

WISDOM OF SKEPTICS: Inner Group Think and Scrutiny

(Etic perspectives and observations in 21st century western society)

William Robinson
National University

ABSTRACT

CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES

“SCRUTINY FROM A LITERARY APPROACH SEEMS TO DEAL WITH IDEALISM, WHILE SCRUTINY FROM A SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGICAL CONTEXT DEALS WITH DISILLUSIONMENT.”

How can postmodern 21st century, western society create constructs that prevent scrutiny and skepticism of human beings and human society based on historical folklore and social psychology.

What may inevitably prove to be one of the finest test to the human spirit is reflected in the western postmodern, 21st century and its current state of economy and social systems. As the western world seeks to globalize its culture, marketplace and consumer acolytes are there any positive constructs regarding encountered culture, society or people in place to avoid the mistakes of the past 500 years. In my opinion, decreased accountability regarding morality as compared to 50 or 100 years ago is arguably becoming an impoverished attribute of mankind on several phenomenal levels. The conscious or subconscious manifestations may be found to be delusional and immoral convictions with a self affirming in group think process that perpetual grows through individual prejudice and desire.

The reasoning behind the complex nature of this issue is from several aspects including chiefly financial want or need and the imposition of debilitation, poverty, homelessness and starvation. Projecting a world culture of perpetual selfishness as based on several principles or perceptions or a false sense of being. The over

emphasis by western mass media, culture and society on the importance of the self without balance creates a sense of non-importance or insignificance towards 'Others', as opposed to that particular 'self'. These subconscious manifestations may also be the full grown monster, prompts or constructs unleashed by corporate marketing initiatives as exposed and exploited by Freud and family, including his daughter and nephew Edward Bernays.

Scrutiny

(Wisdom Of Skeptics)

A Complex Social Issue Based On Historical Folklore And Cultural Psychology

Since the early western 20th century mankind has progressively unleashed its subconscious as well as several perceptions regarding identity.

Part One: Shared Constructs

Several archetypes have become shared globally and cross culturally. In its modern form scrutiny is a complex weapon of definitions and words due to various political, economic and human well being based phenomena faced by many globally.

Postmodern, 21st century usage includes literary folklore, headlines, public relations campaigns, marketing, films, commercials and news broadcast via mass media.

The effect of scrutiny on a social level systematically creates, exploits and makes sport of an individuals or groups identity. A human construct of western identity has now become a model that overtly emphasis ones natural dispositions or lack there of, such as race, lineage or social class / economic viability. Which in turn promotes a tangible benefit for those within the group (Emic). I contest that this has aiding in distrust and exploitation of others whom fall outside the in-group (Etic).

This highly used model of exploitation enforces a negative social construct of narcissism, phobias and fears. Creating conflict in various forms from Etic observer to Emic inter-group members (visa versa) as a result.

By constructed change, security or expansion of domains, 'Scrutiny' is used as an offensive and defensive tool to examine, project and inevitably protect the users area, culture or society.

Within a Social Psychological framework or context the behaviors of group think including individuals whom exhibit clinically disturbed characteristics such as Narcissism, manipulative behavior, social anxiety, stereotypes, political and International affairs. This includes well documented historical character traits, archetypes and tropes dealing with manipulative interpersonal behavior, such as 'Gas-lighting' and 'Psychological manipulation'. Has this disturbing model invaded systemic perspectives, approaches, models, institutional narratives via academia to Society at large?

Scrutiny Confronted

(Wisdom Of Skeptics)

as a model perspective in the culture of opportunist

Scrutiny from a literary approach seems to deal with idealism, while Scrutiny from a social psychological context deals with disillusionment.

Part Two: Changing Points of view

Self definition, idealism and a critical focus were promoted based on emerging markets or industries within the confines of western culture and societies. Through clinical diagnoses a definition can be articulated in a few words by 'Carefully' examining certain results of certain traditions and actions of certain characters.

Sociopaths consistently transgress social mores, break laws, and exploit others, but typically, are also charming and convincing liars who consistently deny wrongdoing. Thus, some who have been victimized by sociopaths may doubt their perceptions.¹ (See: GasLighting)

¹ Stout, Martha (2006-03-14). *The Sociopath Next Door*. Random House Digital. pp. 94–95. ISBN 978-0-7679-1582-3. Retrieved 2014-01-06.

As a result an exact science and history has become a shared construct amongst European based societies towards 'Others'. Without a doubt, certain opportunistic archetypes such as 'Captain Of Industry' traits or tropes are disturbing and based on short term solutions. Its promptings are against the wills of many for the benefit of few. Through persecution, affliction, hardships and war many nations, societies and cultures have been altered.

But always looking for opportunities to profit personally without consideration of the impact on everyone else can be a very big problem. One only needs to look at how greedy Wall Street executives took advantage of opportunities to reap spectacular profits while all the while knowing that the "bubble" would eventually burst and leave the economic well-being of the country in shambles to know how problematic the issue of opportunistic thinking really is.²

History has proven by result that Social and Psychological 'Scrutinizing' and treatment conducted by opportunistic characters can create many problems. The social, cultural and environmental implications are staggering and are owed to opportunistic short term thinkers on a capital level without proper measurement or reason for future generations.

² Dr George Simon, PhD 'The Opportunistic Thinking of Disturbed Characters' excerpts from Character Disturbance: The Phenomenon of Our Age, Parkhurst Brothers, 2011

Part Three: Scrutiny Works Globally

Is Scrutiny systemic for model opportunist? Opportunists capitalize off perceived weaknesses of others in order to create and maintain economic models based on exploitation. Whether in labor or industry. Certain models such as the one we have introduced, 'Colon' depict certain stereotypes for certain people. Global citizens are predominantly and historically etic to western actors. Their treatment has been marred by scrutiny which has affected the QOL (quality of life) and well being of such world citizens.

I believe scrutiny is systemic and is used as a weapon in 3 specific areas of interaction within cultural frameworks and social context. This includes mainly Historical, Folklore to Literature or Film and effectually in the overall Cultural Psychology of nations. Those whom utilize the methods of scrutiny enmass are found within specific 'In-Group' thoughts or models of western and now global perspectives. As stated, these complimentary methods are used contextually in historical instances, literary works (including scripts and news broadcasting) that stem to the overall outlook, economic blockade or debilitated cultural psychology of several nations, societies, groups and people.

Boundary crossing from the aspect of Literary, Historical and Social insights, for western culture by western culture at the expense of many is the focus and utility of scrutiny.

Part Four: Homogenization of western scrutiny

This long standing tradition of codependency (colonialism) is in fact a society based phenomena only trumped by a notion of singularity or homogenization of culture, humanity and global society. Its nature revolves around the notion of bond building as we are not inherently subject to negative affects of constructs outside our sphere of influence (Etic). This becomes apparently problematic in the growing interconnectivity in a global society, as old methods are integrated into new forms of transmission via electronic media, mass media and the changing medium of human personality.

From the viewpoint of the acquisitive society, securing objects whether by desire or necessity near to ones self or group and removing or pushing away by scrutiny those which are less valuable in perspective is such a method of scrutiny. This filter or method is common place in human society and self, yet the literary tradition or inking, scripting and lawmaking of such actions is less then harmonious, mutual or beneficial to those whom are etic. In its entirety scrutiny as an academic or law based objective is hurtful economically, socially in its mass media usage entirely to those outside the in-group.

“The inhabitants . . . are all, as I said before, unprovided with any sort of iron, and they are destitute of arms, which are entirely unknown to them, and for which they are not adapted; not on account of any bodily deformity, for they are well made, but because they are timid and full of terror. . . . But when they see that they are safe, and all fear is banished, they are very guileless and honest, and very liberal of all they have. No one refuses the asker anything that he possesses; on the contrary they themselves invite us to ask for it. They manifest the greatest affection towards all of us, exchanging valuable things for trifles, content with the very least thing or nothing at all. . . . “ Cristobol Colon³

Without a contingent method or construct to pass over such qualities not deemed within ones own self, culture or sphere of influence as enduring. Many socially charged issues of misuse, abuse exploitation may continue. As experienced in history by the ‘Captain of industry’ archetype acted out globally and introduced by Cristobol Colon (Christopher Columbus). Which initiated a ‘Colon-ial’ model over 500 years ago.

³ Christopher Colom, Admiral of the Ocean Fleet, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, Columbus reports on his first voyage, 1493 Lisbon, March 14 Doc: <https://www.gilderlehrman.org/sites/default/files/inline-pdfs/t-01427.pdf>

ELASTICITY

INTRODUCING A SOCIAL & CULTURAL THEORY AND METHOD FOR COMMON GROUND

“Elasticity practiced consistently and established as a social construct will strengthen the transactions and relationships of societies on a global front.”

Part Five: Elasticity - Threading perspectives

The ethical question posed is, “How can postmodern society create constructs that prevent systemic scrutiny of other humans and societies based on historical folklore and cultural psychology?” Elasticity as common ground solution and social or cultural construct enabling groups and individuals to expand their own capacity for outsiders and as a coping mechanism against debilitation and disturbed character traits and characters.

It is very important how humans choose to handle issues and potential conflicts. From the aspect of Cultural Psychology, addressing negative or disturbed characters traits in order for individuals and groups to think, act and become mutually beneficial within acceptable global contexts of culture or society.

This begins to define the term Elasticity regarding human interaction as well as the thread between historical, psychological and literary traditions.

Elasticity or the lack of, includes the methods of 'Coping' in a positive manner regarding the actions of disturbed characters, actions and motives. The ability for individuals to measure their own 'Elasticity' in any given circumstance is the proposed method for conscious evaluation, self realization and determination.

(W. Robinson)

In both scenarios, cultural habits and behaviors are addressed in order to cope with the changing nature of society. Whether lead by psychologically disturbed individuals or groups who utilize several tactics to classic avoiders whom shed the responsibility of defending themselves from manipulative deceptions and exploits of others.

The introduction of Elasticity into the Moral fiber as a construct or measurement to prevent human to human interaction resulting in debilitation on an interpersonal level. For the purpose of mutual gain, global to local peace, accord amongst mankind to preventing interpersonal vendetta's or feuds, described as a long-running argument or fights. In affect the lack of Elasticity addresses aspects to prohibit such acts that prevent peace and equatable transactions amongst human cultures, family, friends, co-workers and neighbors.

Elasticity regarding human to human scrutiny is introduced to our focus of 'Others' in Etic form to a western perspective. Elasticity as a positive coping mechanism

allows 'Others' to become aware, self realized, adjusted, understanding and move beyond debilitating spheres of influence. As it is a view of ethnography in Cultural Anthropology, that Etic (outside) observations are less valued viewpoints or perspectives from an Emic group or societies point of view and can result in conflict from bias interpretations, in effect or a form of scrutiny. I also believe through ethnographic training and experience this effect works in a dual form as Emic or inside observers are less likely to share or be forthcoming (scrutinize) especially in presence of outside instruments. I contest that such instruments can be technological or foreign based to simple customs, outlooks or expressions. These can be misinterpreted on various levels and should be carefully understood with the utility of 'Elasticity' from the observer before attempting to interact or approach such individuals or groups. Until such elasticity is exhibited with proficiency or understanding one should abstain from approaching or getting involved. As tactics of assimilation to observed groups may prove detrimental to both sides.

So what is Elasticity? A modest removal of ones self and patient perseverance can be a positive construct when viewing sacred scenarios of 'Others'. What is important to one may not be important to another and as Cristobol Colon observed of the natives he encountered upon reaching the Americas, should not and can not be an opportunity in a moral context. The practice of Elasticity in social scenario's such as the Colon Act upon arrival in the 'Americas' would be one of abstinence for interference with such a docile nature of a people. And inherently not one of exploitation as it has lead to a systemic model and archetypical application for interacting with Emic groups from Etic observers in western society.

Elasticity practiced consistently and established as a social construct will strengthen the transactions and relationships of societies on a global front. Bringing stability back to interactions and establishing trust. Through this trustworthy action of 'Social' and 'Cultural' Elasticity. People may be once again or begin to move freely without fear from culture to culture. Without fear of entrapment or captivity by the constructs of another. Which inherently leads to misfortune, progressive lag, imitation without approval or diversion. As delusional thinking can fall prey to idealistic, opportunist and their negative constructs of co-dependent obligation in in the various forms including securing that which is near to them. Whether economically, resourcefully, or politically, scrutiny is a tool used in Post-Modern western 21st century mass media to conditionally injure 'Others' outside of the majority, self or group.

By utilizing 'Elasticity', critical thought, action and goal orientation for self determination against opportunistic scrutiny and disturbed forces whom use its methods. Human beings may be able to self measure proportionately the effects of such weapons in order to combat debilitation, propaganda and scrutiny.

The Integration of a new social paradigm of 'Elasticity' in the presence of mass 'Scrutiny' may actually prove to be a benefit for mankind as we learn to mutually function in the global landscape and of course on common ground.