

We The People
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We the People 338 The Rise of the Digital Dictator



Good Day to you. Over the next hundred years we will see technological change almost beyond comprehension. The world will be a very different place and the change has already begun. In the long run some postulate we will voluntarily give up democratic government and relative freedom and I think this is very much a possibility for a range of complex but definable reasons. I would not like to live in such a society but just as sure as this current younger generation feels disenfranchised and powerless so we all struggle for human relevance. By 2050, a "**useless class**" might emerge the result not only of a shortage of jobs or a lack of relevant education but also of insufficient **mental stamina** to continue learning new skills. Humans will be 'needed' far less and the real power will reside in a handful of incredibly wealthy people, corporations and artificial intelligence. George Orwell's predictions will become far more a reality than he or any of us thought possible and beyond.

Now you may well say it won't happen or it won't worry me, to the detriment of your children and grandchildren. It is happening right now as the Chinese will testify with a centralised social credit system governing people's finances, lives and mobility. It's happening in Russia where if you disagree with the President even '**on line**', you may simply disappear. In Europe the unelected concentration of power in Brussels are now creating their own army and it's very telling. Centralists are not concerned because they believe in concentrated power but what they miss is the intellectual sterilisation of mankind. Centralist systems are a crude precursor to the age of artificial intelligence and adherence to a universal creed. The **world government** so many fear, is indeed gathering pace because of the control and monopoly of data and power. A current example is the rise of the **digital dictator** we know as the twit Mark Zuckerberg. At just 34 his estimated wealth is well in excess of \$70 billion dollars through his dominance of Facebook. This is a social platform free to use but he gets to own and keep all your data. Quite recently he cancelled the accounts of a number of people and categorised them as dangerous terrorists. Some like Britain's Paul Watson, are in my view peaceful courageous public champions while some others are people with very different views. Zuckerberg unilaterally blocked them because he alone believes they are "dangerous people" and so follows Twitter and other social media sites. Their voices are very effectively throttled and completely censored by the activity and decision making of **one man**. If an airline decided you couldn't fly because they didn't like your views what would you think, yet you have no recourse. This is exactly the same thing and being a corporation is not the point when freedom of speech is paramount. In America their **First Amendment** guarantees freedom of expression but the same does not appear in our Australian Constitution which in general, is left wanting. Notwithstanding, the first amendment hasn't stopped Emperor Zuckerberg from demonstrating his future dystopia.

Concentrated power and authority and the subjugation of free speech and the control of our very lives has begun and there are many examples. A democratic system may not protect us, it may in time be used against us by employing an intellectually subjugated nation to vote for more control and governance through fear and financial retribution. Freedom is not free and we have to fight for it through vigilance. Friends, do your homework, find out the facts, develop a sound and reasoned view so that in the future you vote for liberty and honest transparent government. Freedom and fairness and the right to make our own decisions, be they right or wrong, are underpinned by the eternal message that "**the truth will set you free**". You bet it will.

Until next time this Kent Bayley