

Many brains are in fear and flight mode these days or raging in anger, because they don't agree with the measures our political systems have imposed on our daily lives. If the amygdala fires, human beings, in particular politicians, tend to make short term decisions. Here are some thoughts to calm down our minds and focus on a clear light at the end of this tunnel.

- Covid-19 is not an isolated pandemic, but one connected to the climate crisis. It is part of the 6th mass extinction which has started to affect our own species.
- As psychologist [Daniel Goleman](#) wrote: In a system there are no side effects – just effects, anticipated or not. What we see as “side effects” simply reflects our flawed understanding

On Covid, Pigs & Our Children.

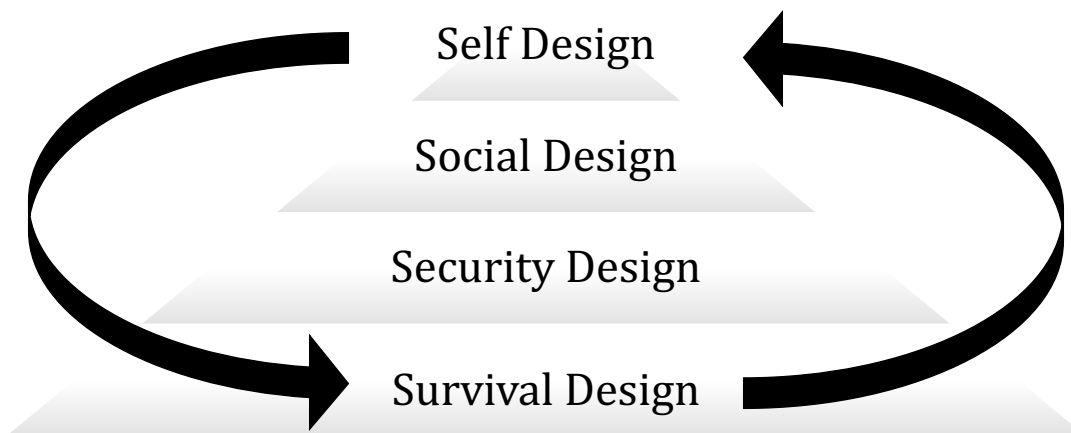
of the system. In a complex system cause and effect may be more distant in time and space than we realize.

- A [2017 study](#) confirmed that Germany has lost $\frac{3}{4}$ of its aerial insects since 1989. The ecological havoc industrial agriculture has wrecked on insects now turns into a boomerang.
- If a vaccination against covid-19 is found, it will not solve the climate crisis and as such stop this ongoing, man-made mass extinction.
- What we need is a system transformation. The pandemic is pushing us into this transformation.

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How to Project Utopia?

Culture Transformation > Designing survival through the design of the self.



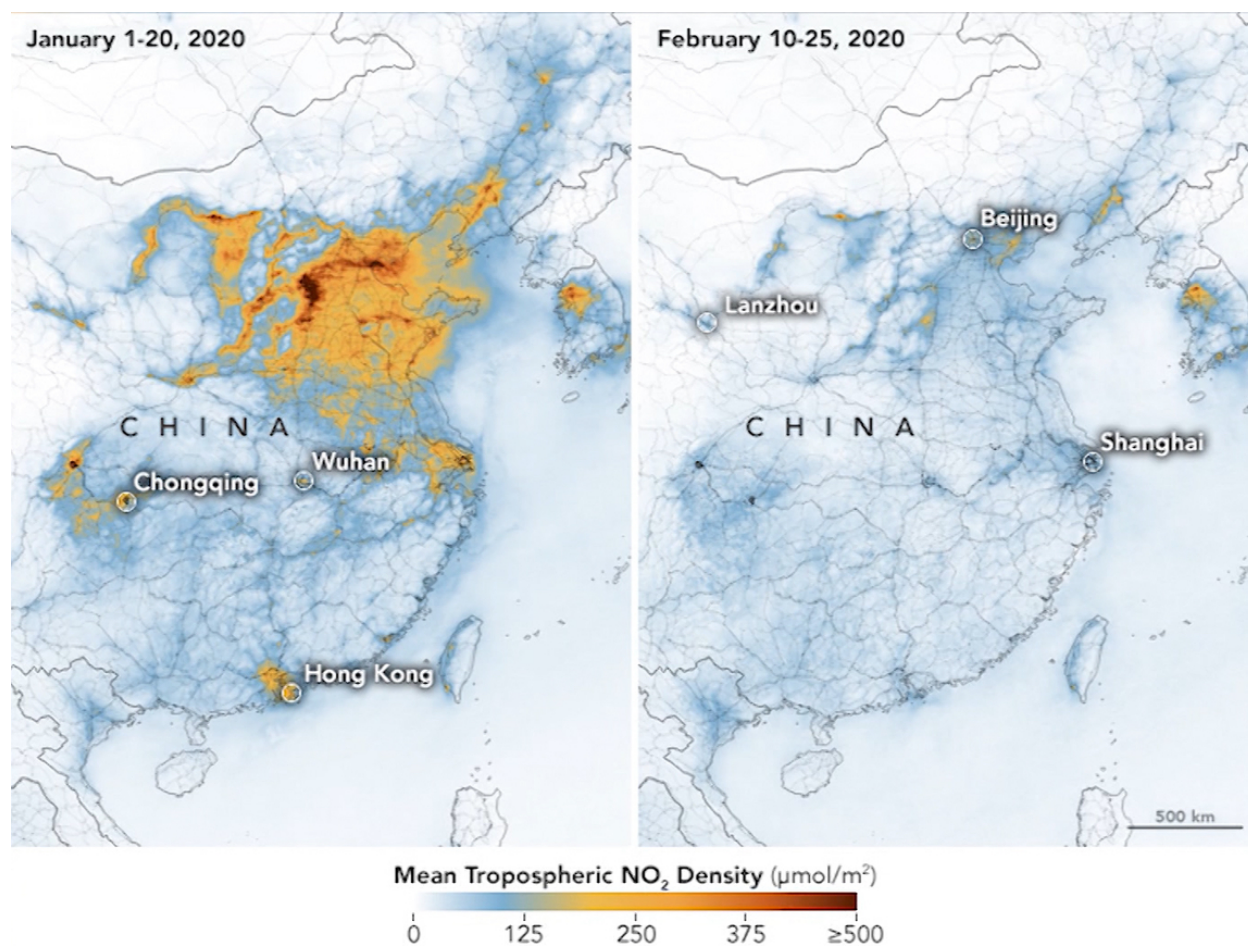
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- The forced isolation and shutdown of the production system during the first European lock down has resulted in a 5% reduction in annual CO2 emissions. Ecologist [Jean-Marc Jancovici](#) estimated on May 17, 2020 that it would take a similar drop each year for thirty years to comply with the Paris climate agreement.
- Yet, even the UN preaches economic growth in its SDG #8. Given the existing ratio between GDP growth and the income growth of the poorest, it will take [207 years to eliminate poverty](#) with this strategy, and to get there, we will have to grow the global economy [by 175 times](#) its present size.
- There is no planet B; and we need to give up the idea that we can rebuild the economy to what it was before covid-19.
- How could a different economy look like? Circular instead of linear? Do we need to transcend the materialistic perspective of economics? Or has the time come that the rich – individuals, organizations and nations – simply must share?

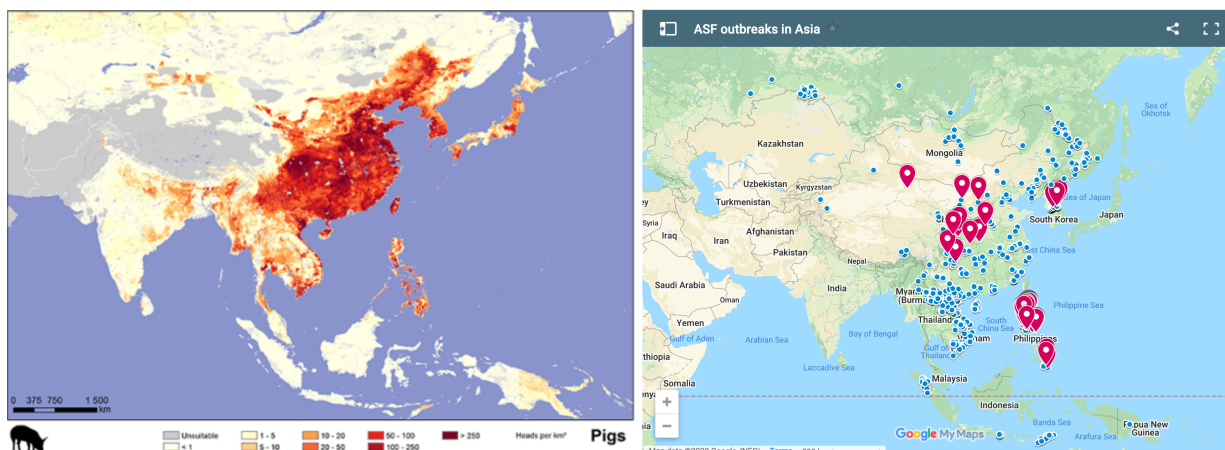
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- [Thomas Piketty's research](#) shows that modern inequality is reaching again pre-WWI levels. Capital's natural accumulation with the elites, which follows the simple formula $(r)venue\ on\ capital > economic\ (g)rowth$, was only diverted by the two world wars, the great depression and the post WWII socialist redistribution from 1930 to 1975. Piketty predicted in 2013 a world of low economic growth and extreme inequality for the years to come.
- A basic universal income is inevitable. One which allows us to rest during cold winter periods. One which trusts in the human potential. One which gives human resources and natural resources an annual period to rest and recover.
- NASA photographs taken during the first lockdown in China at the beginning of this year confirm that reduced mobility, local subsistence farming and remote work are a viable solution to the climate crisis.



- Many look nowadays on China, some lunatics even praise its government's success in keeping the virus at bay and kickstarting the economy after the spring lock down.
- Xi Jinping however has forecasted that the country's CO₂ emission peak will only be reached 2030. Such a political statement ignores the ecological reality.
- And, yes, I almost forgot: covid-19 erupted in China. Why?

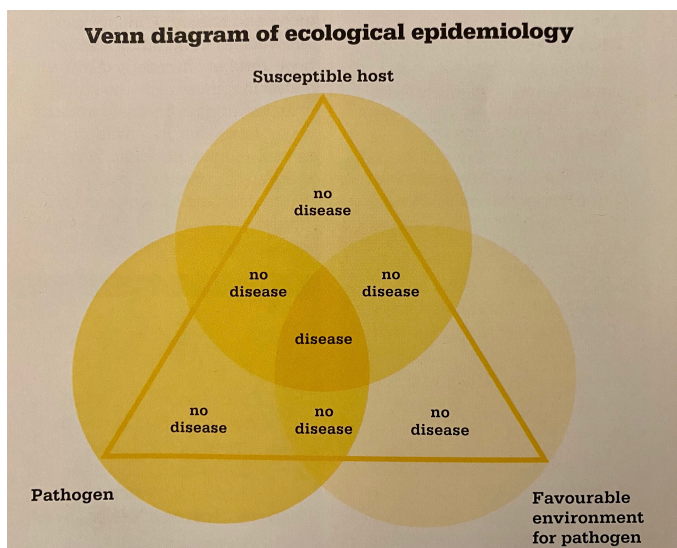
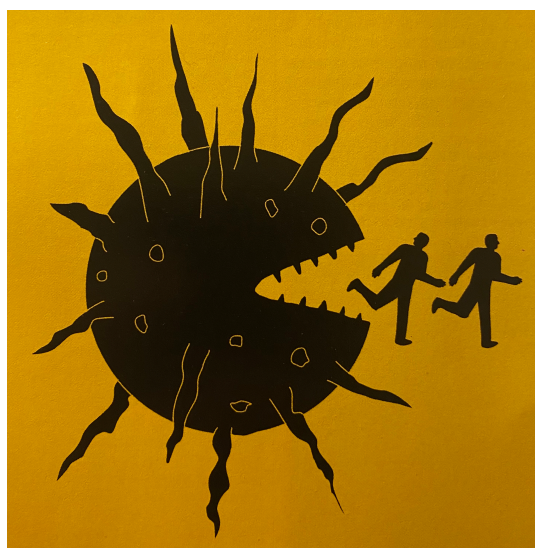
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[2014 Pig farming density in Asia](#)

[2019 African Swine Fever outbreaks in Asia](#)

- China consumes more than a quarter of the [world's meat](#) and farms e.g. half of the world's pig life stock. This extra proportionally high meat consumption contributes to one of the main drivers of climate change: [Eating more meat generates more heat](#).
- Moreover, there are reasonable arguments that covid-19 and intense life stock farming are connected. A swine fever pandemic forced the Chinese government to cull in 2019 up to 60% of its 200 million pig life stock – which is half of the world's. This animal genocide went largely unnoticed by the general public, because media reporting was mostly limited to the life stock industry.
- How is China's pork industry connected with covid-19?



- A pathogen strikes when it finds a suitable host in an environment that favors infection, as shown where the circles intersect in the above venn diagram. For instance, diarrheal disease spreads quickly among sick people in unsanitary conditions.

On Covid, Pigs & Our Children.

- Intense life stock farming creates despite veterinarian precautions a favorable environment for pathogens and the genetic similarity between pig and human makes it probable that a virus mutates and then spreads to a new susceptible host.
- We are facing a future when antibiotics will be ineffective. This is partly because antibiotics have been misused in factory farms to compensate for overcrowded, unhealthy conditions which has led to the emergence and [spread of antibiotic resistant diseases](#) that pass from animals to humans.
- We think of ourselves as being on top of the food chain, but parasites and pathogens control populations, including the human population, like predators.
- What Daniel Goleman wrote about system awareness is therefore also true in this regard: In a system there are no side effects – just effects, anticipated or not. What we see as “side effects” simply reflects our flawed understanding of the system. In a complex system cause and effect may be more distant in time and space than we realize.



[Factory farming](#)

[Taiwanese 2020 anti covid-19 measures](#)

- There is one thing which puzzles me in all this: why do we subject our children to similar conditions like pigs? We keep them 99% indoors. We make them sit in small cubes. We make them wear masks and disinfect their hands several times a day only to avoid the spread of an infectious disease.
- I only know of a single case where this similar treatment of children and pigs can be reasonably explained: The head of the Heilongjiang Husbandry and Veterinary Bureau, Tai Deliang, was promoted in 2014 to the top position of Heilongjiang's Education Bureau.
- Dozens of research teams around the globe, of course Chinese ones leading the pack, strive to find a vaccination to keep our kids in school and parents in offices. The world indeed is an animal farm like [George Orwell](#) once wrote.
- In a complex system cause and effect may be more distant in time and space than we realize, so Daniel Goleman writes. Our children should be close enough in time and space to realize that our societies need a structural overhaul.
- If free range pigs and pastured poultry are considered to be healthy sources of protein, we ought to think of children raised in forest schools and wilderness camps as healthy individuals for tomorrow's societies.

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- [Jiddu Krishnamurti](#) famously once said that humanity experiences a prolonged consciousness crisis. Phases of consciousness growth did follow in recent history always pandemics. One could say that every era had a Pandora's Box which humanity was bestowed upon if it didn't play along the rules of the Gods.
- The tyranny of the Egyptians was ended by the biblical plague. The decadence of morbid Byzantine lead to the rise of Mohammed – who taught his followers to abstain from pork.
- The Black Death ended the narrow-minded clerical scholasticism in Europe and gave birth to the Renaissance.
- The 2nd bubonic plague was followed by the scientific revolution and the era of enlightenment.
- The 3rd historical plague led to the industrial revolution and modernity.

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Pandemics and Consciousness Growth

Era	Exodos & Conquest	Mohammed	Renaissance	Enlightenment	Modernity	Post Modernity
Pandemic	Biblical plague	1 st historical plague	Bubonic plague "Black Death"	Recurring episodes of Bubonic Plague	3 rd historical plague	Covid19
When?	15 th cty BC	6 th cty	14 th cty	17 th cty	19 th cty	2020
Where?	Egypt	Egypt ▽ Byzantine ▽ Persia	Central Asia ▽ Silk Road ▽ Europe	Europe	Yunnan ▽ Hong Kong ▽ World	Hubei ▽ China ▽ World

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- We are at the threshold to, yet another major transformation and our societies' decision makers are bound to realize that they need to reform our education systems radically – if not in honor of Ken Robinson, then for the sake of our children.

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- According to historian Yuval Harari, ancient foragers suffered less from infectious diseases. Most of the infectious diseases that have plagued agricultural and industrial societies originated in domesticated animals and were transferred to humans only after the agricultural revolution. Ancient foragers, who had domesticated only dogs, were free of these scourges. Moreover, most people in agricultural and industrial societies lived in dense, unhygienic, permanent settlements – ideal hotbeds for disease. Foragers roamed the land in small bands that could not sustain epidemics.
- Sounds like my children will be soon foraging. How about yours?

