



## THE LOGIC OF HAPPINESS AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE ISSUES

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**Abstract:** This paper is concerned with the logic of happiness, whereas happiness is most commonly seen by man as a function of fulfilled wishes. It also shows the disastrous consequences for man and his home planet when engaging in this damaging way to search for happiness. This paper also shows that the main reason for consume and overuse of planet's resources is that man has been trained to consumerism by various tactics and strategies which were applied to him in the recent past, with the purpose of making him "successful" and a "good" citizen. This paper also provides some more conventional and some more nonconventional solutions to undone this evil of the "induced" necessity to consume in order to be happy

**Key words:** happiness, consume, consumerism, climate change.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

This paper stresses the unusual, unnatural and improper way men search for happiness in the present, disregarding God and His creation by polluting and overusing resources of our home planet.

Human happiness is most commonly seen as nothing more than as a function of man's fulfilled wishes. People often see no happiness in the absence of an exaggerated consume. They were successfully trained to be "faithful" consumers and "good" citizens, with disastrous effects on planet and on their own health.

By understanding the reasons, causes and the models associated with the consumerism, one can find more or less conventional solutions to abolish this damaging consumption behavior.

Such as already mentioned by some authors [1], science may very well be much more a matter of faith, and much less an objective construct of the man's reason. According to this referenced paper, "science is modesty".

For almost a century now, man has realized how large what he does not understand is. In the search of explaining what he does not understand, man enters into greater and greater predicaments. The paradox of science is that despite knowing more and more, man realizes that what he does not know is increasingly larger.

The true scientist is aware that man only can master, explain and understand a very small portion of what is around him, and that is the reason why he should show humbleness and modesty when confronted with big issues of science.

### 2. HUMAN HAPPINESS, ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH CONSUME AND CONSUMERISM AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE PLANET

As it will be presented in this paper, almost always man sees his own happiness only as a function of his fulfilled wishes. Often times, this view seriously impairs his capacity to act rationally and in his rush to fulfil his wishes, man disregards important laws of nature and the consequences of his foolish actions.

Significant issues relate with this way man understands happiness, feeling often seen by man only as depending of his fulfilled wishes. Man almost always has seen and still assesses and sees his own happiness as a function of his own fulfilled wishes. He often times does not consider de Word of God which teaches in the Gospel that "One should firstly seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and then, he will additionally receive the other all things".

But this nature of man is not at all strange to God, Who has long ago foreseen the in the last days men will become "lovers of themselves, lovers of money, they will be boastful, proud, abusive, unholy, scoffing God, disobedient to their parents and ungrateful and they will consider nothing sacred" God is used with the man to disregard his gifts and values, like His creation, with all nature, clean waters, forests, or disregarding His Laws and teachings.

Man has abundantly benefited of the mercy of God so far, but His long patience seems to come to an end. One can clearly see this when one looks around to the



disasters in climate caused by the foolish actions of man in the last decades. Although man claims to be intelligent his actions are clearly proving the opposite.

God also foretells the end of humanity, saying that then it will be like in the days of Noah, “when people were eating and drinking, they got married, until the flood unexpectedly came and took them all...”. Although God offers man not only the example of the Flood, but also the example of Sodom and Gomorra, proving that He is serious in keeping His promises, people are further recklessly acting with regard to their home planet, over abusing the long patience and the mercy of God.

Fact is man is always unhappy and unsatisfied with whatever he has. As already told before, man is the cause for all the imbalances caused by him in Nature. But nonetheless, when the weather is hot he wishes to be cool when it is cool he wants it to be warm, when it is drought he wishes rain and when it rains he wants sun. When God gives him curly or wavy hair, he respectively she wants straight hair, when He gives him/her straight hair, he/she wants wavy or curly hair. Or more generally, when God gives man a certain physical trait, he almost always wants the opposite of what he has received from God.

Instead of treasuring the marvelous gift of God which is the nature with forests, clean waters and clean air, and its landscapes of unspeakable beauty, man has almost completely robbed and destroyed all these gifts, with the purpose to build monstrous ugly cities of grey blocks and weird villas and to spoil all these riches with the purpose of self-satisfying his small wishes.

The response of God to all these caprices of man begins lately to be more and more obvious and also proportional, by comparison with what happened in the past. This is to be explained rather straightforward: when man was humble and put his trust in God, He chose not to punish him too harsh.

Now, when man claims to be wise, all-knowing, intelligent and independent of God, God shows less and less mercy and punishes man and at the same time shows him how weak he is and how insufficient his science and knowledge is to solve the issues he generated by himself. So, God gives man almost concomitantly sun and shadow, storm and heat and so others, and He thus punishes the infatuation, insolence and the conceit of man.

The only way to solve these issues of us, as well our issues with God is to show temperance in our wishes and our requirements to Him. God teaches us and requests temperance in our wishes and in almost all aspects of life such as it is written in His Word. This kind of temperance in our wishes and requirements is very similar and can be easily assimilated to the fighting of greed. Man however shows incapacity to understand and chooses not to listen and obey the message of God regarding the temperance.

Hence, all what happens around us regarding the environment and climate change is only the outcome of the man’s greed and of his disobedience to his Creator.

According to paper [1], one paramount error of man is that he has “forgotten that God’s love is unconditional and that it applies to all creatures, not just to humans”. Modern man, although often times a non-believer, thinks about himself as being the pinnacle and the master of all God’s creation and that the entire love of God refers only to him.

Man likes to consume and to possess things, to be well viewed in the eyes of the others and to enjoy life in general by owing and using things. But in the Gospel God instructs by mean of His Son: “Strive to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to”

God also instructs us: “Never think yourself to be above your brother and thank God for all His blessings”. In the light of later climate changes we should always think to our brothers in poor African countries lacking water for survival.

We should thank God for His blessings and every time when we waste little water we should think to our African brothers who do not have enough drinking water, every time when we go satiated to bed we should think about the millions of children not having enough food. We should be aware of all these, but also of the fact the man has the capacity and ability to change only under pressure, in crises and in very critical circumstances, such as the pressure and the crisis caused by the climate change, wars and pandemics.

There is also an African proverb, this poorest of the planet’s continents which has people who do not only not consume enough, but most of them are even starving to death and this proverb is saying: “The last bird which will fly will know”. This wise proverb could also be interpreted as instructing us that we and all creation in its dying phase will eventually become aware of all evil that has been done to it by man. Man should also realize that he has failed in his mission to be a good steward of Earth and of the gifts he received from God

F. Dostojewski affirms: “*People are unhappy because they do not know that they are happy*”. Until very recently, without wars, without pandemics, without climate or economic crises, people were happy but they did not know that they were happy. As wars, sanitary, economic and climate crises extend and deepen, man is increasingly realize his past happiness.

Despite all these, man should also realize that perhaps today is the moment to be happy, because future may come together with more crises. He also should realize that he should not base his happiness on the goods or services he consumes.

Also, realizing that life comes to an end and moreover, recently realizing that life is both, precious and uncertain, means that there are more chances for people to undone and repair the evil they did to their home planet.



We are taught since the very early childhood, from stories and fairy tales about the Christian values and virtues, like goodness and diligence. Though, the reckless, rebellious and disobedient nature of man almost always chooses the wrong path. Each and every true Christian should admit in his own heart “The good which I want to do, I do not do, and the evil which I do not want to do, I do”.

Although God is expecting us to be faithful believers, one main idea related to faith is the relationship between Christian faith and theology. In his book [2], [6], S. Butler affirms: “*Every time we pronounce the word theology, our sense about Divine suffers*”

This is the exact perspective which Jesus had regarding the teachings of Pharisees and scholars when He said to them: “You are cleaning the outside of the vessel but not its inside...you are like graves which are white and clean outside but rotten inside”. God is not expecting us to praise Him with our mouth, but He is expecting us to go to go to action and to repair the evil we have done to our planet.

“Science without religion is blind, religion without science is crippled”. Consequently, man should ask with more faith for more science from his Creator, in order to solve those imperative issues, regarding environment, climate and resources, he faces today.

All too often our God is in the position presented in the Alan Parsons Project’ composition, “The Eye in the sky”. He is a “Maker of rules, dealing with fools”. Although God gave man the Set of rules he should have necessarily obeyed, man constantly and continuously has chosen to disobey and to defy God.

Man failed in almost all the commands God gave him, but his failing in the mission God gave him to be a good keeper of all God’s creation, has in the present almost brought him on the brink of the extinction disaster. Some “researcher” however, still contest or doubt that man has caused the present day imbalance and they “document” various other stupid causes.

This denial of some so called “researchers”, seem to be the greatest offense brought to the Creator, since by propagating their falsehoods, they are also manipulating a great deal of people who are ready to believe their “theses”.

So, even though there are irrefutable facts and almost no secrets regarding the desirable actions of man, man almost always chooses not to do them. Exactly like this also happens with the actions of man regarding pollution, deforestation, overuse of resources a.s.o. which led to the present climate issues.

After so many mistakes throughout our history, man should at least possess the fisherman’s wisdom. The fisherman knows that his fishing success depends upon weather conditions, the location of fish and also on the fishing skills he possess. In the very same way, man should understand that the present climate crisis situation

and the technology he possess could help him to prevent much greater future disasters.

Man also should ask himself: Is wealth, consume and consumerism with all their consequences for man and planet, all there is? Regarding this question, we should ask for more wisdom. King Solomon asked God for wisdom and he received richness besides. Man should also ask for more wisdom from God, in order to solve these complicate climate issues, because he has already proved that he cannot do this by himself, without help.

“Reason without the correction of instinct is as bad as instinct not corrected by reason”, according to [6]. Although both, our instinct and our reason is telling man that is time to seriously act, with regard to climate, man still postpones serious actions and measures.

Since ages now, man is constantly and continuously questioning the truths, the laws and the teachings of God, putting his own thinking, knowledge and science above, [3], [4], [5]. The present climate disaster we are all facing, however, is proof enough of the foolishness of man.

As it was already mentioned, in seeing happiness by fulfilling his own wishes, the “modern educated” man has developed a consumer behavior which excessively overuses the resources of the planet and deprives the poorer populations of essential indispensable resources for their life.

Besides that, consumerism has also led to the present environmental and climate disaster, mainly and merely because of the “wishes” and not of the “needs” of those “civilized” populations, wanting to fulfil their stupid and selfish desire for happiness.

This is also related to some famous western philosophies which are stating “the pursuit of happiness”. People often see this search of happiness as a function of their fulfilled wishes and of the “richness” of their possessions.

According to the Goshen’s laws, “Consumers’ satisfaction will decrease as their needs are met constantly” and “Consumers will continue to meet their needs until they reach the same intensity”. One can conclude out of these two laws that, on one hand consume is an addiction and on the other hand that in order to stay constantly happy, the consumer has to permanently consume increasingly more.

This consequence of the Goshen’s laws is also the explanation for the present situation of the pollution caused by man consuming permanently more and more goods, polluting water and air with more and more plastic packages and exhaust gases, cutting more and more forests, using more and more fertilizers and thus polluting the soil, eating and destroying entire ecosystems, all this for his “so called” happiness.

### 3. SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS CREATED BY HUMAN “PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS”



One can begin to tackle these complicate issues regarding the exaggerated consume and the overuse of resources, starting from determining the causes, reasons and explanations for these problems.

### 3.1 *Explanations for the exaggerated consume, consumerism and the overuse of resources*

There are a few theories explaining consumer's behavior. These theories are based on incentive motivation, drive reinforcement, theory of microeconomics, psychological theories regarding the action of environment and society on individuals. All these motivations are more or less related with the happiness of man being satisfied by his consume and being seen as "integrated" in society or having a recognized status in the respective society.

This buying and consume attitude of the modern man has been fired up, with the purpose of boosting economy, by some "intelligent" actions in the western society, such as fashion, publicity and availability of the credit. People were taught by means of publicity that they should be fashionable in order to be successful and the means to buy and consume were largely provided by huge amounts of available credits.

Slowly but surely, these actions have been and still today are embedded in the DNA of the populations brainwashed by the respective publicity stimulating consume and consumerism.

Beside this ordinary manipulation regarding the fact that if you are not fashionable you are almost nothing worth, the manipulation that by consuming a lot you are a good citizen which helps growing the economy was also added to this model. People were taught that consume is the engine of economy and development.

### 3.2 *Solutions to fight the exaggerated consume, consumerism and the overuse of resources*

Nowadays, more than ever, although the Earth's resources become more and more scarce, people often buy and consume huge quantities of goods and food, in order to be "happier". Although those good are named "of long term use", some of the respective goods are not durable at all anymore and when they are broken, people immediately replace them with "better, more performing new ones".

The quantity of food which is thrown away is bigger than ever before and this happens when huge populations are starving in the poor countries. As the resource and climate crises install, man should revert to his old healthy habits from the past, when long term use goods (and not only these, but also textiles, clothes a.s.o.) were repaired, restored and refurbished, but not thrown away.

Often times, such recycled equipment is by far much more durable than new bought equipment which is

often designed and made to be replaced after the expiration of its warranty.

Thus, before it is too late to repair the evil which has been already done, man should fight his buying impulses and his consuming habits, because very much of the current situation regarding our planet is due to them.

It is obvious that all humanity crises we find ourselves in, climate, environment and resource crises have been caused by this greedy, excessive and irrational consumption of man who is searching his happiness in new more and more buying of every type.

Some important ideas and solutions against consume and consumerism, have in the meantime already occurred. It was only very much later when some realized deep and hurting truths such as: "with money they do not have, people buy things they do not need to impress other people who do not care about them...".

Other ideas are related to the fact that resources are extremely valuable and recycling of materials, design of the products in such way that they can be more easily split into components, car sharing or using the bus instead of using the own car, rational consumption or even minimalist living are already gaining huge popularity.

But although these ideas exist and almost everybody knows them, they are put in action rather delayed because of people's resistance and because of people still not yet understanding the urgency to act now.

The electric car is one of the best examples for such human indolence, foolishness and rational economic "thinking". Electric cars were invented almost concomitantly with those with internal combustion. Only human stubbornness, stupidity and the man's greed for profits have delayed development and use of electric cars meant to replace those using fossil fuels.

On the other hand, brilliant inventors like Nikola Tesla, preoccupied, interested and committed to offer inventions providing almost free electric energy, died and have been buried along with their inventions which could have surely prevented the serious climate issues from today.

Now reverting to the consume and the consumerism embedded in the genes of modern humans, the facts presented above are, as one can see, related with the science of epigenetics, when under the influences of behavior of parents and fashion in society, this information regarding the consume behavior is embedded in the epigenetic DNA code of the people.

Luckily, as one already knows, unlike pure genetic modifications which are rather irreversible, the epigenetic modifications in DNA are reversible. It is up to the man to restore former values like repairing, refurbishing, reusing and recycling of goods which may be saved and to consciously and contrary act against the damaging behavior of consumerism.

It is also already known fact that genetic engineering is so advanced these days, fact also proven



by the success of the RNA messenger vaccines, which were, as it is well known, very successfully in fighting the Corona virus pandemics.

If only awareness and consciousness regarding the necessary actions needed is not enough, the genetic engineering which is very advanced at this moment, could perhaps provide a vaccine against this deadly virus of human behavior, which will eventually cause its own extinction.

A very good idea would probably be to remove those bad and faulty consume genes from the epigenetic of the modern man, using such advanced vaccine, using gene tech such as the genetic engineering using CRISPR to cut out these faulty genes in populations. It is also well known that in epigenetics such faulty or poor genes in people, causing consumerism and consume could be repaired, and thus the behavior of man, changed for the good.

This chain of thoughts can also be brought into a relationship with a known hypothesis issued some time ago already, namely that humans are the real virus to threaten life on Earth, after all.

Making the connection with the thoughts above about epigenetics and perhaps using appropriate genetic engineering, this virus could be most probably rendered inoffensive, by eliminating these faulty genes of consume and consumerism which were previously, in the past, so much trained and overstimulated and now are so present in humans.

If man was so successful in brainwashing people and convincing them that consume is a good thing which brings a lot of happiness, and theories were created and successfully used in that sense, perhaps man should now, in the last hour, do the opposite of the means used by those theories.

Also, if man does not have the capacity to understand that he has harmed his home and himself, another idea would be to use incentives for those consuming less or to introduce harsh punishments for consume actions which were previously rewarded with incentives.

For generations now, people have been taught that is a must not only to be fashionable as presented in the advertising commercials but it is also a must have to have credits at banks in order to pay for those fashionable ideas presented by the publicity. Moreover, people have been also taught that if they have credits and if they consume, they are good citizens helping their national economies and implicitly them to thrive.

Now, both, this ideology and this philosophy, on which until very soon the entire human behavior were based, have not only proven their limitations but also show that when societies are more interested in profit and in short term wellbeing of their economies, on the long term, disaster is at horizon for the entire planet.

The “educated” man is most commonly a nonbeliever. He only judges and acts based on facts. So, in his infinite mercy and long patience, God gives him

some facts: “See the garbage and the pollution you have made and the temperatures rising caused. See that the polar ice caps melting, see the deforestations of entire mountains and see more and more storms, floods, hurricanes, droughts on planet. See snow where previously used not to be and see desert temperatures where there was cool. Get yourself some facts, according to your boastful human science!”.

But man, in his huge wisdom still analyses and researches about possible causes of this phenomena: “It may be cyclical phenomena in nature, it may be the activity of a hotter sun, some identical warming has already happened on Earth and these all are usual phenomena which happen periodically. Let us see what more it will happen in the future in order to gather more data to be analyzed...Let us see whether finally we all will be killed in short time by our stupidity...”

Some other so called “specialists” also even come with stupid arguments regarding the lack of some resources, saying, for example, that certain birds which are eating fish are responsible for the present day lack of fish in the waters, and not the overfishing without any imposed limits.

The ultimate lesson which God gives man is “Look, you put your faith in and you trusted your own human logic and your narrow rationalism, intelligence and science, and see for yourself all the evil and all the disaster you have caused on and to your planet. How much did it help your science and your intelligence? You have seen all the signs and results of your own foolish actions, you have seen the climate worsening from year to year and what have you done against this? What was your “claimed” intelligence and science good for?”

Although the need for food and aliments for an increasing Earth’s population is higher than ever, man intentionally reduces the crop cultures which are comestible, by only selecting few comestible plants, out of the many crops intended and provided by God to feed us.

This is again a situation when man refuses the gifts and the help of God, simply out of economic reasons, because some cultures are more profitable than others. This decrease of biodiversity caused by man has serious long term implications for the health of people. But again “the rational man” is acting only based on profit reasons.

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

As soon as possible, in order to survive, man should realize the damage and the disaster he himself brought on his home planet. In order to solve his issues, man should firstly be aware of what he became, he must change his damaging consumerism and his ways of being happy, and then secondly, he should find and apply practical and technical solutions to repair all the evil which he has done so far.



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