



# Chronicles of Diversity

## *Your leadership weekly*

### **Fakin' It**

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Human life is built on one of two great mutually exclusive metaphysical paradigms, purpose or chance. If life has a purpose then can chance really exist? Or are we here only by evolutionary natural chance?

Most people can not truly accept the principles of evolution because it ultimately gives life no meaning. However, they are also troubled by the absolutes required by purposeful design. If there is no chance then they have again no say in life's events. We need to believe that we determine the outcome of our lives. Self determination really is the definition of the individual.

Therefore, we say, "My life belongs to me and no one else. I choose whether that will be for relative good, or evil. To reuse a phrase from one of the cable news networks, I choose to live my life, 'Fair and Balanced.'"

The problem with the fair and balanced approach is without absolutes no standards exist by which to judge what is fair, and balance is achieved by testing the extremes rather than understanding that

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consensus is the basis for human culture. In all aspects of life it is the extremes that kill, this is a natural law. Buy forcing all social debate to extreme views is accelerating society's demise.

Who is to blame for the polarization of American culture? Could it be the artificial requirement that we aggressively seek to create news where there is none? All this for ratings and ultimately the Almighty Dollar. This goes far beyond Fox News, or all news for that matter. With the increase of the diversity of choices, television becomes the ultimate agent of change. But this change does not accelerate positive growth, but the descent into entropy in the name of increased divergent choice.

Entropy is the result of the Second Law of Thermodynamics. Together with the First Law (essentially, matter can not be created or destroyed) we have found two absolutes that everyone can agree. The consensus of the vast majority of people, is the culture should do what it can to make that descent into this inevitable, as slow as possible. In fact, we would say that the goal of humanity is to reverse that descent and overcome this law of nature. But how do we do that?

Again there are two forms of divergent reasoning. Our laissez faire form of capitalism says essentially success in the market place brings about a higher good for society. Others would counter that there needs to be some checks on capitalism (normally government) to regulate enterprise for a higher good, eliminate greed, and provide for social justice.

Both these again fall short of absolute standards however, because good is, in both courses, relying on the standards of man to determine what the definition of is, is.

This was not a problem with the founding of the American Republic.

*When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.*

*We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.*

These first few lines from the Declaration of Independence declare Absolutes that are no longer generally accepted in this country. The standards of Laws of Nature and of Nature's God are the standards by which even the Deist Jefferson would ink his pen and risk his life to uphold.

Contrary to the wishful thinking of many evangelical Christians, America's rapid decay into the Slough of Social Depravity did not begin when the courts took the Ten Commandments out of the schools. The problem truly began when pastors, leaders, and denominations took the Ten Commandments out of the churches in a so called effort to be more socially relevant.

In an earlier time, the Protestant Reformation was, in essence, a struggle to reform a Catholic church without the proper understanding of Law of God, and therefore could not properly proclaim the absolute of God's grace found alone in the Gospel.

That Reformation quickly altered the political landscape of Europe in the 16th century, simply because the church became the church again and not primarily a (the) political institution. While this church - state separation did not last long in many areas, it was the basis of what we now call the doctrine of the separation of church and state.

Again, at the time of the American church's loss of the Ten Commandments. for the sake of social appeasement, her leadership allowed her to become subservient to the state by allowing the government to make church tithes and offerings tax deductions instead of tax credits. This has lead the church to become an governmental uncle Tom, doing not the work of God, but ineffectively trying to legislate public morality while trying to keep their tax exempt status.

That great tax credit idea of George W. Bush in his last run for the White House was quickly and quietly discarded when he learned just how much it would cost the Federal Government. Instead, we were given a tax cut to stimulate the god of consumer spending, rather than positively changing the social landscape of America. Of course, if that consumer god is just of figment of our imagination, then he probably needs both tax cuts and political pork to keep him temporarily satiated and give him life. But who is to know when he has had enough?

Thomas Jefferson, in his wisdom, positioned the Law of Nature ahead of Nature's God for a purpose. He was writing a Declaration of Independence for a secular state, not a Christian nation. Jefferson probably also understood the Law's of Nature much better than the Laws of God, but that is a topic for another time. The focus of this article is what do you know about the Laws of Nature?

As we stated earlier, one take on that subject is that we orderly (contrary to the Second Law of Thermodynamics) evolved out of the a primordial sea. Since the Second Law of Thermodynamics is one of the Laws of Nature, by definition this makes evolution, probably according to Jefferson and most truly free thinkers, a seriously flawed natural argument.

The other divergent path is to proclaim that God's Word says that He created the earth in six literal 24 hour days. This of course assumes that time is a constant, as is the speed of light, but again that discussion we must leave for another time.

I think what Jefferson was getting at in is Laws of Nature was the incredible design he saw in nature and the wonderful complex relationships that nature clearly exhibited to all who would study her. At the close of his life Jefferson was proud of penning the Declaration of Independence, the founding of the University of Virginia, and his life at Monticello. Much of that time at Monticello trying to scientifically understand the Laws of Nature. How far that lead Jefferson into understanding Nature's God, again is subject to debate. But again the question returns, "What do you really know about the Laws of Nature? And this time a kicker, can you truly know God and be completely ignorant of His Creation's design?"

In the great state of Washington, if you would call up the "Udder" University and ask what courses of study they offered in the Law's of Nature and Nature's God, if you got an answer, it would probably be laced with ridicule. WSU's motto is, "World Class, Face to Face" but it does beg the question, "If the world doesn't know where it is going, why bother?"

As I mentioned last week as a Graduate Alumni of that fine institution, I did learn that primary sewage is as pure as Ivory Soap. Also, I did indirectly learn about the Laws of Nature, by being one of the people who got to collect and analyze water, sediment, and biological samples for a large Federal grant. But you don't need to go to the university to learn the laws of nature, you need to go into the outdoors, get your hands dirty, and be open to the wonder that you find.

What would happen if you went to your local church and ask, "You claim to know about Nature's God, what can you tell me about the Laws of His Nature?" The best you could hope for is that you would be pointed toward one of the Creation Science ministries like Answers in Genesis.

Since the Bible says that God's spoke creation into existence, then it must be assumed that creation is in some divine manner, a manifestation of God's word. Theologians would call this common grace, or an insight into the nature of God, available to all humanity, folks like you, me, the peasant living where ever. This common grace is also Thomas Jefferson's Laws of Nature relying chiefly on observation rather than study.

As God's word, common grace must be in the American historical context considered truth, and unless actually amended in structure, this grace is the basis for American common law. And as absolutes, they must override all speculative pronouncements by, politicians, the judiciary, business and religious leaders. Another way to state this is that man's enterprises are all modeled on God's Creation.

So why then does not the Harvard Business School have a Department of Business Ecology, or Westminster Seminary offer Doctor of Divinity degrees in applied common grace?

Is it ignorance or arrogance, a combination of the two, or are we all just Fakin' It.

Paul Simon

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*When she goes, she's gone.*

*If she stays, she stays here.*

*The girl does what she wants to do.*

*She knows what she wants to do.*

*And I know I'm fakin' it,*

*I'm not really makin' it.*

*I'm such a dubious soul,  
And a walk in the garden  
Wears me down.  
Tangled in the fallen vines,  
Pickin' up the punch lines,  
I've just been fakin' it,  
Not really makin' it.*

*Is there any danger?  
No, no, not really.  
Just lean on me.  
Takin' time to treat  
Your friendly neighbors honestly.  
I've just been fakin' it,  
I'm not really makin' it.  
This feeling of fakin' it--  
I still haven't shaken it.*

*Prior to this lifetime  
I surely was a tailor.  
("Good morning, Mr. Leitch.  
Have you had a busy day?")  
I own the tailor's face and hands.  
I am the tailor's face and hands and  
I know I'm fakin' it,  
I'm not really makin' it.  
This feeling of fakin' it--  
I still haven't shaken it.*

Are you sick and tired of fakin' it? Then with your help we can establish the Phylogenesis Institute and begin to give everyone a fresh perspective on how the world really works through common grace, or nature's laws. Its your choice of the title, but these truths are self evident to any and all who would like to understand, for they are the precursors to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

***Other articles in this Phylogenesis Series:***

Liquidity with purpose; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/liquidty9-29-4.pdf>

Bottled Liquidity; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/bottleliquid10-6-4.pdf>

