

- George Orwell



*All he did was string together
a lot of old, well-known quotations.*

H. L. Mencken



PHOTO NEURDEIN

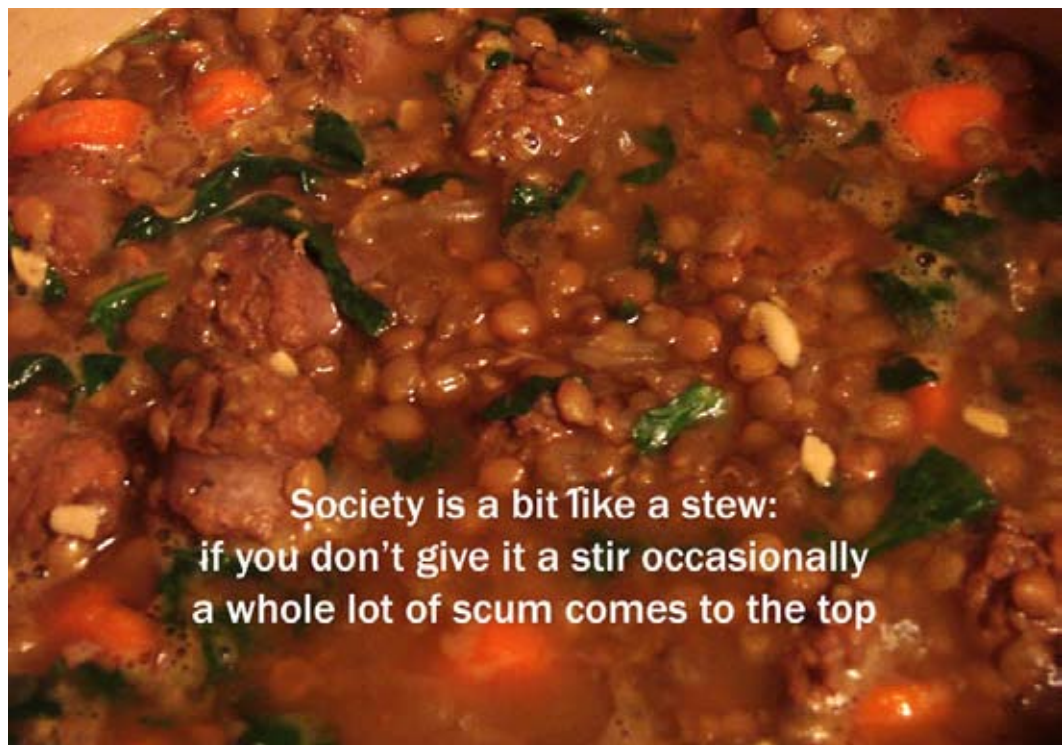
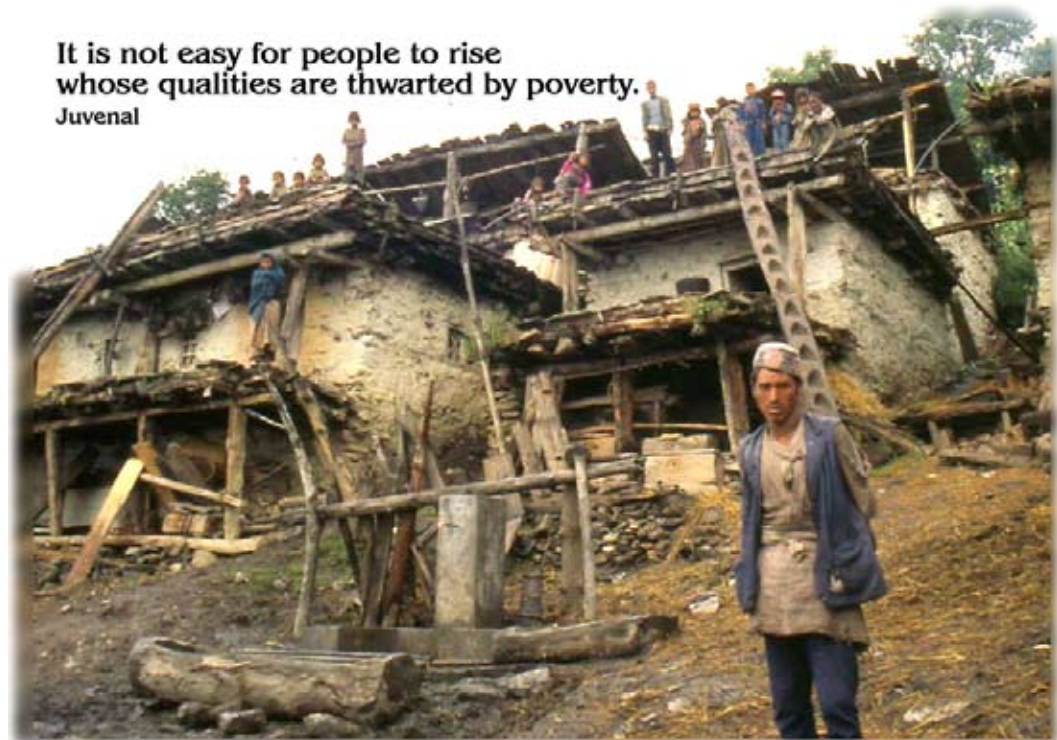
125

SHAKESPEARE

England's greatest Poet and Dramatist.
Born April, 1564. Died April, 1616.

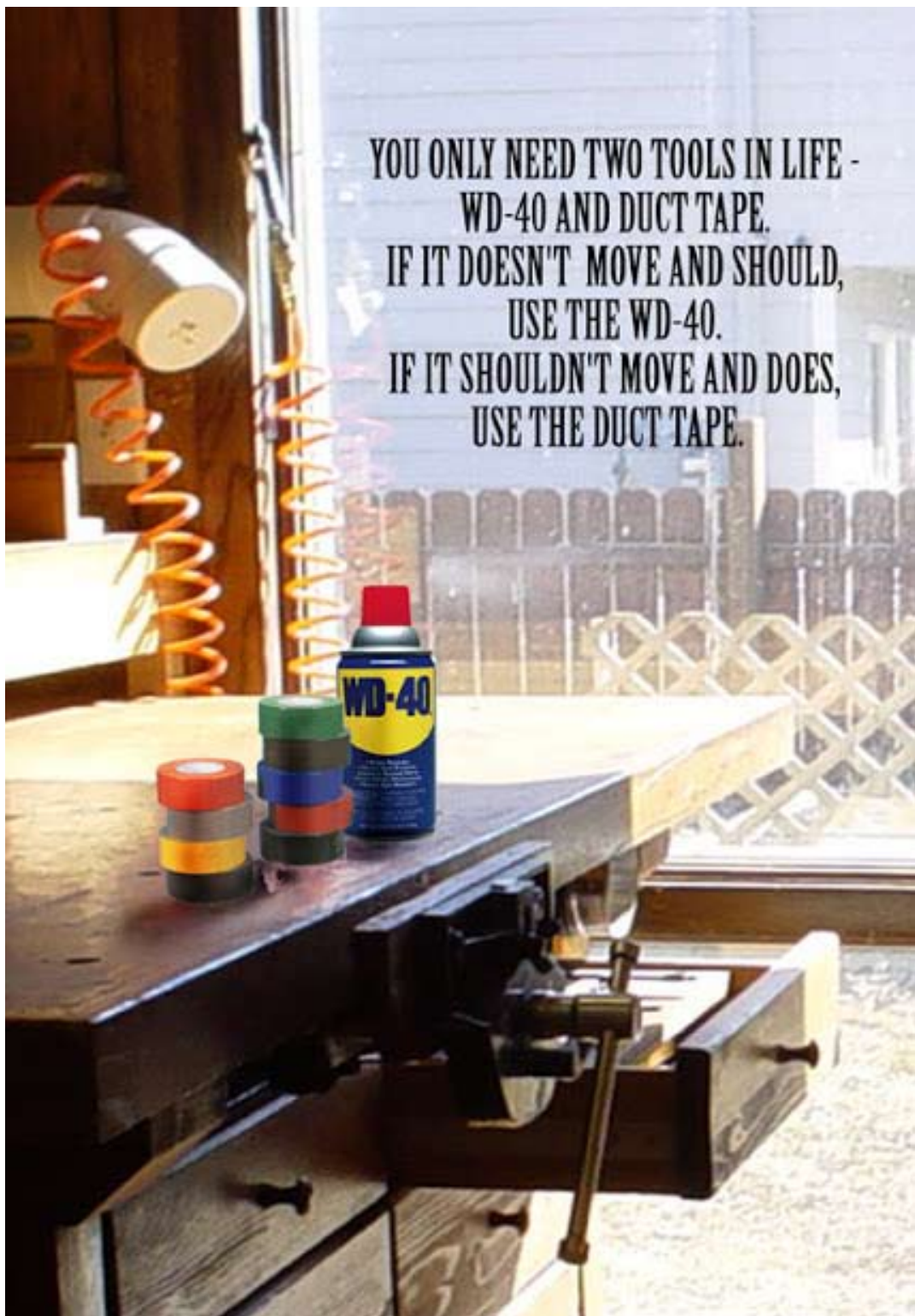
It is not easy for people to rise
whose qualities are thwarted by poverty.

Juvenal



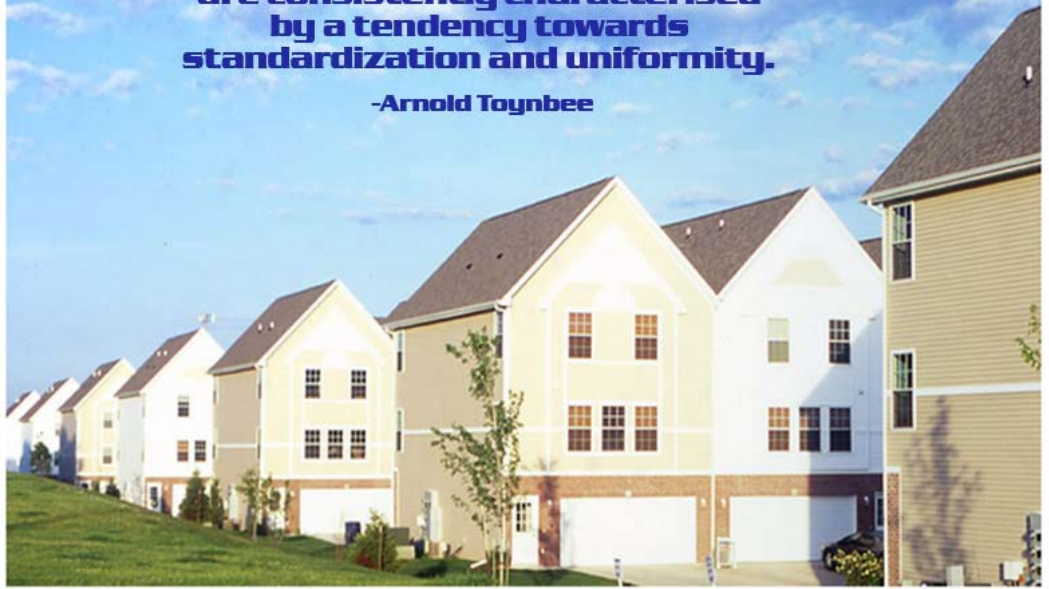
Society is a bit like a stew:
if you don't give it a stir occasionally
a whole lot of scum comes to the top

**YOU ONLY NEED TWO TOOLS IN LIFE -
WD-40 AND DUCT TAPE.
IF IT DOESN'T MOVE AND SHOULD,
USE THE WD-40.
IF IT SHOULDN'T MOVE AND DOES,
USE THE DUCT TAPE.**

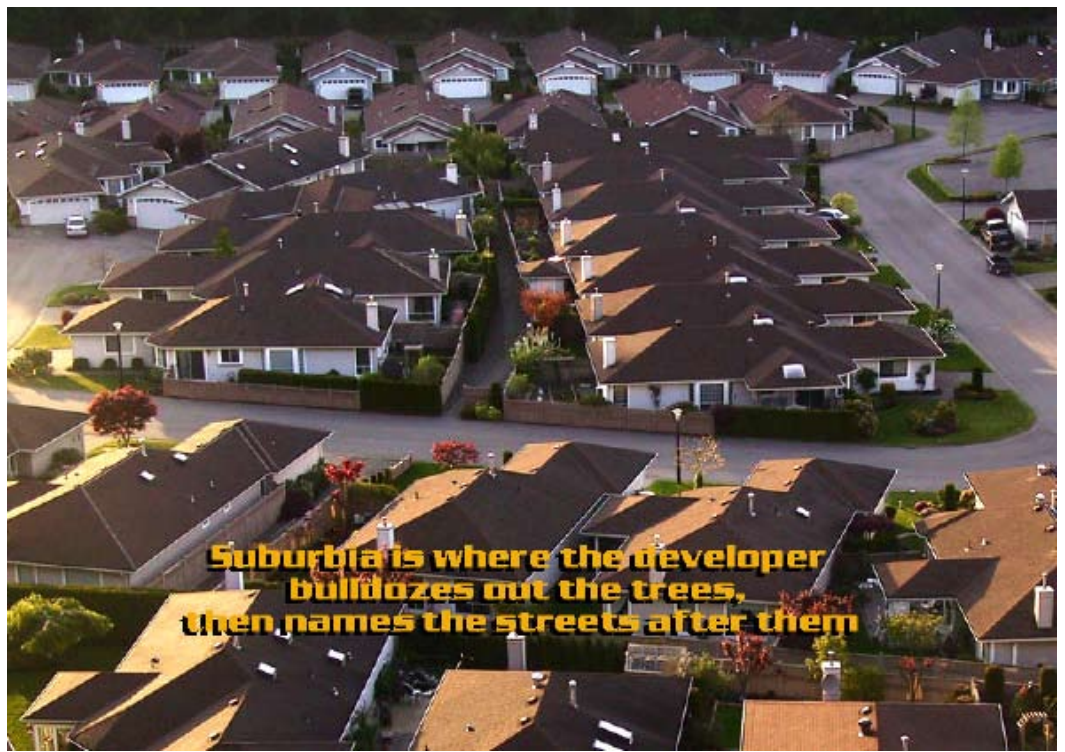


**Civilisations in decline
are consistently characterised
by a tendency towards
standardization and uniformity.**

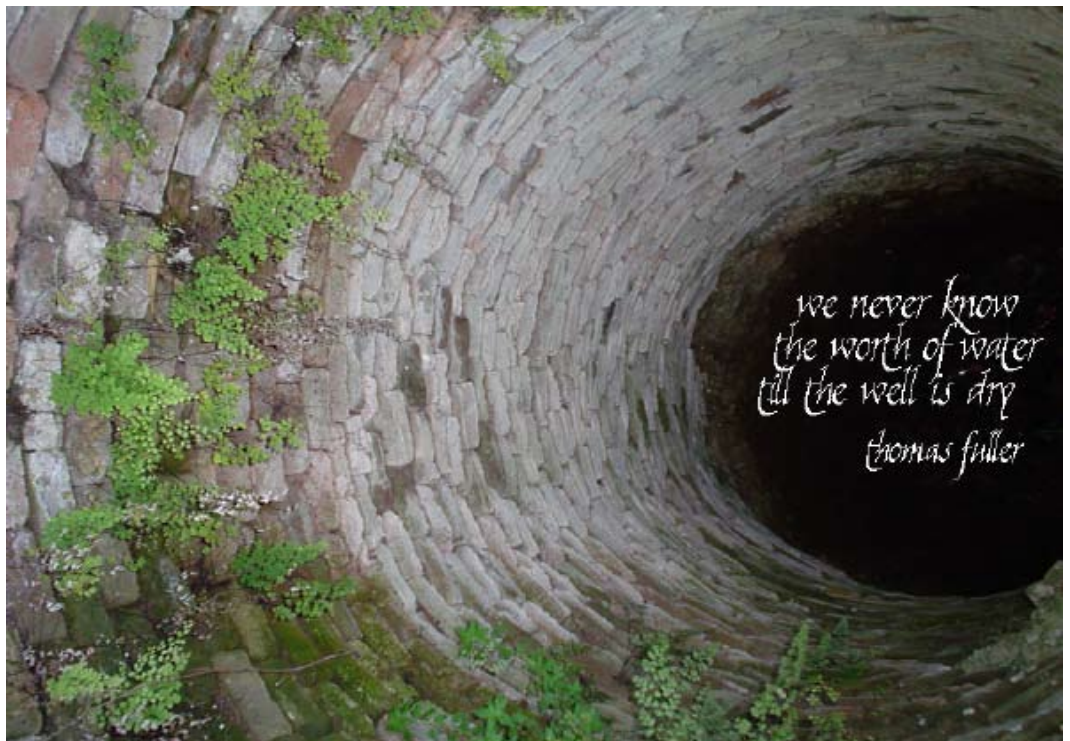
-Arnold Toynbee



THE DUST OF EXPLODED BELIEFS MAY MAKE A FINE SUNSET.
GEOFFREY MADAN



**Suburbia is where the developer
bulldozes out the trees,
then names the streets after them**



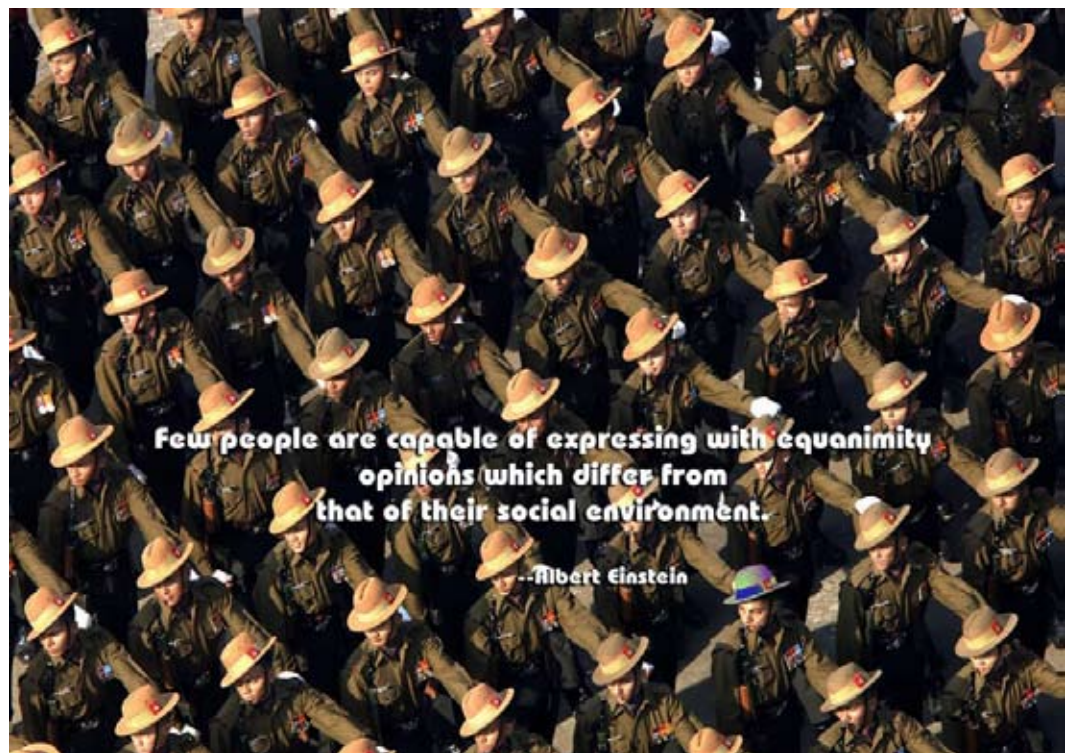
*we never know
the worth of water
till the well is dry
thomas fuller*



THE DAY WE BECOME SILENT
ABOUT THINGS THAT MATTER
IS THE DAY WE ABANDON HOPE



If sunbeams were weapons of war, we would have had solar energy centuries ago. ~Sir George Porter, 1973



**few people are capable of expressing with equanimity
opinions which differ from
that of their social environment.**

~Albert Einstein



**WHATEVER HITS THE FAN
WILL NOT BE EVENLY
DISTRIBUTED**



The universe is not required
to be in perfect harmony
with human ambition:

~Carl Sagan



**Waste is a tax
on all of us**

think
outside
the
box



A world map with a dark blue background. The continents are shown in a light tan color. Numerous small US flags are placed across the map, primarily in North America, Europe, and Asia, suggesting global reach or influence.

WAR IS GOD'S WAY OF TEACHING AMERICANS GEOGRAPHY.
- AMBROSE BIERCE

A close-up image of a human hand holding a small, realistic model of the Earth. The fingers are spread out, supporting the globe from underneath. The Earth shows blue oceans, white clouds, and brown landmasses. The background is black.

WE'VE GOT THE
WHOLE WORLD
IN OUR HANDS

old age is a high price
to pay for maturity

