

# We Live in the Worst Possible Society

From the book "Work & Capital" by Norberto Keppe

We live in the stupidest of worlds possible, on this planet of ours, with its nature created by God but a type of existence fashioned by the sickest individuals, under the inspiration of demons. We see that humanity has forever been used by the powerful; exploited economically and driven, like a herd of sheep, to the slaughterhouse of hunger and humiliation. It is a situation that must be brought to an end. Considering everything we have to admit, contrary to Leibniz's view that we live in the worst of worlds.

Human society is wholly uninteresting and disagreeable because 1) the work we do does not benefit us; 2) we are crushed by unjust laws that protect only those who exploit us; 3) we have no opportunity to develop.

The way life is organized is indeed scandalous, the woman kept at home with the children, the husband hurled into the fray to earn money — and the two of them alienated all of their lives. The many potentials of the human being are being kept from manifesting themselves by a totally artificial social structure, itself a consequence of the existing economic substructure, directed by the most unbalanced individuals.

The socio-economic system is governed by the process of envy. Indeed, the individuals who possess this power are the most envious of all and thus try to get for themselves all of the wealth and riches that exist. And it is the peoples of the developed countries who suffer the most, because they have been pressured to the point of becoming neurotics by the most dishonest and oppressive of socio-economic systems. And when such a system reaches under-developed regions, it begins to create very great problems. We have only to look at Latin America and the countries of Africa and Asia. This is why China's leaders are so reluctant to accept this same kind of life for their people, even though they realize that their country is technologically far behind.

From the window of the room where I am working, I see a boy leading an enormous dog on a leash down the street. It is obvious that the young man has been hired by some family to walk the dog, since the island of Manhattan has no houses with gardens and no place adequate for pets. The situation is ridiculous for everyone concerned: for the owner of the gigantic dog who is kept in an apartment; for the boy, who is obliged to earn a few dollars to survive; and for the people of New York, who must look down at the pavement continuously if they are to avoid perfuming their shoes suddenly. Human society is indeed absurd, and very few people concern themselves with changing it for the better.

Ninety percent of the population of Montana makes its living from gambling; seventy percent of Hawaii's natural resources are depleted; in Puerto Rico the populace depends on social security to survive. The New Yorker is not aware of the terrible problems of AIDS. A report on South Africa in the magazine *Insight* says: "The good life may be coming to an end for comfortable white South Africans." (Hope for stowaways on the "Crunch Boats", by Peter Younghusband, Capetown).

It is truly a very strange fact, difficult to believe, that human-kind is comprised of millions of poor people with only a few isolated "islands" of more fortunate souls scattered among them.

Science, philosophy, history and education are structured upon enormous mistakes, because the human being is a combination of good and evil. Practically speaking, we have become unable to distinguish right from wrong, the true from the false. In Friedrich Engels's book, *The Origin of Family, Private Property and the State*, we see that he considers the social organization of society to be dependent on the sexual behaviour of the people, an idea which runs along the same lines as Darwinian evolutionism and Freudian psychoanalysis.