

Earthsight

**Earthsight is the Earth looking through my eyes at herself:
alert attentive awake aware**

Also see www.creativediscussion.org

Earthsight Discussion

“Insight is the key to creativity and change”

This world is in dire need of change.

Change requires an increase in and ready access to creativity.

Creativity is the direct result of insight.

Every person experiences occasional flash of insight.

How can insight be facilitated, and shared?

Join 2-3 others and, in turn, present your ideas.

Listen attentively, silently, respectfully, attentive to your own flash of insight.

In your turn, present ideas that will activate insight in your listeners.

Especially ideas that promote our responsibility for the planet.

Meet regularly.

This group is the “Insight Group”.

Each person join/form another group.

Take best ideas to the other group.

Present, in turn, ideas from each person’s other group.

The Plain Pair Group is always the ‘other group’. Where I am now is the Insight Group.

Best ideas will ripple out across the discussion community, and ripple in to my group(s).

This is “Earthsight Discussion”.

Sapiens or Stupidens

We desperately need to challenge the 'sapiens' part of our self-designation of "wise man", and more importantly, attempt to point a little finger at:

the problem

the source of the problem

the solution

a way each person's creative response, as an individual, can be shared and amplified.

The problem, and the solution:

To qualify as 'sapiens', each individual needs to be able to access their individual wisdom.

To qualify as a sapiens civilisation, individual wisdom needs to inform the collectivity, local, organisational and national.

The human species is assuredly the most destructive species inhabiting this planet – brilliance in many fields, occupying every corner possible, bringing change at all levels, but without reflection, without thought, without intelligence. And the bigger and more organised we are, the worse the impact on our own life support base. The preeminent point of focus in all this is the Anthropocene Mass Extinction, the 6th great extinction, the first one caused by a single species, a potentially catastrophic event developing faster than the worst so far, the Permian, which caused the extinction of 90% of species on Earth. The ensuing global warming risks taking this to a totally new level: planeticide, futurecide, "Venus here we come".

Some writers talk of the curse of intelligence, that it inevitably leads to extinction, as 'development' leads to ever further development, assuming the form of exponential growth, initiating the so-called lemming curve followed by collapse.

This interpretation is based on the presupposition that intelligence remains limited to growth, measured in terms of *quantity*. Quantity requires resources, often resulting in conflict, both among human organisations, and ultimately with the planet.

Very few civilisations have succeeded in turning this paradigm on its head, defining success as growth in terms of *quality*, especially on continental scale. Australia is perhaps the only example in human history – at least in accessible human history. I make an appeal to possible civilisational wisdom in ["Letter to Decimillennial Australia: a voice to the nation"](#).

However, how can one mediocre individual, the present writer, lay claim to defining the problem, in terms that can open a path to a solution, functioning in an extremely simple manner, such that each individual can become the centre of expanding ripples of change?

To achieve this, over several decades I actively sought out and identified possibly the most evolved mind of the last century, arguably of the last millennia, even the last two and a half millennia. It is also possible that I have isolated the key, central, core element of his teaching, finding the single word that seems to embody that teaching, and from that, created a means of interaction which allows individuals to access, and share, the resulting 'sapiens'.

As a core element of this teaching is “do it yourself”, that anything you learn, not from your own discovery, but from a source of authority, is a form of conditioning, an end to freedom, and denial of creativity, I will continue here as so indicated, there is no authority: the name can be found in the early papers of my academic website. But that’s not important. What I present needs to stand on its own internal validity, and on the results that it engenders in diverse communities.

The key word is “insight” – more specifically “flash of insight”.

The initial writings, the teachings, evidently based on the experience of an exceptional person, see insight as all-enveloping, total. I have re-interpreted the word in the context of ordinary people. It can thus be said that insight is natural to every individual. All 8 billion! Every individual has had an insight, not a cosmic vision, but a little insight, relative to here, and now, in this situation.

I then spent 20 years framing, using, testing ways in which small groups of individuals can facilitate their insight, share it, encourage it among their listeners, take insights from one group to another group, listen to members of that group share insights from their original group, and bring back the best ideas from all those groups to one’s own group. And repeat this week after week, whether in a closed community where groups are defined, or in an open community where each person forms their own group, and each member also carries ideas back and forward to another group they have formed or joined across a wider, open, community.

“Insight is the key to creativity, and change”.

Although I have applied this process in a limited number of contexts, I am confident it can be used within virtually any closed community – educational, organisational, political, social, etc. It can also be used in any open community, where groups are formed independent of context.

Each person can say, “my” ideas ripple out across nested communities, while best ideas ripple inwards to my group, and activate further insight, creativity and change.

It’s simple, designed to be simple. With use, this pattern of communication becomes invisible: a natural way of sharing ideas, listening respectfully, silently (both in word and mind), uncritically, while others share their ideas, attentive to one’s own insight, and sharing that insight with others in this group, and other group(s).

This pattern of communication redefines what it means to interact with others, in an organisation, or in an open community. It is not primarily to entertain, to impose “my” ideas, to follow those of others, or to receive instruction. Most everything “I” have done so far has entailed a certain degree of conformity, of conditioning, whether receiving or imparting.

Discussion in small groups, set up for this purpose, is focused on accessing ideas, understandings, ways of seeing, that are outside of my present mental sphere. This requires attentiveness, an open mind, and perhaps a sense of wonder, that such insights can emerge, whole, precise, in the mental space I call my own. Giving them importance, recording and sharing them, being open to ideas from others, not accepting or refusing, but attentive always to the insight that lies hidden behind that idea, or fact.

The term used for this process of creativity is “Creative Discussion”, and the ‘other’ group, with which I share the best ideas, is referred to as the “Plain Pair Group”. The group I am in now is always the centre, the here and now. This is the “Insight Group”.

“Creative Discussion” in a small group is the term used for this process of creativity.

The ‘other’ group is the “Plain Pair Group”, with which I share the best ideas.

The “Insight Group” is the group I am in now. This is always the centre, here and now.

As this whole process takes place within the planetary activity of living, of activating the ‘sapiens’ in myself and in our species, while sensing my personal responsibility for the survival of my own personal planet, and listening to the needs of that planet, all this means the process of Creative Discussion can be understood, and experienced, as an active, dynamic participation in the life and consciousness of the planet – of my greater self.

Personal insight can be attentive to the needs of the planet, by being attentive to insights that promote an array of complex living systems, insights perhaps inspired by the planet herself.

This process is called “Earthsight”: the Earth looking through my eyes at herself.

Earthsight, and Creative Discussion using Plain Pair Groups, or “Earthsight Discussion”, may be worth experimenting with, as a way for our species to make peace with our planetary self, to redefine the success of a civilisation, replacing quantity as the measure of intelligence, with quality, the true indicator of ‘sapiens’.

Our various civilisations, over several millennia, have slowly imposed the ever more tenacious grip of quantity as defining the seemingly unavoidable need for growth and development, activating an exponential curve, doomed to inevitable collapse – or even worse, transformation into another species, replacing carbon with silicon, and the tyranny of an intelligence incapable of insight and humanity.

Perhaps the continental civilisation that saw quality as the measure of success of their civilisation, over multiple tens of thousands of years, “Decimillennial Australia”, can lead our various civilisations to respond to the apparent need for growth and betterment, following an exponential curve based on quality. We need to value, not more and more, but better and better, responsive to the needs and limitations of our smaller human self, respecting, and responsible for our larger planetary self.

The living Earth has evolved over 4 billion years, starting with thermal homeostasis, her awakening to conscious life, initiation of carbon life cycles and infinite complexity of carbon-based species. All this is at the cusp of change. This is our challenge. Can we remain human, and part, a creative part, of the Earth Mother, or do we destroy everything, whether through an ever-increasing risk of planeticide, or extinction through the rise of a silicon-based usurper of four billion years of continuous ever-evolving life?

Can insight be given its veritable primacy as the key to creating, throughout our civilisation, patterns of life in harmony with the Earth that were developed with care and responsibility through decimillennia by First Peoples, and especially, on continental scale, by Decimillennial Australia?

Nuclear Means Futurecide ([Senate submission](#) No. 32 – read down to p. 8), 2020, 36pp

https://www.earthsight.org/Human_impact/Nuclear_Means_Futurecide_updated.pdf

Nuclear and global warming are inextricably intertwined: exponential curves, planetary fever, industrial breakdown and denial of responsible risk management.

Letter to Decimillennial Australia: a voice to the nation, 2019, 2pp

https://www.earthsight.org/Human_impact/Decimillennial_Australia.html

A world that can guarantee a long-term future has already existed, for 100,000 years.

“I am Earthsight”, 2019, 1p

https://www.earthsight.org/Human_impact/I_am_Earthsight.html

Organisations are causing our extinction, to survive we need to become conscious of our greater self, the living Earth.

Bringing Wisdom into Planetary Leadership – For Global Health, 2009, 5pp

https://www.creativediscussion.org/PlainPairGroups/Collective_deliberation/Wisdom_in_Planetary_Leadership.html

How corporate decision making can bring about change through small group discussion facilitating creativity and change.

Creative Discussion Groups: Plain Pair Group Discussion, 2006, 2pp

https://www.creativediscussion.org/PlainPairGroups/Plain_PGD/Creative_Discussion_Groups.htm

Detailed instructions for bringing creativity to a wide range of learning and decision-making situations.

The Awakeness Paradigm, 2006, 12pp

https://www.creativediscussion.org/PlainPairGroups/Developing_Creativity/The_Awakeness_Paradigm.htm

A more detailed discussion of the role of insight in recognising and correcting error of perception and judgement.

Arctic methane: a global warming emergency, 2014, 2pp

https://www.earthsight.org/Human_impact/Arctic_methane_Earthsight.pdf

An understanding of methane release in the Arctic is fundamental to our survival.

Futurecide ([Senate submission](#) No. 69), 2014, 12pp

https://www.earthsight.org/Human_impact/Futurecide.pdf

The last IPCC report (2014) to confront the possibility of human extinction: up to 8°C by 2100, even denying the role of methane.

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