

law courts. However, until substantial support builds for these all-precious, liberating understandings, their survival hangs in the balance.

<sup>1079</sup>To drill down now into the progression of the increasingly guilt-stripped and thus ever more dishonest and thus ever more dangerous forms of non-religious pseudo idealism that humanity developed and adopted when Religion became too confronting, starting with Socialism and Communism.

### Chapter 8:16K Socialism and Communism

<sup>1080</sup>These collectivist movements denied the notion of a perfecting God and avoided the depressing recognition of a prophet's world of soundness, and instead dogmatically demanded an idealistic social or communal world—and, in doing so, denied and oppressed the whole reality of the individualistic, freedom-dependent, knowledge-finding, creative, egocentric, corrupting, unavoidably-variously-upset, competitive, combative, materialism-compensation-needing, self-distraction-necessary, human-condition-afflicted world. As was pointed out in par. 299, Karl Marx, the political theorist whose mid-nineteenth century ideas gave rise to socialism and communism, argued that **‘The philosophers have only interpreted the world in various ways; the point is [not to understand the world but] to change it.’** By **‘change it’** Marx meant just make it cooperative or social or communal, but he was wrong—the whole **‘point’** and responsibility of being a conscious being *is* to understand our world and place in it, ultimately to find understanding of the human condition. The attraction—and inherent lie—of socialism/communism was that you could support and live the ideals without acknowledging the reality of the human condition and its struggle.

### Chapter 8:16L The New Age Movement

<sup>1081</sup>The limitation of socialism and communism was that while there was no confronting prophet involved, there was an obvious focus on the condemning cooperative, communal, social ideals—and so in time, as levels of upset and thus insecurity increased, the need again arose for the invention of an even more guilt-free form of idealism through which to live, hence the development of the New Age Movement (the forerunners of which were the Age of Aquarius and Peace Movements). In this movement all the realities and negatives of our non-cooperative/non-communal/non-social, corrupted condition were transcended in favour of taking up a completely escapist, think-positive, human-potential-stressing, self-affirming, motivational, feel-good approach. So, in truth, the New Age Movement was never going to be able to transport humanity to an Aquarian new age of peaceful freedom from upset, it was only ever going to lead to an even greater state of deluded, dishonest alienation than that espoused by socialism/communism. Talking about how he became **‘a personal growth junkie’**, the comedian Anthony Ackroyd summed up the extremely deluded artificiality of the New Age Movement when he said: **‘What are millions of us around the globe searching for in books, tapes, seminars, workshops and speaking events? Information to enhance our lifestyles and enrich our experience on this planet? Certainly...But I smell something else in the ether. Something more desperate and deluded. A worrying snake-oil factor that is spinning out of control. It's the promise of salvation. Salvation from the basic rules of human life. This is the neurotic aspect of the human potential movement. This hunger for a get-out-of-the-**

**human-condition-free card**' (*Good Weekend, The Sydney Morning Herald*, 13 Sep. 1997). Yes, to **'get out of the human condition'** we had to confront and solve it, not deny and escape it; our **'desperate and deluded'** attempts to escape it only made it worse. As the philosopher Thomas Nagel recognised, **'The capacity for transcendence brings with it a liability to alienation, and the wish to escape this condition...can lead to even greater absurdity'** (*The View From Nowhere*, 1986, p.214 of 256).

### Chapter 8:16M The Feminist Movement

<sup>1082</sup> The limitation of the New Age Movement, in terms of being an effective means of escaping the horror of the human condition, was that while it didn't stress the cooperative ideals like socialism and communism did, in seeking to transcend humans' upset state its very purpose served as a constant reminder and thus reprimand of our variously upset, embattled, troubled, estranged, alienated condition—a problem the *next* level of delusion sought to dispense with by simply denying its existence. Yes, the Feminist Movement maintained that there was no real difference between people—and *especially* not between the sexes. It particularly denied the legitimacy of the exceptionally egocentric, combative male dimension to life that had taken on the heroic frontline role in fighting the ignorance of our instinctive self. Women's lack of awareness of the all-important role that men have been playing is evident in this already mentioned comment from Germaine Greer, an icon of modern feminism: **'As far as I'm concerned, men are the product of a damaged gene. They pretend to be normal but what they're doing sitting there with benign smiles on their faces is they're manufacturing sperm.'** Beyond their necessary role in reproduction men have been viewed as meaningless; as the leading feminist, Gloria Steinem, famously said, **'A woman needs a man like a fish needs a bicycle'**—but the truth that is now able to be revealed is that men were carrying out the most important and difficult task being undertaken on the planet! Based on extreme dogma, the feminist movement could not and has not brokered any real reconciliation between men and women, rather, as this aforementioned quote points out, **'What happened was that the so-called Battle of the Sexes became a contest in which only one side turned up. Men listened, in many cases sympathetically but, by the millions, were turned off.'** No, *only* by winning the battle to champion the ego—that is, explain the human condition and establish that our egocentric conscious thinking self is good and not bad—could the polarities of life of so-called 'good' and 'evil', that women and men are in truth an expression of, be reconciled.

### Chapter 8:16N The Environmental or Green Movement

<sup>1083</sup> Again, as far as offering an effective way to transcend the realities of the human condition, feminism's flaw was that while it superficially dispensed with the problem of humans' divisive reality, humans remained the focus of attention and that was confronting. The solution that emerged to counter this limitation was the Environmental or Green Movement, which removed all need to confront and think about the human state because all focus was diverted from self onto the environment—as the aforementioned quote acknowledged, **'The environment became the last best cause, the ultimate guilt-free issue.'** In response to a question about people's focus on 'climate change', the psychologist Jordan Peterson spoke the truth when he said, **'People have things within their personal purview [range**