

Chapter Five

The Fifth Foundation: The Evolutionary Process

"all human beings are worthy of a kind of unqualified respect by virtue of a capacity they all share: the ability to set the course of their own lives as individuals, to be self-determining or autonomous beings"

-Immanuel Kant. Critique of Judgment, 1790²²⁹

Up to now we have considered reforms that have been achieved and are underway in Western ideas and cultures. We have not covered areas still requiring reform and how they can be approached. Each generation has its own reforms in mind. It is almost as if the new feisty energy of the young is born to address certain issues. Although I am not saying it is fated; yet it is sometimes eerie that each generation finds a cause. However, several issues are consistently avoided, possibly too big to be dealt with properly because of their complexity or inherent dangers or are fundamental to the way our hierarchical and dualistic society operates. These are the ones I wish to cover in this final foundation. To a major extent these issues have been the engines of our prosperity and security and who in their right mind wants to toy with something that works? The problem is they work only so well and could be made to work even better with reform.

This final foundation attempts to lay out the future of masculine activity as the emancipation of women, gays, First Nations, the disabled and prisoners are finding equitable relationships within the existing economic environment. With men no longer needed as the principal breadwinner, I want to remind men of their substantial historical contribution to democracy by encouraging them to move towards the egalitarian and philanthropic sectors of society. Aside from economic activity this is the other good men have always contributed to. Much good is still to be addressed. The naturally good man shines in this work and finds there is no other place to be. The topics in this chapter are areas I believe are essential for good men to focus on with the purpose of expanding the wonderful democratic institutions we enjoy today.

The beginning of this exploration is with private property. Up to the present time contemporary thought rarely touches on the private ownership of land. The only recent discussion I have seen in the papers was the gratitude people had for the outstanding profitability that owning land might produce. For most average citizens it was the only way they could generate wealth for their retirement, with many putting their entire life's work into their homes and lands often, in order, to prepare for this distant but inevitable reality. Unfortunately, not everyone can.

So, let's go back to a time where privately owned land did not exist, and was free to whoever passed over it—a natural process for some and a nightmare of chaos for others. However, it did exist for thousands of years and ended with the start of the domestication of plants and animals about ten thousand years ago. At this point humans were forced by a changing climate and population growth to

stop their nomadic way of life. The arable land all around them became invaluable to their survival and they slowly began to cultivate the wild plants that nurtured them, but now in fixed locations. Thus, they were permanently settled on the land and new rules to govern them had to be created.....

And I go on to explore how property ownership is exploitative and then showcase ways to democratize property as well as redistribute power. Enjoy.