

# **WORDS, WORDS, WORDS:**

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One of the things I have learned most painfully as a writer is the vital importance of mutual understanding of words. Semantics and philology are the most important factors which can either aid or impede understanding.

Why then, did I choose to use the title “HUMANIST COLLECTIVE” to describe the accidental collective of the people who have been the benefactors of the human race?

It should be clear to everyone who has done any serious reading of my works that communality, communitarianism, and Communism are, in my view, totally negative terribly oppressive impositions on the growth and development of Humankind.

Now, given my status as a “Gad Fly” it is possible that I chose the expression simply because it would enrage some people. But it’s not really that simple.

So, let’s define those two words as I am using them.

“Humanism” is a thing which has many definitions, but the one I use is this: I fully agree with the Greeks that “The Proper Study of Humankind is Humankind”, what it actually is can be said to be the study of the nature of the human condition and the context in which that condition exists. To me, that is “Humanism”. It is the completely open minded study of humanity and the world it lives in. It is not of itself, either “pro” or “Anti” anything.

The group of people I call “Humanists” are people who have spent their lives trying to understand humanity, its past, its present, its future, its motivations, its needs, and its faults. They are people who ask “WHY” do people do what they do? It’s people who devote themselves in some instances to discovering the needs of others and trying to meet those needs.

It might be asked if these people are “selfless”. No, they are altruistic. What’s the difference? Well to me “Altruism” is an act or actions performed because it is the wisest and most productive course of action to take. There is no such thing as actual “selflessness”. In fact people who claim to be “selfless” are generally among the most self-absorbed of us all. An altruist finds a specific or general

need and fills it because the person knows full well, that they themselves and everyone else is likely to be effected positively by the results of the altruism. It is also clear that certain needs, especially social ones, when ignored or neglected, produce negative effects! The “selfless person”, the self-selected “Saint” has a tendency to do more harm than good.

While I believe the people on my list are generally more distinctly individualists than most Humans (even though as you know I wonder if they themselves are entirely Human) nonetheless as what can be described as an “Unconscious collective” the collective results of their efforts and invention have benefited the Human Race as a whole. So what they are is independent individuals who are greater in sum than they are individually even though many of them are extremely great individuals.

“Unconscious Collective” is a thing which I think is of unalloyed goodness, deliberate collectives are exactly the opposite. A deliberate collective or intentional community is a very oppressive thing, stifling individual creativity.

As I have said many times in other essays, there is nothing worse going on in the world today than the tremendous effort to submerge individuality in some dream of community.

The result is an “Ant Hill Culture”, it may be efficient, but it is entirely oppressive of human creativity and expression. This “urge to community” is the hallmark of the New Age Movement and it is why I so strongly disapprove of that movement.

The question that arises is why did I select a name for my “group” that requires explanation?

The answer is that the existence of this group of creative spirits has been intuited and/or discovered by far too many people to pretend it’s a “secret”.

Why do I say “creative spirits”? Well, if you’ve been following my work you know that to me the basic reality of all sentient life is spirit. The physical is temporary and evanescent. All creativity is the product of the human (and other) spirit. The only actual connection between the individuals of “The Collective” is on the extra-physical levels of consciousness.

The biggest problem then is the kind of terminology people have decided to use to describe these individuals. Almost every term used to define this group of people is connected with some kind of religious or semi-religious belief structure. It would have been terribly tempting to have called them “The Light bearers” but

intuitively I felt that would inevitably lead to all sorts of cultic nonsense. I was very tempted to call them the “Prometheans” and in fact I have said that while I regularly describe them as “The Platonic Lineage” it would have been more accurate to call them the “Promethean Lineage” but there too, we run the risk of a cultic belief structure developing. In any case, Prometheus is, as we know him, a myth, though like most myths he probably has some intrinsic reality.

Obviously, it has been my preoccupation to avoid anything which would lend itself to the development of a concretized belief structure.

I am sure you have already intuited that this group of individuals has been named various portentous things by groups like the Theosophists and other Occult Groups. But that too leads to immense amounts of nonsense. The self-selected members of the “Collective” are obviously far from “ordinary” people, and as I say in Keltic Knot, they may, in fact, be other than ordinary Homo Sapiens, but they are NOT Deific in any way. It’s their deification that terrifies me. Once a thing or person is deified it becomes oppressive. The entire history of the human race makes this absolutely clear.

There’s a group extant in the world that calls this group “The World Servers” and if they didn’t include themselves in it, and if they didn’t identify it as connected to “The Great White Brotherhood” it might be an acceptable term. But it really implies deliberate conjoining for action, and the group I am talking about may have some accidental interactions with one another, but they are NOT a deliberate group.

It is very important to me to emphasize the fact that the homogenization of the human race is something that is negative in the extreme. It’s the differences between distinct individuals that provides the basic energy for human advances. Now by homogenization I am NOT talking about what people call Racial mixing. To me there is the Human Race, the color and other slight differences are simply environmental adaptation. It is my belief that before too long the human race will breed itself into a less distinctively separate group of people, but skin color has nothing really to do with the kind of individualism I am trying to promote.

It seems to me that the religions that have developed in human society are among the most guilty parties involved in the submergence of individuality, which is one of the many reasons I am so opposed to religion.

From this discussion of the nature of the group, I’d like to talk about some of the effects some of the work of the people in the group have had. The desire to attain positive results doesn’t guarantee the result.

It is my very strong belief that all of the people on my "list" had in mind the benefiting of the human race. But people, unfortunately, die. Even more unfortunately they have "followers" who tend to "improve" their work. And That leads to extremely negative results. Sometimes too, their ideas as to what's needed for the betterment of society are wrong. For instance, I don't believe that Karl Marx was an evil man, nor do I believe he was ill intended. But in practice his ideas did a lot of harm. This was so because I believe his ideas were based entirely on idealistic notions with no basis in human nature.

I am afraid that there is no "good Idea" that if applied wrongly, cannot turn out to be a very bad idea indeed. Religion was a "good idea" once!