

# **THE FOLLY OF PRIVATIZING PUBLIC UTILITIES**

## **UN-PAYABLE DEBT AND NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY**

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### Preface / Introduction

Don Martin's 55 page treatise on the Public-Private Partnership etc. comes from an extensive background in public body auditing and a lifetime interest in economics and social policies. While much is derived from the author's good scholarship, it is neither a complicated technical document nor just an academic treatment of the subjects about which there should be far greater public awareness..... rather, it is a potentially a vital and highly deserving, read for students, educators, the New Zealand voting public and our politicians etc.

It addresses his concerns (and ours) for the follies of current political and economic trends and illustrates (implies), with the 'evidences' of past and present thinking, what may happen if we continue to deceive ourselves with the notions that economics and monetary/financial policies, as being practiced, are the way things are to be forever. He clearly identifies that **economies without workers/production are little/no better than thievery** depleting the efforts of production (of others) by compromising the whole fabric of sustainable monetary systems with speculative mischief including the sale of public assets in favour of business models (that claim to be more efficient). He shows that, while pretending these models offer benefits to all, the reality is that they benefits no one except the few who 'control' these 'models' and the methodology inflates the costs to the consumer (real/original owner) without tangible benefit.

What we see in the modern monetary world is represented within the anomalies expressed in the author's concluding comments (*my brackets*):

**"For everyone, except the banks (*and speculators*), money is the product of labour and creativity."**

**"What the banks (*and un-controlled speculators*) create in a wink of the eye is given the same value as the end result of productive effort."**

Commerce is presently the central dictator of human evolution and the notions that big-business-is-best have been shown to be flawed especially when we reflect upon the behavior of such giants as Wal-Mart and a myriad others who abandon their responsibilities to the 'externalities' (which eventually come from the public-purse) in favour of bonuses, extreme salaries, and the 'demands' of shareholders for profit.

The reality of business is that **small business survives** (produces) **because it works efficiently on the areas of inefficiency** (or disinterest) **of big business**. Were this not so then there would ONLY be one business in the world.

Big business may be more efficient only within the range of the scales-of-magnitude (scales of larger capital requirement) befitting its operations and the needs of the marketplace. The biggest current problem (as historically) is that big-business plays dirty to 'survive' its profits and Governments are largely in the hands of big business. The big-business models that pretend to serve the consumer are largely flawed (as above) - YET - these are the models we have been adopting that pretend to aid our social-services (education, health, welfare, communications, media, etc.) and the essential and vital resources of the Nation.

While our politicians (and voting public) are ignorant of the flaws and follies of the big-business models and remain naively obedient to the treaties and policy dictates of foreign interests we are lost to their on-going un-statesmanly thinking and action.

**This will continue while 'delusion' or 'denial' and apathy, regarding such trends and policies, is the general state-of-mind of 99.99% of humanity?**

The author has assembled a remarkable array of domestic and international evidence to illustrate the follies of past examples and the flaws in recent and current thinking that ought to be a background to a critical re-thinking of the social and economic policies which are being mooted by the politicians of our times. The perspective is internationally derived and perhaps not critical of New Zealand alone?

Humanity has a tendency to deny the great wisdom of past thinking and in our conceitedness we pretend that we know better than the fundamental truths and underlying principals taught to us by history, by our thinking peers, even by hindsight..... **.....the author presents a common sense view in a very readable format that may help correct the flaws and follies in the thinking, and policy, of our generation and our future.**

**There is an inevitability of repeating our follies if we think we are above the principles that compromise the equanimity of sound monetary and economics methods that benefit the common-good.**

Rather than re-inventing the un-sustainable errors and follies of the past we ought to be refining our methodologies to reflect the higher principles and sound fundamentals of monetary and economic policy. What is fundamentally flawed is only fixable by restoring the fundamentals of reality – the delusions of a flawed design or thinking can not support the weight of reality.

In the end, we are what **we** do. As the author implies, we **all** need to think and do much-much better.