NUCLEAR NATIONALISM

AND EMERGENCY MEDICINE

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Nuclear nationalism is now of eminent pandemic proportions. We could prevent The Final Epidemic with a precise etiological assessment and a comprehensive corrective plan for our world-atrisk. War is not our great planetary disease, war is a symptom. Our real planetary disease is nationalism. The real etiology is fragmented sovereignty. And the real prevention/cure is constitutional world government. A sustainable global peace is possible. But we must first transcend our illusions of separateness as persons and as nations, and then effectively entrust our fragmented national sovereignties regarding international affairs to a constitutionally sovereign world government. We will begin to experience a sustainable global peace only after we call for a world constitutional convention to establish a globally sovereign world government that will finally enforce a world-wide system of international law. The collaborative assessment and invocation of some recently available non-sectarian spiritual literature could markedly facilitate our personal and planetary lives.

[KEY WORDS: Peace is possible]

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In April, 1982, our Board of Directors adopted the following position statement on nuclear disarmament:

The American College of Emergency Physicians encourages political efforts of the United States and other countries to find effective means by which further development, testing and deployment of nuclear arms can be halted and worldwide nuclear disarmament can be effected.

The sum of our planet's present nuclear weaponry now equals over 6,000 times the total of all the firepower exploded during. World War II--including the Hiroshima and Nagasaki nuclear holocausts. Each one of our new Trident submarines can carry enough nuclear weaponry to destroy every major city in the northern hemisphere. Even a limited nuclear exchange and the resulting nuclear winter could provoke The Final Epidemic. Reduced sunlight from aftermath dust and smoke could lower global temperatures to below freezing, even if only 1 percent of the current superpower arsenals were exploded. Clearly, our College position statement on nuclear disarmament is cogent, caring, and compelling.

The August 3, 1984, issue of THE JOURNAL of the American Medical Association was a landmark document. Almost the entire

JOURNAL was devoted to nuclear topics such as: Birthday XXXIX of the Hiroshima Epidemic; The Final Epidemic; and The Call, which has been sponsored by the International Physicians for Prevention of Nuclear War and signed by twenty-five percent of the world's physicians.

PROBLEM

This year marks the Fortieth Annual Death-day of our fellow physicians and other world citizens who were killed in the Hiroshima Epidemic of August 5, 1945. This Epidemic—the most devastating single loss of men, women and children ever to occur on our planet—fulfills all the criteria of epidemiology for every medical and surgical specialty. Therefore, the Hiroshima Epidemic is a proper professional province of every physician on our planet; and our highest order of priority must be its acknowledgement and assessment, followed by a preventative/curative plan. A similar epidemic of staggering magnitude, The Final Epidemic, could occur in the hometown of any or all of us at any moment.

SOLUTION

The medical profession has an exemplary tradition of

transcending the fearful and immobilizing emotional aspects of human devastation, pragmatically pursuing and correcting catastrophic disease, and then gladly adjusting to the lost business (e.g., TB, polio, smallpox, and tetanus). However, if our diagnosis is in error, then a successful and consistent outcome is impossible. And there is a monumental diagnostic error in our assessment of The Final Epidemic and about the etiology (origin/cause) of wars in this new era of nuclear nationalism. Confusing a symptom for the disease is obscuring the correct diagnosis and the proper prevention/cure of The Final Epidemic. War is not our great planetary disease; war is a symptom. Our real planetary disease is nationalism. The real etiology is fragmented sovereignty. And the real prevention/cure is constitutional world government.

DISCUSSION

Just as a septic patient can die from a lethal fever, our septic planet could die from thermonuclear war. But secondary temperature control, even when clearly appropriate, is only a supportive measure—not a cure. And considering a Nuclear Freeze without also considering a whole planet preventative/curative plan is incomplete professional thinking.

Physicians and other medical care-givers should offer

etiological precision in the assessment of our world-at-risk.

Medical care-givers were instrumental in the creation and evolution of our United States constitutional representative government, which was the proper prevention/cure then for the same etiological problem of our original thirteen colonies, i.e., fragmented sovereignty. Now nuclear nationalism is of eminent pandemic proportions. We are all spiritual equals and interrelated residents on this Spaceship Earth. We must competently propose, evolve, and co-sponsor a comprehensive preventative plan with interested medical professionals of all nations and with all other caring and competent citizens of our planet. We must acknowledge global sovereignty and establish world government, or risk death or morbidity from our real planetary disease—nuclear nationalism.

There are only two true levels of human sovereignty: the individual, and the total of all humankind. Any groups and nations in between may only be considered relative to these two ordained levels. In light of the failure of the League of Nations and the United Nations, how many more planetary commonwealths of nations must fail before we admit that fragmented sovereignty will not work? With the failure of these commonwealths of nations, this century has already twice demonstrated the original error of attempting to charter the first purpose of peace with the incompatible first principle of

national sovereignty. We will begin to experience a sustainable global peace only after we call for a world constitutional convention to establish a globally sovereign world government that finally will enforce a world-wide system of international law.

For those who seek systematic and comprehensive enabling literature which could facilitate such a global prevention/cure of The Final Epidemic, the study and innovation of The URANTIA Book is recommended. Eminent scholars have concluded that this amazing document is an epochal literary event and the greatest collection of non-sectarian wisdom of philosophy and of universal information about our planetary history ever recorded. The following is an exemplary excerpt:

World peace cannot be maintained by treaties, diplomacy, foreign policies, alliances, balances of power, or any other type of makeshift juggling with the sovereignties of nationalism. World law must come into being and must be enforced by world government—the sovereignty of all mankind.

The individual will enjoy far more liberty under world government. Today, the citizens of the great powers are taxed, regulated, and controlled

almost oppressively, and much of this present interference with individual liberties will vanish when the national governments are willing to trustee their sovereignty as regards international affairs into the hands of global government.

Under global government the national groups will be afforded a real opportunity to realize and enjoy the personal liberties of genuine democracy. The fallacy of self-determination will be ended. With global regulation of money and trade will come the new era of world-wide peace. Soon may a global language evolve, and there will be at least some hope of sometime having a global religion--or religions with a global viewpoint.

Collective security will never afford peace until the collectivity includes all mankind.

The political sovereignty of representative mankind government will bring lasting peace on earth, and the spiritual brotherhood of man will forever insure good will among all men. And there is no other way whereby peace on earth and good will among men can be realized.

Albert Einstein predicted "unparalleled catastrophe" as the harsh end-stage of nuclear nationalism, and advocated world government as imperative for our survival. He concluded: "We shall require a substantially new manner of thinking if mankind is to survive." An epochal and universal psychology, synergetic with a universal philosophy, is essential as a foundation for any "substantially new manner of thinking."

For those who seek such epochal and universal psychology, the study and invocation of <u>A Course In Miracles</u>⁵ is respectfully suggested. Doctors Vaughan and Walsh have professionally assessed this unusual literature and rendered this succinct conclusion 7:

Although written in Christian language and style, A Course In Miracles clearly embodies the perennial wisdom found at the core of all the world's great religions. Because of this universal nature, its significance and appeal transcend traditional boundaries and extend to all who seek answers to the deepest questions of human existence. Some Buddhists have said that the Course echoes the words of the Buddha; yogis have remarked that it expresses the wisdom of Vedanta; and psychologists

have found that it offers insights comparable to some of the best contemporary thinking about phenomena such as perception, belief, and identity.

ASSESSMENT

It has been observed that the collaborative study of The URANTIA Book and A Course In Miracles leads to an experience
of modern concepts of synergism (Fuller 8), complementarity
(Bohr 9), and community (Royce 10). This epochal literature,
which presents a non-sectarian universal philosophy/history and
a validating personal psychology, is readily affordable and
available.

Continuing education is a hallmark of our profession.

Invoking the wisdom of this literature could enable each motivated citizen to heal his own illusion of separateness as a person, and all of us together to heal our planetary illusion of separateness as nations.

This central and ubiquitous error of perception of separateness as persons and as nations precipitates and escalates our many and various personal and national forms of attack/defense. Our erroneous notions of separateness from our common Source, and of separateness in ecology of mind and in ecology of environment, must be corrected if we are to survive.

A Course In Miracles teaches us primarily how to heal our personal separations through letting go of fear, and then to experience only Love's presence as a person. The URANTIA Book teaches us primarily how to heal our planetary separations through letting go of fragmented sovereignty, and then to experience only Love's presence as a planet.

CONCLUSIONS

All citizens of this planet are part of one interconnected and interdependent life support system: our whole planet Earth. We could prevent The Final Epidemic with a precise etiological assessment and implementation of a comprehensive corrective plan for our world-at-risk. A sustainable global peace is possible. Most, if not all, wars can be effectively prevented.

"Unparalleled catastrophe" must be acknowledged as morally unthinkable and made legally impossible through world-wide outlawing of nuclear weapons. Initiation of a constitutional world government might appear awesome, but this option is reasonable and feasible. And the alternative—The Final—Epidemic—is clearly Armageddon.

The collaborative assessment and invocation of some recently available non-sectarian spiritual literature could markedly facilitate our personal and planetary paths.

Emergency Medicine requires a mind-set that can accurately assess and precisely plan in complex and confusing crisis situations. The world-wide nexus of Emergency Medicine professionals could become an effective facilitator for healing our world-at-risk.

TUB/ACIM* REFLECTIONS

- 1. The synergy between TUB and ACIM represent epochal as well as the perennial wisdom; their central and complementary message is that peace is possible, personal peace and planetary peace—and it starts only from within each student-person.
- ACIM is a universal and structurally consistent system of psychology that
 appears to be the summarization and apex of the perennial wisdom; the love
 concept of agape permeates all epochal perennial wisdom and serves as its
 common denominator.
- 3. ACIM, the epochal psychological beacon light, is a free-standing and complete thought system; however, historical Christiology can be best enhanced with TUB as a base for the light--or, ACIM is to TUB as Jesus is to John The Baptist.
- 4. The TUB and ACIM synergy has been quietly nurtured by independent secular segments of our culture, while within the academic and religious community only token bonding has occurred.
- 5. The wisdom of TUB and ACIM can be epistemologically assessed concurrently with the Gospels by using the love concept of <u>agape</u> as the directly evident principle, and the criterion of peace as its epistemic presupposition.
- 6. The theologies of the Gospels, TUB, and ACIM are systematically consistent when assessed sequentially.
- 7. Academically ignoring either TUB or ACIM, or rejecting them as members of the Biblical canon without due canon family process, would not be in keeping with the opportunity of our religious institutions for healing our world-at-risk.
- 8. A computer-assisted consortium of committed TUB/ACIM students could eventually be a helpful nexus, joining with other proponents of world government, to petition for a world constitutional convention to establish a globally sovereign world government that can finally enforce a world-wide system of international law.

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^{*}The URANTIA Book/A Course In Miracles