

The Green Road to Serfdom

Author Stephen Marchant May 2019

Whichever side of the debate you are on with regards to global warming, climate change, animal rights and the environment we should all be aware that there is a cost to whichever path a society decides to take.

I grew up in the UK as post war austerity came to an end and the working classes were sharing in economic growth from technology development and trade. Although we had more income, we were still careful with use of our resources and much of our waste was naturally recyclable.

Most people still had their milk delivered in recyclable glass bottles.

Fizzy drinks and other liquids came in recyclable glass bottles.

Groceries were largely wrapped in paper bags fresh from a grocer shop.

Washing machines, TVs, radios and other equipment were too expensive to be discarded rather than being repaired.

Cars whilst less fuel efficient were not used as much because people tended to work near their place of residence rather than commuting and certainly shopping was a local event.

Overall, we were enjoying newly found prosperity without globalisation and a fiat debt driven consumerism. It is the debt driven consumerism that has led to destruction of social responsibility, waste, population growth and mass immigration. Debt has distorted our perception of reality and now we have a less cohesive society with action groups - in many cases rightly – demanding change to ban plastics, reduce pollution, energy consumption etc.

Those that have profited most from this debt driven consumerism have been allowed to abrogate responsibility by parking their wealth in tax havens and outside the jurisdiction of the nation from which it was obtained. The working and tax paying middle income groups are now having to shoulder an ever-greater burden of societal costs and the ‘green’ agenda will hit them hardest. The wealthy elites will still carry on individually consuming vast quantities of energy and other resources whilst the rest of us are burdened with the costs of ‘saving the planet’.

The nation state is under threat

Not from populism but from global interests.

They care not a jot for sovereign states

Whilst feeding from the global plate.

Nations are for the ‘little people’

Governed for the financial steeple.

Culture and societal development

No responsibility for those who take the rent.

They park their profits in tax havens

Whilst seeking protection from the nation.

Those left working have to pay

To maintain the system for global prey.

Our children are naively being driven by this ‘green’ agenda towards veganism, climate and environment policy whilst not understanding that these are a consequence of a flawed monetary system. The Establishment will use their desire to save the planet to ensnare them with policies that diminish their living standards through higher direct and indirect taxation whilst the elites escape their responsibility to share the pain of resource scarcity.

If we had sound money, then much of the green agenda would be met through a return to the values of work and thrift. People would be encouraged to save for their future and old age; society would build its values around a more balanced approach to wealth creation and consumption. Sound money would prevent Establishment forces manipulating policy without informed consent of the people from which direct taxes would have to be levied.

Unfortunately, we are seeing cash being removed from day to day activity as evermore transactions are carried out electronically. Younger generations are being enticed into this world where money is just a number and your consumption is controlled by a computer-generated credit score. They are giving up financial sovereignty of cash and entrusting their wealth to the global banking cabal. The Establishment are rewarding political careerists for managing the resulting societal changes and maintaining some semblance of order. They are relying on complacency of those middle-income groups who are the ‘keep calm and carry on’ type that do not want to rock the precarious boat that they rely on. So long as there is no ‘gilet jaunes’ type protests they can continue to manipulate society through creation of evermore fiat debt.

The latest worrying trend is the narrative for creating intergenerational conflict by blaming the ‘boomers’ for taking the wealth and over consumption. It is the ageing boomers that therefore will be targeted to shoulder a greater share of the costs for a green agenda whilst the global elites – ageing or not – will continue to live free from any cost burden. Richard Branson, Jeff Bezo, Elon Musk et al are in a commercial space race that no doubt will consume inordinate amounts of resources whilst the rest of us are kept on strict rations. The global elites, political classes and their close civil servants and advisors will continue to enjoy tax funded travel and perks whilst the rest of us are priced out of the market.

This drive to save the planet will do more to polarise wealth and with it require a more authoritarian governance of our daily lives with less democratic accountability. A thousand years of progress from serfdom to modern functioning democracy could go into reverse in the pursuit of apparently altruistic aims to protect the natural environment.

www.money-liberty.com