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Everything OLD is NEW Again?

Like many of you, I am following the whole BP Oil Disaster debacle. This one has been coming for decades.

The Department of the Interior, which has been among the most corrupt and incompetent of all the Federal Agencies, with the exception of the DOJ and it's cabal of FBI clowns, has been subverting the rights of people since Day ONE.

Originally, the only People it was hurting were Indians. It gave away lands that were supposed to be Held in Trust for Indians. As the Trustee, it gave away the mining, drilling, timber, mineral and water rights to corporate fat cats.

The resources that are supposed to be the wealth of any nation, belong to the people. However, Government, in this case, the Department of the Interior, not only gave the rights to those resources to corporations, it did so without proper royalties, or even oversight to be sure that the lands they were in charge of protecting, and the resources they were in charge of regulating, were not being destroyed or 'stolen'.

Further, and this is the one insult I find the hardest to stomach, Department of Interior was given total control over Indian Peoples, and their lands. They set up the reservation agencies that were essentially 'concentration camps'. They forbid the hunting and the gathering practices and starved the people into submission.

True, they did also 'hand out' food to the people, but it was never enough, and it was never decent food. But to this day, the lie persists that Indians are given all these 'handouts'.

Indians had to watch as all around them, their lands, their way of life, was being destroyed and taken from them. They had to watch, hunkered down, hungry and hurting, while corporations came in and took what they wanted and left nothing behind except ruin.

And, because any suit against the Federal Government brought by anyone, especially Indians, had to go through Federal Court, and the Indians had no resources to financially compete with the people and the corporations that were decimating them, it was not uncommon to find cases dropped, or worse; egregious rulings allowed to stand for lack of funds to appeal. Those rulings became 'precedent' and that is what allowed even more abuses, with the aid and assistance of the Department of Justice, to continue to rob the People and raid the resources.

Sooner or later, those practices, so profitable for Corporations and their in-pocket political allies, had to become so big and so ugly that no one could miss them. It had to come to everyone's door. It had nowhere else to go, and it was not about to be stopped.

Welcome to the Oil Spill

We almost forget, as we watch the horror unfold before our very own helpless eyes, that this latest disaster is only one in a long string of recent horrors. The mining explosions and disasters. People died.

The Mountain Top Removal of mining that poisons every stream, erodes the land, and leaves the local people in deeper and deeper poverty.

Corporations took from the Indians and no one noticed. Corporate Fat Cats became wealthier and wealthier, paid less and less taxes, and owned more and more elections.

People hear the faux cries of radical Right Wingers who rail against 'Big Government' but who are silent when Big Corporations steal, ruin and kill.

Big Government is what is needed to regulate Big Corporations. To be sure that the people, you and I "People", get a say in how things are done, and how much is paid to us for the National Resources that are being extracted by Corporations who pay nothing and often get billions of Tax Dollars granted to them as 'gifts' from friendly politicians who control our lives.

Big Government is one that can control the Corporations instead of the Corporations controlling government.

When you hear all the railing against Big Government, ask yourself 'why?'

When Dick Cheney held his secret meetings with the Oil Industry to set Energy Policy, it was to gut out any controls over how Corporations operated as they took our resources, paid nothing, were gifted billions and had their liability set at a laughable 'cap' for any damages they would do to our environment.

Behold BP. If the government steps in, BP will not be liable for damages. BP can do what it wants, thanks to laws passed, regulations gutted, over decades.

They were even allowed to write their own reports, and the DOI just essentially took their word for it, and signed off on it.

When It is Others

When it was the Buffalo, the Gold, and the Rivers, everyone was happy to fight the Indians so that "Progress" could be made. Our nation was declared 'wealthy and free' even though Poverty and slavery were still commonplace. Only a few very powerful families became 'wealthy'. We call that "Old Money".

Indians were massacred, Treaties were broken before the ink was dry. But that was okay, because we were a young nation and we were going to become powerful.

When slavery was abolished, Racism was allowed to flourish. Racism is how we, as a people, are kept divided and against one another so that we cannot see what is being done either to Indians, or to ourselves. We can always find someone "other" to blame.

Recently, it is 'immigration'. The immigration process is so flawed and defective that only the very wealthy and well-connected can navigate through the maze.

But employers need slaves. So, for decades, illegal immigrants have been lured to the land of Milk and Honey with the promise of work. They don't come here looking for a hand out. They come here to work. And they are mistreated and underpaid and have nowhere to turn because they are not 'legal'.

Corporations, not happy with being able to keep wages depressed as they increase their own bottom lines, and increase their own salaries and bonuses, turn to other gimmicks: outsourcing.

Outsourcing is the biggest threat to employment in the USA. Not 'immigrants'. But, in order to keep people distracted and prevent us from uniting in order to demand fairness or regulation: Think Tanks conjure up racist themes and memes to keep us from turning over their rocks. "Illegal Immigrants!" It is now, in some states, "Open Season" on people of color. Some of them may or may not be 'illegally' in town. That is not important. Just keep creating hatred. That works for... the fat cats.

As long as it is happening to 'others' nothing changes. Except that is, to get worse.

It is the silence on the Right that is deafening. They only have mantras that protect Corporations. They now want "Big Government" to step in and clean up the mess created by ever weakening regulations, in the name of "Free Markets" (free of Regulations).

This is what we get with all of that. We get a mess. We get a government that has been crippled and we get morons shouting hypocrisy at the top of their lungs. When people are shouting, they seem bigger and stronger and more in numbers than they really are.

Media is no longer there to inform us. They are part of the corporate agenda. They are there to distract us. They are there to make controversy. They are there to sensationalize the trivial and the insipid.

They are there to act like populists, but they are not one of us. They are merely the vocal chords of Fat Cat Corporate owners who have succeeded in gutting regulations that cover everything that affects our lives: Including, 'Information'.

Dig and don't stop digging. When you hear shouting, look at what is behind the scenes, going on while you are being misled.

We Are All Indians Now

They took the buffalo, the land, the waters and the ways. They described Indians as heathens, savages and renegades. They made false heroes out of cowards with blonde hair and blue eyes. They denied us access to the truth.

The genocide of Indians is still ongoing in various forms. The 7 generations that endured the Residential Schools, the rapes, murders and traumatizing of small

children to scrub them clean of any of their language, culture or family ties, has had a profound effect.

The Department of Interior and their pals at the Department of Justice that put into power only the most corrupt among the Indians in order to keep their control over the resources and prevent the legal challenges to broken treaties has had devastating impact on both peoples and lands, as well as environment and culture.

Ignoring the pleas from the People to investigate murders and abuses by those in power, and then using the full weight of military, including tanks and soldiers to back up and support the corrupt in power, while preventing, blocking any media from accessing the events and telling the story, has been a trademark of how Indians have been mistreated, the resources stolen, and the environment damaged.

Protecting Corporations From Accountability

Now, behold BP: No longer pretending to be under the control of government, but outright giving orders to Federal and Local governments to take their word for how much oil is spewing, and threatening to arrest anyone that is not working for BP, who tries to access the area and get the story out.

A CBS reporter was threatened with arrest by BP for being in the area of the spill, an area that BP wants to have total control over—not to stop the spill, but to prevent the truth from getting to the rest of us.

Workers who survived the blast were held offshore in BP boats and threatened until they signed waivers declaring they had suffered no harm and would not seek legal action against BP.

This is how criminals act. Criminals who run these giant corporations are thugs. Our rights are being taken from us. Our environment is being destroyed. We are being lied to. Ways of life are being destroyed, culture of an entire region is being erased. What was a beautiful, harmonious environment is being demolished, while we watch helplessly, at the mercy of powerful corporations that are cutting through the lives of people as if they are of no value.

Sound familiar?

Remember: The Department of Interior holds Indian Lands in Trust. That means they don't trust Indian people to be able to deal with their own lands. Lands they managed beautifully until Contact. Lands that are given away to resource extractors with nary a second thought as to what damage will be done to the people, the land, the culture, the future.

And yet, those same yelling and screaming people are on the air, condemning not the Corporate Greed, but those of us who seek to make things fair in this country, for everyone.

They call us 'socialists'.

I guess that makes us the “Other”, that they are at war with: Indians, People of color, immigrants, Democrats, Socialists. Anyone that stands between Corporations and their ability to freely raid the national resources, is “the enemy” and should be feared, ridiculed, not heeded.

They make their point more and more by threatening gestures, signs, and carrying guns. They murder doctors in church, and hold those murderers as their heroes. Show me your ugly face, teabaggers. I will put you on the news. Ahhh! Sweet fame!

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If you want to save what is left of this country, turn off the hate.

If you have not had enough, don't worry, the worst is yet to come. Those who destroyed our economy, set our soldiers in harm's way over the lie about WMDs, the very same people that repeatedly ignored the warnings of the coming of 9/11, want to come back into power.

They have voted against everything that would help us, heal us, and makes us stronger. They have blocked the appointments of every agency that we need in order to start to set things right.

They want us to hate one another. They want us to ignore corporate greed, damage and death. They send their spokes model to the front lines to answer only pre-screened questions with no follow-up questions allowed.

It's all a show to deceive us. It's all for the power, not for the people.

And, too many are buying into it.

Just turn off the hate. Look around. We are all Indians now. And it is time that we take back that which was stolen from us by the big corporations. It is time we hold them accountable. It is time to heal. WE ARE GOVERNMENT. We can make it work for US. Or we can surrender, again, to corporate slogans, false memes and destructive racism.

We have seen this play out too many times to ignore it any longer.

You know where to find me.

~Cat