

# TANGENT 2

## SELFISHNESS OF THE INDIVIDUAL

The more the Welfare State interferes with the individual, the more irresponsible and selfish he becomes towards his fellow man.

Look back at the 'old days'. Man was exactly the same person as he is today. Human nature doesn't change. His main motivating force was still to 'profit' but even then his actions had to be within certain basic rules. If you stepped out of line you faced moral disapproval of the community ....or worse. (You've heard of the stocks!) So the individual in the old days had a far clearer picture of what his responsibilities were.

In the same way, the individual had far greater personal responsibility for looking after his economic well-being simply because, apart from the family and the church, he had no Welfare State to fall back on.

So in the old days, you were encouraged to behave well and work hard - and in doing so you gained a lot of self respect.

# RULES OF THE GAME



TOO MUCH 'MOLLYCODDLING' BY THE STATE  
MAKES AN INDIVIDUAL MORE SELFISH !!



Human beings are generally in a much happier frame of mind when they have done something well or good. They have more self-respect and feel good within themselves. True inner happiness can't be bought with money, or can't be found through drugs or alcohol. It is a natural state that comes from simple little things you do that are good, well done and beneficial to others. People feel even better if they do helpful things without being told to.

'Good behaviour encourages the good side of man, and bad or loutish behaviour encourages the dark side of man.'

Well, how does all this talk of individual goodness affect the State or larger society?

The government can set the stage and lay the ground rules, and doctors can prescribe pills, but at the end of the day it is the actions of the individual which makes him a healthy and happy person, and it is the combined actions of all individuals within any society that will determine the health and well-being of that society.

**THE GOOD SIDE OF MAN**  
 INNER HAPPINESS, INVISIBLE WEALTH, CLOUD NINE

WE ALL KNOW...

A GOLFER SHOOTING A GOOD SCORE FEELS ELATED.



A MOTHER CARING FOR A CHILD FEELS HAPPY.



A REALLY EFFICIENT AND WELL PLANNED DAY'S WORK MAKES YOU FEEL GOOD !



A FOOTBALLER SCORING A HAT TRICK FEELS ELATED.



EVEN IF YOU HELP AN OLD LADY ACROSS THE STREET YOU GET AN INNER GLOW !



SELF DISCIPLINE WILL GIVE YOU MORE SELF - RESPECT (AND YOU WON'T WAKE UP WITH A HANGOVER !)



IF WE DO ANYTHING WELL, OR 'GOOD', WE END UP FEELING MUCH HAPPIER WHICH IS A HEALTHY STATE TO BE IN !!

WE ALL KNOW THE REVERSE...

IF YOU HAVE BEEN NASTY TO YOUR PET OR YOUR CHILD~ YOU WILL HAVE NO SELF RESPECT AND YOU WILL FEEL ROTTEN INSIDE !



We have just said it is the combined actions of the individual which will determine the health of the larger community -

Let's now go further: What determines the actions of the individual?

Individual actions are determined by that person's **MANNERS**.

The better mannered we are, the more we will think of other people and our environment, and the more responsible we will be in our actions. Our own manners form the base core or foundations upon which depend the health of a family, a community and a nation state.

Let's look at some examples of how our manners affect the greater community.

