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ON "CONNECTING"

Connecting up is probably the most important and motivating aspect in life.

If you can't connect up with life's energies and the things in which those energies reside, then you cannot be part of them and they cannot become part of you -- at least in any creative, fulfilling context. You will be, so to speak, like a robot wandering here and there with a lot of disconnected plugs dragging along behind you, even painfully tripping you up now and then. If life deals you mystery, confusion or pain, you can assume that your connections are not in proper order. "Getting with it," and "tuning in" are two other ways of expressing the concept of connecting up.

Essentially, "connecting up," "tuning in" and "getting with it" are idioms that inherently carry a psychic element in the sense that you cannot "really" tune in or connect up solely by the use of your non-psychic intellect alone. Probably many of you have already tried to connect up by using your intellect only -- and have discovered that you cannot play basketball, a piano, a game of bridge, fight a war, conceive or manage a corporation, have a satisfactory marriage or love affair, design

a successful career, write a top song, bring up your children, or paint a great painting solely by virtue of intellectual certainty alone.

You try to do all the correct things intellectual logic and reason demand. The effort collapses inexplicably (we call this collapse a "crisis"), often with heavy doses of thunder and lightening, even though you've done your intellectual best and you had thought you were truly tuned in to all the important issues involved. And you begin to wonder how the "winners" in life are different from you, since the experience of a few crises of your own by contrast suggests that successful people "must" be connected up to life's energies differently than you are.

Essentially this is the truth. They are.

To function with wisdom, intellect needs the support of two other valuable innate human functions, both of which are psychic in essence. In this book, we will call them "emotional sensing-feeling" and "intuition." Without the active support of emotional sensing-feeling and intuition, intellect almost always eventually finds itself backed into a cul-de-sac, much like a man or woman painting a floor finds themselves backed into a corner.

Any truly competent connecting up requires inputs from intellect, emotional sensing-feeling and intuition. These three form a "psychic triad," and all three points of the triad should have equal importance. They don't have, of course, and emotional

sensing-feeling and intuition have a certain stigma attached to them, as well as a high giggle factor.

Yet the times are changing, and today intuition is not as giggly as it once was for it is now somewhat known that many highly successful people admit to the mysterious role intuition has played in allowing them to connect up to and creatively make use of issues hidden from intellect. Even so, the intellectual search of trying to identify intuitional functions has not been very edifying and in fact the whole science we call parapsychology seems to continually back itself into the proverbial corner.

If you try to think of connecting up in an holistic sense, it is possible to see that there is something terribly wrong in the systems of connecting up we normally depend upon -- for their connecting-up quotient, so to speak, is very "ify." In fact, our general inability to truly connect up to the issues that beset us at the individual and societal levels is proving to be a growing disaster everyday. Even supremely successful people -- personal success once being the sole indicator that life was being lived right -- even if their social conscience is very low can hardly avoid looking at the pending possible destruction of the world without wincing a little. And, if the truth is to be spoken, Life seems to be out of control and the threats of Armageddon, continuing conflict, nuclear winter, terrorism, biological holocaust, star wars, rampant diseases, and (let us say it)

spiritual disconnectedness are beginning to make personal success, glitz and glitter of the "top," Nobel prizes and so forth seem a little hollow.

It might seem at first a little fatuous to suggest that the world is in the condition it is in because of the failure of mankind to take seriously its psychic roots, its psychic connectedness -- which is to say its psychic interconnectedness. But something like this might be the case.

For quite some time now, intellectual mankind has ruled itself solely by its conceptions that rational intellect is supreme -- and that since the existence and functions of emotional sensing-feeling and intuition could not find a proven place of (scientific) value among the logics of reason and intellect, they don't really exist.

In a sense, this has brought into existence a hyper-intellectuality, an intellectual megastructure, that attempts to assess all things through its own terms of reference and the labels it assigns to all phenomena. Intellectual terms of reference are just that -- intellectual. And terms of reference that are uniquely of service to intellect alone do not connect up to the two other psychic attributes necessary for the psychic triad to function.

For example (although we will shortly go into this matter in some depth), the word "intuition" has come into quasi-acceptance. But does it evoke a spontaneous connecting-up to anything at all

psychic in you? True, you might have a general idea of what is meant. But how about using the idiom "gut feeling" instead of "intuition?" Yes, some subtle emphasis has just shifted, has it not? Gut feeling evokes just that -- gut feeling. But no self-respecting intellectual would use that vulgar term as a concise reference for describing intuition. Yet gut feeling actually functions as an idiom in a way we can call "psychic-activating". The term "intuition" connects up with your intellectual learning patterns, but "gut feeling" connects up to something else of a more profound quality.

You might at first dismiss this as a mere problem of semantics. But if you will reflect upon it (reflection itself being a psychic-activating process), you will perhaps come to realise that there is a difference here far from being one only of semantics.

Flip the two terms back and forth for a while. Intuition might stimulate the cogs of your intellect, causing you to wonder what it is or isn't, or if it is even present. But gut feeling is what will guide you in making a significant move on the stock market or in whether or not you should open your apartment door at three in the morning when someone raps on it.