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The Community Peacebuilding and Cultural Sustainability (CPCS) Initiative
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Summary Statement

I have had an untraditional career path. While I was at Northwestern University in 1975, I became disillusioned with American consumer culture [one of the books I read was "People of Plenty: Economic Abundance and the American Character" by David M. Potter (I was significantly influenced by the section on Advertising)]. While working with community action groups on the East Coast (New Hampshire People's Alliance; Greenpeace)(early 1980's), I found I liked the role of community organizer, but not the models. Also, early in the 1980's, I developed a "compilation of excerpts" style for synthesizing complex information into advocacy pieces, which eventually led to a major outreach effort with the newsletter "Where a Village is Tended..." (advocacy for ecologically sustainable communities; 1991). From one of the responses I received from that 1991 outreach, I learned about "Why the Village Movement?" ("This is the bed rock of swadeshi... The smaller the circumference, the more accurately can we gauge the results of our actions, and (the) more conscientiously shall we be able to fulfill our obligations as trustees") by J.C. Kumarappa (economist who worked with Gandhi). And, at about the same time, I learned about the teachings of Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

From that point--and although I have often felt unequal to the task--I have tried to translate Baba's teachings: first, into a format which would make such profound wisdom more accessible to "westerners" (see "Key Documents #4 below). And eventually into collaborative problem solving, citizen peacebuilding, and community revitalization approaches which would be helpful to resolving multiple unprecedented challenges for communities and regions (including becoming carbon neutral and ecologically sustainable)--*and which would be processes that could be trusted by people from all varieties of circumstances*. I did not know when I began along this "organic growth" towards such goals that I would not find kindred spirits or colleagues--although my deep appreciation for Baba's profound teachings already placed me outside many "boxes". I also did not know that I would have to continue to make unusual choices for employment (choices which possibly only someone else in a similar set of shoes could easily understand).

The following quote [from the article "Open Source Social Solutions" by Charlie Brown (currently, no link to this article on the Internet)] speaks to one of the difficulties I faced (lost to view--and with no traditional credentials) trying to "realize a vision" by living on the margins of society--

"... the most promising innovations are often lost to view and lacking the resources to take effect; these innovators are working away quietly at a small-scale, local level, unknown to the much broader community that could benefit from them. They are 'needles' lost in the societal haystack. This isolation, often a major stumbling block for social innovators, is no coincidence: innovators often deliberately isolate themselves in order to realize a vision that may be at odds with existing norms or received wisdom" (my italics).

And I will also add a "why" to such deliberate isolation.... So that I can be very careful about protecting my capacity to move forward in adverse and unsupportive circumstances, I have made special efforts to avoid getting entangled in activities which drain my energy to no constructive end. So I have tended towards waiting quietly in environments where I am not required to sort out important issues (thus minimizing

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misunderstandings and conserving energy for what work I believe is constructive), and where it is acceptable for me to be inconspicuous, and in the background--and I do what "building work" I can in my spare time. (Each person has to decide for themselves what will work best when they are trying to adapt to adverse and unsupportive cultural influences.))

Thus, to make the contributions I believe are uniquely mine to make, I have, over the years, had to find other work (besides research, writing and community organizing) as a way of earning a living. This "other work" has included: retail bookstore clerk, mail clerk, door-to-door canvasser for citizen action groups, dishwasher, cook, stone mason helper, field worker/truck driver on an organic farm, driver/warehouse, bus driver/program assistant, activities director for elders with special needs, and delivery driver.

Somehow, even after all the outreach I have done to advocate for the potential which could be realized through the ideas I am supporting, it has transpired that I do not have traditional credentials, affiliations, or colleagues. And so, there is very little I can offer in the way of references, besides to say that if my work does not speak for itself, it may be I have little to contribute at this time.

(the following three sections are part of what I include in my resume during my searching for "other work")

Skills and Qualifications

Reliable, Responsible, Hard Worker
Thoughtful, Considerate, Respectful

Conscientious, Detail-Oriented, Resourceful
Long History of Courteous Customer Service

- 20+ years employment as driver (shuttle bus, van, trucks) include:

--CarQuest Auto Parts; Leesburg, VA

Delivery Driver (November, 2006—April, 2013)

--C and R Printing; Chantilly, VA

Delivery Driver (and Assistant Bindery) (December, 2000—November, 2006)

- 6+ years as an Activity Specialist for Elders with Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia

--Potomac Group Home Corporation; Avalon Homes; Self-Employed

Activity Director for Elders with Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia (June, 1993—December, 1993; June, 1994—December, 2000)

- 4+ years as a Dishwasher in college cafeteria and restaurant settings

--University of New Hampshire Dining Services; Durham, NH

Food Service Worker (November, 1989—April, 1991)

--St. Sinner's Café; Boone, NC

Dishwasher (October, 1985—May, 1986)

--Poco Diablo Restaurant; Portsmouth, NH

Dishwasher (April, 1982—September, 1984)

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- 3 years as a Retail Clerk and a Mail Clerk (bookstore and national organization)

--National Fire Protection Association; Boston, MA

Mail Clerk (June, 1979—August, 1980)

--Holmes Book Company; Oakland, CA

Retail Book Clerk (March, 1978—June, 1979)

Education

Northwestern University Evanston, IL 60301

September, 1973—May, 1976 Economics and Psychology

University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20782

September, 1976—December, 1976 English Literature

University of New Hampshire Durham, NH 03824

September, 1980—December, 1981 English Literature

University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20782

January, 1994—May, 1994 Community Sustainability; Family Studies

Volunteer Experience/Community Service

The Interfaith Peacebuilding and Community Revitalization (IPCR) Initiative

Founder and Outreach Coordinator (2001-2013)

(many key documents archived at <http://www.cpcsi.org/about-the-ipcr-initiative.html>)

The Community Peacebuilding and Cultural Sustainability (CPCS) Initiative

Founder and Resource Coordinator (2013-present)

(website at www.cpcsi.org)

Key Documents

[only formally published at The website for The Community Peacebuilding and Cultural Sustainability (CPCS) Initiative (www.cpcsi.org) (the initiative I am building)--though much outreach done related to most of these documents (through email and Twitter); many documents shared at Scribd; and posts referring to many of these documents made at the WorldPulse platform (and other discussion forums)]

1. "Disarmament News" (20p) (May, 1982) (an early newsletter—and though roughly made, includes information and observations which remain very relevant) <http://bit.ly/2MO8ISC>
2. "Developing a Tao Compass" (Winter 1986—1987) (80p) (first long "compilation of excerpts" piece) [includes many excerpts from "Gaia: An Atlas of Planetary Management (first edition, 1984), many quotes from D.T. Suzuki on Zen Buddhism, many quotes from R. L. Wing's interpretation of the "I Ching", and many quotes from children age 2-5) (in four parts; see #3 at <http://www.cpcsi.org/collected-writings.html>)

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3. "Where a Village is Tended, a Toxic Waste Dump Cannot Grow" (16p) (newsletter outreach) (April-May, 1991) <http://bit.ly/2PB1IXR> Highlight: 51 point list--How modern agriculture-based villages can contribute to the continuity of peaceful human settlements
4. "An Arrangement of Quotations from 'Sathya Sai Speaks' (Vol. 1-15)" (301p) (September, 1996--February, 1997; 2006) <http://bit.ly/2k8QUkQ>
5. "The IPCR Journal/Newsletter Spring 2005" issue (14p)--key document for first IPCR Initiative outreach campaign <http://bit.ly/2woGeUZ>
6. "The Spirit of the Sacred Hoop" (11p) (First version Fall, 1984; First revision Spring, 2004; Minor modifications Summer, 2006; Winter 2013-14) Creation myth, dream story, cautionary tale, and healing story <http://bit.ly/2v1oO2t>
7. "1000Communities²" ("1000Communities Squared") (164p; June, 2008) 1000 Community Visioning Initiatives X Community Centers with Ongoing Workshops + Sister Community Relationships = an exponential increase in our collective capacity to resolve the challenges of our times <http://bit.ly/2BH9In7>
8. "Four Positive Effects from the Teachings of Sri Sathya Sai Baba" (13p)(April, 2012) <http://bit.ly/2NnxBRO>
9. "Recalibrating Our 'Moral Compasses': to resolve unprecedented challenges and discover our collective spiritual destiny" (85p; June, 2015) (updated June, 2016) Community Peacebuilding and Cultural Sustainability (CPCS) Initiative Summary Paper <http://bit.ly/2fAhapG>
10. "Unprecedented Challenges Ahead--February 2017" (2p; Feb. 2017) <http://bit.ly/2kiaEjZ>
11. "Convergence of Critical Challenges Alert to Peacebuilders, Chaplains--from cpcsi.org)" (10p; Feb. 2017) <http://bit.ly/2IWRKRP>
12. "13 Steps for Long Term Culture Change" (78p; May, 2017) (second CPCS Initiative Summary Paper) <http://bit.ly/2GFaVJ4>
13. "Tweet Series for '13 Steps for Long Term Culture Change" (15p; March, 2018) <http://bit.ly/2vdz350> Includes "Unprecedented Challenges Ahead—February 2017" (2p) and "30 Propositions and Premises of The CPCS Initiative" (4p) in Appendix