

## **Change the Story. Change the Future**

Peter Hay and Trevor Parton were facilitators of the 'New Consciousness' weekend October 21/22 at the Archer Mountain Community and suggested David Korten had a way into the new consciousness we now need for the survival of the planet and ultimately humanity. David Korten poses these questions in the light of humanity embracing a new story of where we have come from, why we are here and where are we going.



- ❖ Are we brave enough to change the dominant story that governs our lives and so change our future?
- ❖ What are the dominant cosmologies that impact our lives?
- ❖ How might we open ourselves to a new emergent future?

### **Then he asked:**

How do I see the story of the universe?

There seem to be 3 dominant cosmologies out of which humans live their lives. What is your cosmology? As Marcus Borg said 'tell me your cosmology and I will tell you your god.'

### **Dead World Story**

Newtonian science/physics

Reduced to the mechanical

No intelligence in the cosmos – all life is scripted

### **Religious Story**

The great patriarch lives in the sky

We live according to his rules

We strive for entry into the afterlife

It is the rich and powerful who God favors

All is by God's will

Strips away any purpose in life



### **The Intelligent Spiritual Consciousness Story**

The universe has a spiritual intelligent consciousness

The spirit seeks to know itself by becoming

Continuous unfolding

We are co-creators

We are able to choose our future – what is our distinctive place?

We use our creative potential to advance the creative power of life itself.

We need to shift our thinking into a new way of seeing – a new paradigm.

### Contrasting Paradigms

MATERIALIST	REFLECTIVE/LIVING SYSTEMS
The cosmos is 'dead material'	The cosmos is a unique kind of 'living thing'. Integral to the whole.
Consciousness just a by-product of biochemistry	Consciousness permeates the universe. Unique to each entity.
The goal of life is material success and consumption.	The goal of life is to achieve a balanced relationship between our inner and outer lives
Cut-throat competition is the norm,	Fair competition is the norm. A mutually enhancing environment.
Identity is highly individualistic.	The individual is both unique and an inseparable part of the larger universe
Free market economics	Each takes responsibility for the well-being of the world.

We need a new paradigm of perception from seeing the universe as a place of fragmentation and deadness to seeing the universe as a place of unification and aliveness. That is a profound shift in perception and with this shift we can move towards a more sustainable and promising future.

Duane Elgin *The Living Universe*

If we see the universe as non-living material then we are simply here to compete for resources and advantage which will bring on a time of profound conflict. As a human species we will simply pull apart.

### The Universe is an Orchestration of Music:

- 96% of the Universe is invisible (dark matter)
- How much of ourselves is invisible?
- Inside we are an invisible body of light, love, music and knowing.
- In physics *String Theory* – entire universe is alive with an orchestration of music.
- Soul the interior self is a body of music.
- We each have a unique song line that we sing interiorly
- We are called to cultivate and grow these qualities (light, love, music and knowing) our song line.

**Mary Oliver captures the new story shift in this poem:**

### **When I Am Among the Trees**

When I am among the trees,  
especially the willows and the honey locust,  
equally the beech, the oaks and the pines,  
they give off such hints of gladness.  
I would almost say that they save me, and daily.

I am so distant from the hope of myself,  
in which I have goodness, and discernment,  
and never hurry through the world  
but walk slowly, and bow often.

Around me the trees stir in their leaves  
and call out, 'Stay awhile.'  
The light flows from their branches.

And they call again, 'It's simple,' they say,  
'and you too have come  
into the world to do this, to go easy, to be filled  
with light, and to shine.'

Mary Oliver, *Thirst*, (Boston, Massachusetts: Beacon Press 2006)

### **Learning from Nature's Laws**

The paradox is that it takes time to de-colonise our minds and to experience ourselves as participants with the community of life around us. This does not happen through reading the plethora of information out there. It comes through rebuilding our relationship with Nature, so that we experience our reciprocal relationship from within the web of life: the living soils, home of myriad of creatures that together nurture plant life, so that mammals can live and the birds and insects can also play their vital roles of weaving the web of life. This requires us to see holistically, to see dynamic interplay in an interdependent world of relationship.

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We are planted here.  
A person is a plant that grows and  
branches  
And flowers on earth.  
(Aztecs saying from Mexico)

PH.