

Acquisitive V Inquisitive

Whilst listening a populist radio station (last week); it was intriguing to hear an “*eminent psychologist*” discuss the topic; *‘the nature of Man’*. His *simplistic* argument being, that we are born into the world as acquisitive and competitive beings. In other words, we are by nature prone to acquiring material things, and are by birth inclined towards competing with others in the acquisition of those material things. He was postulating that “*by nature/birth we are competitive and excessively interested in acquiring money, and/or material wealth/things*”.

Nobody (including this writer) bothered to call the station and argue the point either way with the said “*eminent psychologist*”; which leads me to the logical conclusion, that most listeners probably agreed with his pontification, or they thought him so dumb, there was no point in arguing with *the fool*. We suspect the former rather than the latter.

That of course is the problem with listening to populist radio and/or mainstream media broadcasting. When they roll out People that are purport to be “*eminent experts*” in their fields, and most listeners (People) just swallow any stuff that comes out of their mouths. To add weight to their postulations, they usually quote themselves as being highly esteemed professors, associated, affiliated, attending and/or working in some such eminent university.

As the old joke goes. **Q:** How would you recognise someone who attended Trinity, within the first five minutes of meeting them? **A:** They would tell you!

As if to say, because they have Degrees, Masters and/or Doctorates coming out of all orifice’s, they must know what they are saying and/or talking about. If you are one to believe everything the populist media put out, then you are perhaps doing yourself a disservice. Perhaps your desire to reach consensus and avoid confrontation is probably hindering your progress towards, what is called “*self-actualisation*”.

In relation to the above postulation; “*by nature/birth we are competitive and excessively interested in acquiring money, and/or material wealth/things*” ... was the “*eminent psychologist*” correct in making such a statement, or was he just another spin doctor?

Based upon your experience as a Parent, Aunt, Uncle, Grandparent etc., was/were your babies/children competitive and acquisitive the day, or the day after they were born? Are

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babies competitive and acquisitive, or is that something they learn from their parents, other children, school and society?

Yes babies/children are dependant for warmth, food, shelter and nurturing for basic survival. As these basic needs are satiated, and the baby grows into a child and it slowly gets indoctrinated into society, it gets introduced to competition and acquisition as social constructs. Babies/children brought up in “*the jungle*” per say, are not prone and exposed to “*western social constructs*” such as competition and acquisition. Their environment (in most cases) provides sufficient means to survive, and the child is raised in a cooperative (not competitive) based society.

The family/community work together to use and preserve the resources they have about them. It does everyone a disservice, if any one individual claims part of the jungle and/or a tree to be for the sole benefit or use of that individual. Resources are shared and preserved. The children grow up being inquisitive and not acquisitive, which has the added benefit of assisting in the survival of all.

Why was the so called “*eminent psychologist*” pedalling the idea that its in “*our*” nature to be acquisitive, when from an absolute and logical perspective the opposite is true? This question you will have to answer for yourself, or perhaps ask “*an expert*”, if you can find one that actually thinks critically.

In my view, that “*eminent psychologist*” was less eminent and more psycho.

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Protect Themselves.*

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